



Gainesville's Extreme Makeover

The Virginia Department of Transportation is preparing to give the transportation network in Gainesville a much-needed facelift. No longer will motorists come to a complete standstill when a freight train rolls through Gainesville at rush hour, only to crawl from traffic signal to traffic signal through this heavily congested area.

The centerpiece of this project is a pair of overpasses: one carrying Route 29 over the Norfolk Southern Railroad, and one carrying Linton Hall and Gallerher roads over the railroad tracks and Route 29. To further improve traffic flow, crews will also widen Route 29 to six lanes and eliminate driveway entrances and two traffic signals between I-66 and Virginia Oaks Drive.

Background

Over the last five years, VDOT has made a series of major improvements in the Gainesville area. The first was the construction of University Boulevard, a 1.3-mile, four-lane road connecting Route 29 and Wellington Road. The second was the widening of I-66 to eight lanes between Route 234 Business/Sudley Road and the Route 234 Bypass (about 1.5 miles). Both projects were completed in 2006. Work is now under way to widen I-66 to eight lanes between the Route 234 Bypass and Route 29 at Gainesville. This 3.3-mile project will be complete in 2010.

The final improvement project is the I-66/Route 29/Linton Hall Road overhaul, at a cost of about \$250 million. The commonwealth's total investment in all four projects is about \$425 million.

What's Next

Major work has been under way to finish property acquisition, relocate half a dozen utilities and demolish 38 buildings. Property acquisition and demolition *north* of Linton Hall and Gallerher roads is complete; the same work *south* of Linton Hall and Gallerher roads will be complete in summer 2010. Once utility relocation is finished in late 2009, roadway construction can begin in early 2010 and will take four years to complete.

Stay Informed

During construction, VDOT pledges to keep motorists, businesses and the community informed well in advance of any detours or delays. For updates on construction and lane closures, please visit www.GainesvilleImprovements.org or contact Amir Salahshoor at 703-383-2185 or A.Salahshoor@VDOT.Virginia.gov.

Gainesville Area Improvements Route 29/Linton Hall Rd.

