

## Get Involved

The public comment period will close 10 days after this Design Public Hearing, on May 29, 2011. VDOT representatives will review and evaluate any information received as a result of the Design Public Hearing.

Acquisition of right of way and relocation of utilities is expected to begin in late 2011. Construction on the project could begin mid in 2013.

Project information shared here is available for review after the Design Public Hearing at VDOT's Salem District Office located at 731 Harrison Ave., Salem, VA 24153.

Comments can also be submitted in writing to saleminfo@vdot.virginia.gov. Please reference "Ironto/Elliston Connector Public Hearing Comments" in the subject heading. Information must be postmarked, e-mailed or delivered to VDOT within 10 calendar days of today's meeting, by May 29, 2011, in order to be included in the Design Public Hearing record.

## Contact Information

<b>Primary Contact:</b> Thomas DiGiulian, P.E., L.S.	Preliminary Engineering Manager	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	800-367-7623
Lori Snider	Regional Right of Way Manager	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	800-367-7623
VDOT	Salem District Office of Civil Rights	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	800-367-7623 or TTY/YDD 711
VDOT	Salem District Office of Public Affairs	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	800-367-7623



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www.VirginiaDOT.org  
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## DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

# Route 603 (North Fork Road) Montgomery County

Thursday, May 19, 2011, 5:00 pm. - 7:00 p.m.  
Elliston Volunteer Fire Department  
5001 Enterprise Drive  
Elliston, VA 24087

## Public Meeting

**Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) Design Public Hearing on proposed improvements to the Route 603 (North Fork Road) in Montgomery County.**

This Design Public Hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for citizens or organizations to give VDOT comments and/or suggestions on the proposed project. VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs affecting them. VDOT representatives are present to discuss the project and answer your questions.

A comment sheet is included in the handouts for this meeting, and your input is encouraged. All oral and written comments received on this project will be included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, citizens and other interested parties.

VDOT staff will address questions and concerns raised as a result of this meeting before the project is presented to VDOT's chief engineer for consideration.

## Project Overview



**Cost** – \$17 million

**Purpose** – Reconstruct Route 603 to current standards to improve safety and capacity.

**From** – I-81 Exit 128

**To** – Intersection Route 11/460

**Total length** – 2.0 miles

**Improvements** – Replace existing roadway with two 12-foot lanes with 8-foot shoulders.

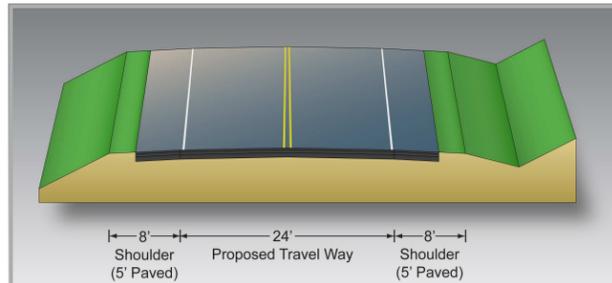
State Project – 0603-060-732, P101, R201, C501, UPC – 92558, Federal Project – HPP-060-2(123)

# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## PROJECT DESIGN FEATURES

The purpose of this project is to reconstruct Route 603 to current standards to improve safety and capacity. The current functional classification for this road is a Rural Major Collector.

The project will provide two 12-foot travel lanes with 8-foot shoulders (5-foot paved). In areas with existing rock slopes above the roadway, a 12-foot catchment area will be provided. Retaining walls are proposed to avoid/minimize rock cut areas and to lessen the time required for road closures (detours).



## Project Graphic



Existing



Proposed

The existing series of drainage culverts at the Pedlar Creek crossing will be replaced with double 10-foot by 6-foot box culverts. The proposed roadway alignment is shifted north at this location to facilitate construction without closing the road to through traffic.

## CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATIONS

Due to the complexities of improving the roadway in areas of steep terrain, Route 603 will experience periods of road closure. These periods will be minimized when practical. A traffic detour will be provided to maintain local traffic.

## TRAFFIC VOLUMES

In 2009, the average daily volume of traffic for this section of Route 603 was 1,515 vehicles per day. This volume is expected to increase to 2,440 vehicles per day by the design year 2033.

## Estimated Project Cost

Total Cost:  
**\$17.0 million**  
Engineering of Roadway Plans:  
**\$1.5 million**  
Right of Way Acquisition, Relocation Assistance and Utility Relocation:  
**\$2.4 million**  
Construction:  
**\$13.1 million**

*This cost is subject to change because development of the project is in early design stages. The project will be financed using federal funds.*

## Civil Rights

Representatives from VDOT are present to discuss the project and answer your questions. It is the responsibility of VDOT to ensure that all members of the community are afforded the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation systems and projects affecting them. VDOT ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

## Right of Way

Displays at this meeting show the extent of right of way that may be needed as the project is currently proposed. As the design is further developed, additional easements and right of way may be required beyond what is shown in the preliminary plans. Property owners will be informed of the exact location of the easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Information about right of way purchase is discussed in VDOT's brochure, "Right of Way and Utilities: a Guide for Property Owners and Tenants." Copies of this brochure are available here from a VDOT right of way agent.

## Anticipated Schedule

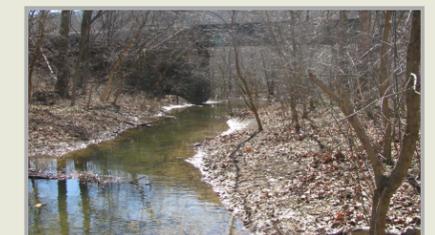
The following schedule has been proposed:  
**Design Public Hearing and Comment Period** – May 2011  
**Design Approval** – Mid 2011  
**Right of Way Approval** – Late 2011  
**Advertisement** – 2013

## Environmental Review

VDOT's Salem District Environmental Office has performed environmental reviews and coordination to obtain information about environmental resources in the project vicinity; to provide natural and historic resource agencies an opportunity to review and comment on the project during its development; and to identify opportunities for avoidance, minimization and mitigation of potential environmental impacts.

A National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion document has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration. The NEPA document includes information from various technical reviews including those related to natural resources, water quality, threatened and endangered species, air quality, noise, etc. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is also provided in the environmental document.

The project will continue to be coordinated with appropriate federal, state, and local agencies as part of environmental review and approval processes required throughout project development and construction. All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. Strict compliance with all environmental conditions and commitments resulting from regulatory approvals, and implementation of VDOT's specifications and standard best management practices will protect the environment during construction.



Pedlar Creek (Downstream from Route 603)