Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s (VDOT) design public hearing on proposed improvements on S. Washington Highway (Route 1) in the Town of Ashland.

This public hearing is 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.

Project Overview

Total Estimated Cost – $9.94 million

Purpose – Widen S. Washington Highway (Route 1) within project termini to add left lanes, a raised median and sidewalks

Location – From Ashcake Road to Arbor Oak Drive

Total Length – Approximately 0.45 miles
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.

As the design is developed, VDOT will determine what right of way and easements will be needed to accommodate the construction. Concept right of way and easement information will be available at the public meeting. Additional easements not shown on plans may be required for utility relocation. The property owners will be notified of the exact location of the right of way and easements needed 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.

VDOT's Richmond 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.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is applicable to this project and a NEPA document has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and in accordance with federal guidelines. 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.

The project will continue to be coordinated with the appropriate federal, state and local agencies as part of the 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 practices will protect the environment during construction.

The NEPA document and the results of other environmental studies are available at today's meeting. Representatives from VDOT's Environmental Section are available to discuss this information and to answer questions.

**Estimated Project Cost**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total cost: $9.94 million</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineering of roadway plans: $1.1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right of way acquisition and utility relocation: $3.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction: $5.1 million</td>
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This cost is subject to change as design progresses.

**Anticipated Schedule**

- Design approval – Summer 2019
- Begin right of way acquisition – Summer 2020
- Begin construction – Winter 2023
- Estimated completion – Summer 2024

**Project Description**

The primary purpose of this project is to improve operations and safety on S. Washington Highway (Route 1) between Ashcake Road and Arbor Oak Drive in the Town of Ashland. Proposed improvements include construction of a raised median, left turn lanes and sidewalks.

Construction is expected to begin early 2023 and is anticipated to be complete by summer 2024.

During construction, drivers can expect intermittent, alternating lane closures.

**Civil Rights**

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**Right of Way**

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**Environmental Review**

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**Estimated Project Cost**

- Total cost: $9.94 million
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- Right of way acquisition and utility relocation: $3.8 million
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**Anticipated Schedule**

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