Welcome

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) welcomes you to this Citizen Information Meeting for the U.S. Route 29 Charlottesville Bypass. Representatives from VDOT are present to discuss the project and answer your questions.

Project Description

The proposed U.S. Route 29 Charlottesville Bypass project in Albemarle County will provide a new 6.2 mile four-lane divided limited access highway from the U.S. 250 Bypass near the North Grounds of the University of Virginia (southern terminus) to existing U.S Route 29 between Polo Grounds Road and Ashwood Boulevard (northern terminus).

The project will include construction of a new interchange at the southern terminus of the project that will replace the existing U.S. 250 Bypass interchange at Leonard Sandridge Road. VDOT is considering three alternative configurations for this proposed interchange. Displays showing each alternative under consideration are being presented at this meeting for public review and comment.

Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of this Citizen Information Meeting is to provide an opportunity for interested citizens and organizations to review preliminary alternatives for the proposed interchange at the southern terminus of the project.
The Design-Build contracting method is being utilized for this project, as authorized by Section § 33.1-12 (2)(b) of the Code of Virginia. On June 20, 2012, the Commonwealth Transportation Board awarded a Design-Build contract for this project to the Skanska Branch Joint Venture.

**Civil Rights**

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.

**Design-Build Process**

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**Environmental Review**

The Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and released for public comment in August 2012 remains under development. VDOT is working with FHWA to complete a Revised EA which addresses comments received and analyzes new information since the Draft EA was released to the public. FHWA's issuance of the Revised EA is anticipated in late summer at which time the document will be made available to the public.

**Right of Way**

Most real property interests, including rights-of-way and all easements both temporary and permanent, for the Project limits south of the South Fork of the Rivanna River have been secured by VDOT. As the design is developed, the Design-Builder will determine what remaining right of way and easements will be needed to accommodate the construction. The Design-Builder, acting as an agent on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, will provide all remaining right-of-way acquisition services for the Project. The right of way and easement information will be available at the public hearing tentatively planned for fall 2013. Affected 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.

**What’s Next?**

VDOT will review and evaluate the comments as the Interchange Modification Report (IMR) process continues. The IMR will be available for review at the Design Public Hearing.

**Get Involved**

Please review the displays of the three interchange alternatives being considered for the southern terminus of the project and share your comments by using the comment sheet provided with this brochure. You may leave your written comments in the Comment Box provided at tonight’s meeting or record your comments orally at the designated recording stations.

If you are not ready to provide your comments tonight, you may submit them by mail to the following address, which is also preprinted on the back of the comment sheet:

Harold Jones, P.E.
Project Manager
Virginia Department of Transportation
1601 Orange Road
Culpeper, Virginia 22701

You may also submit comments by email to:

29bypassinterchange@vdot.virginia.gov