

## Get Involved

Comments can be submitted in writing to Scott Smizik as listed below. Please reference "Skiffes Creek Connector Study" in subject line. Information must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT within ten (10) calendar days of today's meeting (November 20, 2017) in order to be included in the record.

To view the meeting materials, comment online, or for future updates, please visit the project website at:

[http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/hamptonroads/skiffes\\_creek.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/hamptonroads/skiffes_creek.asp)



## Contact Information

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Citizen Information Meeting

## Skiffes Creek Connector Study

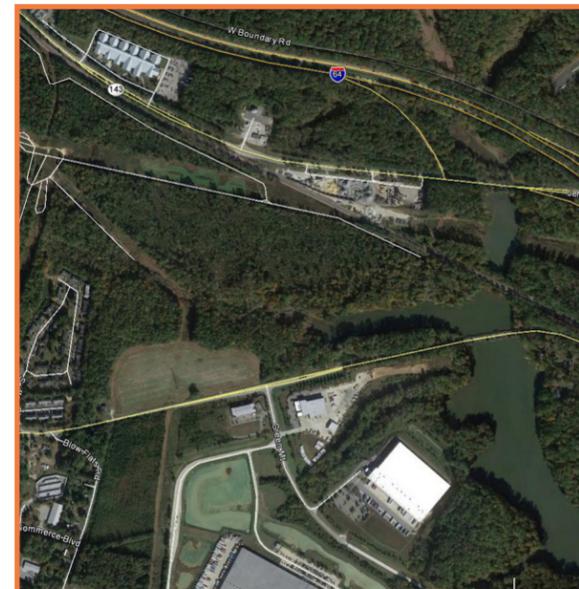
Thursday, November 9, 2017, 5:00 pm to 7:00pm  
James River Elementary School  
8901 Pocahontas Trail  
Williamsburg, VA 23185

## Welcome

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) Citizen Information Meeting (CIM) for the Skiffes Creek Connector Study Environmental Assessment (EA). This CIM is being held to provide an opportunity for citizens and organizations to provide VDOT comments 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.

A comment sheet is included in the handouts for this meeting, and your input is encouraged. Please provide suggestions on the proposed project and the scope of issues to be addressed in the EA with focus on the purpose and need and environmental issues. To view the meeting materials, or for future updates, please visit the project website at: [http://www.vdot.virginia.gov/projects/hamptonroads/skiffes\\_creek.asp](http://www.vdot.virginia.gov/projects/hamptonroads/skiffes_creek.asp)

## Project Overview



**Purpose** – The study seeks to identify alternatives that balance cost and environmental impact while meeting the goals of the study. To date, these goals include:

- Provide improved local connectivity and access for local traffic and truck movement
- Redirect inappropriate local traffic away from communities and interstate facilities

**From** – US 60 (Pocahontas Trail), James City County

**To** – VA 143 (Merrimac Trail), James City County

**Anticipated Schedule** –

- Citizen Information Meeting (Alternatives) – January/February 2018
- Issue Environmental Assessment - August/September 2018
- Public Hearing – August/September 2018

State Project Number: 0060-047-627, P101, R201, C501; UPC: 100200

## Project Description

VDOT, in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and other federal, state, and local agencies, has initiated an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate potential improvements between US 60 (Pocahontas Trail) and VA 143 (Merrimac Trail) west of the VA 143 exit (Exit 247) off Interstate 64 (I-64), in James City County, Virginia. The study area is preliminary, and is based on previous study. The final study area will be based on the range of alternatives retained for analysis. This range will be informed by input received from stakeholders during the scoping process, agency and public meetings, and environmental and alternatives analysis. Within the study area, US 60 is a two-lane roadway and VA 143 is a four-lane roadway. The Skiffes Creek Connector would provide a direct link between US 60 and VA 143.

The study seeks to identify alternatives that balance cost and environmental impact while meeting the goals of the study. To date, these goals include:

- Provide improved local connectivity and efficient access for local traffic and truck movement
- Redirect inappropriate local traffic away from communities and interstate facilities

The Skiffes Creek Connector project is included in the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization's Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program, and 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan: Funding Plan and Fiscally-Constrained List of Projects. Additionally, the Skiffes Creek Connector is included in VDOT's FY 2018-2023 Six-Year Improvement Program.

## Environmental Review

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR Part 771, an Environmental Assessment (EA) will be prepared. Information concerning the potential effects of the proposed improvements on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be included in the EA in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800. The EA will be made available for public review and comment. Following the public review, it is anticipated that the Commonwealth Transportation Board will identify a Preferred Alternative. The Preferred Alternative, along with FHWA and VDOT's response to substantive public comments, will be documented in a Revised Environmental Assessment.

## 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 projects and programs affecting them. VDOT ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contacts VDOT's Civil Rights Office at 757-752-0351 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

## Right-of-Way

Information about right-of-way purchase is discussed in VDOT's brochure, "Right-of-Way and Utilities: A Guide for Property Owners and Tenants." The document is available online at: [http://www.vdot.virginia.gov/business/resources/Right\\_of\\_way/A\\_Guide\\_for\\_Property\\_Owners\\_and\\_Tenants.pdf](http://www.vdot.virginia.gov/business/resources/Right_of_way/A_Guide_for_Property_Owners_and_Tenants.pdf)



## Location Study Process



\*FHWA Decision: FHWA cannot issue a NEPA decision (e.g. Finding of No Significant Impact) on this project until funding is identified for construction in the MPO's Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) and the next subsequent (i.e. post-NEPA) phase is funded in the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Once addressed, a NEPA decision can be issued and the project can proceed to the next phase.