Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s (VDOT) Location Public Hearing for the Skiffes Creek Connector Study. VDOT, in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is studying potential improvements between Pocahontas Trail (U.S. Route 60 (US 60)) and Merrimac Trail (State Route 143 (VA 143)). An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been completed and is available for public review and comment.

This Location Public Hearing is being held to:

• Present the alternatives retained for detailed evaluation in the EA;
• Seek public input on a recommended preferred alternative;
• Present the environmental analysis completed for this study; and
• Discuss findings and seek your formal comments on the EA and associated technical documentation.

VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs that may affect them.

A comment sheet is included in the handouts and your input is encouraged. 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

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

Project Purpose and Need

The following Purpose and Need was developed in cooperation with and agreed upon by federal agencies involved in the study:

The purpose of the Skiffes Creek Connector is to create efficient local connectivity between US 60 and VA 143, in the area between VA 199 and VA 238, in a manner that improves safety, emergency evacuation, and the movement of goods along the two primary roadways. The Skiffes Creek Connector would address the following needs:

• Improved local connectivity – there is inadequate and or inefficient connectivity points between these two primary routes;
• Provide efficient connectivity for local truck movement – there are known truck destinations along the corridors; and
• Emergency evacuation capability – connectivity between identified evacuation routes should be enhanced to support connectivity and efficiency.

Contact Information

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Comments can be submitted in writing to Scott Smizik as listed below. Please reference “Skiffes Creek Connector” in subject line. Information must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT within ten (10) calendar days of today’s meeting (July 18, 2018) 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
Description of Alternatives Retained for Analysis

These Build Alternatives retained for detailed analysis are described in the EA and may be identified as the preferred alternative advanced to design.

**NO BUILD ALTERNATIVE** – No changes to the existing roadways, intersections, or interchanges within the Skiffes Creek corridor. Provides a benchmark for the comparison of future conditions and impacts.

**BUILD ALTERNATIVES**

**Alternative 1** – Located approximately halfway between the existing connections from US 60 to VA 143 and provides an efficient connection for local traffic, trucks, and emergency evacuation. It also provides an efficient connection to the primary truck origin/destination (O/D) points in the study area.

**Alternative 2** – Located approximately halfway between the existing connections from US 60 to VA 143 and provides a new connection for local traffic, trucks, and emergency evacuation. New intersections at US 60 and VA 143 would provide a connection between the two routes in close proximity to the primary truck O/D points in the study area.

**Environmental Review**

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR Part 771, an EA has been 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 are included in the EA in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800. Following the public review of the EA, 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 and an anticipated FHWA NEPA decision.

**Civil Rights**

Representatives from VDOT are present to discuss the study 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 that may affect 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, contact VDOT’s Civil Rights Office at 757-925-2500 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

**Right-of-Way**