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Citizens Information Meeting

Route 122 and Route 636 Intersection Improvement Project Franklin County

Thursday, January 23, 2020, 5 – 7 p.m.

Inclement Weather Date: Thursday, January 30, 2020

Burnt Chimney Elementary School
80 Burnt Chimney Road
Wirtz, VA 24184

Citizens Information Meeting

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) citizens information meeting on a project to improve the intersection of Route 122 (Booker T. Washington Highway) and Route 636 (Hardy Road) in Franklin County.

This meeting is being held to provide an opportunity for any person, acting on his/her own behalf or representing a group or governing agency, to ask questions and learn more information about the project.

VDOT representatives are present to discuss the project and answer questions. The meeting will be held in an 'open-house' format with no formal presentation given.

Give your written or oral comments at the meeting or submit them by **February 2, 2020**, to Mr. Jim Henegar, PE, Virginia Department of Transportation, 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, VA 24153. Comments also can be emailed to jim.henegar@vdot.virginia.gov. Please reference "Route 122/636 Intersection Public Comment" in the subject heading.



Intersection of Route 122 and Route 636

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

In spring 2016, in response to the Franklin County Board of Supervisors submitting a SMART SCALE application, the Commonwealth Transportation Board included funding in the Six-Year Improvement Program for a project to improve safety at the intersection of Route 122 and Hardy Road in Franklin County.

As the funds became available, VDOT developed a project to construct a new left turn lane on northbound Route 122. This project was intended to reduce rear-end collisions, the predominant crash type at the intersection in previous years.

In fall 2019, in light of recent crashes, VDOT re-evaluated the intersection and determined that the predominant crash type had changed with rear-end collisions decreasing and the angle crashes increasing and left-turn crashes from Hardy Road onto Route 122 almost doubling.

As a result, VDOT is pursuing changing the scope of the project and refining the design to provide improvements that enhance safety given the more recent crash pattern. VDOT considered a traffic signal and a roundabout for the improvements.

Compared to signalized intersections, roundabouts offer enhanced safety benefits, improved efficiency, reduction in speeds and lower long-term maintenance costs. Therefore, VDOT is moving forward with plans for a roundabout.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose – Improve safety by constructing a roundabout

From – 0.161 mile south of Route 636

To – 0.090 mile north of Route 636

Project Length – 0.2 mile

Why a Roundabout?

- **Improved Safety:** Reduces the number of points where vehicles can cross paths and minimizes the potential for right-angle and head-on crashes because all movements are right turns.
- **Increased Efficiency:** Yield-controlled design means fewer stops, less delay and shorter queues for overall improved efficiency as compared to a traffic signal
- **Safer Speeds:** Promotes lower vehicle speeds, giving drivers more time to react
- **Long-Term Cost Savings:** No traffic signal equipment means lower long-term costs for operations and maintenance



Estimated Project Cost

Estimated Cost: \$4.8 million

Available Allocations: \$2.8 million

VDOT plans to request additional funds from the Commonwealth Transportation Board in spring 2020.

Anticipated Schedule

The following schedule is proposed:

Advertise for Construction Bids – Late 2020

Construction Begins – Spring 2021

Construction Ends – Late 2021

Civil Rights

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

If you need more information in regards to your civil rights on this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Jim Henegar using information listed below.

Contact Information

Primary Contact:
Jim Henegar, P.E.

Project Manager
Location & Design

731 Harrison Ave.
Salem, VA 24153

540-387-5353