

Project Description

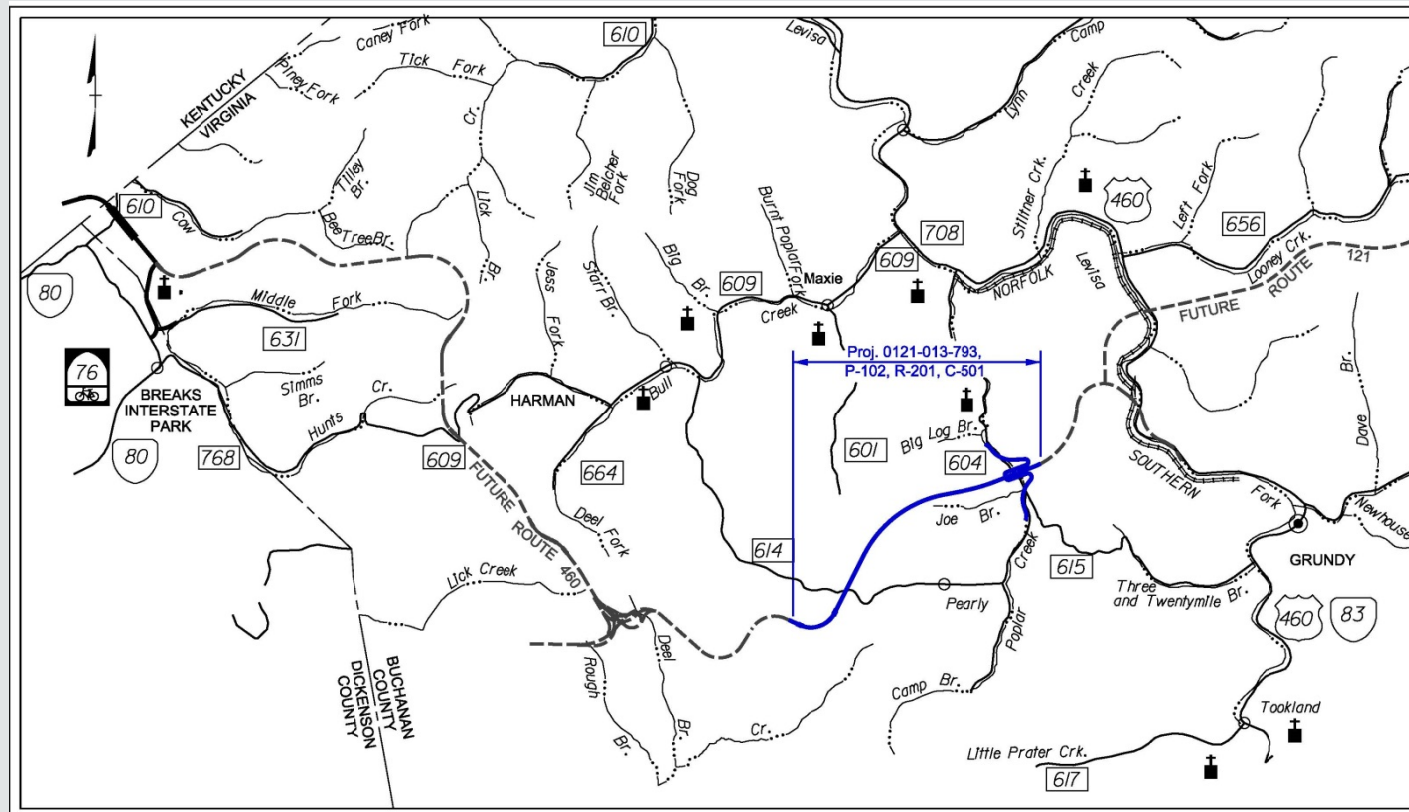
As part of the Appalachian Development Act of 1965, Congress authorized construction of the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS). The intent of the ADHS was to generate economic development, supplement the interstate system, and provide access to areas within the region, as well as to markets in the rest of the nation (ARC 2009).

Route 460 is designated Corridor Q, an approved ADHS Corridor, and extends from Shelbana, Kentucky to Interstate 81 near Christiansburg, Virginia. Corridor Q includes the Hawks Nest and Poplar Creek segments of the Route 460/121 (Coalfields Expressway) and the Coalfields Expressway/Corridor Q connection. The segments are dually designated Route 460/121 from where the routes intersect to Grundy.

The Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase A project is a proposed 2.8-mile, two lane, limited access highway extending from the east end of the Route 460/121 Hawks Nest section to Route 604 (Poplar Creek Road). The project includes an at-grade intersection at Route 604 and truck climbing lanes on steep uphill grades of Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase A.

The project will be designed and constructed in compliance with stormwater regulations and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality standards and specifications, as well as nationwide best practices, VDOT specifications and special provisions, and the Virginia Department of Soil and Water Conservation regulations. During construction every reasonable effort will be made to protect the environment with respect to dust and erosion control. Also, access to all properties will be maintained during construction.

Project Location Map



Estimated Project Cost

VDOT has a \$167 million contract for the Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase A project in Buchanan County.

This contract includes design, right of way acquisition services, and the construction of the roadway, including final pavement.

The project is financed using federal funds.

Environmental Review

In February 2015, the Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the location of Alternative F1 Modified for US Route 121 Section IIIB, which extends from east of the Route 460/121 Hawks Nest section to Grundy. In July 2015, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) also approved the location of Alternative F1 Modified and indicated that the project could proceed to subsequent development. Based on construction cost analyses, Corridor Q/Section IIIB Overlap has been split into two phases (A and B). VDOT's Central Office environmental section conducted a Reevaluation of the social, economic, and environmental impacts of Corridor Q Overlap (Poplar Creek) Phase A on the local community and surrounding area. On April 19, 2017, FHWA determined that the construction of the project will not result in any new significant impacts and that the project may proceed to subsequent development. Corridor Q Overlap Phase B will be advanced and be the subject of a separate environmental re-evaluation when funding is identified.

The Poplar Creek Phase A project will continue to be coordinated with the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies as part of environmental and approval processes required throughout the remaining project development and during construction. All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to the commencement of construction. Strict compliance with all environmental conditions of regulatory approval and implementation of VDOT's best management practices will protect the environment during construction. The environmental studies are available at today's meeting, and representatives from VDOT and the Design-Build Team are available to discuss this information and to answer questions.

Anticipated Schedule

The following schedule has been proposed:

Design Public Hearing comment period – through July 9, 2017

Right of Way Acquisition Begins – January 2018

Construction Begins – August 2018

Civil Rights

Representatives from VDOT and the Design Build Team are present to discuss the project and to answer your questions. It is their responsibility 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 and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For additional information or assistance contact VDOT's Bristol District Office of Equal Opportunity, 870 Bonham Road, Bristol, VA 24201, 276-669-6151, 1-800-352-1730, or TTY/TDD 711.

Right of Way

Displays at this meeting show the extent of right of way that may be needed as the project is currently proposed. As the design is further developed, additional easements and right of way may be required beyond what is shown in the preliminary plans. Property owners will be informed of the exact location of the right of way and easements 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.

After this meeting, information regarding right of way may be obtained from the right of way contact listed on the back of this brochure.

Get Involved

The public comment period for the project will close July 9.

Comments may be submitted in writing to CorridorQOverlap@VDOT.Virginia.gov.

Information must be postmarked, emailed, or delivered to VDOT by July 9, 2017 in order to be included in the design public hearing record.

VDOT will review and evaluate any and all information received as a result of this design public hearing.

This information, including the hearing summary, will be available for review at the VDOT office located at 414 East Main Street, Lebanon, VA 24266. After all comments have been addressed, the information received as a result of the hearing will be presented to VDOT's Chief Engineer or designee for consideration.

If the Chief Engineer's office approves the major design features, the project will move forward to the final design phase. Public Hearing participants will be notified of this decision by letter.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Robert Cumbow	Project Manager	414 East Main Street	Lebanon, VA 24266	276-889-7676
Preston E. Breeding, P.E., CCM	Design Manager	140 Hilltop Avenue	Lebanon, VA 24266	276-880-0121
Michelle Earl	VDOT Bristol District Communications Manager	870 Bonham Road	Bristol, VA 24201	276-696-3283
Rick Lively	Right of Way Agent	140 Hilltop Avenue	Lebanon, VA 24266	276-880-0121



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CorridorQOverlap@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Design Public Hearing Corridor Q: Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase A Buchanan County

Tuesday, June 27, 2017, 5 - 7 p.m.

Inclement Weather Date: Thursday, June 29, 2017, 5 - 7 p.m.

Riverview Elementary School

27382 Riverside Drive, Grundy, VA 24614

Public Meeting

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) design public hearing for the Corridor Q: Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase A project in Buchanan County. The project extends from the east end of the Route 460/121 Hawks Nest section, which is constructed to rough grade, to Route 604 (Poplar Creek Road).

This public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for any person, acting on his/her own behalf or representing a group or governing agency, to review the project information and to give the department his/her comments and/or suggestions concerning the proposed project.

Representatives from VDOT and the Design Build Team are

present to discuss the project and to answer your questions. VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community are afforded 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. All oral and written comments received on this project will be included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, citizens and all other interested parties. VDOT staff will evaluate and address questions and concerns raised as a result of this meeting before the project is presented to VDOT's Chief Engineer for approval.

Project Overview

VDOT's Design Build Contractor:

Bizzack Construction, LLC

VDOT's Design Build Lead Designer:

3B Consulting Services, LLC

Contract Amount:

\$167 million

Purpose:

Construct Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase A

From: The east end of Route 460/121 Hawks Nest section

To: Route 604 (Poplar Creek Road)

Total length: 2.8 miles



Corridor Q: Route 460/121 Poplar Creek