



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

March 25, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO: Internal/External Scoping & Merger Screening Meeting Attendees

FROM: Teresa Hart, PE, CPM
NCDOT Project Manager

SUBJECT: Internal/External Scoping & Merger Screening Meeting for Eastside Thoroughfare, widen SR 1402/SR 1404 (24th Street NE/29th Avenue Drive NE) from two lanes to multi-lanes, City of Hickory, Catawba County, WBS Number 34791.1.9, STIP No. U-2307B

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has started the project development, environmental and engineering studies for STIP Project U-2307B. The project proposes to widen SR 1402/SR 1404 (24th Street NE/29th Avenue Drive NE) from two lanes to multi-lanes. The project is the final segment to be constructed of the East Side Thoroughfare (McDonald Parkway). An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was signed in 1992. The project is currently state-funded, but it is anticipated that a Type III Categorical Exclusion checklist will be prepared. The document will be prepared in accordance to the National Environmental Policy Act.

An Internal/External Scoping and Merger Screening Meeting has been scheduled for April 10, 2019 at 3:00 PM in the Structure Design Conference Room C (large conference room) at NCDOT's Century Center Complex, Building A, located at 1000 Birch Ridge Drive, Raleigh, NC. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, please see the directions for remote participation in the Outlook meeting invitation sent to you.

The general purpose of this meeting is to begin early coordination with our agency partners by discussing known information about the project and project area. The meeting handout is located on the following website: <https://xfer.services.ncdot.gov/pdea/MergerMeetings/> Please review this material and be prepared to discuss any additional known information regarding your resource and/or area of expertise as it may concern the project. We would especially appreciate any information you might have that would be helpful in identifying and evaluating important issues or topics that should be considered.

Thank you for your assistance in the project development process. If you have any questions concerning the project, please contact Ms. Teresa Hart, PE, NCDOT Project Manager at (984) 269-4918 or by email at tahart@ncdot.gov. Please include the STIP Project Number U-2307B in all correspondence and comments.

cc: Beverly G. Robinson, CPM, NCDOT PMU Team Lead
Kevin E. Moore, PE, NCDOT Senior Project Manager

Project Management Unit Scoping Information Sheets

<u>TIP No.:</u>	U-2307B	<u>Sent Date:</u>	March 25, 2019
<u>WBS No.:</u>	34791.1.9	<u>Revision Date:</u>	
<u>Federal Aid No.:</u>	NA	<u>Meeting Date:</u>	April 10, 2019
<u>Division:</u>	12		
<u>County:</u>	Catawba		

Project Description: The proposed project would widen SR 1402/SR 1404 (24th Street NE/29th Avenue Drive NE) to multi-lanes from NC 127 (N. Center Street) to SR 1452 (Springs Road) in the City of Hickory, Catawba County. See **Figure 1** for project location.

General Project Need: The primary purpose of and need for the proposed roadway is the completion of a circumferential arterial linking NC 127 and US 70 with adequate traffic capacity to meet the transportation demand of existing and future growth. The improvement is needed to reduce traffic congestion on existing roadways and improve roadway safety.

Metropolitan / Rural Planning Organization: Greater Hickory MPO / WPCOG

NEPA/404 Merger Candidate?: Yes No To Be Determined

Feasibility Study Completed?: Yes No Date of Study:

<u>Project Schedule:</u>	<u>Type of Document:</u>	<u>Dates:</u>
Environmental Document(s):	Final EIS	1992
	Categorical Exclusion	Spring 2020
Right of Way Authorization Date:	Production TIP	2021
Let Date:	Production TIP	2023

Cost Estimate:
Draft STIP 2018-2027

U-2307B

Construction: Right of Way / Utilities: Total Cost¹:

FY 2023 - \$6,900,000 FY 2024 – \$6,900,000 FY 2025 \$6,900,000	FY 2021 \$4,600,000 / \$1,100,000 FY 2022 \$4,600,000	\$87,010,000
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1. Includes \$56,010,000 of Work in Prior Years

Design Criteria:

Length of Project:

Approximately 3.15 miles along 29th Avenue NE and 24th Street NE.

Right of Way:

Existing: Approximately 30 ft.
Proposed: 120ft.

Type of Access Control:

Existing: None
Proposed: No control of access

Roadway Typical Section:

Existing: 2 lanes total – undivided
Proposed: 4-lane median divided, curb and gutter arterial

Speed:

Existing Posted Speed: 35 to 45 mph
Proposed Design Speed: 40 to 50 mph

Bridge/ Culvert Inventory:

Site 1: Falling Creek – 3@10' x 13' RCBC with a 67'-9" length. Constructed in 2016.
Site 2: Snow Creek – 2 lines of 8' x 6' structural plate pipe arch with a 54' length. Constructed in 1981.

Functional Classification:

Other Principal Arterial / Thoroughfare

Strategic Transportation Corridor Information:

NA

CTP/Thoroughfare Plan Designation (Facility Type):

Hickory MPO CTP (July 2018) Major Thoroughfare – needs improvement

Air Quality Status: Non-attainment Maintenance Attainment

The Hickory Area is a maintenance area for PM_{2.5}.

Horizon Completion Year (Long Range Trans. Plan):

2040

Typical Section in Compliance with
Conformity Determination?

Yes No

Traffic (AADT):

	Year	Range of Traffic	% TTST:	
Current Year (counts):	(2018)	12,200 to 15,300	% Dual:	1%
Design Year:	(2040)	16,400 to 22,900		3%

Note: 2040 Design Year traffic information from traffic forecast (June 2018).

Design Standards Applicable:

AASHTO 3R

Railroad Involvement:

Not Applicable

Utility Involvement:

TBD – Request will be submitted in 2019

Natural/ Human Environmental Features:

Preliminary Corridor Resources Inventory Table
(Potential impacts are within existing study area unless otherwise noted.)

Resource/Measure	U-2307B Widening
Length of project (to tenth of miles)	3.2
Potential for Interchanges or RR crossings (#)	Interchanges – 0 Intersections - 22 RR crossings – 0
Other Infrastructure (# of Wastewater treatment plants, transmission pipelines, etc.)	TBD – no major conflicts identified at this time
Suspected/known Hazardous Materials sites (#)	Eight (8) UST sites. Phase 1 Recommended by Geo-Environmental January 2019.
National Register or eligible sites, districts, or other historic properties (#)	None. No survey required July 9, 2018
Community facilities such as medical centers, nursing homes, churches, schools, cemeteries, etc. (#)	Three assisted living facilities, one retirement community, four churches, and one private school are located along the project corridor. ¹
Potentially Affected Residential Properties	44 (1992 EIS) Likely to increase after prelim. Design.
Potentially Affected Business Properties	8 (1992 EIS) Likely to increase after prelim. Design.
Wetlands (est. acres rounded to whole acre)	Approximately 1.17 acres ²
Streams (# of streams and number of linear feet)	2 Streams cross the corridor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falling Creek • Snow Creek 5,839 Linear Feet of stream: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 316 LF Intermittent • 5,523 LF Perennial
Critical Water Supply Watersheds (rounded to nearest acre)	None
Riparian Buffer rules apply (yes/no/part)	No – Catawba River Basin
Area in active agriculture	No VAD or EVADs along the corridor. Multiple fields located along corridor in active agriculture.
Parks, Greenways, Game Lands, Land and Water Conservation Fund Properties, etc. (#)	None
Identified Critical Habitat/species under ESA (yes/no/part)	Species listed for Catawba County include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern long-eared bat • Dwarf-flowered heartleaf and • Schweinitz's sunflower Surveys pending 2019. ²
FEMA Buyout Properties	No
Other known/suspected resources or issues: (identify; e.g. Low-income or minority community) (#)	Census data indicates a notable presence of low-income populations meeting the criteria for Environmental Justice. Locations along the corridor include St. Stephens mobile home park, three assisted living facilities, and one retirement community. ¹

1. Source: U-2307B Community Characteristics Report, August 2018

2. Source: U-2307B NRTR, October 2018.



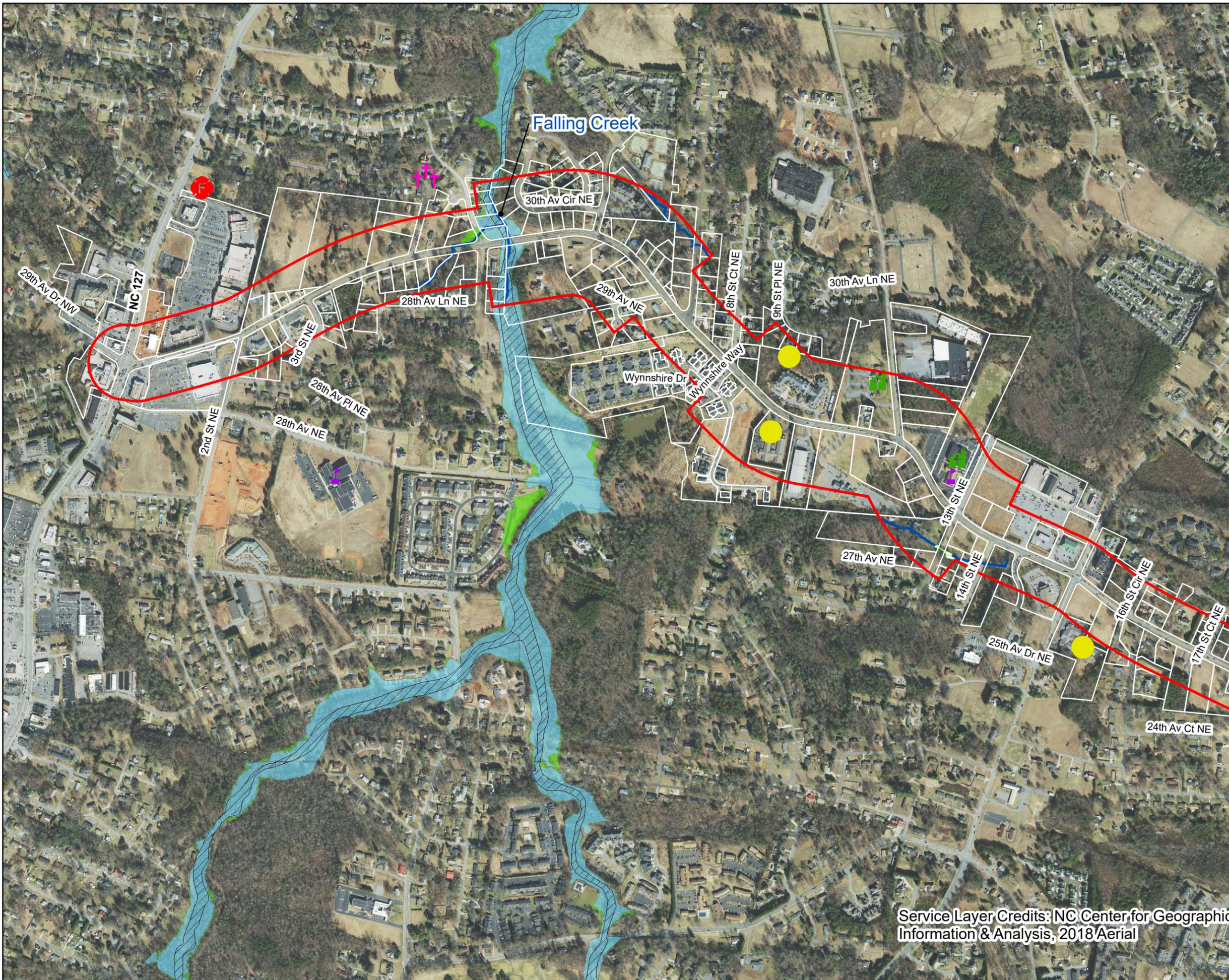
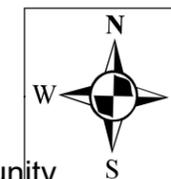
FIGURE 2

Environmental Features Map Catawba County

WIDENING OF EAST SIDE
THOROUGHFARE (MCDONALD
PARKWAY) FROM SR 1453
(SPRINGS ROAD) TO NC 127
U-2307B
APRIL 2019

Legend

- Study area
- Retirement Community
- Churches
- Fire Station
- Schools
- Huffman-Seaboch Cemetery
- Parcels
- Streams
- Wetlands
- Floodway Areas
- 100 Year Floodplain
- 500 Year Floodplain
- Parks



Service Layer Credits: NC Center for Geographic
Information & Analysis, 2018 Aerial

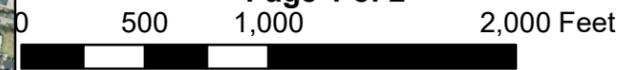
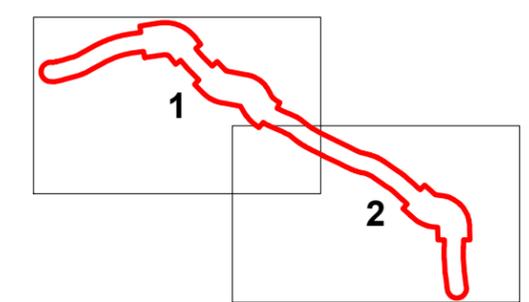
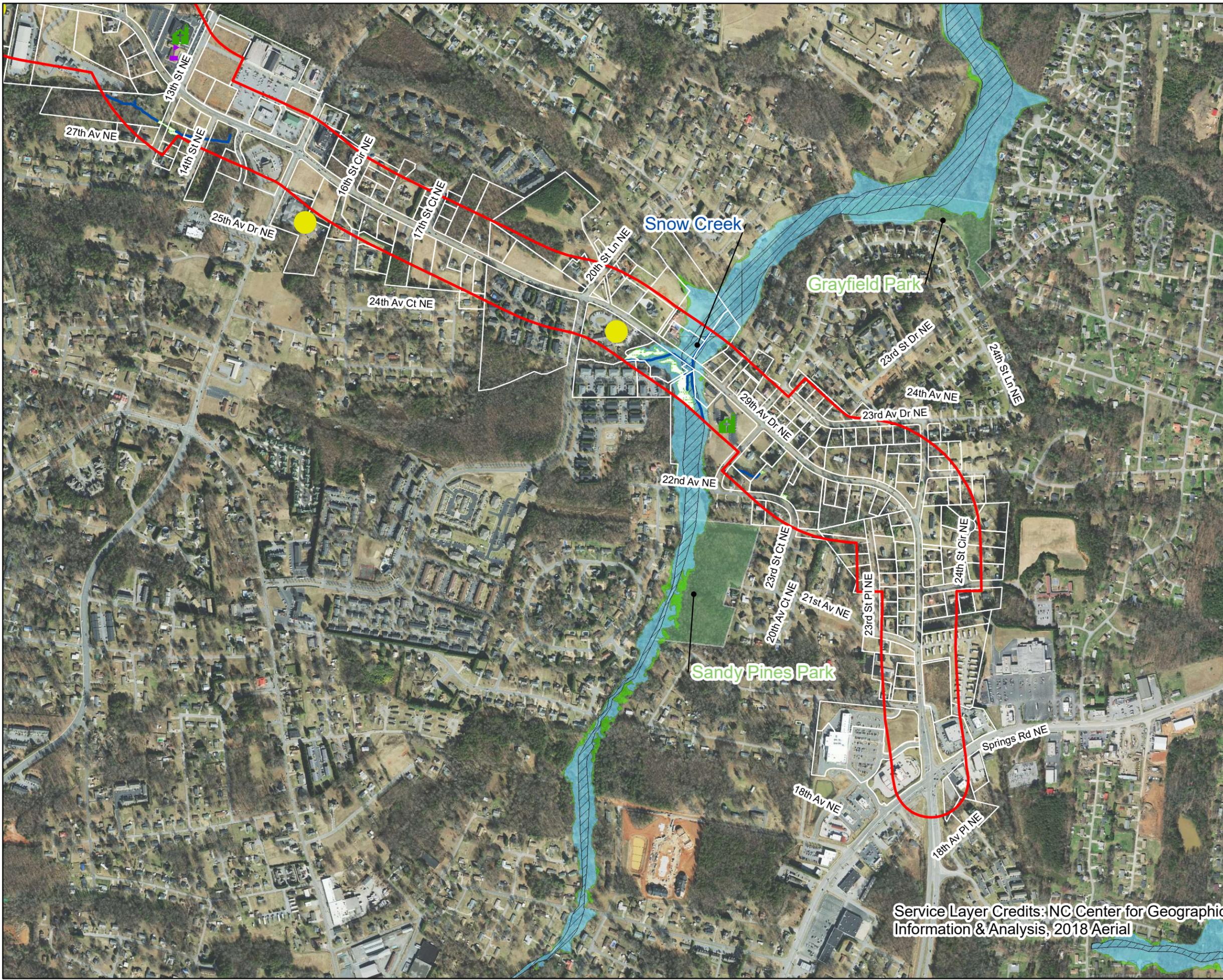
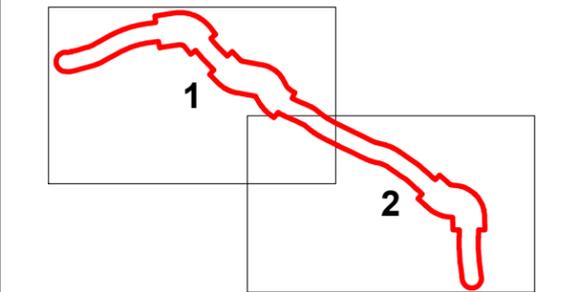
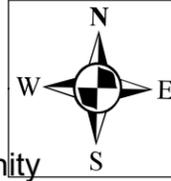


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