

**North Carolina Department of Transportation**  
**PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION FORM**  
**TIP Project R-3826**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. Consultation Phase: Right of Way
- b. Project Description: NC 125 Williamston Bypass from SR 1182 (East College Road) southwest of Williamston to NC 125 northwest of Williamston, Martin County.
- c. State Project: 8.1090501  
Federal Project: STP-125(1)
- d. Document Type:           EA           4/30/2009  
                                  FONSI       1/05/2011

II. CONCLUSIONS

The above environmental document has been reevaluated as required by 23 CFR 771. It was determined that the current proposed action is essentially the same as the original proposed action. Proposed changes, if any, are noted below in Section III. It has been determined that anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts were accurately described in the above referenced document(s) unless noted otherwise herein. Therefore, the original Administration Action remains valid.

III. CHANGES IN PROPOSED ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Project Design

Several changes have occurred to the project design since completion of the FONSI. At the time of the FONSI, three lanes (two through lanes with a center turn lane) were proposed for the project from SR 1182 (East College Road) to the CSX Transportation rail line. The design has been changed to provide a three-lane roadway from SR 1182 to north of SR 1420 (McCaskey Road). In addition, four-foot paved shoulders are now proposed for portions of the project with shoulders. Two-foot paved shoulders were proposed previously. Additional environmental impacts are not expected due to the minor design changes described above.

Right of Way and Access Control

The FONSI incorrectly stated the proposed right of way as 100 feet for the portion of the project from SR 1182 to the CSX rail line (See Page 1 and Figure 2 of the FONSI). The current proposed right of way for the section from SR 1182 to US 64A is 120 feet and 110 feet for portions where right of way is to be acquired between US 64A and the CSX rail line. From north of the CSX rail line to approximately 450 feet south of SR 1420, the proposed right of way has been reduced from 200 feet to approximately 120 feet. From approximately 450 feet south of SR 1420 to existing NC 125 northeast of Williamston, proposed right of way has been reduced from 200 feet to between 150 and

185 feet. This change was made following completion of final surveys, when it was determined that a narrower right of way would be appropriate for the project.

The changes in the proposed right of way described above will result in less impact to properties surrounding the proposed roadway. These changes were shown at the September 2012 design public hearing and no comments were noted (see below).

#### Rare and Protected Species

Since completion of the FONSI, the federally-protected species list for Martin County has been updated as of August 31, 2012. The American sturgeon has been added to the list as of April 6, 2012 and is listed as endangered in Martin County.

A review of potential habitat for the American sturgeon within the project study area has occurred. No habitat for the American sturgeon exists in the project area. The proposed project will have no effect on the American sturgeon.

#### Relocation of Residences and Business

The number of relocatees for the project has increased from three to four since completion of the FONSI. Since completion of the FONSI, a home has been built on previously vacant land within the proposed right of way for the project. The home owner was informed of the project and did attend the design public hearing, held on September 11, 2012 at Martin Community College in Williamston. Right of way Branch staff were present at this hearing to answer questions regarding the right of way acquisition process.

IV. LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

NCDOT will implement all practical measures and procedures to minimize and avoid environmental impacts.

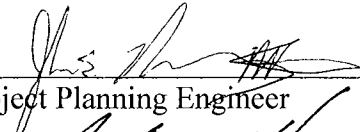
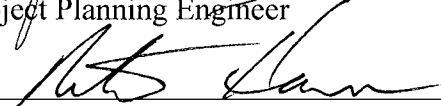
See attached greensheet for list of Project Commitments.

V. COORDINATION

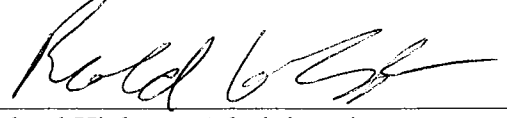
PDEA personnel have discussed current project proposals with others. Please note who was coordinated with and the date. This section is to be filled out by the project manager and does not require signatures.

Design Engineer:	Gary Lovering	10/16/2012
	_____	_____
		Date
FHWA Engineer:	Ron Lucas	10/31/2012
	_____	_____
		Date
NEU-PM:	John Merritt	N/A
	_____	_____
	(Construction Consultations only)	Date

VI. NCDOT CONCURRENCE

	12/17/2012
Project Planning Engineer	_____
	Date
<i>for</i> 	12/18/12
Manager, Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit	_____
	Date

VII. FHWA CONCURRENCE

	12/18/12
Federal Highway Administration	_____
Division Administrator	Date

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## PROJECT COMMITMENTS

NC 125  
Williamston Bypass  
From SR 1182 (East College Road) southwest of Williamston  
to NC 125 northwest of Williamston  
Martin County  
Federal Aid Project STP-125(1)  
State Project 8.1090501  
WBS Element 34553.1.1  
TIP Project R-3826

*Current status, changes, or additions to the project commitments as shown in the environmental document for the project area printed in italics.*

### **NCDOT Rail Division**

Formal approval for the at-grade rail crossing for the proposed bypass will be obtained from CSX Transportation prior to construction of this project. The Slade Street and SR 1410 (Cullipher Road) crossings must be closed prior to CSX Transportation granting formal approval for the proposed at-grade crossing for the bypass.

*This commitment will be implemented prior to project construction. Informal agreement has been reached with CSX Transportation regarding the proposed at-grade crossing.*

### **NCDOT Roadway Design/Geotechnical Unit/Division One Construction**

Steeper side slopes (3:1) will be used in jurisdictional areas.

*Project plans show 3:1 side slopes in jurisdictional areas.*

Side slopes steeper than 3:1 will be investigated during project design for the UT 3 stream crossing.

*Side slopes steeper than 3:1 were investigated, but were determined not to be feasible at the UT 3 stream crossing.*

### **NCDOT Division Office/Area Traffic Engineer**

The Area Traffic Engineer will re-evaluate need for a traffic signal at the proposed intersection of the NC 125 Bypass with SR 1420 (McCaskey Road) prior to project construction.

*This commitment will be implemented prior to project construction.*

## NCDOT Location and Surveys Unit

Unmarked graves may exist on property along the east side of existing NC 125 near the northern terminus of the project (Whitley Farm). NCDOT will investigate this area and determine whether or not graves are located within the proposed right of way prior to right of way acquisition.

*The presence of unmarked graves along the east side of existing NC 125 near the northern terminus of the project (Whitley Farm) has been investigated. No unmarked graves exist within the existing or proposed right of way for the project as shown on the plans for the project.*