

US 17
From North of NC 171 to Multi-Lanes South of Williamston
Beaufort and Martin Counties
State Project 35494.1.1
TIP Project R-2511

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

STATE FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

N. C. Department of Transportation
Division of Highways

In compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act



The following person may be contacted for additional information concerning this proposal and statement:

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APPROVED:

10/24/2014 | 9:08 AM ET DocuSigned by:
Robert P Hanson
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Date Richard W. Hancock, PE
FOR Manager,
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit, NCDOT

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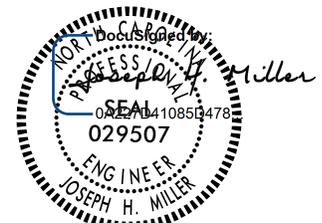
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PROJECT COMMITMENTS

US 17
From North of NC 171 to Multi-Lanes South of Williamston
Beaufort and Martin Counties
State Project 35494.1.1
TIP Project R-2511

NCDOT Hydraulics Unit/Division One Construction

NCDOT will coordinate with the Floodplain Mapping Program (FMP), the delegated state agency for administering FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, to determine whether the Memorandum of Agreement between NCDOT and the FMP is applicable or if approval of a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and subsequent final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) will be required.

This project involves construction activities on or adjacent to a FEMA-regulated stream. Therefore, NCDOT Division One shall submit sealed as-built construction plans to the Hydraulics Unit upon completion of project construction, certifying that the drainage structures and roadway embankment that are located within the 100-year floodplain were built as shown in the construction plans, both horizontally and vertically.

State Finding of No Significant Impact
Prepared by the
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit
Of the
North Carolina Department of Transportation

I. TYPE OF ACTION

This is a State Finding of No Significant Impact prepared in compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION

A. Project Description

TIP Project R-2511 is programmed as widening US 17 to a multi-lane facility from north of NC 171 to the existing multi-lanes south of Williamston in Beaufort and Martin Counties. The proposed project is approximately 10.6 miles long. Figure 1 shows the project vicinity

B. Project Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed project is to alleviate congestion and improve the level of service along US 17, and in doing so, improve safety to the route.

C. Cost Estimates

The current estimated cost for the proposed project is \$73,372,000, which includes \$15,987,000 for right of way acquisition, \$4,465,000 for utility relocation, \$1,685,000 for wetland and stream mitigation and \$51,050,000 for construction. The cost estimate included in the amended 2012-2020 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for the project is \$53,950,000. Of this total, \$8,450,000 is estimated for right of way acquisition, \$3,200,000 for utility relocation and \$42,300,000 for construction.

D. Project Schedule

The proposed project is included in the amended 2012-2020 STIP. Right of way is scheduled for state fiscal year 2019 and construction is unfunded.

III. SELECTED ALTERNATIVE

A. Alternatives Studied in Detail

As discussed in the Environmental Assessment, widening existing US 17 to four 12-foot lanes with a 46-foot median and 8-foot grass shoulders with a four foot paved shoulder on each side was selected for detailed study. The project was divided into nine sections as described below. East and west side widening was studied in detail for each section:

- Section 1 – North Roberson Road (SR 1418) to approximately 0.25 mile south of Griffin Road (SR 1421)
- Section 2 – Approximately 0.25 mile south of Griffin Road to approximately 0.2 mile North of Woolard Road (SR 1419)
- Section 3 – Approximately 0.2 mile north of Woolard Road to approximately 0.6 mile north of the Beaufort/Martin County Line in Martin County.
- Section 4 – Approximately 0.6 mile north of the County Line to approximately 1.1 mile south of Smithwick Creek Church Road (SR 1106)
- Section 5 – Approximately 1.1 miles south of Smithwick Creek Church Road to Approximately 0.7 mile south of Smithwick Creek Church Road
- Section 6 – Approximately 0.7 mile south of Smithwick Creek Church Road to approximately 0.2 mile south of Smithwick Creek Church Road
- Section 7 - Approximately 0.2 mile south of Smithwick Creek Church Road to approximately one mile north of Smithwick Creek Church Road
- Section 8 - Approximately one mile north of Smithwick Creek Church Road to approximately 0.2 mile south of Dan Peele Road (SR 1114)
- Section 9 – Approximately 0.2 mile south of Dan Peele Road to the existing multilane south of Williamston.

Table 1 below presents a comparison of the study alternatives evaluated in the Environmental Assessment

**TABLE 1
ALTERNATIVES COMPARISON**

Section	Alternative	Homes	Businesses	Delineated Wetlands (Acres)	Streams (Feet)	R/W From Historic Property?	Cemetery
1	East	16	3	0.35	620		
	West	8	2	0.86	620		
2	East	5		2.08	210		
	West	5		1.19	200		
3	East	7	1	0.74			
	West	6	1	0.9			
4	East	10	1	0.07	160	Yes (2)	1
	West	8		0.21	80	Yes (2)	
5	East	2	1	1.67	150		
	West	2		1.34	70		
6	East	2		0.72	220		
	West	3		0.95	240		
7	East	8	1				
	West	5	2				
8	East	3				Yes (2)	
	West	5				Yes (2)	1
9	East	3		0.24	460	Yes (1)	
	West	7		0.005	320	Yes (1)	

B. Recommended Alternative

Analysis and refinement of alternatives resulted in widening options being selected for all but one of the nine project sections. In Section 4, two widening options were carried forward for detailed study. Two options were carried forward because widening to the west the entire length of Section 4 would have an adverse effect on a historic property (Griffin’s Hatchery), while widening to the east would relocate two additional homes. An option which would involve widening to the west the entire length of Section 4 and an option which would widen to the west for most of Section 4 but would shift to avoid Griffin’s Hatchery were both carried forward for detailed study. The NEPA/404 merger team concurred on the alternatives to be studied in detail at a merger team meeting held on February 17, 2011.

Following detailed environmental surveys and preliminary design, the decision was made to drop the west side widening option in Section 4 because it would relocate more homes and would have an adverse effect on the National Register-eligible Griffin’s Hatchery. The NEPA/404 merger team concurred with eliminating the west widening option for Section 4 at a meeting held on January 31, 2013. The recommended widening options listed below were shown to the public at a hearing held on December 3, 2013.

<u>Section</u>	<u>Widening</u>	<u>Why selected?</u>
1	West side	fewer relocatees
2	West side	less wetlands
3	East side	fewer relocatees
4	West/Avoid	avoid hatchery
5	Best Fit	best fit
6	Best Fit	best fit
7	West side	less relocatees
8	East side	less relocatees
9	Best Fit	best fit

IV. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Anticipated effects of the proposed project are shown in table 2 below.

**TABLE 2
SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

Relocations*	Residential	36 (11)
	Business	0
	Non-Profit	3 (1)
	Total Relocations	39 (12)
Minority/Low-Income Populations Disproportionately Impacted?		No
Historic Properties (Adverse Effect)		No Adverse Effects
Community Facilities Impacted		0
Section 4(f) Impacts		None
Noise Impacts (Impacted Properties)		27
Prime Farmland (Acres)		88.9
Forested Areas Impacted (Acres)		28.2
Wetlands (Acres)		4.81
Streams (Linear Feet)		1,400
Riparian Buffer (Square Feet)		120,970
Floodplain (Acres)		4.5
Federally-Protected Species		No Effect
Cost (Millions)	Right of Way	\$15.987
	Utility Relocation	\$4.650
	Wetland/Stream Mitigation	\$1.685
	Construction	\$51.050
Total		\$73.372
Project Length (Miles)		10.6

* - Parentheses () indicate minority-owned or occupied homes, businesses or non-profit organizations.

V. COMMENTS AND COORDINATION

A. Distribution of the Environmental Assessment

Copies of the environmental assessment were made available to the public and to the following federal, state and local agencies:

- *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Department of the Army - Corps of Engineers (Wilmington District)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Raleigh
- U.S. Geological Survey - Raleigh
- *N.C. Department of Administration - State Clearinghouse
- *N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- N.C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety
- N.C. Department of Cultural Resources
- N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- N.C. Department of Human Resources
- N.C. Department of Public Instruction
- N.C. Division of Coastal Management
- N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
- *N.C. Division of Water Quality (now Division of Water Resources)
- N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- Beaufort County
- Martin County
- Mid-East Rural Planning Organization

Asterisks (*) indicate agencies from which comments on the environmental assessment were received. Copies of letters received are included in Appendix A of this document.

B. Comments on the Environmental Assessment

Substantive comments on the environmental assessment are presented below.

NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

COMMENT: “The footprint of the proposed project area for the US 17 and NC 171 has the potential of irreversible damage and increases the loss of state important farm and forest land thereby negatively impacting agricultural environmental balance in the immediate area. The NCDOT is encouraged to give due consideration of routing and / or designs that would reduce the potential of negative environmental and economic impacts on farm and forest land in the proposed study area.”

NCDOT RESPONSE: As discussed in Section V-C of the environmental assessment, existing right of way along US 17 in the project area is offset to the west. Widening to the west would result in less additional right of way and less impacts to farms. US 17 will be widened to the west for the majority of the proposed project. Widening to the east is only proposed in areas which would result in less impact to homes, businesses, wetlands or streams.

COMMENT: “Project activities for US 17 and NC 171 should give consideration of farms near existing Voluntary Agricultural Districts (VAD) in Beaufort County designed to recognize and protect key agricultural production centers. Transportation planning priorities should be considered [sic] highway placement and its potential negative impact on the Beaufort VAD and land resources in both Beaufort and Martin Counties. These plans should also negate the formation of incompatible and inaccessible land units that degrades agricultural production capabilities associated with the area’s farm and agribusinesses.”

NCDOT RESPONSE: While Beaufort County does have a VAD ordinance, there are no VADs along the project section of US 17. The closest VAD in Beaufort County is over seven miles southeast of the US 17/NC 171 intersection.

COMMENT: “Both current and future cost for the conversion land from production agriculture is needed for an accurate evaluation which is not accurately recognized by the Farmland Conversion Impact Rating using Form AD 1006.”

NCDOT RESPONSE: Form AD 1006 is the tool specified by the US Department of Agriculture in 7 CFR 658 to evaluate the effects of projects on farmland, no cost analysis as mentioned in the comment is specified in the rules.

COMMENT: “Based on the secondary, cumulative, and direct impacts, this project has potential to adversely impact the agricultural environmental and economic resources in the proposed study area. The total negative impact on the environmental and agribusiness economy will be proportionately related to the total acres of farm and forest land taken out of production.”

NCDOT RESPONSE: This project will affect farmland, but as discussed in Section V-C of the environmental assessment and in an earlier response, US 17 will be widened to the west for the majority of the project, where existing right of way is wider. Widening to the east is only proposed in areas which would result in less impact to homes, businesses, wetlands or streams.

NC Division of Water Quality

COMMENT: “Unnamed tributaries to Gum Swamp and Latham Creek as well as Gum Swamp are class C;Sw,NSW waters of the State. NCDWQ is very concerned with sediment and erosion impacts that could result from this project. NCDWQ recommends that highly protective sediment and erosion control BMPs be implemented to reduce the risk of nutrient runoff to these waterbodies. NCDWQ requests that road design plans provide treatment of the storm water runoff through best management practices as

detailed in the most recent version of *NCDWQ's Stormwater Best Management Practices.*”

NCDOT RESPONSE: Comment noted.

COMMENT: “A portion of this project is within the Tar-Pamlico River Basin. Riparian buffer impacts shall be avoided and minimized to the greatest extent possible pursuant to 15A NCAC 2B .0259. New development activities located in the protected 50-foot wide riparian areas within the basin shall be limited to “uses” identified within and constructed in accordance with 15A NCAC .0259. Buffer mitigation may be required for buffer impacts resulting from activities classified as “allowable with mitigation” within the “Table of Uses” section of the Buffer Rules or require a variance under the buffer rules. A buffer mitigation plan, including use of the NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program, must be provided to NCDWQ prior to approval of the Water Quality Certification...”

NCDOT RESPONSE: A buffer mitigation plan will be provided to the NC Division of Water Resources (current name for the Division of Water Quality) as part of the permit application for the Section 401 Water Quality Certification.

NC Division of Coastal Management

COMMENT: “Twenty counties in North Carolina make up the “Coastal Area”. Development activities in the Coastal Area are subject to the rules of the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC). Beaufort County is one of those counties, however, Martin County is located outside of this coastal zone. A proposed project that is located within the Coastal Area and will impact a Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) is subject to permitting requirements. The Summary, Section D., Permits Required, on page vii states, “This project may require a CAMA permit...” The portion of the project located Beaufort County will not impact any CAMA areas of Environmental concerns (AECs) and therefore no CAMA permit will be required. However, it should be noted that a CAMA Consistency Determination must be performed, documented and certified by the applicant (NCDOT) in conjunction with obtaining the USACE Individual Permit.”

“...As part of DCM’s evaluation process, the applicant’s Consistency Determination is placed on public notice and circulated to a variety of State agencies for comment...Although the Consistency Certification is not considered a permit, this requirement should be referenced in the Summary, Section D, Permits Required.”

NCDOT RESPONSE: Section VI-B of this document provides updated information regarding the Consistency Certification.

COMMENT: “Be advised that the most recent version of Beaufort County’s CAMA Land Use Plan was certified by the CRC on January 13, 2010. In Section II.B.2.c, Land Use Plan, the version certified by the CRC on October 5, 1998 is reference as the most current version.”

NCDOT RESPONSE: Section VI-C of this document provides updated information regarding land use plans in the project area.

NC Division of Waste Management

COMMENT: “I searched the Petroleum Underground Storage Tank (UST) and Non-UST Databases and those databases indicated multiple petroleum releases in the proposed project area. UST Incidents 5226, 5771, 6075, 31567 and 31587 are located adjacent to Highway 17 and should be reviewed prior to commencing work.”

NCDOT RESPONSE: As discussed in Section V-K of the environmental assessment, a preliminary site assessment will be performed on sites containing underground storage tanks or other potentially contaminated sites prior to right of way acquisition.

COMMENT: “I reviewed the above proposal and determined that this project should not have any adverse impact upon groundwater.”

NCDOT RESPONSE: Comment noted.

C. Public Hearing

An informal public hearing was held for the project on December 3, 2013 at Macedonia Christian Church in Williamston. Approximately 76 citizens attended the hearing. Eleven people submitted written comments at the meeting or during the comment period following the meeting.

Citizens expressed concerns about access to Macedonia Christian Church and the placement of control of access fence in front of the church. Concerns were also expressed regarding possible impacts to the Holliday/Hodges family cemetery. Other concerns included emergency vehicle response and the location of u-turn bulbs along the project. Comments were made that access breaks in the control of access fence need to be large enough for large farm equipment.

These comments will be taken into consideration as development of the project progresses.

VI. REVISIONS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

A. Federal/State Environmental Documentation

The May 2013 environmental assessment for this project was completed in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and approved by FHWA. A federal environmental assessment was prepared for this state-funded project in order to allow the option of utilizing federal funds for right of way acquisition or construction. Since completion of the federal environmental assessment, it has been determined federal funds will not be used for this project; therefore, preparation of a state finding of no significant impact is appropriate. Preparation of a state environmental assessment is not necessary, because under the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), the federal environmental assessment satisfies the environmental assessment requirements of SEPA.

B. Permits Required

The project will not impact any CAMA Areas of Environmental Concern (AECs) and therefore no CAMA permit will be required. However, it should be noted that a CAMA Consistency Determination must be performed, documented and certified in conjunction with obtaining the USACE Individual Permit.

C. Land Use Plans

Section II-B-2-c of the environmental assessment stated Beaufort County's 1997 land use plan is the latest update to the original 1976 land use plan. This statement is incorrect. The latest land use plan for Beaufort County is the *Beaufort County Joint CAMA Land Use Plan 2006 Update*, which was adopted by the Beaufort County Commissioners on October 1, 2009.

D. Federally-Protected Species

Table 12 of the EA lists federally-protected species for Beaufort and Martin Counties. Since completion of the EA, the red knot has been proposed for listing as a threatened species.

Table 3 below presents the list of federally-protected species for Beaufort and Martin Counties as of July 16, 2014.

**TABLE 3
FEDERALLY-PROTECTED SPECIES IN
BEAUFORT AND MARTIN COUNTIES**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	County	Habitat	Biological Conclusion
Atlantic sturgeon	<i>Anquilla rostrata</i>	E	Both	No	No Effect
Kemp's ridley sea turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	E	Beaufort	No	No Effect
Red knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	P	Beaufort		No Effect
Red wolf	<i>Canis rufus</i>	EXP*	Beaufort	Yes	No Effect
Red-cockaded woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	E	Beaufort	No	No Effect
West Indian manatee	<i>Trichecus manatus</i>	E	Beaufort	No	No Effect
Rough-leaved loosestrife	<i>Lysimachia aesperulaefolia</i>	E	Beaufort	No	No Effect
Sensitive joint-vetch	<i>Aeschynomene virginica</i>	T	Beaufort	Yes	No Effect

E – Endangered T – Threatened P – Proposed for listing

*EXP-Experimental population (either essential or nonessential). Species listed as experimental, nonessential are treated as threatened species on public land, for consultation purposes, and as species proposed for listing on private land.

The red knot is proposed for listing as “threatened” for Beaufort County. There is no habitat for the red knot within the project area. It is expected the project will have “no effect” on the red knot.

The bald eagle was delisted as of August 8, 2007 and is no longer protected by the Endangered Species Act. It is, however, protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. There is no bald eagle nesting or foraging habitat within 660 feet of the study area. A review of the NC Natural Heritage Program element occurrence database, updated May 3, 2011, revealed no occurrences of the bald eagle within one mile of the study area.

E. Traffic Noise Analysis

The environmental assessment presented the results of a traffic noise analysis performed in August 2010 in accordance with the FHWA noise standard and the NCDOT Traffic Noise Abatement Policy that existed prior to July 13, 2011. The environmental assessment included a commitment to update the traffic noise analysis to comply with current (July 13, 2011) FHWA noise standards and NCDOT Traffic Noise Abatement Policy prior to completion of the final environmental document for the project.

Since completion of the environmental assessment, a review of the project and the August 2010 traffic noise analysis has been performed. It was found the results of the August 2010 traffic noise analysis remain valid. No additional traffic noise impacts beyond those identified in the August 2010 analysis are predicted, and traffic noise impact abatement measures will not meet current applicable feasibility and reasonableness criteria. Additional traffic noise analysis will not be required.

VII. BASIS FOR FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon environmental studies and coordination with appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, it is the finding of the North Carolina Department of Transportation that the proposed action will have no significant impact upon the quality of the human environment. Therefore, a state environmental impact statement will not be required.

The following persons can be contacted for additional information concerning this proposal and statement:

Richard W. Hancock, PE, Manager,
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NC Department of Transportation
1548 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1548
(919) 707-6000

R-2510C UNDER CONSTRUCTION

OLD FORD SWAMP

**BEGIN TIP PROJECT R-2511
-L- STA. 10+00.00**

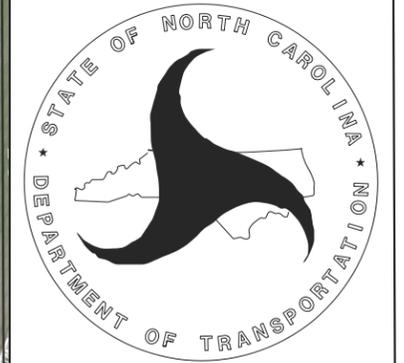
**TIP PROJECT R-2510
(UNDER CONSTRUCTION-NOT A PART OF THIS STUDY)**

OLD FORD

**FORMER OLD FORD SCHOOL
(NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE)**

**WOODMEN OF THE WORLD LODGE
(NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE)**

SECTION 1



**NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT**

**US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
TO MULTILANES SOUTH OF
WILLIAMSTON
BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511**

LEGEND

- BUILDINGS
- EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
- PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
- PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITY)
- EXISTING ROADWAY
- EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
- EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
- PROPOSED ROADWAY
- TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
- UNDER CONSTRUCTION
- PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
- EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER TO BE REMOVED
- FUTURE STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
- LAKES, RIVER, STREAMS AND PONDS
- CEMETERIES
- PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
- PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
- EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
- PRESENT ADT
- FUTURE ADT
- PROPERTY LINES
- HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
- WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

**PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP**

**PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

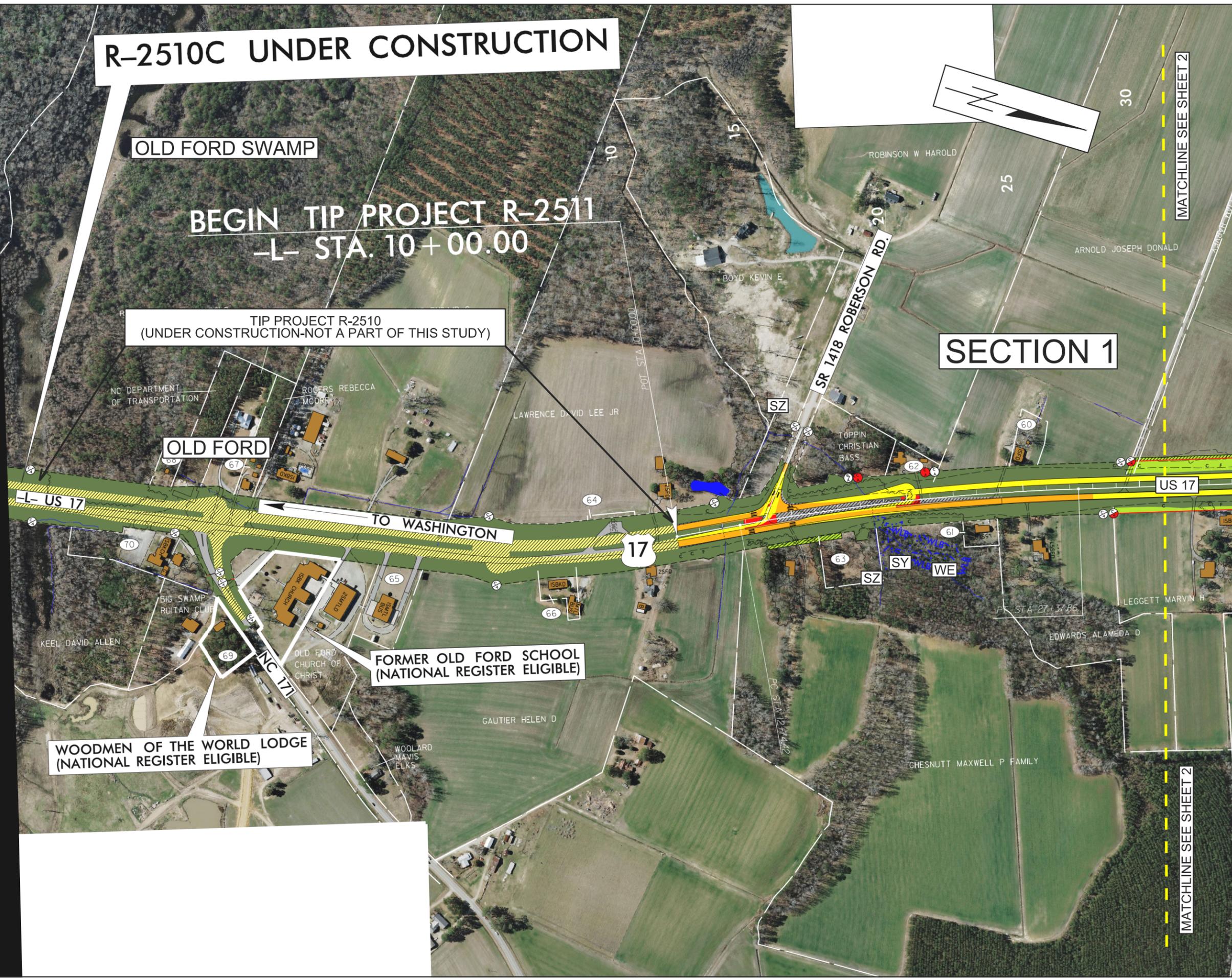
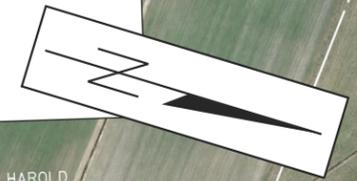


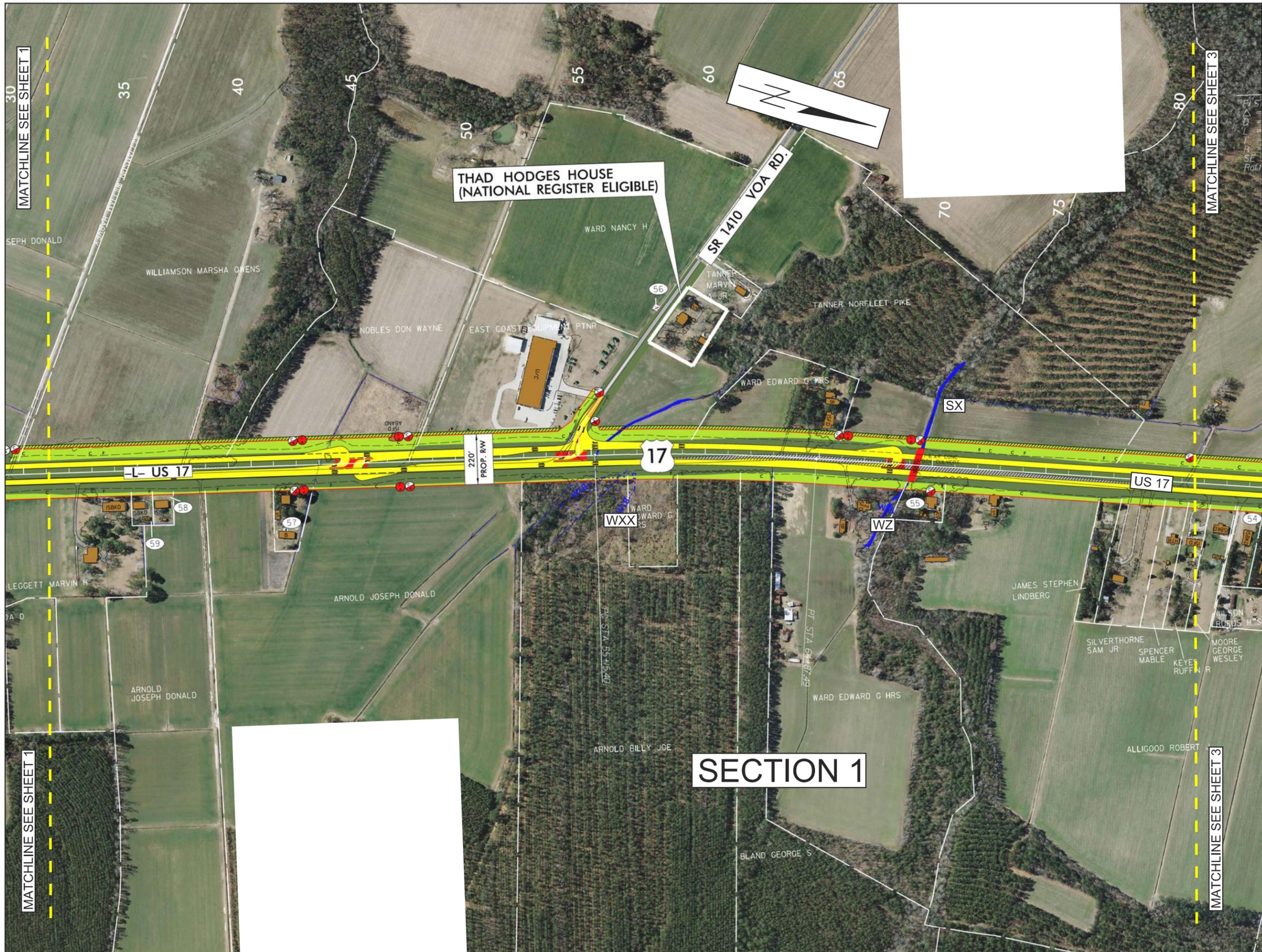
**SHEET 1 OF 12
FIGURE 2**

**SOUTH OF WILLIAMSTON
ROLL 1 OF 4
NOVEMBER 2013**

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 2

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 2





NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT

US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
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BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511

LEGEND	
[Brown rectangle]	BUILDINGS
[Green rectangle]	EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
[Yellow rectangle]	PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITY)
[Grey rectangle]	EXISTING ROADWAY
[Red rectangle]	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
[Blue rectangle]	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
[Orange rectangle]	PROPOSED ROADWAY
[Light blue rectangle]	TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
[Yellow rectangle]	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
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[Blue rectangle]	CEMETERIES
[Red circle]	PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
[Red circle]	PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
[Red circle]	EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
[Red circle]	2021 PRESENT ADT
[Red circle]	2041 FUTURE ADT
[Green line]	PROPERTY LINES
[Black line]	HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
[Blue line]	WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

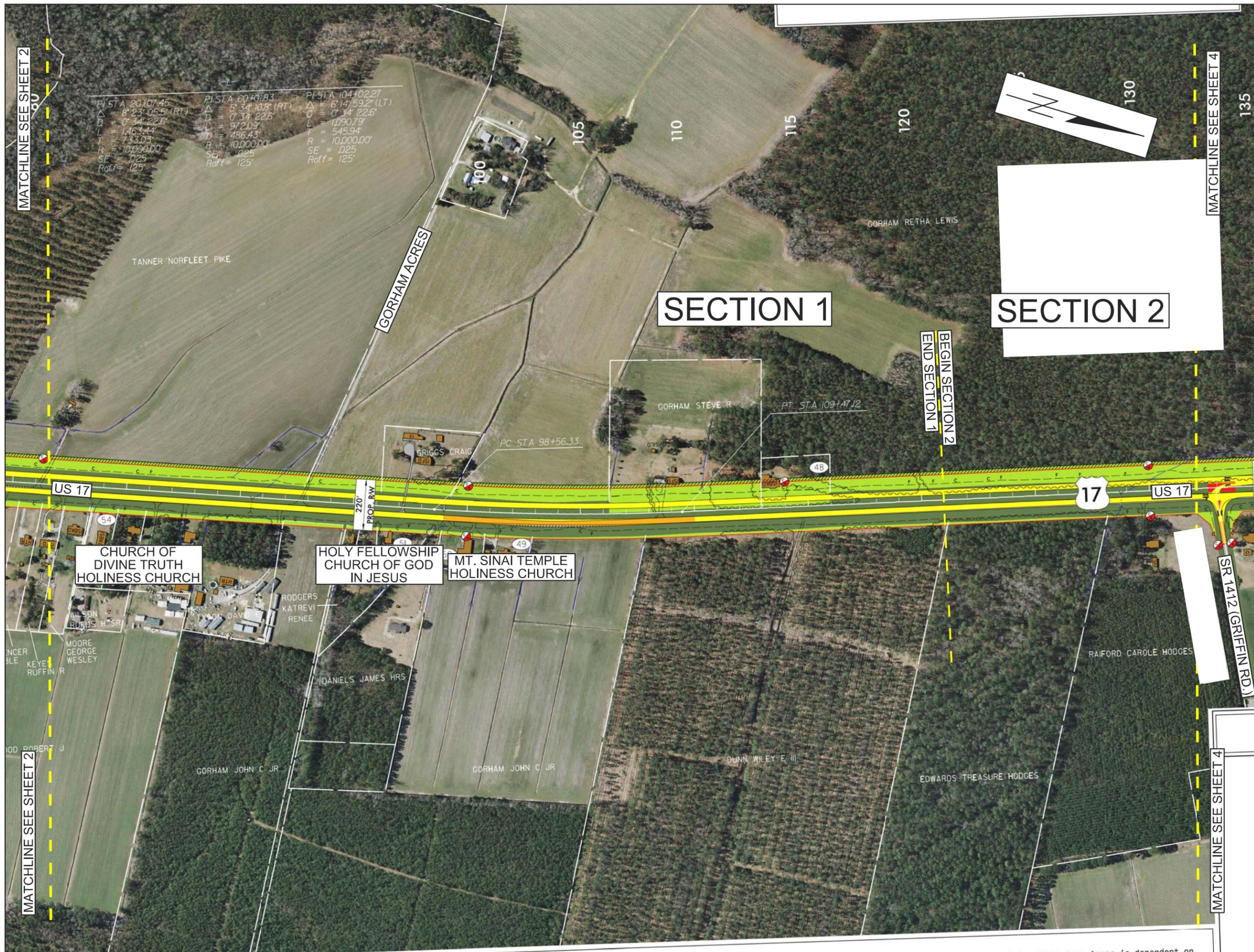


SHEET 2 OF 12
FIGURE 2



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT

US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
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LEGEND

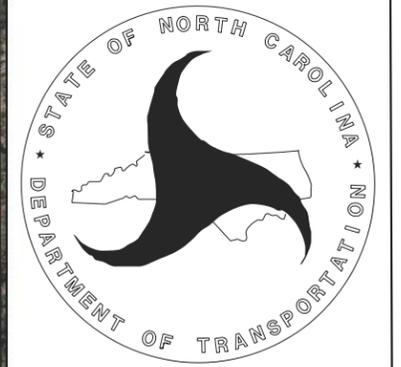
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- LAKE, RIVER, STREAM AND PONDS
- CEMETERIES
- PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
- PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
- EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
- PRESENT ADT
- FUTURE ADT
- PROPERTY LINES
- HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
- WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

0 FEET 400

SHEET 3 OF 12
FIGURE 2



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT

US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
TO MULTILANES SOUTH OF
WILLIAMSTON
BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511

LEGEND

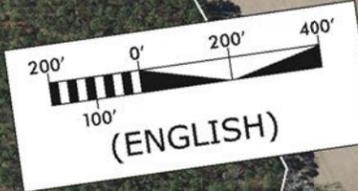
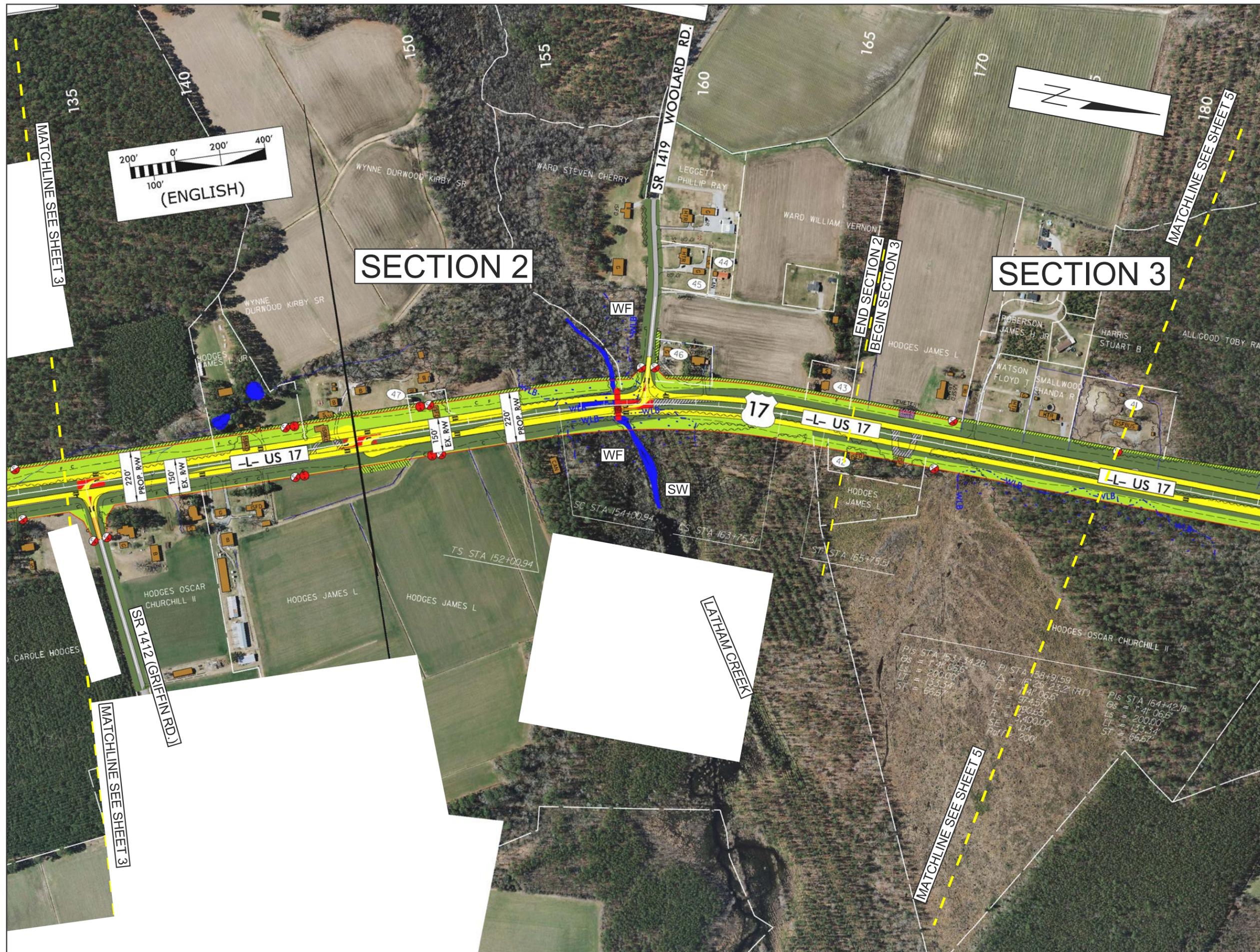
- BUILDINGS
- EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
- PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
- PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITIES)
- EXISTING ROADWAY
- EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
- EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
- PROPOSED ROADWAY
- TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
- UNDER CONSTRUCTION
- PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
- EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER TO BE REMOVED
- FUTURE STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
- LAKES, RIVER, STREAMS AND PONDS
- CEMETERIES
- PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
- PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
- EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
- PRESENT ADT
- FUTURE ADT
- PROPERTY LINES
- HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
- WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE



SHEET 4 OF 12
FIGURE 2





NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT

US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
TO MULTILANES SOUTH OF
WILLIAMSTON
BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511

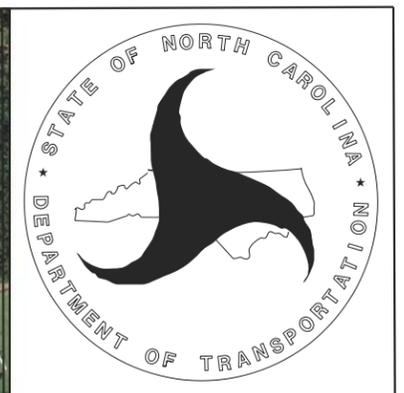
LEGEND	
	BUILDINGS
	EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITIES)
	EXISTING ROADWAY
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
	PROPOSED ROADWAY
	TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
	PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER TO BE REMOVED
	FUTURE STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS AND PONDS
	CEMETERIES
	PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PRESENT ADT
	FUTURE ADT
	PROPERTY LINES
	HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE



SHEET 5 OF 12
FIGURE 2



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT

US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
TO MULTILANES SOUTH OF
WILLIAMSTON
BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511

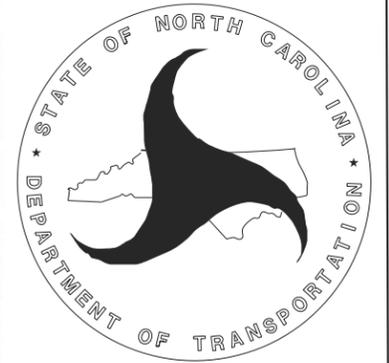
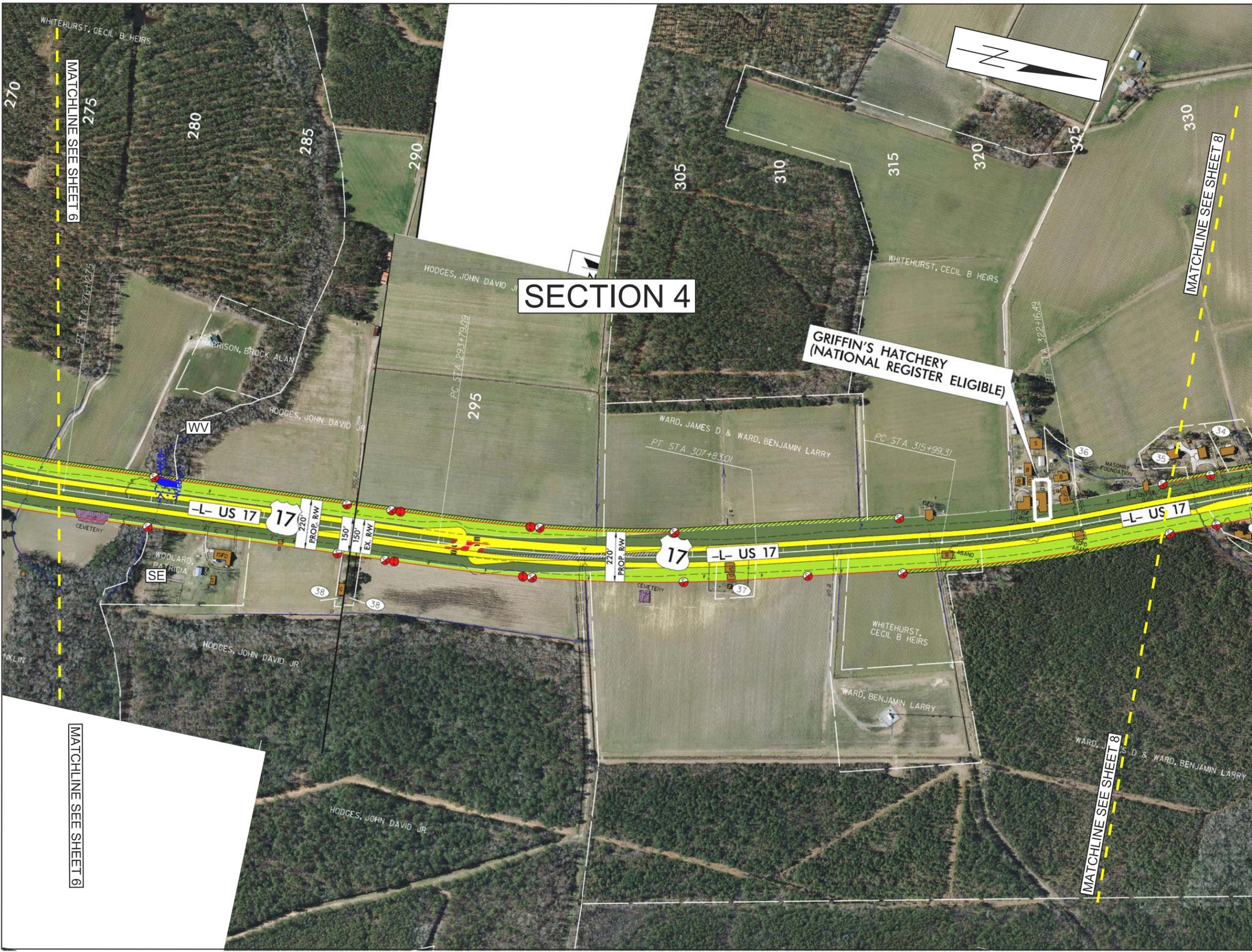
LEGEND	
	BUILDINGS
	EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITY)
	EXISTING ROADWAY
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
	PROPOSED ROADWAY
	TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
	PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	FUTURE STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	LAKES, RIVER, STREAMS AND PONDS
	CEMETERIES
	PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PRESENT ADT
	FUTURE ADT
	PROPERTY LINES
	HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE



SHEET 6 OF 12
FIGURE 2



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT

US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
TO MULTILANES SOUTH OF
WILLIAMSTON
BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511

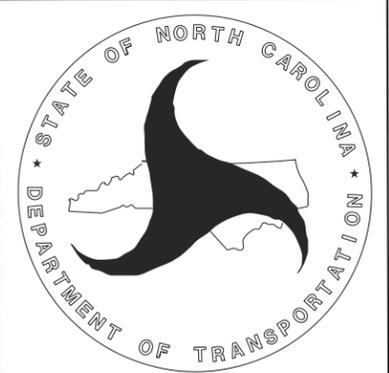
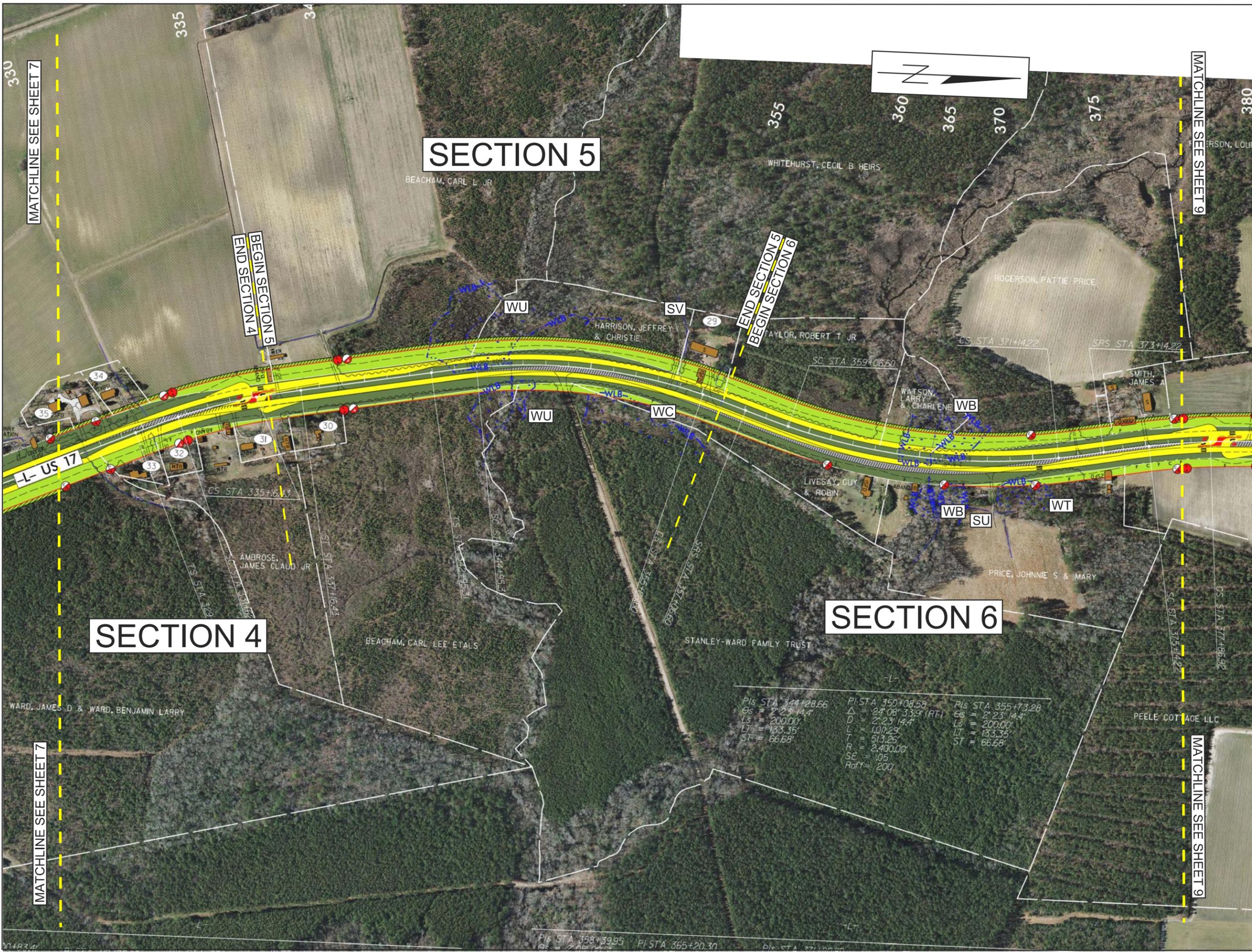
LEGEND	
[Symbol]	BUILDINGS
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[Symbol]	PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
[Symbol]	PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITY)
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[Symbol]	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
[Symbol]	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
[Symbol]	PROPOSED ROADWAY
[Symbol]	TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
[Symbol]	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
[Symbol]	PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
[Symbol]	EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
[Symbol]	FUTURE STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
[Symbol]	LAKES, RIVER, STREAMS AND PONDS
[Symbol]	CEMETERIES
[Symbol]	PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
[Symbol]	PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
[Symbol]	EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
[Symbol]	PRESENT ADT
[Symbol]	FUTURE ADT
[Symbol]	PROPERTY LINES
[Symbol]	HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
[Symbol]	WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE



SHEET 7 OF 12
FIGURE 2



NORTH CAROLINA
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
 AND
 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
 UNIT

US 17
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 TO MULTILANES SOUTH OF
 WILLIAMSTON
 BEAUFORT AND
 MARTIN COUNTIES
 TIP PROJECT R-2511

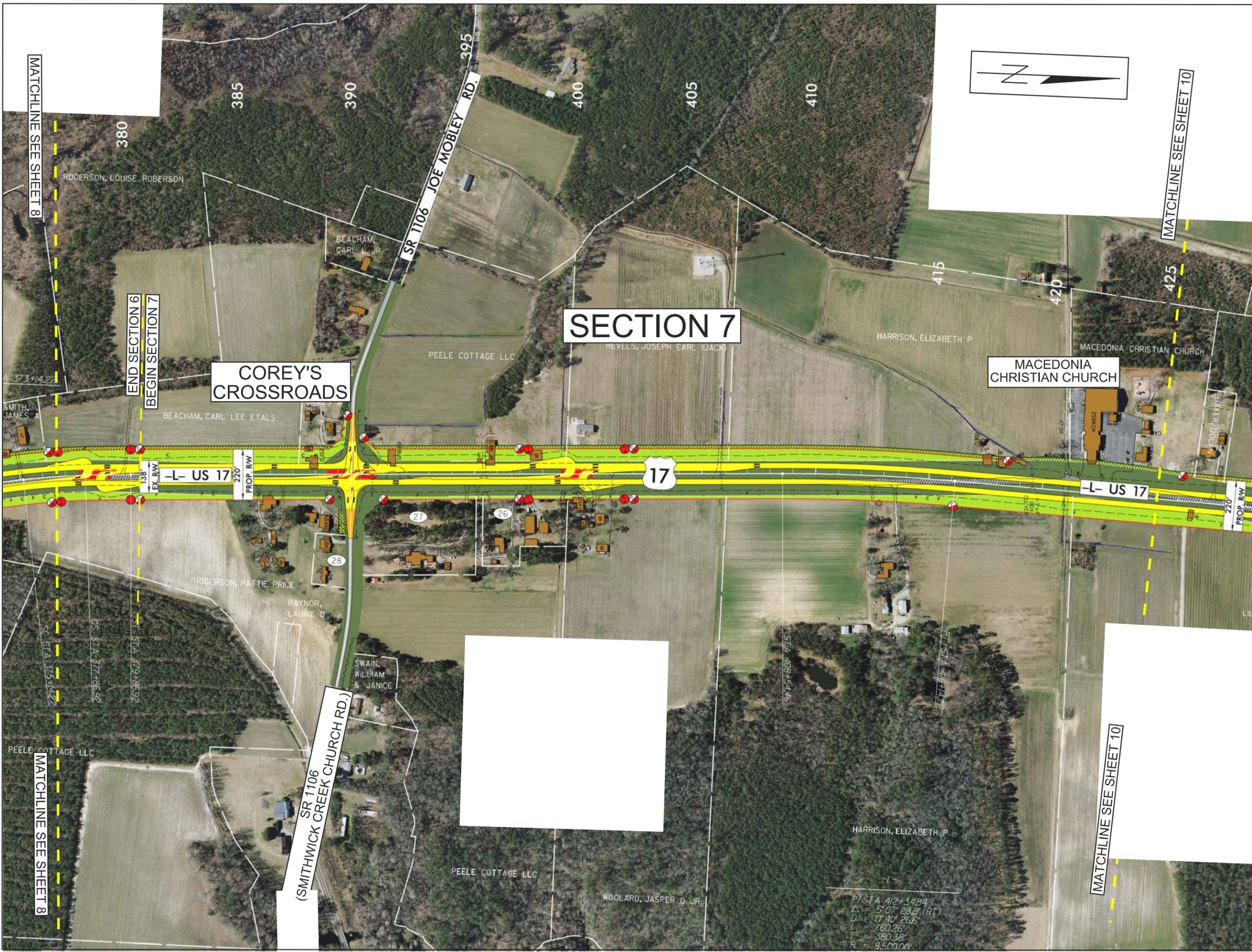
LEGEND	
[Symbol]	BUILDINGS
[Symbol]	EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
[Symbol]	PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
[Symbol]	PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITY)
[Symbol]	EXISTING ROADWAY
[Symbol]	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
[Symbol]	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
[Symbol]	PROPOSED ROADWAY
[Symbol]	TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
[Symbol]	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
[Symbol]	PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
[Symbol]	EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER TO BE REMOVED
[Symbol]	PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
[Symbol]	LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS AND PONDS
[Symbol]	CEMETERIES
[Symbol]	PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
[Symbol]	PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
[Symbol]	EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
[Symbol]	PRESENT ADT
[Symbol]	FUTURE ADT
[Symbol]	PROPERTY LINES
[Symbol]	HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
[Symbol]	WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
 PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
 SUBJECT TO CHANGE



SHEET 8 OF 12
FIGURE 2



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT

US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
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WILLIAMSTON
BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511

LEGEND	
	BUILDINGS
	EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITY)
	EXISTING ROADWAY
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
	PROPOSED ROADWAY
	TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
	PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER TO BE REMOVED
	FUTURE STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	LAKES, RIVER, STREAMS AND PONDS
	CEMETERIES
	PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PRESENT ADT
	FUTURE ADT
	PROPERTY LINES
	HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE



SHEET 9 OF 12
FIGURE 2

SECTION 7

**COREY'S
CROSSROADS**

**MACEDONIA
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**SR 1106
SMITHWICK CREEK CHURCH RD.**

PI STA 412+34.84
Δ = 5° 07' 28.8" (RT)
D = 0° 40' 26.6"
L = 160.26'
T = 380.38'
R = 8,500.00'



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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US 17
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BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511



MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 9

SECTION 7

SECTION 8



MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 9

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 11

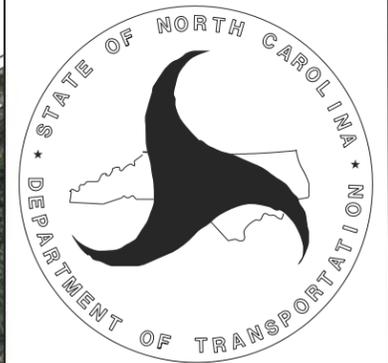
LEGEND	
	BUILDINGS
	EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITY)
	EXISTING ROADWAY
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
	PROPOSED ROADWAY
	TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
	PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER TO BE REMOVED
	FUTURE STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS AND PONDS
	CEMETERIES
	PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PRESENT ADT
	FUTURE ADT
	PROPERTY LINES
	HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
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SHEET 10 OF 12
FIGURE 2



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
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ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT

US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
TO MULTILANES SOUTH OF
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BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511

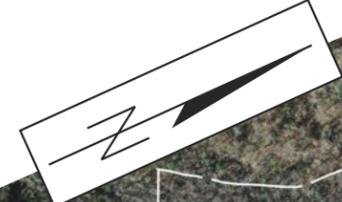
LEGEND	
	BUILDINGS
	EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITY)
	EXISTING ROADWAY
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
	PROPOSED ROADWAY
	TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
	PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER TO BE REMOVED
	FUTURE STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	LAKES, RIVER, STREAMS AND PONDS
	CEMETERIES
	PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
	2021 2041 FUTURE ADT
	PROPERTY LINES
	HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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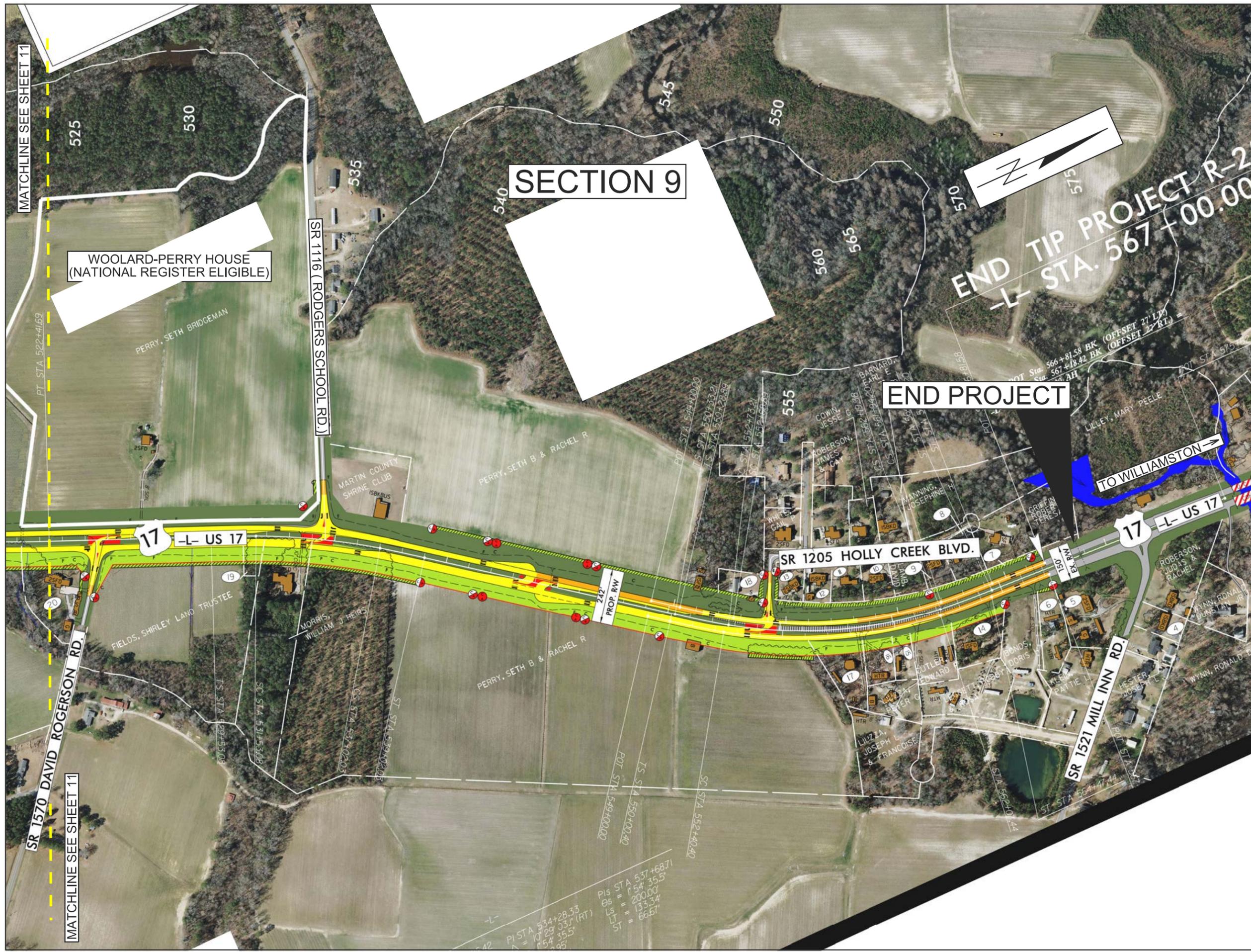
SHEET 11 OF 12
FIGURE 2





NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
UNIT

US 17
FROM NORTH OF NC 171
TO MULTILANES SOUTH OF
WILLIAMSTON
BEAUFORT AND
MARTIN COUNTIES
TIP PROJECT R-2511



END PROJECT

SECTION 9

WOOLARD-PERRY HOUSE
(NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE)

LEGEND	
	BUILDINGS
	EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION, AND UTILITY)
	EXISTING ROADWAY
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE REMOVED
	EXISTING ROADWAY TO BE RESURFACED
	PROPOSED ROADWAY
	TEMPORARY ROADWAY / DETOURS
	UNDER CONSTRUCTION
	PROPOSED STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	EXISTING STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER TO BE REMOVED
	FUTURE STRUCTURES, ISLAND, CURB AND GUTTER
	LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS AND PONDS
	CEMETERIES
	PROPOSED FULL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PROPOSED PARTIAL CONTROL OF ACCESS
	EXISTING CONTROL OF ACCESS
	PRESENT ADT
	FUTURE ADT
	PROPERTY LINES
	HISTORIC PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	WETLAND LIMITS BOUNDARY

PORTION OF DECEMBER 2013
PUBLIC HEARING MAP

PRELIMINARY DESIGN
SUBJECT TO CHANGE



SHEET 12 OF 12
FIGURE 2

APPENDIX A



North Carolina Department of Administration

Pat McCrory, Governor

Bill Daughtridge, Jr., Secretary

July 30, 2013

Mr. Joseph Miller
North Carolina Department of Transportation
Project Development & Environmental Analysis Branch
1548 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1548

Re: SCH File # 13-E-4220-0503; EA; Proposed project will widen a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Project extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort county to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County.

Dear Mr. Miller:

The above referenced environmental impact information has been submitted to the State Clearinghouse under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act. According to G.S. 113A-10, when a state agency is required to prepare an environmental document under the provisions of federal law, the environmental document meets the provisions of the State Environmental Policy Act. Attached to this letter for your consideration are the comments made by agencies in the course of this review.

If any further environmental review documents are prepared for this project, they should be forwarded to this office for intergovernmental review.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Crystal Best
Crystal Best

State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

Attachments

cc: Region Q

Mailing Address:
1301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1301

Telephone: (919)807-2425
Fax (919)733-9571
State Courier #51-01-00
e-mail state.clearinghouse@doa.nc.gov

Location Address:
116 West Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Pat McCrory
Governor

John E. Skvarla, III
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

To: Crystal Best
State Clearinghouse

From: Lyn Hardison 
Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service
Environmental Assistance and Project Review Coordinator

RE: 13-0503 Environmental Assessment
Proposed project will widen a section of US 17 from two lanes to four lanes, extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort County to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County
Martin and Beaufort Counties

Date: July 24, 2013

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has reviewed the proposal for the referenced project. Based on the information provided, several of the agencies have identified permits that may be required and the Division of Water Quality has provided some specific recommendations to the applicant to minimize impacts to streams and wetlands for the referenced project prior to and during its construction. These comments are attached for the applicant review.

The Department agencies will continue to be available to assist the applicant through the environmental review and permitting processes.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Attachments



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Water Quality
Thomas A. Reeder
Acting Director

Pat McCrory
Governor

John E. Skvarla, III
Secretary

July 22, 2013

MEMORANDUM

To: Lyn Hardison, Environmental Coordinator, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

From: David Wainwright, Division of Water Quality, Central Office *JAW*

Subject: Comments on the Environmental Assessment related to the proposed US 17 from north of NC 171 to multi-lanes south of Williamston, Beaufort and Martin Counties, State Project No. 35494.1.1, TIP R-2511.
State Clearinghouse Project No. 13-0503.

This office has reviewed the referenced document dated May 2013. The NC Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) is responsible for the issuance of the Section 401 Water Quality Certification for activities that impact Waters of the U.S., including wetlands. It is our understanding that the project as presented will result in impacts to jurisdictional wetlands, streams, and other surface waters. NCDWQ offers the following comments based on review of the aforementioned document:

Project Specific Comments:

1. This project is being planned as part of the 404/NEPA Merger Process. As a participating team member, NCDWQ will continue to work with the team.
2. Unnamed tributaries to Gum Swamp and Latham Creek as well as Gum Swamp are class C;Sw, NSW waters of the State. NCDWQ is very concerned with sediment and erosion impacts that could result from this project. NCDWQ recommends that highly protective sediment and erosion control BMPs be implemented to reduce the risk of nutrient runoff to these waterbodies. NCDWQ requests that road design plans provide treatment of the storm water runoff through best management practices as detailed in the most recent version of NCDWQ's *Stormwater Best Management Practices*.
3. A portion of this project is within the Tar-Pamlico River Basin. Riparian buffer impacts shall be avoided and minimized to the greatest extent possible pursuant to 15A NCAC 2B .0259. New development activities located in the protected 50-foot wide riparian areas within the basin shall be limited to "uses" identified within and constructed in accordance with 15A NCAC .0259. Buffer mitigation may be required for buffer impacts resulting from activities classified as "allowable with mitigation" within the "Table of Uses" section of the Buffer Rules or require a variance under the Buffer Rules. A buffer mitigation plan, including use of the NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program, must be provided to NCDWQ prior to approval of the Water Quality Certification. Buffer mitigation may be required for buffer impacts resulting from activities classified as "allowable with mitigation"

Transportation and Permitting Unit
1650 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1650
Location: 512 N. Salisbury St. Raleigh, North Carolina 27604
Phone: 919-807-6300 \ FAX: 919-807-6492
Internet: www.ncwaterquality.org

One
North Carolina
Naturally

within the "Table of Uses" section of the Buffer Rules or require a variance under the Buffer Rules. A buffer mitigation plan, including use of the NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program, must be provided to NCDWQ prior to approval of the Water Quality Certification.

General Comments:

4. After the selection of the preferred alternative and prior to an issuance of the 401 Water Quality Certification, the NCDOT is respectfully reminded that they will need to demonstrate the avoidance and minimization of impacts to wetlands (and streams) to the maximum extent practical. In accordance with the Environmental Management Commission's Rules (15A NCAC 2H.0506[h]), mitigation will be required for impacts of greater than 1 acre to wetlands or for impacts of greater than 150 linear feet to any single stream. In the event that mitigation is required, the mitigation plan shall be designed to replace appropriate lost functions and values. The NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program may be available for use as wetland mitigation.
5. Future documentation, including the 401 Water Quality Certification application, should continue to include an itemized listing of the proposed wetland and stream impacts with corresponding mapping.
6. NCDOT is respectfully reminded that all impacts, including but not limited to, bridging, fill, excavation and clearing, and rip rap to jurisdictional wetlands, streams, and riparian buffers need to be included in the final impact calculations. These impacts, in addition to any construction impacts, temporary or otherwise, also need to be included as part of the 401 Water Quality Certification Application.
7. The 401 Water Quality Certification application will need to specifically address the proposed methods for stormwater management. More specifically, stormwater shall not be permitted to discharge directly into streams or surface waters.

NCDWQ appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on your project. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact David Wainwright at (919) 880-5280 or David.Wainwright@ncdenr.gov.

cc: Tracey Wheeler, US Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Field Office (electronic copy only)
Chris Militscher, Environmental Protection Agency (electronic copy only)
Travis Wilson, NC Wildlife Resources Commission (electronic copy only)
Cathy Brittingham, Division of Coastal Management (electronic copy only)
Garcy Ward, NCDWQ Washington Regional Office (electronic copy only)
File Copy



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Coastal Management

Pat McCrory
Governor

Braxton C. Davis
Director

John E. Skvarla, III
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lyn Hardison, Environmental Assistance Coordinator
Environmental Assistance and Customer Service

CC: Doug Huggett, DCM Manager, Major Permits & Federal Consistency
David Moye, DCM Washington District Manager
Stephen Rynas, DCM Federal Consistency Coordinator

FROM: Steve Sollod, DCM Transportation Project Coordinator *SOS*

DATE: July 18, 2013

SUBJECT: State Clearinghouse Review
NC Department of Transportation, Environmental Assessment
Proposed Widening of US 17 from NC 171 to Multi-Lanes South of Williamston
Beaufort and Martin Counties, NC, TIP Number R-2511
Project Review No. 13-0503

The North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (DCM) has reviewed the Environmental Assessment for the above referenced project, which was submitted to the NC State Clearinghouse for intergovernmental review. We appreciate the opportunity to provide information relevant to the potential authorization of the proposed project by our agency and offer the following comments.

Twenty counties in North Carolina make up the "Coastal Area". Development activities in the Coastal Area are subject to the rules of the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC). Beaufort County is one of these counties; however, Martin County is located outside of this coastal zone. A proposed project that is located within the Coastal Area and will impact a Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) is subject to permitting requirements. The Summary, Section D., Permits Required, on page vii states, "This project may require a CAMA permit..." The portion of the project located in Beaufort County will not impact any CAMA Areas of Environmental Concern (AECs) and therefore no CAMA permit will be required. However, it should be noted that a CAMA Consistency Determination must be performed, documented, and certified by the applicant (NCDOT) in conjunction with obtaining the USACE Individual Permit.

In accordance with the requirements of Federal Consistency, under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), an applicant for a USACE Individual Permit must certify to the federal agency (USACE) and DCM that the proposed activity will be conducted in a manner that is consistent

with the State's coastal management program. This consistency certification includes a review of the enforceable policies of the State's coastal management program including the appropriate CAMA Land Use Plans and contains an analysis describing how the proposed project would be consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the State's enforceable coastal policies as mandated by the requirements of 15 CFR 930. As part of DCM's evaluation process, the applicant's Consistency Certification is placed on public notice and circulated to a variety of State agencies for comment. DCM will verify project conformance with the enforceable policies of the NC Coastal Management Program and consider the comments received in its decision to either concur or object to the proposed project. Although the Consistency Certification is not considered a permit, this requirement should be referenced in the Summary, Section D., Permits Required.

Be advised that the most current version of Beaufort County's CAMA Land Use Plan was certified by the CRC on January 13, 2010. In Section II.B.2.c., Land Use Plan, the version certified by the CRC on October 5, 1998 is referenced as the most current version.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (919) 707-9152, or via e-mail at steve.sollod@ncdenr.gov. Thank you for your consideration of the North Carolina Coastal Management Program.

Hardison, Lyn

From: Roddy, Jackie
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2013 10:47 AM
To: Hardison, Lyn
Cc: Kaufman, Tammy
Subject: DENR Project No. 13-0503

Ms. Hardison,

Thank you for providing the Division of Water Resources (DWR) - Public Water Supply (PWS) Section an opportunity to provide comments regarding Environmental Assessment for a proposed project to widen a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Project extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort county to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County, DENR Project No. 13-0503.

At this time, DWR-PWS has no objection to the project, but offers the following comments from David Tuten of the Washington Regional Office:

1. If existing water lines will be relocated during the construction, plans for the water line relocation must be submitted to the Division of Water Resources, Public Water Supply Section, Technical Services Branch, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1634, (919) 707-9100.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Jackie Roddy, P.E.

Environmental Engineer
Division of Water Resources
Public Water Supply Section
Raleigh, NC 27699-1634
Phone: (919) 707-9059
Fax: (919) 715-4374

E-mail correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources Project Review Form

Project Number: 13-0503

County: Martin and Beaufort

Date Received: 06/28/2013

Due Date: 7/22/2013

Project Description: Environmental Assessment - Proposed project will widen a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Project extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort county to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County.

This Project is being reviewed as indicated below:

Regional Office	Regional Office Area	In-House Review	
<input type="checkbox"/> Asheville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air <i>RMB 07/08/13</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal Management
<input type="checkbox"/> Fayetteville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water <i>AS 07/10/13</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marine Fisheries <i>K Hart</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Military Affairs
<input type="checkbox"/> Mooresville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aquifer Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Raleigh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Quality Engineer <i>DRS TB 1/13</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Waste Mgmt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality - DOT <i>D Wainwright</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UST <i>7/1/13</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources Mgmt	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilmington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>JSB WST 7/2/13</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Supply Section	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildlife - DOT <i>T Wilson</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Winston-Salem			

Manager Sign-Off/Region:	Date:	In-House Reviewer/Agency:

Response (check all applicable)

No objection to project as proposed. No Comment

Insufficient information to complete review Other (specify or attach comments)

If you have any questions, please contact:
Lyn Hardison at lyn.hardison@ncdenr.gov or (252) 948-3842
 943 Washington Square Mall Washington NC 27889
 Courier No. 16-04-01



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Water Quality

Pat McCrory
Governor

Tom E. Reeder
Acting Director

John E. Skvarla, III
Secretary

MEMO

To: Lynn Hardison, Environmental Coordinator

Through: Amy Adams, Supervisor Surface Water Protection *AA*

From: Anthony Scarbraugh, Environmental Senior Specialist *AS*

Subject: **Comments on Review of Environmental Assessment (EA) – Project Number 13-0503 – Proposed project will widen a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Project extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort County to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County.**

Date: July 10, 2013

The following comment is in response to the proposed widening of a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Upon review of the proposed project, this Office has the following comments:

- Avoidance and minimization of impacts to buffers, wetlands, and/or waters should be demonstrated when submitting a Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) application for the 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC).
- The placement of sediment and erosion control measures in buffers, wetlands, and/or waters should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable.
- Diesel fuel, fuel oil, and/or gasoline should not be used as a release agent on any mechanical equipment.
- All mechanized equipment operated near surface waters should be regularly inspected and maintained to prevent contamination of waters from fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or other toxic materials.
- The outside buffers, wetland or water boundary and along the construction corridor within these boundaries shall be clearly marked with orange warning fencing (or similar high visibility material) for the areas that have been approved to infringe within the buffers, wetland or water prior to any land disturbing.

North Carolina Division of Water Quality
943 Washington Square Mall
Washington, NC 27889

Internet: www.ncwaterquality.org
Phone: 252-946-6481
FAX: 252-946-9215

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North Carolina
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- The PCN application submittal for the 401 WQC will need to specially address the proposed stormwater management. More specifically, stormwater should not be permitted to discharge directly into the creek. Instead, stormwater should be designed to drain to a properly designed stormwater detention facility.

If you should have any questions or require additional information you may e-mail me at anthony.scarbraugh@ncdenr.gov or contact me by phone at 252-948-3924.



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Waste Management

Pat McCrory
Governor

Dexter R. Matthews
Director

John E. Skvarla, III
Secretary

TO: Lyn Hardison, Environmental Coordinator

FROM: Scott Bullock, Regional UST Supervisor JSB

COPY: Robert Davies, Corrective Action Branch Head

COPY: Kathleen Lance, Administrative Secretary

DATE: July 2, 2013

RE: CDBG Environmental Review – Project Number 13-0503 – Proposed project will widen a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Project extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort County to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County

I searched the Petroleum Underground Storage Tank (UST) and Non-UST Databases and those databases indicated multiple petroleum releases in the proposed project area. UST Incidents 5226, 5771, 6075, 31567 and 31587 are located adjacent to Highway 17 and should be reviewed prior to commencing work. I reviewed the above proposal and determined that this project should not have any adverse impact upon groundwater. The following comments are pertinent to my review:

1. The Washington Regional Office (WaRO) UST Section recommends removal of any abandoned or out-of-use petroleum USTs or petroleum above ground storage tanks (ASTs) within the project area. The UST Section should be contacted regarding use of any proposed or on-site petroleum USTs or ASTs. We may be reached at (252) 946-6481.
2. Any petroleum USTs or ASTs must be installed and maintained in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. For additional information on petroleum ASTs it is advisable that the North Carolina Department of Insurance at (919) 661-5880 ext. 239, USEPA (404) 562-8761, local fire department, and Local Building Inspectors be contacted.
3. Any petroleum spills must be contained and the area of impact must be properly restored. Petroleum spills of significant quantity must be reported to the North Carolina Department of Environment & Natural Resources – Division of Waste Management Underground Storage Tank Section in the Washington Regional Office at (252) 946-6481.
4. Any soils excavated during demolition or construction that show evidence of petroleum contamination, such as stained soil, odors, or free product must be reported immediately to the local Fire Marshall to determine whether explosion or inhalation hazards exist. Also, notify the UST Section of the Washington Regional Office at (252) 946-6481. Petroleum contaminated soils must be handled in accordance with all applicable regulations.
5. Any questions or concerns regarding spills from petroleum USTs, ASTs, or vehicles should be directed to the UST Section at (252) 946-6481.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 252-948-3906.

943 Washington Sq. Mall, Washington, NC 27889
Phone: 252-946-6481 \ Internet: <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wm>

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW - PROJECT COMMENTS

Project Number: 13-0503 Due Date: 7-22-13

After review of this project it has been determined that the ENR permit(s) and/or approvals indicated may need to be obtained in order for this project to comply with North Carolina Law. Questions regarding these permits should be addressed to the Regional Office indicated on the reverse of the form. All applications, information and guidelines relative to these plans and permits are available from the same Regional Office.

	PERMITS	SPECIAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES or REQUIREMENTS	Normal Process Time (statutory time limit)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to construct & operate wastewater treatment facilities, sewer system extensions & sewer systems not discharging into state surface waters.	Application 90 days before begin construction or award of construction contracts. On-site inspection. Post-application technical conference usual.	30 days (90 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	NPDES - permit to discharge into surface water and/or permit to operate and construct wastewater facilities discharging into state surface waters.	Application 180 days before begin activity. On-site inspection. Pre-application conference usual. Additionally, obtain permit to construct wastewater treatment facility-granted after NPDES. Reply time, 30 days after receipt of plans or issue of NPDES permit-whichever is later.	90-120 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water Use Permit	Pre-application technical conference usually necessary	30 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Well Construction Permit	Complete application must be received and permit issued prior to the installation of a well.	7 days (15 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dredge and Fill Permit	Application copy must be served on each adjacent riparian property owner. On-site inspection. Pre-application conference usual. Filling may require Easement to Fill from N.C. Department of Administration and Federal Dredge and Fill Permit.	55 days (90 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to construct & operate Air Pollution Abatement facilities and/or Emission Sources as per 15 A NCAC (2Q.0100 thru 2Q.0300)	Application must be submitted and permit received prior to construction and operation of the source. If a permit is required in an area without local zoning, then there are additional requirements and timelines (2Q.0113).	90 days
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to construct & operate Transportation Facility as per 15 A NCAC (2D.0800, 2Q.0601)	Application must be submitted at least 90 days prior to construction or modification of the source.	90 days
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Any open burning associated with subject proposal must be in compliance with 15 A NCAC 2D.1900	N/A	60 days (90 days)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demolition or renovations of structures containing asbestos material must be in compliance with 15 A NCAC 20.1110 (a) (1) which requires notification and removal prior to demolition. Contact Asbestos Control Group 919-707-5950.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complex Source Permit required under 15 A NCAC 2D.0800		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973 must be properly addressed for any land disturbing activity. An erosion & sedimentation control plan will be required if one or more acres to be disturbed. Plan filed with proper Regional Office (Land Quality Section) At least 30 days before beginning activity. A fee of \$65 for the first acre or any part of an acre. An express review option is available with additional fees.		20 days (30 days)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sedimentation and erosion control must be addressed in accordance with NCDOT's approved program. Particular attention should be given to design and installation of appropriate perimeter sediment trapping devices as well as stable stormwater conveyances and outlets.		(30 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mining Permit	On-site inspection usual. Surety bond filed with ENR Bond amount varies with type mine and number of acres of affected land. Any acre mined greater than one acre must be permitted. The appropriate bond must be received before the permit can be issued.	30 days (60 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	North Carolina Burning permit	On-site inspection by N.C. Division Forest Resources if permit exceeds 4 days	1 day (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Ground Clearance Burning Permit - 22 counties in coastal N.C. with organic soils	On-site inspection by N.C. Division Forest Resources required "if more than five acres of ground clearing activities are involved. Inspections should be requested at least ten days before actual burn is planned."	1 day (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oil Refining Facilities	N/A	90-120 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dam Safety Permit	If permit required, application 60 days before begin construction. Applicant must hire N.C. qualified engineer to: prepare plans, inspect construction, certify construction is according to ENR approved plans. May also require permit under mosquito control program. And a 404 permit from Corps of Engineers. An inspection of site is necessary to verify Hazard Classification. A minimum fee of \$200.00 must accompany the application. An additional processing fee based on a percentage of the total project cost will be required upon completion	30 days (60 days)

PERMITS		SPECIAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES or REQUIREMENTS	Normal Process Time (statutory time limit)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to drill exploratory oil or gas well	File surety bond of \$5,000 with ENR running to State of NC conditional that any well opened by drill operator shall, upon abandonment, be plugged according to ENR rules and regulations.	10 days N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geophysical Exploration Permit	Application filed with ENR at least 10 days prior to issue of permit. Application by letter. No standard application form.	10 days N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Lakes Construction Permit	Application fees based on structure size is charged. Must include descriptions & drawings of structure & proof of ownership of riparian property.	15-20 days N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	401 Water Quality Certification	N/A	60 days (130 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	CAMA Permit for MAJOR development	\$250.00 fee must accompany application	55 days (150 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	CAMA Permit for MINOR development	\$50.00 fee must accompany application	22 days (25 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Several geodetic monuments are located in or near the project area. If any monument needs to be moved or destroyed, please notify: N.C. Geodetic Survey, Box 27687 Raleigh, NC 27611		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abandonment of any wells, if required must be in accordance with Title 15A. Subchapter 2C.0100.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Notification of the proper regional office is requested if "orphan" underground storage tanks (USTS) are discovered during any excavation operation.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Compliance with 15A NCAC 2H 1000 (Coastal Stormwater Rules) is required.		45 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tar Pamlico or Neuse Riparian Buffer Rules required.		
* Other comments (attach additional pages as necessary, being certain to cite comment authority)			

REGIONAL OFFICES

Questions regarding these permits should be addressed to the Regional Office marked below.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asheville Regional Office
2090 US Highway 70
Swannanoa, NC 28778
(828) 296-4500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mooreville Regional Office
610 East Center Avenue, Suite 301
Mooreville, NC 28115
(704) 663-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wilmington Regional Office
127 Cardinal Drive Extension
Wilmington, NC 28405
(910) 796-7215 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fayetteville Regional Office
225 North Green Street, Suite 714
Fayetteville, NC 28301-5043
(910) 433-3300 | <input type="checkbox"/> Raleigh Regional Office
3800 Barrett Drive, Suite 101
Raleigh, NC 27609
(919) 791-4200 | <input type="checkbox"/> Winston-Salem Regional Office
585 Woughtown Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27107
(336) 771-5000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Washington Regional Office
943 Washington Square Mall
Washington, NC 27889
(252) 946-6481 | | |

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

1016 m. 102

COUNTY: BEAUFORT
MARTIN

F02: HIGHWAYS AND ROADS

STATE NUMBER: 13-E-4220-0503
DATE RECEIVED: 06/26/2013
AGENCY RESPONSE: 07/22/2013
REVIEW CLOSED: 07/26/2013



ER 13 - 1305

MS RENEE GLEDHILL-EARLEY
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR
DEPT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
MSC 4617 - ARCHIVES BUILDING
RALEIGH NC

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- DEPT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES
- DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
- MID EAST COMMISSION

Due 7/9/13 A- (DC) 7-8-13
LGA

PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: N.C. Dept. of Transportation
TYPE: National Environmental Policy Act
Environmental Assessment

Due 7/24/13 S P52 7/18/13

DESC: Proposed project will widen a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Project extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort county to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County.

The attached project has been submitted to the N. C. State Clearinghouse for intergovernmental review. Please review and submit your response by the above indicated date to 1301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1301.

If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.

AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: NO COMMENT COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY: Renee Gledhill-Earley

DATE: 7.18.13



JUL 02 2013

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

*Saad Mohamed
Carlos Moya*

COUNTY: BEAUFORT
MARTIN

F02: HIGHWAYS AND ROADS

STATE NUMBER: 13-E-4220-0503
DATE RECEIVED: 06/26/2013
AGENCY RESPONSE: 07/22/2013
REVIEW CLOSED: 07/26/2013

MS CARRIE ATKINSON
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATEWIDE PLANNING - MSC #1554
RALEIGH NC

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MID EAST COMMISSION

PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: N.C. Dept. of Transportation
TYPE: National Environmental Policy Act
Environmental Assessment

DESC: Proposed project will widen a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Project extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort county to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County.

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If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.



AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: NO COMMENT COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY: _____

DATE: July 15, 2013

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: BEAUFORT
MARTIN

F02: HIGHWAYS AND ROADS

STATE NUMBER: 13-E-4220-0503
DATE RECEIVED: 06/26/2013
AGENCY RESPONSE: 07/22/2013
REVIEW CLOSED: 07/26/2013

MS CAROLYN PENNY
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR
CC&PS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
MSC # 4719
RALEIGH NC



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DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
MID EAST COMMISSION

RECEIVED

JUN 26 2013

NC Department of Administration

PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: N.C. Dept. of Transportation
TYPE: National Environmental Policy Act
Environmental Assessment

DESC: Proposed project will widen a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Project extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort county to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County.

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If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.

AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: NO COMMENT COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY: John D Burbaker

DATE: 09 July 2013

MOA addressed in Project Commitments.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: BEAUFORT
MARTIN

F02: HIGHWAYS AND ROADS

STATE NUMBER: 13-E-4220-0503
DATE RECEIVED: 06/26/2013
AGENCY RESPONSE: 07/22/2013
REVIEW CLOSED: 07/26/2013

MS ELIZABETH HEATH
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE
1001 MSC - AGRICULTURE BLDG
RALEIGH NC

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DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
MID EAST COMMISSION



PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: N.C. Dept. of Transportation
TYPE: National Environmental Policy Act
Environmental Assessment

DESC: Proposed project will widen a section of US 17 in Beaufort and Martin counties from two lanes to four lanes. Project extends from north of NC 171 in Beaufort county to the existing four lanes south of Williamston in Martin County.

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If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.

AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: NO COMMENT COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY:

Elizabeth G. Heath

DATE:

7/26/13



Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Agricultural Services

Dewitt Hardee
Environmental / ADFP
Programs Director

July 24, 2013

Zeke Creech
NC State Clearinghouse
N.C. Department of Administration
1301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1301



State #: 13-E-4220-0503
RE: Proposed Project US 17 and NC 171

Dear Mr. Creech:

The footprint of the proposed project area for the US 17 and NC 171 has the potential of irreversible damage and increases the loss of state important farm and forest land thereby negatively impacting agricultural environmental balance in the immediate area. The NCDOT is encouraged to give due consideration of routing and / or designs that would reduce the potential of negative environmental and economic impacts on farm and forest land in the proposed study area.

Farm and forest lands are natural resources with no mitigation process. These agribusiness resources cannot be replaced nor relocated once converted to other uses. Project activities for US 17 and NC 171 should give consideration of farms near existing Voluntary Agricultural Districts (VAD) in Beaufort County designed to recognize and protect key agricultural production centers. Transportation planning priorities should be considered highway placement and its potential negative impact on the Beaufort VAD and land resources in both Beaufort and Martin Counties. These plans should also negate the formation of incompatible and inaccessible land units that degrades agricultural production capabilities associated with the area's farm and agribusinesses.

Agricultural production incomes from locally grown products have a considerable multiplier influence. It is estimated that for every 40 acres converted from agricultural production, one agribusiness job and its associated economic activity is lost indefinitely. Furthermore the costs of community services used by agribusiness are usually minimal and therefore are net contributors to county budgets. Both current and future cost for the conversion land from production agriculture is needed for an accurate evaluation which is not accurately recognized by the Farmland Conversion Impact Rating using Form AD 1006.

Based on the secondary, cumulative, and direct impacts, this project has potential to adversely impact the agricultural environmental and economic resources in the proposed study area. The total negative impact on the environmental and agribusiness economy will be proportionately related to the total acres of farm and forest land taken out of production.

Respectfully,

Dewitt Hardee
Environmental / ADFP Programs Director

APPENDIX B

NEPA/404 MERGER TEAM CONCURRENCE FORMS



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WILMINGTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

P.O. BOX 1890
WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28402-1890

April 10, 2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

Regulatory Division

Subject: Action ID. 199910971

Mr. William D. Gilmore, P.E., Manager
Project Development and Environmental
Analysis Branch
North Carolina Department of Transportation
Division of Highways
Post Office Box 25201
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-5201

Dear Mr. Gilmore:

Please reference your October 19, 1999, correspondence requesting our written concurrence on the purpose and need for the project and on the alternatives to be studied in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Improvement of US 17, from SR 1418 (Roberson Road in Beaufort County to SR 1205 (Holly Creek Boulevard) in Martin County, North Carolina (TIP R-2511, State Project No. 6.159001T). Also, please reference the April 5, 2000, facsimile sent to Mr. Mike Bell of my staff from Mr. Derrick Weaver of your staff which commits NCDOT to partial control of access for the proposed project.

This transportation project has been listed in the interagency agreement to integrate Section 404 and NEPA requirements ("A Team Approach for Transportation Projects in North Carolina"). A project team was assembled in Raleigh on May 6, 1999, to discuss the purpose and need statement and the alternatives to be carried forward. The following individuals comprised the project team: Mr. Michael Bell, Regulatory Project Manager/North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Coordinator, Mr. Derrick Weaver of your staff, Mr. David Moye of the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management, Mr. Ron Sechler of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Mr. Ted Bisterfeld from the Environmental Protection Agency, Mr. David Cox of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Mr. Tom McCartney of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mr. John Hennessy of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality, Mr. Shawn McKenna of the North Carolina Division Marine Fisheries, Ms. April Alperin of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, and Mr. John Wadsworth of the Federal Highway Administration. Messrs. Bisterfeld, Sechler, Moye, and McKenna, did not attend the meeting.

According to your correspondence, the purpose and need for the project is to alleviate congestion and improve the level of service along US 17, and in doing so, improve safety of the route. The October 19, 1999, letter also designates the alternatives which meet this purpose and need; east-side widening, west-side widening, and a combination of east-widening and west-widening. After additional coordination with project team members not in attendance at the meeting, the team came to a consensus on this purpose and need for the project and on the alternatives to be carried forward as stated in the October 19th letter (Concurrence Points #1 and #2). Due to heavy work load, Mr. Bisterfeld was not able to comment on the project art this time.

We encourage you to include a compensatory mitigation plan in the EA to expedite the permit process. Please coordinate with Mr. Bell to schedule any future public hearings.

We appreciate the opportunity to coordinate with you at this early stage of project design. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Bell at the Washington Regulatory Field Office, telephone (252) 975-1616, extension 26.

Sincerely,



E. David Franklin
Chief, NCDOT Team

Copies Furnished:

Ms. Renea Geld-Hill Earley
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Cultural Resources
109 East Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Ms. Cathey Brittingham
Division of Coastal Management
North Carolina Department of Environment,
and Natural Resources
Post Office Box 27687
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-7687

Mr. Larry Hardy
National Marine Fisheries Service
Habitat Conservation Service
Pivers Island
Beaufort, North Carolina 28516

Mr. John Hefner, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Fish and Wildlife Enhancement
Post Office Box 33726
Raleigh, North Carolina 27636-3726

Mr. William L. Cox, Chief
Wetlands Section - Region IV
Water Management Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. David Cox
North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Habitat Conservation Program
1142 1-85 Service Road
Creedmoor, North Carolina 27564

Mr. John Hennessy
Division of Water Quality
Environmental Sciences Branch
4401 Reedy Creek Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27607

Mr. Nicholas L. Graf
Federal Highway Administration
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Ms. Katie West
DENR-Division of Marine Fisheries
943 Washington Square Mall
Washington, North Carolina 27889

NEPA/404 MERGER TEAM MEETING AGREEMENT

Concurrence Point No. 2: Alternatives for Detailed Study

Federal Aid Project Number: NA
 State Project Number: WBS Element 35494.1.1
 TIP Project Number: R-2511
 TIP Description: US 17, Washington Bypass North of NC 171 to Multi-lanes South of Williamston, Beaufort and Martin Counties

Purpose and Need of Proposed Project

The purpose of the project is to alleviate congestion and improve the level of service along US 17, and in doing so, improve safety of the route.

Alternatives to Study in Detail

The merger team concurred on east or west side widening for the following sections:

- Section 1 - WEST
- Section 2 - WEST
- Section 3 - EAST
- Section 4 - WEST ENTIRE SECTION AND WEST W/SHIFT TO AVOID GRIFFIN'S HATCHERY (NAT. REGISTER ELIGIBLE)
- Section 5 - BEST FIT
- Section 6 - BEST FIT
- Section 7 - WEST
- Section 8 - EAST
- Section 9 - BEST FIT

The Project Team concurred on this date of February 17, 2011 with the alternatives to be carried forward for the proposed project as indicated above.

Agency	Name	Date
USACE	Joseph J. Baska	2/17/11
USACE	TO STEFFENS	2/17/11
DCR/SHAD	Renee Hedrick-Easley	2/17/11
NC DWG	Walter Williams	2/17/11
NCDCM	JO [Signature]	2/17/11
USFWS	Brian Jordan	2/17/2011
NCWRC	[Signature]	2-17-2011
NC DOT	Oliver J. Fox	2-17-2011

NEPA/404 MERGER TEAM MEETING AGREEMENT

Concurrence Point No. 2A: Hydraulic Structures and Alignments

Federal Aid Project Number: NA
 State Project Number: WBS Element 35494.1.1
 TIP Project Number: R-2511
 TIP Description: US 17, North of NC 171 to Multi-lanes South of Williamston,
 Beaufort and Martin Counties

Hydraulic Structures and Locations

Site No.	Crossing	Existing/Recommended Structure
1	Tributary to Latham Creek	Retain and extend existing 1 @ 48" RCP and 1 @ 6'x4' RCBC with 2 @ 60" RCP
2	Gum Swamp/Latham Creek	Replace existing 22 foot bridge with 1 @ 31'-5" x 7'-3" aluminum box culvert
3	Jacks Swamp	Retain and extend existing 1 @ 8'x 3' RCBC
4	Tributary to Smithwick Creek	Retain and extend existing 2 @ 8'x 6' RCBC

RCP-Reinforced Concrete Pipe.

RCBC-Reinforced Concrete Box Culvert.

The Project Team concurred on this date of April 09, 2013 with the structures to be carried forward for the proposed project as indicated above.

Agency	Name	Date
William J. Biddlecome	William J. Biddlecome	4/11/2013
Gary Jordan	Gary Jordan	4/9/2013
Ronald Lucas	Ronald Lucas	4/11/2013
David Wainwright	David Wainwright	4/9/2013
Travis W. Wilson	Travis W. Wilson	4/10/2013
Fritz Rohde	Fritz Rohde	4/10/2013
EPA	EPA	4/11/2013
Steven D. Sollod	Steven D. Sollod	4/15/2013
Kevin Hart	Kevin Hart	4/11/2013
Joseph Miller	Joseph Miller	4/9/2013

NEPA/404 MERGER TEAM MEETING AGREEMENT

Concurrence Point 3: Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative

Federal Aid Project Number: NA
 State Project Number: WBS Element 35494.1.1
 TIP Project Number: R-2511
 TIP Description: US 17, From North of NC 171 to Multi-lanes South of Williamston, Beaufort and Martin Counties

Purpose and Need of Proposed Project

The purpose of the proposed project is to alleviate congestion and improve the level of service along US 17, and in doing so, improve safety of the route.

Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative

The merger team concurred on east or west side widening for the following sections:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| Section 1 – West | Section 5 – Best Fit |
| Section 2 – West | Section 6 – Best Fit |
| Section 3 – East | Section 7 – West |
| Section 4 – West with Shift to Avoid Griffin’s Hatchery (National Register Eligible) | Section 8 – East |
| | Section 9 – Best Fit |

The Project Team concurred with the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA) for the project as indicated above.

Agency	Name	Date
FHWA	Ronald G. Lucas	5/8/2014 8:36 AM ET
USACE	Tracy Wheeler	5/8/2014 7:29 AM ET
USFWS	Mary Jordan	5/7/2014 2:23 PM ET
NCWRC	Travis W. Wilson	5/7/2014 2:23 PM ET
NCDWR	David Wainwright	5/7/2014 1:18 PM ET
NMF	Fritz Rohde	5/8/2014 9:31 AM ET
EPA	Cynthia Van Der Wiele	5/7/2014 12:36 PM ET
SHPO	Renee Gledhill-Earley	5/7/2014 1:33 PM ET
DCM	Steve Sldod	5/8/2014 8:13 AM ET
NCDOT	Joe Miller	5/8/2014 7:41 AM ET
Mid-East RPO	Justin Bakes	5/9/2014 10:27 AM ET

NEPA/404 MERGER TEAM MEETING AGREEMENT

Concurrence Point 4A: Avoidance & Minimization

Federal Aid Project Number: NA
 State Project Number: WBS Element 35494.1.1
 TIP Project Number: R-2511
 TIP Description: US 17, From North of NC 171 to Multi-lanes South of Williamston, Beaufort and Martin Counties

404 Avoidance and Minimization Measures

The preliminary design of the project will affect 4.81 wetland acres and 1,400 linear feet of streams.

In an effort to avoid and minimize impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and streams associated with the LEDPA, NCDOT has proposed to implement the following measures:

- Slopes of 3:1 shall be considered at wetland and stream locations if placement of guardrails is not warranted.

The Project Team concurred with the Avoidance/Minimization measures for the project as indicated above.

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
FHWA	DocuSigned by: Ronald G. Lucas	5/8/2014 8:36 AM ET
USACE	7707B71B714A4F1... DocuSigned by: Tracey Wheeler	5/8/2014 7:29 AM ET
USFWS	DocuSigned by: Gary Jordan	7FACA9008DE24E8 5/7/2014 2:23 PM ET
NCWRC	501BA0677CA2452 DocuSigned by: Travis W. Wilson	5/7/2014 2:23 PM ET
NCDWR	DocuSigned by: David Wainwright	315B4A008821436 5/7/2014 1:18 PM ET
NMF	7ADA55BA4057400 DocuSigned by: Fritz Rohde	5/8/2014 9:31 AM ET
EPA	DocuSigned by: Cynthia Van Der Wiele	7D10D31C923F4AC 5/7/2014 12:36 PM ET
SHPO	7FCF19B3FE8144D DocuSigned by: Renee Bledhill-Earley	5/7/2014 1:33 PM ET
DCM	DocuSigned by: Steve Sollad	C26A1556A275464 5/8/2014 8:13 AM ET
NCDOT	D23D46D724B414 DocuSigned by: Joe Miller	5/8/2014 7:41 AM ET
Mid-East RPO	DocuSigned by: Justin Pakes	F55AFA420FA04D5 5/9/2014 10:27 AM ET
	6715736D113C443	