For Immediate Release December 2, 2013

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NCDOT Hosts Public Hearings for Proposed Monroe Connector Bypass Project in Mecklenburg and Union counties

CHARLOTTE – The N.C. Department of Transportation has scheduled open houses and public hearings December 9-11 regarding the proposed Monroe Connector/Bypass, a new location roadway from I-485 in Mecklenburg County to U.S. 74 near Marshville in Union County.

The purpose of the project is to improve mobility and capacity within the project study area by providing a facility for the U.S. 74 corridor allowing high-speed regional travel consistent with the designations of the North Carolina Strategic Highway Corridor (SHC) program, and the North Carolina Intrastate System.

The open houses and hearings will be held at the following locations:

Monday, Dec. 9

- Union County Agricultural Center, 3220-D Presson Road, Monroe
- Pre-Hearing Open House: 4-6:30 p.m.
- Formal Presentation: 7 p.m.

• Tuesday, Dec. 10

- South Piedmont Community College Building A, 4209 Old Charlotte Highway, Monroe
- Pre-Hearing Open House: 4-6:30 p.m.
- Formal Presentation: 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, Dec. 11:

- Next Level Church, 4317 Stevens Mill Road, Matthews
- Open House only, 4-7 p.m.

NCDOT representatives will be available to answer questions and receive comments during the open-house portion of the hearings. Interested citizens may attend at any time during those hours to share ideas, thoughts and suggestions with department staff. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions will be provided and is encouraged. Comments will be accepted through January 6, 2014.

The formal presentation will include an update of recent project activities and studies, an explanation of the location and design of the preferred alternative, information about the state-federal relationship, right-of-way and relocation requirements, and future activities related to the project.

Copies of the recently released Draft Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (DSFIES) are available for public review at the following locations:

- NCDOT Division 10 Office, 716 West Main Street, Albemarle;
- Monroe Planning Department, 300 West Crowell Street, Monroe;
- Indian Trail Planning Department, 130 Blythe Street, Indian Trail;
- Monroe Library, 316 East Windsor Street, Monroe;
- Edwards Memorial Library, 414 Hasty Street, Marshville;
- Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization, 600 East Fourth Street, eighth floor, Charlotte;
- Stallings Planning Department, 315 Stallings Road, Stallings;
- Matthews Branch Library, 230 Matthews Station Street, Matthews;
- Union West Library, 123 Unionville-Indian Trail Road, Indian Trail.

A project website also contains additional information and history of the project.

For additional information, citizens can call the project's toll-free number at 1-800-475-6402, or contact Jamille Robbins, NCDOT-Human Environment Section at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, 27699-1598, by phone at (919) 707-6085, or by email at publicinvolvement1@ncdot.gov. NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to participate in these meetings. Anyone requiring special services should contact Mr. Robbins as early as possible so arrangements can be made.

For persons who speak Spanish and do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak, or understand English, interpretive services will be available at the meeting upon request. For more information, please call 1-800-481-6494 prior to the meeting.

NCDOT