

NCDOT PROGRAMMATIC CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (PCE)
ACTION CLASSIFICATION FORM

For use by a Local Government Agency

TIP Project No.	<u>U-5529</u>
WBS Element	<u>44107.1.F1</u>
Federal Project No.	<u>STPDA-0510(8)</u>

A. **Project Description: (Include project scope and location, including Municipality and County. Refer to the attached project location map and photos.)**

The Town of Holly Springs, in Wake County, is proposing operational Improvements on SR 1115 (Avent Ferry Road). The improvements are from Village Walk Drive to approximately 400 feet southwest of SR 1101 (Piney Grove-Wilbon Road). The project length is 0.34 miles. The project involves minor widening along Avent Ferry Road. The project will also add sidewalk on the east side of Avent Ferry Road from Piney Grove Wilbon Road to the existing sidewalk in front of the Goodwill Store (550') and on the west side of Avent Ferry Road from Piney Grove Wilbon Road to just south of the NC 55 Bypass (1650'). (See Attachments 1 – 4 for a project vicinity map, USGS map, site photos, and plans.)

B. **Purpose and Need:**

The primary purpose of the project is to improve operational efficiency along Avent Ferry Road at the nearby intersection with the NC 55 Bypass. A secondary purpose of the project is to improve pedestrian connectivity between the existing residential development and the existing commercial development in the area of the project.

Currently the Avent Ferry Road and NC 55 Bypass intersection operates at a Level of Service (LOS) of F with an overall intersection delay of 280 seconds in the AM Peak Period and an overall intersection delay of 141 seconds in the PM Peak Period. With the proposed NCDOT Superstreet improvements (W-5601 O), spot safety improvements (W-5205 I), and the operational improvements proposed as a part of U-5529 (see Attachment 5 for figure showing all three projects) in place the overall intersection delay is reduced to 81 seconds in the AM Peak Period and is reduced to 103 seconds in the PM Peak Period. Currently there are no pedestrian accommodations on the north side of Avent Ferry Road. There are no crosswalks to allow for safe pedestrian crossing of Avent Ferry Road from the residential areas on the north side of the facility to the commercial areas on the south side of the facility.

C. **Proposed Improvements – Select ALL Activities that apply to the Project, regardless of TYPE**

Circle one or more of the following Type I activities:

1. Non-construction activities (program activities).
2. Approval of utility installations along or across a transportation facility.
3. Construction of bicycle and pedestrian lanes, paths, and facilities.

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4. Activities included in the State's "highway safety plan" under 23 USC 402 (programs administered by the Division of Motor Vehicles).
5. Transfer of Federal lands pursuant to 23 USC 317 when the subsequent action is not a FHWA action.
6. The installation of noise barriers or alterations to existing publicly owned buildings to provide for noise reduction.
7. Landscaping.
8. Installation of fencing, signs, pavement markings, small passenger shelters, traffic signals, and railroad warning devices.
9. Emergency repairs under 23 USC 125 (Governor Declared Emergency).
10. Acquisition of scenic easements.
11. Determination of payback under 23 CFR Part 480 for property previously acquired with federal-aid participation.
12. Improvements to existing rest areas and truck weigh stations.
13. Ridesharing activities.
14. Bus and Rail car rehabilitation.
15. Alterations to facilities or vehicles in order to make them accessible for elderly and handicapped persons.
16. Program administration, technical assistance activities, and operating assistance to transit authorities to continue existing service or increase service to meet changes in routine demand.
17. The purchase of vehicles by the applicant where the use of these vehicles can be accommodated by existing facilities or by new facilities which themselves are within a CE.
18. Track and rail bed maintenance and improvements when carried out within the existing right of way.
19. Purchase and installation of operating or maintenance equipment to be located within the transit facility and with no significant impacts off the site.
20. Promulgation of rules, regulations and directives.
21. Replacement of guardrail.

Circle one or more of the following Type II activities:

1. Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (e.g., parking, weaving, turning, climbing).

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- a. Restoring, Resurfacing, Rehabilitating, and Reconstructing pavement (3R and 4R improvements)
 - b. Widening roadway and shoulders without adding through lanes
 - c. Modernizing gore treatments
 - d. Constructing lane improvements (merge, auxiliary, and turn lanes)
 - e. Adding shoulder drains
 - f. Replacing and rehabilitating culverts, inlets, and drainage pipes, including safety treatments
 - g. Providing driveway pipes
 - h. Performing minor bridge widening (less than one through lane)
 - i. Slide Stabilization
 - j. Structural BMP's for water quality improvement
2. Highway safety or traffic operations improvement projects including the installation of ramp metering control devices and lighting.
- a. Installing ramp metering devices
 - b. Installing lights
 - c. Adding or upgrading guardrail
 - d. Installing safety barriers including Jersey type barriers and pier protection
 - e. Installing or replacing impact attenuators
 - f. Upgrading medians including adding or upgrading median barriers
 - g. Improving intersections including relocation and/or realignment
 - h. Making minor roadway realignment
 - i. Channelizing traffic
 - j. Performing clear zone safety improvements including removing hazards and flattening slopes
 - k. Implementing traffic aid systems, signals, and motorist aid
 - l. Installing bridge safety hardware including bridge rail retrofit
3. Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement or the construction of grade separation to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings.
- a. Rehabilitating, reconstructing, or replacing bridge approach slabs
 - b. Rehabilitating or replacing bridge decks
 - c. Rehabilitating bridges including painting (no red lead paint), scour repair, fender systems, and minor structural improvements
 - d. Replacing a bridge (structure and/or fill)
4. Transportation corridor fringe parking facilities.
5. Construction of new truck weigh stations or rest areas.
6. Approvals for disposal of excess right-of-way or for joint or limited use of right-of-way, where the proposed use does not have significant adverse impacts.
7. Approvals for changes in access control.
8. Construction of new bus storage and maintenance facilities in areas used predominantly for industrial or transportation purposes where such construction is not inconsistent with existing zoning and located on or near

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a street with adequate capacity to handle anticipated bus and support vehicle traffic.

9. Rehabilitation or reconstruction of existing rail and bus buildings and ancillary facilities where only minor amounts of additional land are required and there is not a substantial increase in the number of users.
 10. Construction of bus transfer facilities (an open area consisting of passenger shelters, boarding areas, kiosks and related street improvements) when located in a commercial area or other high activity center in which there is adequate street capacity for projected bus traffic.
 11. Construction of rail storage and maintenance facilities in areas used predominantly for industrial or transportation purposes where such construction is not inconsistent with existing zoning and where there is no significant noise impact on the surrounding community.
 12. Acquisition of land for hardship or protective purposes, advance land acquisition loans under section 3(b) of the UMT Act. Hardship and protective buying will be permitted only for a particular parcel or a limited number of parcels. These types of land acquisition qualify for a CE only where the acquisition will not limit the evaluation of alternatives, including shifts in alignment for planned construction projects, which may be required in the NEPA process. No project development on such land may proceed until the NEPA process has been completed.
 13. Acquisition and construction of wetland, stream and endangered species mitigation sites.
 14. Remedial activities involving the removal, treatment or monitoring of soil or groundwater contamination pursuant to state or federal remediation guidelines.
- D. Special Project Information: (Provide a description of investigations and findings concerning Threatened and Endangered Species,. Also include Environmental Commitments and Permits Required)

Natural Resources:

The project study area is within the Neuse River basin (USGS Hydrologic Unit 03020201). No jurisdictional streams were identified within the project study area (see Attachment 2). No jurisdictional wetlands were identified within the project study area (see Attachment 2).

There are no designated anadromous fish waters or Primary Nursery Areas (PNA) present in the study area. There are no designated High Quality Waters (HQW), Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW), or water supply watersheds (WS-I or WS-II) within 1.0 mile downstream of the study area.

No aquatic communities are present within the project study area.

As of April 4, 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) lists four federally protected species for Wake County. The federally protected species are the Northern long-eared bat, the Red-cockaded woodpecker, the Dwarf

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wedgemussel, and Michaux's Sumac. The Northern long-eared bat is the only species that has potential habitat in the project area.

Northern long-eared bat

Biological Conclusion:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a programmatic biological opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and NCDOT, for the NLEB in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8 is "May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect." The PBO will provide incidental take coverage for NLEB and will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for five years for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes Wake County, where the project is located.

Other Agency Comments:

The North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office, stated in a letter dated February 16, 2015 that a review of the project was conducted and that they are aware of no historic resources which would be affected by the project (Attachment 6).

Permits Required:

NCDENR Sediment and Erosion Control Permit
NCDOT Encroachment Permit

Public Involvement:

A Public Information Meeting was held on March 11, 2015. There were twenty-seven attendees. There were some verbal comments about the project with the main questions being about the length of the median, the impact of the separate but contiguous NCDOT safety projects, and the effect of the project on the internal circulation of the adjacent shopping center.

Three written comments were submitted at the workshop. Two were positive in nature about the project.

One written comment brought up concerns about the internal circulation of the shopping center.

Response: The internal circulation of the shopping center is due to additional development in the center. The Town has previously discussed concerns with the property owner and recommended potential solutions. Any changes to the internal circulation are will need to be performed by the property owner.

The third written comment addressed potential for the median to extend beyond the fire station in the future and blocking Logging Road. The citizen also expressed concerns about the internal circulation of the shopping center in relation to the installation of the new signal and potential stacking issues.

Response: It was noted that at this time there is no plan to extend the median beyond the fire station and blocking Logging Road.

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E. Threshold Criteria

The following evaluation of threshold criteria must be completed. See *Local Programs Management Handbook* for more guidance on how to answer these questions.

<u>ECOLOGICAL</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
(1) Will the project have a substantial impact on any unique or important natural resource?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
(2) Does the project involve habitat where federally listed endangered or threatened species may occur?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>
(3) Will the project affect anadromous fish?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
(4) If the project involves wetlands, is the amount of permanent and/or temporary wetland taking less than one-tenth (1/10) of an acre and have all practicable measures to avoid and minimize wetland takings been evaluated?	<u> NA </u>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(5) Will the project require the use of U. S. Forest Service lands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
(6) Will the quality of adjacent water resources be adversely impacted by proposed construction activities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
(7) Does the project involve waters classified as Outstanding Water Resources (OWR) and/or High Quality Waters (HQW)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
(8) Will the project require fill in waters of the United States in any of the designated mountain trout counties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
(9) Does the project involve any known underground storage tanks (UST's) or hazardous materials sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
 <u>PERMITS AND COORDINATION</u>		
	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
(10) If the project is located within a CAMA county, will the project significantly affect the coastal zone and/or any "Area of Environmental Concern" (AEC)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
(11) Does the project involve Coastal Barrier Resources Act resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
(12) Will a U. S. Coast Guard permit be required?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>
(13) Will the project result in the modification of any existing regulatory floodway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> X </u>

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- | | | | |
|------|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| (29) | Will the project affect any archaeological remains which are important to history or pre-history? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u> X </u> |
| (30) | Will the project require the use of Section 4(f) resources (public parks, recreation lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, historic sites, or historic bridges, as defined in Section 4(f) of the U. S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u> X </u> |
| (31) | Will the project result in any conversion of assisted public recreation sites or facilities to non-recreation uses, as defined by Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965, as amended? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u> X </u> |
| (32) | Will the project involve construction in, across, or adjacent to a river designated as a component of or proposed for inclusion in the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u> X </u> |

F. Additional Documentation Required for Unfavorable Responses in Part E
(Discussion regarding all unfavorable responses in Part E should be provided below. Additional supporting documentation may be attached, as necessary.)

Response to Question 2: See Section D for details.

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G. PCE Approval

TIP Project No. U-5529
WBS Element 44107.1.F1
Federal-Aid Project No. STPDA-0510(8)

Project Description:

The Town of Holly Springs, in Wake County, is proposing operational Improvements on SR 1115 (Avent Ferry Road). The improvements are from Village Walk Drive to approximately 400 feet southwest of SR 1101 (Piney Grove-Wilbon Road. The project length is 0.34 miles. The project involves minor widening along Avent Ferry Road. The project will also add sidewalk on the east side of Avent Ferry Road from Piney Grove Wilbon Road to the existing sidewalk in front of the Goodwill Store (550') and on the west side of Avent Ferry Road from Piney Grove Wilbon Road to just south of the NC 55 Bypass (1650'). (See Attachments 1 - 4 for a project vicinity map, USGS map, site photos, and plans.)

Categorical Exclusion Action Classification: (Check one)

<input type="checkbox"/>	TYPE I (A)	NO BOXES Checked
<input type="checkbox"/>	TYPE I (B)	ANY BOX Checked
<input type="checkbox"/>	TYPE II(A)	NO BOXES Checked
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TYPE II(B)	ANY BOX is Checked



Prepared By:

10-7-15 Stephen C. Greene, Vice President
Date Name, Title
Ramey Kemp & Associates, Inc., 919-872-5115
NC Corporate License C-0910

Prepared For: AARON S. LEVITT, P.E., SENIOR ENGINEER
Town of Holly Springs

Reviewed:

11/19/15 [Signature]
Date Project Dev. Unit Head / Division Representative
NCDOT - PDEA / NCDOT Division _____

NOTE: NCDOT Review may occur at either PDEA or the Division Office.
Mark through non-applicable position.

Approved: For Type I(B) or II(B) projects only:

11/19/15 [Signature]
Date for Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

PROJECT COMMITMENTS

WAKE COUNTY AVENT FERRY ROAD OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

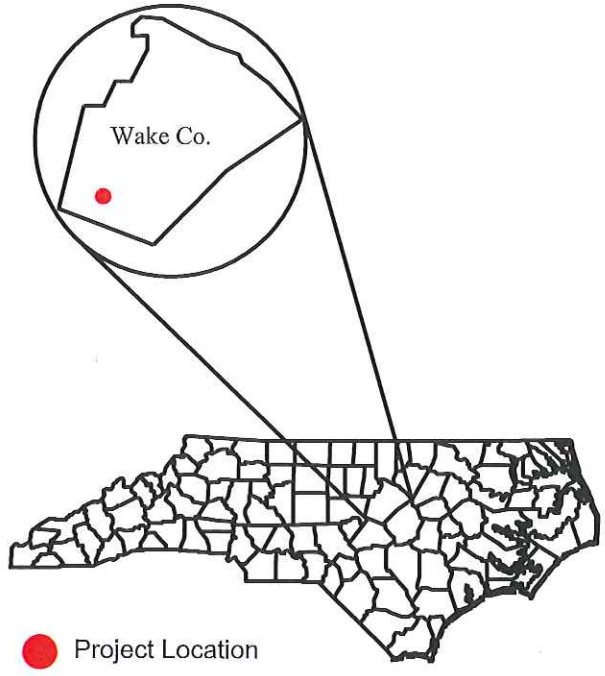
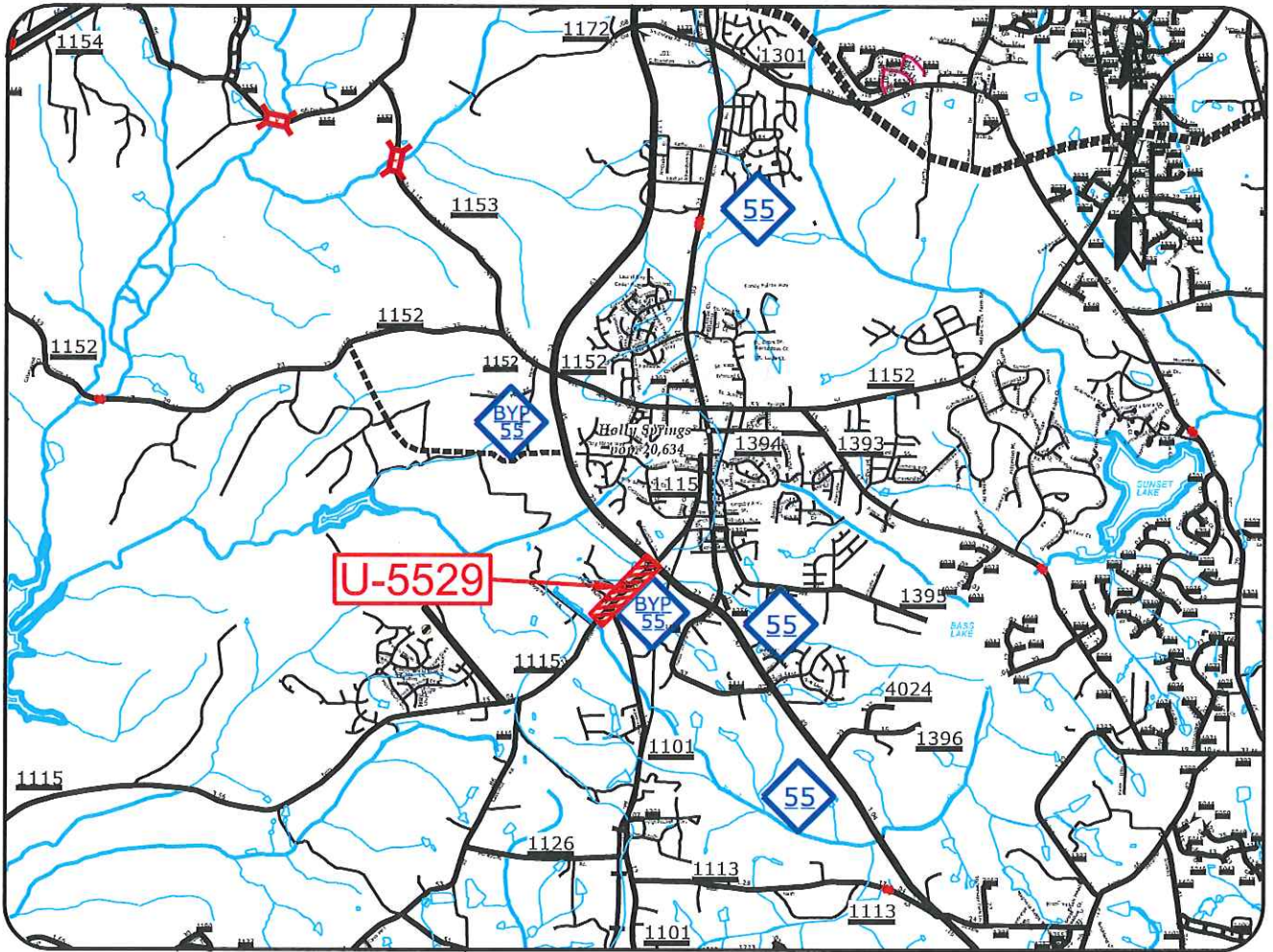
**FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. STPDA-0510(8) CFDA#: 20.20
WBS ELEMENT 44107.1.F1
TIP NO. U-5529**

NES – Northern Long Eared Bat

The Town of Holy Springs' Project Manager will submit to the North Carolina Department of Transportation Natural Environment Section the actual amount of tree clearing that occurred for the project. That information should be sent at the time of project completion and should be reported in tenths of acres.

Neil Medlin
NES Unit
NCDOT
1598 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC 27699-1598
(919) 707-6138
knmedlin@ncdot.gov

ATTACHMENTS

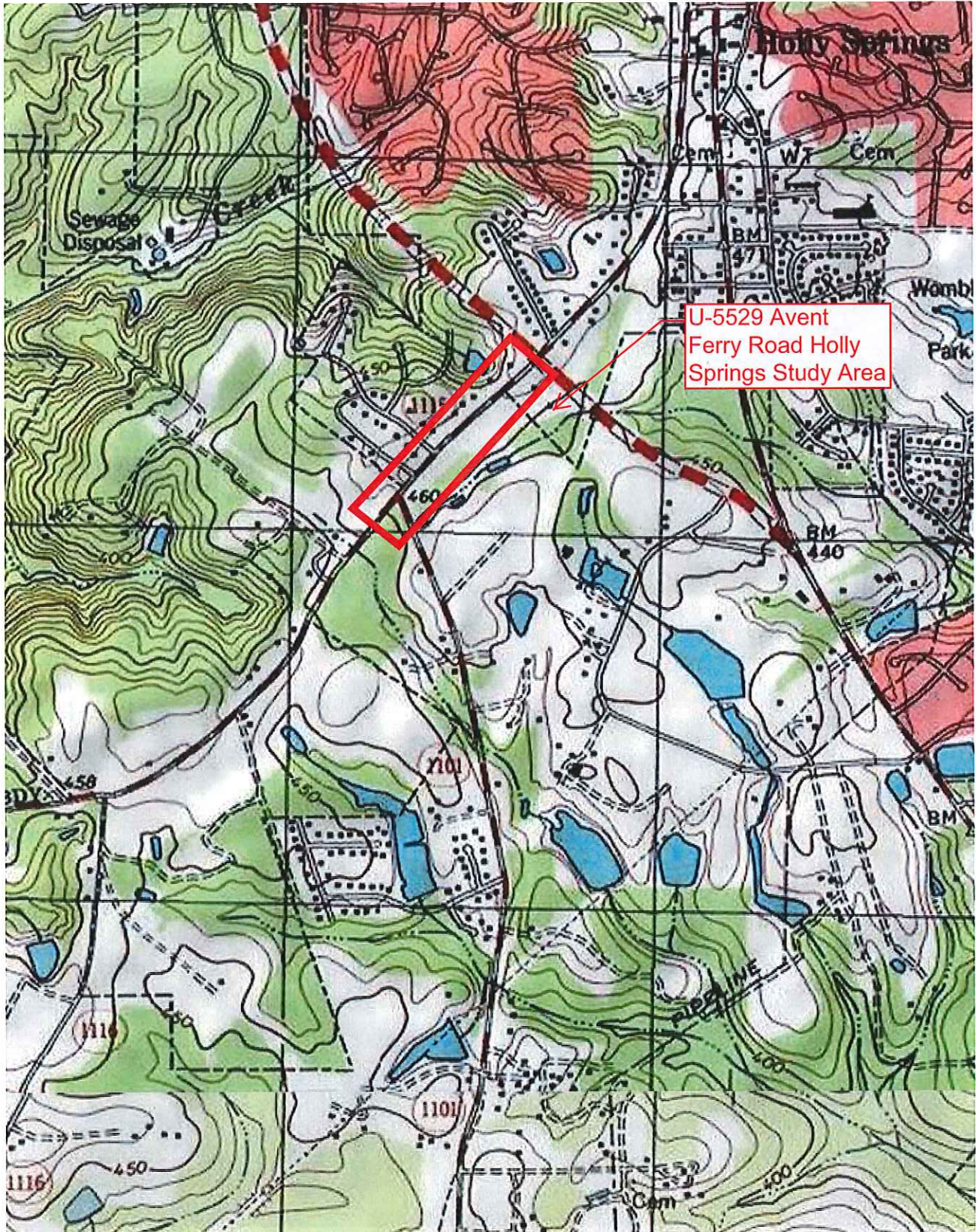


 <p>RAMEY KEMP & ASSOCIATES TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS</p>	<p>5808 Faringdon Place Suite 100 Raleigh, NC 27609 P: 919.872.5115 F: 919.878.5416 www.rameykemp.com</p>

<p>TIP NO. U-5529 PROJECT LOCATION MAP</p>	
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<p>SR 1115 Avent Ferry Road Operational Improvements Holly Springs, North Carolina</p>	
<p>Not to Scale</p>	<p>FIGURE 1</p>

Attachment 2



Google

644 81

Attachment 3

Avent Ferry Road Looking North

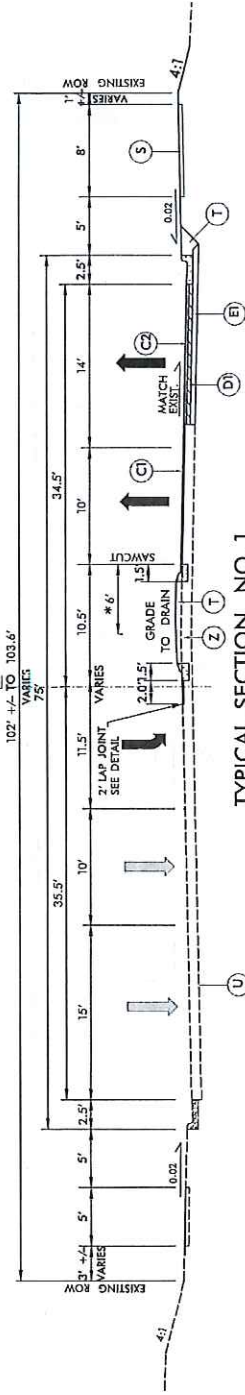


Avent Ferry Road Looking South



Attachment 4

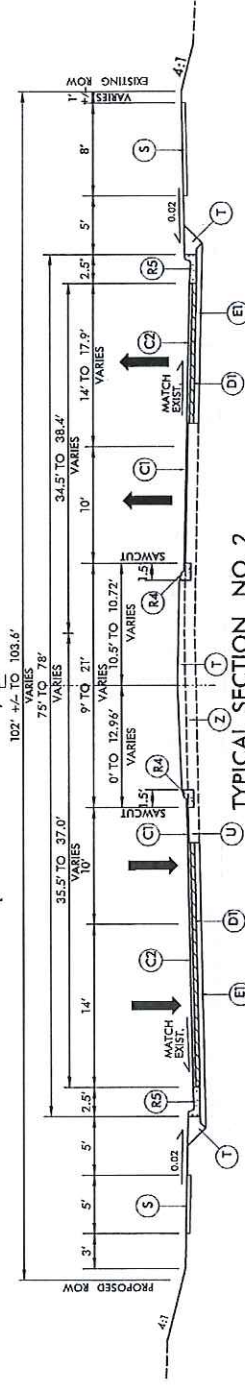
-L- SR 1115 (AVENT FERRY RD) (C)



TYPICAL SECTION NO. 1

* (AVENT FERRY ROAD) -L- STA. 15+94.00 TO -L- STA. 21+87.00
 (AVENT FERRY ROAD) -L- STA. 15+97.90 TO -L- STA. 19+25.50

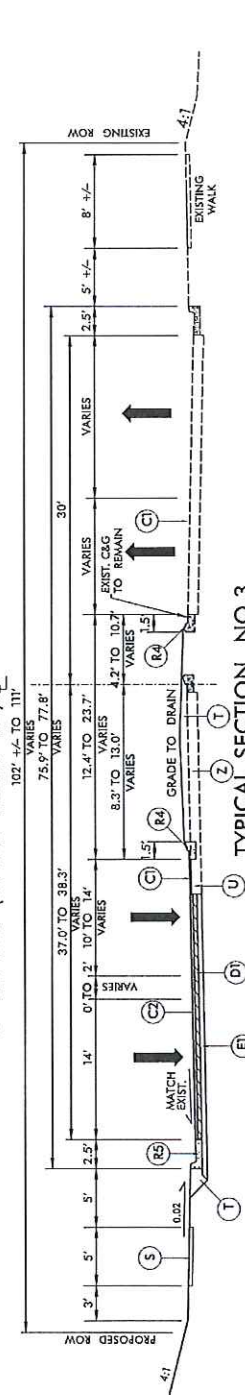
-L- SR 1115 (AVENT FERRY RD) (C)



TYPICAL SECTION NO. 2

(AVENT FERRY ROAD) -L- STA. 15+18.08 TO -L- STA. 24+28.36
 (AVENT FERRY ROAD) -L- STA. 19+25.50 TO -L- STA. 21+89.63

-L- SR 1115 (AVENT FERRY RD) (C)



TYPICAL SECTION NO. 3

(AVENT FERRY ROAD) -L- STA. 21+89.63 TO -L- STA. 24+10.00

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. SHEET AND
 ROADWAY DESIGN ADVISORY DESIGN
 ENGINEER

INCOMPLETE PLANS
 FOR CONSTRUCTION
 PREPARED BY
 RAMEY KEMP ASSOCIATES, INC.
 1400 Ferguson Plaza, Suite 100
 98072-4151 WA, 360-879-8441 Fax
 NO. LICENSE: 00015200

PAVEMENT SCHEDULE	
A1	8" PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE
C1	1.5" 59.48
C2	3" 39.28
C3	VAR. 29.20
C4	2" 59.38
B1	4" 110.00
D2	VAR. 112.00
E1	3" 805.00
E2	VAR. 825.08
J1	8" ADE
J2	5" ADE
B1	2'-0" CURB AND GUTTER
B2	2'-0" VALLEY GUTTER
B3	5" UNNO. ISLAND CONCRETE DEVED IN
M4	1'-0" CURB AND GUTTER
T5	2'-0" CURB AND GUTTER
T	EARTH MATERIAL
U	EXISTING PAVEMENT
V	MILLING
W	RESURFACING
Z	PAVEMENT REMOVAL

NOTE: INVERTED DOTE SLOPE ARE TO UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

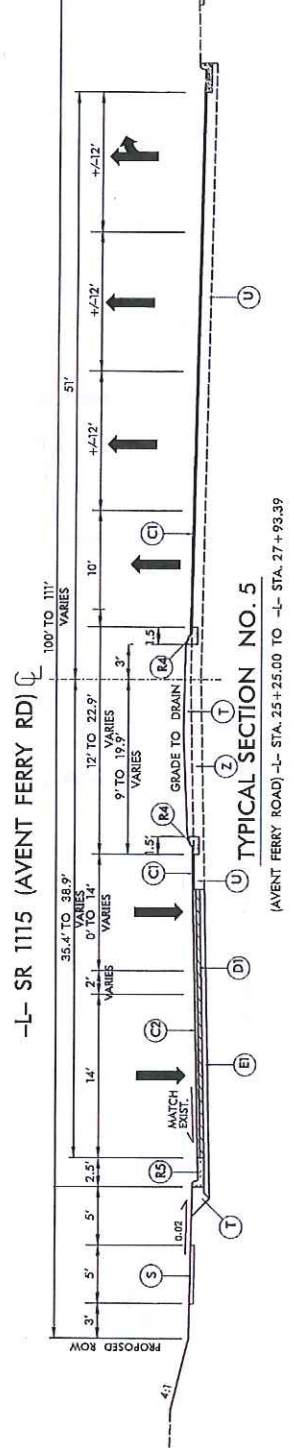
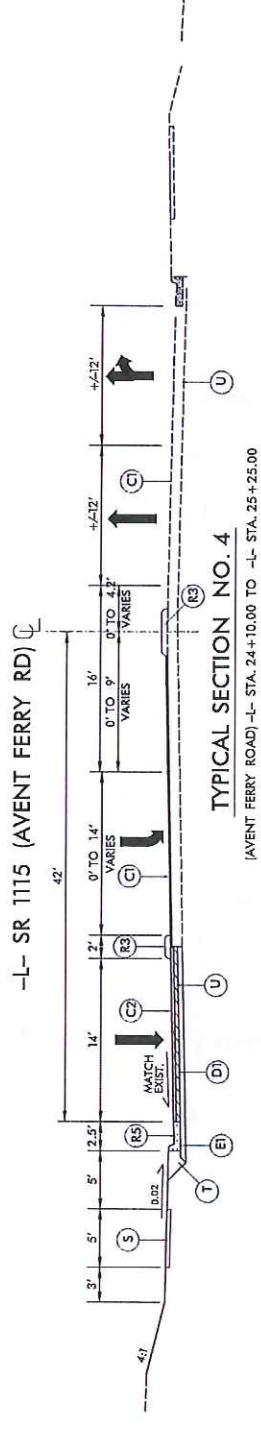
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 11/11/11 11:11 AM
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 11/11/11 11:11 AM

PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	15-	SHEET NO.	2
ROADWAY DESIGN	TYPICAL SECTION		
<p>INCOMPLETE PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION</p> <p>PRELIMINARY PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION</p>			

RAMEY KEMP ASSOCIATES, INC.
 17. AVONDALE BLVD., SUITE 100
 NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02459
 TEL: 617.552.1114 FAX: 617.552.1115
 WWW.RKASSOCIATES.COM

PAVEMENT SCHEDULE	
A1	8" PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE
C1	1.5" 99.55
C2	3" 99.55
C3	VAR. 99.55
G4	2" 99.55
D1	4" 118.09
D2	VAR. 118.09
F1	3" 825.08
E2	VAR. 825.08
J1	8" ABC
J2	5" ABC
R1	2'-0" CURB AND GUTTER
R2	2'-0" VALLEY GUTTER
R3	6" WOOD ISLAND CONCRETE KEYED IN
R4	1'-6" CURB AND GUTTER
R5	2'-8" CURB AND GUTTER
T	EARTH MATERIAL
U	EXISTING PAVEMENT
V	MELTING
W	WEEDING
Z	PAVEMENT REMOVAL

NOTE: PAVEMENT DEPTH, HEIGHT AND ALL UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED



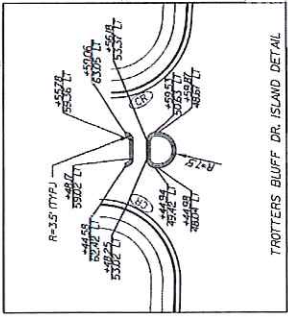
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PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	U-5529	SHEET NO.	4
ROW/SECTION	ROADWAY	HYDRAULIC	ROADWAY
INCOMPLETE PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION PRELIMINARY PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION			

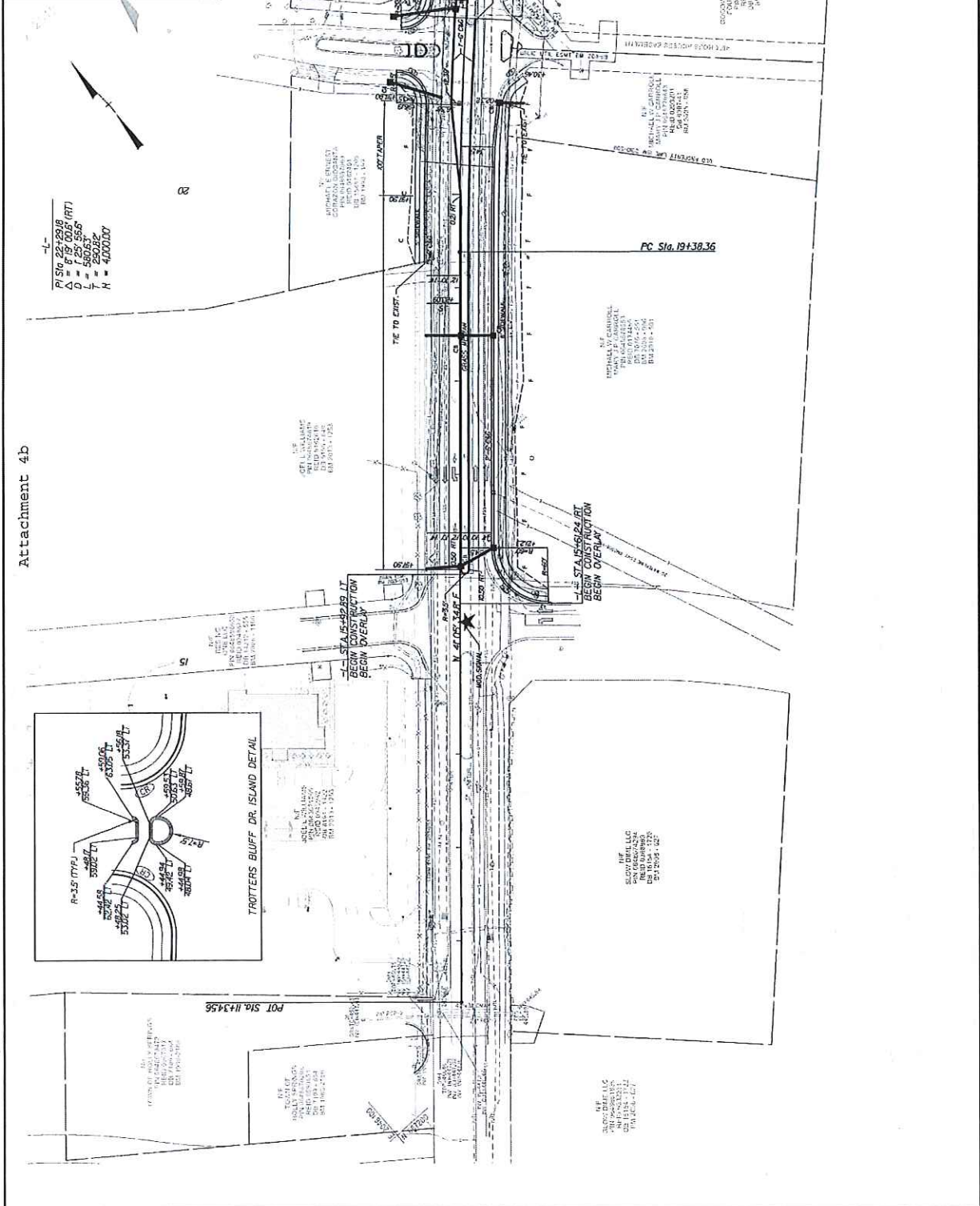
RAMEY KEMP ASSOCIATES, INC.
 11500 North Central Expressway
 Suite 100
 Dallas, Texas 75243
 Phone: (972) 343-1000
 Fax: (972) 343-1001
 www.rameykemp.com

Attachment 4b

-L-
 PI Sta. 22+29.18
 Δ = 9° 00' 00" (RT)
 L = 500.00'
 T = 250.00'
 H = 400.0000'



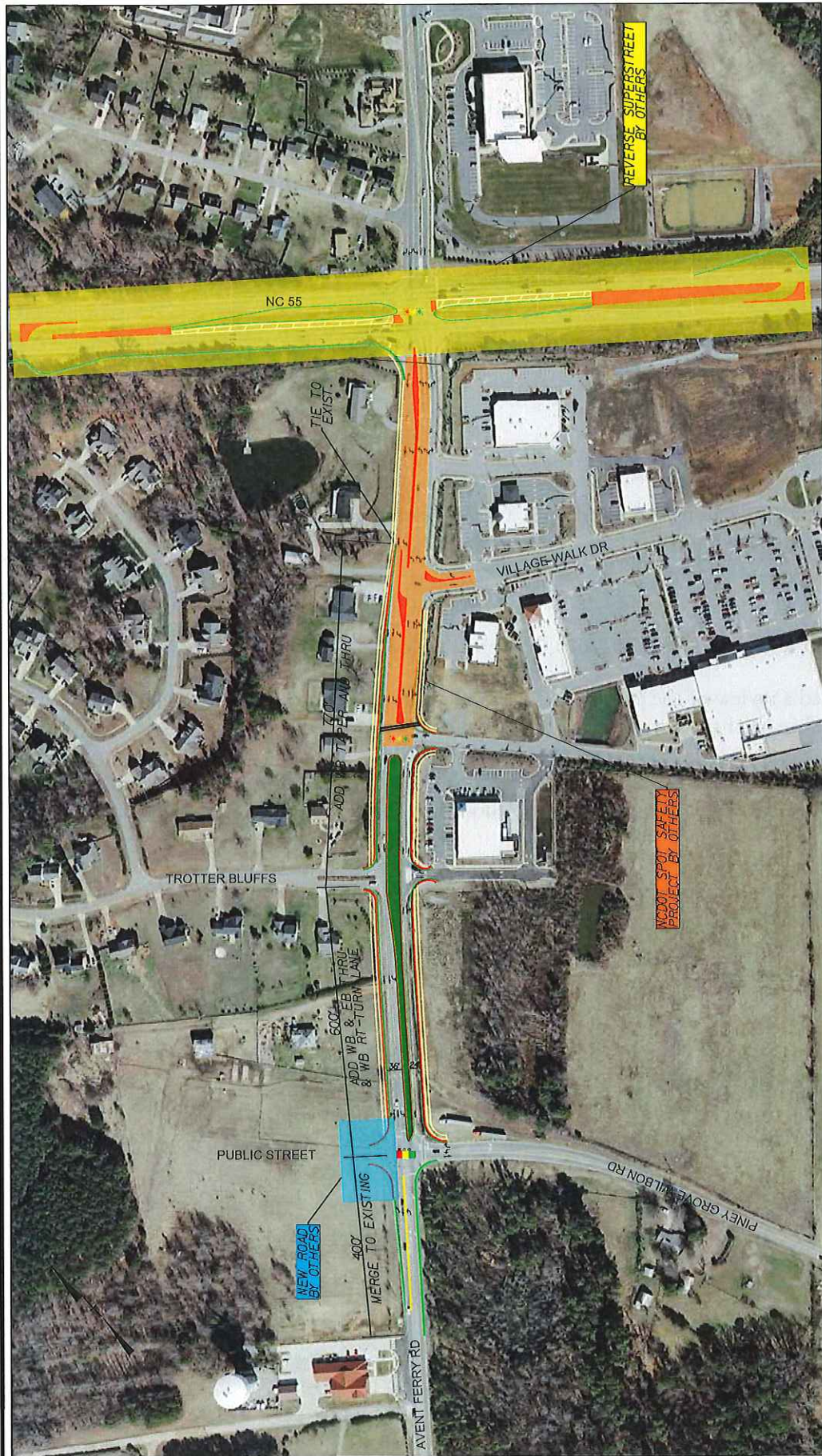
TROTTERS BLUFF DR. ISLAND DETAIL



DATE	DESCRIPTION

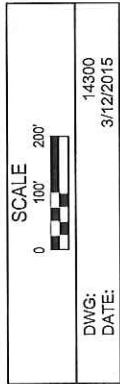
REVISIONS

1/24/2008
 1:00 PM
 1/24/2008



Avent Ferry Road U-5529
 Concept Drawing
 Holly Springs, NC

PUBLIC WORKSHOP



5808 Farrington Place
 Suite 100
 Raleigh, NC 27609
 P: 919.872.5115
 F: 919.878.5416
 www.rameykemp.com





**North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory
Secretary Susan Kluttz

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

February 16, 2015

Stephen Green
Ramey Kemp & Associates, Inc.
5808 Faringdon Place, Suite 100
Raleigh, NC 27609

Re: Construct Sidewalk along Avent Ferry Road on East and West Sides, Holly Springs, U-5529,
Wake County, ER 15-0214

Dear Mr. Green:

Thank you for your letter of January 30, 2015, concerning the above project.

We have conducted a review of the project and are aware of no historic resources which would be affected by the project. Therefore, we have no comment on the project as proposed.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Renee Gledhill-Earley".

for Ramona M. Bartos