

Re: Project Re-Initiation TIP Project No. R-5727 WBS: 50219.1.1 Description: SR 1176 (Bridges Street Extension) from SR 1738 (Bridges Street) to SR 1147 McCabe Road – Widen

Existing Roadway and Construct Part on New

Location

Date: April 10, 2024 County: Carteret

Memorandum

1 Introduction and Project Overview

1.1 Meeting Purpose

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen and extend SR 1738 (Bridges Street). The project is included in the 2024-2033 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as Project No. R-5727. The project is scheduled for right-of-way in Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 and construction let in FY 2029. Portions of the project development process were initiated and/or completed 2017-2019, with the project being suspended in September 2019.

The material in this packet includes project history, a summary of public involvement, and potential environmental impacts by alternatives, and its intent is to reach a consensus on project re-initiation needs for R-5727.

1.2 Project Description

STIP R-5727 proposes to widen the existing portion of SR 1738 (Bridges Street) to a four-lane divided roadway with five-foot sidewalks on both sides (pending municipal agreement), shown in Figure 1-1. The project would extend Bridges Street on new location to Business Drive; the new roadway would continue west, parallel to US 70, as Business Drive, and tie into US 70 west of McCabe Street. A grade-separated railroad crossing would be constructed as part of the proposed project.

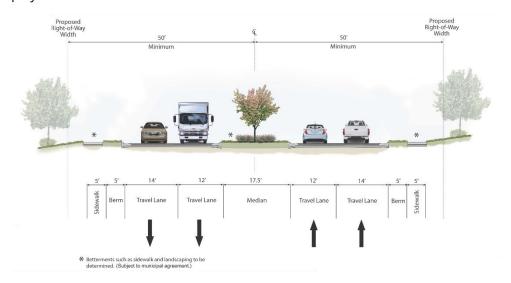


Figure 1-1. Project Typical Section

1.3 Project Purpose and Need

Purpose of the Proposed Action: The purpose of this project is to reduce congestion on US 70 from State Route (SR) 1738 (Bridges Street) to west of SR 1147 McCabe Road and improve system linkages for vehicle and pedestrian traffic.



Secondary Benefit: To provide a redundant option of travel for US 70, which is a designated evacuation route and routinely floods.

Need for the Proposed Action: The project is needed because the existing capacity of US 70 within the project area results in undesirable vehicular delays and will not be able to meet the traffic demand in the future, resulting in an undesirable level of service. In addition, within the study area, a lack of continuous east-west roadways increases the use of US 70 for local vehicle traffic. Discontinuous pedestrian and bicycle facilities are located along the project corridor.

1.4 Anticipated Schedule

• Environmental Document – 2025

Construction Let - 2029

Right-of-Way – 2027

1.5 Summary of Public Involvement

Public Involvement completed to date has resulted in 257 comments. Comments were accepted during in-person public meetings (see Appendix A for public hearing maps), by email, and by mail through 2019. In addition, a Save the Wildwood Community petition with 1,380 signatures was received. In coordination with the Wildwood Community, the Carteret County Board of Commissions and Town of Morehead passed resolutions urging NCDOT to consider or minimize impacts on the Wildwood Community. A petition opposing the Sam Garner Existing alternative received approximately 2,000 signatures.

Table 1 Public Involvement

Public Involvement Activity	Date	No. of Attendees		
•	August 3, 2017	-		
Wildung of Community Constl. Const. Monting	September 20, 2017	-		
Wildwood Community Small Group Meeting	November 09, 2017	24		
	December 14, 2017	19		
Open House Public Meeting	January 11, 2018	111		
Local Official Information Meeting	January 28, 2018	14		
Crystal Coast Business Park Small Group Meeting	February 07, 2018	16		
Brandywine Community Small Group Meeting	February 07, 2018	18		
Affected Property Owners Meeting	July 11, 2018	62		
Open House Public Meeting	July 12, 2018	123		
Open House Public Meeting	March 02, 2019	155		

1.6 Conceptual Alternatives

Table 2 is a summary of potential impacts per alternative based on a preliminary screening and an approximately 130-foot right-of-way (ROW) width, with a 300-foot proposed railroad grade-separated crossing. The pink highlight indicates the highest impact for that resource area (see Appendix B for Environmental Features Map and wetland delineation information). In 2018, US 70 tie-in locations were considered at Old Murdoch Road, Gladys Teasley Lane, McCabe Road, and Wildwood Road. Based on comments received by residents, local officials, and agencies, the Sam



Garner Existing alternative was added, and the project's study area was expanded in early 2019. The Sam Garner West alternative was proposed for consideration prior to the 2019 public open house to reduce impacts on the Sam Garner community.



Table 2 Potential Resource Impacts per Alternative (Preliminary Alignments)

	Sam Garner Road		Business Dr./Bridges Street Ext - South			Old		
Resource / Measure	Existing	West	Riggs Rd	Riggs/ Vashti	Gladys Teasley Lane	Murdoch Road	McCabe Road	Wildwood Road
Length of project in miles	1.8	2.0	1.6		0.8	0.6	3.1	2.5
Potential Affected Parcels	26	15	48	50	10	31	32	23
Potential Affected	5 full	3 full	1 full	1 full	2 full	9 full	7 full	7 full
Residential Parcels	3 partial	3 partial	6 partial	9 partial	2 partial	15 partial	9 partial	6 partial
Potential Affected	0 full	0 full	0 full	0 full	0 full	2 full	0 full	0 full
Business Parcels	4 partial	5 partial	24 partial	24 partial	2 partial	1 partial	4 partial	3 partial
Active Agriculture in acres	9.2	13.1	0		0	2.2	1 parcel	1 parcel
Wetlands in acres ¹	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.1	1.4	0.0	2.8	2.0
Streams/Tributaries in linear feet	2,096	1,735	1,588	1,249	1,016	981	995	594
Ponds in acres	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	2.2	1.9
CAMA Areas of Environmental Concern	Hull Swa	Hull Swamp		Stream to Newport River		None	None	None
Section 4(f): Parks, Game Land, Greenways, etc.	None	e None		one	None	None	None	None
Public Input - Support	19	20	14		23	22	6	0
Public Input - Oppose	2,000 ²	=	1		1	4	19	25
2016 No Build LOS				4 inte	rsections at LO	S F		
2040 No Build LOS	9 intersections at LOS E/F							
LOS at US 70 and Western Terminus in 2040 Build	LOS C (20.8)/ LOS C (21.5)	LOS C (20.3)/ LOS C (22.9)	N/A		LOS C (23.8)/ LOS C (24.3)	LOS B (16.4)/ LOS B (16.8)	N/A	N/A
LOS at US 70 and NC 24 in 2040 Build	LOS D (53.1)/ LOS D (53.9)	LOS D (53.3)/ LOS D (54.0)	N/A		LOS D (51.7)/ LOS D (53.0)	LOS D (52.0)/ LOS D (55.2)	N/A	N/A
2040 Build Traffic Removed from US 70 in vehicles per day (vpd)	12,800	12,9000	N/A		12,900	12,800	N/A	N/A
Bypass Volume in vpd	15,200	14,800	N/A		14,800	14,600	N/A	N/A
Travel Time Savings in minutes	-3.7	-3.7	N/A		-3.2	-3.5	N/A	N/A
Current Status	Removed from consideration	Carried Forward	Removed from consideration		Removed from consideration	Carried Forward	Removed from consideration	Removed from consideration

- 1. Wetland impacts are calculated for the new location portion of the alternative only and not the entire length of the proposed project.
- 2. Petition opposing the widening of Sam Garner Road received approximately 2,000 signatures.



1.7 Alternatives Carried Forward

Prior to the project being shelved in August 2019, the following two alternatives were determined to have met the project's stated purpose and need while minimizing and/or avoiding potential impacts where feasible.

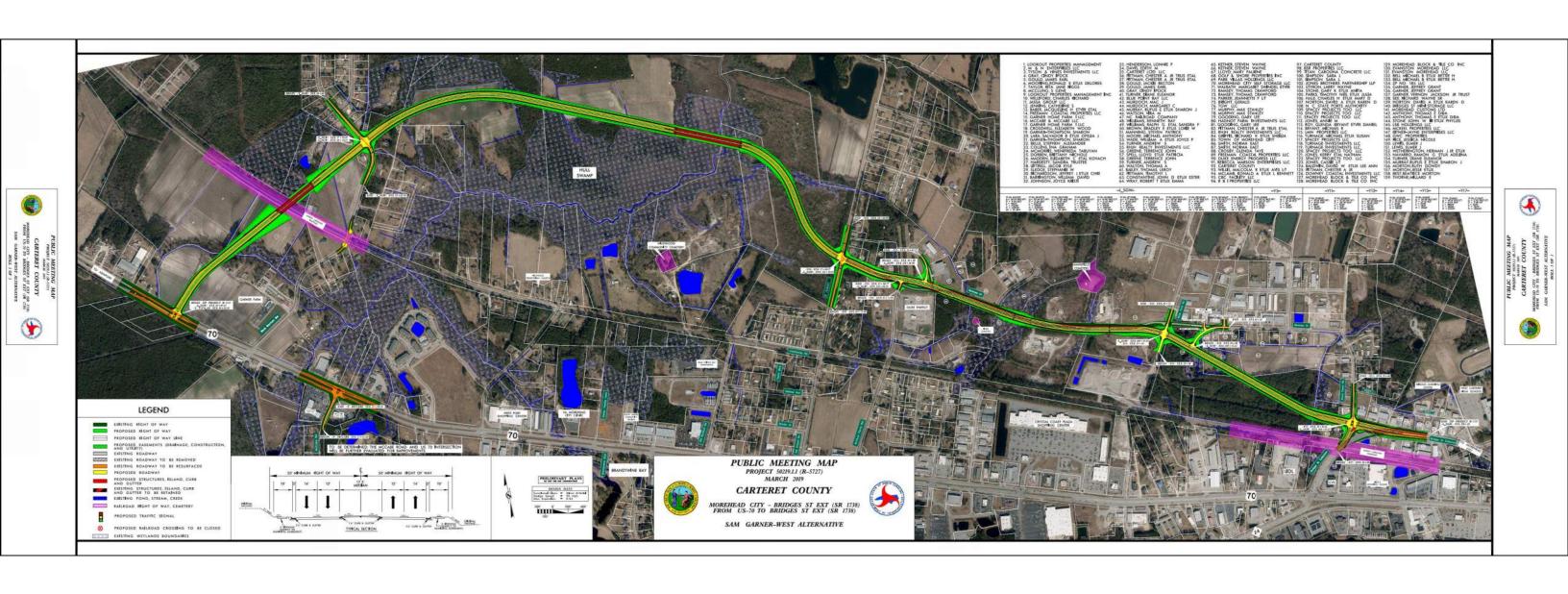
- 1. **Old Murdoch Road Alternative:** This alternative would tie the proposed extension into US 70 at the existing Old Murdoch Road intersection. It would connect the new roadway extension to Old Murdoch Road just north of Community Drive, construct a grade-separated railroad crossing, and widen Old Murdock Road to match the project's proposed typical section.
 - a. This alternative does not fully meet the purpose and need of the project, as it does not provide a redundant option of travel for US 70.
- 2. Sam Garner West Alternative: under this alternative, the proposed roadway extension would tie into US 70 west of Sam Garner Road. The project would close the at-grade railroad crossing at Sam Garner Road and propose a grade-separated railroad crossing along the new roadway.

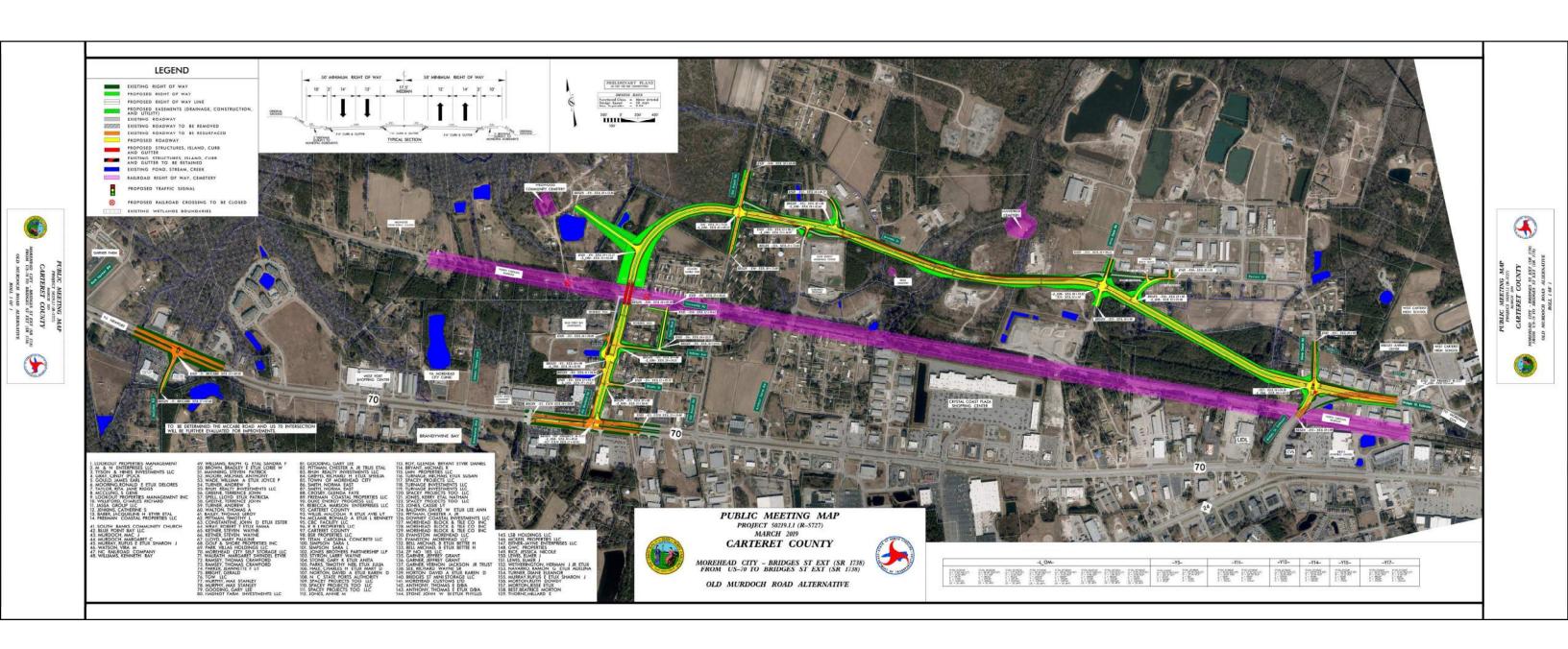
2 Project Re-Initiation Needs

Based on input from NCDOT and agencies review, the following actions are recommended to re-initiate R-5727: (TO BE COMPLETED BASED ON 4/10/24 MEETING)



Public Hearing Maps





В

Environmental and Jurisdictional Features Maps

