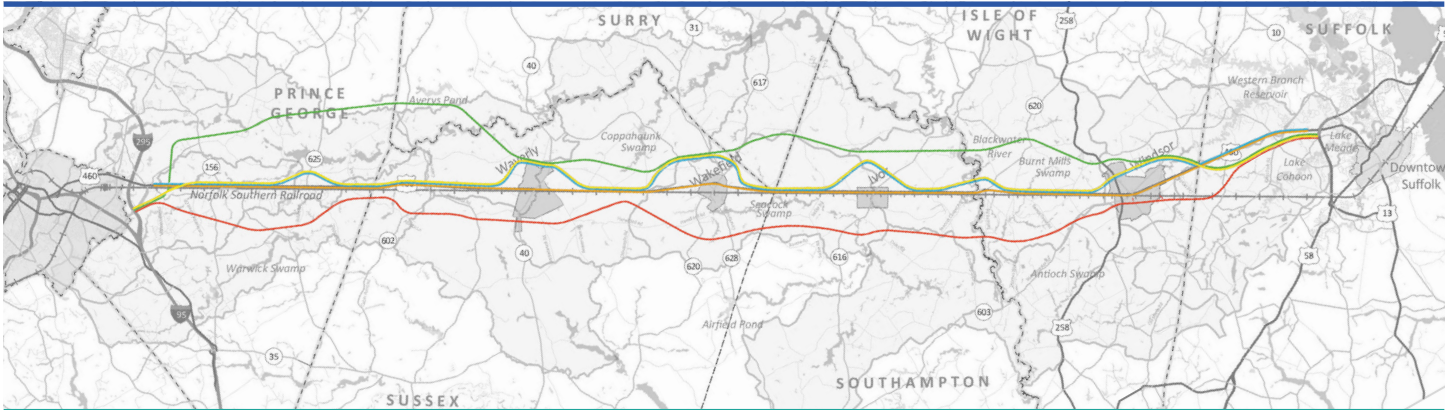


U.S. ROUTE 460 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

2014 UPDATE

MAP KEY: Alignment 1, Alignment 2, Alignment 3, Alignment 4, Alignment 5



A Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) is currently being developed. It will include the analysis of five build alternatives along with a No Build option.

Alternative 1: A four-lane tolled road that runs south of the existing U.S. Route 460; identified as the preferred alternative in the original Environmental Impact Statement

Alternative 2: A four-lane road that runs along the existing U.S. Route 460 including six bypasses around the existing towns. The bypasses will be evaluated as both tolled and not tolled.

Alternative 3: A four-lane tolled road that runs north of the existing U.S. Route 460; identified as CBA-3 in the original Environmental Impact Statement.

Alternative 4: A four-lane road that runs along the existing U.S. Route 460 with improvements to meet standards for medians, shoulders, and intersections.

Alternative 5: An eight-lane road that follows a corridor similar to Alternative 2. Four of the eight lanes (two eastbound, two westbound) are tolled as in Alternatives 1 or 3. The remaining four lanes are untolled local roads with an eastbound and westbound lane on each side of the tolled road. At the bypasses, the local lanes merge onto existing U.S. Route 460 through the towns and the tolled lanes follow the bypass route.

PROJECT STATUS

The 2000 Virginia Transportation Act designated U.S. Route 460 between Suffolk and Prince George County as a high-priority corridor. In December 2012, the Route 460 Funding Corporation of Virginia, a nonstock, nonprofit corporation formed under state laws, entered into a comprehensive agreement with US 460 Mobility Partners to design and build the project. In March 2014, the Corporation issued the stop work order to temporarily suspend contract work after review and consultation with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).

VDOT is currently working with its federal partners to compile a Draft SEIS. As part of this process, field teams are expected to be on properties along the corridor from April through July 2014. To that end, Property Notification Letters with additional information were sent on April 4, 2014 and April 14, 2014. Field teams are only conducting environmental work. No construction or right of way activities are taking place. Public hearings are anticipated to be held in fall 2014.



2014 UPDATE

Transportation Secretary Aubrey Layne announced that contract and permit work is being temporarily suspended on the Route 460 project in southeastern Virginia while VDOT continues the needed environmental reviews in cooperation with its federal partners.

“Suspending contract and permit work is a prudent and practical move to cut spending while the focus is 100 percent on securing environmental approvals,” said Layne. “The commonwealth remains committed to moving forward on Route 460 corridor improvements. They are needed to provide an additional hurricane evacuation route and to better move commerce from the port. This benefits safety, mobility and future economic development. But services are not needed now from US 460 Mobility Partners, the design-build firm that was contracted to build the new Route 460. This will limit costs to only what is absolutely necessary to conduct environmental work, which will be led and managed by VDOT.”

While the project had a previous Record of Decision (ROD) from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), it also needs a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) as construction would impact streams and wetlands. At the request of the Corps and FHWA, VDOT is updating the environmental impacts of the project.

Layne added, “It is too early to determine the final outcome of the project at this time. The environmental review process, which will include public input, will help to decide what’s best for the region. We have to let that process unfold. In the meantime, no public dollars will be spent on the project other than what is necessary to complete the environmental review process.”

NEXT STEPS:

- VDOT is preparing the Draft SEIS for public review. The SEIS will evaluate five build alternatives to make the improvements to the Route 460 corridor
- Public meetings will be held along the corridor to review the Draft SEIS
- VDOT then will prepare the Final SEIS, which will include how the agency addresses public comments and any new information. The final document will include a preferred alternative. Public hearings are anticipated to be held in fall 2014
- It is anticipated that FHWA and the Corps will issue their decisions on the preferred alternative by the end of 2014



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