

City Council Meeting

April 24, 2017



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Item 7

Updated presentation by the North Carolina Department of Transportation on preferred alternatives for project U-2817 Evans Street/Old Tar Road Widening and consideration of recommended project design



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NORTH CAROLINA

Department of Transportation



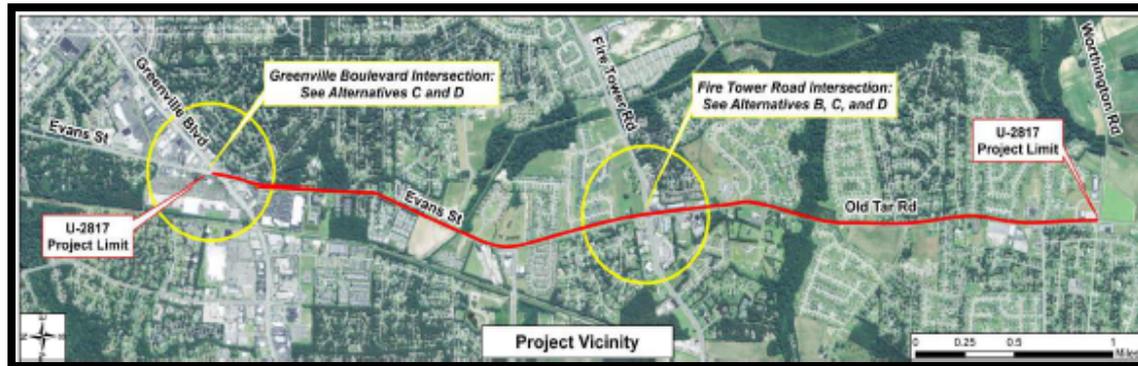
U-2817 Evans Street/Old Tar Road Widening

Bill Kincannon, PE.
Division 2 Project Development Engineer

April 24, 2017

Current Project Status

- City Council required further study due to property impacts
- Typical Section has been reviewed to minimize impacts
- Corridor has been reviewed for median reductions and accessibility
- Partial storm water management engineering done
- Intersections reviewed for possible property impact reductions while maintaining current and future operability at acceptable levels
- Advanced design on hold until approval and resolution by Council

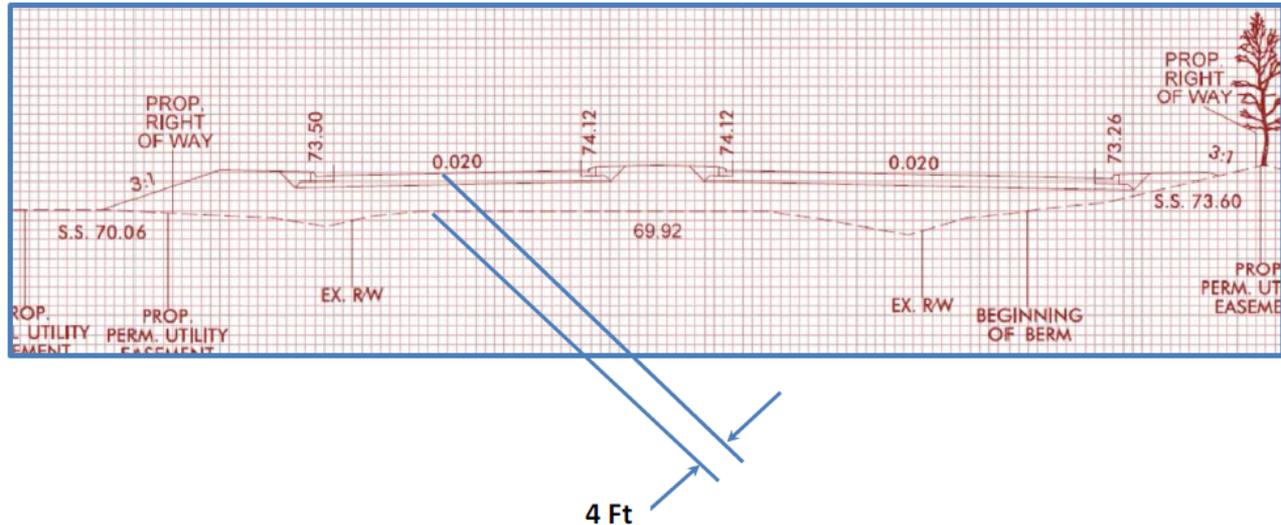


Engineering Review Findings

- Initial 23' raised median can be reduced to 17.5' in places.
- Too much reduction of median results in some impact to traffic flow and reduces turning movements at several intersections including Ashley Meadows, W Meath, Martinsboro.
- Impacts at Greenville Blvd intersection may be reduced using Alt D.
- Initial Hydraulics Study indicates some sections may change elevation nearly 3' in order to maintain positive drainage in storm water drainage system. This elevation change will be most noticeable in areas with elevated structures or berm areas when compared to current height.



Elevation Changes for Drainage



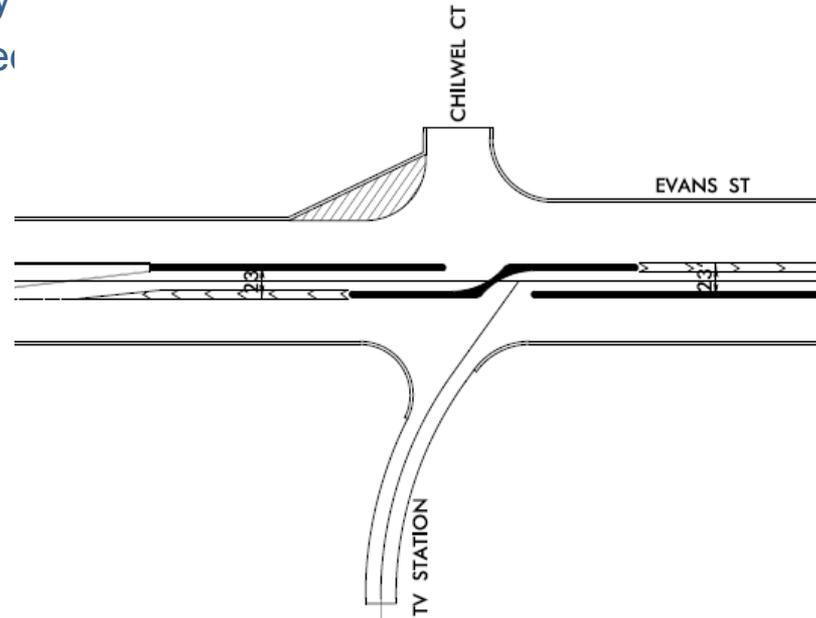
Station 160+00 Centered between N and S South Hall entrances

Property Impact Reductions

- Going block by block to reduce underground utility placement impacts with placement behind curb
- City leadership and NCDOT working closely with GUC to minimize aerial easements including using NCDOT ROW for pole locations in where feasible
- Staged construction to establish planting barrier rows, re-establishment of vegetation, walls, and berms
- Sight distance clearing reduced to minimum required by design standard
- Minimal median widths to accommodate traffic access while still providing protected turn lanes

Median Configuration

- Raised median required to separate and direct traffic while providing protected turn movements – 23' typically required for dual turns
- Raised median below 17.5' substandard performance and durability
- Wide median

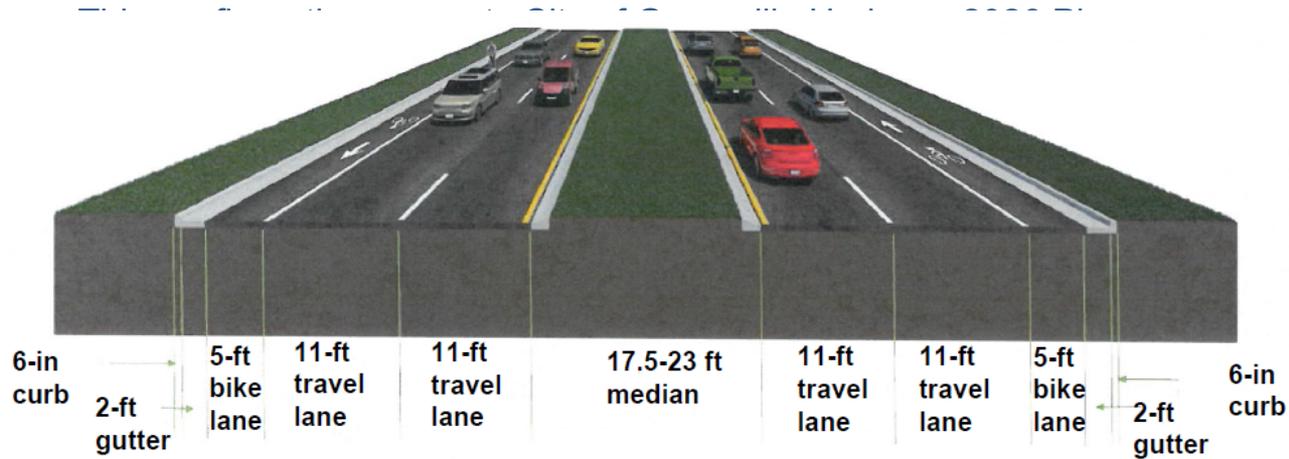


Typical Section Through Corridor

- Initial 23' raised median reduced to 17.5' where possible
- Further reduction of median being studied but results in some impact to traffic flow and reduced turning movements
- Original configuration was (2) 12' inside lanes and (2) 14' outside lanes resulting in 74.5' curb to curb width
- Proposed lane configuration is (4) 11' lanes with (2) 5' bike lanes. Results in 76.5' curb to curb.
- Adding design appropriate 5 ft bike lane only adds 1 ft per side
- 11' lane width safe for design speed and appropriate for setting
- This configuration supports City of Greenville Horizons 2026 Plan

Recommended Typical Section

- Purpose of the project is to increase capacity and improve traffic flow along Old Tar Road and Evans Street. This approved section meets that objective.



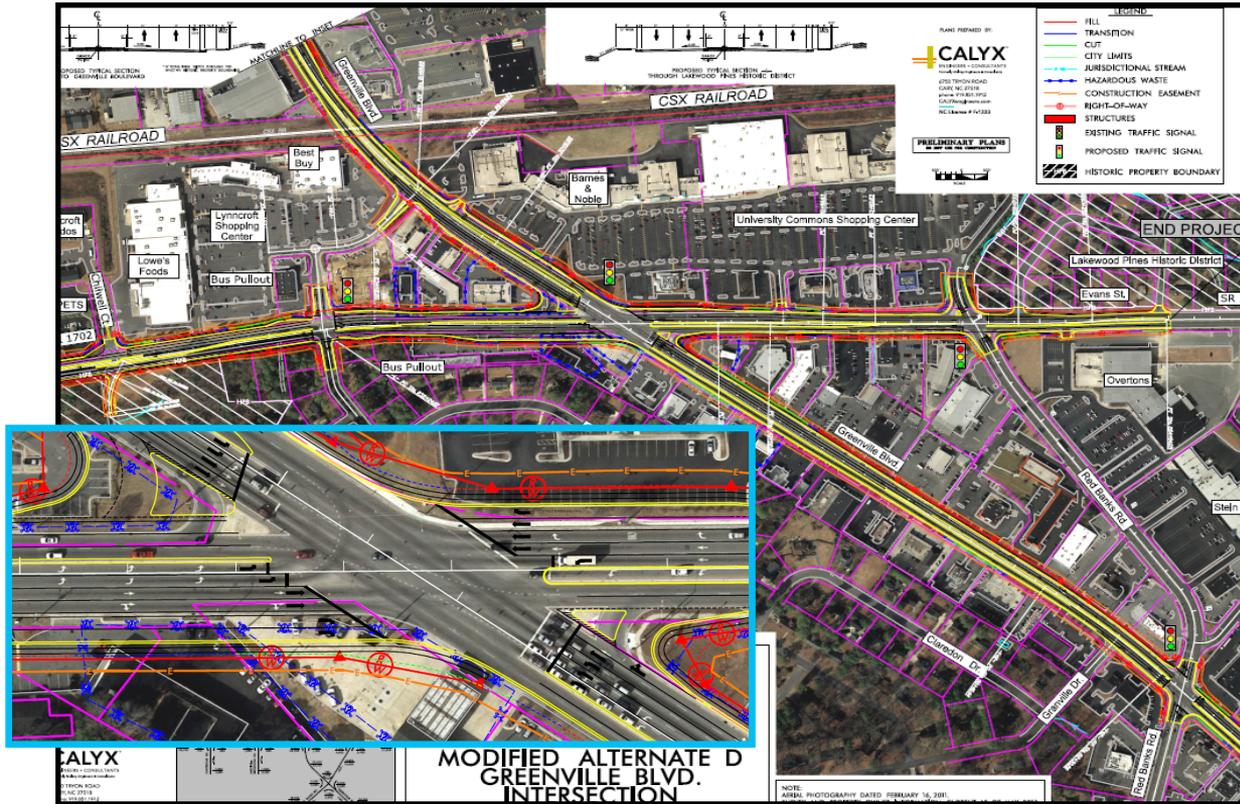
Department commitment to minimizing impact to Evans Street and Old Tar Road property owners

- Barriers (Walls and berms) will likely be impacted – These impacts will be addressed with HOA or other owner's groups individually
- Department is willing to include wall replacement construction in project construction contract.
- Berm retaining walls will be implemented where practical with input from citizen groups with goal to maintain a project standard
- Affected berms not sustainable by retaining walls may be rebuilt as practical with vegetation replaced.
- Construction will be staged to allow vegetation placement and barrier replacement ahead of roadway construction when possible.
- When practical plantings will be installed separately from main contract to establish growth and maintain barrier.
- Safety fence installed between revised barrier and construction.

Greenville Blvd Intersection

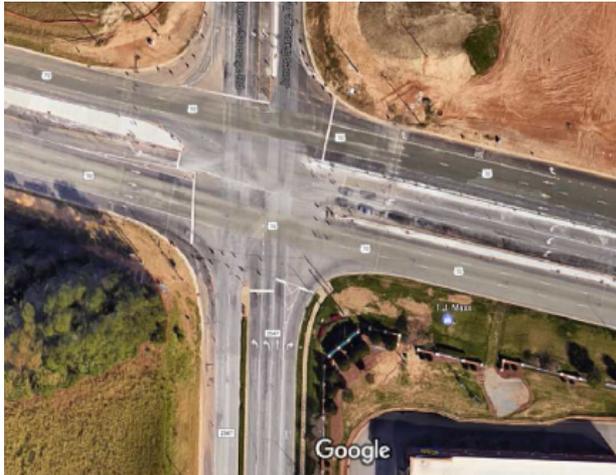
- Alternative C quadrant design may result in reduced accessibility to Greenville Blvd businesses on either side of Evans Street
 - Extended extra lanes on Greenville Blvd resulting in significant right of way acquisition and impacts to businesses and reduced parking
 - Safety concern of U-turns on Greenville Blvd at end of median near RR
 - Entire intersection currently not easily pedestrian accessible.
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- Alternative D adds a turn lane from Greenville Blvd to SB Evans
 - Movements remain the same with the lanes shifting from 3 lane to 2 instead of the current 2 lanes dropping to one.
 - Pedestrian crossing S Evans moved to smaller signalized crossing (Martinsboro St). Crossing Greenville Blvd aided by ped controllers.

Alt. D on Greenville Blvd.

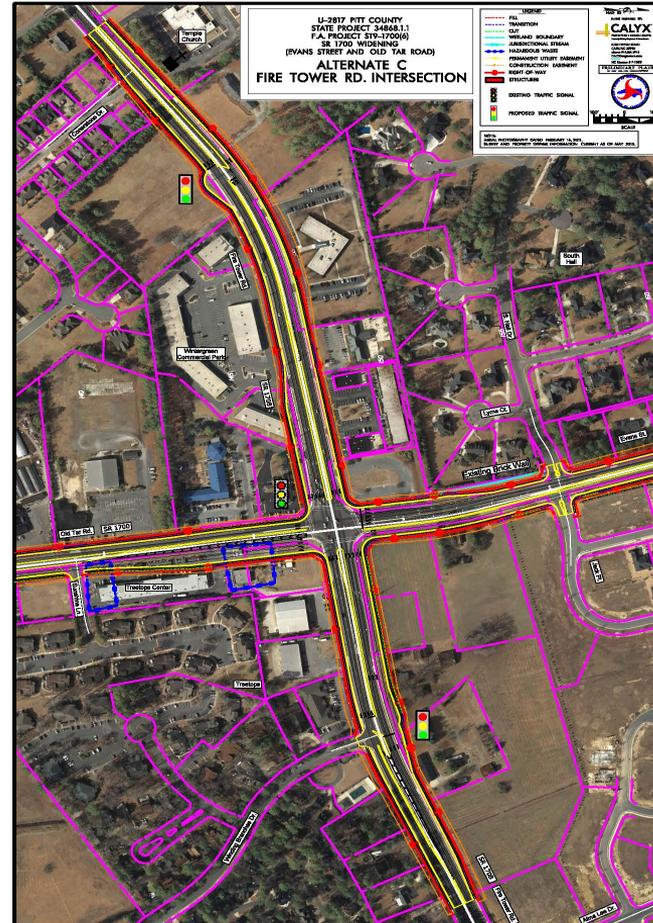


Statewide Triple Left Locations

- US 401 at Skibo Rd, Fayetteville
- Raeford Rd at All American Expy, Fayetteville
- Western Blvd at NC 24, Jacksonville
- Wendover Ave at Cridland Rd, Greensboro
- US 70 at White Oak Rd, Garner
- Wendover Ave at Holden Rd, Greensboro
- Wendover Ave at I-40, Greensboro
- Wendover at I-73, Greensboro
- Bruton Smith Blvd at I-85 ramps, Concord
- Leadmine and US 70 at Crabtree, Raleigh



Alt. C on Fire Tower Rd.



Resolution

- Request in support of Alternate D at Greenville Blvd Intersection with Greenville Blvd with stated lane reductions on Greenville Blvd.
- Request in Support of Alternate C at Fire Tower Rd at Intersection with Old Tar Rd and Evans St.
- Request project development continue with Department stated commitments to minimizing impacts to properties adjacent to project.

Questions

Item 10

Update on the Sister Cities initiative and consideration of a memorandum of understanding



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Overview of Sister Cities International

- **Sister Cities partnership is a broad-based, long-term partnership between two communities in two countries**
- **Formed when highest elected or appointed official from both sign off on an agreement**
- **Participants in Sister Cities program can have any number of sister cities**
- **Offers connections between communities that are mutually beneficial and relevant for partners**



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Overview of Sister Cities International

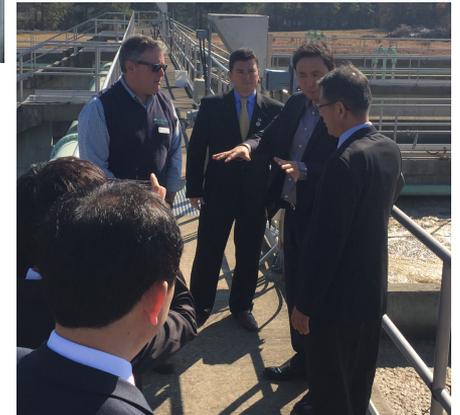
- Usually overseen by a nonprofit Sister Cities organization made up of volunteers
- Sister Cities organization pursues activities/ areas important to it including municipal, business, trade, educational, and cultural exchanges
- Sister City organization includes a liaison from the City who is often a member of the Board of Directors



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Yeonsu-gu Visit

- Greenville was visited by delegation from Yeonsu District, Incheon, South Korea in November 2016



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Sister Cities Membership

- **City joined Sister Cities International in December 2016 (\$765)**
- **Membership includes access to tools and resources to build and grow a program**
 - **Staff assistance in connecting to other cities**
 - **Governance and policy services**
 - **Visa consultations**
 - **Background checks**
 - **Assistance in obtaining grants**



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Sister Cities Update

- **City PIO has been in communication with Yeonsu-gu Manager of International Relations since December**
- **In February, PIO spoke with Sister Cities representatives from other NC cities to discuss best practices for a Sister Cities program**
- **In early March, PIO met with ACM, Byung Lee, and Heena Shah to discuss the next steps for establishing a successful Sister Cities program**
- **Group established the organizational structure for a nonprofit Sister Cities Association of Greenville, NC.**



Sister Cities Update

- **PIO and City Attorney prepared Articles of Incorporation for nonprofit Sister Cities Association of Greenville**
- **Paperwork has been sent to the NC Secretary of State with application for tax-exempt status (501c3) forthcoming**
 - **Mission: *The Sister Cities Association of Greenville, NC seeks to promote multicultural understanding and unity between the City of Greenville and its sister cities***
 - **Goal: *Bringing communities together through the exchange of ideas and experiences in the fields of education, culture, the arts, business, and economic development***



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Sister Cities Update

- **SCA of Greenville will:**
 - **Serve as the overall Sister Cities corporation with its tax-exempt status applied to all of the Sister City Committees**
 - **Represent and promote each of the Sister City committees, providing information to interested individuals and organizations, potential volunteers, the media, and City Hall**
 - **Serve as the forum for communication among the various Sister City committees**
 - **Facilitate fundraising for the individual Sister City committees**
 - **Set criteria for the selection of future sister cities for Greenville, NC**



Sister Cities Update

- **City PIO has met with representatives from East Carolina University, Pitt Community College and the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce to gauge interest**
- **Future meetings planned with Pitt County Schools, Vidant Health, private schools, civic groups, and churches**



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Sister Cities Update

- **Yeonsu has extended a memorandum of understanding for friendly exchanges and bilateral cooperation. Under MOU, the two cities shall:**
 - **Pursue joint development by working on exchanges and cooperation in diverse fields including, but not limited to, economic development, education, and culture**
 - **Provide active cooperation so that they can maintain a constant relationship regarding common interests and exchange projects while putting in efforts for ongoing exchanges**
 - **Actively facilitate cooperation between organizations in public and private sectors while providing conveniences during visits to each other for the advancement of friendly relationships**



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Sister Cities Update

- **If MOU is approved:**
 - Yeonsu would like to return to Greenville for a signing ceremony
 - Proposed dates include May 29-31 or June 4-6
 - May 29 is Memorial Day
 - June 4-6 would include a Council meeting on June 5
 - Yeonsu would also like for a delegation from Greenville to visit when possible with preference being late September for an annual culture festival in the city
- (No money is currently budgeted for Sister Cities initiative)



**Staff recommends approval of the
MOU for Friendly Exchanges and
Bilateral Cooperation with Yeonsu
District in Incheon, South Korea.**



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