



CITY OF RALEIGH PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

News Release

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Redefining Six Forks Corridor a Transportation Bond Priority

It is north Raleigh's main street. Running from inside the I-440 Beltline to the northernmost edge of the Raleigh city limits, Six Forks Road defines a great deal of the northern portion of the city. Since its last major overhaul in the 1970s, the areas on either side of the road have undergone enormous changes. In an effort to evolve the artery, the 2013 City of Raleigh Transportation bond includes \$1.6 million for the design of improvements to a 1.4-mile stretch from Rowan Street to Sandy Forks Road. The designs would incorporate the improvements prescribed in the upcoming Six Forks Road Corridor Plan.

"This is very similar to the last bond project we did with Hillsborough Street," said Transportation Planning Manager Eric Lamb. "We're looking at a street that sees a large volume in traffic and is in dire need of a facelift. We want to do significant improvements for this corridor. The type of improvements we do will be the result of the planning process currently underway."

City staff has held several public meetings with the residents and business owners along this stretch of Six Forks Road. The original prescription for fixing the road was to simply widen it to six lanes. However, Mr. Lamb said that the widening effort was not a foregone conclusion.

"Some people want the solutions to be more transit intensive," he said. "There's been a lot of interest in adding wider sidewalks. Some people want to widen the road and put in a median. What we know is that the planning process will give us something very different than what we have today. What that will be has to be determined. But there's obviously a lot of room for improvement along Six Forks Road."

When Six Forks Road saw its last round of improvements, the emphasis was placed on traffic volume. Mr. Lamb said that the City of Raleigh was taking a much more multi-modal approach this time.

The \$75 million City of Raleigh transportation bond referendum will be on the Oct. 8 ballot. For more information, visit www.raleighbond.com or call Eric Lamb at 919-516-2161.

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