



90% Design Public Meeting

BUCK JONES ROAD WIDENING

From Farm Gate Road to Xebec Way
Hope Community Church

821 Buck Jones Road, Raleigh, NC 27606

July 11, 2013

Sponsored by: The City of Raleigh and URS Corporation

Welcome!

Welcome to the 90% Design Public Meeting for the Buck Jones Road Widening project. This is the final public meeting highlighting all the changes proposed for the corridor during the project evolution and development. Since the project's last public meeting, the design has been modified to include roundabouts at Farm Gate and Bashford Roads. Introducing these roundabouts will provide needed traffic calming and aesthetic benefits along the project corridor. Please feel free to review the project location map and ask questions to members of the project team present tonight from the City of Raleigh and the City's design consultant, URS Corporation. Team members will be available for questions between **6:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M.** Thank you for your participation.

Your Input is Important!

We value your contributions and suggestions pertaining to finalizing the plans for the Buck Jones project. You are encouraged to complete the enclosed comment sheet today or mail your comments to the address at the bottom of the comment sheet. We request that you provide your input by **August 1, 2013** in order for your comments to be incorporated into the planning process.

Project Details.

- **Location:** The proposed widening and improvements to Buck Jones Road will begin just east of the bridge over I-40 with resurfacing and pavement marking. The widening for the project will begin near Farm Gate Road and extend to Xebec Way. See **Figure 1** for an overview of the project limits.
- **Need/Benefit:** The project was developed to address the need to provide a "Complete Streets" approach to this roadway corridor. The function of a "Complete Street" is to address and improve all types of travel modes including pedestrian, cyclist, transit and traditional vehicular traffic. The project scope provided for improved traffic flow, consolidated and improved transit stops, and bicycle and pedestrian accommodations along the corridor. Additionally, roundabouts were added at both Farm Gate and Bashford Roads to address the traffic needs at these intersections while still providing some traffic calming and aesthetic enhancement opportunities along the corridor.
- **Description of Roadway:** Existing Buck Jones Road is primarily a two-lane roadway with inadequate turn lane accommodations at some intersections. The proposed project would widen Buck Jones Road to provide turn lanes at intersections determined to need them as well as adding pedestrian, improved transit and bicycle accommodations.
- **Pedestrians/Cyclists:** Sidewalks and access ramps will be provided on both sides of the roadway throughout the entire corridor from Farm Gate Road to Xebec Way in order to provide for pedestrian usage. Additionally, the sidewalk will be extended on the north side of the roadway from Farm Gate Road back to the existing sidewalk on the bridge over I-40. Bicyclists will be accommodated with the addition of 4-foot bike lanes on both sides of the project. The bike lanes will be tapered out through the roundabouts for safety considerations. Cyclists should use travel lanes when entering the roundabouts due to lower vehicle travel speeds.
- **Funding:** The project is currently not funded for construction. However, the upcoming City of Raleigh Transportation Bond included funding to address the necessary funds for construction of this project.

- **Traffic Maintenance:** Due to the number of private driveways and the predominantly residential uses along Buck Jones Road, maintenance of traffic during construction will be critical. Traffic control plans will be prepared to maintain traffic during construction.
- **Utility Relocation:** The City and Design Team have worked extensively with Duke Energy Progress (formerly Progress Energy) and AT&T to consolidate many of the overhead utilities along the corridor. These efforts should improve the corridor's visual aspects by reducing the number and frequency of roadway overhead crossings.
- **Assessments:** A Public Hearing will be held later this year through Raleigh's City Council to authorize the Buck Jones project as an assessment project. Current assessment rates for the roadway improvements are \$32.00 per linear foot of parcel frontage to the roadway right-of-way for residentially zoned properties and \$64.00 per linear foot for non-residentially zoned parcels.

Project Schedule

- Comments from tonight's meeting will be carefully reviewed and assessed for adjustments to the final design where possible.
- The City will conduct a **Public Hearing** through Raleigh's City Council to approve the final design of the project, authorize assessments and initiate the appraisal/negotiation and right-of-way acquisition processes. This meeting is anticipated to be held in **Fall 2013**. The City will send out formal notification of the scheduled date of the Public Hearing.
- Finalize the Engineering Design Plans and Specifications, taking into consideration comments received at this Public Meeting and the Public Hearing.
- Begin the process to acquire the necessary right-of-way and easements necessary to construct the project. Right-of-way acquisition is anticipated to begin after the Public Hearing in **Fall 2013**.
- Advertise, bid and award the project construction contract in **Summer 2014**.
- Potentially begin construction of the project by **Fall 2014**.
- Anticipate completion of project construction by **Winter 2015**.

Public Involvement

This meeting is one of the final steps, but not the end of the public involvement program for the Buck Jones project. It's purpose is to present the complete project to local citizens in order to illustrate the final project scope. Participation and feedback during this process is encouraged, All comments will be evaluated and considered prior to finalizing the design and presenting the project for Public Hearing to the City Council. The City of Raleigh will notify citizens of the Public Hearing prior to the scheduled date. Additional information is available on the City of Raleigh's website at www.raleighnc.gov by clicking "City Projects" or by searching "Buck Jones Road Widening" in the search bar.

Included with this handout is a pre-addressed comment sheet to enable you to provide us your input regarding this project. Please place the comment form in the comment box at the registration table, or give it to a project team member. Additionally, the form may be tri-folded and mailed with your comments by August 1, 2013 to the address shown below:

Mail Contact

Cordis Yates-Thompson
City of Raleigh Public Works Department
222 West Hargett Street, Room 400
Raleigh, NC 27602

Other Contact Information

919.996.3030 (telephone)
919.996.7173 (fax)
cordis.yates-thompson@raleighnc.gov (email)

Thank you for attendance tonight. We hope that this meeting and the information presented were beneficial and provided a good overview of the scope and timing of the final project stages. The City and the URS Design Team value your feedback and look forward to working with you through the final stages of the Buck Jones project to make it successful for all!