

Get Involved

The public comment period will close 10 days after this public hearing on October 19, 2014. VDOT representatives will review and evaluate any information received as a result of the public hearing.

Subject to the availability of funding and acquisition of right of way, construction on the project could begin in 2018.

During construction, traffic will be maintained at all times throughout the project limits. Motorists should expect minor delays.

Project information shared here is available for review after the public hearing at VDOT's Salem District Office located at 731 Harrison Ave., Salem, VA 24153.

Comments can also be submitted in writing to saleminfo@vdot.virginia.gov. Information must be postmarked, e-mailed or delivered to VDOT within 10 calendar days of today's hearing in order to be included in the public hearing record.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Kelly Dunn, P.E., L.S.	Project Manager	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	540-387-5353
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Design Public Hearing

East Main Street (Route 460) Roadway Improvements City of Salem

Thursday, October 9, 2014, 5 – 7 p.m.
Inclement weather date: Thursday, October 16, 2014, 5 - 7 p.m.
South Salem Elementary School
1600 Carolyn Road
Salem, VA 24153

Public Hearing

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) public hearing on proposed improvements to East Main Street (Route 460) in the City of Salem.

This public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for citizens or organizations to give VDOT comments and/or suggestions on the proposed project. VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs affecting them.

VDOT representatives are present to discuss the project and answer your questions.

A comment sheet is included in the handouts for this meeting, and your input is encouraged. All oral and written comments received on this project will be reviewed by VDOT personnel and will be available for review by citizens and other interested parties.

VDOT staff will evaluate questions and concerns raised as a result of this meeting before advancing the project to advertisement.

Project Overview



East Main Street in Salem

Estimated Cost – \$38.2 million

Purpose – To improve access and traffic flow on East Main Street for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians

From – Route 311 (Thompson Memorial Drive)

To – 0.044 mile east of Kessler Mill Road

Total length – 1.26 miles

Improvements – Add dedicated turn lanes, two-way left turn lanes at some locations, bike lanes, curbing, sidewalk and a new traffic signal at Lynchburg Turnpike.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The primary purpose of this project is to improve traffic flow and accessibility for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians who use the 1.26-mile section of East Main Street in Salem that begins at Route 311 and extends to 0.044 mile east of Kessler Mill Road. The traffic count for this segment of roadway is approximately 14,000 vehicles per day.

The project entails adding these improvements:

- A dedicated right turn lane from East Main Street onto Route 311 (Thompson Memorial Drive)
- A new traffic signal at the Lynchburg Turnpike intersection
- A dedicated right turn lane from Lynchburg Turnpike onto East Main Street
- Two-way left turn lanes
- Curbing
- Five-foot bike lanes
- Decorative street lighting
- Sidewalks and landscaping
- Stormwater system improvement

The design of this project is in compliance with the Stormwater Management Act, stormwater regulations and the annual stormwater management standards and specifications approved by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

The construction of this project will conform to the nationwide best management practices, VDOT specifications and special provisions, and the Virginia Department of Soil and Water conservation regulations. Also, during construction, every reasonable effort will be made to protect the environment with respect to dust and erosion control.

Potential impacts to affected flood plains will be evaluated and addressed on this project. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction.

Due to funding limitations, phased construction is anticipated.

Project Graphic



Location Map

Typical Section



Estimated Project Cost

Total Estimated Cost:
\$38.2 million

Engineering of Roadway Plans:

\$4.2 million

Construction:

\$23 million

Right of Way:

\$11 million

This cost is subject to change because development of the project is in the early design stages. The project will be financed using state and federal funds.

Civil Rights

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

If you need more information in regards to your civil rights on this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the project manager listed on the back of this brochure.

Right of Way

The construction of the project will not require the displacement of any families, business, or non-profit organizations. Displays at this meeting show the extent of right of way that may be needed as the project is currently proposed. As the design is further developed, additional easements and right of way may be required beyond what is shown in the preliminary plans.

Property owners will be informed of the exact location of the easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Information about right of way purchase is discussed in VDOT's brochure, "Right of Way and Utilities: A Guide for Property Owners and Tenants." Copies of this brochure are available here from a VDOT right of way agent.

Anticipated Schedule

**The following schedule has been proposed:
(Based on phased construction)**

Public Hearing and Comment period – October 2014

Authorize Right of Way Funds – 2016

Advertisement – 2017

Environmental Review

VDOT's Salem District Environmental Office has performed environmental reviews and coordination to obtain information about environmental resources in the project vicinity; to provide natural and historic resource agencies an opportunity to review and comment on the project during its development; and to identify opportunities for avoidance, minimization and mitigation of potential environmental impacts.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is applicable to this project and a NEPA document in the form of a categorical exclusion has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and in accordance with federal guidelines. The NEPA document includes information from various technical reviews including those related to natural resources, water quality, threatened and endangered species, air quality, noise, etc. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is also provided in the environmental documentation.

The project will continue to be coordinated with the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies as part of environmental review and approval processes required throughout project development and construction. All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. Strict compliance with all environmental conditions and commitments resulting from regulatory approvals, and implementation of VDOT's specifications and standard best management practices will protect the environment during construction.

The NEPA document and the results of other environmental studies are available at today's meeting. Representatives from VDOT's Environmental Section are available to discuss this information and to answer questions.