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Design Public Hearing

I-395 North Auxiliary Lane City of Alexandria

Wednesday, June 6, 2012, 7 – 9 p.m.

Francis C. Hammond Middle School

4646 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304

Public Meeting

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) public hearing on the proposed auxiliary lane to be constructed on northbound I-395 from the on-ramp at Duke Street to the off-ramp at Seminary Road. We look forward to your active participation.

This public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for citizens and 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 included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, citizens and other interested parties.

VDOT staff will address questions and concerns raised as a result of this meeting before the project is presented to VDOT's chief engineer for consideration.

Project Overview



Purpose – Ease congestion on the northbound I-395 general purpose lanes

From – On-ramp to I-395 North at Duke Street

To – Off-ramp on I-395 North at Seminary Road

Total length – 0.8 miles

Improvements – Ramp-to-ramp connection will ease bottlenecks caused by weaving and merging

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the project is to help relieve forecasted traffic congestion and improve safety on the northbound I-395 general purpose lanes between Duke Street and Seminary Road.

The project consists of a continuous single auxiliary lane between Duke Street and Seminary Road. The actual project limits are from the Duke Street on-ramp to just south of Sanger Avenue, where the project would tie into the I-395 Transit/HOV Ramp project. The auxiliary lane was identified in the I-395/95 HOT Lanes Access Study as a project that would yield significant improvements in traffic operations.

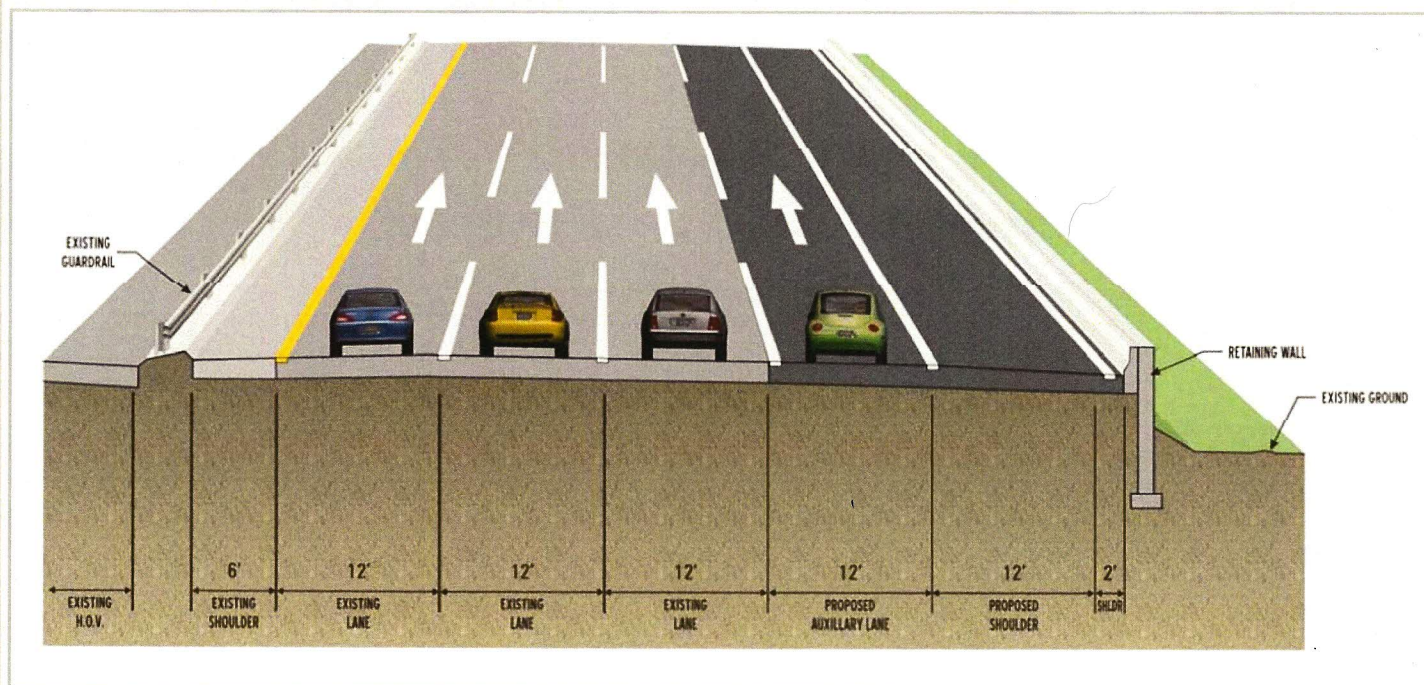
While the project is an independent improvement from the I-395 Transit/HOV Ramp at Seminary Road, it is being developed as part of the same Design-Build contract so that construction can be coordinated to minimize disruption to motorists.

In addition to the auxiliary lane, construction would include retaining walls, new lighting and an overhead sign structure on I-395 North.

A noise study will determine if noise walls are feasible along I-395 to abate potential noise impacts to residences on the east side of I-395. Preliminary locations of noise walls are shown on the design plans; however, final determination on the feasibility, location and design of noise walls will be made during the environmental and design-build phases of the project.

On January 25, 2012, VDOT held a design public hearing on the I-395 Transit/HOV Ramp. The project includes a one-lane reversible ramp for transit and HOV from the I-395 HOV lanes to Seminary Road, widening the Seminary Road bridge over I-395, shifting the northbound I-395 lanes to provide sufficient space for the HOV ramp and provide an additional lane from I-395 northbound to Seminary Road, and constructing a separate pedestrian bridge crossing I-395 north of the I-395/Seminary Road interchange to replace the existing sub-standard pedestrian bridges on Seminary Road.

Project Graphic



**Typical Section of I-395 North
Duke Street to Sanger Street**

Estimated Project Cost

Total Cost:

\$14.5 million

Engineering of Roadway Plans:

\$1 million

Right of Way Acquisition and Utility Relocation:

\$500,000

Construction:

\$13 million

Costs are subject to change as design is further developed.

Civil Rights

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and 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 in this brochure.

Right of Way

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

Anticipated Schedule

Public hearing – June 6, 2012

Design approval – Summer 2012

Advertise for design-build construction – Summer 2012

Begin construction – Summer 2013

Complete construction – Late 2015

Environmental Review

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR Part 771, a Categorical Exclusion environmental document is currently being prepared. Information concerning the potential effects of the proposed improvements on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be included in the environmental document in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800.

Information about potential environmental impacts is available at this hearing. The completed NEPA document will be made available for public review and comment at a later date.

Get Involved

VDOT representatives will review and evaluate any information received as a result of the public hearing. The comment sheet in this brochure is provided to assist in making your comments. You may leave the sheet or any other written comments in the comment box, or mail/email your comments to the addresses below.

Comments must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT by **June 16, 2012** to be included in the public hearing record.

Mailed comments may be sent to Ms. Susan Shaw at the address below. Email comments may be sent to meeting_comments@vdot.virginia.gov. Please include "I-395 North Auxiliary Lane" in the subject line.

Project information shared here, including a summary of comments received during the comment period, will be available at www.virginiamegaprojects.com and at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office.

Contact Information

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