

Questions/Comments from December 3 Community Meeting

COMMENT: What will the temporary condition of Crozet Avenue be during construction?

RESPONSE: Construction along Crozet Avenue will require pavement cuts for installation of storm crossings and utility work. It is possible dependent upon weather (i.e. temperature) that the cuts will be temporarily patched with gravel until the patch can be made with asphalt. In this case the project team will work with the Contractor to keep the temporary gravel patches graded and smoothed out as feasible and within reason. The project team and the Contractor would check the temporary patches over weekend or holiday breaks. When traffic is shifted to the east to begin work on the west side of Crozet Avenue, the traffic will run on asphalt. Note that during the construction of Tabor Street traffic will be maintained on gravel for the majority of the construction duration.

COMMENT: There are several community events that utilize the lumber yard property for overflow parking: the Mother's Day festival and an event the second week of October. How will the alternate traffic route through the lumber yard affect parking for these events?

RESPONSE: The preliminary construction schedule is to complete the work on Tabor Street in March 2014, weather permitting, which is well before the planned Mother's Day weekend event. Additionally, under any traffic routing scenario, lane closures will be restricted to the hours between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM. It was noted that the County does not own or control the lumber yard parcels (outside the right-of-way) and access to these parcels will not be hindered during construction.

COMMENT: How will storm water be controlled on Tabor Street during a large storm event?

RESPONSE: The 1st phase of construction will be to install a storm water system downstream of Tabor Street. The system will be designed to collect a 10-yr storm event, which is the County and State of Virginia design standard event. The Contractor will make reasonable efforts to manage the stormwater during construction throughout the project corridor.

COMMENT: Will the mature tree in front of the old dentist building be cut down?

RESPONSE: As discussed during preliminary design meetings, to accommodate the new improvements either the tree had to be cut down or the historic porch had to be removed from the barbershop across the street. It was decided that the historic porch would be saved and the tree removed. The porch was incorporated as integral part of the proposed streetscape.

COMMENT: There are communities beyond the business owners that need to be informed of the project, its progress and the possible detour on Tabor Street. Communities include West Hall, Park Side and other neighborhoods.

RESPONSE: The alternate traffic route has not yet been approved. VDOT is reviewing the contractor's proposal to close Tabor Street and detour traffic through the lumber yard to the traffic

signal at The Square. If VDOT approves this proposal, County staff will provide a recommendation to the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors for their discussion and a vote at a January Board of Supervisors meeting, at which the public will have a chance to voice their concerns, support or other views. The County will reach out to these neighborhoods and the residents via the communication plan (A-mail, flyers, etc.) and contact with the homeowners associations throughout the course of the project.

COMMENT: Are there penalties for contractor delays?

RESPONSE: The contract includes a daily penalty for unapproved delays to the overall project timeline or schedule. However, there are no delays for completion of individual blocks. The contract does not include any monetary incentives for early completion of the project

COMMENT: The stop bar on Jarmans Gap Road is too far back from the intersection and it is difficult to see traffic coming from the north and south on Crozet Avenue. Will this be corrected? This "high-volume intersection" needs better traffic control.

RESPONSE: The stop bar and turning radii of Jarmans Gap Road will be adjusted as a part of this project, which will move the stop bar on Jarmans Gap Road eastbound closer to Crozet Avenue.

COMMENT: The WAHS swim team starts practice in the early morning hours during the week. What precautions will be taken to prepare for the teenage drivers?

RESPONSE: Lane closures cannot occur until after 9:00 AM. The County will notify all schools in the area of the planned construction along with the County Schools Transportation Department.

COMMENT: Has the Albemarle County Parks & Recreation Trails Director been informed of this project?

RESPONSE: Yes, Dan Mahon is aware of this project.

COMMENT: There was discussion at previous public meetings that traffic will be routed to the alley between the Hardware Store and the New China restaurant buildings. Is this true?

RESPONSE: Traffic will not be officially detoured or diverted through the alley. However, business owners/tenants/customers affected by a certain phase of construction may be directed to use the alley to access their building for a limited time until their driveway and/or entrance is completed. Normal use of the alley will not be affected unless an unforeseen circumstance arises, at which time the public will be notified.

COMMENT: If traffic is routed through The Square, how will businesses stay open? It is already difficult for customers to pull into and out of these businesses.

RESPONSE: If VDOT approves the proposed routing, the public will have the opportunity to voice their concerns to the Board of Supervisors during a public hearing, which is planned to be held in January. Local businesses will be notified of the final hearing date and time.

COMMENT: Can the existing alley behind the bank be used as an alternate route during construction?

RESPONSE: VDOT will only allow official diversion and/or detours onto public right-of-way, so this alley cannot be utilized for such purposes.

COMMENT: Has a traffic count been performed recently?

RESPONSE: The project team conducted traffic counts in 2009/2010 and traffic volumes were projected through 2029 consistent with the Crozet Area Master Plan. The projected future volumes were utilized for analysis of intersections and establishment of the design. Signal warrants were checked both in the opening year of the project (following project completion) and in the design year.

QUESTION: Will there be bike lanes on Crozet Avenue?

RESPONSE: The design provides bike lanes on Crozet Avenue from Jarmans Gap Road to Library Avenue both southbound and northbound. There is not enough right-of-way available to provide bike lanes on Crozet Avenue elsewhere within the project limits on Crozet Avenue. It was noted that Jarmans Gap Road and Library Avenue both have bike lanes.