

Get Involved

Ten days after this public hearing, the public comment period will close on **January 19, 2024**. (January 26 if inclement weather date is used)

A comment sheet is enclosed and can be submitted at tonight’s hearing or by mail to Amanda Cox, DBIA, Project Manager, Virginia Department of Transportation, 4219 Campbell Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501-4801. You may also email your comments to Amanda.Cox@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Please reference “Candlers Mountain Road Interchange Improvements” in the subject line.

Information must be postmarked, e-mailed or delivered to VDOT within 10 calendar days of tonight’s hearing in order to be included in the hearing record.

VDOT representatives will review and evaluate any information received as a result of the hearing.

Public hearing information, including the hearing summary, will be available for review at VDOT’s Lynchburg District Office located at 4219 Campbell Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501-4801.

After all comments have been addressed, the information received as a result of this hearing will be presented to VDOT’s Chief Engineer or designee for consideration.

If approval of the major design features is received for this project, it will move forward to the final design phase.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Amanda Cox	Project Manager	4219 Campbell Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24501	434-856-8366
Brian Casto	Engineering Manager	4219 Campbell Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24501	434-856-8276
Len Stevens	Communications Manager	4219 Campbell Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24501	434-856-8176
Mike Sprouse	Regional Right of Way Manager	811 Commerce Road Staunton, VA 24401	540-280-3851



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Design Public Hearing

Candlers Mountain Road Bridge and Interchange Improvement Project City of Lynchburg

Thursday, January 11, 2024, 4 – 6 p.m.

Lynchburg Information Technology
3550 Young Place, Lynchburg, VA 24601

www.virginiadot.org/projects/lynchburg/candlers-mountain-road-interchange.asp

(Inclement weather date – January 16)



Design Public Hearing

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s (VDOT) design public hearing on a project to improve safety and traffic flow on Candlers Mountain Road in Lynchburg.

This design 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 can 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.

Project Overview



Candlers Mountain Road over Lynchburg Expressway, Lynchburg, VA

Available Allocations: ~\$65 Million
Purpose – Improve safety & traffic flow
From – 0.201 mile west of Route 29 Bus
To – 0.168 mile east of Route 20 Bus
Project Length – 0.37 mile
Improvements – Convert existing cloverleaf interchange to a partial cloverleaf and replace the existing bridge over the Lynchburg Expressway. Construct a new bridge over the expressway, which will raise the grade along Candlers Mountain Rd. to meet current vertical clearance requirements and provide adequate horizontal clearances for acceleration/ deceleration lanes. New 2-phase signalized intersections. Modify access to Seminole Avenue. Create new bike/pedestrian facilities on Candlers Mountain Rd.

State Project: U000-118-311, P101, R201, C501, B623
 Federal Project: NHPP-5118(319) UPC: 119384

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose and need for the Route 501 Bridge and Candler's Mountain Interchange Improvements is to improve traffic operations and safety at the Lynchburg Expressway / Candler's Mountain Interchange. The project limits extend from 0.201 miles west of the intersection of Route 29 Business southbound lanes to 0.168 miles east of the intersection of Route 29 Business northbound lanes. The Candler's Mountain Road Interchange Improvements project will convert the existing cloverleaf interchange at the Lynchburg Expressway (US-501/US-29 Business) into a partial cloverleaf and replace the existing bridge over the Lynchburg Expressway (US-501/US-29 Business).

Two loop ramps will be removed to improve weaving along the Lynchburg Expressway while extending acceleration and deceleration lanes on the Expressway and underneath the proposed bridge. The project constructs a new bridge over the Expressway which will raise the grade along Candler's Mountain Road so that the new bridge structure will meet current vertical clearance requirements, provide adequate horizontal clearances for acceleration/deceleration lanes underneath the new

bridge as well as construct two new 2-phase signalized intersections at the new ramp terminals. The project will also modify access to Seminole Avenue and construct new bike/pedestrian facilities on Candler's Mountain Road.

Temporary lane closures and traffic shifts may be necessary during construction. Access to all properties and businesses will be maintained during construction. 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. Potential impacts to the flood plains will be evaluated and addressed on this project.

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.

Project Graphic



Estimated Project Cost

Total Cost: ~\$64 Million

- Preliminary Engineering: \$6 Million
- Right of Way and Utilities: \$3 Million
- Construction: ~\$55 Million

These costs are subject to change because development of the project is in its early design stages. The project will be funded 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

Right of Way

As VDOT further develops and finalizes this project, additional easements for utility relocation may be required beyond the proposed right of way shown on the public hearing plans.

Construction will not require the displacement of any families, businesses or non-profit organizations.

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

After this meeting, information regarding right of way may be obtained from the right of way contact listed on the back of this brochure.

Anticipated Schedule

The following schedule has been proposed for the project:

- Public Hearing – January 2024
- Advertise for Construct. Bids – Spring 2026
- Construction Begins – Fall 2026
- Construction Completed – Spring 2029

Environmental Review

VDOT's Lynchburg 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 Programmatic 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, cultural resources, threatened and endangered species, air quality, noise, etc.

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 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.