## NOTICE OF A DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO N.C. 273 (SOUTH MAIN STREET) FROM TUCKASEEGE ROAD (AT BEATTY DRIVE) TO HIGHLAND STREET (AT A&E DRIVE) IN MOUNT HOLLY

TIP Project No. U-3633

Gaston County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation will hold an informal Design Public Hearing for proposed improvements to N.C. 273 (South Main Street) in Mount Holly on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 from 4:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the Mount Holly Citizens Center, located at 400 East Central Avenue.

NCDOT proposes to widen about 1.3 miles of N.C. 273 to a four lane, median-divided "superstreet" roadway from Tuckaseege Road (at Beatty Drive) to Highland Street (at A&E Drive). This will help increase the road capacity and improve efficiency along N.C. 273 for local and regional traffic, thereby improving mobility. Other improvements include providing sidewalks on both sides of N.C. 273 and wider outside travel lanes to accommodate bicycles.

The term "superstreet" refers to a design concept incorporating the use of "median left-overs," which eliminates the left turn from a side street onto the main street and requires a vehicle that wants to turn left to, instead, make a right turn and then U-turn. This design allows for smoother traffic flow on the N.C. 273 and limits the number of left turns to major intersections.

Additional right-of-way acquisition and the relocation of homes and businesses will be required for this project. Right-of-way acquisition is scheduled to begin this November, with construction scheduled to begin in July 2015. However, those dates could change.

The purpose of the hearing is to provide information regarding the design and location of the proposed project, and to obtain public input. Interested citizens may drop by at any time during the mentioned hours. NCDOT representatives will be available at the meeting to answer questions and receive comments. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions also will be provided. Comments and information received will be taken into consideration as work on the project develops. <u>There will not be a formal presentation</u>.

A map showing the location & design and a copy of the approved environmental document (Categorical Exclusion) are available for public review at the NCDOT Resident Engineer's Office, 5110 East Dixon Boulevard, Kings Mountain, and at Mount Holly City Hall, City Manager's Office, 400 East Central Avenue. The maps are available online at http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/publicmeetings/. Search for the project using "U-3633" and click on "Show More" in order to view.

For more information, contact Jamille Robbins, NCDOT Human Environment Section, at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, 27699-1598, by phone: (919) 707-6085, by fax: (919) 212-5785, or by email: jarobbins@ncdot.gov. Additional materials may be submitted until June 14, 2013.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Robbins as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Persons who speak Spanish and do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-481-6494.