

Project Information

Project Name:	I81 Corridor Improve Project MM136 - MM142 Additional Lanes	Federal Project#:	NHPP-0812(330)
Project Number:	0081-080-946, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, C501, P101, R201	Project Type:	Construction
UPC:	116203	Charge Number:	UPC 116203 - Activity 600 Series
Route Number:	81	Route Type:	Interstate
Project Limit--From:	Overpass of Route 641 (MM 136.6)	To:	0.3 MI north of Route 419 Overpass (MM 141.8)
Additional Project Description:	This project will increase capacity on Interstate 81 (I-81) by adding one 12-foot-wide through lane in each direction between mile marker 136.6 and Exit 141 in Roanoke County (see Attachment A - Project Location). Additional activities include the installation of median barrier, drainage system improvements and bridge replacements or bridge rehabilitations. The Route 705 (Red Lane) and Route 419 (Electric Road) bridges over I-81 will require pier protection. The I-81 northbound and southbound bridges over Route 311 (Thompson Memorial Drive) will be widened in place. The I-81 northbound and southbound bridges over Route 635 (Goodwin Avenue) and Route 619 (Wildwood Road) will be full structure replacements.		
Purpose And Need:	The project will address deficiencies in the level of service due to traffic volumes exceeding capacity and provide operational safety improvements between Exits 137 and 141. The I-81 Section of Independent Utility #4 Tier 2 Traffic Technical Memorandum, dated 10/27/2015, indicated the corridor between Exits 137 and 150 has the highest volumes of traffic compared to all I-81 segments in VA. This segment experiences peak hour delays due to the high traffic volumes on I-81.		
District:	City/County:	Residency:	
Salem	Roanoke	Salem	

Date CE level document approved by VA Division FHWA: 04/15/2020

FHWA Contact: Jones, Kevin

Project in STIP: Yes

In Long Range Plan? Yes

CE Category 23 CFR 771.117: d13

Description of Category: Actions described in paragraphs (c) (26), (c)(27), and (c)(28) of this section that do not meet the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section. (e) Actions described in (c) (26), (c)(27), and (c)(28) of this section may not be processed as CEs under paragraph (c) if they involve: (1) An acquisition of more than a minor amount of right-of-way or that would result in any residential or non-residential displacements; (2) An action that needs a bridge permit from the U.S. Coast Guard, or an action that does not meet the terms and conditions of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers nationwide or general permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; (3) A finding of "adverse effect" to historic properties under the National Historic Preservation Act, the use of a resource protected under 23 U.S.C. §138 or 49 U.S.C. §303 (Section 4(f)) except for actions resulting in de minimis impacts, or a finding of "may affect, likely to adversely affect" threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act; (4) Construction of temporary access, or the closure of existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions; (5) Changes in access control; (6) A floodplain encroachment other than functionally dependent uses (e.g., bridges, wetlands) or actions that facilitate open space use (e.g., recreational trails, bicycle and pedestrian paths); or construction activities in, across or adjacent to a river component designated or proposed for inclusion in the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Logical Termini and Independent Utility: Yes

Next Phase of Funding Available? Yes

Comments: The proposed roadway widening construction is included in the STIP Grouping for Construction: Safety/ITS/Operational Improvements; therefore, it meets the fiscal constraint requirements.

Typical Section: The proposed typical section for I-81 southbound includes a 36-ft pavement width (three 12-ft lanes) and an 8-ft median shoulder in areas with no guardrail or barrier, and 12-ft median shoulder in areas with guardrail or barrier.

Structures: Str# 14863 (Rte 112NB), 14865 (Rte 112SB), 14875 (Rte 635NB), 14877 (Rte 635SB), 14871 (Rte 619NB), 14873 (Rte

SOCIO-ECONOMIC

Minority/Low Income Populations: Present with no impact **Disproportionate Impacts to Minority/Low Income Populations:** No
Source: 2010 US Census Bureau Data

Existing or Planned Public Recreational Facilities: Not Present

Community Services: Present with no impact

Consistent with Local Land Use: Yes

Source: Roanoke Co GIS Mapping Services; Salem District Environmental Section

Existing or Planned Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities Present with no impact

Source: Salem District Planning Section

Socio-Economic Comments: No minority or low-income populations have been identified that would be adversely impacted by the proposed project (see Attachment B - Environmental Justice Analysis). Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of E.O. 12898 and FHWA Order 6640.23, no further Environmental Justice analysis is required.

SECTION 4(f) and SECTION 6(f)

Use of 4(f) Property: No

Source: Salem District Environmental Staff; VA Outdoors Plan Mapper

6(f) Conversion: No **Acres of Conversion:**

4(f) Comments: This project may involve temporary impacts to the Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail to gain access for the construction of a proposed stormwater management basin; however, per 23 CFR 774.13(d), "Temporary occupancies of land that are so minimal as to not constitute a use within the meaning of Section 4(f)"; are excepted from the requirement for Section 4(f) approval. The Official with Jurisdiction, Roanoke County, concurred with VDOT's use of the exception in a letter, dated 07/31/2020 (see Attachment C - Roanoke County Concurrence).

6(f) Comments: There are no Section 6(f) properties within the project corridor.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Section 106 Effect Determination: NO EFFECT

Name of Historic Property:

DHR Concurrence date: 07/28/2020

MOA/PA Execution Date: None

Cultural Resource Comments: None.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Are Waters of the U.S. present? Yes

Linear Feet of Impact: Less than 1120

Federal Threatened or Endangered Species:

- Roanoke Logperch (Percina rex)-Federal:FE-No Effect
- Indiana Bat (Myotis sodalis)-Federal:FE-May affect, Not Likely to adversely Effect
- Northern Long-Eared Bat (Myotis septentrionalis)-Federal:FT-May affect, Not Likely to adversely Effect

Based upon a review of the DGIF database search and DCR Natural Heritage Conservation Site Maps for the project area, **Threatened or Endangered species collections/records are within the required search distance for the project.** ✓ 07/16/2020 B Willis

100 Year Floodplain: Not Present

Regulatory Floodway Zone: Not Present

Public Water Supplies: Not Present

Are any tidal waters/wetlands present? No

Wetlands: Present with impacts

Tidal Acres of Impact:

Tidal Wetland Type:

Are any Non-Tidal Wetlands Present? Yes

Non Tidal Acres of Impact: 0.31

Non Tidal Wetland Type: Forested

Total Wetland Acres of Impacts: 0.31

Are water quality permits required? Yes

Natural Resource Comments: Waters of the U.S. (WOUS): The 1,120 linear feet of impact to several tributaries, leading to the Roanoke River and the 0.31 acre of wetland impacts, are a preliminary estimate only. All proposed construction activities in WOUS will be identified during final design and addressed through the water quality permit acquisition process.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) Information, Planning, and Consultation (IPaC) Official Species List identifies the endangered Roanoke logperch, endangered Indiana bat, and threatened northern long-eared bat as species that may occur within the boundary of the project and/or may be affected by the project. An acoustic bat survey was completed on June 2-6, 2020, following the methods outlined in the FWS's 2020 Range-wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines. The survey resulted in no detections of any federally-listed bat species. The FWS concurred with our determinations on 07/27/2020. Each species is being addressed as follows:

- Roanoke logperch – The USFWS concurred with a “No effect” determination.
- Indiana bat - The USFWS concurred with a "May affect, not likely to adversely affect" determination.
- Northern long-eared bat - The USFWS concurred with a "May affect, not likely to adversely affect" determination.

AGRICULTURAL/OPEN SPACE

Open Space Easements: Not Present

Agricultural/Forestal Districts: Not Present

Source: Project Definition Form

Agricultural/Open Space Comments: VA Outdoors Plan Mapper; GIS Integrator - Metadata Source: VA Department of Forestry

FARMLAND

NRCS Form CPA-106 Attached? Yes

Rating: 112

Alternatives Analysis Required? No

Source: Salem District Environmental Section; USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) GIS database.

Farmland Comments: Per 7 CFR 658.2(a), VDOT has elected to make the determination that these lands could be utilized as farmlands; however, based on VDOT's completion of the Corridor Assessment Criteria in Part VI of Form CPA-106 (Attachment D - NRCS CPA-106), this project's combined score (Parts V and VI) will be less than 160 points, even if the Part V value was the maximum of 100 points. Therefore, per 7 CFR 658.4(c)(2), this project need not be given further consideration for protection and no additional sites need be evaluated.

INVASIVE SPECIES

Invasive Species in the project area? Unknown

There is potential for invasive species to become established along the limits of disturbance of the project during and following construction. Section 244.02(c) of VDOT's Road and Bridge Specifications (2016) includes provisions intended to control noxious weeds (which includes non-native and invasive species).

While rights-of-ways are at risk from invasive species colonization from adjacent properties, implementing the above provisions would reduce or minimize potential for introduction, proliferation, and spread of invasive species. Additionally, the implementation of best management practices for erosion/sediment control and abatement of pollutant loading would minimize indirect impacts to adjoining communities and habitat by reducing excess nutrient loads that could encourage invasive species proliferation.

Invasive Species Comments: Standard VDOT seed mixes will be used.

AIR QUALITY

Air Quality Status and Regional Conformity

Jurisdiction Description: This project is located within an Attainment area for all of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). In accordance with 40 CFR Part 93, transportation conformity requirements are not applicable to the project since the project is not located in a nonattainment or maintenance area for any transportation-related criteria pollutant (i.e., ozone, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, and carbon monoxide). In addition, the project is located in a volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) Emissions Control Area. As such, all reasonable precautions should be taken to limit the emissions of VOC and NOx. The following VDEQ air pollution regulations must be adhered to during the construction of this project: 9 VAC 5-130, Open Burning restrictions; 9 VAC 5-45, Article 7, Cutback Asphalt restrictions; and 9 VAC 5-50, Article 1, Fugitive Dust precautions.

Carbon Monoxide

CO Microscale Analysis Required for NEPA? No

✓ The proposed project meets the criteria specified in the current FHWA-VDOT "Programmatic Agreement for Project Level Air Quality Analyses for Carbon Monoxide" and therefore a project-specific analysis for CO is not required.

The widening of I-81 falls under the types of projects listed in Table 1 of the current FHWA programmatic agreement for a 6-lane urban freeway with an average roadway grade of 4% or less. The modeled CO concentrations for this type of project excluding background concentrations is 7.2 ppm for the 1-hour, and using a persistence factor of 0.77, an 8-hour concentration of 5.5 ppm. When the background concentrations of 1.5 ppm and 1.2 ppm are included, the 1-hour and 8-hour concentrations increase to 8.7 ppm and 6.7 ppm, respectively. These predicted values are well below the CO NAAQS of 35 ppm (1-hour) and 9 ppm (8-hour) and represent a worst-case scenario. Additionally, the project corridor includes 3 interchanges. The highest volume interchange within the project corridor occurs at the intersection of I-81 and Route 419 (Exit 141) with an I-81 design year ADT of 94,224 vpd. This interchange and adjacent intersection (Electric Road) represents the worst-case interchange in the project corridor, and was evaluated using Table 3 of the agreement. The table lists a 8-lane interchange configuration with an adjacent 6-lane intersection for all approaches within 150 feet of the interchange and an approach speed of 15 mph. The modeled CO concentrations for this configuration excluding background concentrations is 8.1 ppm for the 1-hour standard, and using a persistence factor of 0.77, an 8-hour concentration of 6.2 ppm. When the background concentrations of 1.5 ppm and 1.2 ppm are included, they increase to 9.6 ppm and 7.4 ppm, respectively. These predicted values are well below the CO NAAQS of 35 ppm for the 1-hour and 9 ppm for the 8-hour standard. This configuration is more worst-case than actually exists since the intersection is located about 400 feet from I-81 and was evaluated with additional lanes over that proposed.

Particulate Matter

This project is located in: A PM2.5 Attainment Area

PM Hotspot Analysis Required? No

The final rule that establishes the transportation conformity criteria and procedures for determining which transportation projects must be analyzed for local air quality impacts in Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) nonattainment and maintenance areas was published on March 10, 2006. This project is located in a PM2.5 attainment area and therefore no further discussion of PM2.5 is necessary.

Mobile Source Air Toxics

This project requires: No further discussion of MSAT

✓ The project qualifies for a categorical exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117.

This project is excluded from further analysis following FHWA's Interim Guidance Update on MSAT Analysis in NEPA dated October 18, 2016 for projects qualifying as a categorical exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117.

NOISE

Noise Scoping Decision: Type I - Noise study required

Barriers Under Consideration? Yes

Noise Comments: A preliminary noise analysis (PNA), dated 08/07/2020, was prepared in accordance with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and VDOT noise assessment regulations and guidelines. Based on the anticipated noise impacts, 11 noise barriers were evaluated to determine whether or not they meet VDOT's feasibility and reasonableness criteria. Two noise barriers were determined to be feasible and reasonable, and would therefore meet VDOT's criteria to be constructed. The PNA presents the results of the preliminary noise evaluation; however, a more detailed analysis will be completed during the final design of the project that may change the number and location of sound barriers determined to be feasible and reasonable. Please refer to the PNA for additional detail on the FHWA and VDOT noise guidelines that were followed, and for the results and findings of the analysis.

RIGHT OF WAY AND RELOCATIONS

Residential Relocations: No

Commercial Relocations: No

Non-Profit Relocations: No

Right of Way required? Yes

Fee Simple: 15.72

Temporary Easement: 0

Permanent Easement: 0.73

Utility Easement: 0

Amount of Right of Way Acreage: 16.45

Septic Systems or Wells: Not Present

Hazardous Materials: Present with no impact

Source: Salem District Right-of-Way; Salem District Hazardous Materials Staff

ROW and Relocations Comments: The acreage totals for proposed right-of-way acquisition and easements are preliminary. The final acreage totals will be determined following advancement of roadway design.

A Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment Report identified seven (7) recognized environmental conditions; however, these issues would not represent a substantial liability or require substantial regulatory negotiation to resolve.

CUMULATIVE AND INDIRECT IMPACTS

Present or reasonably foreseeable future projects (highway and non-highway) in the area: Yes

Impact same resources as the proposed highway project (i.e. cumulative impacts): Yes

Indirect (Secondary) impacts: Yes

Source: Salem District Environmental Section; Salem District Planning Section

Cumulative and Indirect Impacts Comments: Project #0080-080-903 (UPC 108906) is currently under construction and involves adding auxiliary lanes to I-81 between Exits 141-143 in both directions. Additionally, Project #0081-080-947 (UPC 116201) will be funded to augment these projects by adding one through lane in both directions to I-81 between Exits 144 - 150. The intensity of the incremental impacts of these projects are considered small, when viewed in the context of impacts from other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions and would not rise to a level that would cause significant cumulative impacts.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Substantial Controversy on Environmental Grounds: No

Source: Salem District Environmental Section

Public Hearing: Yes **Type of Hearing:** Combined Hearing

Other Public Involvement Activities: No

Public Involvement Comments: A public hearing will be held when Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. Project information is available in an electronic version on VDOT's website (<https://www.virginiadot.org/projects/salem/i-81-auxiliary-lanes-exits-140-to-exit-141.asp>).

COORDINATION

State Agencies:

Department of Conservation and Recreation
Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Department of Historic Resources
Department of Environmental Quality
Department of Forestry
Department of Health
Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy
Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Federal Agencies:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Local Entity:

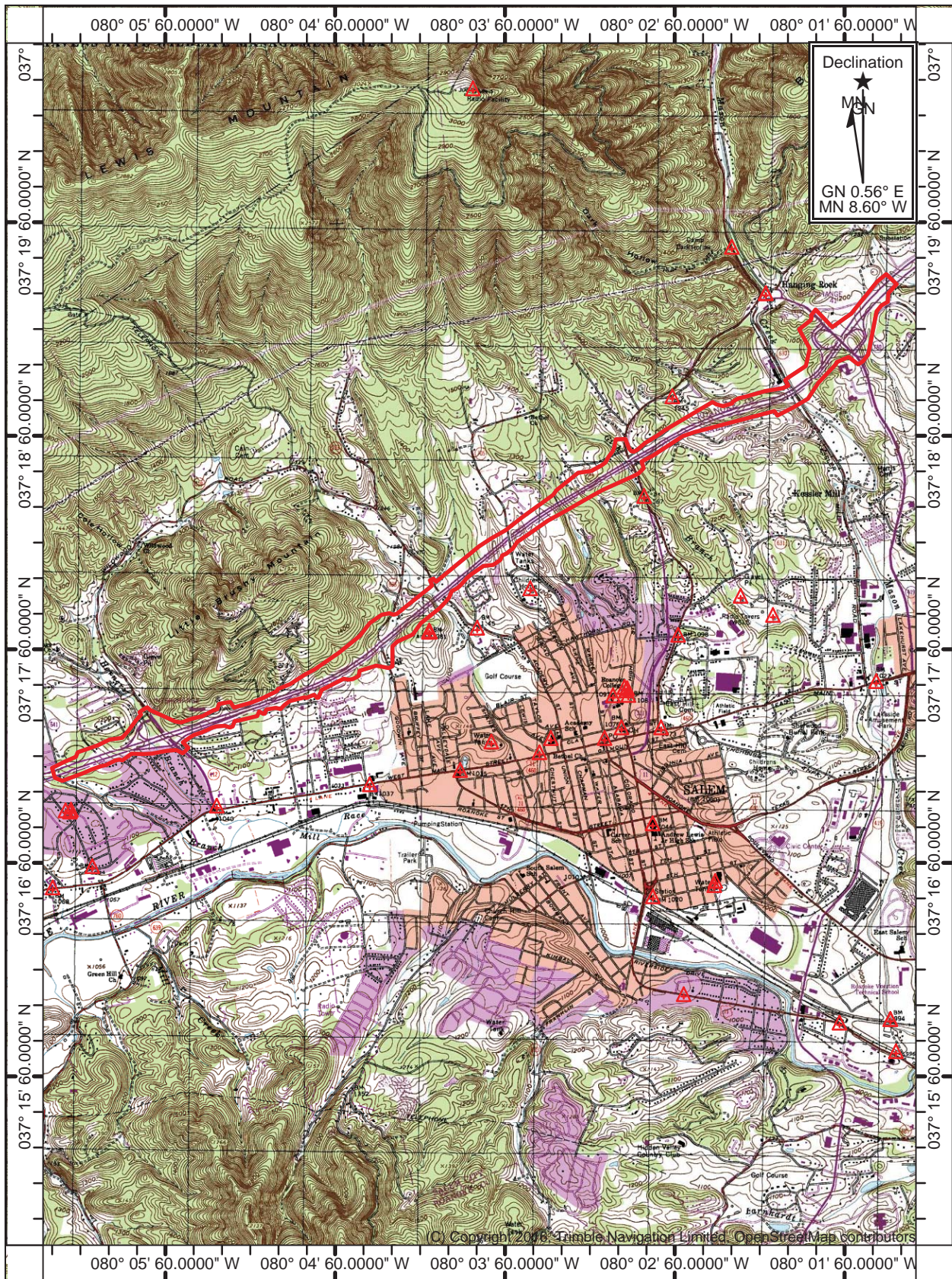
Roanoke County Board Of Supervisors
Roanoke County Administrator
Roanoke (City) Mayor
Salem Mayor
Roanoke Parks and Recreation
Roanoke Planning District
Roanoke Superintendent of Schools
Salem Superintendent of Schools

Other Coordination Entities:

West Side Church of Christ
Fellowship Community Church
West Salem Baptist Church
United Keetowah Band of Cherokee
Catawba Indian Nation

This project meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.4 and 23 CFR 771.117 and will not result in significant impacts to the human or natural environment.

Attachment A - Project Location



Map Name: RADFORD Horizontal Datum: NAD27
Print Date: 04/01/20
Scale: 1 inch = 4,166 ft.
Map Center: 037° 18' 01.5313" N, 080° 04' 09.0218'

0081-080-946, P101, R201, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, C501;
UPC 116203; I81CIP MM136 MM142 Add Lane in Each Direction (ID #39)

ATTACHMENT B

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ANALYSIS

Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Project MM136 - MM142 Additional Lanes

State Project # 0081-080-946, P101, R201, C501,
B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688
UPC # 116203

Environmental Justice Populations are present when one of the following circumstances is determined:

- a) The minority population percentage of a Census Block exceeds 50 percent,
- b) The minority population percentage of a Census Block is greater than the County or Independent City minority average,
- c) A Census Block is below the poverty level as determined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

MINORITY POPULATION ANALYSIS – Based On 2010 US Census Data¹ –								
STATEFP	COUNTYFP	TRACTCE	BLKGRPCE	GEOID	NAMELSAD	POPULATION		
						TOTAL	MINORITY	MINORITY %
51	161	030300	3	511610303003	Block Group 3	1,542	75	4.86
51	161	030300	4	511610303004	Block Group 4	2,194	113	5.14
51	161	030201	2	511610302012	Block Group 2	1,337	202	15.11
51	161	030100	1	511610301001	Block Group 1	1,307	12	0.88
51	775	010200	1	517750102001	Block Group 1	1,916	155	8.08
51	775	010200	2	517750102002	Block Group 2	700	49	6.94
51	775	010200	3	517750102003	Block Group 3	1,544	84	5.43
51	775	010200	4	517750102004	Block Group 4	1,068	65	6.11
51	775	010200	5	517750102005	Block Group 5	1,139	69	6.05
51	775	010100	1	517750101001	Block Group 1	1,284	320	24.91
51	775	010100	3	517750101003	Block Group 3	1,235	203	16.47
Total Environmental Justice Study Area (All Block Groups)						15,266	1347	8.82
Independent City Minority Average								12.08%
<p><i>The minority populations of the environmental justice study area do not exceed 50 percent; however, the percentage of the minority populations of Tract 030201 Block Group 2 and Tract 010100 Block Groups 1 and 3 are greater than the City of Salem's minority average. Although Environmental Justice populations are present, there are no relocations, no displacements and no disruption of community services (e.g., police services, fire protection, emergency medical services and/or school bus operations); therefore, there are no disproportionately high and adverse effects on any populations.</i></p>								

LOW-INCOME ANALYSIS – Based on Median Household Income¹ –	
United States²	\$53,657
Virginia	\$64,792
Salem (City)	\$50,590
Census Tract 030300	\$58,398
Block Group 3	\$56,914
Block Group 4	\$66,741
Census Tract 030201	\$62,431
Block Group 2	\$57,344
Census Tract 030100	\$67,615
Block Group 1	\$66,375

Roanoke County	\$60,950
Census Tract 010200	\$50,606
Block Group 1	\$40,000
Block Group 2	\$92,014
Block Group 3	\$53,512
Block Group 4	\$42,500
Block Group 5	\$44,551
Census Tract 010100	\$53,616
Block Group 1	\$50,676
Block Group 3	\$63,750
<i>Median Household Incomes for the subject State, County, Census Tracts and Block Groups each exceed the 2020 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines. These guidelines state that a family of four is considered at poverty level if the median household income is \$26,200 or below. As each category exceeds \$26,200, no low-income populations are considered to be present.</i>	

No minority or low-income populations have been identified that would be adversely impacted by the proposed project, as determined above. Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of E.O. 12898 and FHWA Order 6640.23, no further Environmental Justice analysis is required.

¹ US Census Bureau, 2010 US Census. Report generated by J. Barkley, 2 April 2020, using "USA Location Information – USA.com."

² Denavas-Walt and Proctor. 2015. Income and Poverty in the United States: 2014. Report No. P60-252; Accessed 6 April 2020; www.census.gov/library/publications/2015/demo/p60-252.html



July 31, 2020

VA Dept. of Transportation
731 Harrison Avenue
Salem, VA 24153
ATTN: Joyce Barkley

Ms. Barkley,

This letter is in response to your letter dated July 16, 2020: Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail Temporary Impact; 0081-080-946, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, P101, R201, C501; UPC 116203; I-81Corridor Improvement Program Project

Roanoke County has reviewed the plan sheets and concurs with your request as long as the following two criteria are met and the following two questions are answered:

1. After post construction, there is no alteration to the trail and the trail is restored to its previous condition.

Please explain how access across the trail for post construction maintenance of the BMP will be controlled.

2. Use of the trail is maintained during construction for public use.

Please provide information describing how the trail will be safely kept open during construction and how construction vehicles and activities will be kept separate from trail uses.

Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions or to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

Doug Blount

Director
(o) 540.777.6321
dblount@roanokecountyva.gov



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

731 Harrison Ave.
Salem, VA 24153-0560

STEPHEN C. BRICH, P.E.
COMMISSIONER

August 14, 2020

Route Number: Interstate 81
UPC: 116203
Project Number: 0081-080-946, P101, R201, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, C501
Town/City/County: Roanoke County
iPM Proj. Description: I-81CIP MM 136 To MM 142 Add Lane in Each Direction
Project Limit—From: Overpass of Route 641 (MM 136.6)
Project Limit—To: 0.3 Miles North of Route 419 Overpass (MM 141.8)

Doug Blount, Director
Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism
Public Service Center
1206 Kessler Mill Road
Salem, VA 24153

Dear Mr. Blount:

The Virginia Department of Transportation is providing the following responses to questions in your letter dated July 31, 2020, regarding the Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail Temporary Impact for the VDOT Project # 0081-080-946, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, P101, R201, C501; UPC 116203; I-81Corridor Improvement Program Project.

Roanoke County Question 1: After post construction, there is no alteration to the trail and the trail is restored to its previous condition?

VDOT Response: The trail shall be restored to its previous condition.

Roanoke County Question 2: Please explain how access across the trail for post-construction maintenance of the BMP will be controlled?

VDOT Response: The BMP may have a positive barrier to prevent trail users from entering the BMP area. VDOT personnel and/or their contractors will access the BMP by crossing the trail with vehicles and/or required equipment. Access may occur with vehicles being parked within existing right-of-way along Kessler Mill Road and personnel walking across the trail to access the BMP. Frequency of access varies between three and five times per year on average or as conditions require. VDOT and its contractors shall yield to trail users when crossing the trail to access the BMP. No equipment, vehicles or materials will be stored or placed in a way that would affect trail operations without coordination with Roanoke County Parks and Recreation.

Roanoke County Question 3: Use of the trail is maintained during construction for public use?

VDOT Response: *Impacts to the trail will be minimized and the trail shall be maintained for public use during construction. VDOT and its contractors shall yield to trail users when crossing the trail to access the BMP.*

Roanoke County Question 4: Please provide information describing how the trail will be safely kept open during construction and how construction vehicles and activities will be kept separate from trail uses?

VDOT Response: *This project is using the design-build procurement and is in the preliminary stage. VDOT's current design is conceptual and the final design may differ. Technical language is included in the RFP package that will require the contractor to coordinate all trail impacts with the Director of Roanoke County Parks and Recreation. The director's contact information will be included in the technical requirements. Technical language will also require safe pedestrian and bicycle movements be maintained along the trail at all times during construction. Requiring the contractor to coordinate with Roanoke County Parks and Recreation will provide opportunities of cooperation between all stakeholders to minimize trail impacts. In addition, the technical language will require the contractor to restore the trail to its previous condition.*

If you need additional information or have any questions, please feel free to call me at (540) 387-5411 or by email at joyce.barkley@vdot.virginia.gov. Thank you very much for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Joyce L. Barkley
VDOT Environmental Document Specialist, Sr.

Copy:
Craig Moore, VDOT Assistant District L&D Engineer
Ray Varney, VDOT Salem Resident Engineer



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

731 Harrison Ave.
Salem, VA 24153-0560

STEPHEN C. BRICH, P.E.
COMMISSIONER

July 16, 2020

Mr. Doug Blount, Director
Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism
Public Service Center
1206 Kessler Mill Road
Salem, VA 24153

Route Number: Interstate 81
UPC: 116203
Project Number: 0081-080-946, P101, R201, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, C501
Town/City/County: Roanoke County
Proj. Description: I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Project to Add Lane in Each Direction MM 136 to MM 142
Project Limit—From: Overpass of Route 641 (MM 136.6)
Project Limit—To: 0.3 Miles North of Route 419 Overpass (MM 141.8)

Dear Mr. Blount:

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing to widen Interstate 81 (I-81) through this I-81 corridor improvement project in Roanoke County. The proposed project is intended to increase capacity and safety on I-81 through the construction of an additional lane in both the northbound and southbound directions, from mile marker 136.6 to mile marker 141.8.

A portion of the proposed project will involve property located at or near 800 Kessler Mill Road, Salem, VA. Specifically, the proposed design for the project may necessitate the construction of a stormwater facility, which will require temporary construction access across the Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail (see enclosed plan sheet). Temporary impacts to the trail operations are likely during the construction phase and may require a short-term shift of the trail closer to Kessler Mill Road; however, VDOT does not expect the need for a closure of the trail. Post construction, the trail will be returned to its normal location and original site condition.

Under Section 4(f) (23 CFR 774) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended, FHWA may approve a transportation project requiring the use of publicly-owned land from public parks and recreational areas, including recreational trails, only if: (1) there is no prudent and feasible alternative to using that land; and, (2) the project includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the park or recreational area resulting from the use, unless the criteria for an exception to Section 4(f) involvement can be met.

Mr. D. Blount
July 16, 2020
Page 2

The VDOT has determined that the proposed minor and temporary impact to the Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail qualifies this project for the exception found at 23 CFR 774.13(d) "*Temporary occupancies of land that are so minimal as to not constitute a use within the meaning of Section 4(f)*". The criteria for this exception are as follows:

- (1) Duration must be temporary, i.e., less than the time needed for construction of the project, and there should be no change in ownership of the land;
- (2) Scope of the work must be minor, i.e., both the nature and the magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) property are minimal;
- (3) There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts, nor will there be interference with the protected activities, features, or attributes of the property, on either a temporary or permanent basis;
- (4) The land being used must be fully restored, i.e., the property must be returned to a condition which is at least as good as that which existed prior to the project; and
- (5) There must be documented agreement of the official(s) with jurisdiction over the Section 4(f) resource regarding the above conditions.

The VDOT requests the County's concurrence that the minor and temporary impact to the Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail resulting from the project, meets the conditions under Criteria 1-4 for applying the exception. Please indicate your concurrence with this determination by completing the signature block below no later than July 30, 2020. Thank you for your assistance on this project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please email or call me at (540) 387-5411.

Sincerely,



Joyce L. Barkley
VDOT Environmental Document Specialist, Sr.

cc: Roanoke County Administrator
Roanoke County Assistant Administrator
VDOT Assistant District L&D Engineer

Enclosure

The Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism concurs with the Virginia Department of Transportation's determination regarding an exception to Section 4(f) involvement for the VDOT Project # 0081-080-946, P101, R201, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, C501; UPC 116203, that:

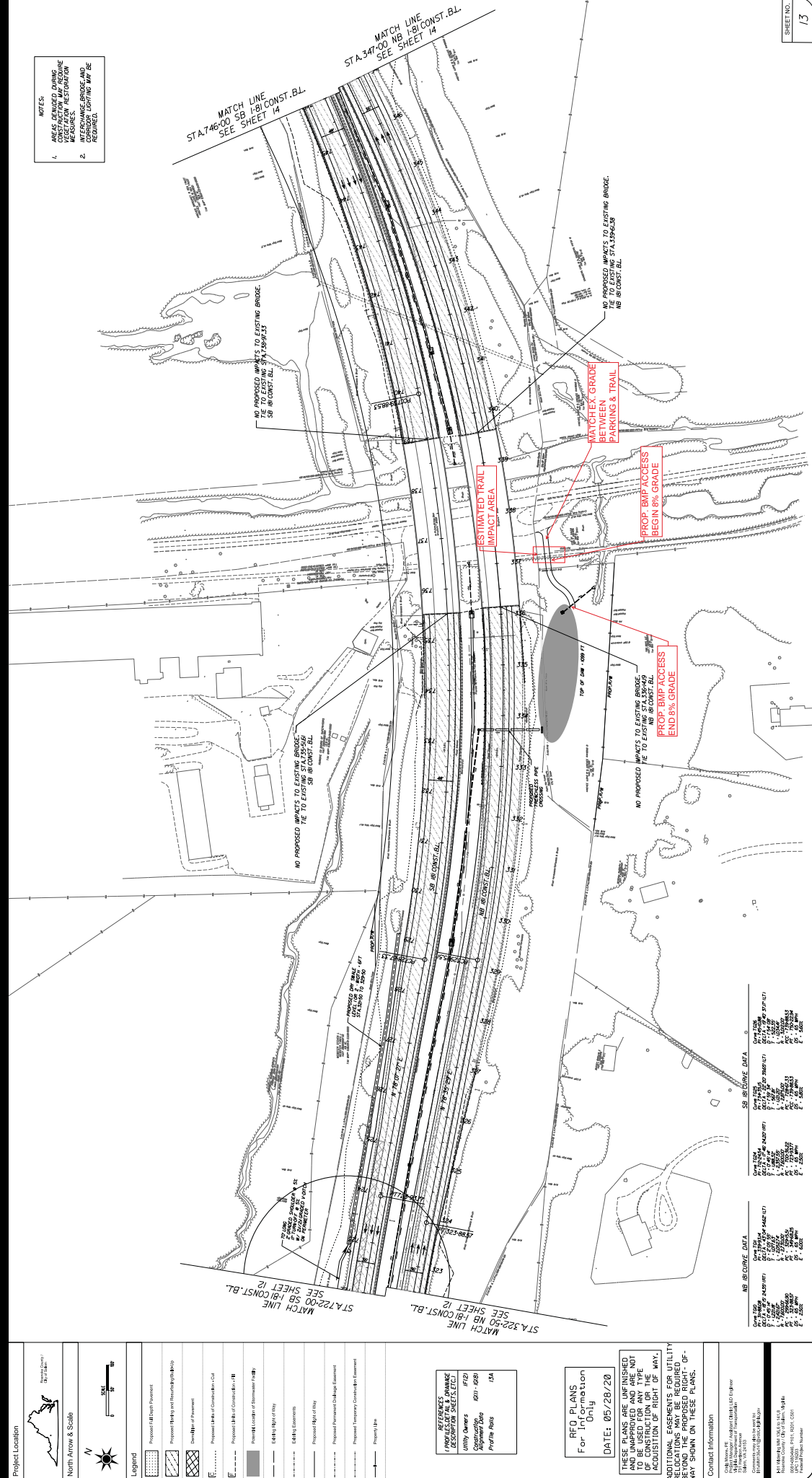
- (1) Duration must be temporary, i.e., less than the time needed for construction of the project, and there should be no change in ownership of the land;
- (2) Scope of the work must be minor, i.e., both the nature and the magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) property are minimal;
- (3) There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts, nor will there be interference with the protected activities, features, or attributes of the property, on either a temporary or permanent basis;
- (4) The land being used must be fully restored, i.e., the property must be returned to a condition which is at least as good as that which existed prior to the project; and

Mr. Doug Blount
Director, Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism

Date

PLAN ROLL I-81 WIDENING MM 136.6 TO 141.8

Virginia Department of Transportation



- NOTES:
1. AREAS DENOTED DURING CONSTRUCTION MAY REQUIRE RESTORATION MEASURES.
 2. INTERCHANGE BRIDGE AND ANY REQUIRED SHIFTING MAY BE REQUIRED.

Project Location



Legend

- Proposed Full Depth Pavement
- Proposed Mill and Overlay Pavement
- Centerline of Pavement
- Proposed Side-of-Roadway - C&G
- Proposed Side-of-Roadway - R
- Proposed Shoulder of Pavement - F&B
- Edge of Right-of-Way
- 4.0% Grade
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Proposed Permanent Right-of-Way Easement
- Proposed Temporary Construction Easement
- Right-of-Way

REFERENCES RANGE DESCRIPTION SHEETS (C)

Utility Owners	11/20
Construction	08/11 - 08/01
Public Plans	15A

REQ. PLANS
For Information
Only
DATE: 05/28/20

THESE PLANS ARE UNFINISHED AND NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY TYPE OF ACQUISITION OR THE ACQUISITION OF RIGHT OF WAY. ADDITIONAL EASEMENTS FOR UTILITY BEYOND THE PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY SHOWN ON THESE PLANS.

Contact Information

Project Manager: Andrew Markley, LEU Engineer
1215 West Park Drive
Richmond, VA 23261

Contract No. 141-00000-001
Revision Count: 18 (18) Rev. 1/18/18

1/18/18
1/18/18
1/18/18

1/18/18
1/18/18
1/18/18

Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail Temporary Impact; 0081-080-946, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, P101, R201, C501; UPC 116203; I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Project to Add Lane in Each Direction MM 136 to MM 142

1 message

Barkley, Joyce <joyce.barkley@vdot.virginia.gov>

Thu, Jul 16, 2020 at 4:07 PM

To: Doug Blount <dblount@roanokecountyva.gov>

Cc: Craig Moore <craig.moore@vdot.virginia.gov>, dodonnell@roanokecountyva.gov, Richard Caywood <RCAYWOOD@roanokecountyva.gov>

Good afternoon Doug,

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) design engineering team has indicated the possible need for a stormwater management basin near the northbound bridge carrying Interstate 81 over Kessler Mill Road. VDOT is seeking concurrence from Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism, per 23 CFR 774.13, as VDOT intends to pursue an exception to the requirement of a Section 4(f) review regarding potential temporary impacts to the Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail. Please see the attached letter for detailed information and the corresponding plan sheet highlighting the proposed impacts.

Please return your concurrence in a reply to my email or mail to:

VA Dept. of Transportation
731 Harrison Avenue
Salem, VA 24153
ATTN: Joyce Barkley

Feel free to email or call me for more information or questions.


Sincerely,

Joyce Barkley

Environmental Document Specialist, Sr.
(540) 387-5411

VDOT - Salem District
731 Harrison Ave
Salem, VA 24153



2 attachments **UPC 116203 Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail Plan Sheet.pdf**

881K

 **UPC 116203 Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail Temporary Impact.pdf**

66K

Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail Temporary Impact; 0081-080-946, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, P101, R201, C501; UPC 116203; I-81 CIP Project to Add Lane in Each Direction MM 136 to MM 142

1 message

Barkley, Joyce <joyce.barkley@vdot.virginia.gov>

Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 11:15 AM

To: Doug Blount <dblount@roanokecountyva.gov>

Cc: Richard Caywood <RCAYWOOD@roanokecountyva.gov>, Craig Moore <craig.moore@vdot.virginia.gov>, dodonnell@roanokecountyva.gov, Tony Dodson <anthony.dodson@vdot.virginia.gov>

Good morning Doug!

Please see the attached letter with VDOT's responses to questions in your July 31, 2020 letter regarding proposed temporary impacts to the Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Joyce Barkley

Environmental Document Specialist, Sr.

(540) 387-5411

VDOT - Salem District

731 Harrison Ave

Salem, VA 24153



 Ltr to Roanoke Co PRT Director Blount_HRBT Impact_08142020.pdf
63K

ATTACHMENT D - NRCS CPA-106

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS-CPA-106
(Rev. 1-91)

**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS**

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request April 7, 2020	4. Sheet 1 of _____
1. Name of Project I-81 Corridor Improvement Project MM136 - MM1441 Additional Lanes		5. Federal Agency Involved Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	
2. Type of Project Roadway Widening		6. County and State Roanoke County, Virginia	
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS	2. Person Completing Form
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form).		YES NO	4. Acres Irrigated Average Farm Size
5. Major Crop(s)	6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction Acres: %	7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %	
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	9. Name of Local Site Assessment System	10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS	

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Alternative Corridor For Segment			
	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	4.9			
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services	0			
C. Total Acres In Corridor	45.8			

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland				
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland				
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted				
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value				

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)	100			
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PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))	Maximum Points	Points	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
1. Area in Nonurban Use	15	3				
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use	10	3				
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	20	0				
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	0				
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	0				
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25	0				
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5	4				
8. On-Farm Investments	20	0				
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25	0				
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	2				
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	12				

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Maximum Points	Points	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100	100				
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160	12				
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	260	112				

1. Corridor Selected:	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:	3. Date Of Selection:	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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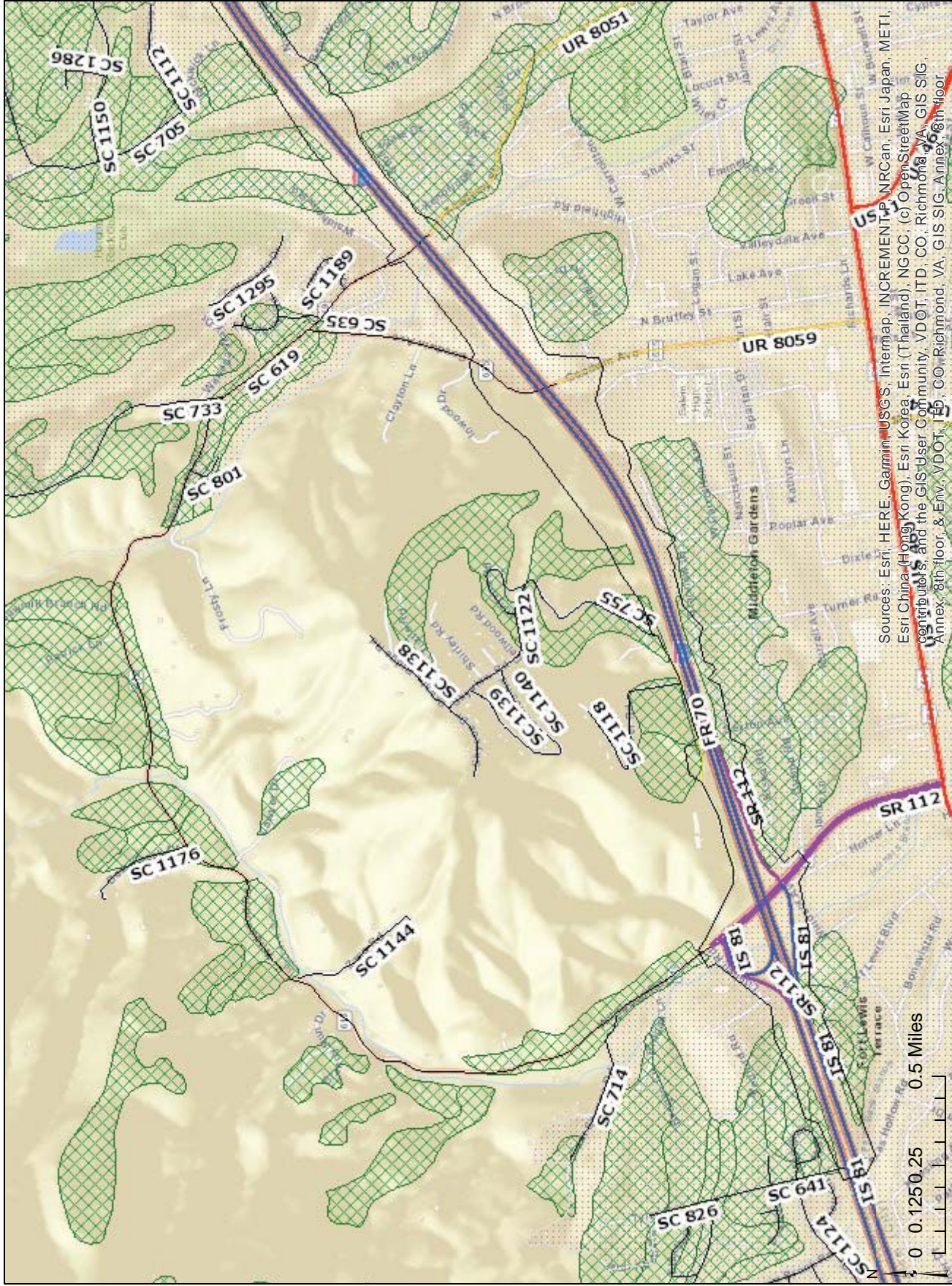
5. Reason For Selection:

Per 7 CFR 658.2(a), VDOT has elected to make the determination that these lands could be utilized at farmlands; however based on VDOT's completion of the Corridor Assessment Criteria in Part VI above, this project's combined score (Parts V and VI) will be less than 160 points, even if the Part V value was the maximum of 100 points. Therefore, per 7 CFR 658.4(c)(2), this project need not be given further consideration for protection and no additional sites need be evaluated.

Signature of Person Completing this Part: Joyce L Barkley – VDOT Environmental Document Specialist DATE April 7, 2020

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

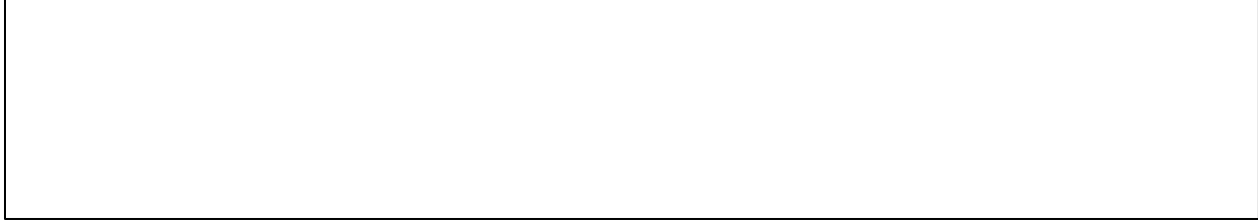
Prime Farmlands/Census Urban Area



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS-User Community, VDOT, ITD, CO, Richmond, VA, GIS SIG, Annex, 8th floor, & Env. VDOT, 15, GO, Richmond, VA, GIS SIG, Annex, 8th floor.










Notes



Legend

All Roads

-  Interstate
 -  U.S. Highway Primary
 -  State Highway Primary
 -  Secondary Route
 -  Frontage and Urban Road
 -  VDOT Districts
 -  Census Urban Areas
 -  Soils - Prime Farmlands
- World Street Map

Documentation of FHWA Review

Project Name: I81 Corridor Improve Project MM136 - MM142 Additional Lanes

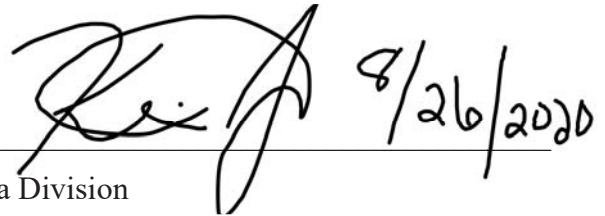
State Project Number: 0081-080-946, B677, B678, B681, B682, B683, B684, B685, B686, B687, B688, C501, P101, R201

UPC: 116203

Based on the preliminary environmental impact information compiled by VDOT, FHWA approved this project as a Categorical Exclusion on **04/15/2020**. Based on my review of the Categorical Exclusion documentation submitted by VDOT, I find this information acceptable and sufficient as supporting documentation to support the original Categorical Exclusion determination.

Kevin Jones

FHWA - Virginia Division

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Jones', is written over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the date '8/26/2020' is handwritten in the same ink.