

# NC 49 / US 29 Improvement Project

## Project Background

In the February project update, the City identified three alternatives we would pursue in order to move forward with the US 29 / NC 49 project. These included:

- Receiving additional funding from the NCDOT
- Building the project in phases
- Scaling the project back to match available City Bond funds

Detailed below are the results of the three alternatives we pursued:

### **Receiving additional funding from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)**

Due to the funding shortfall currently being experienced by the State, NCDOT funding is not available at this time.

### **Building the project in phases**

After careful analysis and coordinated efforts with NCDOT, it has been determined that building this project in phases would not be a feasible option due to safety and roadway capacity issues surrounding backups on I-85.

### **Scaling the project back to match available City Bond funds**

The City is currently developing a scaled back project that can be constructed with available funds, address both the safety and roadway capacity issues, and receive approval by the NCDOT.

## Next Steps

During the next several months, the project team will:

- Develop a cost estimate for the scaled back project
- Complete an updated traffic analysis of the area
- Present the revised concept plan to the NCDOT for review and approval (both NC 49 and US 29 are State System roads requiring State approval of revised concept)
- If a concept is approved by the City and NCDOT, a public meeting will be scheduled to present the revised concept plan

The goal of our revised concept plan will include eliminating the dangerous weave where the I-85 connector joins US 29/NC 49 and constructing an at-grade intersection at US 29 and NC 49. This will improve the safety in the area and will minimize impacts to property and reduce the needed right-of-way. As previously mentioned in the February update, "controlled access" is a condition where owners or occupants of property abutting the roadway cannot have driveway connections. The revised design is expected to eliminate the need for access control and will reduce the costs of project right-of-way significantly.

The project team will consider your input (received at a future public meeting) and allow us to reach a decision that meets transportation, economic and community needs. However, a no-build alternative will be considered if a viable project cannot be designed and constructed with available funds. We appreciate your patience during this project as we strive to build the best possible project for the area.

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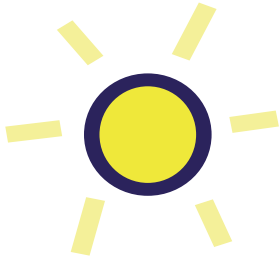
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**CHARLOTTE™**

Engineering & Property Management  
600 E. Fourth Street  
Charlotte, NC 28202



We hope you are enjoying your summer. On the reverse side is important information regarding a project near your home or business.

**PROJECT CONTACTS**

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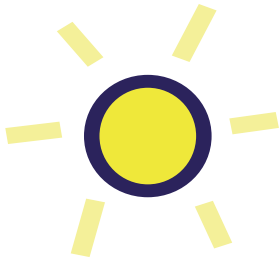
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**NC 49 / US 29 Improvement Project - August 2005**



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