

## Get Involved

Ten days after this public hearing, the public comment period will close on **September 6, 2019**.

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

A comment sheet is enclosed and can be submitted at tonight's hearing or mailed to Mr. C.E.Cumbie, Project Manager, 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, VA 24153. Comments also may be submitted by email to [c.cumbie@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:c.cumbie@vdot.virginia.gov).

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.

The project information, including the hearing summary, will be available for review at VDOT's Salem District Office located at 731 Harrison Avenue in Salem.

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

<b>Primary Contact:</b> Mr. C.E. Cumbie	Project Manager <i>Location and Design</i>	731 Harrison Avenue Salem, VA 24153	540-387-5353
Terry Hutchinson	Acquisition Manager <i>Right of Way</i>	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	540-387-5367
Jason Bond	Communications Manager <i>Office of Communications</i>	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	540-387-5493



## Design Public Hearing Route 834 (Brooks Mill Road) and Route 670 (Burnt Chimney Road) Safety Improvements Franklin County

Tuesday, August 27, 2019, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Burnt Chimney Elementary School  
80 Burnt Chimney Road  
Wirtz, Virginia 24184

## Design Public Hearing

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) design public hearing for a safety improvement project at the intersection of Route 834 and Route 670 in Franklin County. The hearing will be held in an 'open-house' format.

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 have the opportunity to 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



Intersection of Route 834 and Route 670  
in Franklin County

**Available Allocations** – \$3.9 million

**Purpose** – To improve safety by constructing a roundabout

**From** – 0.102 mile south of Route 670

**To** – 0.107 mile north of Route 670

**Project Length** – 0.21 mile

**Improvements** –

- Installing a roundabout to improve safety
- Realigning Route 834 and Route 670 eastward to provide better sight distance for motorists traveling along Route 670
- Providing access management to nearby businesses

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The primary purpose of this project is to improve safety and reduce the frequency and severity of crashes at the intersection of Route 834 and Route 670 by installing a roundabout, realigning the intersection to create better sight distance and providing better access management to nearby businesses.

Between May 2013 and April 2019, 23 crashes occurred at the intersection. Of those crashes, 11 were angle crashes, which tend to be the most severe. Approximately 4,900 vehicles use the intersection each day.

The four-way stop installed in 2016 was implemented as an interim safety measure since it could be installed quickly and with low cost. Four-way stops rely on driver compliance and require all vehicles to come to a complete stop.

The new roundabout would be a physical measure that would reduce the risk of angle collisions, minimize the risk of vehicles failing to stop, and help improve operations as vehicles proceed more efficiently through the intersection.

The new low-speed roundabout will have a 130-foot inscribed diameter, a 15-foot wide concrete apron, and

an 18-foot wide circulatory travel lane. The roadway approaches to the roundabout will have 12-foot lane widths and four-foot shoulders. Roadway lighting also will be installed as part of the project.

Access management improvements will consist of better defined entrances and access for the business located at the southwest corner of the intersection.

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

Available Funding: \$3.9 million

- Preliminary Engineering: \$777,000
- Right of Way and Utilities: \$455,000
- Construction: \$2.7 million

*These costs are subject to change because development of the project is in its early design stages. The project will be funded using federal and state 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 the back of this brochure.

## Right of Way

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

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.

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 from a VDOT right of way agent.

After this hearing, 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:

- Design Public Hearing – July 2019
- Construction Begins – Spring 2022
- Construction Completed – Fall 2024

## Environmental Review

VDOT's Salem 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.