

To: NCDOT U-5307 Project Team

1/7/22

Subject: U-5307 Comments from the US 1 Council of Planning

NCDOT U-5307 Project Team:

The US 1 Council is a workgroup created in 2006 dedicated to the implementation of the US 1 Corridor Study. The workgroup membership includes Franklin County, Wake County, City of Raleigh, Town of Wake Forest, Town of Youngsville, Town of Franklinton, GoRaleigh, Kerr Area Rural Transit System, GoTriangle, NC Capital Area MPO, and NCDOT. The US 1 Council of Planning meets regularly to discuss land use and transportation issues throughout the corridor providing a coordination and collaboration setting to review site plans, transportation projects, and other issues that may arise throughout the US 1 Study Corridor. One of the main purposes of the US 1 Council of Planning is to review any changes and ensure the integrity of the US 1 Corridor Study.

Upon review of the latest U-5307 design materials during the December 2021/January 2022 public engagement period, the US 1 Council of Planning would like to submit comments regarding the project. The following comments are in response to the established purpose and need of the project to improve traffic congestion and travel times, as well as maintain regional mobility and local connectivity.

- Frontage/backage and local access roads from the US 1 Study within the U-5307 project area are vital to the corridor and should be included in the project. Connectivity along the frontage/backage, local, and crossover roads create multi-modal path networks and access in the area, and fulfills the local connectivity element of the defined purpose and need. The local governments along the corridor have worked with private developers for over 10 years to either build these connections or ensure adequate rights-of-way for the connections to be included in the eventual freeway project. In particular, the expenses of the Neuse River access road crossing, the Gresham Lake Road overpass and the disrupted portions of the Neuse River Trail should be part of this project.
- There is a concern regarding 4 general purpose lanes in each direction from I-540 to NC 98 Bypass. The US 1 Study shows 3 general purpose lanes and 1 additional special purpose lane serving HOV or transit in each direction. There is a concern that the special purpose lanes originally submitted as part of this project and included as part of the US 1 Study are not included in the proposal.
- Shoulder width and pavement depth should be able to accommodate future bus on shoulder.
- The 2045 and 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plans show an 8 lane cross-section to Burlington Mills, and 6 lanes north of Burlington Mills. The extent and cross-sections of Sections B and C should be discussed and should match between the design plans, current STIP, and adopted MTP.

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- Stadium Drive/Jenkins Road - A future interchange has been added at this location to the MTP through a local study area process. The final design should be able to accommodate a future interchange at this location.
 - Other more specific comments have been submitted from US 1 Council of Planning members and a meeting has been set up for January 18, 2022 to review and discuss comments received. Any high-level information regarding public comments received on this project would be appreciated at this meeting. Considering ongoing discussions with members, the US I Council of Planning would anticipate submitting additional clarifying comments after this meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the US I/Capital Blvd U-5307 project and we look forward to continued coordination as the project moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Gardiner", with a stylized, cursive script.

Tim Gardiner
US I Council of Planning Chair