

**NOTICE OF A DESIGN PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE PROPOSED WIDENING OF
US 17-74-76 / NC 133 FROM NC 133 (RIVER ROAD) / SR 1472 (VILLAGE ROAD)
INTERCHANGE TO THE US 421/NC 133 INTERCHANGE**

WBS No. 38868.1.1

R-3601

Brunswick County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a Pre-Hearing Open House and Design Public Meeting on May 19, 2011. The meeting will be held at the USS North Carolina Battleship, #1 Battleship Road, Wilmington, 28401.

NCDOT representatives will be available at the Pre-Hearing Open House between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to answer questions and receive comments relative to the proposed project. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions will also be provided. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above mentioned hours.

A formal presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. The presentation will consist of an explanation of the proposed design, right of way acquisition, relocation requirements / procedures, and the state-federal funding relationship. The hearing will be open to those present for statements, questions and comments. The presentation and comments will be recorded and a transcript will be prepared.

The purpose of this hearing is for NCDOT representatives to provide information, answer questions, and accept written comments regarding this project. NCDOT proposes to widen the US 17-74-76 / NC 133 causeway from NC 133 (River Road) / SR 1472 (Village Road) Interchange near Leland and Belville to the US 421/NC 133 Interchange near the USS North Carolina Battleship. The project, about two miles long, consists of adding an additional lane in each direction on the causeway, adding an exclusive left turn lane at the US 17-74-421 and Battleship Road intersection, replacing the northbound bridge and widening the southbound bridge over Alligator Creek, widening the bridges over the Brunswick River, realigning SR 1551 (Blackwell Road) about 600 feet south on NC 133 (River Road); and constructing a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) at the NC 133 (River Road) / SR 1472 (Village Road) Interchange.

A Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) allows two directions of traffic to temporarily cross to the opposite side of the road. This movement provides easier access on and off the freeway. A DDI moves higher volumes of traffic through an intersection without increasing the number of lanes in the interchange.

A map displaying the design of the project and a copy of the environmental document, Categorical Exclusion are available for public review at the NCDOT Highway Division Three Office, 5501 Barbados Boulevard, Castle Hayne, 28429 and Resident Engineer's Office, 300 Division Drive, Wilmington, 28401. The maps are available for viewing online at www.wmpo.org/projects.html.

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Ms. Kimberly Hinton, Human Environment Unit at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, phone:(919) 707-6072, fax: (919) 212-5785, or email: khinton@ncdot.gov. Additional material may be submitted until June 20, 2011.

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