I-40/I-81 Study Update
Knoxville & Lakeway

April 7, 2008
Agenda

• I-40/I-81 – Tennessee’s Major Artery
• Study Overview
• Process for Evaluating Potential Solutions
• Preliminary Study Results
• Remaining Steps
Study Corridor

• Bristol to Memphis, 550 Miles
• Includes 9 of State’s 12 RPOs
• Crosses 8 of State’s 11 MPOs/TPOs
Corridor Importance

- A Corridor in the Strategic Investment Plan
- 55% of State’s population live along the corridor (28 counties)
- Truck volumes along corridor are estimated to double by 2030; trucks carry 74% of freight in State
- Rail freight volumes projected to increase over 50% by 2030
Study Purpose

- Identify & address I-40/I-81 deficiencies
- Identify low-cost operational improvements along corridor
- Consider effectiveness of truck/rail diversion
- Consider multi-modal solutions
Identify, Evaluate & Prioritize Solutions That Address:

- Congestion & capacity
- Operations & maintenance
- Safety & security
- Freight movement & diversion
- Economic access
- Commuter patterns
- Inter-modal facilities (freight and/or passenger)
Study Outcomes

• Projects & strategies for consideration by TDOT, MPOs/TPOs & RPOs
• Short, mid & long-range solutions and cost estimates
Previous Knoxville Public Meeting

- Held on September 25, 2007
- Provided background on I-40/I-81 study
- Asked if there were deficiencies in the corridor beyond what we had identified
- Requested input into range of potential solutions to be considered
Other Regional Stakeholder Meetings

• Memphis       March 31
• Jackson        April 1
• Nashville      April 3
• Tri-Cities     April 8
• Cookeville     April 10
Initial Screening Process

• Five “packages” of multimodal solutions for corridor analysis for 2030
  – Existing + Committed Improvements
  – Roadway Capacity
  – Corridor Capacity
  – Operational Solutions
  – Rail-Focused Solutions

• Developed performance measures from statewide and urban area models

• Off-model analysis for selected measures
Purpose of Evaluation Process

• Identify solutions/projects with highest benefit/cost (B/C) ratios, recognizing that this measure represents only one factor in project assessment

• Identify solutions/projects that will provide benefits in short- and mid-term periods
Evaluation Process

- B/C ratios estimated for projects from those “packages” found to be significant.
- Benefits for each project **monetized** to allow consistent measurement across evaluation criteria.
- Roadway cost estimates consistent with TDOT methodology.
- Projects evaluated for multiple planning horizons.
- Benefits estimated **only** for I-40 & I-81.
Evaluation Components

- Auto hours of recurrent delay
- Truck hours of recurrent delay
- Auto hours of non-recurrent (incident) delay
- Truck hours of non-recurrent (incident) delay
- Number of accidents
- Number of fatalities
Identified I-81 Widening Project

- Widen to 6 Lanes between Exit 1 (I-40) and Exit 15 (SR-340)
  - Widening of 15-mile segment has an estimated total cost of $147 million
  - Modeling analysis shows need for these improvements by 2030
I-81 Widening
Between Exit 1 and Exit 15 (SR-340)

Needed by 2030
$147 M
(2008 Dollars)
I-40/I-81 Corridor Capacity Projects

- SR-475 (Knoxville Parkway)
  - 2030 B/C ratio of 0.4 for constructing this roadway at estimated cost of $609 million
  - Ratio only captures benefits for I-40, and not for I-75 and overall region
  - The latter benefits to be estimated from other studies
I-40/I-81 Corridor Capacity
SR-475 (Knoxville Parkway)

$609 M (2008 Dollars)
Truck/Rail Diversion

• Truck trips are divertible to rail if
  – Trip distances are long (greater than 500 – 750 miles)
  – Commodities can be handled easily by rail
    • Bulk goods
    • Non-perishable goods
    • Goods easily packaged and shipped using intermodal containers
  – Rail network matches desired trip origin and destination
I-40/I-81 Rail Improvement Alternatives

Trans-TN B/C = 0.1

Crescent Corridor B/C = 5.0

Norfolk Southern Railway and operating subsidiaries

Trans-Tennessee Rail Corridor

I-81 Crescent Corridor

Crescent Corridor Route

Improvement Locations

Atlanta

Charlotte

Columbus

Cincinnati

Harrisburg

New Jersey

Philadelphia

Norfolk

I-81 Crescent Corridor

Crescent Corridor Route Improvement Locations

Norfolk Southern Railway and operating subsidiaries

Trans-Tennessee Rail Corridor

I-81 Crescent Corridor
Trans-Tennessee Rail Corridor

- Re-development of rail connection between Crossville and Cookeville
- Provides rail connection across state
- Direct rail service between Nashville and Knoxville
- Estimated cost of improvements is $1.2 billion
Crescent Corridor

- NS estimates over 1 million divertible truckloads along the Crescent Corridor
- Plans forecast 28 new trains per day
- NS seeking public-private partnerships to improve the rail network at an estimated cost of $2 billion
- Corridor investments will begin this year with roll-out of improved services in 2009
- Entire network to be complete by 2013
Cooperation with Virginia

- Regular meetings on rail corridor planning between DOT officials from both states
- Cambridge Systematics also is assisting Virginia in analyzing benefits of truck-rail diversion
- Virginia shared results of I-81 truck origin-destination surveys with TDOT to assist in calibration of truck-rail diversion model
I-40/I-81 Rail-Focused Improvements

- Norfolk Southern Crescent Corridor
  - 2030 B/C ratio of 5.0 warranting further analysis of planned improvements in and out of the state

- Trans-Tennessee Rail Corridor
  - 2030 B/C ratio of 0.1, but only includes benefits for I-40/I-81 Corridor & economic benefits identified in An Evaluation of Tennessee Rail Plan’s Treatment of a Trans-Tennessee Rail Routing
I-40/I-81 Operational Solutions

- Interchange, rest area & weigh station ramp improvements
- Truck climbing lanes
- Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) improvements
- Potential for I-40 high occupancy vehicle (HOV) or high occupancy toll (HOT) lane expansion or conversion in Nashville & Memphis
I-40/I-81 Operational Solutions

Extend ramp from I-140 SB to I-40/I-75 WB ($1.1M) and extend ramps at weigh station ($1.0M)

Extend ramps at I-40/I-81 interchange, lengthen ramps at rest area near this interchange ($2.0M)
I-40/I-81 Interchange Improvements

- Extensions of three acceleration ramps
- Represents preliminary design concept for addressing deficiencies at this location
- Estimated cost of $1.3 million
- Need for improvements suggested during stakeholder interviews
I-40/I-75 & I-140 Interchange Improvement

• Extend exit ramp from I-140 southbound to I-40/I-75 westbound
• Estimated cost of $1.1 million
• Need for improvements suggested during stakeholder interviews
I-40/I-81 Weigh Stations & Rest Areas

• Lengthen ramps at weigh station west of Knoxville, near Exit 373
  • Estimated cost of $1 million
• Lengthen ramps at rest area north of I-40/I-81 interchange
  • Estimated cost of $650,000
• Need for improvements suggested during stakeholder interviews
Project Programming

- Near-term, medium-term and long-term projects with highest B/C ratios identified for each region
- Projects divided into constructible segments
- Segments are programmed based on timing of impacts and availability of funds
Remaining Steps

Late April
Review public comments with TDOT
Present draft corridor program to Commissioner

May
Complete corridor program & Final Report
For more information on the study, contact:

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