

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

March 12, 2009

*Byhalia Road (Partial State Route 175) from
Holmes Road to State Route 385 (Bill Morris
Parkway) in Collierville, Shelby County,
TDOT PIN 108916.00*



**The Town of Collierville
In coordination with the
Tennessee Department of Transportation
NEPA Documentation Office
Environmental Division**

Please contact Mr. Joe W. Matlock NEPA DO ED TDOT at (615) 741-5365
or by E-Mail (joe.matlock@state.tn.us)

Or

Mr. Frank McPhail Town of Collierville at (901) 457-2340
or by E-Mail (fmcphail@ci.collierville.tn.us)
if you have any questions.

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Introduction

The Town of Collierville in coordination with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is proposing to improve Byhalia Road (partial SR-175) between Holmes Road and SR-385 (Bill Morris Pkwy) for enhanced regional and local transportation mobility. The project is located in southeast Shelby County in the Town of Collierville and within the Memphis Metropolitan Area.

This public involvement plan was prepared according to TDOT's Public Involvement Plan for projects in the Level 2 Category. The Level 2 classification constitutes projects that require completion of a Categorical Exclusion.

The goals and objectives of this plan are to:

Create an open and visible decision-making process to which stakeholders have equal access and input.

Provide a method by which stakeholders are informed and have an understanding of the process, issues, and possible solutions from the perspectives of various interests. Include public comments throughout the decision-making process.

The methods that will be used to achieve the public involvement goals and objectives are outlined in this plan. The plan provides a detailed description of the project area discusses stakeholders and public group outreach methods, outlines the coordinated activities that will involve the public in the development process, provides a schedule of events, and outlines a reevaluation and revision process for this plan.

Project Description

The project begins at Holmes Road on the south and ends at SR 385 (Bill Morris Pkwy) on the north. The project has a total length of approximately 1.73 miles and includes the following segments:

- Segment 1 – Resurfacing an existing 2-lane open shoulder section of Byhalia Road just north of Holmes Road. This segment is contained within existing right-of-way, is approximately 0.30 miles in length and acts as a transition into segment 2.
- Segment 2 – Resurfacing an existing 5-lane curb and gutter section of Byhalia Road bordered by the Southridge subdivision on the west and Estanaula Trails subdivision on the east. The typical section for this segment will include two 11'-0" wide (minimum) lanes in each direction with the outside lane in each direction being 13'-0" wide to allow for a bicycle lane. It will also include a 12'-0" wide continuous two-way left turn lane (CTWLTL) in the middle. This segment is contained within existing right-of-way, is approximately 0.45 miles in length, has existing 5'-0" wide sidewalks on each side, and 40' wide landscape easements on each side.
- Segment 3 – Widening an existing 2-lane open shoulder section of Byhalia Road south of E. Shelby Drive to a 5-lane curb and gutter section with 5'-0" wide sidewalks on each side. The typical section would be the same as Segment 2 with a proposed right-of-way width of 84'-0". The amount of proposed right-of-way required for this segment is 1 acre (65% is to be dedicated). The segment is

approximately 0.24 miles in length and contains a section along the west side bordering the Southridge subdivision that has already been widened. It also includes a proposed 40' wide landscape easement on both sides.

- Segment 4 – Widening an existing 2-lane open shoulder section of Byhalia Road (SR-175) north of E. Shelby Drive to a 6-lane curb and gutter section with a 28'-0" wide raised median and a proposed right-of-way width of 115'-0". The amount of proposed right-of-way required for this segment is 5.3 acres (84% is to be dedicated). The typical section for this segment will include three 12'-0" wide lanes in each direction with the outside lane being 16'-0" wide to allow for a bicycle lane. Median openings and a 12'-0" wide left turn lane will be provided at each side road. This segment is approximately 0.85 miles in length and contains a section along the east side bordering the Preserve at Oak Grove subdivision (Oak Grove PD Phase 1) that has already been widened. It also includes a proposed 40' wide landscape easement on both sides.
- Segment 5 – Extension of E. Shelby Drive (proposed SR-175) from Woodgrove subdivision (Oak Grove PD Phase 4) on the west side of Byhalia Road to connect with the intersection of Byhalia Road and E. Shelby Drive on the east side of Byhalia Road. The typical section for this segment will include three 12'-0" wide lanes in each direction, an 18'-0" wide raised median, 5'-0" wide sidewalks on each side and a proposed right-of-way width of 114'-0". The amount of proposed right-of-way required for this segment is 2.6 acres (51% is to be dedicated). This segment is approximately 1,000' in length and will remove the existing 300' offset between the two intersections of Shelby Post Rd. (SR-175)/E. Shelby Drive and Byhalia Road making it a much safer single intersection.
- Segment 6 – Widening E. Shelby Drive from Byhalia Road (SR-175) to Deep Woods Road which has been widened on the north side already. The typical section for this segment will include three 12'-0" wide lanes in each direction, an 18'-0" wide raised median, 5'-0" wide sidewalks on each side and a proposed right-of-way width of 114'-0". The amount of proposed right-of-way required for this segment is 0.6 acres (100% is to be dedicated). This segment is approximately 700' in length and will include 40' wide landscape easements on each side.

Alternatives considered for the project: include the above Build Alternative and a No-Build Alternative.

Stake Holders and Customers

A database comprised of residents, elected officials, businesses and institutions in the general project area will be created. The database's primary use involves meeting and hearing notifications, as well as documentation and tracking of public comments.

Determination of special outreach populations will be made using U.S. Census data, field reviews and information provided by local government or other knowledgeable local organizations. Once populations are identified, measures will be taken to make sure they have access to information and the ability to make comments despite their race, religion, age, income or disability.

Outreach Techniques

Media Relations Plan

The Town of Collierville will coordinate all media contact and draft meeting/hearing notices for publication. Notices will include the general project location map and text explaining the purpose of the meeting/hearing and its location and time.

Public Meetings

The first Public Meeting was held at Collierville's Town Hall on May 5, 2009. The meeting began at 5:00 pm with an introduction from the Town Engineer, Matt Thomson and a few words from the Town Mayor, Stan Joyner. A formal presentation, using PowerPoint slides for illustration, was given by Patrick Neal, Project Manager for Pickering, Inc. and Joe Matlock representing TDOT's Environmental Division. Multiple sets of project area mapping, which show the corridor that will be studied, were placed on easels outside the chambers in the lobby. Representatives of The Town of Collierville, Pickering and TDOT were available to answer questions. The public was asked to complete comment cards and return them to the Town of Collierville at the meeting or following the meeting within the 21-day comment period. A court reporter was in attendance to record verbal comments.

Public Hearing

If required by FHWA a public hearing will be held to give the public an opportunity to offer comments on the project and the findings of the CE. The hearing is anticipated to combine the open house format and a formal presentation with question and answer session. A question-and-answer session will be afforded to those in attendance. Staff will also be available to answer questions. Tables throughout the room will contain project mapping.

TDOT Website Postings

TDOT will post in a PDF format general location mapping, initial coordination summary, the approved CE, public hearing/meeting notices and summaries; press release for the selection of the preferred alternative and other pertinent information.

Schedule

A public meeting and a public hearing must be scheduled. Locations for such meetings will be identified by the Town and coordinated with the Environmental Division and the TDOT Community Relations staff. Any other public meeting will be scheduled and held as needed.

EVENT	TENTATIVE DATE	SUGGESTED TIME	LOCATION
Work Session	April 27, 2009	5:00 PM	Town Hall
Public Meeting	May 5, 2009	5:00 – 7:00 PM	Town Hall
Public Hearing	TBA	5:00 – 7:00 PM	TBA

At present, the following are tentative dates for key project events:

EVENT	TENTATIVE DATE
Circulation of the Environmental Document	TBA
Comment Period	TBA

Reevaluation and Revisions

In an effort to facilitate early and continuous opportunities for involvement from the public, this plan will be reviewed periodically to evaluate its effectiveness. Techniques will be judged under the following criteria: openness of the process, cooperation and collaboration between parties, and continuation of involvement opportunities. If methods are found to be inadequate, appropriate revisions will be made to correct deficiencies.