

# Public Meeting

November 12, 2024

STATE  
ROUTE **66**

From State Route 34 in Bulls Gap to North of Speedwell  
Road/Old Highway 66, Hawkins County  
PIN 107579.00





# Tonight's Agenda

**5:00 PM** Meeting Begins

**5:00 – 5:30 PM** Sign-In/Review Hearing  
Handout/View Project Displays

**5:30 – 5:45 PM** Project PowerPoint Presentation

**5:45 – 6:00 PM** Question and Answer Session with  
TDOT Representatives

**6:00 – 7:00 PM** Visit Project Displays, Speak with  
the TDOT Project Team, and  
Provide Feedback and Comments

# STATE ROUTE



# Purpose of Tonight's Meeting



**To provide information on:**

- Project status
- Project schedule
- Purpose and Need
- Range of Alternatives under Consideration

**To answer your questions and gather your feedback.**



## Your Comments are Important!

- Ask questions after this presentation
- Fill out a comment card and submit it tonight or by email, mail, or via the project website
- Record a verbal comment with the court reporter or using the project toll-free phone line
- Speak with a TDOT representative after this presentation



Comments received by December 9, 2024, will be included in the official summary for this meeting.



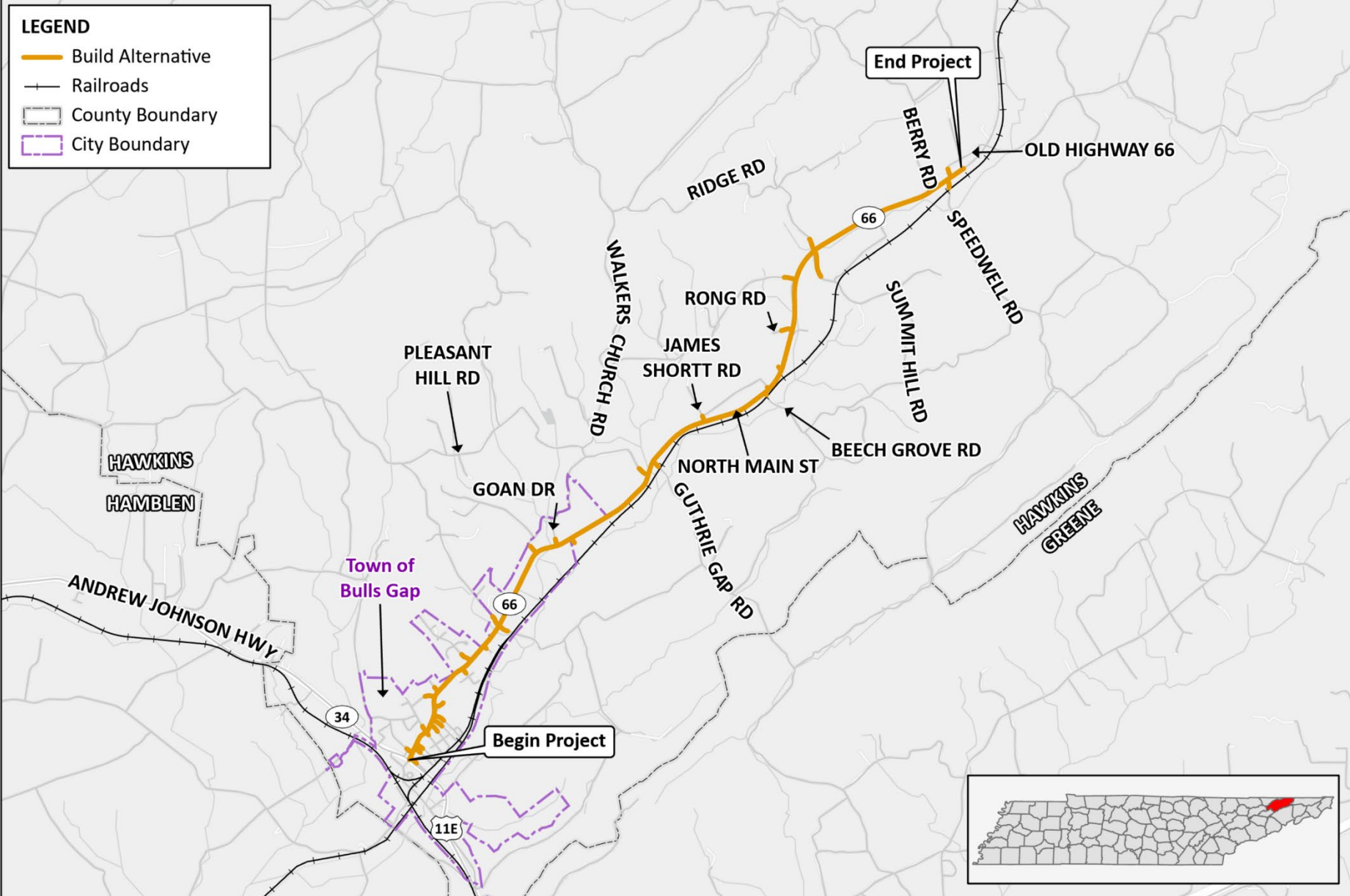
- **2006** - TDOT completed a Transportation Planning Report (TPR), which analyzed existing and projected traffic data and determined the feasibility of improving a portion of State Route 66.
- **2020** - A D-List Categorical Exclusion (CE) was initiated for the proposed improvements.
- **2024** – Activities have included:
  - Right-of-Way Plans were developed for the proposed project.
  - It was determined by FHWA and TDOT to move the project forward as an Environmental Assessment (EA) based on the anticipated number of relocations.
  - An EA is currently under development.

## ➤ **Project Termini:**

- **Begin Project:**  
State Route 34 in Bulls Gap
- **End Project:**  
North of Speedwell Road/Old Highway 66

## ■ **Project Length:**

- Total project length is approximately 5.70 miles



# PROJECT LOCATION MAP

<b>PROJECT</b>	<p><b>STATE ROUTE 66</b></p> <p>From State Route 34 in Bulls Gap to North of Speedwell Road/Old Highway 66</p> <p>Hawkins County, Tennessee, PIN 107579.00</p>
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## Preliminary Need:

- Geometric roadway deficiencies along existing SR-66 (curvature, limited shoulder, sight distance, etc.)
- Insufficient system linkage (connection between Bulls Gap and the county seat in Rogersville)
- Need for route redundancy (an alternate to Interstate 81)

## Preliminary Purpose:

- Correct geometric roadway deficiencies to meet current TDOT design standards
- Improve system linkage
- Provide route redundancy for Interstate 81



- Two Alternatives are being evaluated in the EA:
  - one No-Build Alternative and one Build Alternative
- **No-Build Alternative:**
  - In accordance with regulations, the No-Build Alternative has been retained for detailed study and also serves as a benchmark for comparison with the Build Alternative.
  - Would retain the existing roadway configuration except for any modifications identified in TDOT's 25-Year Long Range Transportation Policy Plan, State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and the TDOT 10-Year Project Plan.
  - Would allow for routine maintenance and safety upgrades.

- **Build Alternative:**

- The proposed project would include widening the existing two-lane roadway (one 10-foot-wide lane in each direction). The proposed typical section would consist of:
  - Two 12-foot travel lanes (one in each direction) and paved shoulders four- to ten-feet in width.
  - An intermittent 12-foot-wide two-way left-turn lane (TWLTL).
  - Five-foot wide sidewalks near the project beginning.
  - Intermittent curb and gutter.
  - Guardrail, as required.
  - Minor horizontal and vertical alignment changes, primarily located in Bulls Gap, intended to meet current highway design and safety standards.

## For the environmental document, the following technical studies will be completed:

- Traffic and Safety Analysis
- Land Use, Farmland, and Transportation Infrastructure
- Community Impact Assessment, Environmental Justice, Relocations, and Economic Resources
- Air Quality and Noise
- Cultural Resources (Historic Architecture and Archaeology)
- Recreational Resources
- Natural Resources
- Visual Impacts
- Hazardous Materials
- Indirect and Cumulative Effects

# Next Steps

- **NEPA**
  - Complete environmental technical studies and draft the EA.
- **Future Public Engagement**
  - To further engage the public, following FHWA approval of the EA, TDOT will:
    - Make the approved EA available for public review (including the results of all technical studies).
    - Hold a public hearing to present the findings of the environmental technical studies.
    - Invite feedback and comments from the public on the results of the EA.

STATE  
ROUTE 



- ## Right-of-Way Acquisition

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) follows a federally mandated process to acquire property, which includes:

- Notice to property owners
- Independent Third-Party Conducted Appraisals
- Fair Market Value offered for proposed acquisitions
- *Relocation Assistance Program* for eligible affected property owners

Full details of TDOT's Right-of-Way Acquisition process can be found in the TDOT ROW Manual at:

[www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tdot/right-of-way-division/ROW\\_Procedures\\_Manual.pdf](http://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tdot/right-of-way-division/ROW_Procedures_Manual.pdf)

If you have a question regarding the TDOT Right-of-Way Acquisition and Relocation process, speak to a TDOT ROW Representative tonight or please call **1-800-546-0949 (toll-free)** and leave a voicemail message with your name, phone number and question. A TDOT representative will respond to questions within 7 business days.

Initiate Early Coordination	Quarter 3 of 2024
Conduct Technical Studies	Quarter 4 of 2024
<b>Public Meeting</b>	<b>November 12, 2024</b>
Notice of Availability/EA Approval	Quarter 1 of 2025
Hold NEPA Public Hearing	Quarter 2 of 2025
Approval of Final Environmental Document/ Selection of Preferred Alternative	Quarter 3 of 2025
Right-of-Way Acquisition Phase	To Be Determined
Construction Phase	To Be Determined

*\*Quarter 1 – January through March.*

*Quarter 2 – April through June.*

*Quarter 3 – July through September.*

*Quarter 4 – October through December*

*\*\*Forecasted dates are subject to change.*

*\*\*\*Once the final environmental document is approved by the Federal Highway Administration, the Planning and Environmental Phase is complete.*

Public Comments received or postmarked by **December 9, 2024** will be included in the official summary of the public meeting.

➤ **Written Comments :**

- Send a **Comment card or Letter** by mail to:  
State Route 66  
C/O Kimley-Horn and Associates  
10 Lea Avenue, Ste 400  
Nashville, TN 37210



- **Email** [TDOT.comments@tn.gov](mailto:TDOT.comments@tn.gov) using the subject line *State Route 66 Project*.
- Complete an **Online comment form** available on the SR-66 project website at <https://tinyurl.com/SR-66Hawkins> or by scanning the QR code.

➤ **Verbal Comments and Questions:**

- Record a verbal comment with the court reporter tonight.
- **(800) 546-0949 (toll-free)** - leave a voicemail message with your name, phone number and question and/or comment. For questions - Please make sure to call the number above by **December 2, 2024** and a TDOT representative will respond to questions within 7 business days.

## PROJECT CONTACT:

**Mr. Eric Wilson, PE**

TDOT Region 1 Project Development Manager

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