

LEITCHFIELD NORTHWEST BYPASS STUDY

Project Fact Sheet

August 2004

1. Who is conducting the study and what is the study purpose?

This study is being conducted by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to determine the need, feasibility, and possible corridors for a western bypass around Leitchfield in Grayson County. The Cabinet selected the consulting engineering firm of Parsons Brinckerhoff to prepare the planning study and to conduct a comprehensive public involvement program.

2. What is the study process? (Refer to Figure)

Simply stated, the study has four major elements:

1. Define Study Issues and Goals
2. Develop Corridors
3. Evaluate the Corridors
4. Recommend a Preferred Corridor(s)

3. What are the project goals?

Based on technical analysis and public input, six goals have been identified for the project. They include:

1. Improve Traffic Flow
2. Improve Safety
3. Economic Development
4. Improve Highway for Trucks
5. Improve Access
6. Enhance System Efficiency / Connections

4. What corridors were considered?

Initially, 16 corridors were put forward by the public. All of these corridors connected to KY 259 north of town, most at the Eastern Bypass and some further north. At the southern end, some corridors connected to KY 259 at West Lake Drive, while others connected to the Western Kentucky Parkway at a proposed new interchange. Some of the corridors were close to town, while others were as far as three miles from town. All of these various corridors were considered, along with similar corridors proposed by the Cabinet and its consultant team.

5. How were the corridors evaluated?

A three-level evaluation process was used to examine the possible corridors. During the first level of analysis, the 16 corridors as well as the No-Build scenario were subjected to a preliminary feasibility level screening. As a result, some corridors were altered, combined, or replaced with an equivalent corridor, with 14 corridors ultimately advancing to the second level of analysis. In the second analysis level, the 14 corridors were evaluated in more detail, taking into consideration a broad range of traffic, community, environmental, and economic benefits and impacts. The four most promising corridors were then advanced to the third and final level of analysis, where each was subjected to a detailed evaluation and compared to the project goals listed above. The corridor that appeared to best meet the project goals, with the fewest impacts, and in the most cost-effective manner was selected as the *preliminary* recommendation for the study.

6. What is the preliminary recommendation?

No final decision has been made for this project. The initial recommendation of the project team is Corridor A3. Additionally, a separate project might include the construction of a new interchange in the vicinity of the Western Kentucky Parkway and KY 187 with improvements to the existing highways between the new interchange and the western bypass. Input provided by the public will help the Cabinet in making a final decision.

7. How can I provide feedback?

You can provide feedback by filling out one of the comment forms provided at the public information meeting. You can also submit additional written comments using the contact information provided below.

8. What are the next steps?

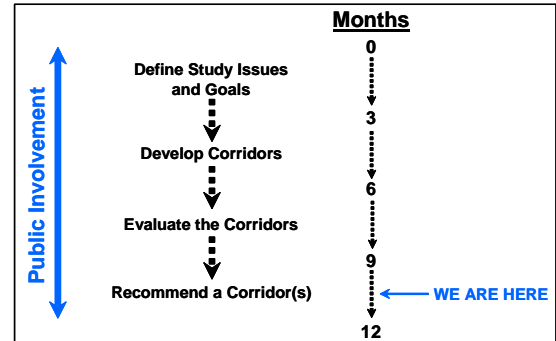
The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will make a public announcement regarding the final recommendation for the study in the next few months. The next step is for funds to be allocated for detailed highway design and environmental studies. During this next stage, a specific alignment will be selected for the roadway. Only after the design is complete will right-of-way acquisition and construction be initiated. This process could take many years due to both the work involved and the current statewide highway funding shortfall.

9. If you have further questions or comments please contact:

By Telephone:
Patty Dunaway, P.E.
District 4, Planning
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Tel: 270-766-5066

Or Write to:
Gary Raymer, P.E., Chief District Engineer
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet - District 4
634 East Dixie, P.O. Box 309
Elizabethtown, KY 42702

Study Process / Schedule



Also check the KYTC website at:

http://transportation.ky.gov/planning/projects/projects/dist4/nw_leitch_byp/nw_leitch_byp.shtm

