

Welcome

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) welcomes you to tonight’s public meeting for the Reconstruction/Widening of US 31W in Simpson County between KY 1008 and Reasonover Drive. The purpose of this meeting is to present information on the US 31W project and collect your input on preliminary widening alternatives to further assist in the selection of a preferred alternative.

Your involvement is very much appreciated, and we encourage you to visit the information displays for each alternative and talk with the project team members. The KYTC recognizes that a vital part of the design process comes from public involvement. Please take the time to look around, ask questions, and submit the “Comment Form” provided. Please leave the completed form in the box near the sign-in table as you leave. If you would like to take the form home and submit it at a later date, please feel free to do so. Pre-addressed envelopes have been provided. All written comments will be accepted until January 16, 2023.

Project Summary

The approximately 3-mile section of US 31W between KY 1008 and Reasonover Drive supports a mixture of agricultural, industrial, and residential developments and serves as an important route for motorists traveling to and from Bowling Green. The roadway classification changes from an urban minor arterial to a rural major collector approximately 1.1 miles north of the intersection with KY 1008 as development density begins to decrease.

Approximately 2 miles of the roadway consists of a 2-lane rural typical section and the remaining 1 mile of roadway consists of a 3-lane typical section with intermittent right turn lanes. Upgrades to the roadway will include widening to add a continuous Two-Way-Left-Turn-Lane (TWLTL) and 8-ft shoulders (4-ft paved, 4-ft earth).



Upgrading this roadway will improve safety and increase the capacity of the roadway to accommodate the existing and future traffic that is generated along this corridor. Traffic volumes peaked on US 31W in 2003 at 9,500 vehicles per day (vpd) before declining to a low of 5,000 vpd in 2015. The most recent count in 2021 of 8,200 vpd indicates recent developments are contributing to a rebound in traffic volumes. The proposed three lane typical section can support traffic volumes of 18,000 vpd, well above the projected daily volume of approximately 9,000 vpd in 2045.

Three alternatives were developed for the US 31W project and the design team is seeking public input on each alternative.

- **Alternative 1 - Widen Symmetrically**
- **Alternative 2 - Widen to the West**
- **Alternative 3 - Widen to the East**

Cost Estimates

Funding for right of way and utilities is included in the current KYTC Highway Plan and is programmed in 2025-2028. Construction funding is currently not included in the highway plan. The estimated cost (shown in millions) for each alternative are shown in the following table.

Phase	Alt. 1	Alt. 2	Alt. 3	KYTC Plan
Right of Way	\$1.3	\$2.3	\$3.3	\$1.6
Utilities	\$7.9	\$12.0	\$7.9	\$4.0
Construction	\$7.9	\$8.8	\$9.0	N/A
Total	\$17.1	\$23.1	\$20.2	\$5.6

*Dollars in above table are shown in millions.

Project Goals

During the early stages of a project’s evaluation, the Project Development Team identifies goals for the project. These project goals include:

- To improve capacity of the roadway to accommodate future growth.
- To improve safety and reduce accidents.
- To provide a roadway facility that meets current design standards.

Purpose and Need

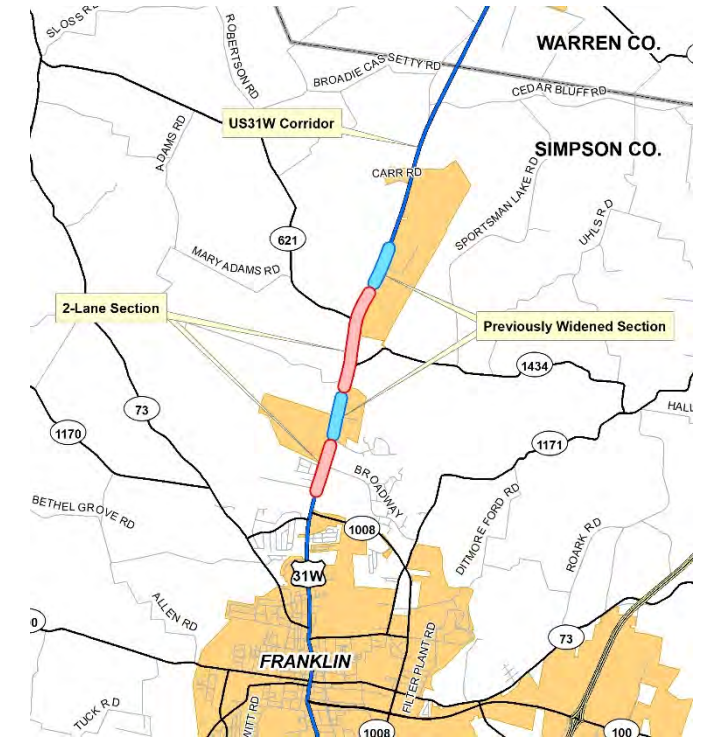
US 31W between KY 1008 and the north industrial park is predominantly a two-lane facility. US 31W is the major non-interstate, north-south route through Simpson County and provides a link between Franklin and Bowling Green. There is a mixture of residential, agricultural, and industrial land use along this section. Congestion can cause delays and accidents during morning and afternoon rush hours due to the number of turning movements associated with shift changes and the lack of turn lanes along US 31W. This project will widen US 31W to a three-lane corridor with widened shoulders to improve safety and increase capacity.

Next Steps

After tonight’s meeting, the following are the steps to be taken for this project:

1. The Project Team will meet to review and consider all comments received from this public meeting.
2. A Preliminary Line and Grade meeting will be held where a preferred alternative will be selected.
3. Final design, including geotechnical drilling, drainage design, right of way plans, and bridge plans will commence in 2023.
4. It is anticipated that the acquisition of right of way will begin in 2025. Relocation of utilities will follow.
5. Bids will be solicited, and a construction contract awarded when construction funds become available.

Thank you for your attendance and the input you have provided for this important highway project.



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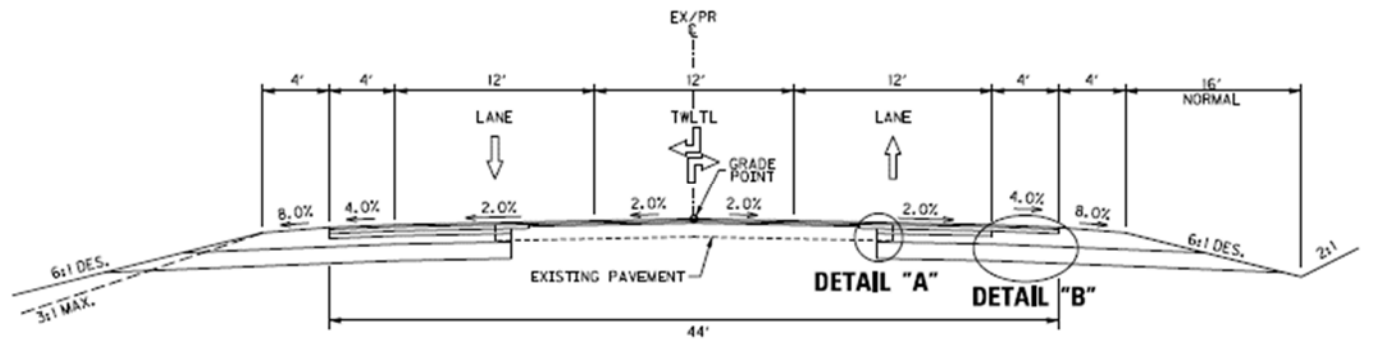


US 31W Widening

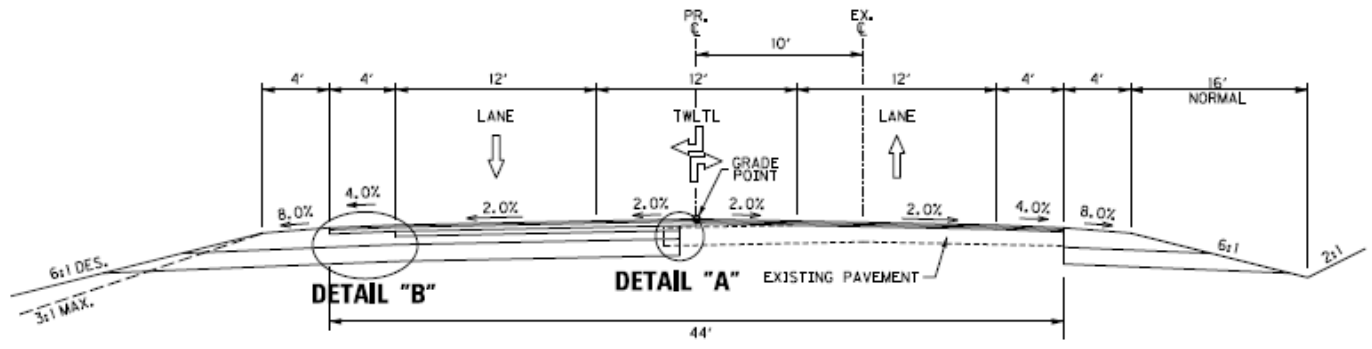
KY 1008 to Reasonover Drive

Simpson County

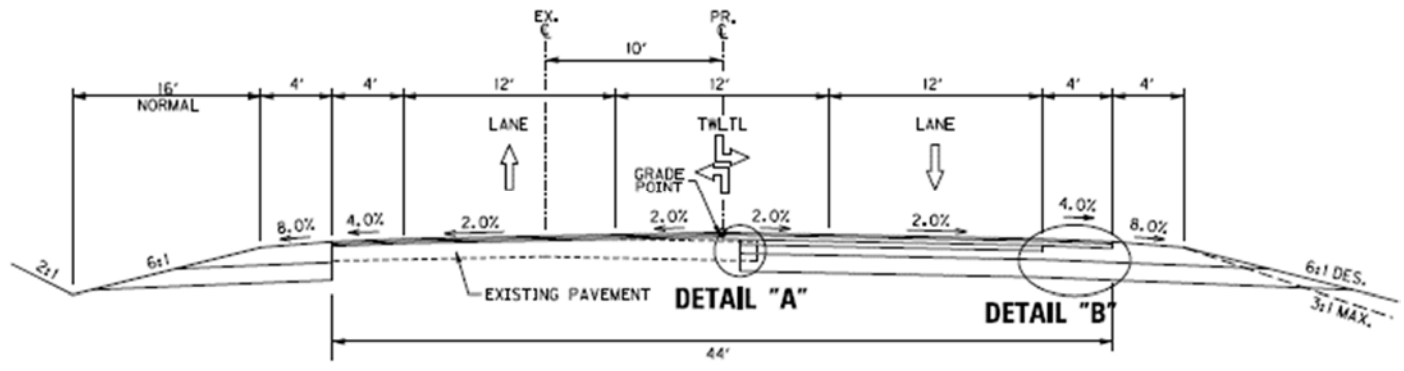
December 13, 2022



Alternative 1 - Widen Symmetrically



Alternative 2 - Widen to the West



Alternative 3 - Widen to the East

