



Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, District 3

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KY 185 project in Warren County moving forward with revised alternative

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. (Dec. 2, 2019) – The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is moving forward with a revised alternative to address safety and mobility issues on KY 185 in Warren County. The revised alternative addresses two major spot realignments in the northern part of the corridor. The original alternative consisted of one larger realignment project.

The first spot realignment is from just south of Pruitt Road to just south of KY 1320 and will be located just east of the current KY 185 route. This spot realignment is awaiting final approval of the assessment of environmental impacts after which the acquisition of rights-of-way may commence. The right-of-way cost is estimated at \$1.3 million, the utility cost is estimated at \$830,000 and the construction cost is estimated at \$8.5 million.

The new alignment is approximately 1.8 miles in length and features a two-lane road with wider shoulders than the current route. The new alignment will allow for better sight distance and lower vertical curves. A southbound passing lane of about .7 miles will also be included.

The second spot improvement is from just north of Austin Raymer Road to Ivy Creek and will be located just west of the current KY 185 route. This spot improvement realignment is currently in the preliminary design phase. The right-of-way cost is estimated at \$540,000, the utility cost is estimated at \$300,000 and the estimated construction cost of this section is \$4.7 million.

This new alignment is approximately 1 mile in length and improves sight distance and provides a flatter grade.

The original project alternative consisted of a new alignment of KY 185 beginning just north of KY 263 to the Butler County line and was approximately 5.6 miles in length. This alternative had an estimated total cost of more than \$29 million.

“We realize the importance of improving the safety on KY 185, and we wanted to develop an alternative that has a better chance of getting funded in a much faster time frame,” said Chief District 3 Engineer Joe Plunk. “The faster we can get something constructed, the faster motorists who travel that area can benefit.”

The primary goal of the project is to enhance safety while minimizing adverse environmental and community impacts.

The timetable for when construction will begin on the revised alternative will depend on the 2020 Highway Plan.

For any questions regarding the KY 185 project or to setup an appointment to view plans please contact Andy Stewart at the District 3 Office at 270-746-7898 or by email at andrew.stewart@ky.gov.