US 641 CORRIDOR CALLOWAY COUNTY, KY HENRY COUNTY, TN

Expedited Environmental Processes
PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2002 Alternatives Study
- 2011 / 2012 Preliminary Engineering
- 2012 VE Study
- 2017 Highway Safety Improvement Program
  - $1.4 Million Funding for Spot Improvements
- 2018 Re-Start
  - Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Assessment
PURPOSE AND NEED

- **NOT** a capacity Project
- 2013 – 2017 crash data
  - 8 fatalities from five crashes
  - Fatality rate in KY more than three times the statewide average for similar roadways.
- Improve connections to Interstates (I-24, I-69 and I-40) in the Region
INITIATE PRELIMINARY DESIGN

- Scoped for two off-corridor alignments to west and improvements along existing
- Work underway in earnest August 2018
SOUTHERN TIE-DOWN
THE BEST LAID PLANS (AKA BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD)
BUILD GRANT AWARDED
DECEMBER 2018

- Project previously rejected for grant funding
- 2018 selection criteria placed emphasis on projects in rural areas
- Local support $1M
- $23 M awarded to project
- With KYTC contribution, sufficient for building KY section (4-lane divided)
- Must be ready for letting by September 2020
ACCELERATED SCHEDULE

- Preliminary Line and Grade – February 2019
- Begin Final Design – April 2019
- Begin Preliminary Right of Way Acquisition in Kentucky – July 2019
- Draft EA June 2019
- Public Hearing -- August 2019
- Complete Environmental Documentation – October 2019
- Complete Right of Way Acquisition in Kentucky – April 2020
- Begin Construction – October 2020
ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- Along Existing US 641 Corridor - 3 Lanes
- Avoidance Alternative West of Existing US 641 Corridor - 4 Lanes
- Re-visit East of US 641 Corridor - 4 lanes
PRELIMINARILY PREFERRED
(IN KENTUCKY)

- West of Existing US 641 Corridor – 4 Lanes
STAY THE COURSE

- With the Preliminarily Preferred Alternative identified:
  - Environmental approval for early ROW acquisition (April)
  - Initiate Phase I archaeology; Separate reports for each State
  - Initiate Biological Assessment
  - Initiate Permitting

- State differences regarding Section 106 MOAs

- TDOT uncertainties regarding project scope and timing
TENNESSEE CONNECTIONS

Alternative 4I identified as “Preferred” (4/30/19)

Draft EA Scheduled for delivery June 3

TDOT cannot commit to funding construction
EW MILLER CONNECTIONS
EXPEDITING THE WORK

Time has been at a premium as alternatives conceived, field work undertaken. Less about innovation than perspiration. Consistent coordination with design function. Be flexible and adapt.

PICK TWO

GOOD + FAST = WON'T BE CHEAP
FAST + CHEAP = WON'T BE GOOD
CHEAP + GOOD = WON'T BE FAST
EXPEDITING THE WORK

- Heavy Project Management responsibility
- Communication paramount especially with bi-state projects
- Understand other State’s processes
- Early identification of Preferred Alternative critical for:
  - Early authorization of ROW activities
  - No acquisitions until NEPA complete
  - Initiating Phase I Archaeology
  - Completing Biological Assessment
- Limit second-guessing
- Universal commitment is essential!
QUESTIONS