

Executive Summary
Belt Line Road Extension Programming Study
Middlesboro, Bell County, Kentucky
Item Number 11-110.00

This study was conducted to identify and evaluate a potential corridor for a new route from the junction of KY 441 (Belt Line Road), KY 3486, and Archer Drive to US 25E in Middlesboro. The study area is shown in [Exhibit ES-1](#). The study is intended to help define the location and purpose of the project and to lay the groundwork toward meeting Federal requirements regarding consideration of environmental issues, as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Kentucky's FY2010-FY2012 Enacted Biennial Highway Plan includes State Construction (SP) funds in the amount of \$400,000 for the Design phase in 2010, \$620,000 for the Right-of-Way phase and \$490,000 for the Utilities phase in 2011, and \$6,400,000 for the Construction phase in 2012. The total amount for all phases listed in the *Biennial Highway Plan* is \$7,910,000. A project team approach was used in the development of this planning study, with project team members including representatives from Highway District 11 and the Central Office Division of Planning.

This report provides a general introduction and description of the project, documents the planning study process, identifies the proposed improvements, presents environmental, geotechnical, and existing and future traffic information for the study area under build and no-build scenarios, summarizes the input of the project team and resource agencies, and provides recommendations for the project. Goals and objectives established for the project include:

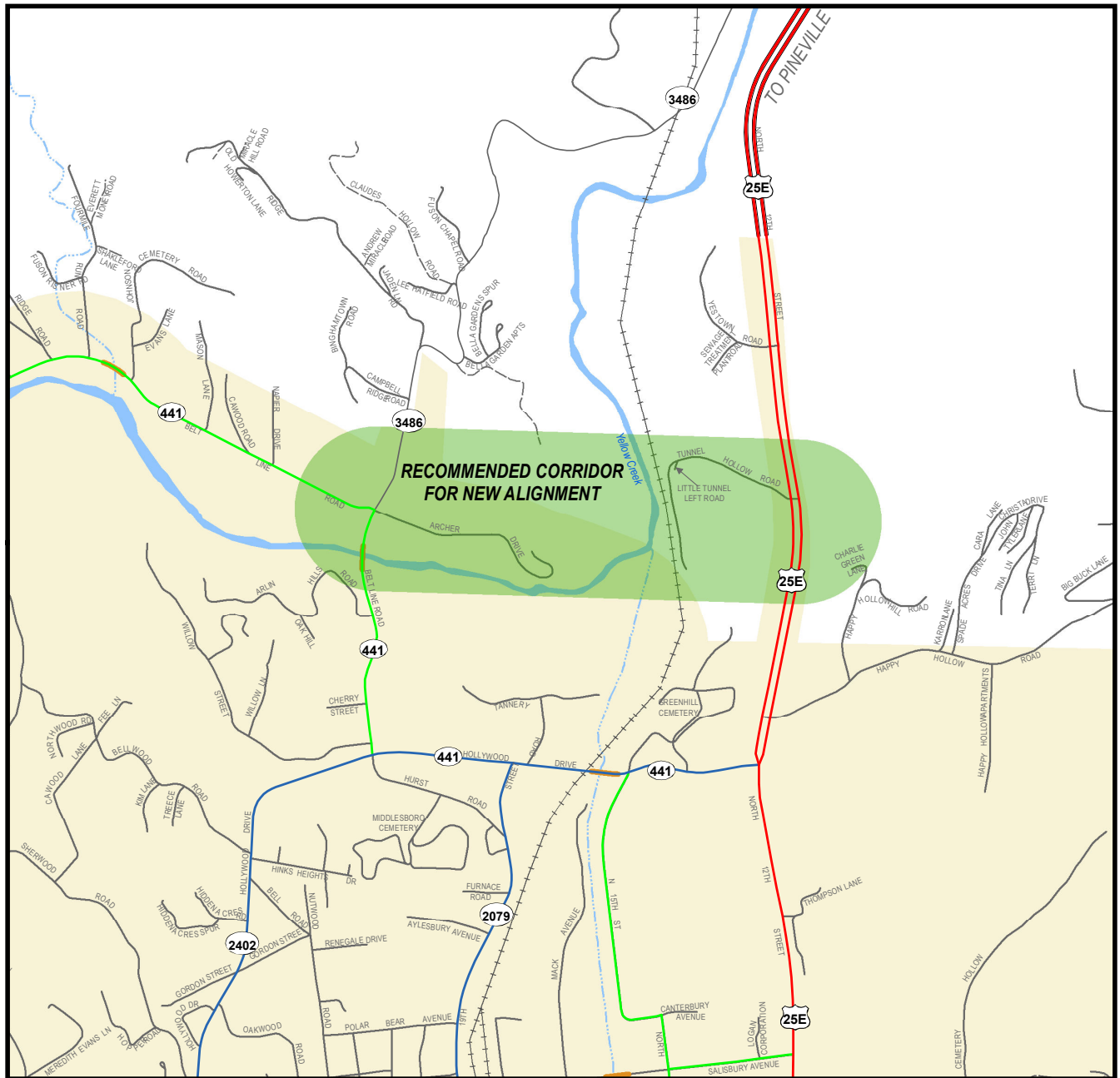
- Improve access between US 25E and western Middlesboro, and provide alternate access to such attractions as the Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College, the Appalachian Regional Healthcare Hospital, the Middlesboro-Bell County Airport, the Middlesboro Middle School, the Middlesboro Country Club, and residential areas;

- Alleviate congestion in the commercial area along existing KY 441 between 19th Street and US 25E, which includes a Wal-Mart and several smaller retail stores;
- Provide improved connectivity for the Middlesboro area; and
- Improve safety for the traveling public in the project area.

The recommendation resulting from this study is to construct a new two-lane facility from the KY 441 / KY 3486 / Archer Drive intersection to US 25E near the Tunnel Hollow Road intersection north of Middlesboro as shown in [Exhibit ES-1](#). The new facility's primary function should be to serve through traffic, and control of access to the new facility is recommended to reduce the potential for degradation of traffic flow and safety due to future roadside development. Phased cost estimates for the recommended build option were prepared by Highway District 11 and are summarized in [Table ES-1](#).

Phase	Estimated Cost (Year 2010 Dollars)
Design	\$775,000
Right-of-Way	\$750,000
Utilities	\$375,000
Construction	\$4,700,000
Total	\$6,600,000

Table ES-1: Cost Estimates



Functional Classification	
	Rural Interstate
	Rural Principal Arterial
	Rural Minor Arterial
	Rural Major Collector
	Rural Minor Collector
	Urban Interstate
	Urban Freeways & Expressways
	Urban Principal Arterial
	Urban Minor Arterial Street
	Urban Collector Street
	Rural & Urban Local
	CS-0000 Functionally Classified Road No.
	Bridge
	Railroad
	Stream
	City/Town
	Federal Aid Urbanized Area 2000
	Incorporated Area
	Lake
	State Park
	National Park or Recreation Area
	Defense Facility
	Wildlife Area
	Geological Area
	State, National, or Private Forest



**BELT LINE ROAD EXTENSION
MIDDLESBORO, BELL CO., KENTUCKY**

EXHIBITES-1

**PROJECT LOCATION
& RECOMMENDED CORRIDOR**



Division of Planning

