

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Programming Study

Adair & Russell Counties

KY 76 from US 127 to KY 206

Item No. 8-8302.00

November 2007

The purpose of this planning study is to gather information necessary to develop and evaluate alternatives that would improve safety and traffic flow along the KY 76 corridor from US 127 to KY 206.

Draft Project Goals

The preliminary goals established for this project include:

1. Improve Safety by:
 - a) Correcting horizontal and vertical deficiencies,
 - b) Increasing lane and shoulder widths to meet current guidelines and,
 - c) Providing improved safety measures such as flashing beacons, signage and guardrail where needed in certain locations.
2. Improve connectivity between US 127 and KY 206. KY 76 is a rural minor collector to the Green River Lake area, US 68 and KY 55.

Project Funding

This project was scheduled in the Enacted Six-Year Highway Plan (FY 2007-2012) with committed funds of \$100,000 for the planning phase. There are no future phases scheduled for this project at this time.

Existing Roadway Conditions

The current roadway alignment has narrow lanes and shoulders. Issues with the existing route are the curves and grades that do not meet current guidelines or provide adequate sight distance for on-coming vehicles along the corridor and vehicles pulling into traffic from the intersection at US 127 and KY 206.

Environmental Issues

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet personnel in District 8 prepared an Environmental Overview Report for this project. A few concerns were identified and need to be addressed as subsequent phases develop. These include: special use water designations, forested wetlands in the area and possible concerns of species that have been identified in the proximity.

Public Involvement

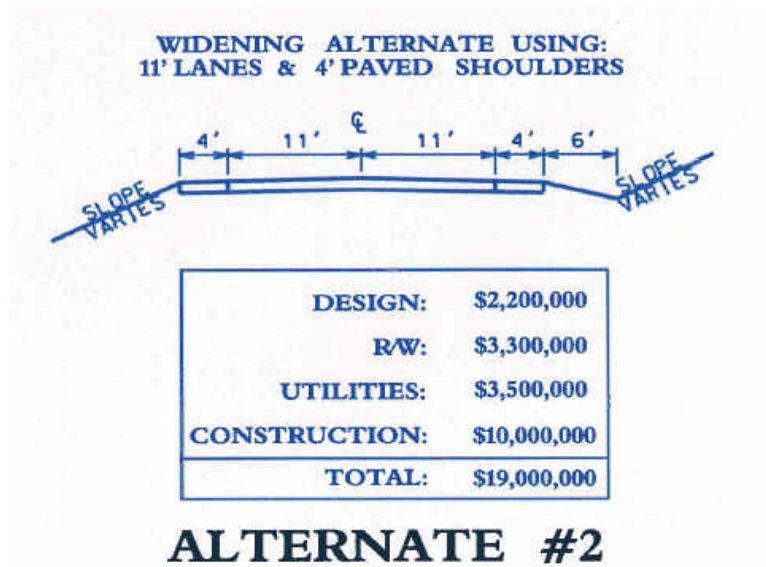
Local officials and stakeholders were given the opportunity to provide input. In addition, input was solicited from many local, state and federal agencies. Some local concerns were identified through this process:

- Narrow lanes and little to no shoulders, sharp drop-offs with no guardrail and difficult roadway geometrics,
- Used as a connector or “cut through” for commercial trucks (logging, concrete and carpet) along with recreational vehicles hauling boats to lakes in the surrounding area and those who commute,
- Sight distance issues upon entering or exiting KY 76 onto US 127 and vice versa and,
- Turning radii for trucks that encroach in the other lane at the intersection of KY 76/KY 206.

Recommendations

Only three alternates were considered due to the natural constraints of the corridor. Two of the three were chosen based on the project goals, corridor issues, technical analysis, environmental impacts and public/agency input. Primary and secondary recommendations are as follows:

1) **Alternate No. 2** was chosen to be the primary recommendation. This alternate includes the spot improvements that were identified along the existing route and the widening/upgrading of the KY 76 route with 11' lanes and 4' shoulders. The estimated cost for this rebuild is **\$19,000,000**.



2) **Alternate No. 1** (Spot Improvements) - If funding does not become immediately available for the primary recommendation, Alternate No. 1 has consideration as an interim recommended choice. This would provide the opportunity for lower-cost improvements to be programmed if only those lesser funding amounts became available. These smaller projects could be constructed to follow the primary recommendation.

Ranking for Spot Improvements

Rank	Spot #	County	BMP	EMP	Length	Total Cost
1	4	Russell	11.498	11.498	Russell	\$ 775,000.00
2	2	Russell/ Adair	14.135	0.000	Russell/ Adair	\$ 1,975,000.00
3	1	Adair	2.391	3.455	Adair	\$ 4,750,000.00
4	3	Russell	12.381	12.473	Russell	\$ 2,100,000.00
						\$ 9,600,000.00

Additional Information

Comments and/or requests for information regarding this KY 76 Programming Study should be sent to the address listed below:

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