

Press Release for Ashland Connector

Project Item Number: 9-129.00

County and Route: Boyd, Improvement or New Route

Project Description: Planning study for urban connector from I-64 to downtown Ashland

Project Manager Contact information (Cabinet): Deanna Harris Miller, P.E., Project Manager, KYTC D9 Division of Planning, P.O. Box 347, Flemingsburg, KY 41041, Phone: 606.845.2551, email: Deanna.harrismiller@ky.gov.

Project Manager Contact Information (Consultant): Brian Cash, P.E., ENTRAN, 400 E. Vine Street, Suite 300, Lexington, KY 40507, Phone: 859.233.2100

Other contacts: Bart Bryant, CDE, KYTC D9, P.O. Box 347, Flemingsburg, KY 41041, Phone: 606.845.2551, email: bart.bryant@ky.gov; or Allen Blair, PIO, 606-845-2551

Approximate dates: April 2008

Comments (number of people reached, effectiveness of the technique, what you would do differently, etc.): 45 people attended the meeting, 30 comments received back. The District will try a different location for the next meeting in order to have a better turn out and more involvement.



Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Department of Highways District 9

For Immediate Release
April 3, 2008

Contact: Allen Blair
Allen.Blair@ky.gov
606-845-2551
606-748-3716

Transportation Cabinet seeks public's ideas on 'Ashland Connector' *New or improved route to connect Ashland to I-64*

FLEMINGSBURG, Ky. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is considering a new or improved route between downtown Ashland and Interstate 64 through northwest Boyd County – an “Ashland Connector” – and engineers need your help.

Basically, they want to know, how would you improve your drive? Would you make changes to US 60? Build a new road? Both?

The Cabinet wants to hear answers to those and other questions about its I-64 to US 23 Ashland Connector Study at a public meeting April 24 in Cannonsburg. The meeting will be 4-7 p.m. at the Kyova Mall food court. It will be informal and interactive, with KYTC officials and project consultants available to answer questions.

Area residents, commuters, business-owners and other highway users are urged to attend and offer their ideas on short- or long-term projects to improve mobility between the interstate and downtown.

“We want to partner with the community to find out how we can help,” said Bart Bryant, chief district engineer for Department of Highways District 9. “Only through meeting with local citizens and discussing their traffic needs can a comprehensive plan be developed.”

The study began last year with an evaluation of existing traffic conditions in an area from I-64 at exits 181 and 185 to US 23 on the west side of Ashland from 13th Street (US 60) to KY 5 at the Greenup County line.

Its purpose is to determine if there is a need for an improved, or perhaps new, connector route from I-64 into Ashland and determine alternatives on how to build it. Currently, the only direct routes into the city are along US 60 and US 23, both of which are congested and have high crash rates.

The study will continue throughout the year, with continued public involvement, as alternatives are developed and evaluated.

At the April 24 meeting, the public may provide both verbal and written comments. For more information, write the Transportation Cabinet's District 9 office at P.O. Box 347, Flemingsburg, Ky. 41041, or call toll-free (800) 817-2551.

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