

Birmingham Northern Beltline
Community Outreach Group
Meeting Notes
May 19, 2016

COG Members present-

Dave Ingram
Deacon Jones
David Cooper
Terry Fisher

ALDOT Personnel and Support

Gary Smith
Garry Banks
Barry Fagan
Roger Earley
Wilson Folmar
Ashley Cousins

Meeting Notes:

- I. Met at the project trailer prior to site observation
 - a. Reviewed safety for site observation.
 - b. Current work is mostly at the culvert extension on Highway 79. Work on the current project should be complete in 4-6 months.
 - c. All of the large rock cuts and blasting on the project has been completed. The large excavator and 777 dump trucks have been removed from the project site.
 - d. The current project is a grade and drain project (foundation, plumbing and framing) between Highway 75 and Highway 79.
 - e. The next project scheduled at this time is a bridge project to be let for construction in 2019.
 - f. Discussed recent newspaper articles about funding the project. The current project was started using some Appalachian Development Project (APD) funds that had been earmarked by Congress years ago. With the passage of a new transportation funding bill, Congress no longer earmarks APD funds, so any future funding will come out of ALDOT's total Federal allocation. Projects on the APD system are eligible for 100% federal funding (i.e. no match money required), but those federal funds can also be used for other projects, thus ALDOT will have to balance current project and future needs.

- g. After the bridges on the current section are constructed, the project will have to be paved before traffic can drive on the Highway. At this time, we do not have a date for the paving, or for construction of any of the other sections of the Beltline, but design and right-of-way acquisition continues.

II. Site Observation

- a. The group entered the project from Highway 75 and observed finished grade, sedimentation basins, and the completed soil nail wall at Stop #1.
- b. The second observation stop was at the current western terminus of the mainline where the group observed future bridge locations for the access ramps at Highway 79 (to the west), and the large rock cut area to the east.
- c. The third stop was at the western area of the future bridge abutment looking back to the east. The members were able to observe grassed slopes and discussed the importance of stabilization of the slopes for preservation of the work that has been done and management of post-construction stormwater.
- d. The group entered the western side of the project from Highway 79 at the future location of the on-ramp and stopped at Green Drive looking back to the east to observe the future area of ramp and mainline bridges that will be constructed during a future project. The tour concluded by existing at the future off-ramp and driving across the culvert beneath Highway 79 that is currently under construction. They were able to observe newly constructed slopes with rolled erosion control product (RECP) and stabilized areas along Highway 79.