

P.O. BOX 25201, RALEIGH, NC 27611-5201

CERTIFICATION OF RULEMAKING

Certifying Agency: Department of Transport	ation			
Action:	х	Adoption	Repeal	
Statutory Authority: 20-115.1 (g).				
Public Hearing Not Red GS 150A-1, 20-1.	uired F	or This Action	nder:	
Rule Summary: STAA Designated Route	(Twins (Only).		
Circumstances Requiri Necessary for public safe			al:	
Effective Date: June 01, 2011				
June 01, 2011 DATE		-		OFFICER SIGNATURE
				James. K. Lacy, P.E.
				TYPED NAME
				State Traffic Engineer
				TITLE



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STAA Designated Route (Twins Only)

The Board of Transportation has delegated to the Secretary of Transportation the authority to adopt and promulgate all rules and regulations and ordinances regulating traffic on the highways pursuant to authority of N.C.G.S 143B-350 (g) (see 19ANCAC 4A.0004).

The State Traffic Engineer is subdelegated the authority by the Secretary of Transportation to adopt and promulgate all necessary rules, regulations and ordinances for the use of and to police traffic on state highways, and to set, change, or extend route numbers on the Primary Highway System of North Carolina pursuant to authority of N.C.G.S 143B-350(g) (see 19ANCAC 4A.0004).

Pursuant to that delegation, the State Traffic Engineer hereby adopts and promulgates the following ordinances based on traffic and engineering studies performed by the Traffic Engineering Branch, Department of Transportation, and in accordance with General Statute 20-115.1 (g).

COUNTY CATAWBA

DIVISION 12

DECLARE THE FOLLOWING

County	Ordinance Number	Route	Long Description
CATAWBA	1063050	US 321	Between the Catawba County line and interstate
			40 in Hickory.

COUNTY GASTON

DIVISION 12

DECLARE THE FOLLOWING

County	Ordinance Number	Route	Long Description
GASTON	1063048	US 321	Between interstate 85 in Gastonia and the Lincoln County line.

COUNTY LINCOLN

DIVISION 12

DECLARE THE FOLLOWING

County	Ordinance Number	Route	Long Description
LINCOLN	1063049	US 321	Between the Gaston County line and the Catawba
			County line.

June 01, 2011 Page 2 of 3

The foregoing Highway Traffic Ordinances are hereby adopted in accordance with the General Statutes of North Carolina (20-115.1 (g)).

All the actions to the Highway Traffic Ordinances herein adopted are effective June 01, 2011 and are identified as follows:

ORDINANCE TYPE	ADOPT	REPEAL
STAA Designated Route (Twins Only)	3	0
Total	3	0

The Division Engineer for each affected Division shall cause to be erected appropriate signs indicating the action of the State Traffic Engineer and these ordinances shall be in full force and effect from and after the erection of such signs.

	June 01, 2011
OFFICER SIGNATURE	DATE
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June 01, 2011 Page 3 of 3

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June 01, 2011	
DATE	

OFFICER SIGNATURE

James. K. Lacy, P.E.

TYPED NAME

State Traffic Engineer

TITLE

INDEX

BOARD OF TRANSPORTATION MEETING

June 1 - 2, 2011

	<u>Page No.</u>
Call to Order	2971
Ethics Statement	2971
Approval – Minutes of the May 4-5, 2011 Board Meeting	2971
Jim Trogdon's Remarks	2972
Financial Update	2974
Designation of Twin Trucks	2974
Presentation by Commissioner Steve Troxler	2975
Ecosystem Enhancement Program Biennial Budget	2975
Right of Way Manual Revision	2976
MPO/RPO Report	2976
DMV Update	2977
Legislative Report	2977
Adjournment	2978
Award Presentations by Secretary Conti	2978
Invocation	2978
Call to Order	2978
Ethics Reminder	2979
Approval of Agenda	2979
Committee Reports	2979
Approval – Resolution for Bill Hall	2979
Approval – New Ferry Name	2980
Statewide Plan Committee	2980
Aviation Subcommittee	2980
Intergovernmental Relations Committee	2981
Approval - Award of Highway Construction Contracts in the	2981

Approval – Professional Services Management Unit	2983
Approval – Secondary Road Improvement Projects	2990
Approval – Secondary Road Construction Programs	2993
Approval – Additions, Abandonments, and Road Name Changes to State Secondary Road System	2994
Approval – Divisionwide Small Construction, Statewide Contingency, Public Access, Economic Development	2996
Approval – Public Transportation	2999
Approval – Specific State Funds for Construction Projects	3035
Approval - Specific North Carolina Trust Funds	3037
Approval – Funds for Specific Federal-Aid Projects	3039
Approval – Revisions to the 2009-2015 STIP	3054
Approval – Municipal and Special Agreements	3055
Approval – Municipal Street System Changes	3068
Approval – Preliminary Right of Way Plans	3071
Approval – Final Right of Way Plans	3073
Approval – Revisions of Final Right of Way Plans	3074
Approval - Conveyance of Highway Right of Way Residues	3076
Approval – Conveyance of Surplus Highway Right of Way	3077
Approval – Permanent Utility Easement	3077
Approval – Authorization to Condemn Right of Way for Secondary Road Project	3078
Approval – Advance Acquisition of Highway Right of Way	3078
Approval – Recommended Allocation of Highway Maintenance Appropriations – FY 2011-2012	3079
Approval – Supplemental Allocation of Highway Maintenance Appropriations – FY 2010-2011	3090
Approval – Harnett County Comprehensive Transportation Plan	3097
Additional Duainage	

Additional Business

Adjournment 3097

Board of Transportation Meeting

June 1 - 2, 2011

Call to Order

Chairman Collier called the meeting of the Board of Transportation to order at 12:51 p.m. Wednesday, June 1, 2011 in Raleigh, North Carolina with the following members present:

Overholt, McNairy, Alford, Tulloss, Ciccone, Fox, Wall, Burns, Womble, Perkins, Collett, Proffitt, and Burrell

Members Watts, Szlosberg-Landis and Halsey were absent.

Ethics Statement

Chairman Collier read the Ethics Statement advising any Board Member that may have a conflict of interest or appearance of conflict to abstain from participation in that particular item and to file the proper paper work with the Secretary to the Board.

Approval – Minutes of the May 4 - 5, 2011 Board Meeting

The minutes of the May 4 - 5, 2011 Board of Transportation meeting were unanimously approved upon a motion by Board Member Burns, which was seconded by Board Member Perkins.

Jim Trogdon's Remarks

Chief Operating Officer Jim Trogdon welcomed everyone to Raleigh and stated the big news at this time is the State budget. Mr. Trogdon said that things are moving fast and changing almost every hour. Beau Memory will provide an update later in the meeting.

Mr. Trogdon shared information regarding the Strategic Prioritization and 2040 Plan. He stated that public input is crucial to our mission as it allows the people of North Carolina to contribute to and become invested in our work. In May NCDOT hosted three education sessions for the next round of strategic prioritization which extended our data-driven methodologies for ranking projects to all modes of transportation. These sessions provided an overview of the process and allowed us to respond to any issues regarding scoring, process and schedule. Candidate projects will be submitted in July. The projects will be ranked by our planning partners and the department during October-November and results released early in 2012. These rankings will be used to develop the department's priorities for the years 2018-2022. Mr. Trogdon also stated the department is continuing public outreach efforts for the 2040 State Transportation Plan. He reiterated Secretary Conti's request to please spread the word about these efforts.

Mr. Trogdon informed the Board of the department's efforts regarding a Maritime Study. The North Carolina Maritime Strategy planning session was held last month to evaluate the current and future role ports play in sustaining North Carolina's efforts to create jobs and strengthen the economy across the state. This group is led by an executive team of state-level leaders including Secretary Conti.

On May 19, 2011 crews officially started construction on the first project made possible by Governor Perdue's Mobility Fund – phase two of the I-85 Corridor Improvement Project in Davidson County. In addition to improving the movement of goods and services across the state, this project will benefit North Carolina's economy by creating or sustaining about 200 jobs.

Mr. Trogdon informed the board that last month NCDOT launched our state-wide "Click It or Ticket" campaign. Since this campaign was successfully launched 18 years ago, seat belt usage has increased almost 40% in the state. He also informed the Board the communications office issued a video news release in conjunction with National Bicycle Month that reminds citizens about the need for cyclists and motorists to share the road. Also, the Governor's Highway Safety Program participated in the kickoff of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's new campaign titled, "On the road, on the water…Don't drink and drive."

As part of Governor Perdue's effort to show how "Education Works" in North Carolina, Secretary Conti and other cabinet secretaries visited public schools and community colleges around the state last month. This complements many of the ongoing programs NCDOT supports including: Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day; Right—of-Way programs recently established at two historically black schools, North Carolina A&T in Greensboro and St. Augustine's College in Raleigh; Career Constructions Days, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year; and Aviation Career Education Academies (ACE), which will allow middle and high school students across the state to learn about aviation-related jobs at ten week-long camp sessions this summer.

Mr. Trogdon stated that through these and other efforts we will continue to focus on our core mission, providing a transportation system that creates jobs and opportunities for the people of North Carolina today and tomorrow.

Financial Update

Chief Financial Officer Mark Foster presented the Board with the current financial report. He and David Joyner, Executive Director of NCTA, also gave an update on the Monroe Project. PFM is the financial advisor and Bank of America is the underwriter. Bids opened October 2010 and the low bid was \$368M. This was \$97.2M below the NCTA estimate. All environmental approvals are in place including 401 and 404 permits. The Design-Build team has continued to extend bids as allowed by process; however, with cost of materials rising they may be able to only hold bid until September 2011. The ruling from the Judge regarding the SELC Lawsuit on the Merits is expected in August or September. If this cannot be settled in this time frame the bid winner is likely to withdraw offer by early October. Completing the Monroe financing in September likely would save \$340 million. The revised plan of finance for the Monroe project will not adversely impact Division 10 equity in the STIP.

Designation of Twin Trucks

Renee Roach, Transportation Mobility and Safety Staff Engineer, presented information to the Board regarding the designation of Twin Trailer Trucks on US Highway 321 between I-40 in Catawba County and I-85 in Gaston County. A traffic engineering study indicating the subject route can safely accommodate and has sufficient capacity to handle these vehicle combinations was completed. The opportunity for a public hearing has been provided in each county through which the subject route passes. The City of Gastonia is opposed to designation until the interchange at I-85 has been reconfigured. However, these vehicles currently have statutory access at, and within, three miles of this interchange regardless of designation. Upon the recommendation of the Mobility and Safety Division, a motion was made by Board Member Proffitt, which was seconded by Board Member Overholt to approve the designation.



BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

EUGENE A. CONTI, JR. SECRETARY

February 2, 2011

Honorable Representative Thom Tillis
Honorable Senator Phil Berger
Co-Chairs, Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations
North Carolina General Assembly
Legislative Building
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Subject:

Designation of US 321 for use by Trucks with Twin Trailers

Dear Gentlemen:

It is our recommendation to designate US 321 between I-40 in Catawba County and I-85 in Gaston County. This addition to the North Carolina Truck Network was requested by Fort Worth Carrier Corporation, Con Way Southern Express, Tyson Food Transportation, Old Dominion Freight Lines, Newton Transportation Company, Inc., and Bernhardt Transportation. In accordance with designation procedures outlined in General Statute §20-115.1, we have completed the following requirements:

- A determination of public convenience and need (§20-115.1, g, 1)
- A traffic engineering study indicating the subject route can safely accommodate and has sufficient capacity to handle these vehicle combinations (§20-115.1, g, 2)
- The opportunity for a public hearing has been provided in each county through which the subject route passes (§20-115.1, g, 3)

The City of Gastonia is opposed to designation until the interchange at I-85 has been reconfigured. However, these vehicles currently have statutory access at, and within, three miles of this interchange regardless of designation.

Please contact me at 919–773–2800 if you have any questions or need additional details including the specific findings of our investigation.

Sincerely,

J. Kevin Lacy, P.E.

State Traffic Engineer

JKL/lna

Eugene A. Conti, Jr., Secretary of Transportation Terry R. Gibson, P.E., State Highway Administrator Beau Memory, Legislative Liaison

MAILING ADDRESS: TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION 1561 MAIL SERVICE CENTER RALEIGH NC 27699-1561 TELEPHONE: 919-773-2800 FAX: 919-771-2745

WEBSITE: WWW.NCDOT.ORG

LOCATION: 750 NORTH GREENFIELD PARKWAY GARNER NC 27529

Transportation Mobility and Safety Division North Carolina Department of Transportation

PROPOSED DESIGNATION

The following is information on the proposed designation of certain routes on the State Highway System for use by one or more types of Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) dimensioned vehicles. The process for designating portions of the State Highway System is outlined in G.S. §20-115.1(g).

Request Number: D-01-1

Route(s): US 321

County/Counties: Catawba, Gaston, and Lincoln

Division(s): 12

Description: US 321 between Interstate 85 in Gastonia and Interstate 40 in Hickory

STAA Vehicle(s): Truck Tractors with Twin Trailers

Contact Person: Lisa Avery, STAA Program Coordinator

919-773-2893 lavery@ncdot.gov

Origination: August 28, 2001

Requested By: Fort Worth Carrier Corp. (C/O Dillard's Dept. Stores, Salisbury, NC) – 8/28/01

Con-Way Southern Express (Charlotte, NC) – 5/31/05, 10/20/06, 10/5/07

Tyson Food Transportation (Wilkesboro, NC) – 9/8/05 Old Dominion Freight Lines (Thomasville, NC) – 10/16/07 Newton Transportation Company, Inc. (Hudson, NC) – 11/26/07

Bernhardt Transportation, LLC (Lenoir, NC) – 2/6/08

Investigation(s): March 8, 2002 and December 10, 2008

Support: Gaston County

Lincoln County

Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

City of Hickory State Highway Patrol

Lincolnton-Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce Lincoln County Industrial Park Owner's Association, Inc. Industrial Manager's Association of Lincoln County

FedEx Freight, Inc. US Foodservice Town of Dallas

Lake Norman Rural Planning Organization

June 1, 2011 Page 1 of 2

Opposition: City of Gastonia

Public Notice: NCDOT News Release (7/22/10)

Charlotte Observer (7/18/10, 7/21/10, 7/28/10, and 8/4/10)

Charlotte Post (7/22/10, 7/29/10, and 8/5/10)

La Noticia (7/21/10)

Cherryville Eagle (7/21/10, 7/28/10, and 8/4/10)

Administrator: October 7, 2010

Hearing Notice: Gaston County Courthouse (10/26/10)

NCDOT News Release (10/28/10) Gaston Gazette (10/28/10 and 11/4/10) QuePasa Media (10/28/10 and 11/4/10)

Public Hearing: November 8, 2010 (7:00 p.m.)

Gaston County Courthouse Public Forum (2nd Floor)

325 N. Marietta Street, Gastonia

Date to Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations:

February 2, 2011 (sent and receipt confirmation)

Date Legislative Consultation Complete:

May 3, 2011

Date to Board of Transportation:

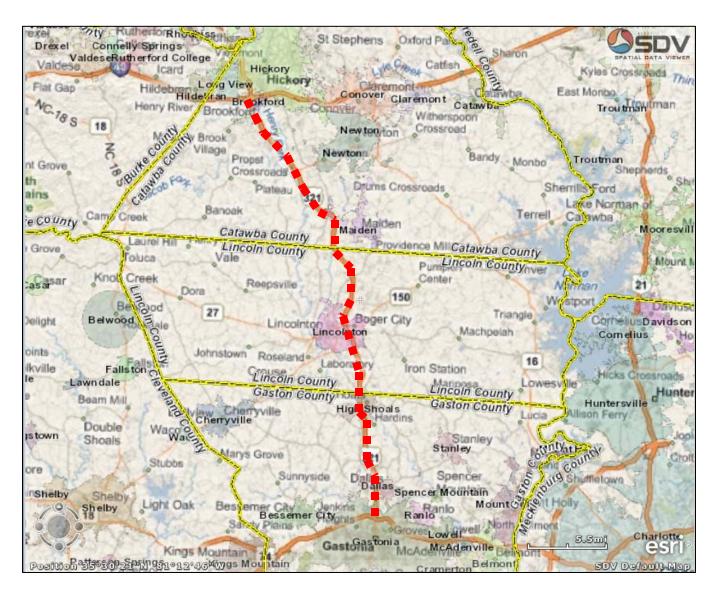
June 1, 2011

June 1, 2011 Page 2 of 2

D-01-1

Designation of Twin Trailer Trucks on US 321 between I 85 in Gastonia and I 40 in Hickory in Catawba, Gaston, and Lincoln Counties

Map 1: Location of proposed designated route in relationship to major roads, counties, and municipalities.



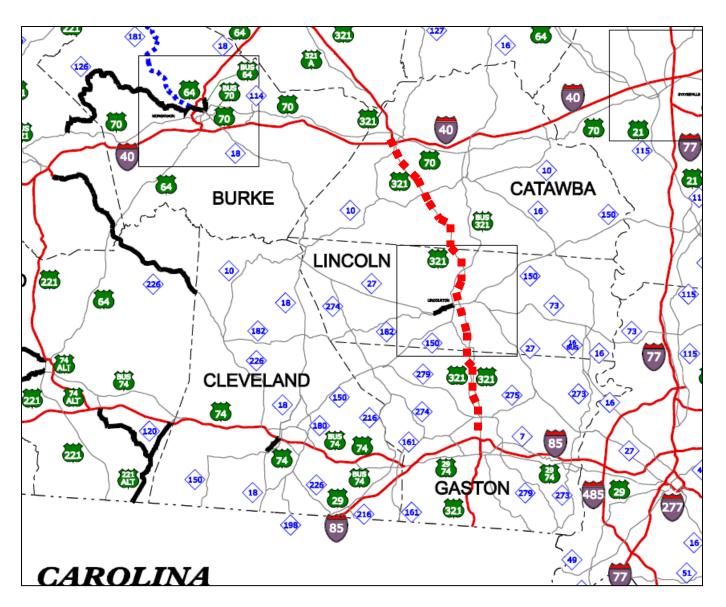




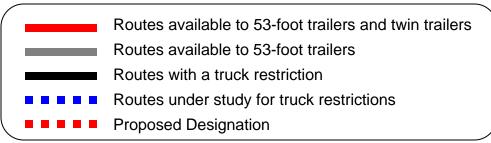
D-01-1

Designation of Twin Trailer Trucks on US 321 between I 85 in Gastonia and I 40 in Hickory in Catawba, Gaston, and Lincoln Counties

Map 2: Location of proposed addition to the North Carolina Truck Network (NCTN).









MICHAEL F. EASLEY GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT SECRETARY

December 10, 2008

In Reply Refer To Application D-01-1

TO:

Mr. D. D. Galloway, P.E.

Western Region Safety And Mobility Field Operations Engineer

FROM:

Regional Traffic Engineer . A. Hamvick

SUBJECT:

STAA Designation D-01-1: US 321 from I-40 in Catawba County southward to I-85 in Gaston

County.

This is in reference to the logged request of September 22, 2008, to designate the above section of US 321.

My findings and recommendations for Request No. D-01-1 are as follows:

General:

US 321, while not designated as an STAA route is a primarily a fully controlled median divided interstate type facility. A short section near I-85 is 5-lane with continuous left turn lane.

Lane Widths:

US 321 has lane widths of 11-12 feet.

The overall pavement condition is good throughout the length of the route.

Shoulders:

US 321 has paved shoulders varying from 3-10 feet with shoulder rumble strips. The 5 lane section near I-85 has curb and gutter.

Alignment:

The overall alignment of this route is good.

Bridges:

There are no posted bridges on this route.

Speed Limit:

US 321 has a speed limit of 45 –65 mph. The majority is posted at 65 mph.

Intersections:

There are three turns along this route:

- 1. US 321 at I-85. Both ramps are signalized
- 2. US 321 at I-40 ramps are collector distributor type with loops.

Schools:

There are no schools with direct access to US 321 along this route.

Railroad Crossings:

No rail crossings

Crash History:

Truck crash rates were compared to the statewide averages. Two segments of US 321 had truck crash rates that exceeded the critical crash rates for trucks. These segments are 0.15 mile and 0.62 mile in length. The short segment length causes the rate to be artificially high. A review of these crash reports did not reveal any discernable truck crash patterns. It should be noted that the section of US 321 from I-85 north for approximately 0.75 mile has recently undergone significant improvements. These improvements allow for more capacity for the SB I-85 ramp and also more downstream capacity to handle the increased left turns from the ramp. Also the signal at US 321 at Rankin Lake Rd. was reduced from an eight-phase signal to a two-phase signal. These gains in efficiency for NB US 321 should also translate to somewhat improved efficiency for the SB US 321 approach due to improved signal timing and perhaps more green time to the SB approach. Project U-4736 (Gastonia Signal System Project) is also underway and will affect the signals along US 321 in Gastonia. This project will provide fiber optic communications between signals and will also include video monitoring capabilities for this segment of US 321.

All other segments are within the statewide crash rates.

Recommendation and Conclusion:

I recommend that the requested STAA designation request No. D-01-1 described in this report be approved.

If you need any additional information, please let me know.

JAH:jh