Appendix F

Project Brochure
WHY IS I-95 IMPORTANT TO NORTH CAROLINA?

The 182 miles of I-95 in North Carolina are crucial for the movement of people and goods across the state and along the entire Eastern Seaboard. I-95 provides freight access to the major ports in Wilmington and Morehead City, and convenient connections to rail facilities for the transfer and distribution of goods. The corridor also serves thousands of motorists traveling within the state, and to the north and south of North Carolina. I-95 is a direct route to Fort Bragg, the largest Army installation in the world based on population.

WHY DO WE NEED THE I-95 CORRIDOR PLANNING AND FINANCE STUDY?

This study will create a blueprint for the future of I-95 in North Carolina. It will determine the road’s needs, define and prioritize necessary improvements, and identify ways to fund those improvements.

IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH I-95 THROUGH NORTH CAROLINA?

I-95 in North Carolina was first built between 1956 and 1980. With the exception of some sections near Fayetteville and the I-40/I-85 interchange near Benson, it is basically the same four-lane highway as when it was first built. It does not meet the most current design standards for a freeway carrying a large percentage of truck traffic.

Past studies have shown that I-95 in North Carolina must be reconstructed and widened to meet the needs of the growing number of vehicles that travel on it every day. This current study will evaluate tolling as one of many options for funding improvements in the corridor. The study will provide an in-depth assessment of the needs for I-95 in North Carolina, with detailed information on the associated costs of improvements. Funding options using both toll and non-toll alternatives will be explored.

WILL THE STUDY CONSIDER TOLLING I-95? HAS THE DECISION TO TOLL ALREADY BEEN MADE?

No, a decision has not been made to toll I-95. This I-95 study will evaluate tolling as one of many options for funding improvements in the corridor. The study will provide an in-depth assessment of the needs for I-95 in North Carolina, with detailed information on the associated costs of improvements. Funding options using both toll and non-toll alternatives will be explored.

WHEN WILL THE IMPROVEMENTS TO I-95 BE MADE?

The role of this study is to create a blueprint for the future of I-95 in North Carolina, which includes identifying and prioritizing specific projects along the corridor for planning and construction. The timeline for implementing these projects will depend on available funding. A study completed in 2003 at the request of the state legislature suggested that tolling I-95 would allow individual projects to move forward more quickly, while non-toll alternatives would take longer.

WHAT CAN NCDOT LEARN FROM THE PUBLIC?

NCDOT wants to know: “What’s your view of I-95 in North Carolina?” We are interested in learning how the public uses I-95, your perception of its deficiencies, what you think should be improved and how different funding options would affect you.

NCDOT will use this information in several different ways. It will impact the technical decisions, especially in helping NCDOT decide where the greatest needs are along I-95. It will also ensure that all financing options are explored and that the impact of any recommended options is fully understood. Although NCDOT is not asking the public to vote on the future of I-95, we do want to make sure your voice will be heard and that the decisions making process is open and transparent.

WON’T TOLL BOOTHS ON I-95 SLOW DOWN AND/OR DELAY TRAFFIC?

I-95 is a busy highway, doesn’t it belong to the Federal government? Interstate highways, though created by federal legislation and largely funded by the federal government, are owned, built and operated by states or toll authorities. To learn more about finance issues related to improvements for I-95, please visit the project website (www.driving95.com) or call the toll-free hotline (1-877-95-VIEW).

WHY DOES NORTH CAROLINA NEED TO PAY FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO I-95? AS AN INTERSTATE HIGHWAY, DOESN’T IT BELONG TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT?

Interstate highways, though created by federal legislation and largely funded by the federal government, are owned, built and operated by states or toll authorities. To learn more about finance issues related to improvements for I-95, please visit the project website (www.driving95.com) or call the toll-free hotline (1-877-95-VIEW).

WHAT’S YOUR VIEW?

To provide your feedback to the NCDOT I-95 Corridor Planning and Finance Study, please visit the project website at www.driving95.com or call the toll-free hotline at 1-877-95-VIEW.
The 182-mile stretch of Interstate 95 in North Carolina was built between the 1950s and the 1980s as a four-lane interstate. Unlike other interstate highways in the state, large-scale rehabilitation or widening has been minimal on this aging interstate. In 2009 the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) determined that this interstate needed a more holistic evaluation from state line to state line for planning purposes; thus, the I-95 Corridor Planning and Finance Study began to take root.

**About the Study**

To initiate this planning project, NCDOT chose two consultants, Baker Engineering and PBS&J, to work jointly on the I-95 Corridor Planning and Finance Study. The study encompasses the entire length of I-95 in North Carolina and, when concluded in the fall of 2011, will provide NCDOT with a master plan for the future development of I-95 in our state. It’s important to note that this is a high-level study and will not directly result in construction projects once it is completed. At that time, NCDOT plans to take this study—and the resulting tools and recommendations—and use them to begin development of individual projects.

**Key Aspects of the Study**

**NEEDS ASSESSMENT & ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS**

The current conditions of the pavement, the bridges and overpasses, the drainage, safety and numerous other factors will be logged and charted to identify existing deficiencies.

**TRAFFIC MODEL**

The model will provide details on the type and volume of traffic that is currently traveling on I-95, and will also give details to help anticipate the projected traffic volumes.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING**

This screening allows NCDOT to be aware of potential impacts that might require additional coordination during the planning, design and construction phases, including wetlands, historic properties, cemeteries, major cultural sites, etc., as well identify and target the key audiences that live and work in this area.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

The goal of the public outreach campaign — “Driving95: What’s Your View?” — is just as the name implies: to hear from as many travelers as possible about how I-95 is viewed, especially in terms of its efficiency, safety and connectivity.

**FINANCIAL MODEL**

NCDOT will create a financial model to analyze different options for funding the recommended improvements to I-95. Renewing I-95 through upgrades and widening is an expensive process, and NCDOT is researching both traditional and non-traditional methods of funding as part of this financial model, including the State Highway Fund, tolling, a local option sales tax, public-private partnerships, and others.

**Contact Us**

There are several different ways to learn more about the I-95 Corridor Planning and Finance Study—and we’d love to hear from you!

- Email us at comments@driving95.com
- Call our Driving95 toll-free hotline at 877-285-1890
- Contact the following NCDOT project managers:
  - KRISTINE O’CONNOR, P.E.: 919.733.7844 x3111 kaoconnor@ncdot.gov
  - DERRICK LEWIS, P.E.: 919.733.5572 dlewis@ncdot.gov

**History**

The I-95 Corridor runs north and south through North Carolina, intersecting eight counties and linking many vital communities. The goal of the I-95 Corridor Planning and Finance Study is to help improve the efficiency, connectivity and safety of this essential stretch of highway.

**What’s your view?**

We want to hear how you use I-95—where you’re coming from and where you’re going. Please fill out this quick survey, tear it off and mail it back to us. Thank you for being part of the process... because your view matters!

What is your greatest concern regarding Interstate 95 through North Carolina?
- Traffic
- Safety
- Road conditions

What is your primary use of the I-95 corridor through North Carolina?
- Local traveling
- Business commuting
- Vacation traveling

How frequently do you travel along I-95 through North Carolina?
- Daily
- Monthly
- Annually
- Less than annually

Where did you begin this trip? (city/state or zip)

What is your destination? (city/state or zip code)

What is your favorite barbecue restaurant along the I-95 corridor through North Carolina?

**THE I-95 CORRIDOR**

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