



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
P.O. BOX 25201
RALEIGH 27611-5201

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

JAMES G. MARTIN
GOVERNOR

September 8, 1987

JAMES E. HARRINGTON
SECRETARY

GEORGE E. WELLS, P.E.
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Kenneth L. Bellamy
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Post Office Box 26806
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

Dear Mr. Bellamy:

SUBJECT: Interchange Justification Study, I-85 at SR 2126 (Earnhardt Road)
near Concord and Kannapolis, Cabarrus County; I-2303

Following a request for approval of the subject interchange, the attached justification study was prepared by my staff. Funding of the interchange has been proposed by Mr. J. H. Craver, a Concord developer. It is supported by the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the area and has been proposed as part of proposed thoroughfare plan revisions for the area.

Although the interchange would be less than one mile from ramps at rest areas on I-85 southwest of the interchange, hazardous traffic operational conflicts with these ramps are not expected to result during the planning period. This finding is based on our analysis of resulting traffic movements in the area, the preliminary design concept of the interchange, and the assumption of future widening of I-85 in the median to 3 through lanes in each direction to carry year 2007 peak-hour traffic at a satisfactory level of service. Although private funding is proposed, a benefit/cost ratio of 4.0 is estimated to result.

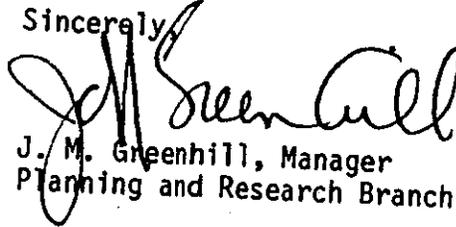
Other positive results would be as follows:

- Service to a large, predominantly undeveloped land area which presently has less than desirable access to I-85
- An overall asset to traffic and future economic development in the general area
- Partial relief to somewhat congestive traffic operation along US 29-601 at its interchange with I-85 southwest of the proposed interchange.

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September 8, 1987

This request is for FHWA approval of the interchange.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. M. Greenhill".

J. M. Greenhill, Manager
Planning and Research Branch

JMG/ob

Attachment

WE/ONB



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
REGION FOUR
Post Office Box 26806
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611
December 9, 1987

In Reply Refer To:
HB-NC

Mr. J. M. Greenhill, Manager
Planning and Research Branch
Division of Highways
Raleigh, North Carolina



Dear Mr. Greenhill:

Subject: Proposed Additional Access Point on Interstate 85 at SR-2126,
Cabarrus County

An interchange justification and request for approval of an additional interchange on Interstate 85 at SR-2126 was submitted by your letter of September 8, 1987. The proposed interchange is a modified diamond and intended to serve a large planned development in the general area. The study indicates that funding for the interchange would be supplied by the developer.

Based upon our review of the data submitted, the additional access points for the interchange are approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Satisfactory completion of the environmental and public involvement process,
2. Inclusion of auxiliary lanes between the rest area and the new interchange,
3. Upgrading or construction of the crossroad features, including bridge rails, to AASHTO standards,
4. Approval of construction plans by the FHWA, and
5. Funding of all improvements by the developer.

Should any of these conditions be unattainable, reevaluation of the additional access approval will be necessary. We are available to work with your staff on further development of this proposed project.

Sincerely yours,

J. M. Tate
Kenneth L. Bellamy
Division Administrator

April 4, 1988

Mr. J. H. Craver
Copperfield Incorporated
Post Office Box 526
Concord, North Carolina 28025

RE: Proposed I-85/SR 2126 (Earnhardt Road) Interchange, Cabarrus County; I-2303

Dear Mr. Craver:

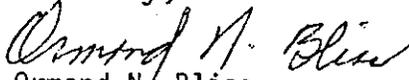
It was a pleasure meeting with you on 31 March and discussing the referenced interchange and different means for tying Copperfield Road to Earnhardt Road in the vicinity of the proposed facility.

Enclosed is an example of a combination Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) which can be used as a guide in the preparation of an EA, the next step in the process. Also enclosed is a list of Federal, State, and local agencies to contact for input information of the EA, and a sample letter for requesting the information. Once the EA is completed the following actions will be required prior to the commencement of interchange construction:

- Submission of EA to NCDOT and approval by NCDOT and FHWA
- Advertisement of the opportunity for a public hearing
- Holding of a public hearing if requested
- Preparation of FONSI if no significant environmental impacts are identified during the EA and hearing process
- Submission of FONSI to NCDOT and approval by NCDOT and FHWA
- Preparation of detailed plans for the interchange subject to NCDOT and FHWA approval

Let me know if you need additional information at this time.

Sincerely,



Ormond N. Bliss
Planning Project Engineer
Planning and Research Branch

ONB/rm
Attachment

March 23, 1988

Mr. J. H. Craver
Copperfield Incorporated
Post Office Box 526
Concord, North Carolina 28025

RE: Interchange Justification Study, I-85 at SR 2126
(Earnhardt Road) in Cabarrus County; I-2303

Dear Mr. Craver:

Enclosed is our justification study for the referenced interchange along with the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) letter of approval for the facility. Conditions of the approval are listed in the 9 December 1987 FHWA letter attached to the enclosure.

I apologize if you haven't received this information prior to this time.

Sincerely,



Ormond N. Bliss
Project Planning Engineer
Planning and Research Branch

ONB/rm

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Barry Brown w/enclosure

April 12, 1988

Mr. James W. Lentz, Chairman
Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners
P. O. Box 664
Concord, NC 28025

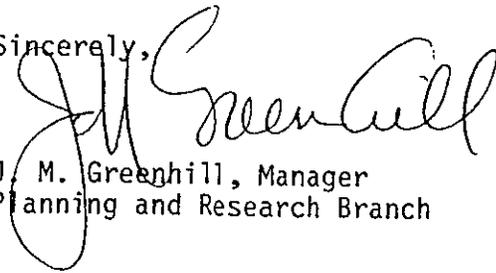
Re: Development of I-85/SR 2126 (Earnhardt Road) Interchange (Transportation Improvement Program-Project I-2303), and New Connector Road between NC 136 and SR 2114 (Penniger Road); Cabarrus County

Dear Mr. Lentz:

We have received a copy of your 21 March 1988 resolution regarding the need of the referred road improvements in the Concord and Kannapolis area.

Participation of the North Carolina Department of Transportation with local developers in the development of these improvements is subject to Section 28.5 of Chapter 136 of the General Statutes (Senate Bill 401 ratified by the 1987 session of the North Carolina General Assembly). A request for such participation should be made by the developer through the North Carolina Department of Transportation Board Member for the area, Mr. James E. Nance. By copy of this letter, we are furnishing a copy of your resolution to our TIP Policy and Programming Committee for future consideration as a developer participation project.

Sincerely,


J. M. Greenhill, Manager
Planning and Research Branch

ONB/sdt

Attachment

cc: Mr. Larry Goode