

FEASIBILITY STUDY


Red Springs

NC 71 Bypass
From SR 1321 To 2500 Feet West of Pine Avenue
Robeson County

Division 6

R-3628

Prepared by
Program Development Branch
Division of Highways
N. C. Department of Transportation



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Date

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I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This preliminary study describes the proposed NC 71 Bypass in Red Springs. The project location is shown on Figure 1. The project generally follows the alignment of SR 1321, SR 1387, SR 1323, and SR 1806. Sections linking these existing roads will be built on new location. The proposed cross-section is a two-lane, rural section, with 12-foot (3.6-m) wide travel lanes and full-depth paved shoulders 2 feet (0.6 m) wide for the entire project length of 4.5 miles (7.2 km). The intersection at each project terminus, and at NC 211 will require a traffic signal. Two new bridges will be required over the Little Raft Swamp. Both bridges will be 40 feet (12.2 m) wide. One bridge will be approximately 28 feet (8.5 m) in length and the other will be approximately 56 feet (17.1 m) in length. Also, it is recommended to relocate SR 1320 slightly in order to effect a more suitable intersection with the proposed bypass. Further, it is recommended that there be no direct access between the proposed bypass and the eastern part of SR 1323. This may be accomplished by abandoning the eastern part of SR 1323 entirely, or removing that part of SR 1323 near the project roadway. The required right-of-way width is 100 feet (30.5 m).

This project will likely require no business relocations and 5 residential relocations. The total cost including construction and right-of-way is estimated to be \$8,000,000.

This study is the initial step in the planning and design process for this project and is not the product of exhaustive environmental or design investigations. The purpose of this study is to describe the needs, recommend a treatment including costs, and identify potential problem areas that require consideration in the planning and design phases.

II. NEED FOR PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to enhance current and future traffic flow in the central business district of Red Springs. This project was requested by the Red Springs Board of Commissioners.

Proposed NC 71 Bypass is a Major Thoroughfare on the Red Springs Thoroughfare Plan. Land along the project corridor is mainly open farmland and undeveloped woodland with some industrial use.

Existing NC 71 is a 2-lane, paved shoulder section approximately 24 feet (7.3 m) wide. SR 1321, SR 1320, SR 1323, and SR 1806 are 2-lane, paved shoulder sections with pavements approximately 22 feet (6.7 m) wide. SR 1387 is a soil shoulder section approximately 22 feet (6.7 m) wide.

Traffic volume estimates for the proposed NC 71 Bypass, for the years 1996 and 2020 are 2,300 vehicles per day (vpd) and 5,300 vpd respectively. The Level of Service (LOS) based on the years 1996 and 2020 respectively are LOS B and LOS C.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is proposed to construct a NC 71 Bypass northwest of Red Springs. The project location is shown on Figure 1. The project generally follows the alignment of SR 1321, SR 1387, SR 1323, and SR 1806. Sections linking these existing roads will be built on new location. The proposed cross-section is a two-lane, rural section, with 12-foot (3.6-m) wide travel lanes and full-depth paved shoulders 2 feet (0.6 m) wide for the entire project length of 4.5 miles (7.2 km). The intersection at each project terminus, and at NC 211 will require a traffic signal. Two new bridges will be required over the Little Raft Swamp. Both bridges will be 40 feet (12.2 m) wide. One bridge will be approximately 28 feet (8.5 m) in length and the other will be approximately 56 feet (17.1 m) in length. Also, it is recommended to relocate SR 1320 slightly in order to effect a more suitable intersection with the proposed bypass. Further, it is recommended that there be no direct access between the proposed bypass and the eastern part of SR 1323. This may be accomplished by abandoning the eastern part of SR 1323 entirely, or removing that part of SR 1323 near the project roadway. The required right-of-way width is 100 feet (30.5 m).

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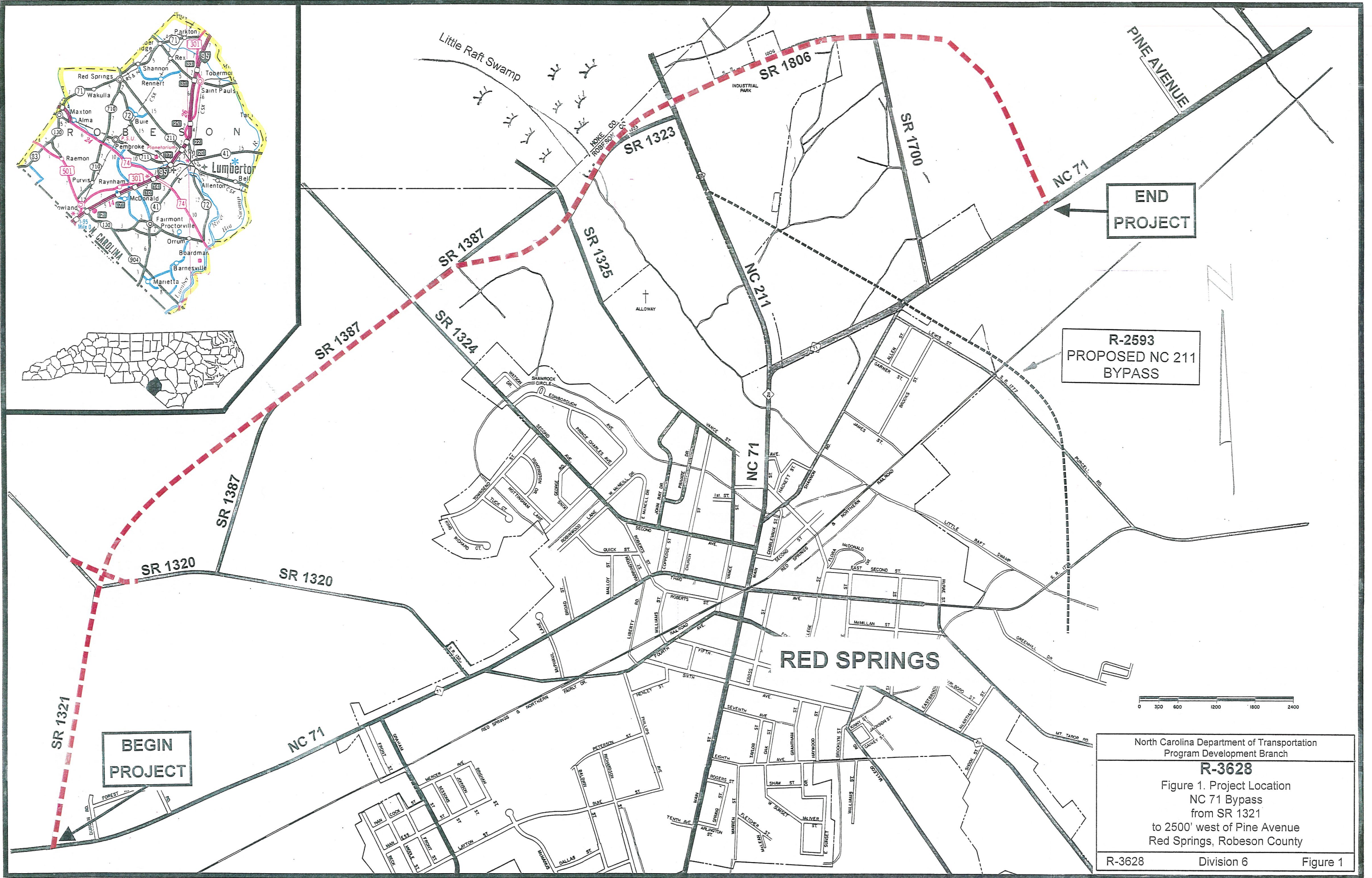
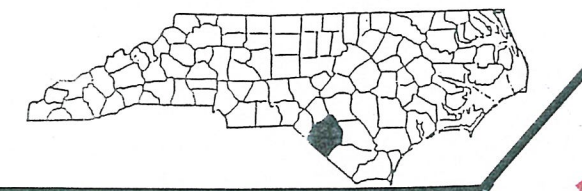
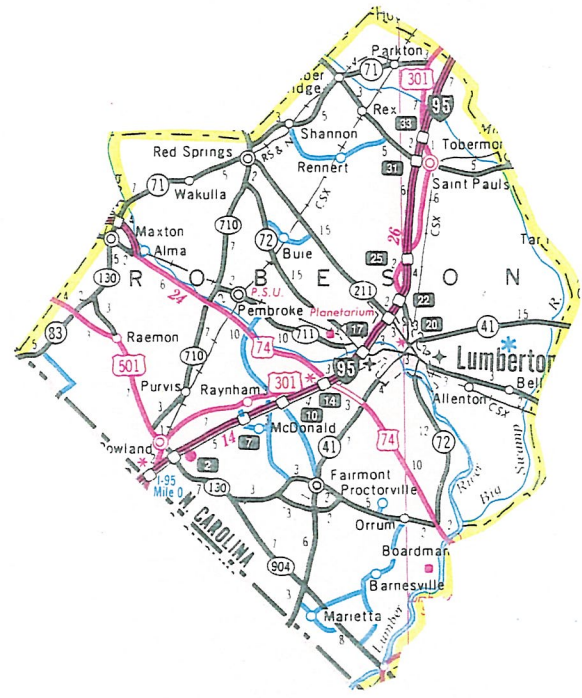
The total cost including construction and right-of-way is estimated to be \$ 8,000,000 as follows:

Right-of-Way	\$ 1,800,000
Construction	6,200,000
Total Cost	\$ 8,000,000

IV. OTHER COMMENTS

An environmental screening was not conducted for this study. Some wetlands will be encountered replacing the two existing bridges over Little Raft Swamp on SR 1323. No historic properties or endangered species are anticipated.

TIP Project R-2593 is the proposed NC 211 Bypass in Red Springs. The Environmental Assessment for R-2593 is scheduled to begin in March, 1997. A part of R-2593 is shown on Figure 1. It is recommended that the design for R-3628, with respect to the exact location of the northeast terminus, be coordinated with the design for R-2593, in order to consider having the two projects intersect NC 71 at a common point and form a continuous loop. The Planning and Environmental Unit has been advised of the proposed corridor location for R-3628 as shown on Figure 1 of this report.



R-2593
PROPOSED NC 211
BYPASS

END
PROJECT

BEGIN
PROJECT



North Carolina Department of Transportation
Program Development Branch

R-3628

Figure 1. Project Location
NC 71 Bypass
from SR 1321
to 2500' west of Pine Avenue
Red Springs, Robeson County

R-3628 Division 6 Figure 1