

APPROVED

By Planning Board

Date 1/28/85

PROJECT PLANNING REPORT

Newport, SR 1124
Carteret County
State Project 9.8023005
U-1152J

Submitted to

Planning Board

by

Planning and Research Branch

Division of Highways

North Carolina Department of Transportation

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Description

This report covers the proposed widening of SR 1124 from the end of the existing curb and gutter section at East Forest Road westward to US 70 in Newport (see attached map). Total project length is 0.5 mile. The project is included in the Statewide Urban Program for FY 85.

Existing Conditions

No thoroughfare plan is available for Newport; however, SR 1124 is considered to be a major thoroughfare in the ultimate road system for the town. It provides radial access into Newport from the west and serves important development such as Fire Department, Community Center, Town Park, and Town Hall.

The subject section of road has a 20-foot pavement with 8-foot shoulders, including 3-foot paved shoulders. Based on existing setbacks of utility lines and property corner markers, existing right of way appears to be 60 feet wide. However, some utility poles are as close as 13 feet from the edge of pavement.

Current traffic volume on this section of SR 1124 is approximately 4500 vehicles per day. Estimated traffic volume for year 2005 is 8000 vpd, including 1 percent TTST and 5 percent dual tired trucks. Traffic is controlled by a signal at US 70.

Roadside development is predominantly residential of medium to heavy density. Other development includes a business, rest home, and National Forest fire tower. Existing speed limit throughout the project is 35 MPH.

To the east, the project adjoins a 40-foot curbed section. The adjacent facility operates as two lanes, with no parking allowed.

Recommendation

Planning and Research concurs with the Division Engineer's proposal to widen the subject facility to 40 feet face to face of curbs. The proposed width is commensurate with the function of the facility, anticipated traffic needs, abutting land use, and adjoining cross section east of the project limit. The improvement would allow provision of separate left turn lanes as needed and parallel parking if desired.

Estimated Cost

Total estimated cost of the proposed improvement is \$200,000. No right of way or utility costs will be involved. By municipal agreement, the Town of Newport will be responsible for acquiring any necessary right of way and adjustment of utilities.

Environmental Evaluation

The nature and magnitude of the proposed project should not produce any significant adverse effect on the environment. The project is a minor improvement of an established highway with minor additional right of way, if any, and no displacement of any residence or business required.

Construction of a wider pavement and curb and gutter should have a positive impact on the community by providing safer traffic operation and improved appearance.

Due to urban development of the area, the project should have no significant effect on animal or plant life. It does not involve any habitat for endangered or threatened species, archaeological or historical sites, wetlands, or floodplains.

Possible erosion or siltation of adjacent properties may occur during construction but will be minimized by anticipated minor grading and use of standard erosion control measures.

The proposal should have no significant effect on noise levels or air quality. It retains the existing basic two-lane operation which would not significantly alter the pattern or volume of traffic using the facility.

RGD/dc

