

FEASIBILITY STUDY

Cities of Hickory/Conover

**Widening and Extension of
13th Ave. Dr. SE/ SR 3003 (15th Ave. SE)
From SR 1007 (Lenoir Rhyne Boulevard SE) to
SR 1468 (21st St. Dr. SE).**

Catawba County

Division 12

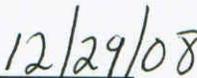
U-2535



**Prepared by the
Program Development Branch
N. C. Department of Transportation**


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Date

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I. General Description

This feasibility study describes the extension, operational and safety improvements on 13th Ave. Dr. SE/ SR 3003 (15th Ave. SE) from SR 1007 to SR 1468, a distance of approximately 2.0 miles. The project location is shown on the location map. As part of the study, a three-lane 40 foot wide cross-section from face to face of curbs, with 15-foot wide travel lanes, a 12-foot wide continuous left turn lane, 15-foot wide berms and 5-foot sidewalks within 100-foot of right of way was investigated.

This 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 proposed project including costs, and to identify potential problems that may require consideration in the planning and design phases.

II. Background

The purpose of this project is to improve traffic safety and access in the area.

The City of Hickory and Conover both support this project.

13th Ave. Dr. SE is designated as a minor thoroughfare on the Hickory-Newton-Conover Urban Area Municipal Transportation Thorough-fare Plan.

13th Ave. Dr. SE and 15 Ave. SE are two-lane curb and gutter section with 12-foot lanes, and sidewalk on the southern side and undeveloped land on the northern side. This study includes some new alignment.

The development within this study is primarily a mixture of commercial and retail businesses.

III. Traffic and Safety

The estimated traffic volume on 13th Ave. Dr. SE in the design year 2035 is projected to be 8,000 vehicles per day (vpd) and truck traffic is estimated to make up approximately three (3) percent of daily traffic.

Currently there are two traffic signals located within the project limits. They are located at the intersection of Lenoir Rhyne Boulevard SE and 13th Ave. Drive SE, and McDonald Parkway and 15th Ave. SE.

Presently, neither 13th Ave. Dr. SE nor SR 3003 (15th Ave. SE) are in the North Carolina Functional Classification System.

IV. Description of Improvements

The recommended cross section utilized throughout this project is a three-lane curb and gutter section, with 15-foot wide travel lanes, a 12-foot wide two way left turn lane, 15-foot wide berms as well as 5-foot sidewalks on each side, within 100-foot of right of way.

Section A:

13th Ave. Dr. SE, from SR 1007 (Lenoir Rhyne Blvd.) to approximately 550 feet eastward, is proposed to be widened symmetrically in order to accommodate the proposed three-lane curb and gutter section, improve the intersection sight distance and minimize the impacts to adjacent commercial property.

Section B:

13th Ave. Dr. SE, from the end of Section A to approximately 460 feet east of 19th St. Dr. SE, is proposed to be widened asymmetrically towards the northeast in order to accommodate the proposed three-lane curb and gutter section and minimizing the impacts on adjacent commercial property.

Section C:

Section C, from the end of Section B (460' eastward of 19th St. Dr. SE) to the SR 1005 (McDonald Parkway SE)/SR 3003 (15th Ave. SE) intersection, is a proposed three-lane curb and gutter extension of 13th Ave. Dr. SE on new alignment.

Section D:

Section D proposes to widen 15th Ave. SE, from SR 1005(McDonald Parkway) to SR 1468 (21st St. Dr. SE), asymmetrically to the north in order to accommodate a three-lane curb and gutter while minimizing impacts to adjacent commercial development.

Project Summary:

With the recommended improvements indicated above, it is anticipated there will be zero (0) residential and zero (0) business relocatees as a result of this project. The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$18,800,000.

Construction	\$15,100,000
Right-of-Way (100')	\$3,100,000
Utilities	\$600,000
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Estimated Project Cost	\$18,800,000

It should be noted that the costs above include 5-foot sidewalks on both sides of 13th Ave Dr SE/15th Ave Dr. SE through the project. The anticipated cost of the additional sidewalks is approximately \$300,000 and is included in the project construction costs provided.

V. Community Issues

A detailed investigation was not conducted for this feasibility study. However no impacts to parks, recreation areas, or community facilities are anticipated with this project.

VI. Natural and Environmental Issues

A detailed environmental study was not conducted for this feasibility study. However, existing information available for this project area has been screened for environmental and historic issues that might have a potential impact to the project. The information obtained for the environmental screening indicated no historic or environmental concerns within the project area.

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Hickory / Catawba County
Location Map

