FEASIBILITY STUDY

Broadway

Widening of SR 1579 (N. Main Street) from SR 1535 (Hunter Drive) to SR 1538 (Harrington Avenue)

Lee County

Division 8

U-3602

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

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2/26/98
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I. General Description

This preliminary study describes the studied widening of SR 1579 (N. Main Street) in Broadway. The project location is shown on Figure 1.

The studied cross-section is a 3-lane curb-and-gutter section, 40 feet (12.2 m) wide from face-to-face of curbs, with 10-foot (3.0-m) wide berms. The required right-of-way width is 60 feet (18.3 m). The studied widening on North Main Street is between Hunter Drive and Harrington Avenue, a distance of approximately 0.6 miles (1.0 km). The studied improvements include a minor relocation of Hunter Drive where it intersects North Main Street in order to form a perpendicular intersection.

No residential or business relocations are anticipated due to this project. The total project cost including construction and right of way is estimated to be $1,300,000 as follows:

Right-of-Way	.....	$ 200,000
Construction	.....	1,100,000
Total Cost	.....	$ 1,300,000

In light of the weak justification, in terms of traffic volumes and accident experience, it is recommended that the studied improvements not be programmed at this time.

This study is the initial step in the planning and design process 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 may require consideration in the planning and design phases.

II. Need for the Project

This project was requested by the Town of Broadway. The purpose of the project is to improve traffic flow on North Main Street during periods of peak traffic and the studied section is in the vicinity of commercial development. North Main Street is a 2-lane shoulder section with a pavement approximately 24 feet (7.3 m) wide and grass shoulders approximately 8 feet (2.4 m) wide. Broadway

does not have a thoroughfare plan, but North Main Street is classified a Rural Major Collector in the North Carolina Statewide Functional Classification System.

Land use along the project corridor is a mix of open farm land, single family homes, and light commercial development. Near the south project terminus, there is a senior citizens center. Near the north project terminus, a recreation facility (ball park) is planned by a civic club. Stevens Mill is located on SR 1579 within the project limits and is on the State Study List for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The location of the Mill is shown on Figure 1. Most of the commercial development is concentrated between Johnson Street and Stevens Mill, and includes a restaurant, a food supermarket, a bank, an auto repair shop, and a car-wash. Several businesses are located immediately south of the south project terminus in the traditional central business district.

Traffic volume estimates for North Main Street, for the years 1997 and 2020, are 4,700 vehicles per day (vpd) and 6,800 vpd respectively. The Level of Service (LOS) without the proposed improvements is estimated to be LOS C in 1997 and LOS C (approaching LOS D) in 2020. With the proposed improvements the estimated LOS is LOS A in 1997 and LOS B in 2020.

During the three year period beginning February 1, 1994, and ending January 31, 1997, there were 4 accidents reported on North Main Street within the project limits. This resulted in a total accident rate of 101 accidents per 100 million vehicle miles (ACC/100MVM). This compares with the statewide average of 261 ACC/100MVM for all rural secondary routes in North Carolina for 1996.

There were no fatal accidents reported, and 1accident resulted in 1 non-fatal injury. There were 2 left-turn accidents, 1 rear-end accident and 1 angle accident.

III. Recommendations

In light of the weak justification, in terms of traffic volumes and accident experience, it is recommended that the studied improvements not be programmed at this time.

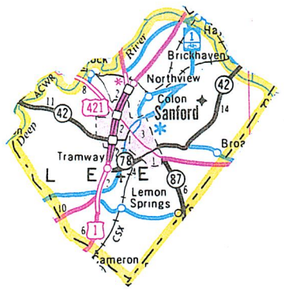
IV. Other Comments

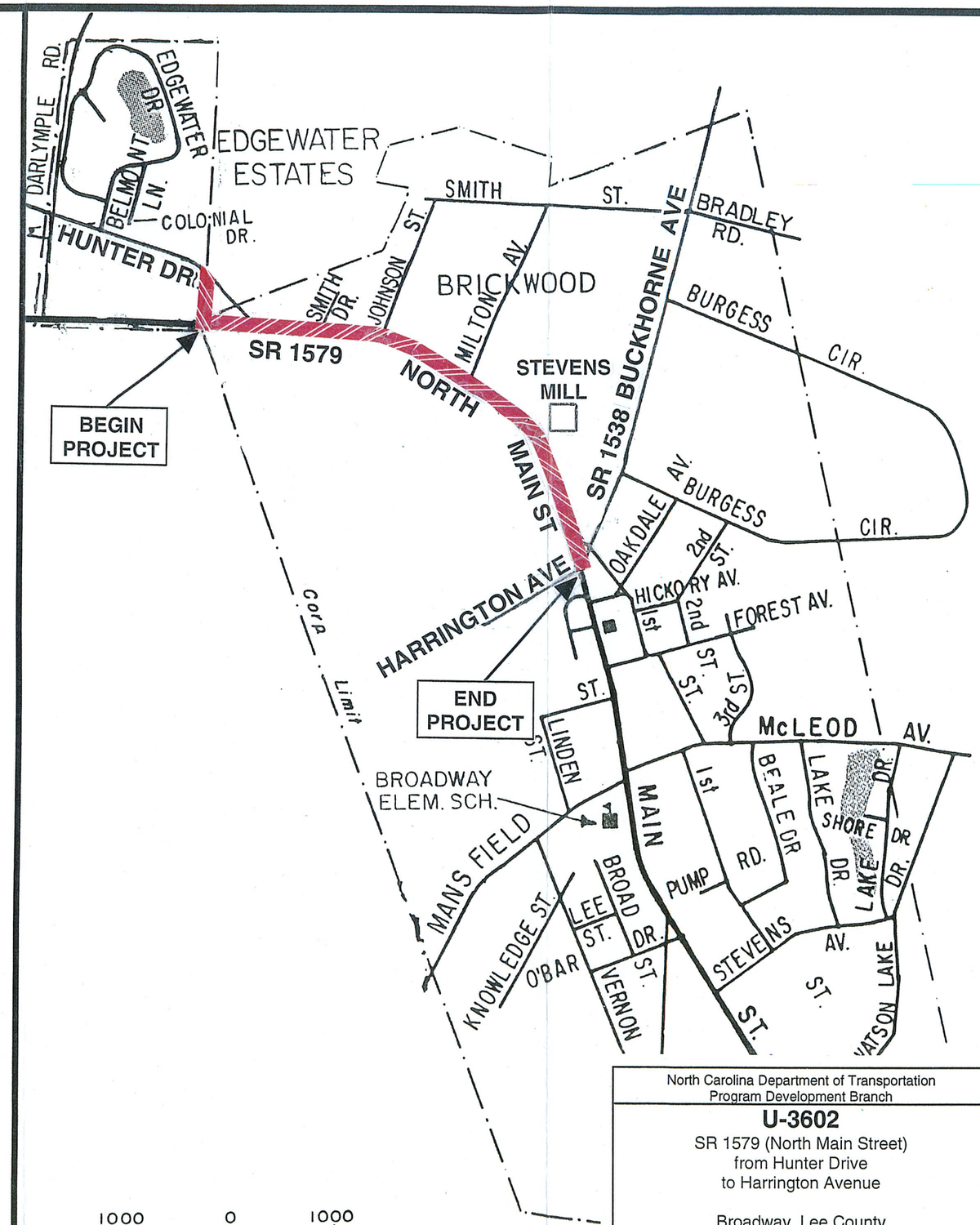
As an alternative to the studied improvements, a cost estimate was made for widening North Main Street between Johnson Street and Stevens Mill, a distance of approximately 0.3 miles (0.4 km). This is the area where most of the commercial development is concentrated. The studied cross-section for this estimate is a 3-lane curb-and-gutter section, 40 feet (12.2 m) wide from face-to-

face of curbs, with 10-foot (3.0-m) wide berms. The total cost including construction and right-of-way is estimated to be $600,000 as follows:

Right-of-Way	..... $	100,000
Construction	.....	500,000
Total Cost	..... $	600,000

An environmental screening was not conducted for this study. No wetlands or endangered species have been identified in the project corridor, but Stevens Mill (shown on Figure 1) is on the State Study List for Historic Properties, and the location of two recreation facilities should be noted. There is a senior citizens center operated by the Town of Broadway located near the south project terminal and a little league baseball field proposed near the north project terminal. The ball park will be operated by a civic club. No right-of-way is required from Stevens Mill or either of the recreation facilities.





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North Carolina Department of Transportation
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SR 1579 (North Main Street)
from Hunter Drive
to Harrington Avenue

Broadway, Lee County

DIVISIONS 8 FIGURE 1