

Secretary

July 1, 2016

MEMORANDUM TO:	Beth Smyre, PE Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch
FROM:	Jamie V. Moore Transportation Planning Branch
SUBJECT:	Traffic Forecast for B-5616 Pamlico County Replace Bridge Number 37 on NC 55 over Branch of Trent Creek

Please find attached the 2016/2040 traffic forecast for the above mentioned project. TIP Project B-5616 is defined as the replacement of Bridge Number 37 on NC 55 over Branch of Trent Creek. This is the first forecast completed for this project. This project lies within the Down East Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Area.

Lee Cowhig, EI, with the Transportation Planning Branch; Patrick Flanagan, Down East RPO Contact; Jeff Cabaniss, PE, Division 2 Planning Engineer; and Beth Buckshot, Pamlico County Director of Economic Development, were consulted during the development of this forecast. Information on current and future land development was received from these sources.

The following scenarios are provided:

- 2016 Base Year No Build
- 2040 Future Year Build

Certain Assumptions were made during the development of this forecast:

Fiscal Constraint:

For projects falling outside an MPO, forecasts are fiscally constrained to the State TIP. This means that in the future year, any project which has some construction money scheduled in the STIP is considered constructed by the future year. Currently there are no projects in the STIP that will affect the traffic volumes on NC 55 over Bridge Number 37.

Development Activity:

According to Beth Buckshot, there are plans to try to grow the marina industry on the eastern end of the county. Several sites have been identified as possible locations for a Marine Trans Park, but nothing has been determined at this time. Also, an inn is being built in the Town of River Dunes and for areas east of the project bridge, there have been approximately 500 approved lots for subdivisions.



Methodology:

The Base Year No Build was developed primarily based upon traffic counts taken for this forecast. Future Year Build traffic volumes were calculated by applying the selected growth rates to the Base Year No Build volumes using an exponential growth formula.

Interpolation:

To determine any intermediate years, straight-line interpolation may be used between the Base Year No Build and Future Year Build scenarios. AADT volumes may be extrapolated for up to two years immediately following 2040. If it is determined that any of these assumptions have become inconsistent with the project and surrounding area activity, please request updated projections at this location.

For this future reference, forecast will be saved in Project Store in the LongRangePlanning\TrafficForecasts folder, under project B5616. If you have any questions, or if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at (919) 707-0937, or e-mail me at jvmoore@ncdot.gov.

cc: FILE (Pamlico County, Project B-5616)
cc: (via e-mail as PDF Attachments): Brian Wert, PE, Transportation Planning Branch Behshad Norowzi, Transportation Planning Branch James H. Dunlop, Congestion Management Section Clark S. Morrison, Ph.D., PE, Pavement Management Unit Karen Roberson, Transportation Planning Branch Jeff Cabaniss, PE, Division of Highways – Division 2 Glenn W. Mumford, PE, Roadway Design Unit Patrick Flanagan, Down East RPO

