



The Foothills Rural Planning Organization on R-5840

The Foothills Rural Planning Organization has been asked by Polk County to provide key information concerning R-5840, NC 9 Safety Project.

This project goes back as far as 2008 with the Polk County Comprehensive Transportation Plan. This project was then submitted to the Transportation Improvement Program during Prioritization 2.0 in 2010. This project was identified as a safety project and was also submitted during Prioritization 3.0 and 4.0. This project was funded in the State Transportation Improvement Program during Prioritization 5.0 as a safety project.

This project is part of a regional cooperation with fellow Rural Planning Organization members in Rutherford and McDowell County. Part of this process includes local input points from all member governments, not just Polk County. This does potentially mean that fellow Rural Planning Organization Members may have sacrificed projects for this project to be funded. The total cost of this project is 11.7 million.

Activity	Funded Costs*
Project Development & Design	\$ 900,000
Property Acquisition	\$ 2,200,000 Million
Construction Cost	\$ 8,600,000 Million
Total Cost	\$ 11,700,000 Million

**Funded costs are subject to change.*

The funding has been allocated in the State Transportation Improvement Program for this project. If this project were requested to be cancelled this money would not be used for other projects in Polk County. The funding would be returned to Division 14 of NCDOT for other ongoing projects within Division 14. The State Minimum Criteria Determination Checklist (SMC) was completed in July 2018. The first Local Officials' Meeting and Public Meeting was held in April 2019 regarding this project.



The N.C. Department of Transportation proposes lane and shoulder improvements to N.C. 9 from N.C. 108 to U.S. 74 in Polk County. The purpose of the project is to improve traffic flow, mobility, and safety for all transportation users along the corridor. The pavement surface will be widened along the length of the project.

The project design has not changed since the prior public meeting in April 2019. The project is state-funded and is included in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as project R-5840. The project lane and shoulder improvements will:

- Widen the travel lanes from 10' to 12'
- Add 6' paved shoulders
- Add turn lanes at elementary school
- Include drainage improvements

The NC Department of Transportation will also be sending out Right-Of-Way Agents to all affected property owners. This is part of the process to minimize the impact of the project on property owners along the Right-Of-Way.

For more information concerning R-5840 please reach out to NC9-Improvements-PolkCounty@PublicInput.com