

# ROUTE 250 BYPASS INTERCHANGE At McIntire Road

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL  
August 7, 2006

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This Executive Summary provides an overview to the attached information regarding the proposed Route 250 Bypass Interchange at McIntire Road

## **PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL**

### **Public Involvement Opportunities**

These initial slides provide an overview of the public meetings held to date and the numerous opportunities for the public to participate in the development of the project and provide input and recommendations to the Steering Committee and the Project Team.

### **Project Purpose and Need / Goals and Objectives**

This slide provides an overview of the project Purpose and Need and the Goals and Objectives. The effort to develop these key items began at the initial Steering Committee meeting as general themes. Their final form is the result of extensive input from the Steering Committee and the public.

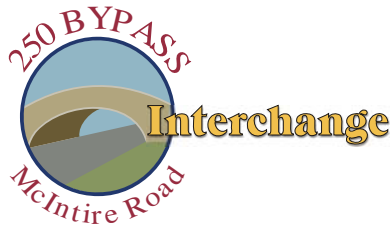
### **Project Starting Point – Interchange Concepts**

The project starting point was the October 2000 Study of Preliminary Interchange Concepts. This study developed six preliminary concepts with three preliminary concepts recommended for further evaluation based on operational performance, economic feasibility, development of viable pedestrian facilities, sensitivity toward the environment and overall impacts.

The Project Team utilized the three recommended preliminary interchange concepts as our starting point. Our initial effort involved refining the three concepts by applying reasonable engineering standards as typically required on federally funded projects. The refined interchange concepts were then presented to the Steering Committee and the public for input, prior to further refinement and development of a potential range of interchange alternatives.

### **Context Sensitive Design**

Important contextual and visual features were identified in the October 2000 Study. The Project Purpose and Need and the Goals and Objectives reflect the importance of these issues. At the Citizen Informational Meetings, the public has been asked to comment on various pedestrian, landscaping and bridge alternatives, including viewsheds to and from McIntire Park as well as potential gateway opportunities that the interchange might provide. An overview of preliminary pedestrian / bicycle trail and visual environment concepts is also provided.



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### Interchange Alternatives

The team has expanded the number of alternatives under consideration from the three recommended in the October 2000 Study in an attempt to satisfy project purpose and need and to address the project goals and objectives and concerns such as: McIntire Park; the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; the Rescue Squad and physical features including existing wooded hillsides; neighborhoods; natural resources; existing traffic and safety conditions.

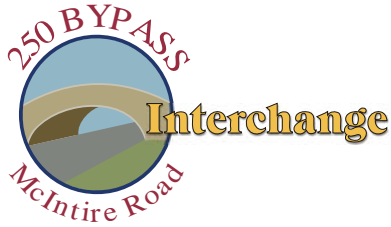
It is important to note that the initial October 2000 preliminary interchange concepts did not consider operational and engineering features and were approximate in scale. The 2000 Preliminary Study addressed this point with the following statement:

*“The basic configuration and scale of the roundabout intersections are shown. These have not been modified to accommodate the entry and exit lane development requirements such as flares, tapers, right turn bypass lanes, etc. The roundabout diameters have been approximately scaled to indicate the intersection roadway footprints.”*

The initial study also noted that the recommended alternatives (3, 4, and 6) would require two-lane roundabouts to accommodate future (projected) traffic.

The current range of interchange alternatives shown in the attached information are grouped based on the type of interchange. One interchange from each group is superimposed over a scale photograph of an existing similar interchange, located along the 250 Bypass, so that the scale of the interchange alternatives under consideration can be compared to an existing 250 Bypass Interchange. A brief description of each group is provided below.

- **Alternative A (No-Build / Baseline):** This alternative reflects the proposed extension of McIntire Road (VDOT Project: U000-104-102, C-501) and serves as the baseline for consideration of all interchange concepts. The proposed improvements would provide a 17-lane signalized at-grade intersection at McIntire Road and the Route 250 Bypass.
- **Alternatives B and B1 (Developed from Alternative 3 - 2000 Study):** These alternatives provide Partial Cloverleaf (Parclo) interchanges with two roundabouts.
- **Alternatives C and C2 (Developed from Alternative 4 - 2000 Study):** These alternatives provide Diamond interchanges with two roundabouts.
- **Alternatives C1, D and D2 (Developed from Alternative 6 – 2000 Study):** These alternatives provide Diamond-like interchanges with a single roundabout in the center of the interchange. One concept has a non-traditional roundabout shape in an effort to maintain a smaller bridge and potentially enhance the gateway experience.



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- **Alternatives E, E1 and E2 (New Alternatives):** These alternatives provide Parclo interchanges with two roundabouts. Instead of traditional interchange entrances and exits, the intersection points with the Route 250 Bypass will function more like a traditional parkway connection with much lower speeds. This allows the footprint to be “compressed” so that the interchange can better fit into the existing natural valley.
  - **Alternatives F, G and G1 (Developed from Alternative 6 - 2000 Study without the single roundabout in the center of the interchange):** These alternatives provide diamond interchanges with traffic signals instead of roundabouts. These alternatives were developed to reduce impacts to existing features and McIntire Park.

### Next Steps

We have provided an overview of where the project is headed in the next several months.

### **CITIZEN INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS NOS 1 & 2**

We are providing reduced-size copies of the displays that were available for public review and comment at Citizen Informational Meetings 1 & 2, held on March 23, 2006 and June 14, respectively.

Attachments: Presentation to Council  
Citizen Informational Meeting No. 1 Displays  
Citizen Informational Meeting No. 2 Displays

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