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Thank you for attending the public information open house for STP-0004-00(146), P.I. No. 0004146, the proposed intersection improvements at SR 81 and CR 309 (Crowell Road) / CR 653 (Jackson Road) and SR 162 Connector. In this handout package you will find a project description, location map and comment card.

As you enter the room, you will notice displays of the proposed project. Department of Transportation (DOT) representatives, who can be identified by the nametags they are wearing, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. Please take this opportunity to discuss the project with a DOT representative. There will be no formal presentation.

A court reporter will be available for those persons who would like to make a verbal statement about the project. You may also complete a comment card and deposit it into the box provided here or send in written comments about the project until July 8, 2006. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Harvey D. Keeper, State Environmental/Location Engineer, Georgia Department of Transportation, 3993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, Georgia 30336-1593. Comments can also be made via the web at www.dot.state.ga.us. Click on **Public Outreach** from the list of Featured Links. All comments will be made a part of the project record. We hope you will take advantage of one of these opportunities to let the Department know your view of the proposal.

The displays and plans will be available for review for ten days after the public information open house at the Georgia Department of Transportation Madison Area Office located at 1570 Bethany Road, Madison, Georgia 30650. A copy of all comments received will be available for public review at this same location and at the Office of Environment/Location, 3993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, GA 30336-1593, as soon as compilation is completed.

Again, thank you for attending this public information open house and for giving us your comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Buddy Gratton/je".

Buddy Gratton, P.E.
Director of Preconstruction

BG/bcc

Attachments

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
STP-0004-00(146) NEWTON COUNTY
P.I. NUMBER 0004146

Projects STP-0004-00(146) consists of improvements to the intersection of State Route 81 at County Road 309 (Crowell Road)/County Road 653 (Jackson Road). The project will also include improvements to the intersection of State Route 81 and State Route 162 Connector.

The proposed concept for the project is to widen each road at the intersection of State Route 81 and Crowell Road/Jackson Road to provide left turn lanes. Right turn lanes would also be added from State Route 81 to Jackson Road and from Crowell Road and Jackson Road onto State Route 81. In addition a traffic signal will be installed at this intersection.

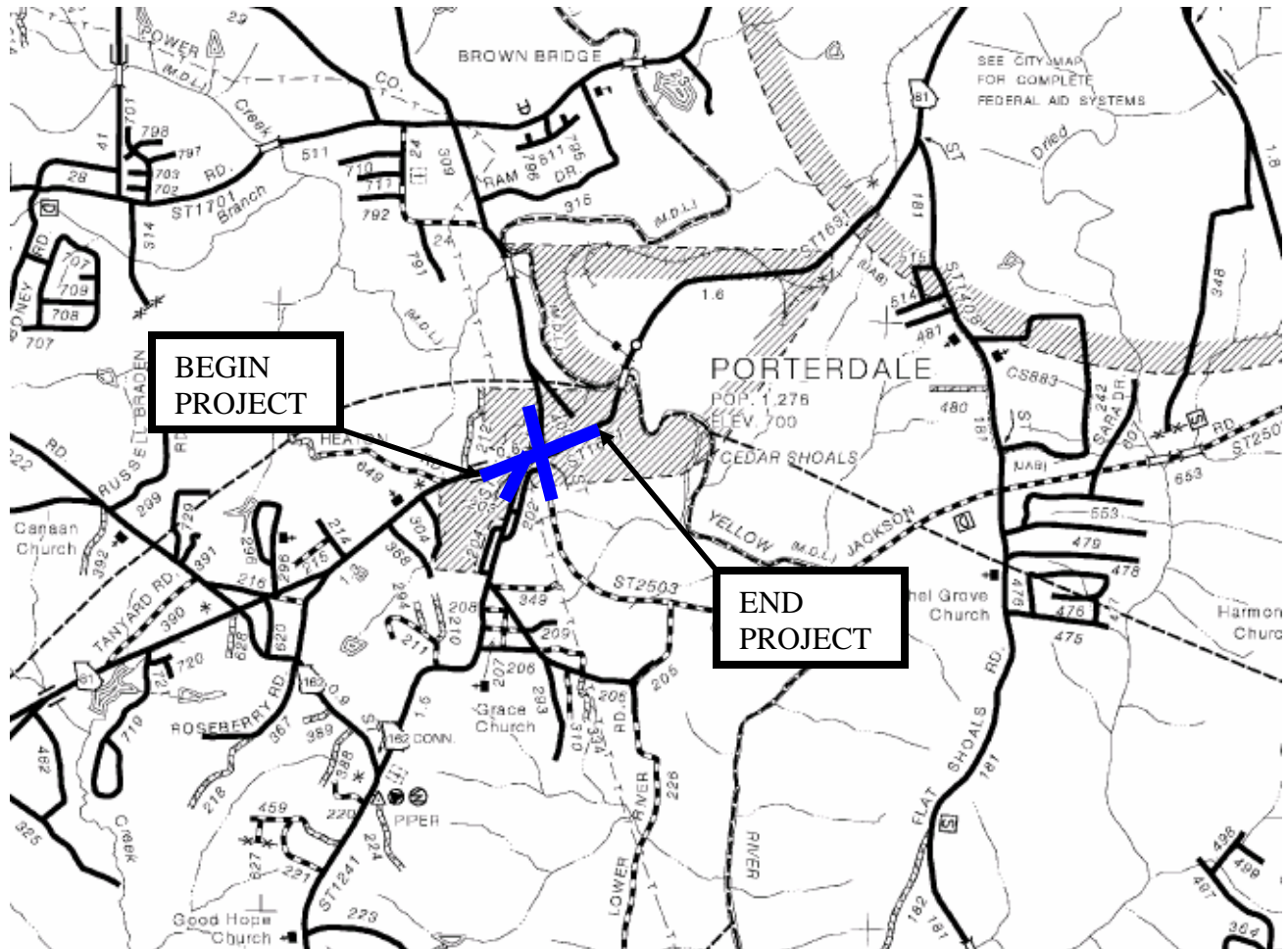
At the intersection of State Route 81 and State Route 162 Connector both roads will be widened to include left turn lanes as well as a right turn lane from State Route 81 onto State Route 162 Connector.

The proposed concept also calls for closing City Street 574 (South Broad Street) and City Street 575 (Backalley) so that they no longer intersect with State Route 81. Access to these streets would be provided by existing local roads. City Street 574 (Elm Street) would be changed from two way to one way at its intersection with State Route 81. Only a right turn from State Route 81 onto Elm Street would be allowed.

The length of the project along State Route 81 is 0.4 miles. The length of the project along County Roads 309 and 653 is 0.3 miles. The length of the project along State Route 162 Connector is 0.2 miles.

LOCATION MAP

**SR 81 @ CR 309 (Crowell Road)/CR 653 (Jackson Road) & SR 162
Connector; CS 574 (South Broad Street) & CS 573 (Elm Street) in Porterdale
Newton County
STP-0004-00(146)
P.I. NO. 0004146**



Not To Scale

Environmental Summary

STP-0004-00(146), Newton County, P.I. No. 0004146
SR 81 Improvements

In compliance with the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act, the Georgia Department of Transportation has conducted an assessment of the social, economic and environmental effects for this project. The following information is a summary of the environmental document.

Ecology –

- No Wetlands
- One stream – the stream will be impacted by culvert extension and possible channel realignment
- No threatened or endangered species, or suitable habitat

History –

- One eligible resource, the Porterdale Historic District, was identified within the project area. In an effort to minimize impacts to the historic district, three alternative designs have been proposed for sidewalks on the north side of SR 81, east of the SR 81 and CR 309/653.

Other alternatives will be considered. The three alternative designs proposed to date include:

Alternative A – A 5-foot sidewalk constructed at the back of curb within an 8-foot shoulder. Slopes would be 4:1.

Alternative B – A 2-foot grass strip behind the curb, a 5-foot sidewalk, and a 2-foot grass strip behind the sidewalk, all within a 12-foot shoulder. Slopes would be 4:1.

Alternative C – A 5-foot grass strip behind the curb, a 5-foot sidewalk, and a 5-foot grass strip behind the sidewalk. A retaining wall, ranging in height from 0 to 4 feet would be constructed behind the grass strip in order to eliminate slopes. The shoulder would be 16 feet wide.

Archaeology –

- No potentially eligible resources were identified.

Floodplain –

- There is a 100 year floodplain associated with an unnamed tributary to the Yellow. The tributary flows under SR 81 and Jackson Road.

Air and Noise –

- The proposed project would not result in an increase in traffic volumes that would result in adverse affects for Mobil Source Air Toxics or carbon monoxide. The proposed project is in an attainment area, and further analysis of particulate matter (PM 2.5) will be required and completed. Findings will be reported to the EPA.
- The scope of the project would not require an assessment for noise impacts.