



NEW CANADA ROAD
NEPA PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 2009

Welcome:

The City of Lakeland would like to welcome you to the Third Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) Public Workshop and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Public Informational Meeting for the Preferred Alternative A “Modified” alignment of New Canada Road from State Route 1 (U.S. Highway 70) to Interstate 40. The following information will help you become better acquainted with the proposed project, and the studies that will be commissioned to determine what impact the project will have on the environment.

The purpose of tonight’s meeting is to update the community on the progress of the project and to gather valuable information from the public regarding environmental concerns in the project area. Tonight’s meeting will conclude with a question and answer session, and a public comment form is included with this package for your written comments. Please take a moment to fill out the comment form and return it in to the sign-in desk at the conclusion of tonight’s meeting. If you do not wish to comment at this time, written comments may be submitted to:

Comments: New Canada Road
Engineering Department
City of Lakeland, TN
10001 Highway 70
Lakeland, TN 38002

Comments may also be posted to the projects website located at: www.newcanadaroad.com

Written comments must be postmarked by October 20, 2009.

Thank you for attending and participating in this meeting. Your comments regarding this project are important for development of the project purpose and need, and satisfy a critical element of the project development process.

WHY ARE WE HERE TONIGHT?

An Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared for the New Canada Road project from State Route 1 (U.S. Highway 70) to Interstate 40 in Lakeland, Tennessee in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). One of the early steps in the NEPA process is to gather public input in relation to the purpose and need and potential environmental impacts of the project.


The purpose and need for a transportation project can include, but are not limited to, transportation demand, safety, economic development, transportation plan consistency, modal interrelationships, system linkage, and the condition of existing facility.

City of Lakeland representatives are here tonight to listen to your concerns regarding the purpose and need and potential environmental concerns that you may have about the project. The information that you provide will be used to develop the purpose and need statement for the project and help scope environmental studies that will be commissioned for preparation of the EA.

PROJECT HISTORY

This project was initiated at the request of the City of Lakeland, Tennessee. Lakeland, the Memphis and Shelby County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and Shelby County Government have collaborated throughout the development process to ensure that the transportation needs envisioned by the local community are addressed. This Canada Road project from SR-1 (Highway 70) to I-40 has been on the MPO Long Range Transportation Plan since 1980 and has been included in the MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A team of Lakeland Residents and officials has been participating in the Context Sensitive Solution (CSS) process since October 2008 to ensure that the local community's needs are incorporated into the project. The City of Lakeland has a Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) approved contract to fund this project with 80% Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds and the City has selected the consultant for environmental clearance and design. The remaining balance of the project costs will be funded by the City of Lakeland.

Currently, plans to improve the I-40/Canada Road Interchange and to improve the Canada Road/SR-1 intersection are under development by the TDOT and the Federal Highway Administration. Canada Road from I-40 south to SR-15 (U.S. Highway 64) was recently improved to a 4 lane divided roadway to alleviate traffic congestion on this portion of the road, and plans to add a bicycle and pedestrian pathway to this section of Canada Road are being developed. Bicycle and pedestrian lanes will also be incorporated into the I-40/Canada Road Interchange as well as the New Canada Road project. When finished, these projects will provide a continuous multimodal travel route from SR-1

 The logo of the City of Lakeland, Tennessee, is circular with a yellow border. Inside the circle, there is a green tree on the left, a blue lake with a white sailboat in the center, and a yellow sun on the right. The text "CITY OF LAKELAND - TENNESSEE" is written around the top inner edge of the circle, and "1977" is at the bottom.	<p>NEW CANADA ROAD</p> <p>NEPA PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 29, 2009</p>	<p>Page 2</p>
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(Highway 70) to SR-15 (U.S. Highway 64). TDOT is also widening I-40 from 4-lanes to 6-lanes from State Route 15 (Highway 64) to State Route 385.

PROJECT GOALS

Specific goals of this project include:

- Provide an improved north/south route to serve traffic demand for accessibility to the City of Lakeland and Interstate 40;
- Increase the capacity and Level of Service (LOS) on Canada Road to improve safety and mobility;
- Increase capacity to accommodate increased traffic demand spurred by commercial and residential development; and
- Promote the potential for economic growth in the City of Lakeland by providing improvement to the regional transportation system.

NEPA PROCESS

Why?: NEPA requires federally funded projects or projects requiring federal action (e.g. permits) to undergo environmental review to determine the projects impact on the environment.

Environmental Assessment: An Environmental Assessment is one of three classes of actions that determine how NEPA compliance is carried out and documented. Environmental Assessments are prepared for projects that do not meet requirements for a Categorical Exclusion, or for projects where the environmental impact is not clearly established.

Technical Studies: The impact of the project on potentially sensitive environmental factors will be evaluated, including:

- Noise
- Air Quality
- Historic/Archaeological Resources
- Traffic and Safety
- Ecology/Natural Resources
- Floodplains
- Soils and Geology
- Hazardous Materials Sites
- Land Use
- Social and Community Impacts
- Environmental Justice
- Farmland
- Visual Impacts
- Parks and Recreational Resources
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Considerations
- Section 4(f)/Section 6(f) Resources



NEW CANADA ROAD
NEPA PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 2009

Page 3

Study Alternatives: Throughout the CSS Process, the applicability of a range of alternatives was studied for the alignment of New Canada Road. Several alignments were removed from the discussion based on a variety of reasons ranging from property impacts, home acquisition, topography, impact to I.H. Managerial Park, and impact to forests and natural areas. Improvements to the existing roadway to meet the purpose and need of the project were removed from consideration due to severe impacts on many of the existing homes along existing Canada Road.

The CSS Preferred Alternative A Modified Route will be the focus of the technical studies to be carried out through the NEPA Process. A No-build Alternative will also be studied to serve as a baseline for comparison of the CSS Preferred Alternative, and will be used to determine if the No-build Alternative will satisfy the purpose and need for the project.

MOVING FORWARD:

- Public comments on the projects purpose and need will be reviewed;
- The Purpose and Need Statement will be updated to reflect public comments;
- Coordinate with cooperating and participating agencies;
- Complete Technical Studies;
- Prepare the draft Environmental Assessment for public and agency review;
- Conduct a Public Hearing on the draft EA; and,
- Finalize the Environmental Assessment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:


Visit the project website at: www.newcanadaroad.com

Call or e-mail the following Project Contacts:

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	<p>NEW CANADA ROAD</p> <p>NEPA PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 29, 2009</p>	<p>Page 4</p>
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YOUR COMMENTS ARE IMPORTANT

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	<p>NEW CANADA ROAD</p> <p>NEPA PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 29, 2009</p>	<p>Page 5</p>
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Preferred Alternative A New Canada Road