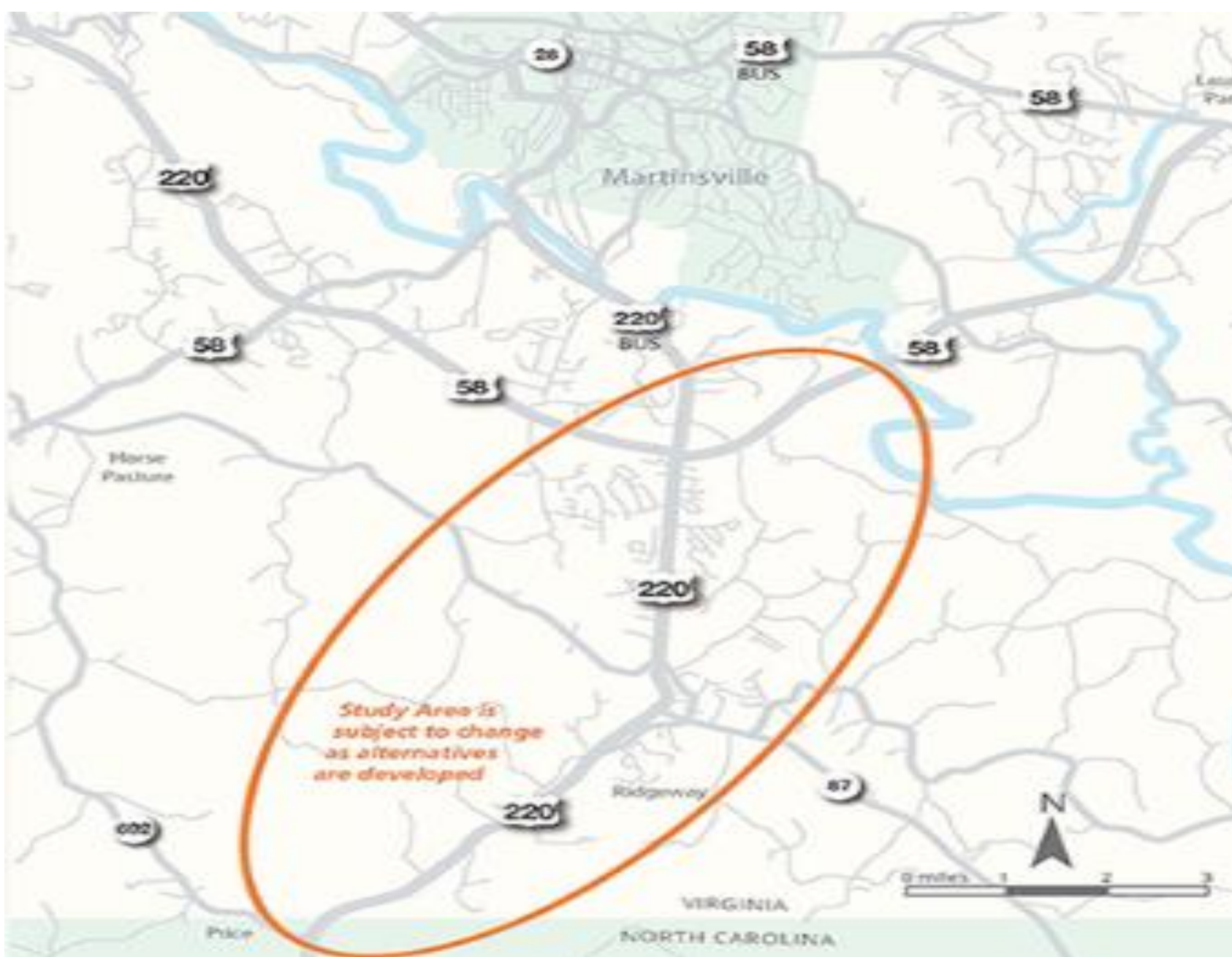


# MARTINSVILLE SOUTHERN CONNECTOR/ROUTE 220 EIS INTRODUCTION

| Angel Deem, Environmental Division Director  
February 19, 2019

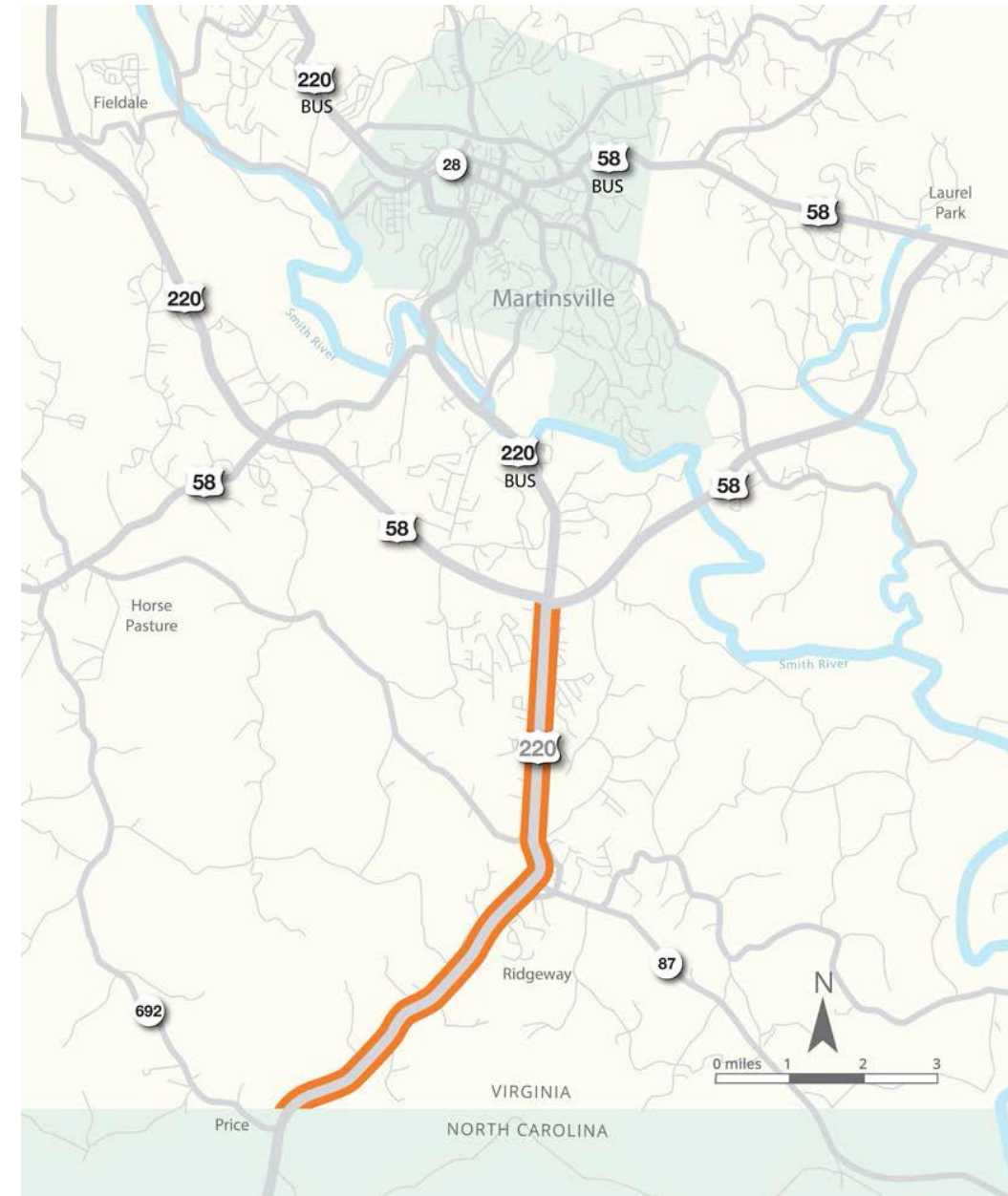


# PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the Martinsville Southern Connector Study is to enhance mobility for both local and regional traffic traveling along U.S. Route 220 between the North Carolina state line to the U.S. Route 58 Bypass near Martinsville, Virginia.

## Need Elements:

- Accommodate Regional Traffic
- Accommodate Local Traffic
- Address Geometric Deficiencies and Inconsistencies



# INITIATION OF THE EIS

- FHWA published Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS in the Federal Register – *February 2018*
- VDOT engaged federal, state, and local agencies inviting them to formally participate in the study – *March 2018*
- VDOT hosted a Citizen Information Meeting to introduce the study to the public – *May 2018*
- VDOT and the agencies concurred on impact methodologies for the study – *July 2018*
- **FHWA identified the project as one that would meet the One Federal Decision (OFD) Executive Order – *August 2018***

# ONE FEDERAL DECISION (OFD)

- **Prescribed under Executive Order 13807 (8/15/2017)**
- **Sets prescribed timelines to obtain a NEPA decision and related federal permits (goal = 24 months)**
- **Federal agencies identify eligible projects to apply OFD**
- **FHWA has currently identified three projects for OFD – two projects in Maryland and the Martinsville Southern Connector**

# IMPLICATIONS OF OFD ON THE ROUTE 220 EIS

- **Compels FHWA, VDOT, and its partner agencies to maintain published schedule**
- **Requires the required permit information be included in the EIS so the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) can issue permits at the end of the study**
- **Necessitates that the Preferred Alternative be identified in the Draft EIS to ensure the necessary information is presented to the agencies and the public**

# CHANGES MADE TO STUDY PROCESS FOR OFD

- **Increased level of data and analysis to be included in the EIS to inform future permitting actions**
  - **Natural Resources**
  - **Engineering Considerations**
- **Additional public involvement efforts to inform a CTB action on a Preferred Alternative prior to the issuance of the Draft EIS**
- **Additional documentation to identify the Preferred Alternative in the Draft EIS and then to refine that alternative in the Final EIS**
- **Anticipate FHWA and USACE will issue Record of Decision and permit at the same time**

# ROUTE 220 EIS TIMELINE

<b>Spring 2019</b>	<b>Brief the CTB on the range of alternatives</b>
<b>August 2019</b>	<b>Public hearing on recommended Preferred Alternative</b>
<b>September 2019</b>	<b>Federal agency concurrence on recommended Preferred Alternative</b>
<b>September 2019</b>	<b>Brief CTB on results of study and public comment</b>
<b>October 2019</b>	<b>CTB action to identify preferred alternative</b>
<b>December 2019</b>	<b>Draft EIS issued</b>
<b>January 2020</b>	<b>Public meeting to present Draft EIS</b>
<b>December 2020</b>	<b>Final EIS issued</b>
<b>Early 2021</b>	<b>FHWA Record of Decision/USACE permit issued</b>