

Commonwealth Transportation Board

W. Sheppard Miller, III 1401 East Broad Street
Chairperson Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 482-5818 Fax: (804) 786-2940

Agenda item # 1

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

December 6, 2022

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Merrill, Seconded By: Mr. Laird Action: Motion, Carried Unanimously

<u>Title: Limited Access Control Changes (LACCs) for the Interstate 81 Northbound</u> <u>and Southbound Widening from Mile Marker 242.0 to Mile Marker 248.8</u> City of Harrisonburg

WHEREAS, on October 4, 1956, the State Highway Commission, predecessor to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), designated the Interstate Highway System, including I-81, to be Limited Access Highways in accordance with then Article 3, Chapter 1, Title 33 of the 1950 *Code of Virginia*, as amended, and established the limited access line locations and limits as "the final locations of said routes, including all necessary grade separations, interchanges, ramps, etc."; and

WHEREAS, State Highway Project 0081-115-270, P101, R201, C501, B601, B602, B603, B604, B605, B606, B607, B608, B609 (UPC# 116280) provides for the construction of one additional lane in each direction (northbound and southbound) from mile marker 242.0 to mile marker 248.8 to address safety and congestion issues (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project requires adjustments of the limited access line to accommodate the relocation of the Pleasant Valley Road overpass, construction of stormwater management facilities and soundwalls as shown on the Limited Access Line Exhibits and the Limited Access Control Point Stations and Offsets Table (attached); and

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WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) held a Design Public Hearing ("Hearing") for the Project, including the current and proposed locations of the limited access lines, on June 28, 2022, between 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm at Pleasant Valley Elementary School, 215 Pleasant Valley Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801, and allowed public input to be collected concerning the request; and

WHEREAS, proper notice of the Hearing was given in advance, and all those present were given a full opportunity to express their opinions and recommendations for or against the Project as presented, their statements being duly recorded; and

WHEREAS, the economic, social and environmental effects of the Project have been duly examined and given proper consideration and this evidence, along with all other relevant evidence, has been carefully reviewed; and

WHEREAS, VDOT's Staunton District Office has reviewed and approved the traffic analysis report on June 2, 2022, and found that it adequately addresses the impacts from the Project and the proposed LACCs; and

WHEREAS, the Project is in compliance with National Environmental Policy Act requirements and a Categorical Exclusion was prepared under an agreement between VDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and approved on November 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Project is located within an attainment area for all of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, and will not have an adverse impact on air quality; and

WHEREAS, the Project is in the City of Harrisonburg and the proposed LACCs are supported by a letter from the Interim City Manager dated August 4, 2022 (attached); and

WHEREAS, FHWA has provided approval for State Highway Project 0081-115-270, P101, R201, C501, B601, B602, B603, B604, B605, B606, B607, B608, B609 (UPC # 116280) and the proposed LACCs on October 19, 2022; and

WHEREAS, VDOT's Chief Engineer has determined that the proposed LACCs will not adversely affect the safety or operation of the highways; and

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WHEREAS, VDOT has reviewed the requested LACCs and determined that all are in compliance with § 33.2-401 of the *Code of Virginia* and that the requirements of 24 VAC 30-401-20 have been met; and

WHEREAS, VDOT recommends approval of the LACCs as shown on the Limited Access Line Exhibits and the Limited Access Control Point Stations and Offsets Table (attached).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with § 33.2-401 of the *Code of Virginia* and 24 VAC 30-401-10 *et seq.*, that the CTB hereby finds and concurs in the determinations and recommendations of the VDOT made herein, and directs that the I-81 continue to be designated as a limited access control area, with the boundaries of limited access control being modified from the current locations as shown on the Limited Access Line Exhibits and the Limited Access Control Point Stations and Offsets Table (attached).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commissioner of Highways is authorized to take all actions and execute any and all documents necessary to implement the LACCs described herein.

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CTB Decision Brief

Proposed Limited Access Control Changes (LACCs)

<u>Interstate 81 Northbound and Southbound Widening from Mile Marker 242.0 to Mile</u> Marker 248.8

<u>Project 0081-115-270, P101, R201, C501, B601, B602, B603, B604, B605, B606, B607, B608, B609</u>

<u>UPC# 116280</u> City of Harrisonburg

Issues: The area designated as limited access previously approved for Interstate 81 needs to be modified to accommodate the construction of an additional lane in each direction (northbound and southbound) from mile marker 242.0 to mile marker 248.8. This change require the approval of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) pursuant to § 33.2-401 of the *Code of Virginia*, and 24 VAC 30-401-10 *et seq*.

Facts:

- Limited access control for I-81 was previously established on October 4, 1956 by the State Highway Commission, predecessor to the CTB, designated the Interstate Highway System, including I-81, to be Limited Access Highways in accordance with then Article 3, Chapter 1, Title 33 of the 1950 *Code of Virginia*, as amended, and established the limited access line locations and limits as "the final locations of said routes, including all necessary grade separations, interchanges, ramps, etc.".
- State Highway Project 0081-115-270, P101, R201, C501, B601, B602, B603, B604, B605, B606, B607, B608, B609 (UPC# 116280) provides for the widening of I-81 from two lanes to three lanes in each direction, (northbound and southbound) to include median barrier, stormwater management facilities, soundwalls, and the replacement of eight mainline bridges and one overpass at Pleasant Valley Road to address safety and congestion issues. These improvements will impact the existing limited access control lines, as shown on the Limited Access Line Exhibits and the Limited Access Control Point Stations and Offsets Table (attached).
- The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) held a Design Public Hearing ("Hearing") for the Project, including the current and proposed locations of the limited access lines, on June 28, 2022, between 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm at Pleasant Valley Elementary School, 215 Pleasant Valley Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801, and allowed public input to be collected concerning the request.
- Proper notice of the Hearing was given in advance, and all those present were given a full opportunity to express their opinions and recommendations for or against the Project as presented, their statements being duly recorded.
- The economic, social, and environmental effects of the Project have been duly examined and given proper consideration and this evidence, along with all other relevant evidence, has been carefully reviewed.

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- VDOT's Staunton District Office has reviewed and approved the traffic analysis report on June 2, 2022 and found that it adequately addresses the impacts from the Project and the proposed LACCs.
- The Project is in compliance with National Environmental Policy Act requirements and a Categorical Exclusion was prepared under an agreement between VDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and approved on November 1, 2022.
- The Project is located within an attainment area for all of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, and will not have an adverse impact on air quality.
- The Project is in the City of Harrisonburg and the proposed design features and LACCs are supported by a letter from the Interim City Manager dated August 4, 2022 (attached).
- FHWA has provided the approval for State Highway Project 0081-115-270, P101, R201, C501, B601, B602, B603, B604, B605, B606, B607, B608, B609 (UPC# 116280) and the proposed LACCs on October 19, 2022.
- VDOT's Chief Engineer has determined that the proposed LACCs will not adversely affect the safety or operation of the highways.
- The proposed LACCs are in compliance with § 33.2-401 of the *Code of Virginia* and with the policies and requirements of the CTB contained in 24 VAC 30-401-10 et seq.

Recommendations: It is recommended, pursuant to § 33.2-401 of the *Code of Virginia*, and 24 VAC 30-401-10 *et seq.*, that the I-81 corridor continue to be designated as a Limited Access Highway with the LACCs modified and/or established as shown on the Limited Access Line Exhibits and the Limited Access Control Point Stations and Offsets Table (attached). This action will modify the limited access line and right of way previously approved by the CTB's predecessor, the State Highway Commission, on October 4, 1956.

Action Required by CTB: The *Code of Virginia* § 33.2-401 and 24 VAC 30-401-10 *et seq.* require a majority vote of the CTB to approve the recommended LACCs. The CTB will be presented with a resolution for a formal vote to approve the LACCs for the Project and to provide the Commissioner of Highways the requisite authority to execute all documents necessary to implement the LACCs.

Result, if Approved: The Commissioner of Highways will be authorized to execute any and all documents needed to comply with the resolution, and the I-81 Project will move forward.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

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Public Comments/Reactions: There were fifty-four (54) citizens that attended the Hearing per the sign in sheets. There were forty-nine (49) total comments received. Thirty-five (35) commenters supported the project as presented, five (5) supported the project with modifications, four (4) did not support the project, and five (5) were neutral.

Minutes of the Meeting of the State Highway Countesion of Virginia, held in Richmond Cotober 4, 1956

The Commission met in the Central Office Brilding, Richard, Virginia, at 9:00 A.M., Thursday, October 4, 1956. The following members were presents Nessra. E. P. Barrow, S. S. Flythe, S. D. Nay, Burgess E. Welson, Wa. A. Wright and J. A. Anderson.

The mosting was called to order by the Chairman.

The Chairman read a lutter from Mr. Howard C. Regers stating that he would not be able to attend because of illness.

On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the August 9-10 mosting were approved.

Moved by Mr. May, seconded by Mr. Barrow, that the permits issued from the August 8-10 meeting to date, inclusive, as recorded in the Auditing Division, be approved. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. May, accorded by Mr. Barrow, that the permits cancelled by the Commissioner from the August 9-10 meeting to date, inclusive, as authorized June 25, 1947, and recorded in the Auditing Division, be approved. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Melson, seconded by Senator Wright, that the Countesion confirm sward of contract on bids received August 15 for the construction of Project 1887-15-16, Route 615, Bridge and Approaches Three Greek, Southempton County, to the low hidder, Morfolk Contracting Co., Morfolk, Va., at the bid of \$100,949.41, that 105 additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$1,054.54 for work by the A. & D. Railroad, making a total of approximately \$114,500.00 chargeable to this project; to be financed 50/50 State and Federal. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Wright, seconded by Mr. Barrow, that the Commission confirm sward of contract on bids received August 15 for the construction of Project 1307-24, Route 600, S. End of Bridge over Claytons Mill Creab-0.864 Mile N. Rockbridge County Line, Augusta County, to the law bidier, Echols Brothers, Inc., Staunton, Va., at the bid of \$67,455.15 and that 10% additional be set aside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work, making a total of approximately \$74,180.00 chargeshie to this project; to be financed 50/50 State and Federal. Notion carried.

Moved by Mr. Barrow, seconded by Mr. Plythe, that the Commission confirm award of contract on bids received August 15 for the construction of Project 1881-10, Routes 681; 640, 0.01 Mile E. of W. Int. Route 661; (E. of Pissaro)-Franklin County Mine, Floyd County, to the low hidder, D. E. Worley Construction Co., Rocky Mount, Va., at the bid of \$127,865.70, that 105 additional be set eside to cover the cost of engineering and additional work and \$1,225.50 for work by State Forces (not included in contract), making a total of approximately \$141,960.00 chargeable to this project; to be financed with \$71,580.00 State and \$70,520.00 Federal Funds. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Flythe, seconded by Sanator Helson, that, Whereas, under authority of Section 55-115,2 of the 1950 Gods of Virginia, as emersied, request is made by City of Warwick for payment at the base rate of 500 per Hile annually on additional streets meeting the required standards; Now, Therefore, be it resolved, that quarterly payments at the base rate of \$500 Fer Hile annually be made to the City of Warwick on additional streets totaling 11.20 miles, effective beginning the second quarter, October 1, 1956. Motion carried.

Hoved by Mr. Flyths, seconded by Senator Helson, that, Whereas, under authority of Section 55-115.2 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, request is made by City of Vaynesboro for payment at the base rate of \$500 per Mile annually on additional streets meeting the required standards; Now, Therefore, be it resolved, that quarterly payments at the base rate of \$500 Per Mila annually be made to the City of Waynesboro on additional streets totaling 10.512 miles, effective beginning the second quarter, October 1, 1956. Notion carried.

Noved by Mr. Flythe, seconded by Senator Helson, that, Whereas, under authority of Section 55-115.2 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, request is made by the Town of Wytheville for payment at the base rate of \$500 Per Mile annually on additional streets meeting the required standards; Now, Therefore, be it resolved, that quarterly payments at the base rate of \$500 Per Mile annually be made to the Town of Wytheville on additional streets totaling 0.984 Mile, affective beginning the second quarter, October 1, 1956. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Flythe, seconded by Senator Helson, that, it so be declared that, Whereas, by action of the Congress of the United States, whereby all routes on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways are to be constructed to interstate standards and whereas, one of the requirements of interstate standards is the control of access to these routes; Therefore, be it resolved that all routes on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways within the confines of the Commonwealth of Virginia, upon determining the final location of said routes, including all necessary grade separations, interchanges, ramps, atc., are here and now designated Limited Access Highways, pursuant to Article 5, Chapter 1, Title 35, of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, Notion parried.

On motion made by Senator Melson, seconded by Mr. Barrow, the Chairman was instructed to report to the Burean of Public Roads, at a meeting called for October 9, that the Virginia Department of Highways will undertake one-third of the cost of operation and maintenance of the proposed bridge over the Potonge River at Jones Point, with the thought that the other two-thirds shall be borne by the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia. This could be handled by written agreement looking to appropriate Federal legislation.

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Re: LACC UPC# 116280 I-81 from Mile Marker 242 to Mile Marker 248 City of Harrisonburg

Rogerson, George <george.rogerson@vdot.virginia.gov>

Fri, Oct 14, 3:51 PM (4 days ago)

to Lori, Neil

Thank you.



George T. Rogerson, Jr.

Policies & Procedures Section Manager Location & Design Division / Central Office Virginia Department of Transportation 804-350-1571 (cell) george.rogerson@vdot.virginia.gov

On Fri, Oct 14, 2022 at 3:23 PM Snider, Lori < lori.snider@vdot.virginia.gov wrote: I approve this LACC from a Right of Way and Utilities perspective.

Thank you, Lori

On Fri, Oct 14, 2022, 2:29 PM Hord, Neil < neil.hord@vdot.virginia.gov > wrote: Hi Lori.

I received the attached request from L&D for a project related LACC. I have reviewed and recommend your approval. If you concur, please indicate so to George Rogerson, who is included on this email. Thank you

Neil

Neil M. Hord
Program Manager Property Management
Right of Way & Utilities Division
1401 E. Broad Street, 5th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Phone: (804) 786-4079
Fax: (804) 786-1706
http://pmi.vdot.virginia.gov/

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Rogerson, George < george.rogerson@vdot.virginia.gov >

Date: Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 8:22 PM

Subject: Fwd: LACC UPC# 116280 I-81 from Mile Marker 242 to Mile Marker 248 City of

Harrisonburg

To: Hord, Neil < neil.hord@vdot.virginia.gov >

Neil,

I have attached the LACC documents for the above-mentioned project for your review and comments for the **December 7, 2022 CTB Meeting**. If you have no comments, please send an email to Lori recommending your approval of the LACCs. Please reply no later than the **COB October 11, 2022**. I am working on another LACC that will be on the **December 7, 2022 CTB agenda**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Thank you,



George T. Rogerson, Jr.

Policies & Procedures Section Manager Location & Design Division / Central Office Virginia Department of Transportation 804-350-1571 (cell) george.rogerson@vdot.virginia.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rogerson, George** < george.rogerson@vdot.virginia.gov >

Date: Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 8:18 PM

Subject: LACC UPC# 116280 I-81 from Mile Marker 242 to Mile Marker 248 City of

Harrisonburg

To: Jo Maxwell < joanne.maxwell@vdot.virginia.gov>, Michael Garrett

<michael.garrett@vdot.virginia.gov>, Ellen Porter <ellen.porter@vdot.virginia.gov>,

Vernon Heishman < vernon.heishman@vdot.virginia.gov >, Joseph Koscinski

<joseph.koscinski@vdot.virginia.gov>

Mike.

I have attached the LACC documents for the above-mentioned project for your review and comments for the **December 7**, **2022 CTB Meeting**. Please provide me with comments no later than the **COB October 11**, **2022**. I am working on another LACC that will be on the **December 7**, **2022 CTB agenda**.

I will remove the language in **red** and **yellow** highlights before finalizing the documents.

- 1. Decision Brief
- 2. Resolution
- Limited Access Line Exhibit and Control Point Stations and Offsets Table

- 4. Location Map
- 5. Original Resolution Oct. 4, 1956
- 6. Letter of Support from the City of Harrisonburg
- 7. Central Office R/W Approval Email (Forthcoming)
- 8. FHWA Approval (Forthcoming)

Thank you for your review and comments.



George T. Rogerson, Jr.

Policies & Procedures Section Manager Location & Design Division / Central Office Virginia Department of Transportation 804-350-1571 (cell)

george.rogerson@vdot.virginia.gov



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Stephen C. Brich, P.E. Commissioner

1401 East Broad Street Richmond, Virginia 23219 (804) 786-2701 Fax: (804) 786-2940

December 1, 2022

The Honorable W. Sheppard Miller, III

The Honorable Stephen C. Brich, P. E.

The Honorable Jennifer DeBruhl

The Honorable Darrell Byers

The Honorable Burwell W. Coleman

The Honorable Tom Fowlkes

The Honorable Mary Hughes Hynes

The Honorable Bert Dodson, Jr.

The Honorable Carlos M. Brown

The Honorable H. Randolph Laird

The Honorable Thomas Lawson

The Honorable Mark H. Merrill

The Honorable E. Scott Kasprowicz

The Honorable Laura Sellers

The Honorable Raymond D. Smoot, Jr.

The Honorable Frederick T. Stant, III

The Honorable Greg Yates

Subject: Approval of Limited Access Control Changes (LACCs) for the Interstate 81 Northbound and Southbound Widening from Mile Marker 242.0 to Mile Marker 248.8 in the City of Harrisonburg

Dear Commonwealth Transportation Board Members:

The Department has initiated the above request for LACCs for your consideration. The proposed LACCs on State Highway Project 0081-115-270, P101, R201, C501, B601, B602, B603, B604, B605, B606, B607, B608, B609 (UPC# 116280) have been determined as a necessary design feature and recommended for approval by the Department's staff.

I have reviewed the staff's recommendations and determined that approving these LACCs will not adversely affect the safety or operation of the affected highway network. I have determined that this request should be considered by the Board.

Sincerely,

Barton A Thrasher 2022.10.31 09:03:43-04'00' Barton A. Thrasher, P.E. Chief Engineer



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Stephen C. Brich, P.E. Commissioner

1401 East Broad Street Richmond, Virginia 23219 (804) 786-2701 Fax: (804) 786-2940

October 4, 2022

Mr. Thomas Nelson, Jr. P.E. Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration P.O. Box 10249 400 N. 8th Street Room 750 Richmond, Virginia 23240-0249

Attention: Mr. Steven Clausen

I-81 Widening Northbound & Southbound MM 242.0 to 248.8 Projects: 0081-115-270, P101, R201, C501, B601, B602, B603, B604, B605, B606, B607, B608, B609 Federal Project Number NHPP-0813(199) UPC 116280 City of Harrisonburg Request for Modified Limited Access Line

Dear Mr. Nelson,

Interstate I-81

As you are aware, The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is developing plans for the I-81 Widening Northbound and Southbound from approximately MM 242.0 to 248.8 in City of Harrisonburg, Virginia. This project constructs added capacity for I-81 in the median to improve operations.

As a result of the design of the project, the Limited Access Line needs to be modified at several locations to accommodate the required construction for the Pleasant Valley Bridge, storm water management facilities and noise barrier.

I-81 was designated as a Limited Access Highway by the State Highway Commission, predecessor to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), on October 4, 1956. The proposed Project is in compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements and a Categorical Exclusion (CE) was documented and approved for public availability on June 24, 2022.

Therefore, VDOT is requesting your concurrence in modifications to the existing limited access lines adjacent to I-81 as shown on the attached exhibits and the control point table.

Attached please find a copy of the Title Sheet, the Exhibit showing the area of LACC and the Limited Access Control Point Table for the affected areas.

VDOT approves of the Limited Access Control Changes as shown on the exhibit and control point table. We are requesting review and approval of these limited access changes so that the Commonwealth Transportation Board can approve the changes at their meeting on December 7, 2022.

If additional information is needed, please contact Mr. Butch Heishman, P.E. at 804.502.2362 or vernon.heishman@vdot.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,

Heltzel Emmett Digitally signed by Heltzel Emmett fri47591

fri47591

Date: 2022.10.05
16:47:21 -04'00'

Emmett Heltzel, P.E. State Location and Design Engineer

		Digitally signed by JANICE L	
Approved:	JANICE L WILLIAMS	WILLIAMS Date: 2022.10.19 14:21:45 -04'00'	Date
PP			2

Enclosure Exhibits



ANDE BANKS, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER 409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA 22801 OFFICE (540) 432-7701 • FAX (540) 432-7778

August 4, 2022

Mr. Scott Alexander, PE Assistant Location and Design Engineer VDOT – Staunton District 811 Commerce Road Staunton, VA 24401

Dear Mr. Alexander:

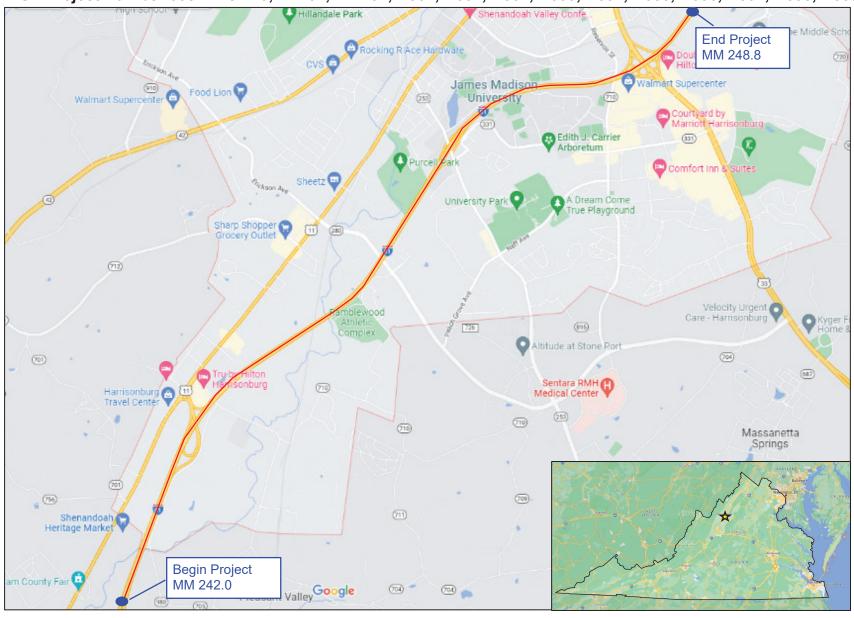
This letter is to provide written endorsement of the major design features and limited access control changes for the I-81 Widening project between exits 242 and 248, as presented at the Public Hearing. The goals of this project align with the City's transportation goals and we look forward to the successful completion of this project.

Sincerely,

Ande Banks

Interim City Manager

VDOT Project Number 0081-115-270, PE101, RW201, C501, B601, B602, B603, B604, B605, B606, B607, B608, B609



UPC 116280 I-81 Widening MM 242.0 to MM 248.8

Location Map

