


**Project Information**

<b>Project Name:</b>	I-81, Exit 72/I-77, Exit 40 Interchange Project	<b>Federal Project#:</b>	NHPP-0081(415)
<b>Project Number:</b>	0081-139-265, C501, P101, R201	<b>Project Type:</b>	Construction
<b>UPC:</b>	122267	<b>Charge Number:</b>	UPCs 116163 and 116175, Act. 6XX
<b>Project Number(Assoc)(UPC):</b>	0081-098-850(116175), 0081-139-255(116163), 00081-139-26396435		
<b>Route Number:</b>	81	<b>Route Type:</b>	Interstate
<b>Project Limit--From:</b>	Cove Road MM 72.0 NB	<b>To:</b>	0.2 Mi. S. Lithia Road MM 73.4 NB
<b>IPM Project Description:</b>	#I81CIP MM 72.0 NB to MM 73.4 NB Decel/Accel Lane w/Bridges		
<b>Additional Project Description:</b>	The project entails improvements to the I-81, Exit 72/I-77, Exit 40 interchange. The work includes extending the I-81 deceleration lane onto I-77 northbound by replacing the bridge (FED ID 22368) over the I-77 trumpet ramp. An auxiliary lane will be added between I-77, Exit 41 and Exit 40 southbound while extending the acceleration lane onto I-81 southbound. Both I-81 northbound and southbound bridges (FED IDs 22360 and 22362) over Peppers Ferry Road will be replaced. All work is proposed to be completed in the median with no right-of-way acquisition anticipated. The project is proposed to be delivered under the design-build concept.		
<b>Purpose And Need:</b>	To provide congestion relief near the I-77 and I-81 interchange as well as to improve overall safety and operational conditions.		
<b>District:</b>	<b>City/County:</b>	<b>Residency:</b>	
Bristol	Wytheville	Wytheville	

The subject project meets the criteria for a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion in accordance with:

23 CFR 771.117

**Description of PCE Category:**

**c26** Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (including parking, weaving, turning, and climbing lanes), if the action meets the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section.

## UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

- NO** Significant environmental impacts  
*Determination: There are no significant environmental impacts per Bristol District Environmental Staff project reviews and documentation referenced below in the "Impacts" section.*
- NO** Substantial controversy on environmental grounds  
*Determination: There is no controversy on environmental grounds per Bristol District Environmental Staff project reviews and documentation referenced below in the "Impacts" section.*
- NO** Significant impact on properties protected by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act  
*Determination: There are no significant impacts per Bristol District Environmental Staff project reviews and documentation referenced below in the "Impacts" section.*
- NO** Inconsistencies with any Federal, State, or local law, requirement or administrative determination relating to the environmental aspects of the action  
*Determination: There are no inconsistencies per Bristol District Environmental Staff project reviews and documentation provided below in the "Impacts" section.*

## IMPACTS:

- NO** Involves acquisition of more than minor amounts of temporary or permanent right of way acquisition  
*Determination: This project will not involve acquisition of right-of-way or easements per the Project Early Notification form, dated 09/15/22.*
- NO** Involves acquisitions that result in more than limited residential and non-residential displacements, based on the context and intensity of the impact  
*Determination: This project will not involve residential or non-residential displacements per the Project Early Notification form, dated 09/15/2022.*
- NO** Results in capacity expansion of a roadway by addition of through lanes  
*Determination: As per the scope of work and project plans, additional roadway capacity would not be added.*
- NO** Involves the construction of temporary access, or the closure of an existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions, based on the context and intensity of the impact  
*Determination: This project will involve only temporary lane closures with continuous traffic flow maintained on the adjacent lane per correspondence from the VDOT Project Manager, dated 12/08/22.*
- NO** Results in a determination of adverse effect on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. §306108)  
*Determination: This project will have "no adverse effect" on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 per the Cultural Resources Summary Report, dated 02/02/23.*
- NO** Requires the use of properties protected by Section 4(f) (49 U.S.C. § 303/23 U.S.C. § 138) that cannot be documented with an FHWA de minimis determination, or a programmatic Section 4(f) evaluation signed by FHWA  
*Determination: This project will not involve the use of any property protected under Section 4(f) per a search using the GIS Integrator, dated 09/20/2022, and the Cultural Resources Summary Report, dated 02/02/23.*
- NO** Requires the acquisition of lands under the protection of Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965 (54 U.S.C. § 200305) or other unique areas or special lands that were acquired in fee or easement with federal public-use-money and have deed restrictions or covenants on the property  
*Determination: This project will not involve the acquisition of any properties protected under Section 6(f) per a search using the GIS Integrator, dated 09/20/2022.*
- NO** Requires a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 (33 U.S.C. § 1344 permit other than a Nationwide or a General Permit)  
*Determination: This project requires a RGP 11/ NW 18 per the Permit Determination, dated 11/29/22.*

- NO** Requires a U.S. Coast Guard bridge permit (33 U.S.C. § 401)  
*Determination: This project will not impact any waters under the jurisdiction of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act per a search using the GIS Integrator, dated 09/20/2022.*
- NO** Requires work that will cause an increase of the flood level by more than one foot within a regulatory floodway of water courses or water bodies or work affecting the base floodplain (100-year flood) elevations of a water course or lake, pursuant to 23 CFR §650 subpart A  
*Determination: Given the scope and location of this project, it has no potential to increase the flood level.*
- NO** Is defined as a "Type I project" per 23 CFR §772.5 and the VDOT noise manual for purposes of a noise analysis  
*Determination: Per the Noise determination, dated 12/07/2022, the acceleration and deceleration lanes are each under 2,500 linear feet and combining the projects does not create a continuous lane greater than 2,500 linear feet; therefore the project is considered a Type III project and a noise study is not required.*
- NO** Is likely to adversely affect federally listed species or designated critical habitat, with the exception of a "may affect, likely to adversely affect" (MALAA) determination for a species with a Section 7 programmatic biological opinion.  
*Determination: As per Bristol Natural Resources Staff, this project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, federally listed species or designated critical habitat. The T&E Clearance Report, dated 11/22/2022, is in CEDAR.*
- NO** Involves any known or potential hazardous materials issues that represent a substantial liability or require substantial regulatory negotiation to resolve. Sites representing substantial liability would not include minor issues such as low-level petroleum impacts or minimal solid waste  
*Determination: Based on the location within an existing corridor and building towards the median this project will incur minimal potential for hazardous materials per the Hazardous Materials Summary, dated 11/17/22. Two of the three bridges are positive with asbestos and there are project specific commitments that are applicable to this project.*
- NO** Does not meet the provisions of the "Planning Documents and NEPA Approvals" document. In accordance with 23 CFR §450 and the FHWA/VDOT/Federal Transit Administration/Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation MOA Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Procedures MOA, actions listed in 23 CFR §771.117(c) and 23 CFR §771.117(d) may be grouped  
*Determination: This project is included in the STIP Grouping for "Construction: Safety/ITS/Operational Improvements;" therefore, it meets fiscal constraint requirements.*
- NO** Causes disproportionately high and adverse effects on any minority or low-income populations  
*Determination: Per the scope, this project will not cause any disproportionately high or adverse effects on any minority or low-income populations since there will be no relocations, no displacements, and no disruption of community services (e.g., police, fire, emergency medical, or school bus operations).*
- NO** Involves consideration of multiple NEPA alternatives  
*Determination: The scope of the project does not require the consideration of multiple alternatives.*
- NO** Is an action listed in 23 CFR §771.115(a)  
*Determination: This project is not one of, or similar to, any of the six actions listed under 23 CFR 771.115(a).*
- NO** Involves unusual circumstances, pursuant to 23 CFR §771.117(b)  
*Determination: This project does not involve any of the unusual circumstances listed under 23 CFR 771.117(b), per determinations in the section above titled "Unusual Circumstances."*

Young, George B

03/13/2023

Environmental Manager, CE Determination

Date