



Task Order 8: Environmental Studies for Route 234 at Brentsville Road Interchange Prince William County Project #19C17005

Scope of Work:

- Preparation of an Environmental Studies document for the Route 234 at Brentsville Road Interchange project in Prince William County.
- Provision of input related to the environmental studies for inclusion in public meeting materials for a public information meeting, attendance at the meeting, and assistance to the County in preparing responses to comments related to the environmental studies.

Completed Work:

- **Draft Environmental Studies document** completed and submitted to VDOT for review and comment.
 - Introductory material describing the project and explaining how it was a component of the Route 234 Bypass (now Prince William Parkway) project that was evaluated in a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) completed by VDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in 1994, in accordance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR 771.
 - When the Prince William Parkway was constructed, the interchange at Brentsville Road and Dumfries Road was not built as part of the project due to funding constraints and at-grade intersections were provided instead. The proposed project would replace those at-grade intersections with grade separations and connecting ramps, though in a different configuration than was identified in the SEIS.
 - The Environmental Studies document was prepared to address modifications to the Prince William Parkway/Brentsville Road interchange and assess the environmental consequences resulting from changes in the design, changes in regulatory requirements and guidance, and changes in the affected environment since the SEIS was issued, and to help determine if there are any new significant impacts at this point in project development.
 - Established estimated limits of potential disturbance based on conceptual design of proposed project and existing right of way limits.
 - Reported results of environmental studies.
- **Environmental inventory and analysis** conducted for:
 - **Socioeconomics and land use.** Using aerial photos and other data sources, identified land use and demographic changes since completion of the SEIS. Assessed potential for residential, business, or other relocations. Gathered information on cemeteries and community facilities in area surrounding project.
 - **Noise.** Conducted qualitative analysis based on results of noise study prepared for SEIS, current noise regulations, and existing noise receptors relative to the project conceptual configuration.
 - **Air quality.** Conducted qualitative analysis based on results of air study prepared for SEIS, VDOT guidance documents, and lack of nearby existing potential sensitive air receptor sites relative to the project conceptual configuration.
 - **Threatened or endangered species.** Conducted coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service through IPaC and completed species conclusions table.
 - **Wetlands and streams.** Mapped existing wetlands and streams based on hydrologic mapping and field reconnaissance.



ENVIRONMENTAL WORK STATUS

May 4, 2020

- **Floodplains.** Assessed limits of FEMA-designated 100-year floodplains relative to those addressed in the SEIS.
- **Hazardous materials.** Reviewed SEIS, aerials photos, and US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Facility Registry and conducted field reconnaissance for any obvious surface signs of potential presence of hazardous materials.
- **Historic properties.** Reviewed cultural resources reports and determination of effect from SEIS, reviewed current Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) records in online VCRIS system, assessed potential changes in effects on historic properties, and coordinated with DHR. DHR concurred on February 20, 2020 with a no adverse effect determination.
- **Indirect and cumulative impacts.** Reviewed indirect and cumulative impacts analysis from SEIS and assessed potential changes in such impacts due to current interchange project.
- **EQ-112.** Prepared and submitted to Prince William County draft *Environmental Analysis for a Proposed Change of Limited Access* (VDOT form EQ-112).
- **Public meeting (postponed).** Provided input for public meeting materials for public meeting scheduled for March 25, 2020; however, the meeting was postponed due to Covid 19 concerns.
- **VDOT comments on draft Environmental Studies document.** Received comments on 3/13/20 from VDOT on Environmental Studies document
 - VDOT indicated that a revised draft of the Environmental Studies document could not be forwarded to FHWA for review until a VDOT/Prince William County Project Agreement is in place.
 - VDOT indicated that a new quantitative noise analysis would be needed.
 - VDOT recommended a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) be completed.
 - VDOT requested additional information or clarification regarding several issues.
- **Responses to VDOT comments.** Drafted responses to VDOT comments and provided to Prince William County.

Ongoing Tasks:

- Revise Environmental Studies document to address comments from VDOT on draft.

To Be Completed by others During Design/Preconstruction:

- Project Agreement between Prince William County and VDOT.
- Coordination of Environmental Studies document with FHWA for review and comment and approval.
- Waters of the US jurisdictional determination.
- Water quality permitting.
- Noise analysis.
- Phase I ESA for hazardous materials.
- Re-coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service regarding endangered or threatened species (due to “shelf life” of coordination conducted for the Environmental Studies document).
- Public involvement.