



November 17, 2011

Thank you for attending the public information open house for Projects NH000-0057-01(010) & NH000-0057-01(011), P.I. Nos. 621340 & 620490, the proposed State Route 5 and McCaysville Bypass Road Improvements in Fannin County, Georgia. In this handout package you will find a project description, location map, project alternatives map and comment card.

As you enter the room, you will notice displays of the proposed project. Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) representatives, who can be identified by the nametags they are wearing, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. Please take this opportunity to discuss the project with a GDOT representative. There will be no formal presentation.

A court reporter will be available for those persons who would like to make a verbal statement about the project. You may also complete a comment card and deposit it into the box provided here, or send in written comments about the project until November 28, 2011. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Glenn Bowman, P.E., State Environmental Administrator, Georgia Department of Transportation, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30308. Comments can also be made via the web at www.dot.ga.gov. Click on **Public Outreach** from the **Information Center** dropdown menu at the top right side of the page. Select the **SR 5 Improvements (Fannin)** from the **Select a Project** dropdown menu and click on **Comment**. All comments will be made a part of the project record. We hope you will take advantage of one of these opportunities to let GDOT know your view of the proposal.

The displays and plans will be available for review for ten days after the public information open house at the GDOT District Six Office located at 500 Joe Frank Harris Pkwy, Cartersville, Georgia 30120 or GDOT Area Office at 258 Maddox Drive, Ellijay, Georgia 30540. A copy of all comments received will be available for public review at this same location and at the GDOT, Office of Environment Services, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30308, as soon as compilation is completed. Additional project information is available at

<http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/activeprojects/StateRoute/sr5mccaysville/Pages/default.aspx>

Again, thank you for attending this public information open house and for giving us your comments. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project manager Kimberly Nesbitt at 404-631-1575 or Funmi Adesesan at 404-631-1190 of the Office of Environmental Services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bobby Hilliard".

Bobby Hilliard, P.E.

State Program Delivery Engineer

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GDOT Projects NH000-0057-01(010) and NH000-057-01(011), Fannin County,
P.I. Nos. 621340 & 620490,
State Route 5 Road Improvements and McCaysville Bypass

GDOT Projects NH000-0057-01(010) and NH000-057-01(011) consist of the widening, reconstruction and relocation of portions of SR 5 beginning at the intersection with U.S. 76/SR 515/SR 2 in Blue Ridge, Georgia and extending north to tie into the existing four-lane section along SR 68 in Copperhill, Tennessee. The proposed typical section would consist of a four-lane divided highway (see attached maps). A two-lane typical section may be considered for the bypass section. The approximate total length of the project is twelve miles. The widening of the existing road would take place outside the existing right-of-way.

As identified through analysis and stakeholder input, the purpose of the proposed project is to provide improved mobility, accessibility, and safety, and to promote economic development along the SR 5 corridor between the cities of Blue Ridge and McCaysville/Copperhill in Fannin County, Georgia and Polk County, Tennessee. This important arterial link between Georgia and Tennessee currently connects the four lane SR 515/SR 2 in Georgia with four-lane SR 68 in Tennessee. Since SR 5 is currently a two lane roadway, this segment acts as a bottleneck, restricting north-south mobility and access to this growing area of Georgia. With congestion and travel times increasing along the corridor, there is a need to provide additional capacity to accommodate existing and future traffic demands and to reduce crash frequency and severity along SR 5.

Traffic congestion along SR 5 is expected to worsen without the improvements proposed by this project. This growing congestion and lack of roadway capacity is also restricting economic development along the corridor. Improvements to SR 515/SR 2 to the south and SR 68 to the north have served to promote rapid residential and tourism growth in this region of Georgia and Tennessee. However, improvements to SR 5 are needed to provide needed access to business and undeveloped land within the corridor as well as improved access to the Toccoa/Oconee River for tourism.

Alternate A:

Project Description: Alternate A consists of widening the existing SR 5 along with minor new location segments. A new bridge will be constructed over the Toccoa River in McCaysville. This alternate does not include a bypass around McCaysville. The proposed typical section would consist of a rural four-lane road with 12-foot lanes and a 32-foot depressed median. The outside shoulders are 10 feet wide with 6.5-foot paved sections and the inside shoulders are 6 feet wide with 2-foot paved sections. Within the city limits of McCaysville, the typical section would reduce to an urban four-lane road with 12-foot lanes and no median.

Project length: 11.4 miles

Number of Potential Residential Displacements: 134

Number of Potential Commercial Displacements: 65

Alternate B:

Alternate B consists of widening the existing SR 5 for approximately 2.2 miles from SR 515 to Mull Rd and constructing a new location road from Mull Road to Damascus Circle. A short segment of widening is proposed from Damascus Circle to south of Ross Road and a new location road is proposed from Ross Road to SR 68 including a bypass around McCaysville. New bridges will be constructed over Fightingtown Creek in Georgia and the Ocoee River in Tennessee. The proposed typical section would consist of a rural four-lane road with 12-foot lanes and a 32-foot depressed median. The outside shoulders are 10 feet wide with 6.5-foot paved sections and the inside shoulders are 6 feet wide with 2-foot paved sections.

Project length: 12.0 miles

Number of Potential Residential Displacements: 80

Number of Potential Commercial Displacements: 7

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Alternate C:

Alternate C consists of widening the existing SR 5 for approximately 2.2 miles from SR 515 to Mull Rd and constructing a new location road from Mull Road to SR 68 including a bypass around McCaysville. New bridges will be constructed over Fightingtown Creek in Georgia and the Ocoee River in Tennessee. The proposed typical section would consist of a rural four-lane road with 12-foot lanes and a 32-foot depressed median. The outside shoulders are 10 feet wide with 6.5-foot paved sections and the inside shoulders are 6 feet wide with 2-foot paved sections.

Project length: 11.4 miles

Number of Potential Residential Displacements: 68

Number of Potential Commercial Displacements: 4

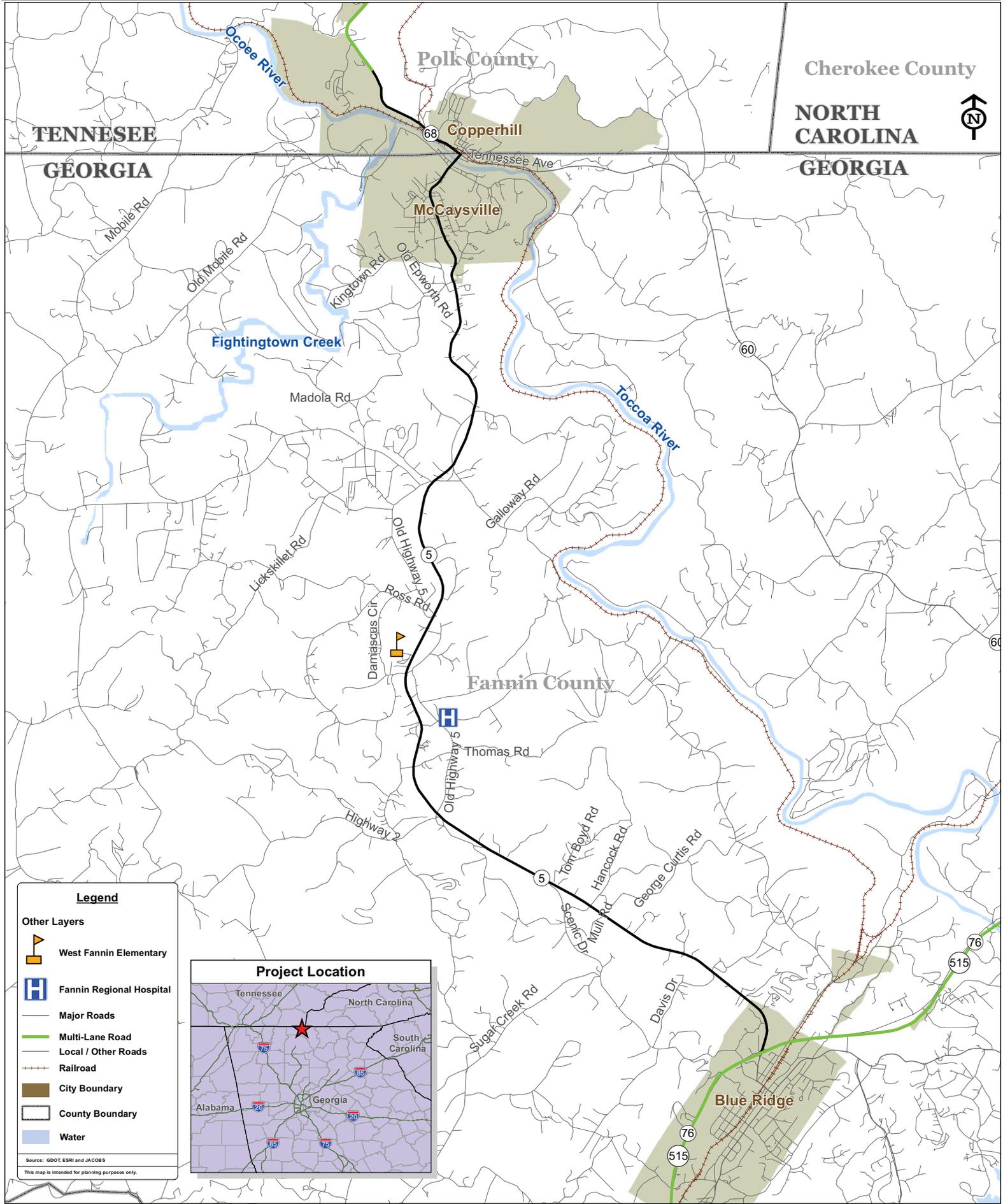
Alternate D:

Alternate D consists of widening the existing SR 5 for approximately 2.2 miles from SR 515 to Mull Rd and constructing a new location road from Mull Road to SR 68 including a bypass around McCaysville. New bridges will be constructed over Fightingtown Creek in Georgia and the Ocoee River in Tennessee. The proposed typical section would consist of a rural four lane road with 12-foot lanes and a 32-foot depressed median. The outside shoulders are 10 feet wide with 6.5-foot paved sections and the inside shoulders are 6 feet wide with 2-foot paved sections.

Project length: 10.7 miles

Number of Potential Residential Displacements: 62

Number of Potential Commercial Displacements: 6

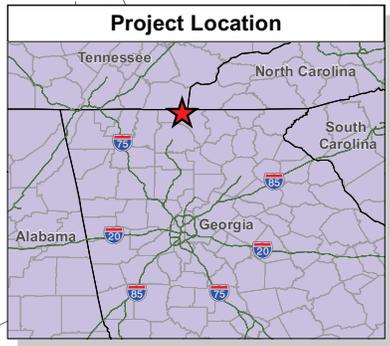


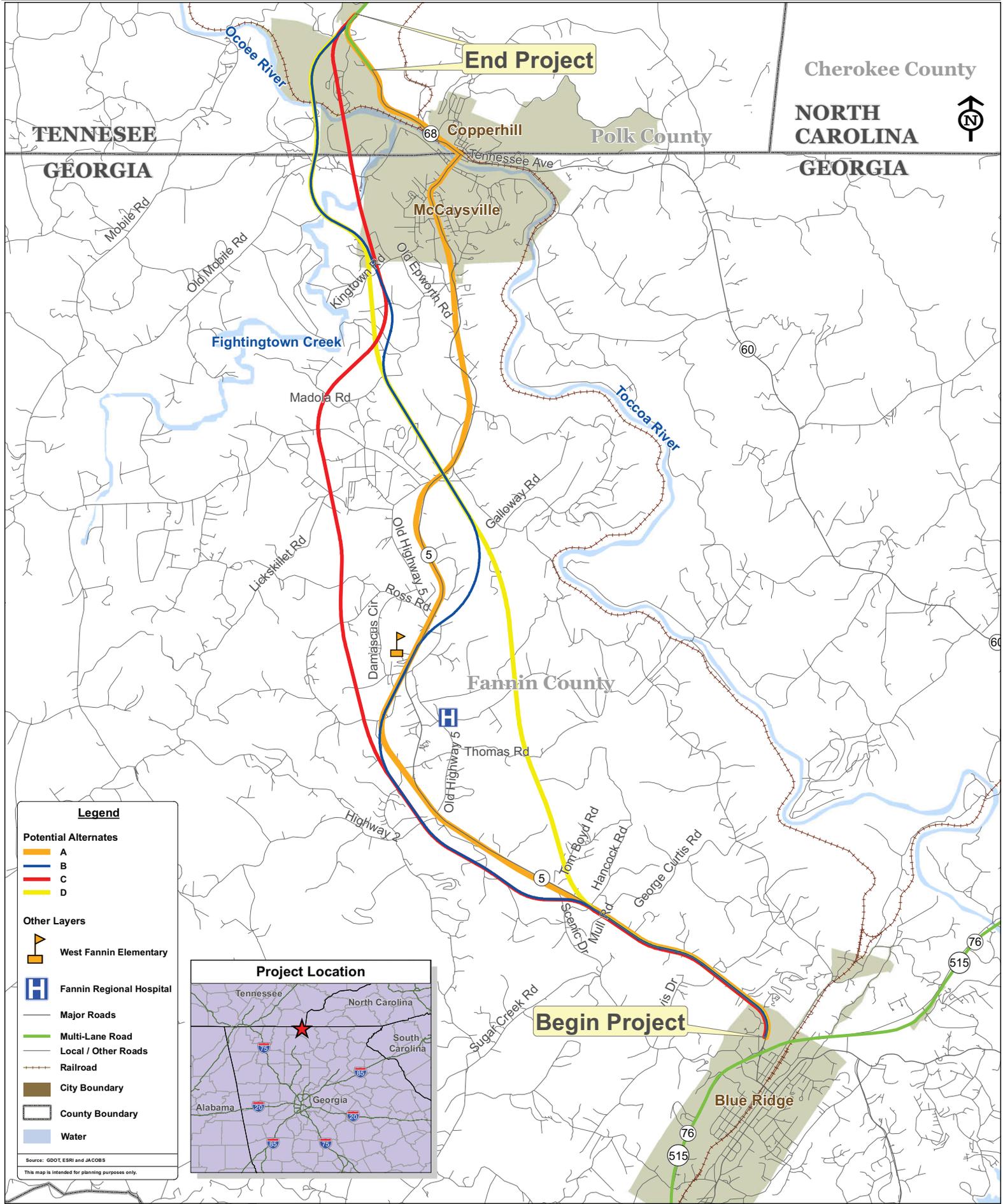
Legend

Other Layers

- West Fannin Elementary
- Fannin Regional Hospital
- Major Roads
- Local / Other Roads
- Railroad
- City Boundary
- County Boundary
- Water

Source: GDOT, ESRI and JACOBS
This map is intended for planning purposes only.





Cherokee County

**NORTH
CAROLINA**

GEORGIA



**TENNESSEE
GEORGIA**

Polk County

End Project

Begin Project

Legend

Potential Alternates

- A
- B
- C
- D

Other Layers

- West Fannin Elementary
- Fannin Regional Hospital
- Major Roads
- Multi-Lane Road
- Local / Other Roads
- Railroad
- City Boundary
- County Boundary
- Water

Source: GDOT, ESRI and JACOBS
This map is intended for planning purposes only.

Project Location

Source: GDOT, ESRI and JACOBS
This map is intended for planning purposes only.

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Information Open House Comment Card
Project NH000-0057-01(010) & NH000-0057-01(011), Fannin County,
P.I. Nos. 621340 & 620490

Please print responses. Use back page for additional space if needed.

Name _____

Address _____

Do you support the project? *For* *Against* *Conditional* *Uncommitted*

Please tell us what you like or do not like about Alternate 1 _____

Please tell us what you like or do not like about Alternate 2 _____

Please tell us what you like or do not like about Alternate 3 _____

Please tell us what you like or do not like about Alternate 4 _____

How did you hear about this meeting? *Radio* *Newspaper* *Signs* *Word of Mouth*
Other _____

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? *Yes* *No*

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? *Yes* *No*

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you. _____

Were your questions answered by GDOT personnel? *Yes* *No*

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? *Yes* *No*

Please share your suggestions on improving the way GDOT conducts public meetings.

Mail To:
Mr. Glenn Bowman, P.E., State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308