



Delaware Department  
of Transportation

**Public Workshop Summary – February 25, 2015**

**SR 1 Interim Improvements**

The Interim Improvement projects of SR 1 include: 1) SR1 Northbound Auxiliary Lane Project which proposes a new SR 1 northbound auxiliary lane between US 40 (Pulaski Highway) and SR 273 (Christiana Road); 2) SR 1/SR 72 Diverging Diamond Interchange Project; and 3) SR 72 Widening Project from McCoy Road to SR 71.

DelDOT held a public workshop on February 25, 2015 to present and seek public input on the interim improvements proposed along the SR 1 Corridor in New Castle County, Delaware. The meeting was held from 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM at the May B. Leasure Elementary School, 1015 Church Road, Newark, Delaware.

Approximately 102 people attended the workshop on February 25, 2015. Workshop boards were displayed to show project information and the Project Team was on hand to answer questions from the public. The display stations allowed for one-on-one discussions with attendees. The presentation and display boards are available for viewing on the project website ([sr1.deldot.gov](http://sr1.deldot.gov)). Project Team members received feedback from these discussions along with comment forms submitted by the public. A total of 23 comment forms were received, and 2 additional comments were submitted via email. All comments received will become part of the project record.

The comments and feedback that were submitted were generally in support of the three projects. Commuters experience increased traffic and recognize the need for improvements. However, there is also concern for the proximity of the projects to their homes and the subsequent increase in noise, which could potentially decrease property values. Several commenters inquired about noise mitigation. Several citizens also requested the addition of bicycle lanes along SR 72.

**Common Comment Themes:**

*SR 1 Northbound Auxiliary Lane:* Six comments supported the general need for project and found it a good idea. One commenter stated the project is already outdated due to the amount of traffic using US 1 from the south; another commenter was concerned that the bridge over route 40 is not wide enough to handle the traffic;

*SR 72/SR 1 Diverging Diamond Interchange:* Four comments supported the need and innovation of the project. Five comments were received requesting bicycle lanes on Route 72 in both directions, as well as pocket lanes through the ramps to Route 1; one commenter expressed desire for a quick construction process; another found the project was not needed at this time; there was a suggestion that the interchange should be a clover leaf design instead of the proposed diamond; one commenter stated potential project challenges are public acceptance and out of state drivers not understanding the traffic patterns;

*SR 72 Widening Project from McCoy Road to SR 71:* Concern about property acquisition for stormwater management. Noted the need for four lanes on SR 72 south of OPB to SR 13/ SR 7.

*Noise:* Concern that the project is in close proximity to residential property and requests a sound barrier; another commenter requests new trees to be planted. Concern with increase noise levels between SR 72 and Roth Bridge. Suggests to put up a cement wall as a sound barrier.

*Property Values and Taxes:* Concern that property values will decrease because of project's proximity and acquisition of some property.

*Safety:* Cars have previously veered into trees from existing SR 1 alignment. Concern that cars will be closer to trees with new alignment. Questions if a road safety test was performed.

*Additional Comments:* Keep public updated on SR 1 widening; request to hold a public workshop or mail notification of the construction phase of the two projects to announce impacts; one commenter did not think project was needed and provided list of alternate projects.