



Date: January 6, 2021

To: Anne Phillips, Principal Planner, DCHC MPO
From: Evan Tenenbaum, Transportation Planner, City of Durham Transportation
Subject: Public Comment on TIP Amendment #3 Regarding C-4928 Morreene Road

The City of Durham wishes to submit the following public comment for TIP amendment #3.

Morreene Road Sidewalks (C-4928), a locally administered project, is subject to a proposed schedule modification as part of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #3. The current STIP has right-of-way for this project beginning in FY 2020 and construction in FY 2021. The proposed amendment will change these dates to ROW in FY 2021 and construction in FY 2021.

City of Durham Public Works is managing this project, and has indicated that due to authorization delays from NCDOT in FY 2020 caused by their spending freeze, the schedule in the TIP needs to be further changed to better align with the revised project timetable:

- Anticipated Right-of-Way Acquisition Start: January 2021
- Anticipated Right-of-Way Completion: April 2022
- Anticipated Bid Advertisement: July 2022
- Anticipated Construction Start: December 2022
- Anticipated Construction Completion: May 2024

The City of Durham recommends changing the TIP schedule for project C-4928, to keep right-of-way in FY 2021, but delay Construction until 2023, as seen below.

	Current STIP	Amendment #3 Proposal	Adjustment Recommended
Right-of-way	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2021
Construction	FY 2021	FY 2021	FY 2023

Additionally, the City of Durham is concerned that the revised schedule caused by NCDOT's spending freeze may result in increased right-of-way and utility costs. The City has estimated the general cost of inflation for this delay will result in a cost increase of over \$500,000 to this project. The total cost currently allocated for this project is \$10.4 million, while revised estimates to account for this inflation indicates the total will need to be around \$10.96 million.

The City may decide to pursue another TIP amendment for this project in the future, but for now will monitor this project as it progresses through the right-of-way phase before making the determination to request an increase in its budget.

Please consider this information about scheduling and potential cost increases on Project C-4928 before approving TIP Amendment #3. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Evan Tenenbaum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Evan Tenenbaum, Transportation Planner

Cc: Bill Judge, Assistant Director, Transportation
David Cates, Public Works
Brian Taylor, Transportation Planner

Re: Durham Freeway

Dave Olverson <dolverson@gmail.com>

Wed 12/23/2020 3:45 PM

To: Egan, Sean <Sean.Egan@durhamnc.gov>**Cc:** Judge, Bill <Bill.Judge@durhamnc.gov>; Phillips, Anne <Anne.Phillips@durhamnc.gov>; Nwoko, Felix <Felix.Nwoko@durhamnc.gov>

Thank you for the quick response!

I see that you have included Anne Phillips on this email, so I will make my comments here:

Ms. Phillips - As Mr. Egan suggested, I would like to advocate for equitable community engagement and a process for feedback on the projects that are affected by Amendment 3. I have a particular interest in the study of NC 147. It is not surprising that NCDOT is not interested in pushing this study forward as it would not benefit them or their goals in any way. They wouldn't particularly care about a thriving downtown Durham or increased property tax revenue. Their success is measured by transportation metrics, but as transportation is an induced demand, there are other ways to achieve a better Durham.

Given this misalignment of goals, it is incumbent upon DCHC MPO and the City of Durham to listen to citizens of Durham and to help us advocate for projects that will make Durham a better place, not merely one with more car capacity. The study of NC 147 is particularly important given that there may be additional federal funding on the horizon based on incoming Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg's recent comments supporting the removal of freeways that were a part of urban renewal. We need to act quickly to be prepared to use that funding if and when it becomes available.

Thank you and let me know if you have any questions or need additional feedback from me.

Best,
Dave