

Public Input Meeting

Evergreen Mills Road – Reservoir Road & Watson Road, Loudoun County, VA

Tuesday, September 22nd, 2020 From 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Virtual Meeting Hosted on WebEx

About Tonight's Virtual Public Input Meeting

Thank you for attending this Virtual Public Input Meeting to discuss the location and design for the Evergreen Mills Road – Reservoir Road & Watson Road project located in Loudoun County. The Loudoun County Department of Transportation & Capital Infrastructure (DTCI), in partnership with J2 Engineers, invite you to review the materials and ask guestions or comment on the plans.

This meeting will be conducted in a Virtual WebEx Online format with DTCI representatives and engineers available to describe the project, report specific details, and answer your questions. It will allow an opportunity for members of the public to listen to a detailed presentation and ask questions to the project team.

All questions and comments will be compiled in a summary Q&A document and made available on the project webpage. This input will be considered in the final design as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Members of the public can sign up to ask questions during the live Q&A sessions, or can provide comments ahead of time using the comment form on the project website.

We look forward to working with you as the project moves forward. Thank you for participating in this event!

Project Overview



Estimated Project Cost - Approximately \$14 M, including costs for right-of-way acquisition, utility relocations, and inspections/testing during construction.

Purpose-This project will widen existing Evergreen Mills Road from the southern tip of the Goose Creek Bridge to 1400 feet south of the bridge and construct a new intersection with realigned Watson Road and Reservoir Road. The improvements will focus on improving safety within this section of the Evergreen Mills corridor. The project also includes the installation of stormwater management measures, reconstruction of existing drainage facilities, and other ancillary improvements. An environmental assessment for this project is currently on-going and will be followed by the final design and right-of-way acquisition phases.

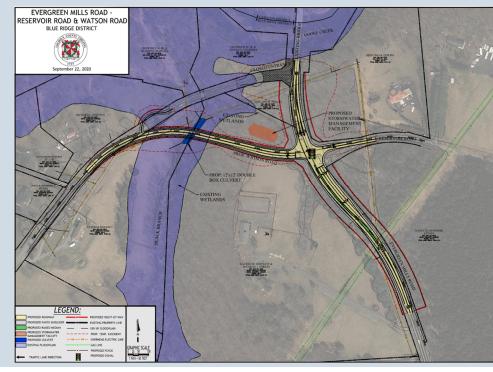
Project Description

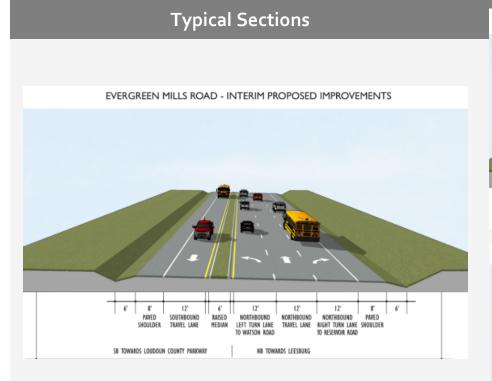
This project provides for the design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the widening of Evergreen Mills Road and the realignment of Watson Road to create a 4-way intersection with Evergreen Mills Road and Reservoir Road. Based on a Signal Justification Report completed and approved by VDOT on July 20th, 2020, a signalized intersection will be the recommended configuration for this location. The current alignment of Watson Road and Reservoir Road termini are in a stop condition with a free-flowing Evergreen Mills Road. Evergreen Mills Road conveys traffic between the Town of Leesburg and points south to Route 50. The land adjacent to the project area is comprised of rural residential and agricultural land use with some nearby businesses. At the conceptual phase of the project, an alignment study was performed and reviewed by VDOT to determine the intersection configuration and alignments that would provide the safest roadway while minimizing the impacts to private properties as much as possible.

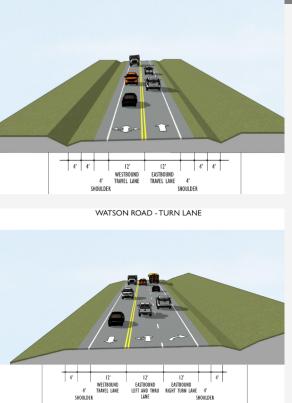
Existing Evergreen Mills Road has a steep downward slope of over 9% proceeding north through both of these intersections towards the bridge over Goose Creek and has no turn lanes or paved shoulder. The existing narrow typical section, combined with vegetative growth and steep rock embankments on both sides, provides minimal sight distance for drivers attempting to turn out of Watson Road onto Evergreen Mills Road and does not provide any refuge to pull off the road if necessary.

The existing speed limit along Evergreen Mills Road within our project limits is 55 mph, although there are advisory signs in advance of this area instructing drivers to slow down to 35 mph. Based on 2019 traffic data compiled by VDOT, the Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) along this stretch of Evergreen Mills Road is 9,300 vehicles per day (vpd). The AADT along Watson Road is 2,900 vpd and along Reservoir Road it is 180 vpd. There are no existing bicycle or pedestrian facilities in the area, and no shoulder for pull offs along any of the roads.

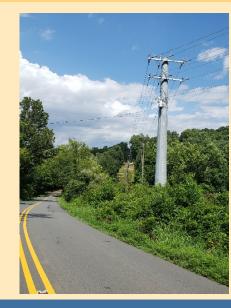
The proposed improvements will provide right- and left-turn lanes for both northbound and southbound traffic on Evergreen Mills Rd, as well as full-depth 8-ft wide paved shoulders. The ultimate configuration for Evergreen Mills Road as laid out in the Countywide Transportation Plan is to be a 4 lane, median divided roadway with pedestrian accommodations outside the road. This project will provide interim improvements to mitigate the safety concerns associated with these intersections. All proposed improvements, such as drainage structure upgrades, SWM design, and clearing and grading, will be developed to accommodate the ultimate configuration of Evergreen Mills Road.







Utility Impacts and Black Branch Crossing



There are several major utility considerations through this project that the design must account for. There are overhead power lines (both local lines and larger transmission lines), two large 30" gas transmission lines, and multiple fiber ductbanks throughout the corridor serving various businesses and schools along Evergreen Mills Road. Some unavoidable power poles will need to be relocated, but the design will seek to minimize these impacts as much as possible.

The realigned Watson Road will also cross Black Branch, a small tributary to Goose Creek which outfalls immediately north of the project. The existing wooden bridge in this vicinity is inadequate in size for its purpose; the project will propose a double box culvert at the realigned crossing in order to convey the stream water during storms without impacting the backwater from Goose Creek itself. A floodplain analysis study is underway to ensure this crossing will be designed adequately.

What's Next?

Comments can continue to be submitted to DTCI through the project public information meeting website [www.loudoun.gov/evergreenmillsrealignment] until October 23rd, 2020. The County will compile/ review all received comments and take them into consideration to the extent possible in developing the final design. Loudoun DTCI will seek design endorsement from the Board of Supervisors before advancing the final design plans and proceeding to construction procurement.

Anticipated Schedule:

- Board Endorsement Fall2020/ Winter 2021
- Final Design Approval Summer 2021
- ROW Acquisition Begin Summer 2021
- Utility Relocations Begin Spring 2022
- Construction Advertisement Spring 2023

Civil Rights

Loudoun County ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the county's ADA Coordinator at 571-258-3282 (TTY 711) to request an accommodation.

Land Acquisition and Utilities

Based on the preliminary design of the Evergreen Mills Road – Reservoir Road & Watson Road project, we do not anticipate any displacements or relocation of residences or businesses during this project.

The proposed project will require easements and some acquisition of property from parcels adjacent to the proposed project. As the project further develops and the design is finalized, easements for maintenance, construction, drainage, and utility relocations may be required beyond the proposed easements shown on the projects plans presented tonight. Impacted property owners will be informed of the exact location of these easements during the land acquisition process prior to construction.

If right-of-way is required for the project, the land acquisition program will be conducted in accordance with the Uniform Relocation and Real Estate property Acquisition Act of 1970, as amended.

Information about right-of-way acquisition is discussed in VDOT's brochure. "Right of Way and Utilities: A Guide for Property Owners and Tenants." Copies of this brochure are available to download on the project's webpage.

Contact Information

Loudoun County Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure (DTCI)
Attn: Evergreen Mills Road-Watson Road Project
101 Blue Seal Drive, SE Suite 102
PO Box 7500, Leesburg, VA. 20177-7500
DTCI@loudoun.gov

www.loudoun.gov/evergreenmillsrealignment

