



Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner
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April 6, 2022

Thank you for visiting the Public Information Open House (PIOH) website for the proposed State Route (SR) 8/SR 316/United States (US) 29 at CR 329/Barber Creek Road Reconstruction Project, PI Number 0013910. The goals of this website are two-fold: 1) to provide information on the proposed project and 2) to provide you an opportunity to give us your comments. In this handout package, you will find a description of the project, a location map, and a comment card.

This website is designed to look and feel like an in-person PIOH with various subject rooms representing key areas of the project development. You may tour through each of the subject rooms (Welcome, Project Design, etc.), just as you would the stations at an in-person meeting. In each subject room, you may click on project staff avatars, displays, handouts, posters, and/or videos for information.

After reviewing the information, we hope you will take the opportunity to tell the Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) what you think of the project. Your comments are important to us and, should you provide comments by one of the methods noted below, we will respond to you in writing within approximately 30 days of the close of the comment period. All comments will become part of the project's official record.

You can **provide your comments by** May 2, 2022, by any of the following methods:

- Submit comments through the survey link on the public meeting webpage:
<https://transformingsr316-gdot.hub.arcgis.com>
- Print and fill out the comment card in this handout and submit:
 - By mail to the following address:
Mr. Eric Duff, State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation,
600 West Peachtree Street NW,
16th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30308
 - By email to P3Division@dot.ga.gov
- Call the project hotline at (404) 631-1733 to leave a message with your comment.

Following the public comment period, a copy of all comments received will be available by request at the Atlanta address listed above.

The project displays and plans will be available for comment at <https://transformingsr316-gdot.hub.arcgis.com> until May 2, 2022. If you would like to review paper copies of the materials posted online, please contact the Georgia DOT District 1 Planning and Programming Coordinator, Jeremy Durrence, at (404) 694-6545 to make arrangements.

Again, thank you for visiting this public meeting webpage. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project team at P3Division@dot.ga.gov or (404) 631-1733.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Duff / DB". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Eric Duff
State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation

Why are we here and what is the issue we are seeking to address within your community?

Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) is seeking feedback about a proposed solution to improve mobility, potentially reduce crashes, and improve traffic flow conditions along approximately 1.2 miles of State Route (SR) 8/SR 316/United States (US) 29 and the current at-grade intersections with County Road (CR) 329/Barber Creek Road and Craft Road in Barrow County.

Current conditions along the SR 316 corridor:

- SR 8/SR 316/US 29 is an east-west running highway consisting of four, 12-foot concrete travel lanes (two lanes in each direction), a 44-foot depressed (grassed) median, 12-foot outside shoulders (4-foot paved) and 6-foot inside shoulders (2-foot paved). There are currently two, at-grade intersections within the project's limits. These intersections consist of SR 8/SR 316/US 29 and CR 329/Barber Creek Road and Craft Road.
- According to the Traffic Analysis and Data Application (TADA), this portion of SR 316 in Barrow County serves approximately 27,200 vehicles per day with 9 percent of that total volume being truck traffic.
- Crash data from 2015 to 2019 indicated that 72 crashes occurred in the vicinity of the project intersections. Of those crashes, non-vehicle collisions were 42% of all crashes, sideswipe crashes from oncoming traffic accounted for 3% of all crashes, sideswipe crashes accounted for 8% of all crashes, rear end crashes accounted for 8% of all crashes, head-on collisions consist of 1% of all crashes, and angle crashes accounted for 38% of the crashes.
- Existing year (2020) Level of Service (LOS), which is a measurement of traffic congestion, was analyzed and determined that CR 329/Barber Creek Road currently performs at LOS F in the AM and PM peak hours. Craft Road performs at LOS D and LOS E during the AM and PM peak hours, respectively. [For more information on LOS ratings, click here.](#)
- According to traffic data collected in 2020, high vehicle delays were observed on CR 329/Barber Creek Road at its intersection with SR 8/SR 316/US 29. The average morning peak hour delay is approximately 57.5 seconds per vehicle and the average evening peak hour delay is approximately 92.9 seconds per vehicle. High delays were also observed in the evening peak hour on Craft Road at its intersection with SR 8/SR 316/US 29 where the average evening peak hour delay is approximately 49.6 seconds per vehicle.

Proposed Solution: (Also See Project Location Map attached)

The proposed improvements would be a continuation of a series of reconstruction projects along SR 316, from SR 20 in Gwinnett County to SR 10 in Athens/Oconee County that would improve mobility, potentially reduce crashes, and improve traffic flow conditions. PI No. 0013910 proposes the following:

- Within the vicinity of the SR 8/SR 316/US 29 and CR 329/Barber Creek Road intersection
 - Remove the existing at-grade crossing at SR 8/SR 316/US 29 and CR 329/Barber Creek Road.
 - Create a grade separated diamond interchange at CR 329/Barber Creek Road.
 - Ventura Street, located north of SR 8/SR 316/US 29, would be realigned to tee into CR 329/Barber Creek Road perpendicularly.
 - Wylie McGuire Road, located south of SR 8/SR 316/US 29, would be realigned to connect with CR 329/Barber Creek Road at a location approximately 500 feet south of its current connection. The existing intersection of Wylie McGuire Road and CR 329/Barber Creek Road would be removed.
- Within the vicinity of the SR 8/SR 316/US 29 and Craft Road intersection
 - Remove the existing at-grade crossing at SR 8/SR 316/US 29 and Craft Road.
 - South of SR 8/SR 316/US 29, Craft Road would be dead ended with a cul-de-sac.
 - North of SR 8/SR 316/US 29, a two-lane frontage road (one lane in each direction) would be constructed to provide access between Craft Road and CR 329/Barber Creek Road.

Without this Project (No Build):

- SR 8/SR 316/US 29 would remain a four-lane highway with a grassed median, 12-foot outside shoulders (4-foot paved) and 6-foot inside shoulders (2-foot paved). The intersections of SR 8/SR 316/US 29 at CR 329/Barber Creek Road and SR 8/SR 316/US 29 at Craft Road would remain at-grade crossings.

- This portion of SR 316 in Barrow County is expected to serve approximately 32,850 vehicles in the project's open year (2027) and approximately 47,600 vehicles per day in the project's design year (2047).
- Because traffic volumes are expected to increase in the future, the number of crashes occurring in the future are also likely to increase.
- In the open year (2027) and design year (2047), the operational performance of the intersections of SR 8/SR 316/US 29 at CR 329/Barber Creek Road and at Craft Road would continue to deteriorate in the morning and evening peak hours. It is expected that CR 329/Barber Creek Road would remain at LOS F and Craft Road would worsen to a LOS F.
- Vehicle delays would continue to increase for CR 329/Barber Creek Road and Craft Road at their intersection with SR 8/SR 316/US 29. At CR 329/Barber Creek Road, the average peak hour delays in 2027 are expected to be approximately 123.0 seconds per vehicle in the morning peak hour and approximately 205.5 seconds per vehicle in the evening peak hour. At Craft Road, the average peak hour delays in 2027 are expected to be approximately 54.4 seconds per vehicle in the morning peak hour and approximately 73.0 seconds per vehicle in the evening peak hour.

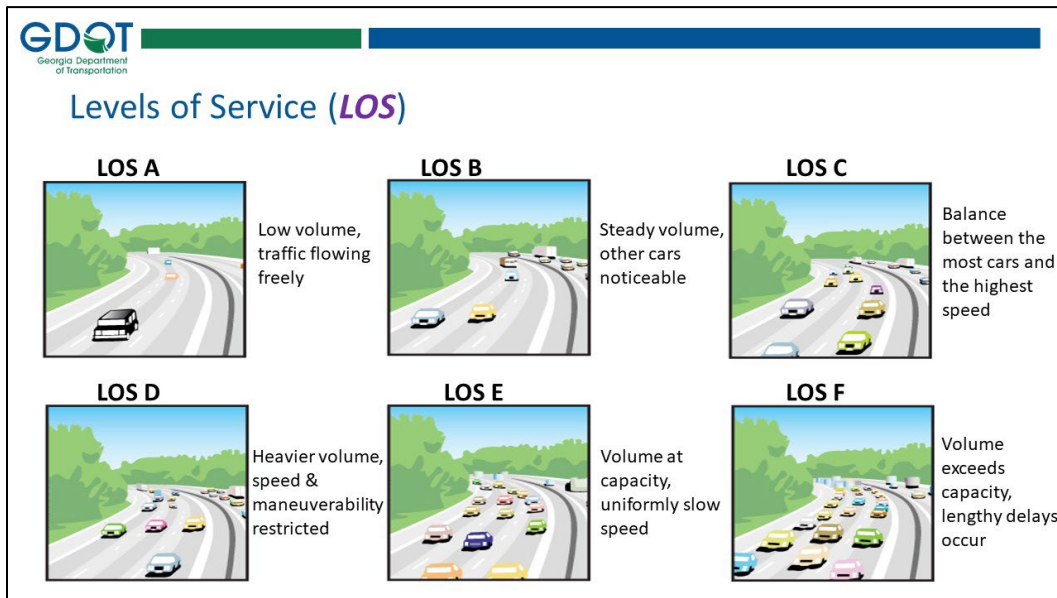
Benefits of Project Implementation:

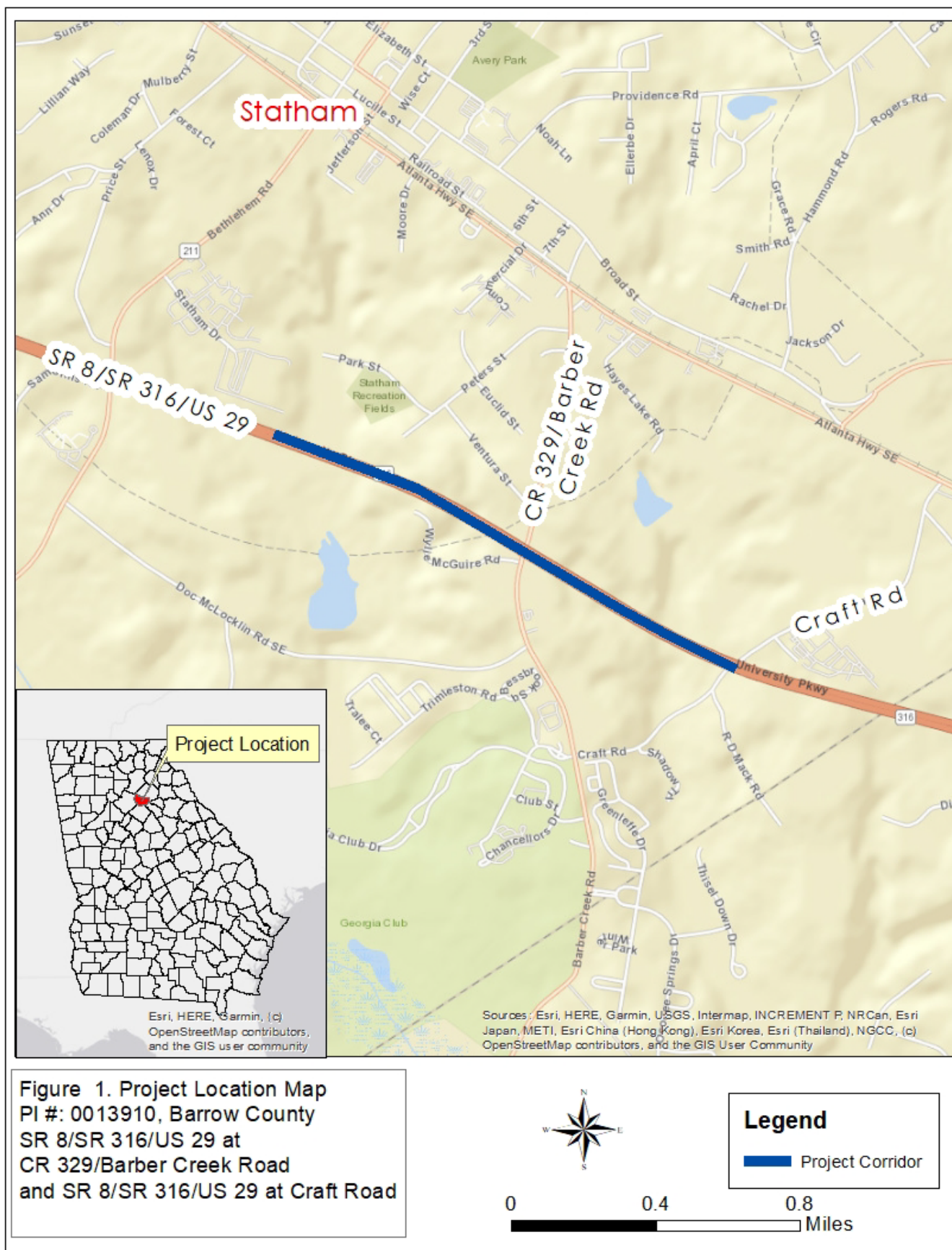
- Within the project's limits congestion would be reduced and traffic flow improved, thereby increasing the overall performance of the SR 8/SR 316/US 29 corridor.
- Eliminating the two, at-grade intersections would reduce the number of vehicle conflict points; therefore, potentially reducing the number and severity of crashes at the intersections.
- With the proposed improvements, delays experienced by drivers would be reduced and the SR 8/SR 316/US 29 at CR 329/Barber Creek Road interchange would operate at LOS A or B in the open year (2027) and in the design year (2047).
- The proposed project would be a continuation of the goal to improve SR 316 as a key transportation facility in the region.

How Can You Assist? Please provide feedback about our proposed solution as well as information about any resources important to you or to the community. Are there events that future construction may affect once it begins?

Where is this project in the process? This project is currently in the concept phase. The concept phase defines the existing issue seeking to be resolved along with a proposed solution that will meet the community's needs.

What are the Next Steps? After the public meeting is held, feedback will be assessed, revisions may occur to the proposed plan initially brought to the public or the no build alternative will be selected. Comments and questions received during the public comment period will be addressed in a response letter that will be provided within 30 days of the end of the public comment period. If major changes occur to what was previously shown to the community, additional public outreach would occur. If no major changes are proposed, the project would advance to right-of-way acquisition and eventually into final design. After all right-of-way acquisition occurs, project design is finalized, and the project would advance to construction.





Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name _____

Address _____

Do you support the project? (check your response)

☐ **For** ☐ **Against** ☐ **Conditional (I would support this project if... describe below)** ☐ **Uncommitted**

Comments:

Help GDOT Improve Future Meetings:

Advertising: How did you hear about the meeting: ☐ Newspaper ☐ Signs ☐ GDOT Website ☐ Radio

☐ Word of mouth ☐ Social Media ☐ Post card ☐ Other _____

Attendance: Did you visit the online information for the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Questions:	Answer	If answer is no please provide a suggestion/comment
Was the website convenient?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Was the time convenient?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Were your questions answered?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Do you understand the project?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Were materials (in person or virtual) understandable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts or advertises online open houses:

Mail to:

Mr. Eric Duff, State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308