



October 19, 2016

Thank you for attending the Public Information Open House for the proposed State Route (SR) 5 Improvements and McCaysville Truck Bypass, PI Numbers 621340 & 620490. Our goal is two-fold: 1) to provide you with information on the proposed project and 2) to provide an opportunity for you to give us your comments on the proposed project. In this handout package, you will find a description of the project, a location map, and a comment card.

As you enter the room, please take a look at the project display. Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) representatives, wearing nametags, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. There will be no formal presentation.

We hope you will take the opportunity to tell Georgia DOT what you think. Listed below are several ways to comment on 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 usually within 30 days of the close of the comment period. All comments will become part of the project's official record.

While you are attending the open house, you can **provide your comments today** by filling out the comment card provided with this handout and dropping it in the comment box, or you may choose to provide your verbal comments to the court reporter who will transcribe your comments.

You can also **provide your comments by Wednesday, November 02, 2016** by using any of the following methods:

- Online at www.dot.ga.gov/PS/Public/PublicOutreach.
 - From the menu, select the county in which the proposed project is located and click *Go*;
 - Then select *SR 5 Improvements & McCaysville Truck Bypass*;
 - Lastly, click *Comment* and follow the instructions to leave your comments.
- Scan QR code to the right with your smart phone's QR reader
- Mail in your comment card to Mr. Eric Duff, Georgia Department of Transportation, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30308.



The project displays and plans will be available for review for ten days after this open house at the website noted above. Hardcopies will also be available at the Georgia DOT Area 2 Office located in Dalton at 1313 North Tibbs Road, Dalton, Georgia 30720 and at the Fannin County Chamber of Commerce located at 152 Orvin Lance Drive, Blue Ridge, GA 30513. Following the ten-day public comment period, a copy of all comments received will be available by request at the Atlanta address listed above.

Again, thank you for attending this open house. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project manager, Nicole Law, at (404) 631-1723 or the environmental analyst, Aaron Burgess, at (404) 631-1159 of the Office of Environmental Services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Duff".

Eric Duff
State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation

Why We Are Here?

Thanks for coming tonight! We are here tonight to present the proposed SR 5 improvements and McCaysville Truck Bypass. Please see below for the more detailed descriptions.

This is an Open House meeting so we will not have a formal presentation. *Why?* We want to engage each and every one of you. Ask us questions – Tell us what you like – Tell us what you don't like – We are here to listen and take input. It is important that you leave us comments to help GDOT decide how to proceed with this project.

What's Next?

- You've seen our environmentalists in the field surveying for historic, archaeology, and ecological resources. We are actively identifying Environmentally Sensitive Resources that could influence the alignment. State funded projects still have many layers of environmental protection and resource agency coordination.
- Continuing to engage the public – That's why you are here tonight!
- We do not have a "locked down" alignment. We have ideas. Those ideas can change as we move forward and based on what we hear tonight.
- We will not have all the answers tonight. We are still evaluating the alignment. We do not have defined ROW limits. There are many decisions still to be made.

Is this it? No – we plan to be back with another Open House in the Spring 2017. At that time, we will have a more defined concept which will provide you another opportunity to provide feedback prior to ROW acquisition.

Proposed Project Description

PI# 621340/State Route 5 Improvements: This project proposes to widen the existing SR 5 in Fannin County, Georgia, beginning just north of the intersection with SR 2/SR 515, in Blue Ridge, and ending approximately 8 miles north, near the intersection of Spring Hill Circle (approximately 0.85 mile south of the McCaysville city limits). The proposed project would widen SR 5 to four (4) lanes (12-foot outside lane & 11-foot inside lane) with a 14-foot center turn lane from the point of beginning to the north for 3.8 miles (approximately just south of Kyle Road). The project would then transition to two 12-foot lanes with a 14-foot center turn lane. Outside shoulders would be 10-foot wide (4 feet of pavement) for both sections. Bridge culverts over Sugar Creek and Little Sugar Creek are expected to be extended.

PI# 620490/McCaysville Truck Bypass: This project proposes to build a new road for trucks to bypass the center of the City of McCaysville. The project begins in Fannin County, GA, just north of Spring Hill Circle (approximately 0.85 mile south of the McCaysville city limits) and continues for approximately 3 miles, ending in Polk County, TN at Tennessee State Route 68. The proposed project consists of two 12-foot lanes.

The outside shoulders would be 10-foot wide (4 feet of pavement). The proposed project currently would include three (3) bridges: 1) over Old Epworth Road; 2) over Fightingtown Creek at the state line, and 3) over the Ocoee River in Tennessee.

Rights-of-Way/Easement Information

For PI# 621340, the rights-of-way is anticipated to average approximately 100-foot in width for the three lane section and approximately 120-foot in width for the 5 lane section.

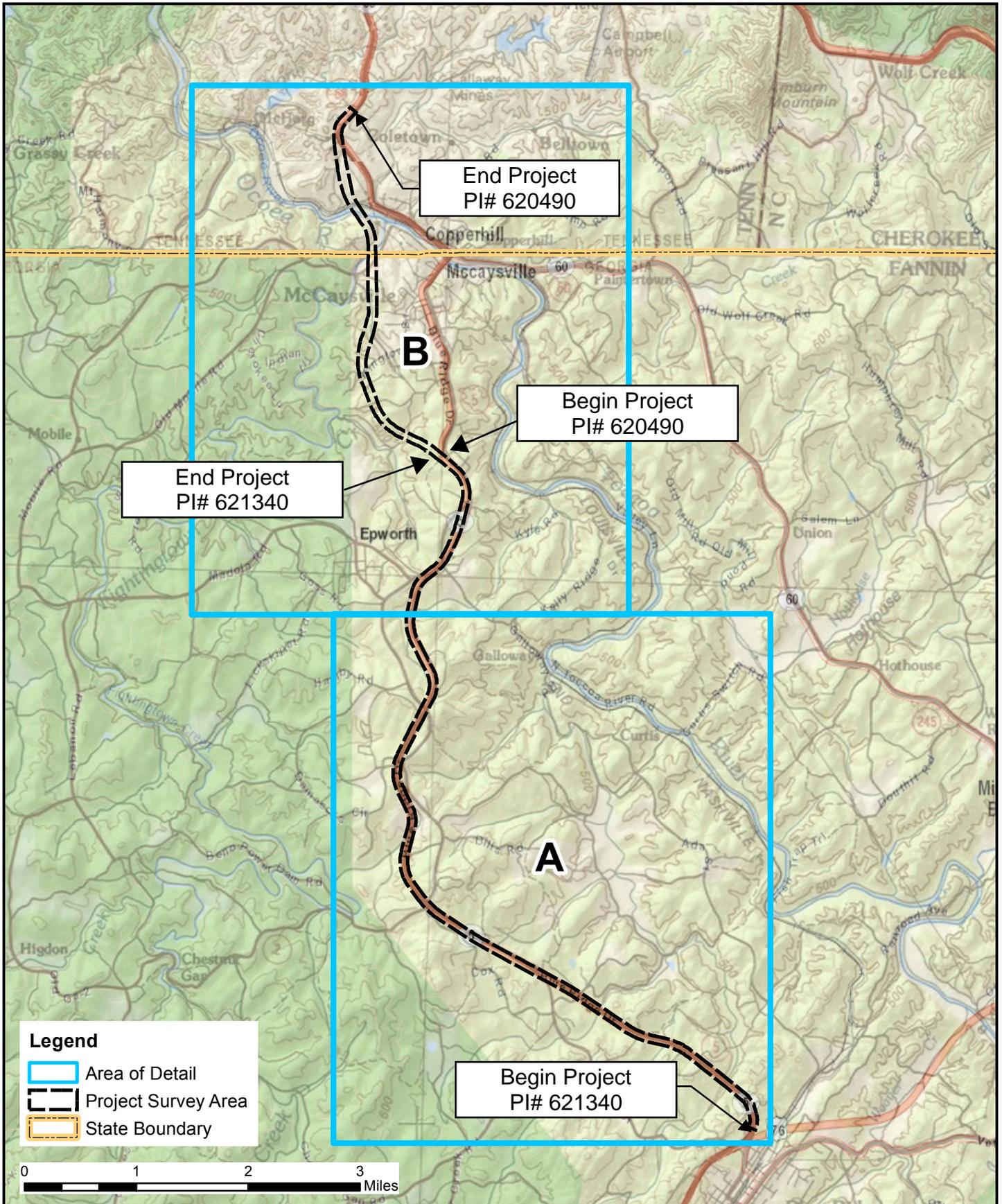
For PI# 620490, the rights-of-way is anticipated to average approximately 100-foot in width along the entire new location roadway.

GDOT has a Rights-of-Way brochure that can be found at the link below. Copies can also be obtained at the greeter's table tonight or by requesting a copy in your comment. The brochure explains the rights-of-way acquisition process and your rights as a property owner. We also have GDOT rights-of-way staff who can answer general questions tonight.

<http://www.dot.ga.gov/PartnerSmart/Public/Documents/Right-of-Way/ROWBrochure-English.pdf>

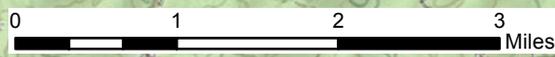
Proposed Schedule

Project	Right of Way	Construction
PI# 621340	June 2017	September 2019
PI# 620490	September 2017	June 2019



Legend

- Area of Detail
- Project Survey Area
- State Boundary

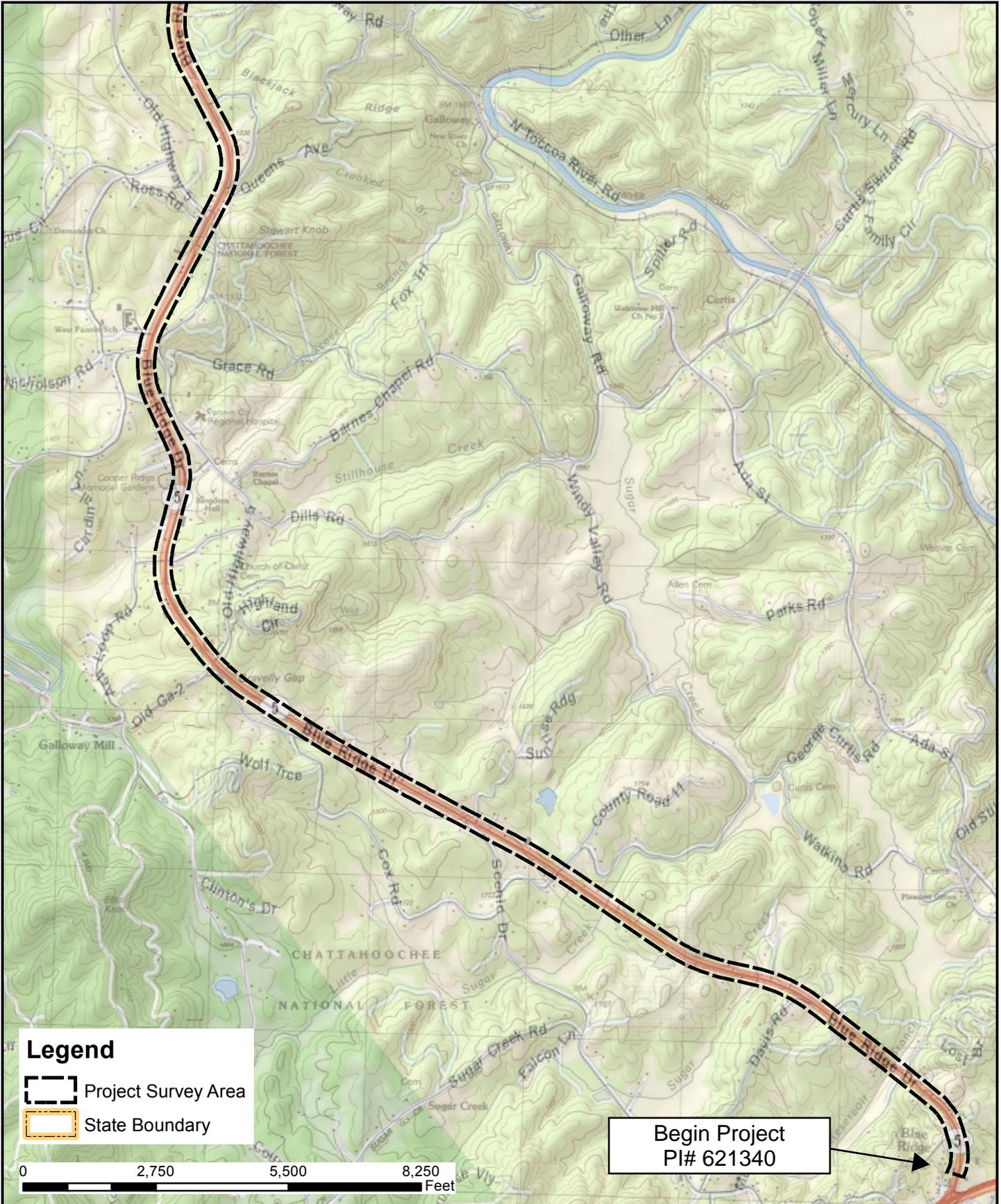


State Route 5 Roadway Widening & Truck Bypass
 GDOT P.I. No. 621340 & 620490
 Fannin County, Georgia & Polk County, Tennessee

N
 Date: Sept. 2016
 Scale: 1" = 1 miles
 Figure 1 - Index

Project Location Map - Topo

Source: ESRI USA Topo Map, StreetMap World



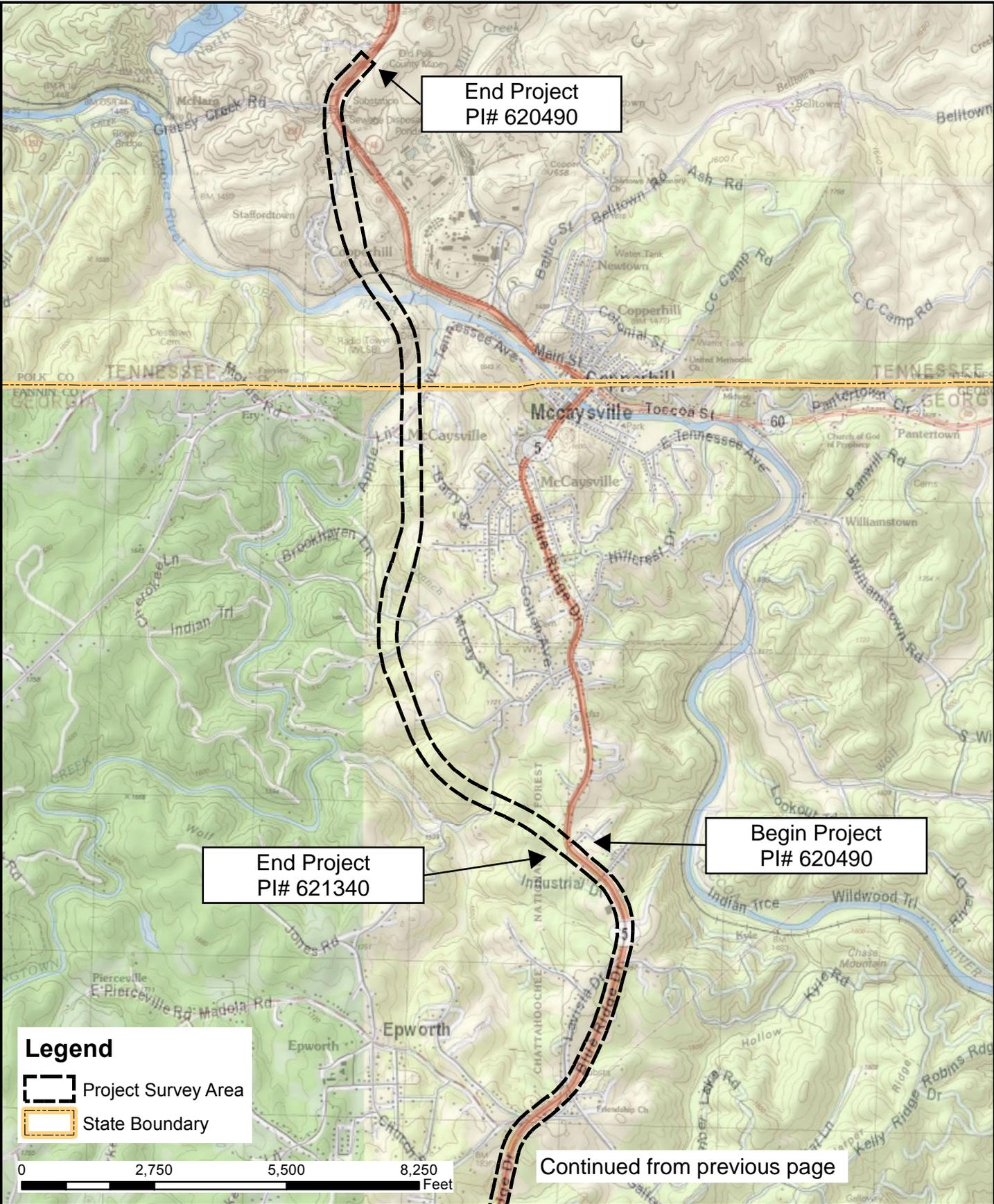
State Route 5 Roadway Widening & Truck Bypass
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Project Location Map - Topo



Date: Sept. 2016
 Scale: 1" = 2,750'

Figure 1A



Legend

-  Project Survey Area
-  State Boundary



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State Route 5 Roadway Widening & Truck Bypass
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 Fannin County, Georgia & Polk County, Tennessee

N

Date: Sept. 2016
 Scale: 1" = 2,750'

Figure 1B

Project Location Map - Topo

Source: ESRI USA Topo Map, StreetMap World

Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name _____

Address _____

Do you support the project? (check your response)

- For**
- Against**
- Conditional**
- Uncommitted**

General Comments _____

How did you hear about this Open House? (check) **Newspaper** **Signs** **GDOT Website** **Radio**

Word of Mouth **Social Media** **Other** _____

Was the location of the Open House 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 ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

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