



Charlotte Regional **Realtor**<sup>®</sup> Association



Realtor<sup>®</sup> **HOT TOPICS**

**I-77 Toll Lanes**

February 4, 2016



Charlotte Regional Realtor Association | February 4, 2016

## *I-77 and Regional Roadway Improvements*

Warren Cooksey and Jean Leier



# *Outline of Presentation*



- Introduction to Express Lanes
- I-77 Project
- Selected other projects
- Questions



# *Introduction to Express Lanes*

**also known as...**

- **High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes**
- **Tolled Managed Lanes**
- **Express Toll Lanes**
- **Optional Toll Lanes**



# *A Simple Definition of Traffic Congestion*

Volume of vehicles

>

Capacity of the road



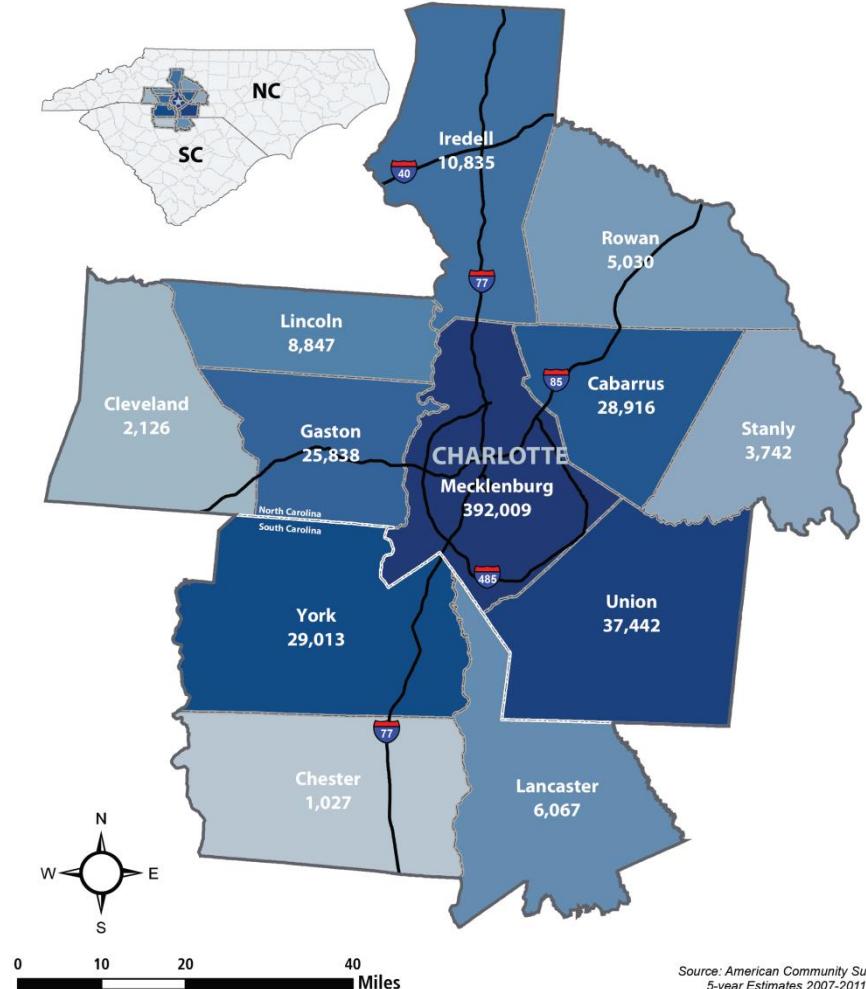
# *Congestion on Highways*



# Costs of “The Fundamental Law of Road Congestion”

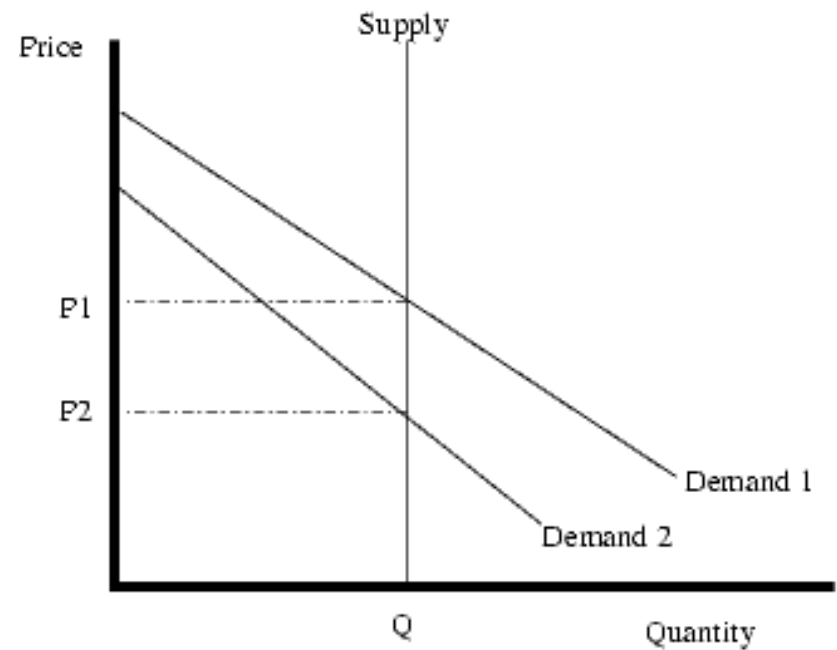
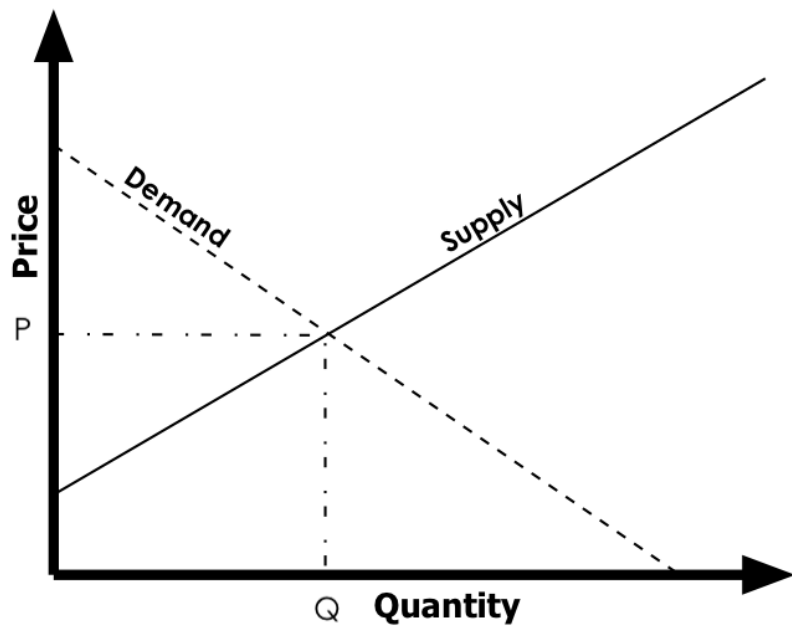


**\$22.40/hour**  
**\$770 million/year**  
**No federal highway funds**



Sources: 2014 Urban Mobility Report, Texas Transportation Institute; Charlotte Chamber; Federal Highway Administration

# *Economics 101*





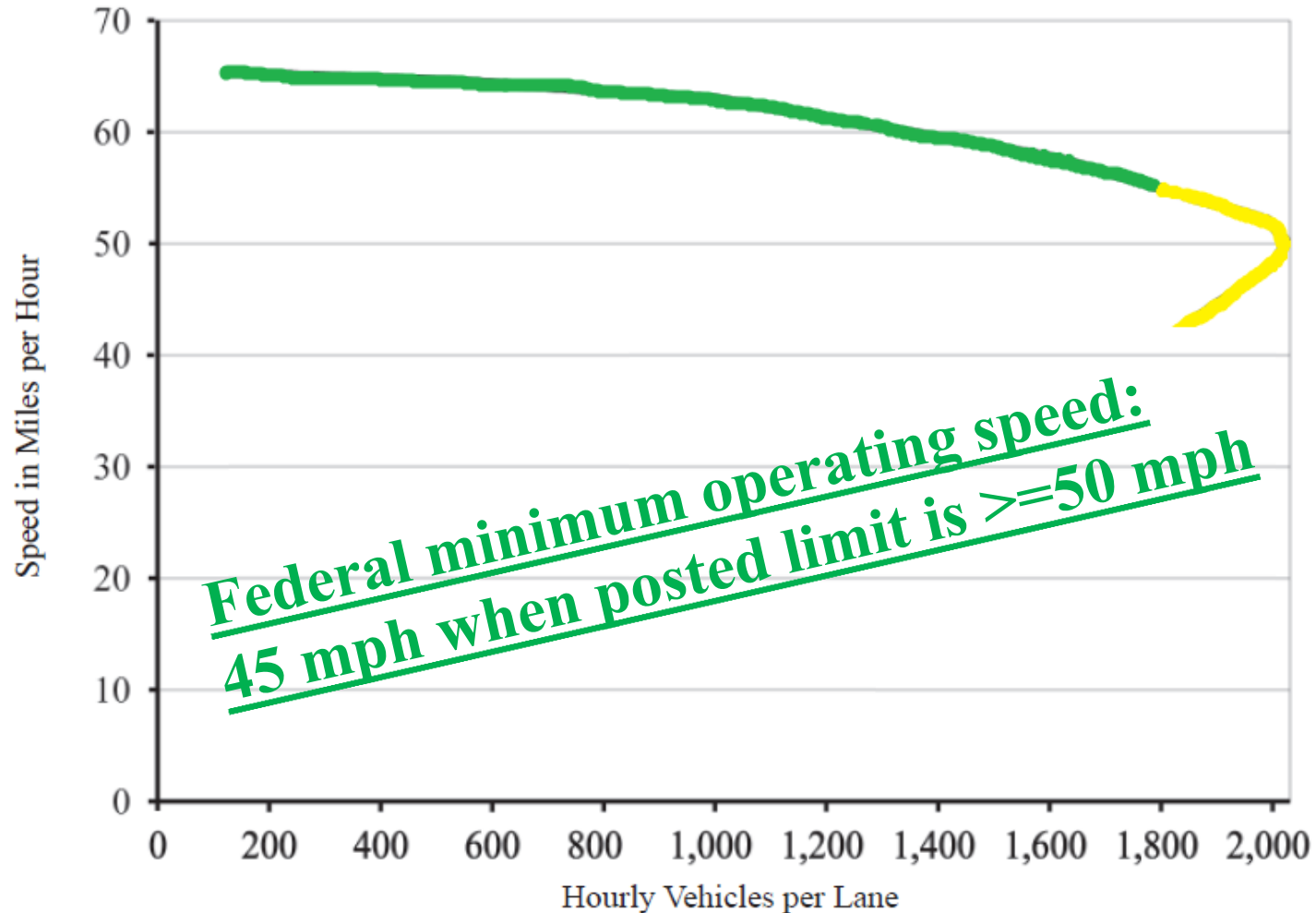
# *Managing Demand to Match Supply*



**Express Lanes:** separate lanes in a highway corridor in which drivers can choose to pay a variable toll for a more reliable, quicker trip within a corridor.

# *Understanding Traffic Flow with Optional Toll Lanes*

**Traffic Flows**





# *Performance of Optional Toll Lanes: SR-91*



“The 91 Express Lanes...carry twice as many vehicles per lane as regular lanes during peak periods, and speeds are three to four times faster.”

Source: Riverside County Transportation Commission, “Tolled Express Lanes//Frequently Asked Questions”

**Express  
Toll Lanes  
open to  
everyone**

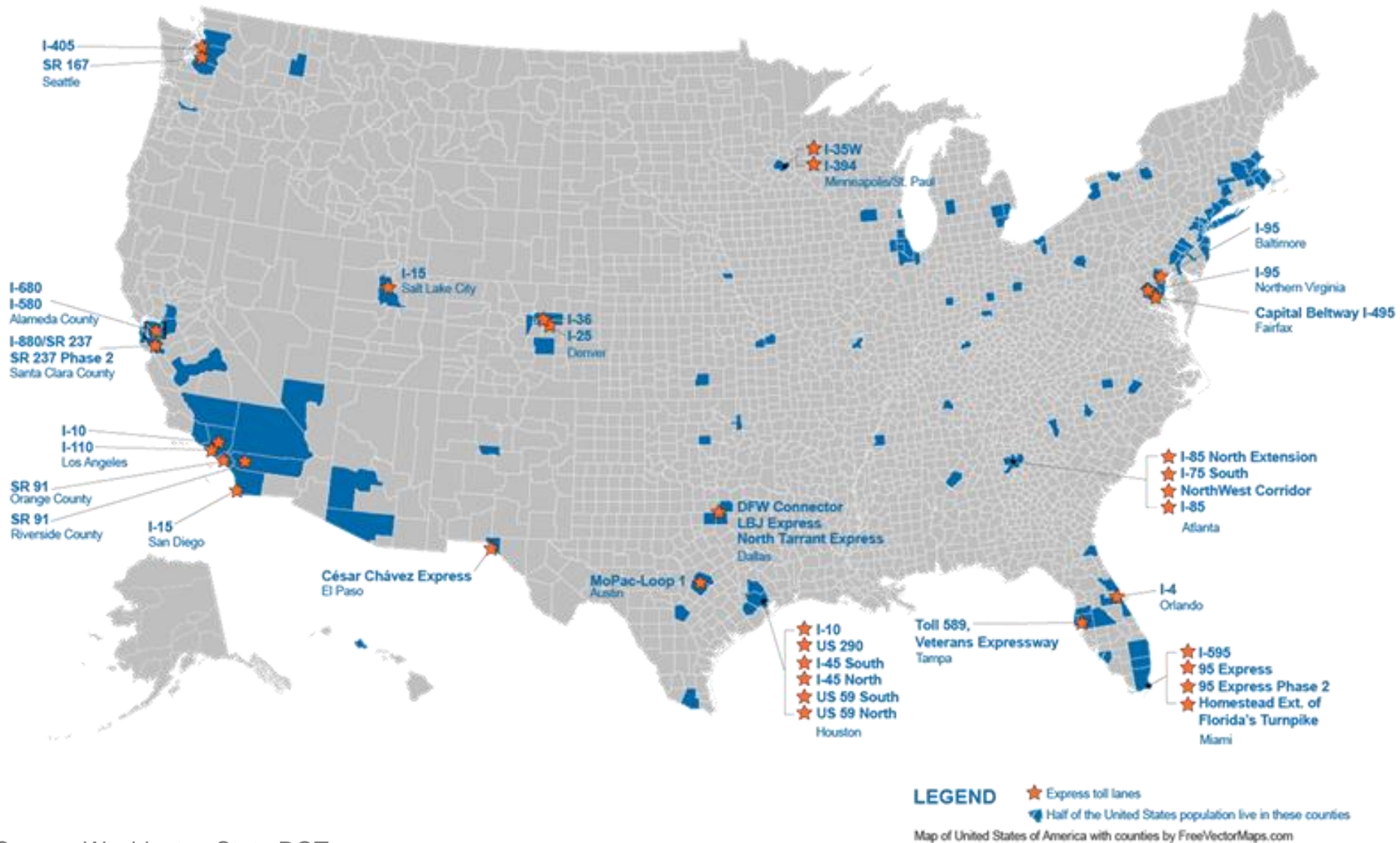
**EXPRESS  
TOLL  
LANES**

Transit – Free  
HOV – 3+/2+  
SOV – Toll

**REGULAR  
LANES**

**Express  
Toll  
Lanes  
create a  
new option  
for drivers**

# Optional Toll Lanes Nationwide

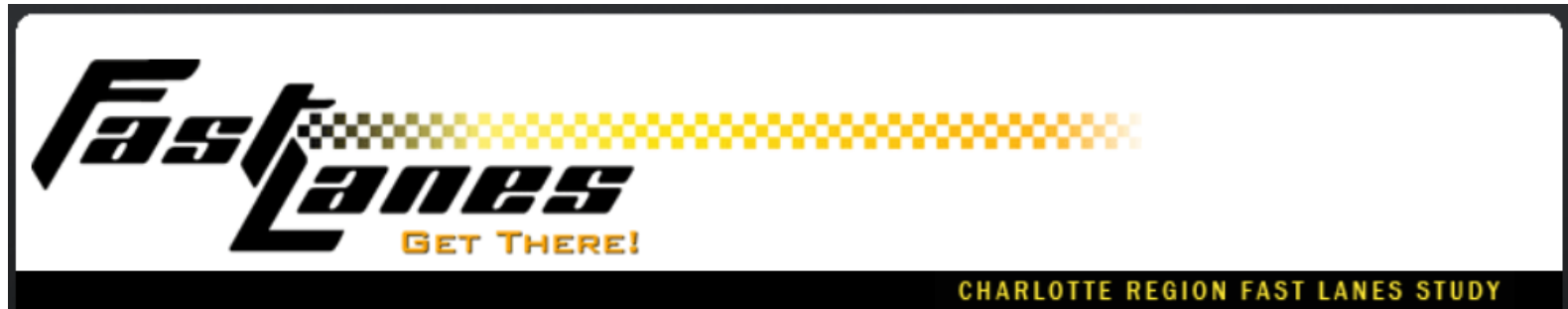


Source: Washington State DOT

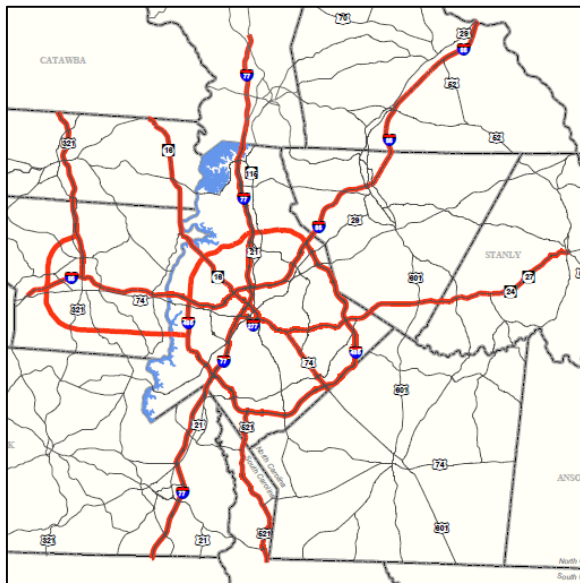


# Local Response to Growth and Congestion

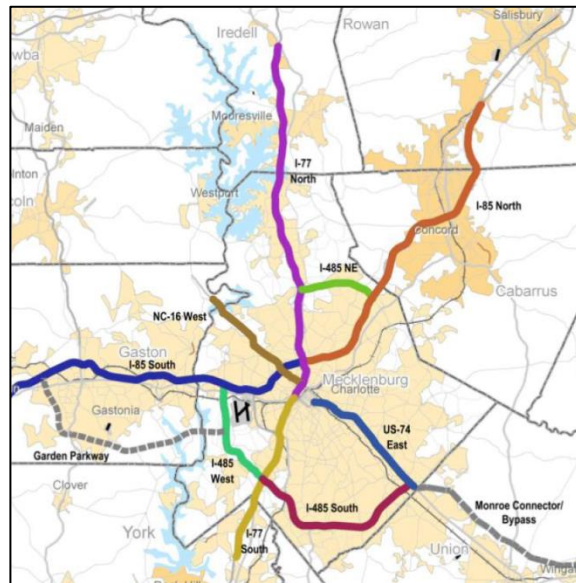
CDOT NCDOT SCDOT MUMPO FHWA CATS



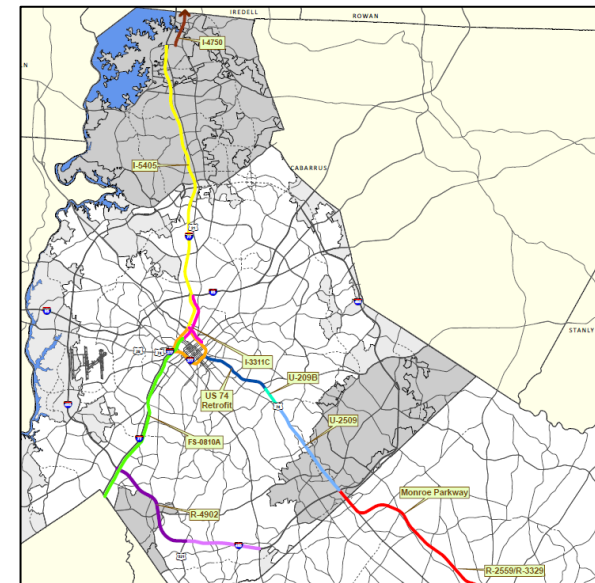
Phase I: 2007



Phase II: 2008



Phase III: 2009



# *Key Local Decisions on Optional Toll Lanes*



**2010**

Adopted Fast Lanes study



# *Key Local Decisions on Optional Toll Lanes*



2011

Approved widening I-77 from  
Charlotte to Cornelius with  
optional toll lanes



# *Key Local Decisions on Optional Toll Lanes*



## 2013

Approved widening I-77 from Charlotte to Mooresville with optional toll lanes through a public-private partnership



# *Key Local Decisions on Optional Toll Lanes*



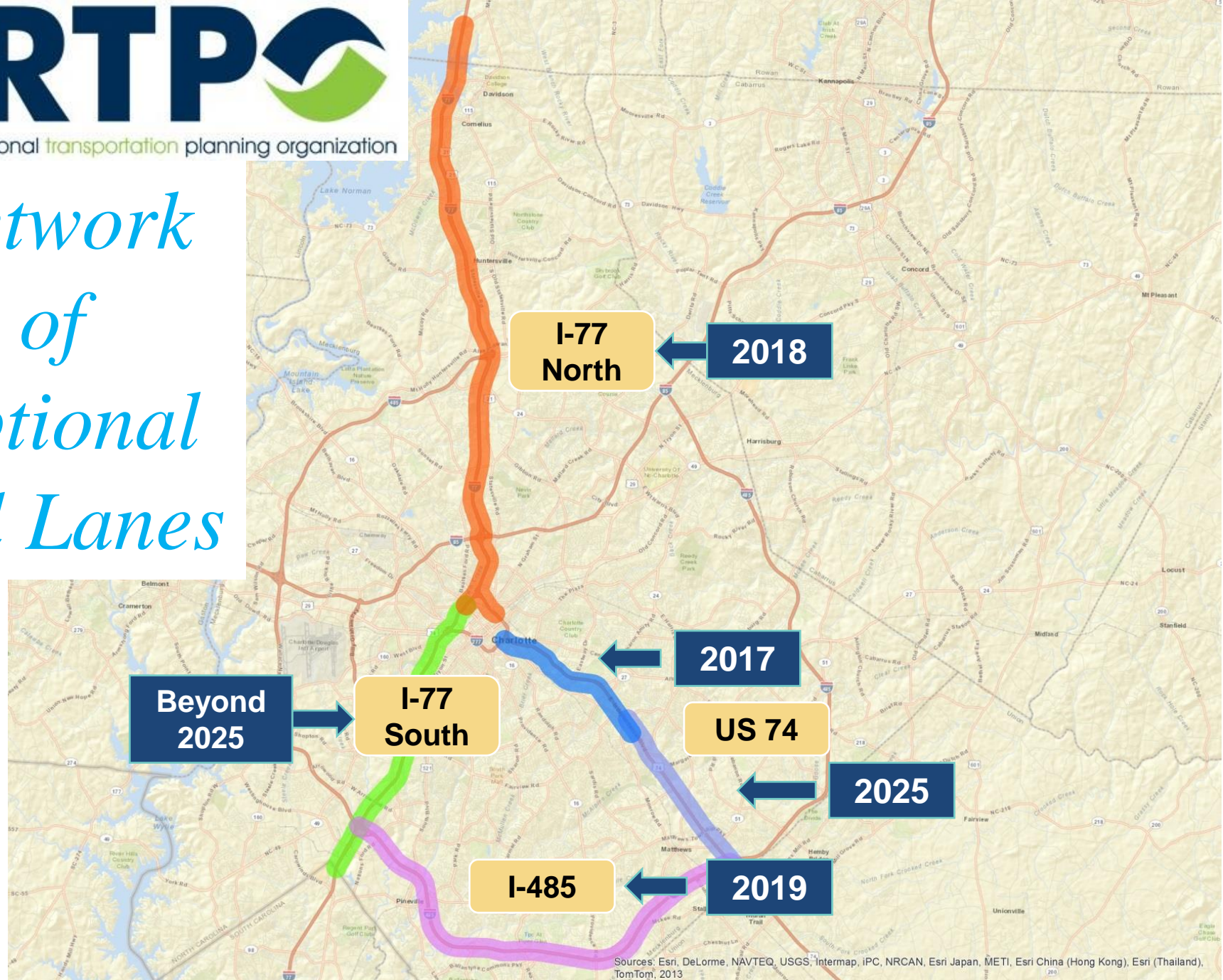
2016

Reaffirmed managed lane  
strategy





# Network of Optional Toll Lanes



# *One Customer Management Agency*



**PEACH PASS**



- Open and manage a transponder account
- Bill by Mail
- Local customer service center

# *The I-77 Project*



## Sources of funds

Private equity:	\$248 million
Toll-backed loan:	\$189 million
Toll-backed bonds:	\$100 million
Federal/state funding:	\$ 95 million
Interest & bond premium:	\$ 17 million

**TOTAL: \$649 million**  
**(15% taxpayer funded)**





# Commuting on I-77 North

We know traffic can be frustrating.



Especially if you have an important appointment.



I-77 traffic

We're working to fix it.  
Free lanes and new options.

Get the facts. ▶

The advertisement features a dark, long-exposure photograph of a multi-lane highway at night, with light trails from vehicles creating a sense of motion. The text is overlaid in a clean, white, sans-serif font. A play button icon is positioned to the right of the text 'Get the facts.'.



# Project Overview

- **Drivers decide if they use: express lanes, the general purpose lanes or a combination of both**
- The current number of toll-free lanes will remain the same as today
- HOV3+ with transponder, emergency vehicles, public transit vehicles and motorcycles use the lanes free of charge
- Reduced congestion in all lanes

## It's Your Choice!



## **Using the I-77 Express Lanes**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zUMMJ08jvkw>**

# Benefits For Your Day

- Flexible appointments & showings
- Livability options & choices
- Economic Development Opportunities



**More time in the day for you,  
your family and friends to do  
what you want to do!**





# Travel Options



Work and Job  
Opportunities



4 park and ride lots





- Anticipate working with 50-100 local firms during construction
- Opportunities with I-77 Mobility Partners and Sugar Creek Construction

- Workforce training opportunities available
- Provide outreach, bonding and insurance assistance and mentoring



- Construction began November 2015
- Work in progress south of Exit 23 to north of Exit 28 in the median
- Heavy travel times and special events will not be affected
- Any lane closures will only take place overnight
- Minimal disruption to motorists
- Working with first responders
- Entire 26-mile project scheduled for completion in 2018



# Maintenance of Corridor

Responsible for all 26 miles:

- General purpose lanes and express lanes
- High level of customer service and care of corridor
- NCDOT retains snow and ice preparations and removal
- Sharing of video and communications with local emergency responders





[info@i77partners.com](mailto:info@i77partners.com)

[www.I77express.com](http://www.I77express.com)



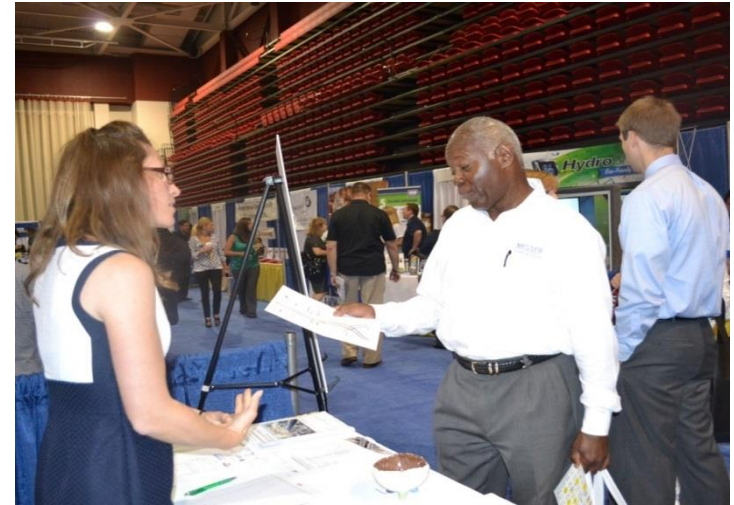
[@I77XPRSLanes](https://twitter.com/I77XPRSLanes)



[I-77 Express Lanes](#)

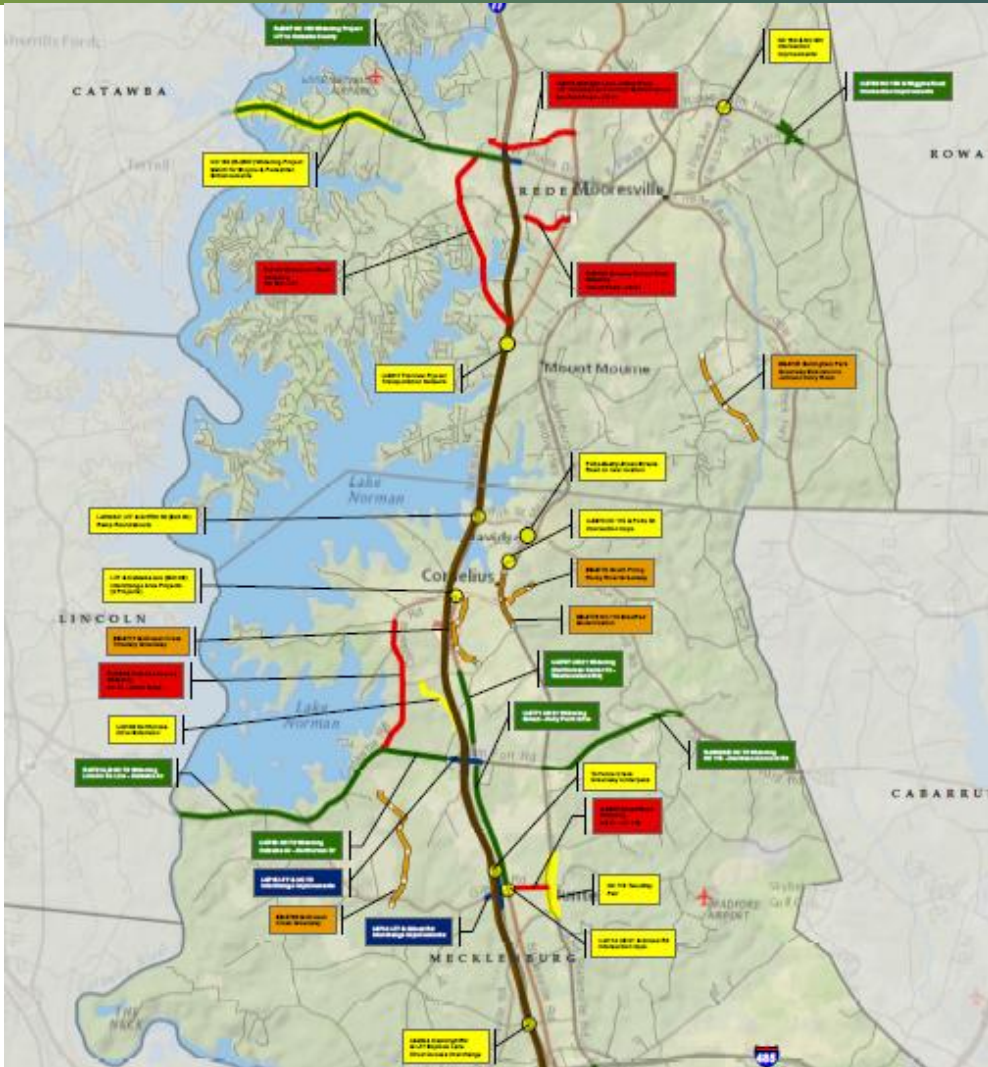


[I-77 Express Lanes](#)





# *Selected Other Projects*



2016-2024  
and beyond





--Potts-Sloan-Beatty Connector  
--Exit 23 Interchange/Gilead Rd. & U.S. 21  
--Northcross Dr. Extension  
--Catawba Ave. Intersections

--N.C. 150 Widening

--U.S. 21 Widening  
--W. Catawba Ave. Widening  
--Brawley School Rd. Widening

--Oates Rd. – Midnight Ln. Overpass  
--Fairview Flyover  
--Exit 25 Interchange

--Williamson Rd. Widening

--N.C. 73 Widening

N.C. 115  
Widening

Notes:  
--All years are Fiscal Years (e.g., 2018 is 7/1/2017 – 6/30/2018)  
--Construction years are planned as of 2/4/2016

# Exit 30 Roundabouts (2016) – Davidson

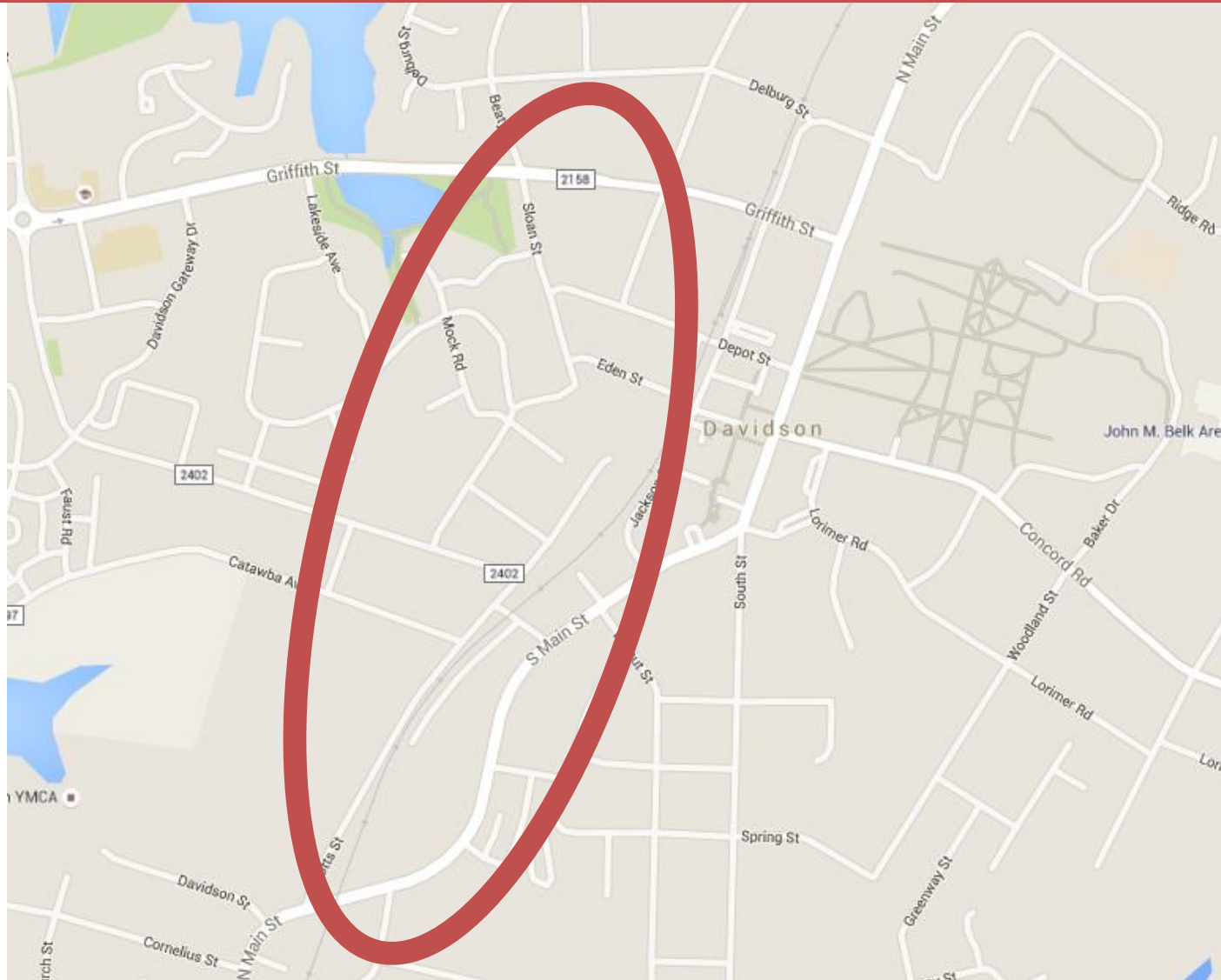


I-4750AC (New)

- Construct roundabouts on the I-77 ramps
- Improve traffic flow



# *Potts-Sloan-Beatty Connector (2018) – Davidson*

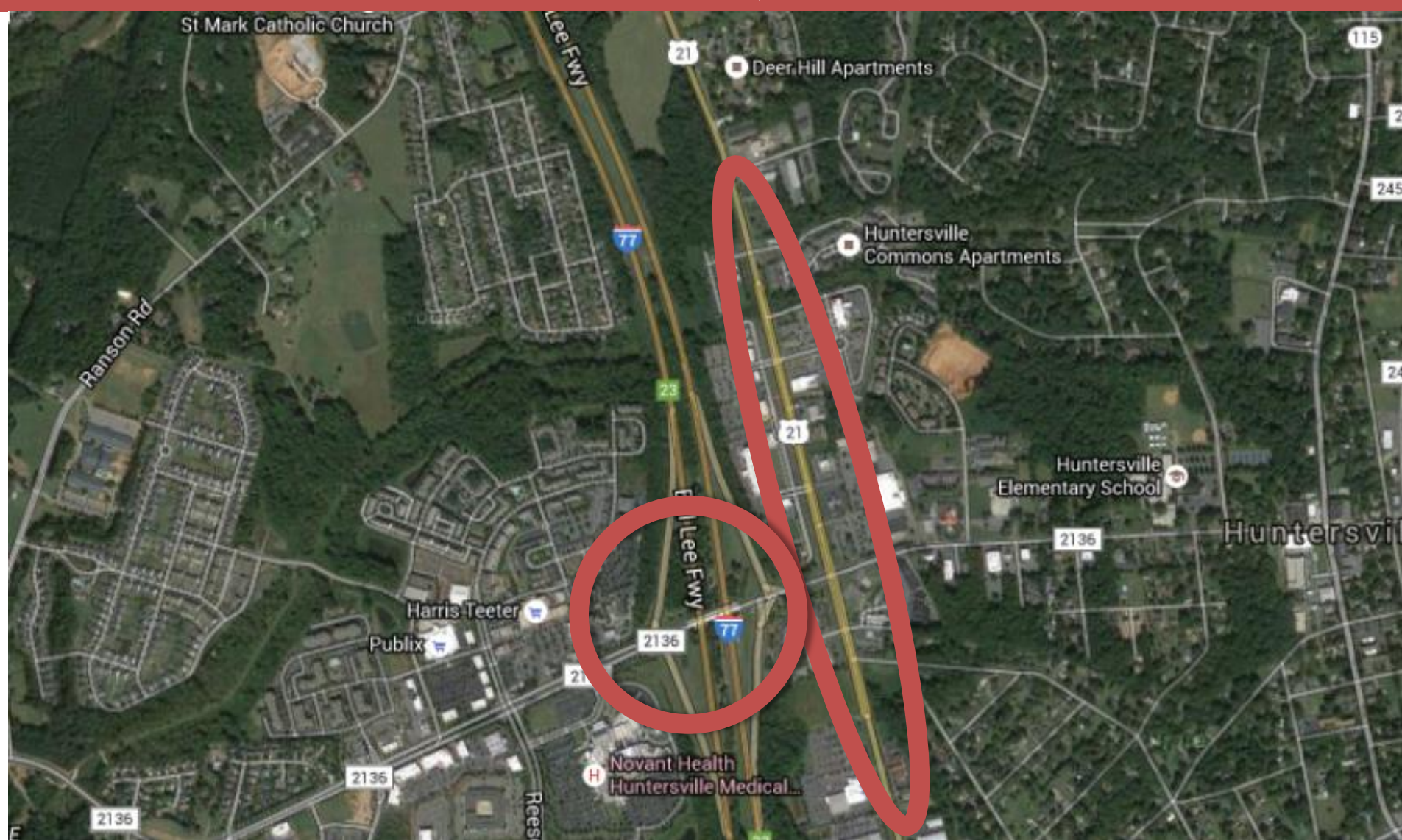


U-5907 (New)

- Connect streets west of downtown Davidson
- Improve north-south connectivity



# *Exit 23 & U.S. 21/Gilead Rd.(2018) - Huntersville*



I-5714 (New)  
& U-5114

- Interchange and intersection improvements
- Intersection to be administered by the Town of Huntersville

# Northcross Dr. Extension (2018) - Cornelius



- Extend Northcross Dr. to Westmoreland Rd.
- Project to be administered by the Town of Cornelius

U-5108



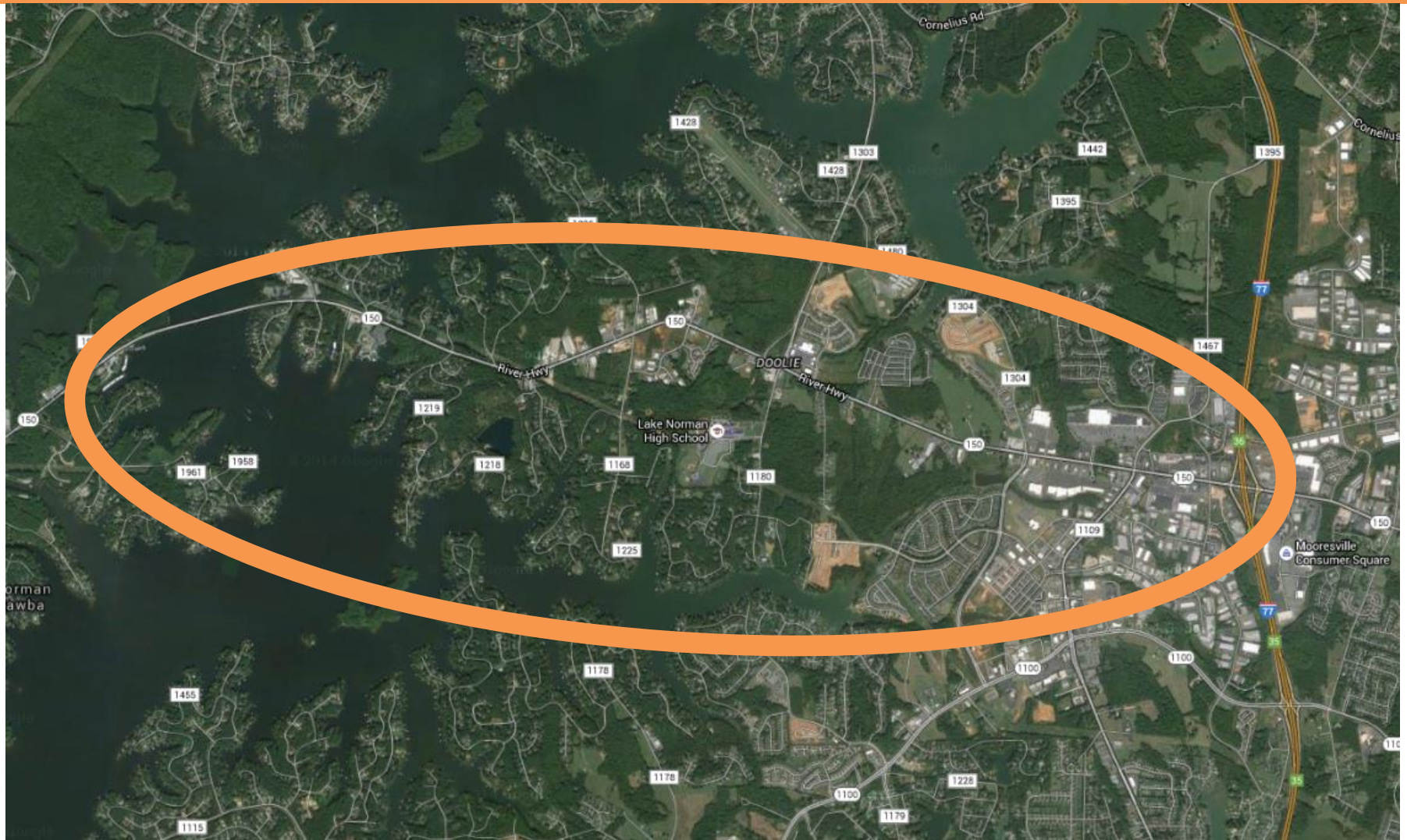
# Catawba Ave. Intersections (2018 & 2019) - Cornelius



U-5906 (New)  
& C-5621 (New)

- Roundabout at U.S. 21 and Catawba Ave. (2018)
- Improvements at Torrence Chapel Rd. and West Catawba Ave.
- Improve safety and traffic flow



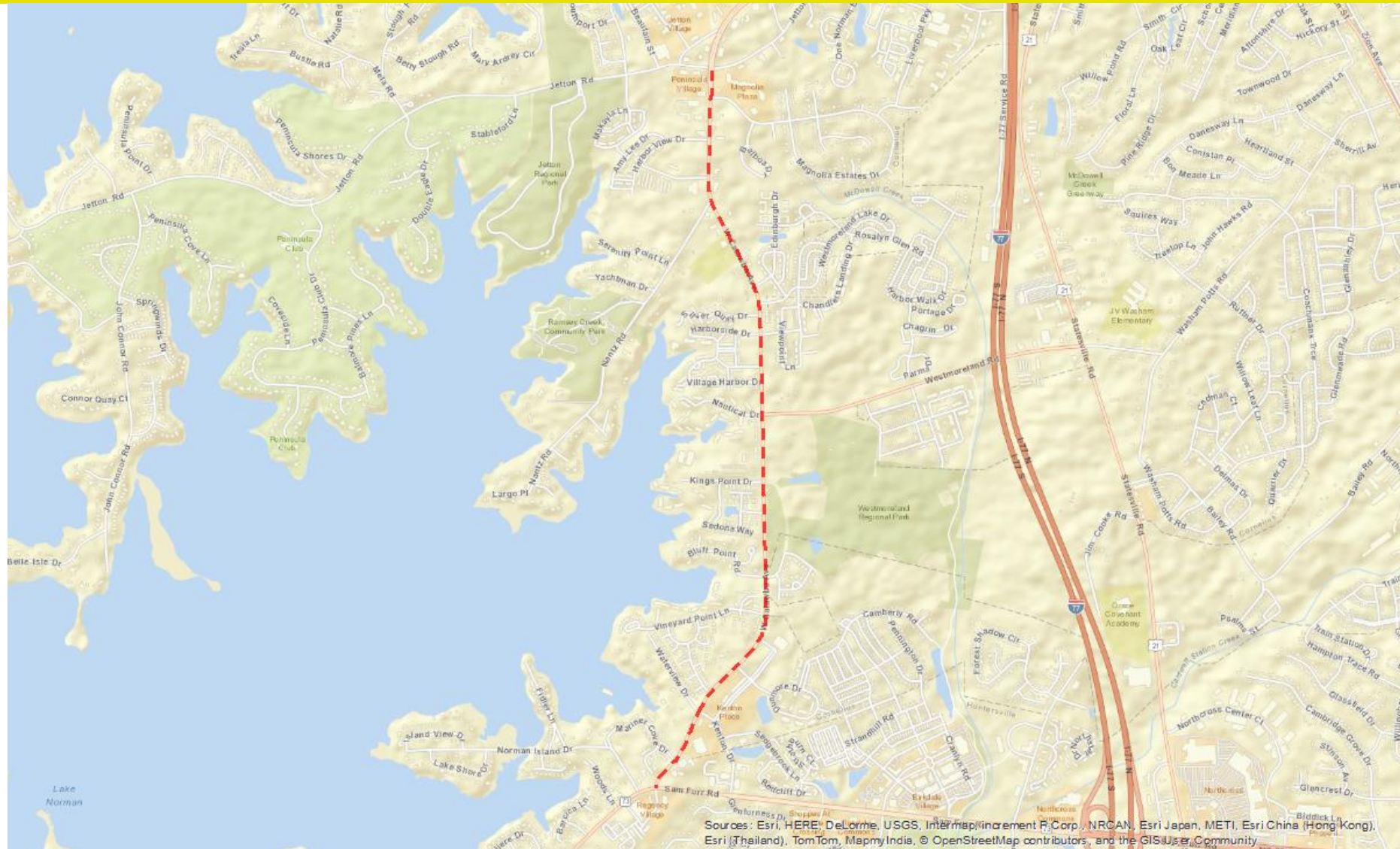


R-2307 (New)  
& I-5717 (New)

- Widen from Harvel Rd. to I-77
- Improve I-77 Exit 36 interchange
- Add capacity and improve traffic flow



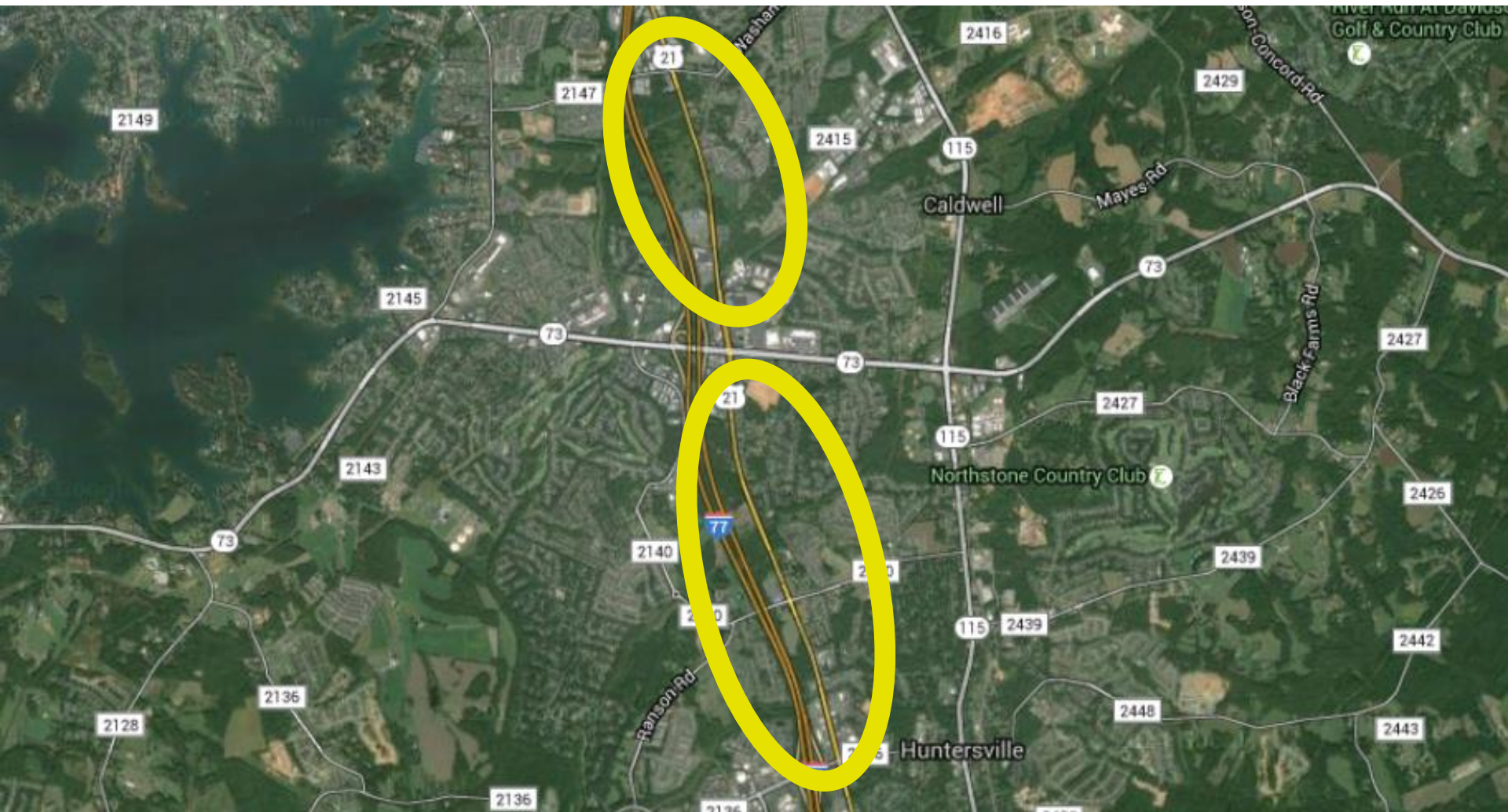
# W. Catawba Ave. Widening (2020) - Cornelius



R-2555

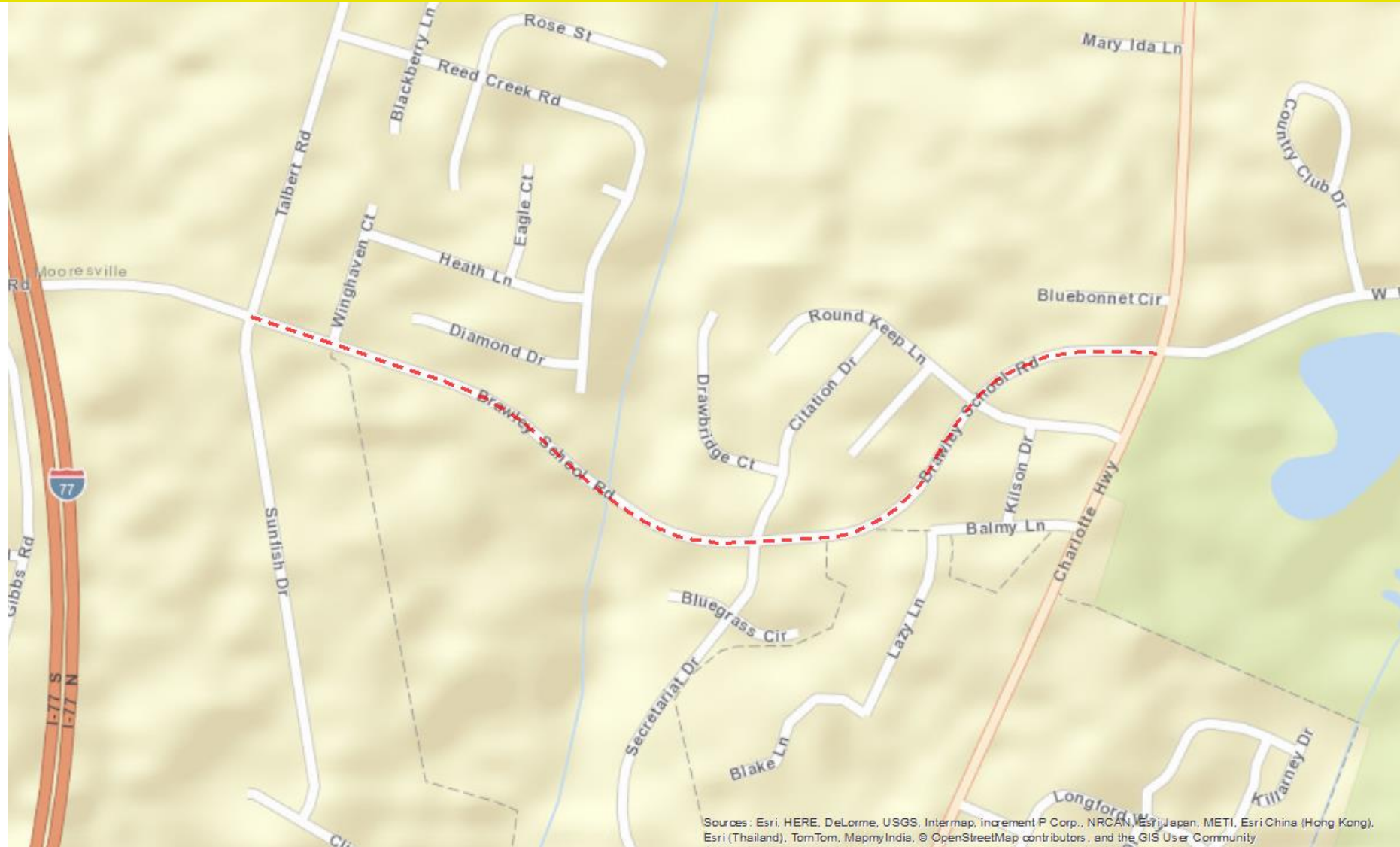
- Widen from N.C. 73 (Sam Furr Rd.) to Jetton Rd.
- Add capacity and improve traffic flow





U-5767 (New)  
& U-5771 (New)

# Brawley School Rd. Widening (2020) - Mooresville



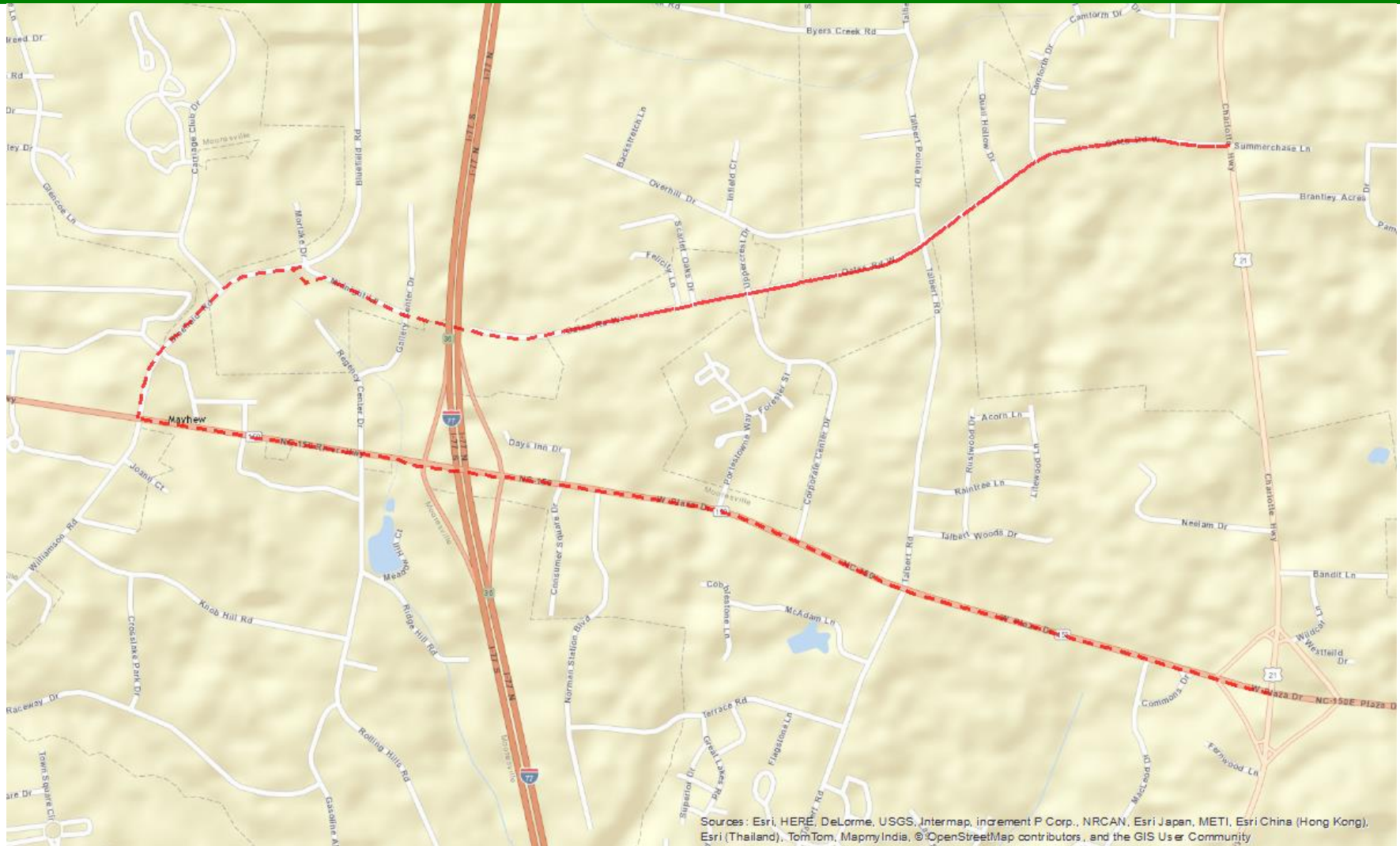
Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

R-3833 (New)

- Widen from Talbert Rd. to U.S. 21 (Charlotte Hwy.)
- Completes widening of Brawley School Rd.



# Oates Rd./Midnight Ln. Overpass (2021) - Mooresville

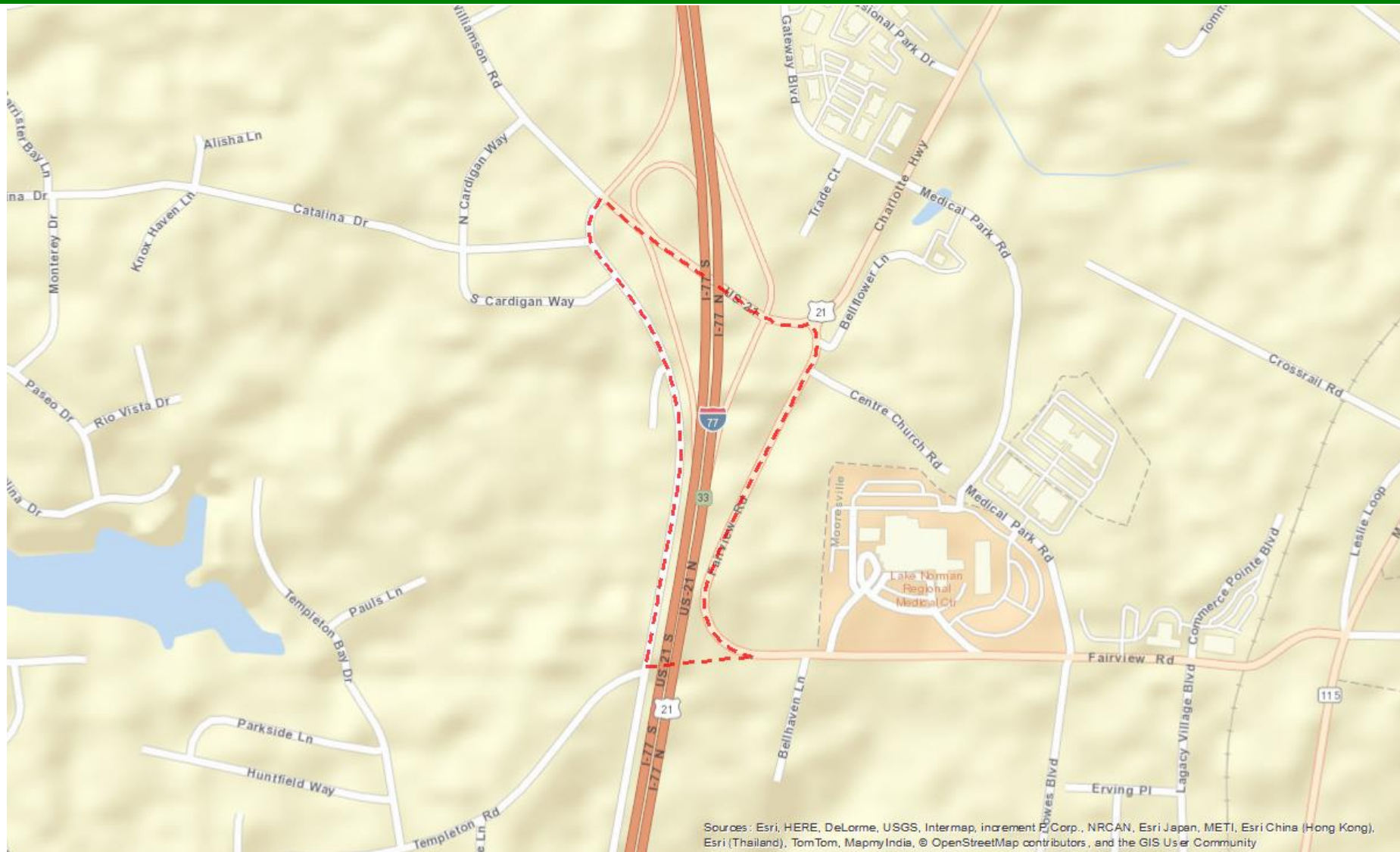


U-5816 (New)

- Construct overpass over I-77 from Midnight Ln. to Oates Rd.
- Improve Midnight Ln. and Oates Rd.
- Enhance local connectivity



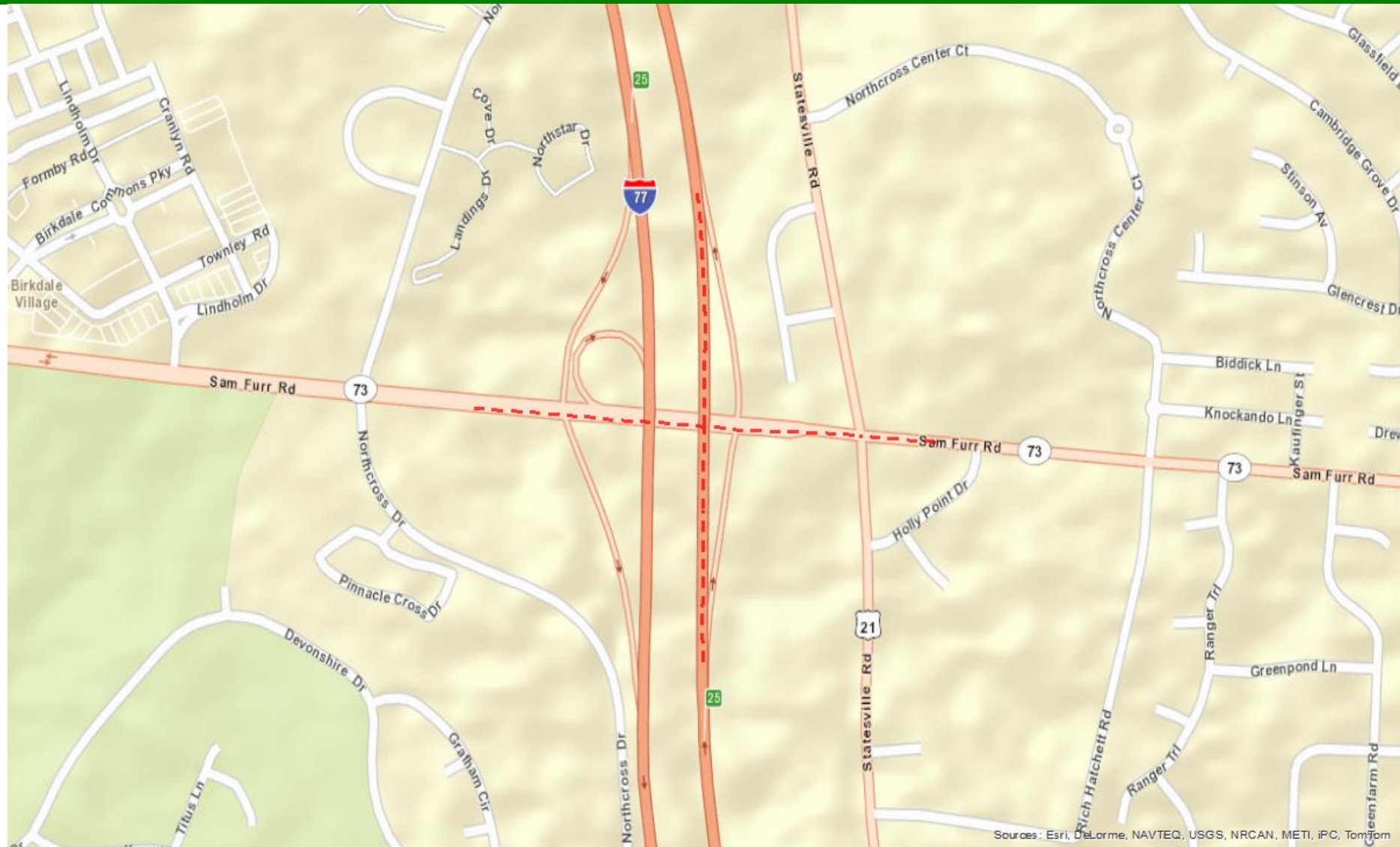
# Fairview Flyover (2021) - Mooresville



U-5817  
(New)

- Construct overpass connecting Fairview Rd. and Alcove Rd. over I-77
- Construct additional links to surrounding road network

# Exit 25 Interchange (2021) - Huntersville

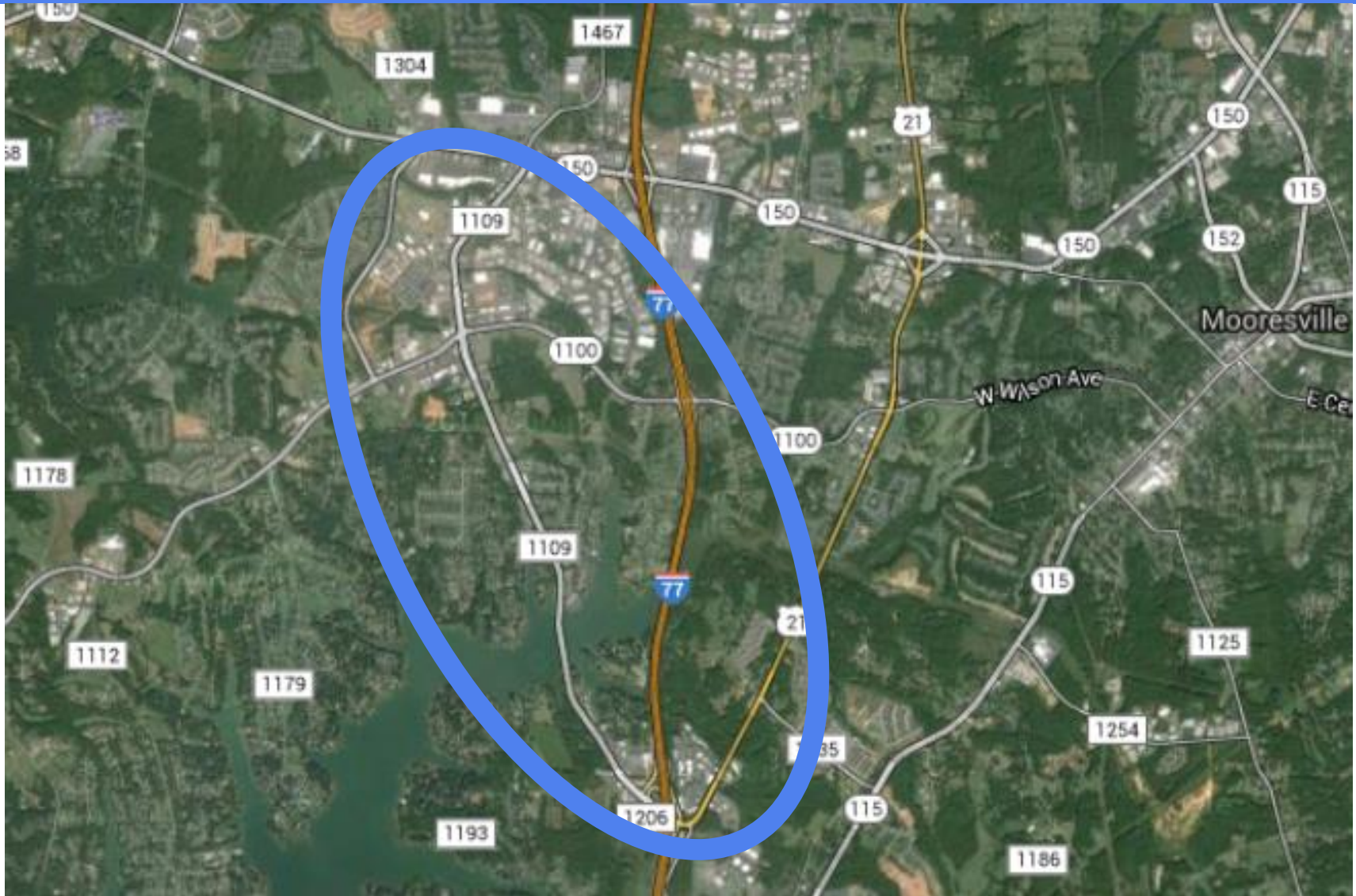


I-5715

- Interchange improvement
- Improve safety and traffic flow



# Williamson Rd. Widening (2022) - Mooresville

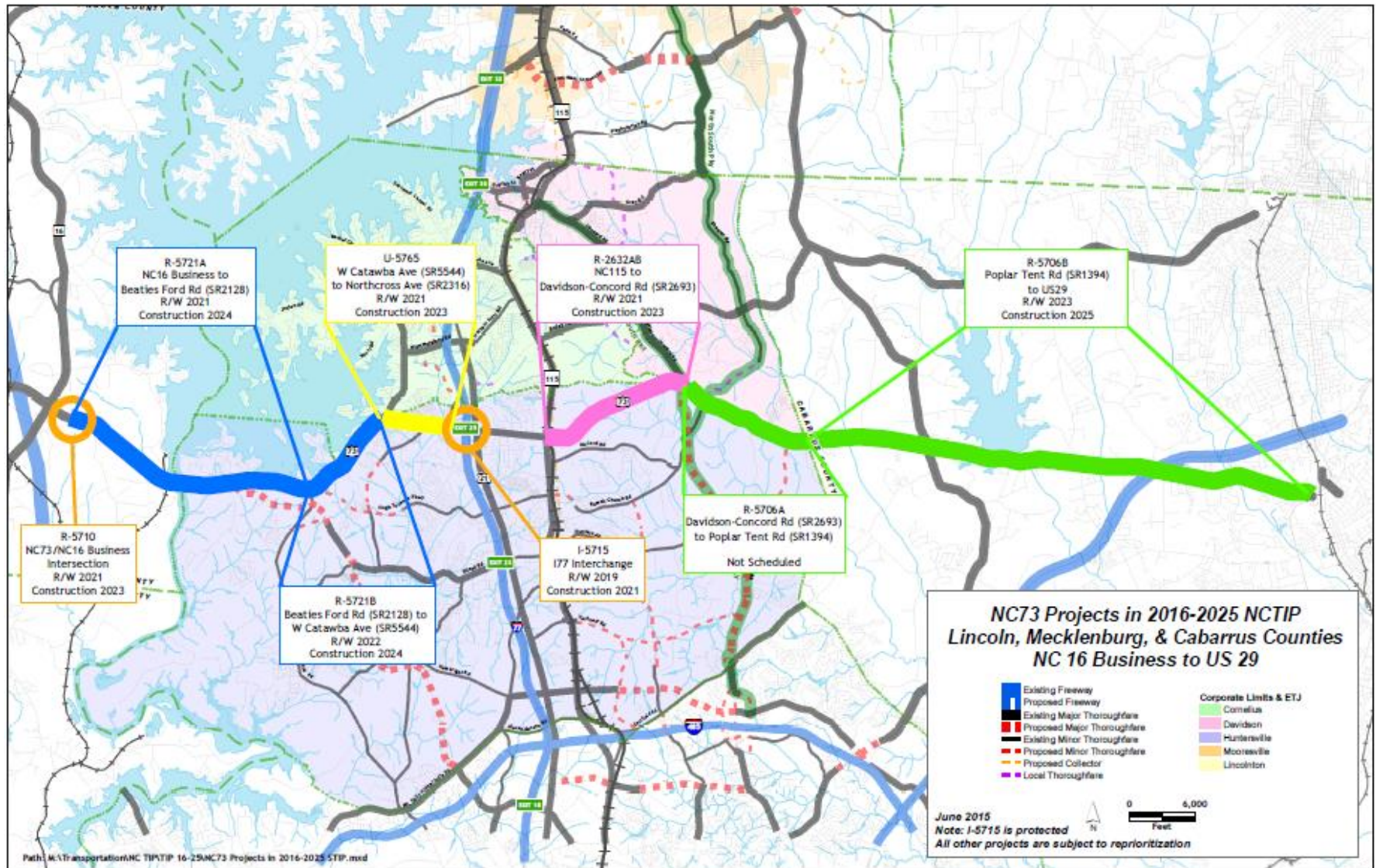


R-5100 (New)

- Widen from I-77 to N.C. 150
- Add capacity and improve traffic flow



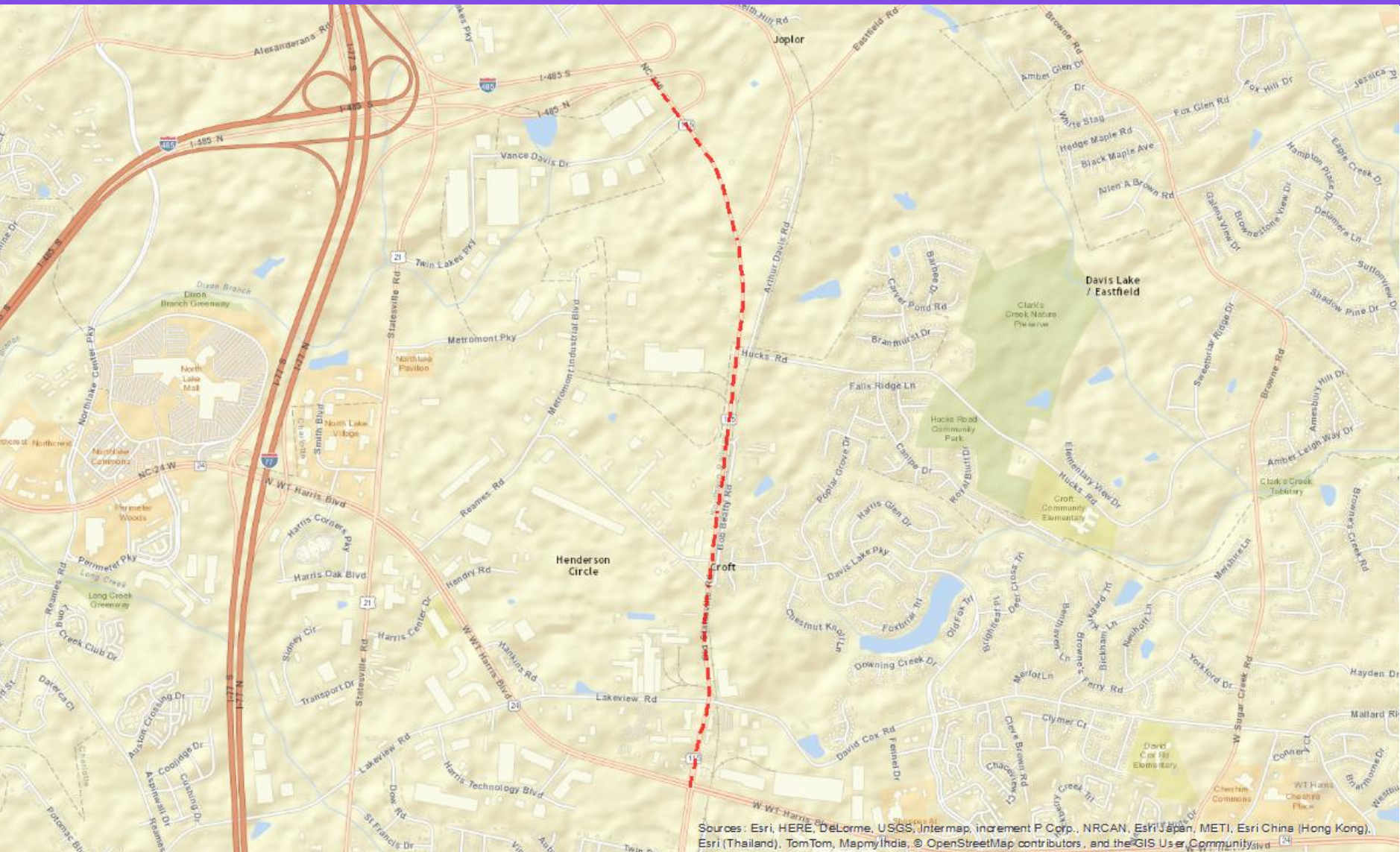
# N.C. 73 Widening (2023) – Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Cabarrus



- ( 6 New, 1 Funded)
- Widen from Business 16 in Lincoln County to U.S. 29 in Cabarrus County
  - Add capacity and improve east-west regional connectivity



# N.C. 115 Widening (2023) – Charlotte



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

U-5772  
(New)

- Widen from Harris Blvd. to I-485
- Add capacity and improve north-south regional connectivity

QUESTIONS?



## *In conclusion...*

**I-77 EXPRESS LANES**  
**MECKLENBURG & IREDELL COUNTIES**



- Originated locally to address congestion over the long term
- Protects taxpayers from the risk of underperformance
- Is one of more than two dozen projects to improve travel in the Lake Norman area



# I77 EXPRESS LANES

## POST-BID IMPROVEMENTS CONNECTIVITY

### IMPROVEMENTS

#### ENTRANCES/EXITS TYPES:

