

**INTERSTATE 26
CONNECTOR
CITY OF ASHEVILLE**

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, September 16, 2008
3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Pre-Hearing Open House
7:00 p.m. Presentation

**Grand Ballroom, Renaissance Asheville Hotel
One Thomas Wolfe Plaza, Asheville, 28801**

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a Pre-Hearing Open House and Public Hearing on the above stated project. NCDOT representatives will be available between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to answer questions and receive comments relative to the proposed project. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions will also be provided. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above mentioned hours.

A formal presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. The presentation will consist of an explanation of the proposed corridor location, design, right of way, relocation requirements/procedures, and the state-federal relationship. The hearing will be open to those present for statements, questions and comments. The presentation and comments will be recorded and a transcript will be prepared. There are currently several alternatives under consideration. Public input will be used in selecting an alternative.

The project calls for widening existing I-26/240 from the I-26/240 interchange to Patton Avenue (US 74A) and construct on new location a fully controlled access freeway from Patton Avenue (US 74A) to an interchange at US 19/23/70 and Broadway Street (SR 1781). The proposed freeway will be median divided with eight 12-foot travel lanes with 12-foot paved shoulders. Additional right of way and the relocation of homes and businesses will be required for this project.

The maps displaying the location and design of the project and a copy of the environmental document, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, are available for public review at the City of Asheville, Asheville/Engineering Department, 70 Court Plaza, Room 100-C, Asheville, 28802; and NCDOT Division 13 Office, 55 Orange Street, Asheville, 28801. The maps and document are available online at <http://www.ncdot.org/projects/I26Connector/>.

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Mr. Drew Joyner, 1583 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1583, by phone (919) 715-1515, by fax (919) 715-1522, or by email djoyner@ncdot.gov. Additional material may be submitted until October 17, 2008.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Mr. Joyner as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.