

Doral Drive/Reynolda Road Interchange Plan

January 2020 Kickoff Meeting Citizen Comments

Doral Drive/Bethania Tobaccolville Road Interchange

Streetscape Treatment

- New road should have a parkway/rural feel with more trees and greenery.
- Bethania Tobaccolville Road streetscape should include:
 - Fences to maintain a rural character
 - Street trees and shrubbery
 - Noise walls
- New section of Bethania Tobaccolville Road should be a two lane road, we don't want to encourage more traffic or feed additional traffic through the Town of Bethania or encourage cut through traffic. The existing Bethania Tobaccolville Road can't handle more traffic and can't be widened.
- Consider a roundabout at the intersection of existing Bethania Tobaccolville Road and the proposed extension.

New Residential Development

- New subdivisions should reflect existing patterns in the area, similar lot sizes, curved roads to slow traffic, and interconnected streets with some cul-de-sacs.
- Explore expanded tree save areas to preserve existing wooded areas.
- Install noise walls close to residential development. Install a noise barrier along the section of highway close to Long Creek Park.

Bike Pedestrian

- Need separated bike facilities – consider a sidepath/multi-use path.
- Add pedestrian/bike connections to park from new development. Need better pedestrian/bike connections throughout area.
- Consider the Mountain to Sea Trail in this area.

Road Improvements

- Gladewater Drive & Wide Country Road should be improved.

Other

- Consider Safe Routes to School for Old Richmond Elementary.

Reynolda Road Interchange

Streetscape Treatment

- Widen Reynolda Road and add road shoulders, but do not add sidewalks or bike lanes.
- Line road with street trees.
- Provide more open space along the road.

- Make Reynolda Road aesthetically pleasant, but don't encourage people to speed through.
- Consider a roundabout at the Reynolda Road/Transou Road/Bethania Road intersection. Additional traffic will come off the beltway and traffic here will be worse. Add shrubbery and street trees in this area.

New Development

- Preserve the rural character of the area - only allow low-density, large-lot development.

Multifamily Area

- Design development with internal parking lots.
- Development should have a mixture of apartments, townhouses, and cluster homes.
- Development should have a very limited commercial component – maybe coffee shop.
- Provide larger green spaces around buildings and add a center square.
- Development shouldn't exceed 2 stories.
- Development should have a rural neighborhood feel.
- Use evergreen trees along Reynolda Road to screen new apartments.

Other Desired Land Uses

- Use land adjacent to the interchange for a hospital medical center/higher education/Forsyth Technical Community College Campus.
- Add needed land uses such as an office/professional park, not commercial or industrial, or an education facility due to increases in traffic.
- Consider commuter lots for park and ride around Reynolda & Transou Roads.

Bethania Road

- Reduce the speed limit on Bethania Road from Reynolda Road to the Bethania City Limit (currently 55 mph).
- Provide fencing and landscaping along Bethania Road along the historic Kapp Farm property to draw attention to it.
- Create a gateway into historic Bethania starting in proximity of Reynolda Road.

Bike/Pedestrian

- Add bike and pedestrian amenities to connect to existing and proposed greenways.

Beltway

- Provide plantings along the beltway between interchanges to reduce sight/noise impacts.
- Use sound barriers to mitigate highway noise throughout the area, specifically, along Ellen Avenue.