

**Informational Workshop Public Meeting  
And Availability of the Approved  
Environmental Assessment**

**New I-79 Interchange**



**Between Westover and Star City Exits  
Monongalia County**

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**West Virginia Department of Transportation,  
Division of Highways in cooperation with the  
Federal Highway Administration  
State Project U331-79-153.30  
Federal Project NHPP-0793(238)**



**WVU Coliseum  
Jerry West Room  
Wednesday, January 15, 2014  
4:00pm to 7:00pm**

**New I-79 Interchange**  
**STATE PROJECT U331-79-153.30**  
**FEDERAL PROJECT NHPP-0793(238)**

**PURPOSE OF TODAY'S MEETING**

The West Virginia Department of Transportation (WVDOT), Division of Highways (WVDOH) is conducting this informational workshop public meeting to discuss the proposed New I-79 Interchange Project. The purpose of the new interchange on I-79 is to reduce or eliminate traffic conflicts, improve safety, and increase traffic capacity. The proposed new interchange will allow both freight and people to be moved efficiently and safely, to and from I-79.

Environmental studies have been conducted by the WVDOH in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to fulfill requirements set forth in both the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Today's meeting will present the approved Environmental Assessment (EA) and also other project related information. Copies of the EA are available upon request.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project consists of the providing a new interchange on I-79 approximately halfway between I-79, at Exit 152 – US 19 Westover/Morgantown (Granville) and I-79, Exit 155 – WV 7 West Virginia University (Star City/Osage/WVU Football Stadium) exits. The proposed project will tie the interchange into two new frontage roads, connecting a relocated County Route 46/3 to the west and an extension of University Town Centre Drive to the east of I-79 including the new proposed WVU Athletic Facilities. The Morgantown, West Virginia area, including Monongalia County and the Cities of Morgantown, Star City, Westover, and Granville are served by I-79 that runs north-south through the western part of the area. The two interchanges (Exit 152 & Exit 155) currently experience congestion during peak hours, and the congestion is expected to increase as the University Town Centre development continues to progress.

## ALTERNATIVES

Three alternatives were considered along with a No Build to address the purpose and need of the project. The most feasible solutions to address current congestion, safety and accommodate the future traffic volumes were identified and evaluated in regional plans. The alternatives investigated included Transportation Management Systems, capacity improvements at the existing interchanges, and construction of a new interchange.

As a result of the environmental studies the diamond interchange with a roundabout at the southbound ramps was chosen as the preferred alternative. County Route 46/3 will be relocated west of the current location and will be the west terminus of University Town Centre Drive on the west side of the new interchange.



Diamond Interchange with Roundabout at southbound ramps

## PARTNERS

This project is a cooperative venture that includes the Federal Highway Administration; West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, Monongalia County Commission; Town of Granville; and Mon-View LLC.

## CURRENT PROJECT SCHEDULE

**Environmental Assessment (EA) Approval by Federal Highway Administration FHWA).....December 30, 2013**

**Environmental Assessment (EA) Public Meeting.....January 15, 2014**

**Public and Agency Comments Due.....February 17, 2014**

**Environmental Decision Document Approval by FHWA .....March 2014**

**Design Build Package Complete..... Spring 2014**

**Expected Construction Start Date.....Summer 2014**

## COMMENTS

**Please send written comments on or before Monday, February 17, 2014 to:**

**Mr. David P. Bodnar, P.E., Acting Director, Engineering Division  
West Virginia Division of Highways  
Capital Complex Building Five, Room 317  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430**

**Project Information and Comment Sheets can be found online at our  
web page:**

**<http://go.wv.gov/dotcomment>**

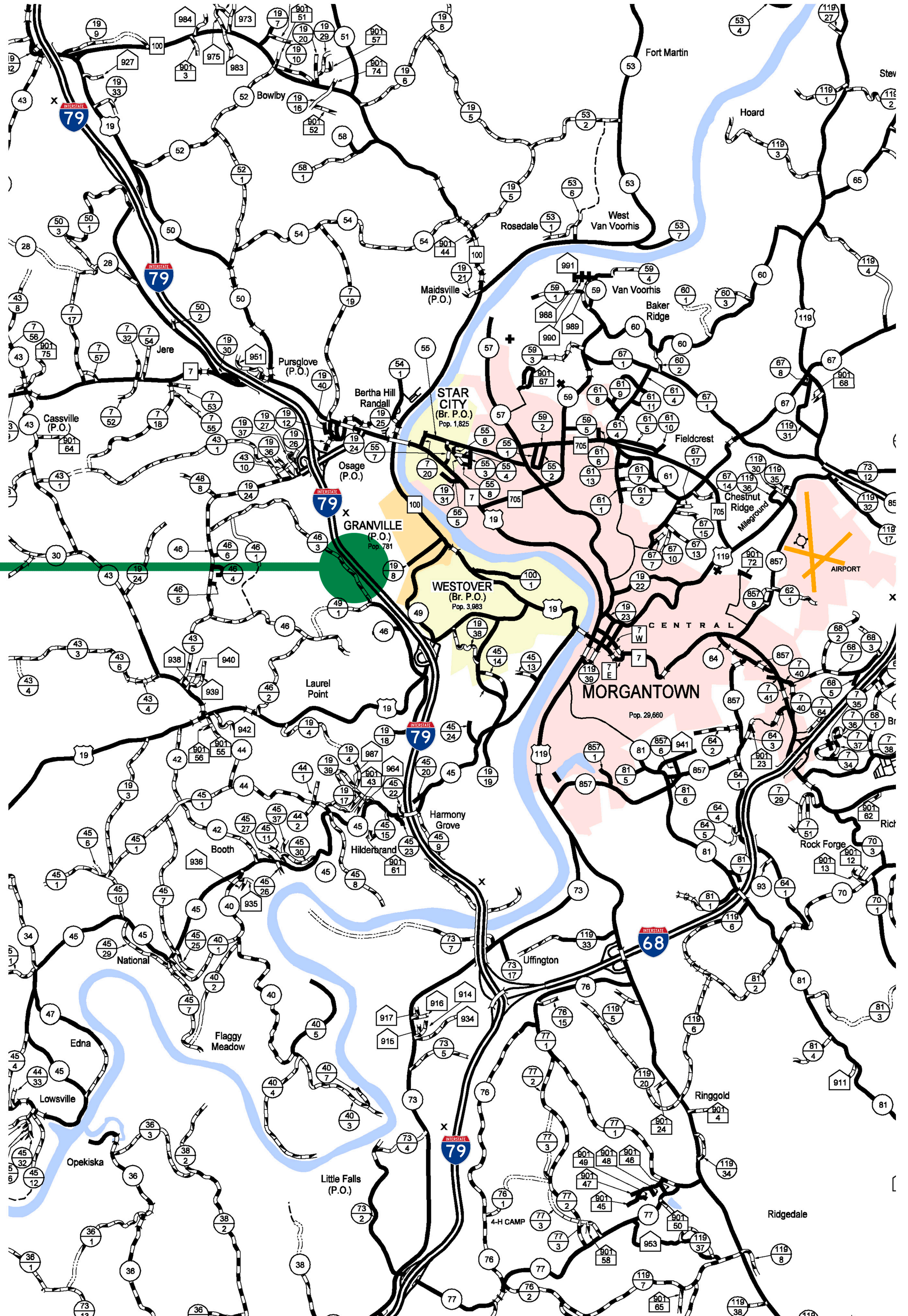
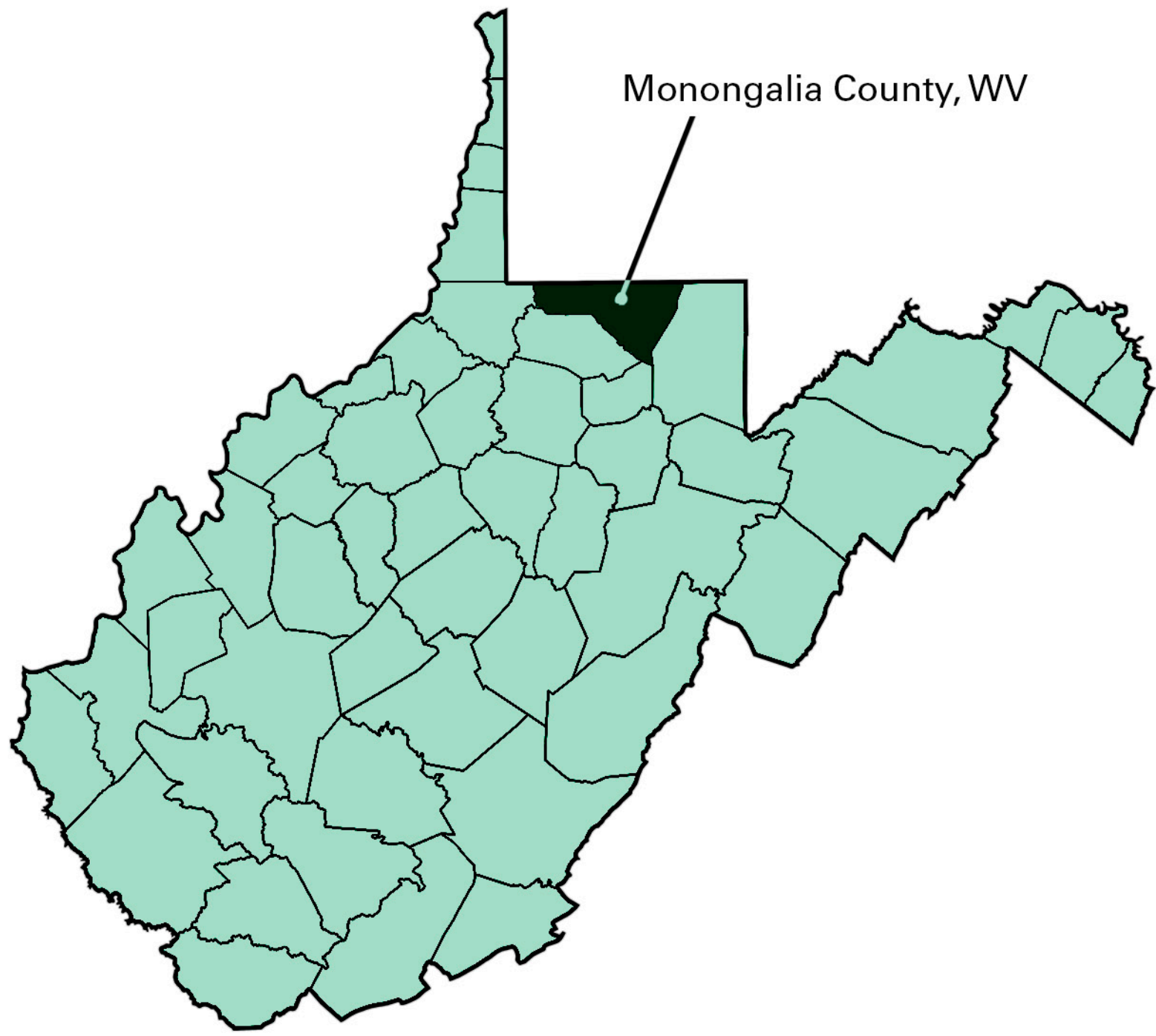
**Click on “Comment on Engineering Project”, then “Open”,  
And then click on “I-79 Interchange”.**



# Interchange Project

Greater Morgantown Area, Monongalia County

## PROJECT LOCATION



**PROJECT**

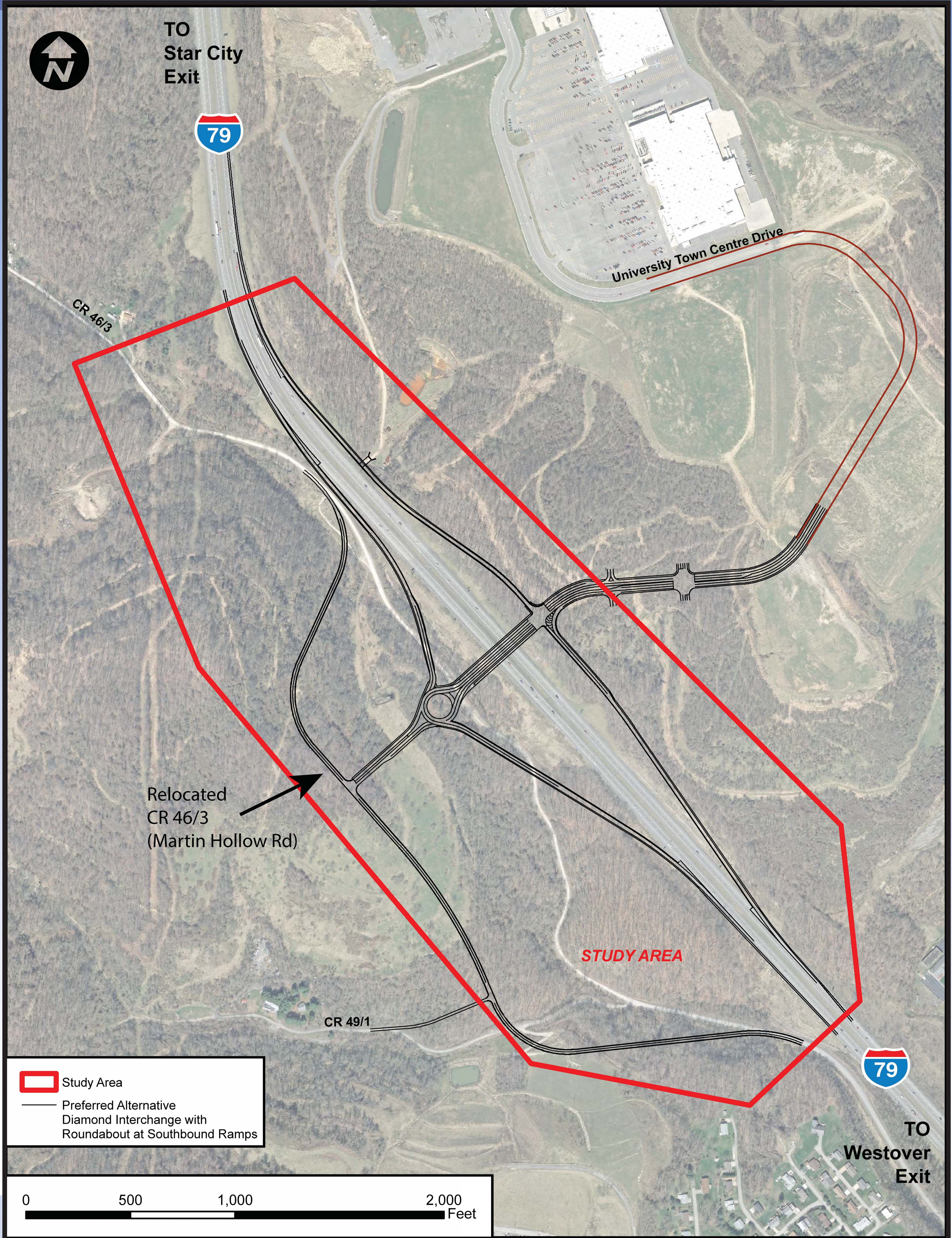


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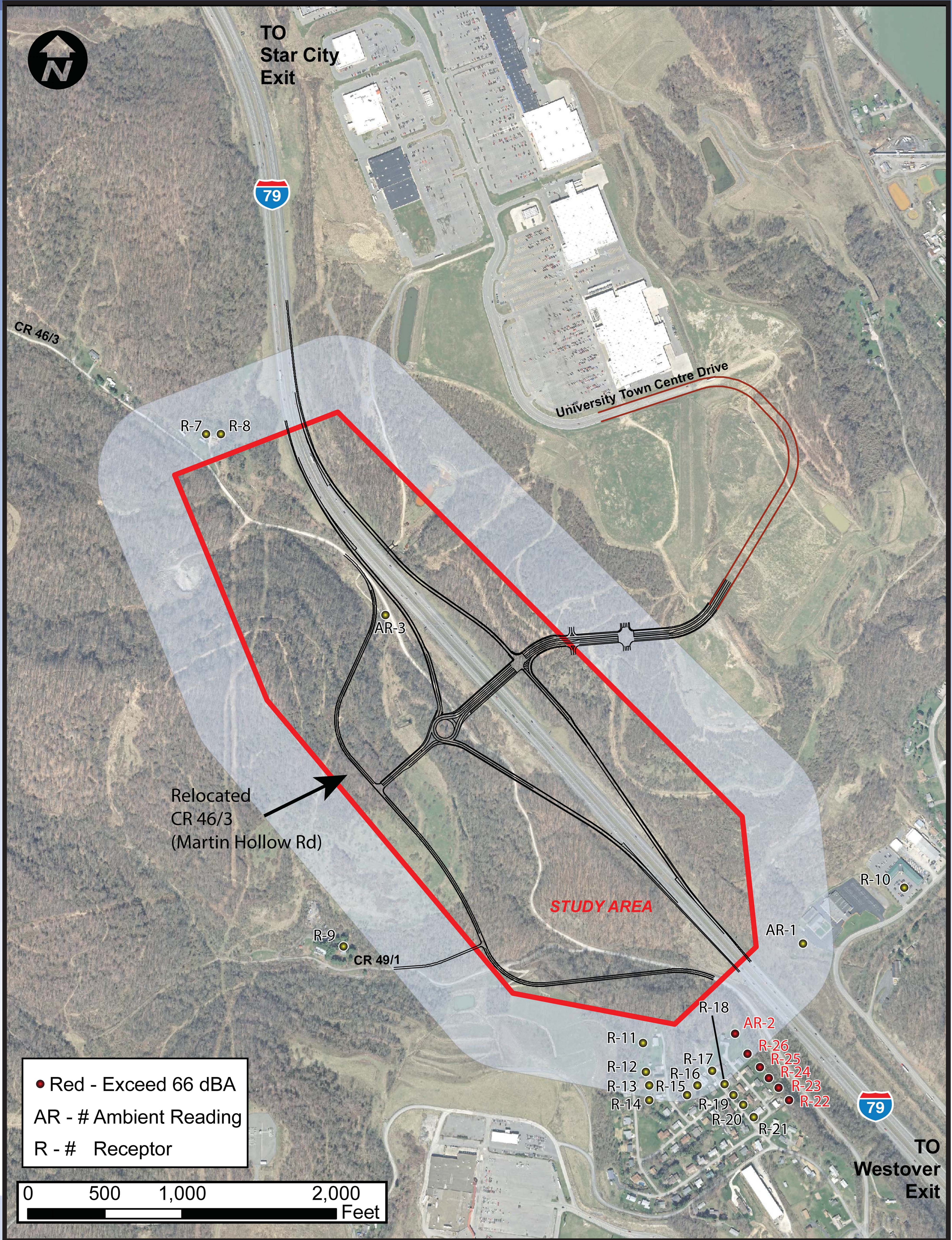
GRAPHIC SCALE

# NEW I-79 INTERCHANGE

## Study Area - Preferred Alternative

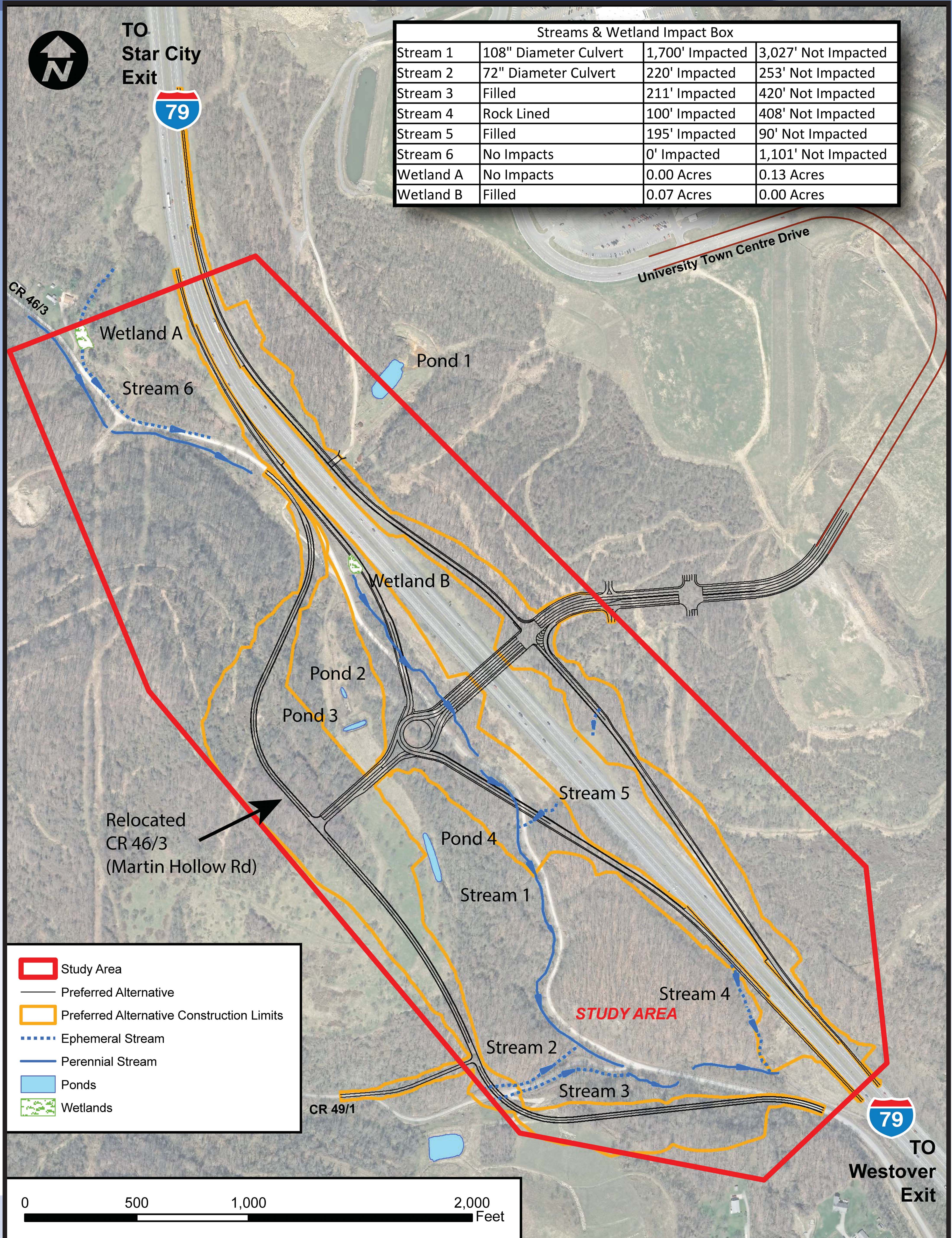


# NEW I-79 INTERCHANGE Noise Model Receptor Results



# NEW I-79 INTERCHANGE

## Streams and Wetlands





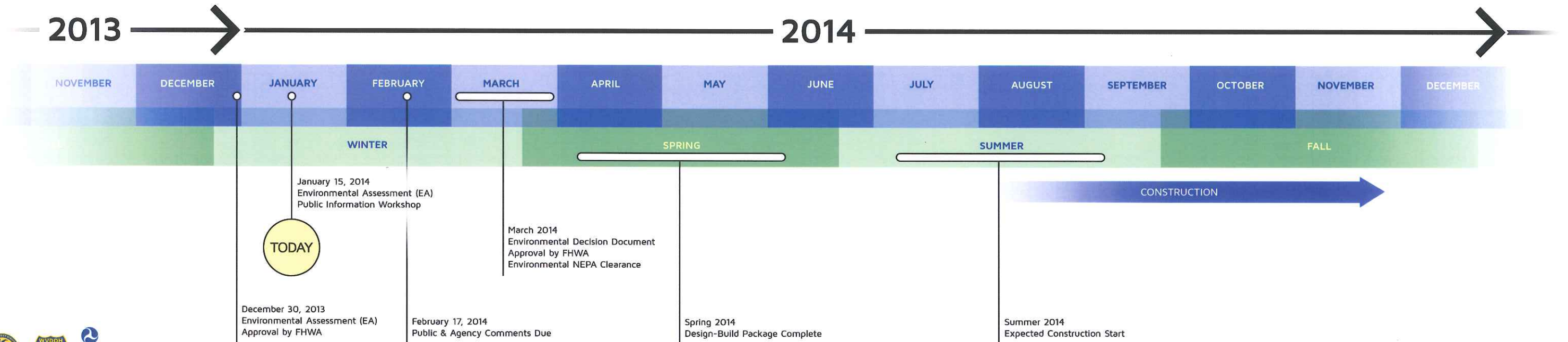


# New Interchange Project

Greater Morgantown Area, Monongalia County

## Project Purpose

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways (WVDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are developing an environmental study in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and determining how to best minimize potential impacts in the project area. The purpose of the new interchange on I-79 is to reduce or eliminate traffic conflicts, improve safety, and increase traffic capacity. The proposed new interchange will allow both freight and people to be moved efficiently and safely, to and from I-79.



DATE:

Mr. David Bodnar, P.E.  
Acting Director, Engineering Division  
West Virginia Division of Highways  
State Capitol Complex, Building 5  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430

**DATE: Wednesday, January 15, 2014**  
**LOCATION: WVU Coliseum – Jerry West Room**  
**SUBJECT: INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP PUBLIC MEETING**  
**PROJECT: I-79 Interchange**  
**U331-79-153.30**  
**NHPP-0793(238)**  
**Monongalia County**

**COMMENTS DUE BY Monday, February 17, 2014**

Please consider the following comments:

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(Please print the following information)

NAME:

ADDRESS:

ORGANIZATION (IF ANY):

How did you hear about the Informational Workshop Public Meeting?

Project Information and Comment Sheets

Can be found online at our WVDOH Website at <http://go.wv.gov/dotcomment>.

Under Engineering Projects, Open, and then click I-79 Interchange.