

NCDOT: Find a Better Way for Corridor K

Prevent the Ruin of Stecoah Valley

Study the 2 lane alternative

North Carolina Dept. of Transportation is studying routes for the relocation of US 74/Corridor K from Stecoah to Robbinsville. Currently they are only considering 4 lane options that include a new road bed that cuts through the scenic Stecoah Valley. These proposed routes would come at a cost of \$378 million for the 10 mile swath for a road that, according to NCDOT's own studies, would have negligible time savings. NCDOT's studies also show that the current roads meet the expected traffic demand for the next 20 years.

NCDOT's study should also include improvements to the current 2 lane roads, making them more conducive to commercial traffic. This alternative would cost less, and with limited transportation funds, improving the likelihood of Corridor K being completed sooner than later.

Corridor K was originally conceived over 40 years ago to help relieve poverty and isolation in the region. Since then, however, the completion of the Interstate Highway System and other highway projects has rendered the expansion of the destructive highway obsolete. The beauty, community, and environmental integrity of the area should not be compromised with a four lane, divided, limited access, interstate grade highway. Nor should the backbone of the local economy—the scenic beauty—be destroyed because of an outdated road plan.

****Mail signed petitions to P.O. Box 92, Murphy, NC 28906 by November 27th, preferably by October 27th.**

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