

CHANGES: 'Issue was addressing a safety concern'

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this would eliminate a high-speed conflict point but add an additional low-speed conflict point within the roundabout."

Supervisor Kay Pierantoni, who attended the virtual public hearing, brought the issue to light. "The main issue I have is that I believe the most critical problem in that area is not presently being addressed," she said. "Traveling from Richmond on the dual lane 360 West, there are one exit and two entrance ramps onto 360. The second entrance ramp is the very concerning one. Traffic from the roundabout wishing to enter 360 West will use this ramp. It is a

short ramp with no acceleration lane.

The ramp ends just within feet of the railroad overpass. On the right of the ramp are a bank and guardrail. If both lanes on 360 West have vehicles and the vehicle exiting the ramp is not using extreme caution, I believe the potential for an extremely serious accident is there."

In 2017 the proposed \$5.2 million roundabout at the intersection of Routes 15 and U.S. 360 made it through the second round of scoring under the new SMART SCALE prioritization process used by the state's Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB).

Funding includes

both state and federal sources.

According to transportation documents, the current intersection has a major road (two-way, not divided) as well as an off-ramp and an entrance leading to an off-ramp all connecting at a three approach stop-sign intersection that is in a grade curve," county leaders said in the application to state transportation officials. "Sight-distance, as well as traffic flow currently contributes to driver error. This project will replace the stop-sign intersection with a roundabout to allow for a more fluid entrance and exit to the off-ramps as well as take the sight-distance issue out of the equation.

This project will create a safer intersection. The Charlotte County Industrial Park is along the route of this project, and the Heartland Business Park is adjacent to the project area."

VDOT said due to safety concerns and accident history, this project will improve the intersection with a roundabout concept.

The most recent three years of available crash data, from May 1, 2013, to Apr. 30, 2016 shows there have been five reported crashes along Route 15, from Route 820 (Pinecrest Road) to Route 712 (Horseshoe Bend Road), a distance of 0.66 miles.



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CCPS: 'Virginia is a national leader in school security'

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million program to provide funds for increased school security across the state.

"Virginia is a national leader in school security and the grants announced today support our proactive approach to creating and maintaining safe learning environments," Superintendent of Public

Instruction James Lane said. "In many cases, the equipment and systems divisions will purchase with these funds address vulnerabilities identified through the commonwealth's pioneering school security audit program."

The criteria for making the awards — developed by VDOE and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice

Services — give priority to schools most in need of modern security equipment, schools with relatively high numbers of offenses, schools with equipment needs identified by a school security audit, and schools in divisions least able to afford security upgrades. The program expanded this year to include funding for security equipment for school buses.

The 2013 General Assembly established the School Security Equipment Grants program in the aftermath of the Dec. 14, 2012, mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut.

FIRE: 'There was nothing left to do but help them'

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seatbelt but that he could feel around to get the belt unhooked, finding the car door handle and pulled the man to safety.

Being a firefighter, Reeves has rescued people from burning buildings before but never from a fully involved car fire without any protective clothing.

"It was quite an interesting morning coming home from work ... sometimes things happen that you don't expect, but there was nothing left to do but help them."

Reeves said he received a call from family members later Sunday afternoon letting him know the two people he saved were home and doing fine.

FOREST: 'Rare opportunity for Southside Virginia'

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is the third leading industry in the commonwealth, employing more than 108,000 Virginians in forestry, forest products and related industries.

Charlotte State Forest includes approximately 13 miles of the Roanoke and Wards Ford Creeks—two tributary streams to the Roanoke River, a designated Virginia Scenic River. VDOF plans to acquire an additional 2,500 adjacent acres currently owned by The Conservation Fund, creating the fifth-largest sustainable forestry initiative certified state forest in the commonwealth.

"The creation of a new state forest on the Stanley land celebrates a long legacy of well-managed working forests," Heather Richards, Virginia state director for The Conservation Fund said. "We are honored to assist the commonwealth in the protection of these timberlands to support local forestry jobs, protect key wildlife habitat and provide new public recreational access for a variety of activities in Charlotte County."

In a press release, Senator Mark Warner

said the preservation of more than 2,000 acres of working timberland would safeguard vital habitats and provide outdoor recreation opportunities to support the local economy.



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Tad was wonderful to work with through our entire home buying process! Working with someone who was patient, knowledgeable, and friendly helped put us at ease and enjoy the journey. We are now officially home owners and appreciate Tad going above and beyond to assist us along the way!



It's been a long 18 months or so. But that was only because of selling our house, etc. during this time Tad always responded enthusiastically, from the first time we met, up until our subsequent closing. Anytime we asked a question or had a concern Tad always responded, soon, if not immediately. If he didn't have an answer right away he ensured we got an answer, as soon as he got an answer. If we ever sell, we will certainly use Tad. Tad is easy to work with, friendly, and respectful. It was a pleasure working with Tad.



Tad demonstrated commitment to us as our buyer agent from our first walk-through to after settlement. He guided us through the process of making an offer through necessary contractual documents. Tad researched information which assisted us in sound decision-making. We highly recommend him!



I would highly recommend Tad Reynolds, as first time home buyers we didn't have a clue what to do or what to expect. Tad was always there to answer questions, he walked us through every step, giving us all of our options at every step. The property we were buying was under 100,000, but he made us feel like we were his only clients, just a real down to earth nice person.

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238 N. Main St., Farmville, VA 23901

This was my first home buying experience, and I had heard many horror stories. The home buying process was not easy and we ran into many issues, but Tad made it happen. He helped us get through it all. He was extremely personable and knowledgeable. He was very easy to get in touch with, and every time we ran into an issue he was taking care of it instantly. At no point during the process (about 7 months) did it ever seem like he was trying to get a sale. I know Realtors make commission on their sales and working with Tad you'd never know. He has your interests in mind the entire time.



We really enjoyed our experience in working with Tad. He was responsive, knowledgeable about the area, and very professional. He helped us find the right home in an excellent neighborhood. We would highly recommend him to anyone who is new or returning to the area and looking for a home.

Honestly best home buying experience EVER! Tad was personable and extremely responsive. He touched based often and always updated us immediately of any new listings or prospect houses. Not a day/time went by that we were not in the loop or up to speed with any of the searching for our new home or in the final processes down to the signing. I would strongly recommend Tad to a first time home buyer or to one experienced in buying homes, I can ensure you he'll find you your dream home!



I am a first time home buyer and Tad made buying a home easy and stress free! He worked with me to find out exactly what I wanted in a home and kept me updated and informed every step of the process. He was always quick to respond to all of my calls and texts and always kept my best interest in mind. I would highly recommend him to anyone looking to buy a home!