TO: Derrick Williams
FROM: Jamie Oliver
DATE: 1/28/2026

NEPA DOCUMENTATION
CONCURRENCE FORM

Project Name: Route 17 Widening Phase I Improvements
Federal Project Number: STP-5B03(597)
Project Number:
Project Type: Construction
UPC: 127931
Charge Number:
Route Number: 17
Route Type: Primary
Project Limit—From: 1,000' north of Whippingham Pkwy (RT 662)
Project Limit—To: Smiths Neck Road (RT 669)
Project in STIP: Yes
Project in Long Range Plan: Yes
Logical Termini and Independent Utility: Yes
Next Phase of Funding Available: Yes

Project Description: The proposed project involves widening of the southbound lanes of U.S. Route 17 through the construction of an additional through lane from Harbor Point Lane to Eagle Harbor Parkway and a continuous dedicated right-turn lane from Eagle Harbor Parkway to Smiths Neck Road. The project also includes the construction of a shared-use path with ADA improvements between Eagle Harbor Pkwy and Smiths Neck Road, traffic signal modifications, two culvert extensions, and two stormwater detention ponds.

Purpose and Need: The purpose of the proposed project is to increase capacity and improve the mobility of U.S. Route 17. The project is needed to reduce delays and relieve traffic congestion and to provide bicycle and pedestrian facilities to a section of roadway lacking accommodations.

Attachments:
Map ☒
Other ☐

Suggested Level of NEPA Document: Categorical Exclusion (CE)
CE Category 23 CFR 771.117: (d)
Description of Category: Additional actions that meet the criteria for a CE in the CEQ regulations (40 CFR §1508.4) and paragraph (a) of this section may be designated as CEs only after Administration approval unless otherwise authorized under an executed agreement pursuant to paragraph (g) of this section. The applicant must submit documentation that demonstrates that the specific conditions or criteria for these CEs are satisfied and that significant environmental effects will not result.

☒ **CE** (in accordance with Programmatic Categorical Exclusion Agreement approved by the Federal Highway Administration on October 16, 2017)
☐ **EA** (23 U.S.C. §139 may apply to EAs on a case-by-case basis. The default assumption is that it will not apply to this EA. FHWA concurrence infers agreement with the default assumption.)
☐ **EIS**

Fiscal Constraint:
Project in STIP: Yes
In Long Range Plan? Yes
Logical Termini and Independent Utility: Yes

Next Phase of Funding Available? Yes

Comments:

The proposed Route 17 Widening Phase I Improvements project would take place along U.S. Route 17 in Isle of Wight County, Virginia and encompasses existing roadway, maintained right-of-way, and commercial development. Several previously identified archaeological resources have been identified near and within the project study area. A Phase I Cultural Resource Survey of the entire project study area is currently underway. Coordination with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) will be conducted to determine the effect, if any, that the project may have on historic resources. There are no architectural resources including battlefields and historic districts within the project area of potential effect.

A preliminary review of the VDHR VCRIS database, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Natural Heritage Data Explorer (NHDE), DCR Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP) Mapper, and Virginia Outdoors Foundation Mapper identified no eligible or listed historic resources, publicly owned parks, recreational areas, conservation easements, or wildlife and waterfowl refuges were identified within the project area. Should any Section 4(f) resources be identified and require permanent incorporation, temporary occupancy, or other use, coordination will be conducted with the official with jurisdiction. Impacts to Section 4(f) resources are not anticipated.

Ragged Island Wildlife Management Area/Ragged Island Marsh is a LWCF-funded project located northeast of the northern project terminus, outside of the project area. No coordination for Section 6(f) resources is anticipated as there would be no acquisition of lands protected by Section 6(f).

The project is located outside of any designated non-attainment or maintenance areas for NAAQS. The project is primarily located within an area of minimal flood hazard. The northeastern project area is located within FEMA floodplain Zone AE. The Project would be designed to comply with applicable FEMA-approved state and local floodplain management requirements.

If impacts to jurisdictional surface waters are proposed, Section 401/404 permits will be required. It is anticipated that all proposed work can be completed with a general permit. Coordination with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, and the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation will be conducted to determine the effect, if any, that the project may have on federally listed species or designated critical habitat. Considering the scope and location of the project, the project is not anticipated to have an adverse effect on any federally or state listed species or critical habitat. A review of the Environmental Risk Information Services database will be conducted to identify any potential or actual contaminated environmental media or other environmental impairments that would affect construction within the project area.

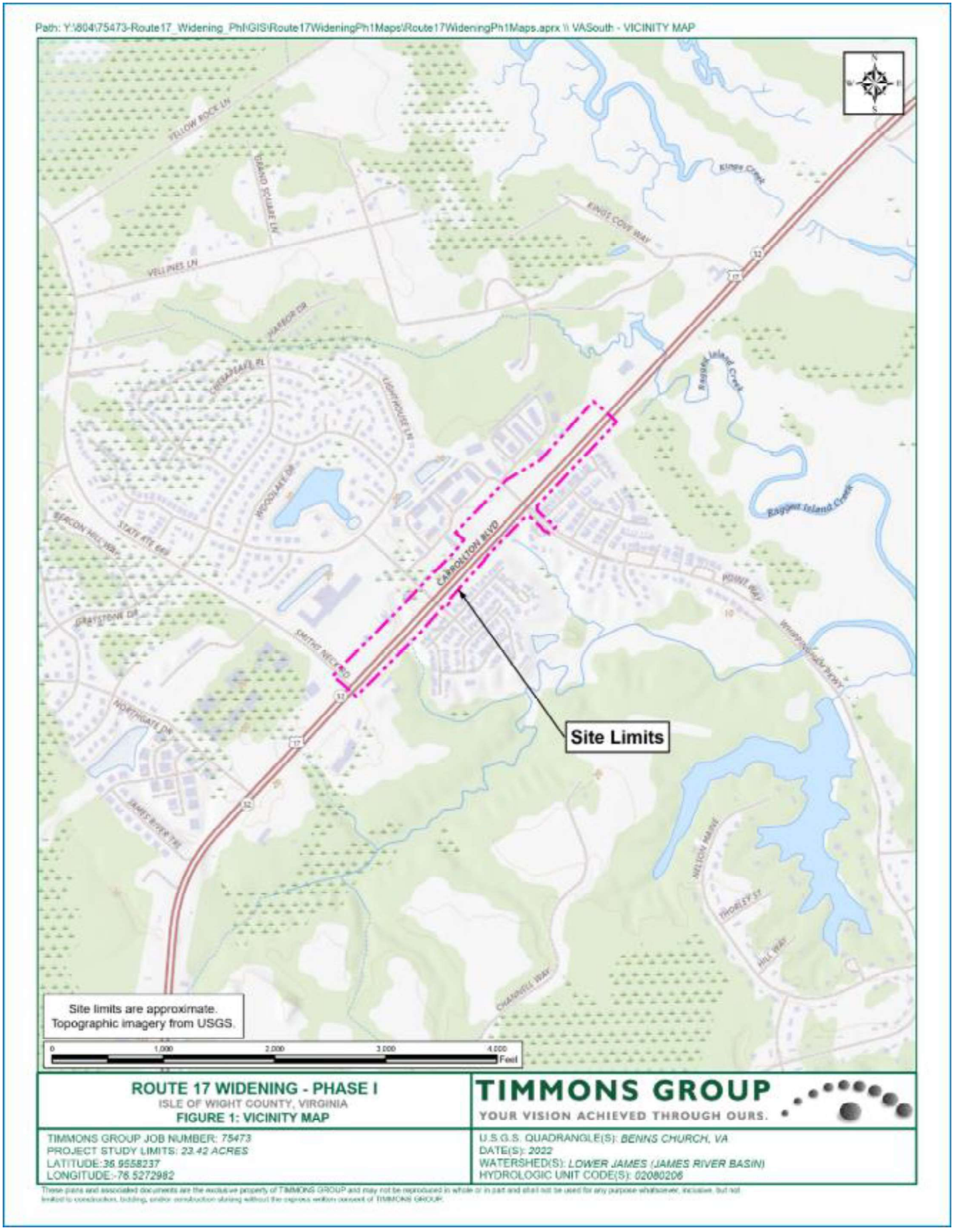
Based on the aforementioned reasons, Isle of Wight County is proposing the use of a Categorical Exclusion.

We concur with the suggested level of NEPA document.

Amanda L Heath February 6, 2026

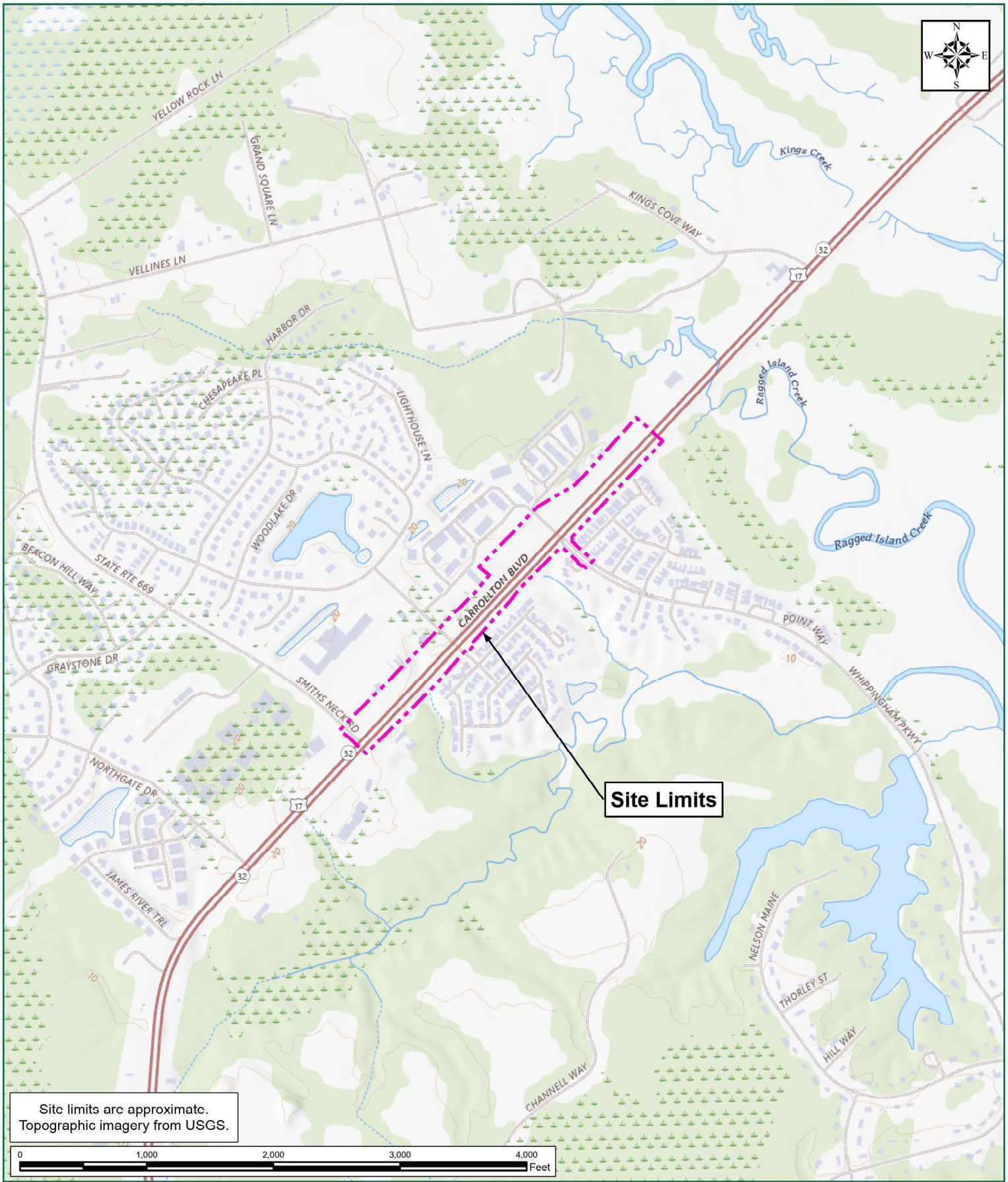
FHWA Approval **Date**

Project Number: UPC 127931
USGS Quad Name: Benns Church VA, 2022
(paste .jpg or .gif topo image below)



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Path: Y:\804\75473-Route17_Widening_PhI\GIS\Route17WideningPh1Maps\Route17WideningPh1Maps.aprx \\ VASouth - VICINITY MAP



ROUTE 17 WIDENING - PHASE I

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY, VIRGINIA

FIGURE 1: VICINITY MAP

TIMMONS GROUP

YOUR VISION ACHIEVED THROUGH OURS.

TIMMONS GROUP JOB NUMBER: *75473*
PROJECT STUDY LIMITS: *23.42 ACRES*
LATITUDE:*36.9558237*
LONGITUDE:*-76.5272982*

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE(S): *BENNS CHURCH, VA*
DATE(S): *2022*
WATERSHED(S): *LOWER JAMES (JAMES RIVER BASIN)*
HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE(S): *02080206*

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