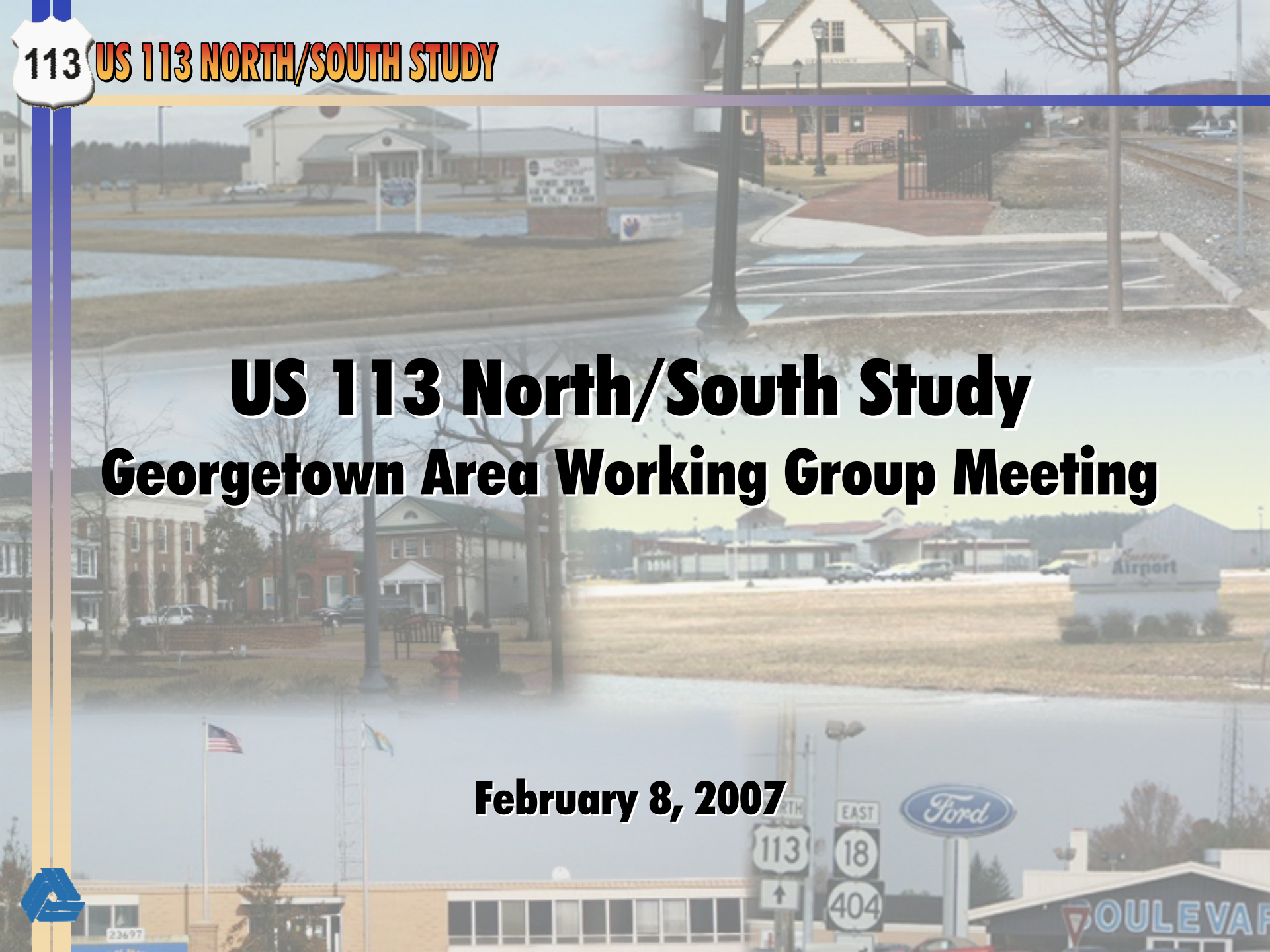


The background is a collage of three photographs. The top photo shows a large, light-colored building with a sign that reads 'CHESAPEAKE UNIVERSITY'. The middle photo shows a street scene with a brick building and a sign that reads 'Airport'. The bottom photo shows a street scene with a sign that reads 'BOULEVARD' and a Ford logo.

**113 US 113 NORTH/SOUTH STUDY**

# **US 113 North/South Study**

## **Georgetown Area Working Group Meeting**

**February 8, 2007**



# Agenda

- Welcome Bob Kramer
- Introduction Monroe Hite, III
- Review of Key Issues Monroe Hite, III
- Introduction of  
East-to-East Alternatives Joe Wutka

# Agenda

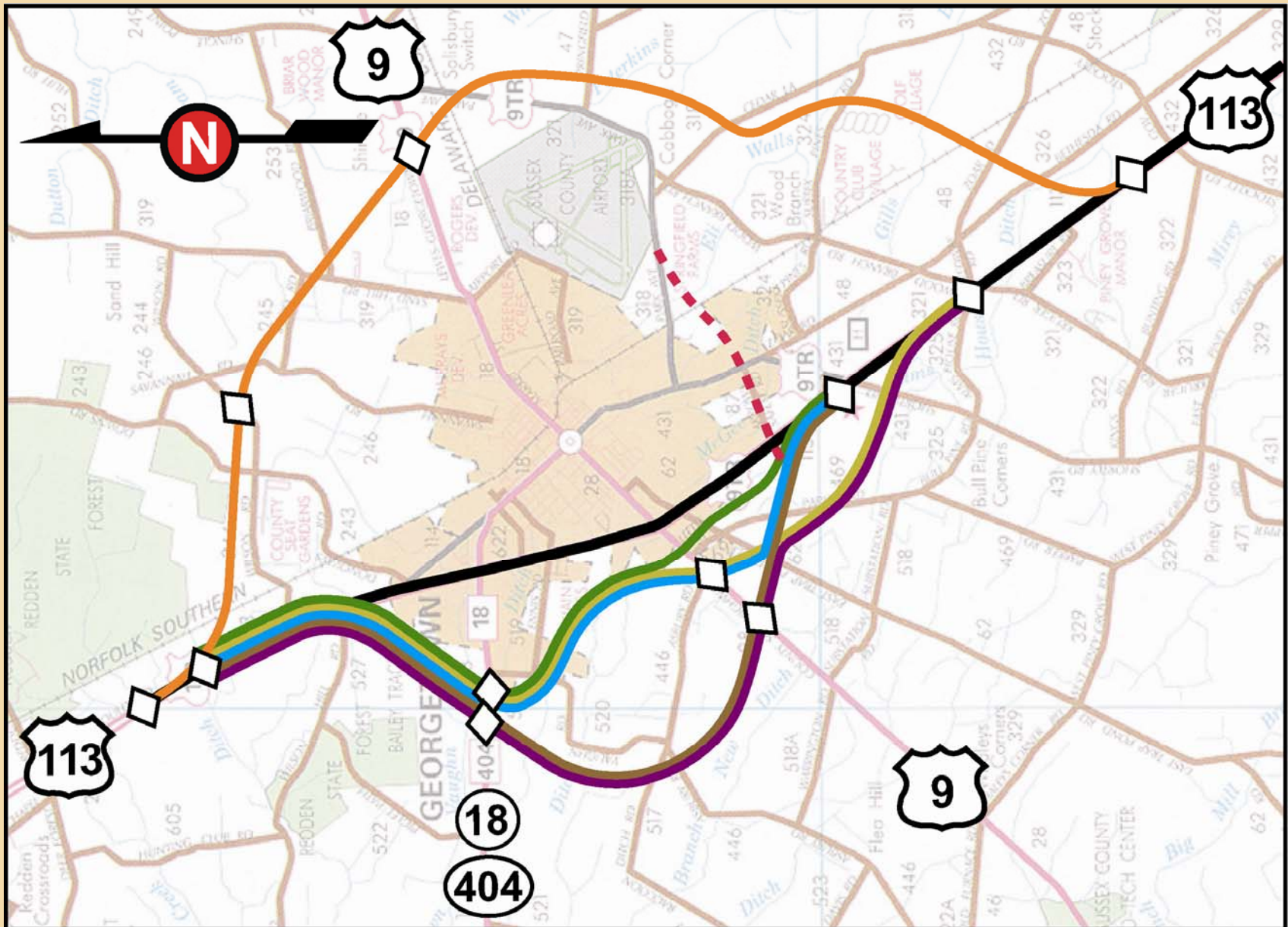
- Discussion
- Schedule
- Next Steps

Working Group

Monroe Hite, III

Monroe Hite, III

# Georgetown Area Alternatives

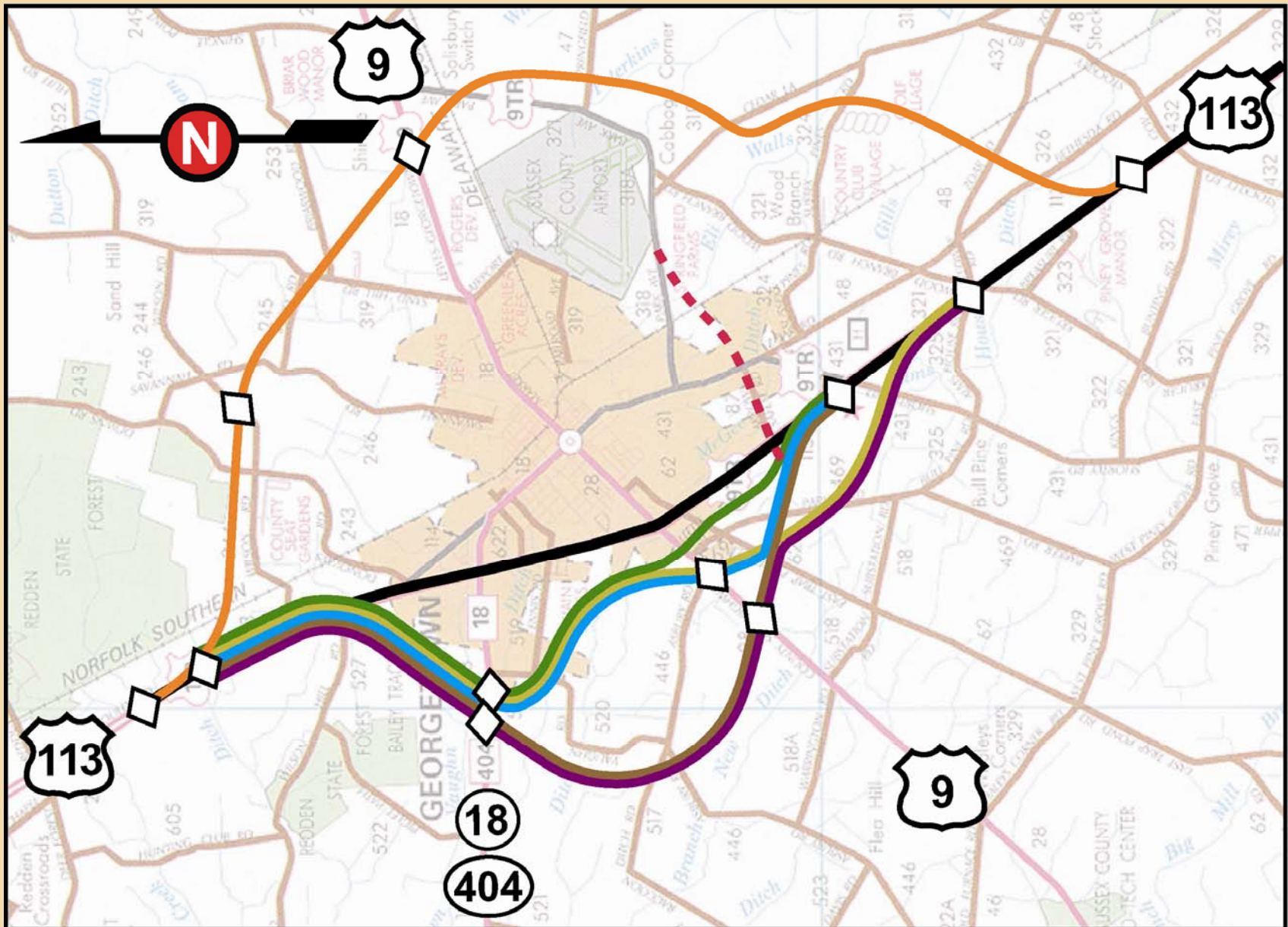


# **Georgetown Area Alternatives**

## **Key Issues**

- **Wetlands**
- **Cultural Resources**
- **Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species**
- **Traffic**
- **Socio-Economic Impacts**
- **Natural Areas**

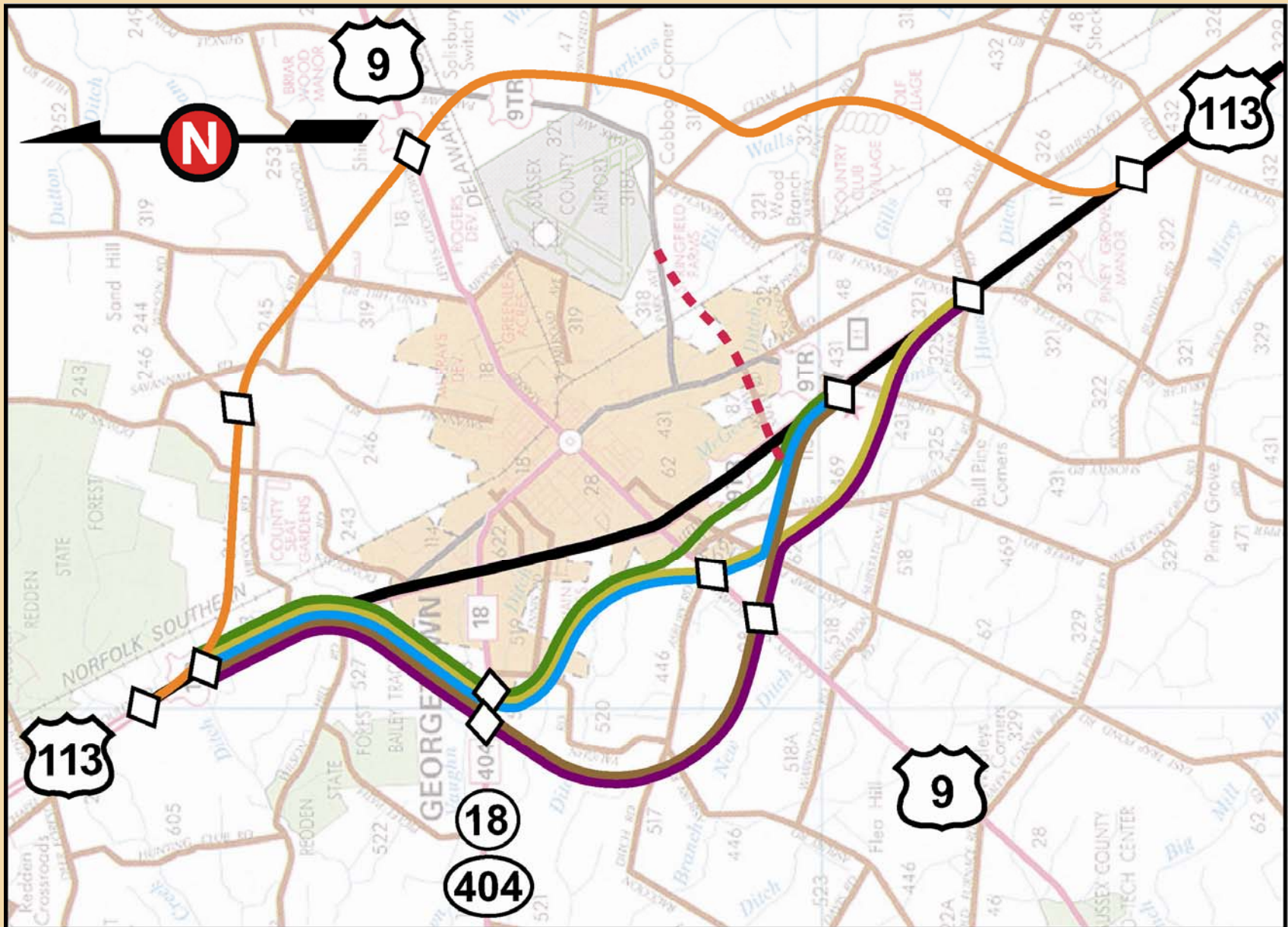
# Georgetown Area Alternatives



# Georgetown Area Alternatives Wetlands

- The natural resource agencies have analyzed the retained alternatives.
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - Environmental Protection Agency
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- Several field visits have been conducted with the agencies to review critical issues.
- By the end of February, these agencies will have a full understanding of the wetland issues, including habitat quality, associated with each alternative.

# Georgetown Area Alternatives

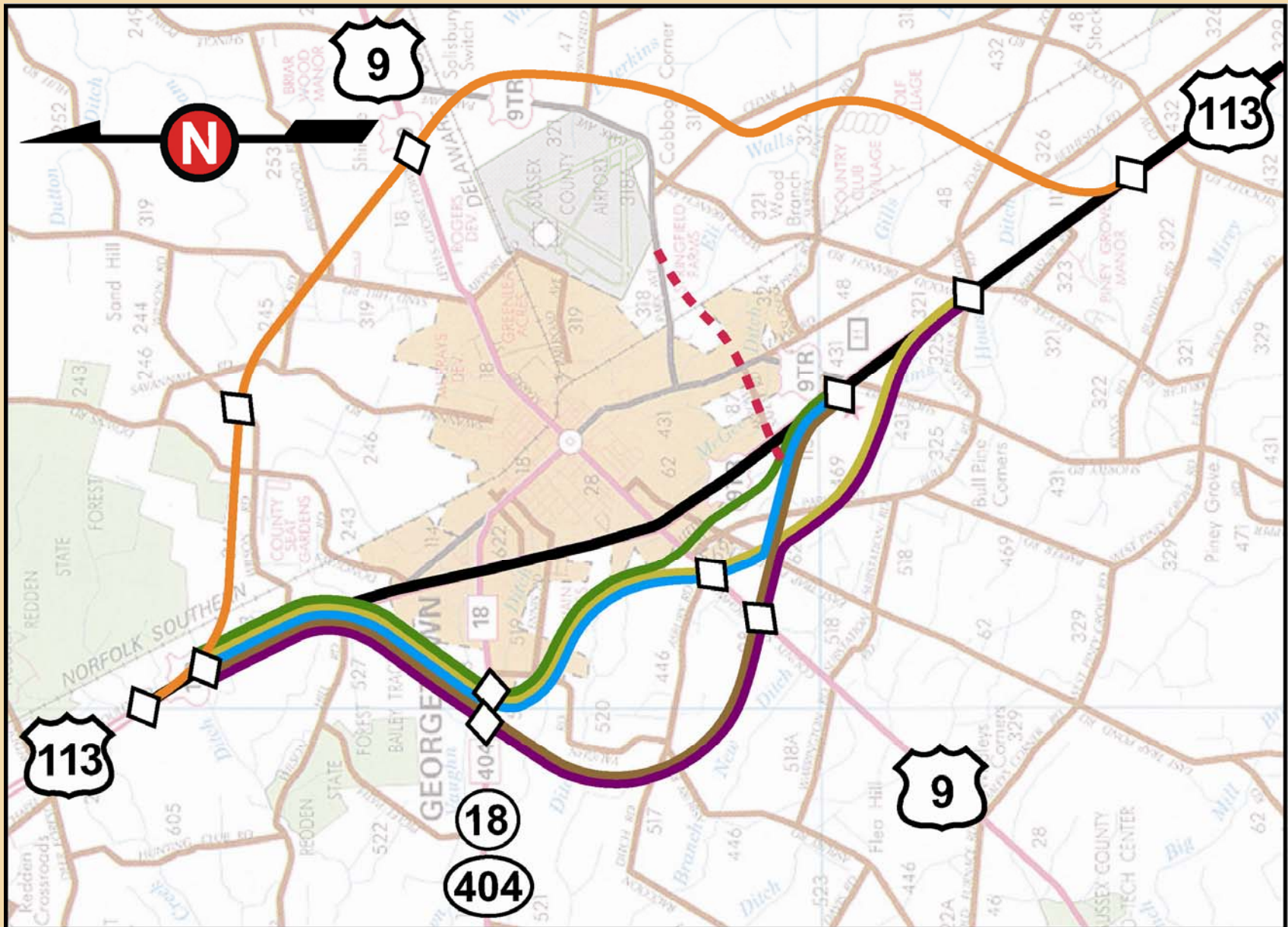


# **Georgetown Area Alternatives**

## **Cultural Resources**

- **The Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has worked closely with the project team on the eligibility of architectural properties for the National Register of Historic Places.**
- **Final determination of National Register eligibility is likely to be resolved this summer.**

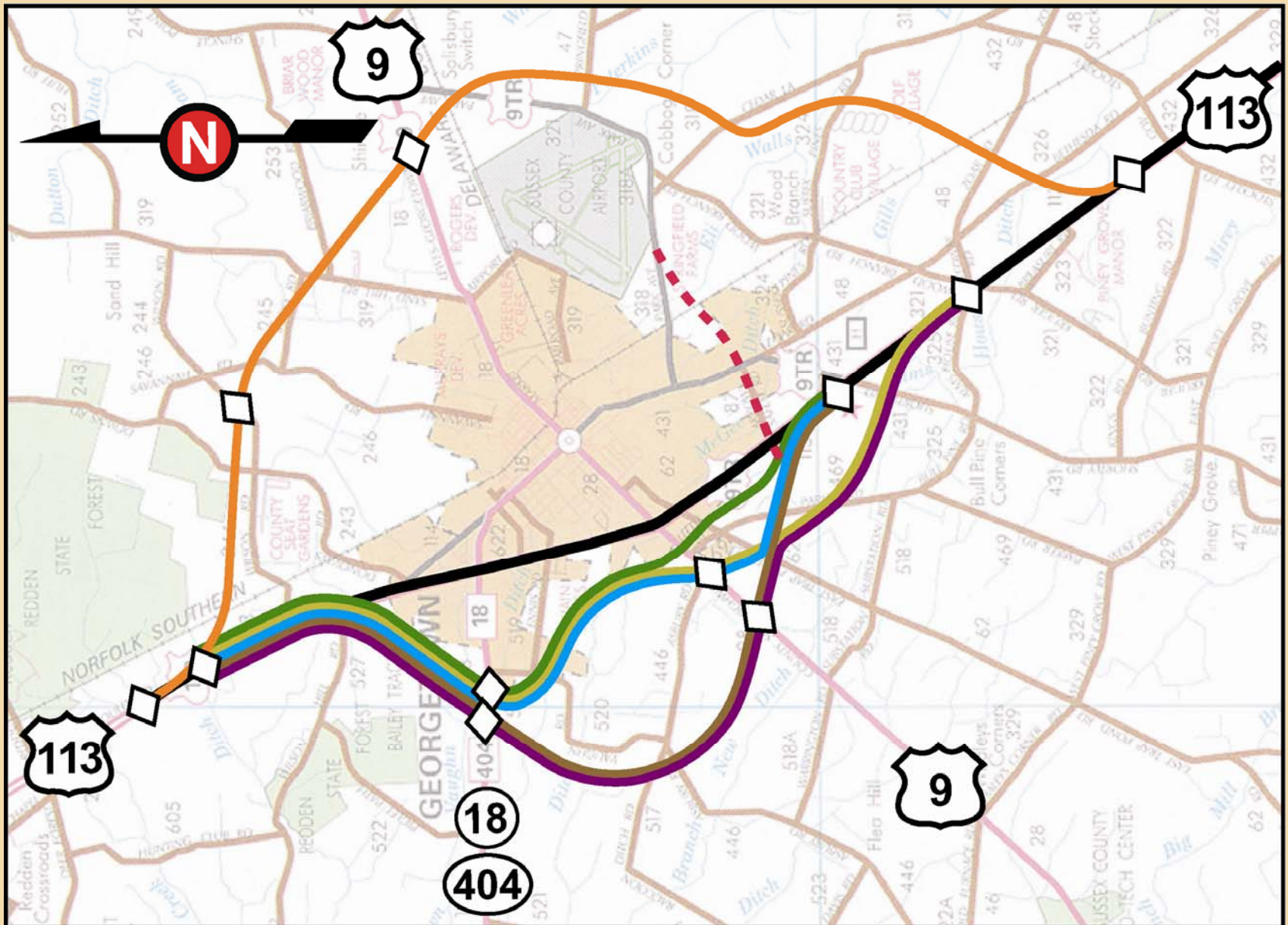
# Georgetown Area Alternatives



# **Georgetown Area Alternatives RTEs**

- The project team coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and DNREC regarding Federal species of concern.
- Extensive studies were conducted to determine potential impacts to Swamp Pink, a Federally-listed species. No direct impacts were found in the Georgetown area.

# Georgetown Area Alternatives



# Georgetown Area Alternatives

## Traffic

- During 2006, DelDOT completely updated its travel demand model
  - Population and employment
  - External volumes
  - 2005 calibration
  - Mode choice model (DTC)
  - New toll model (I-95, SR 1, US 301)
- Project-specific traffic forecasts are nearly complete
  - Traffic-dependent impacts (noise, air quality, economic, etc.) will be determined when traffic is complete

# **Georgetown Area Alternatives**

## **Socio-Economic Impacts**

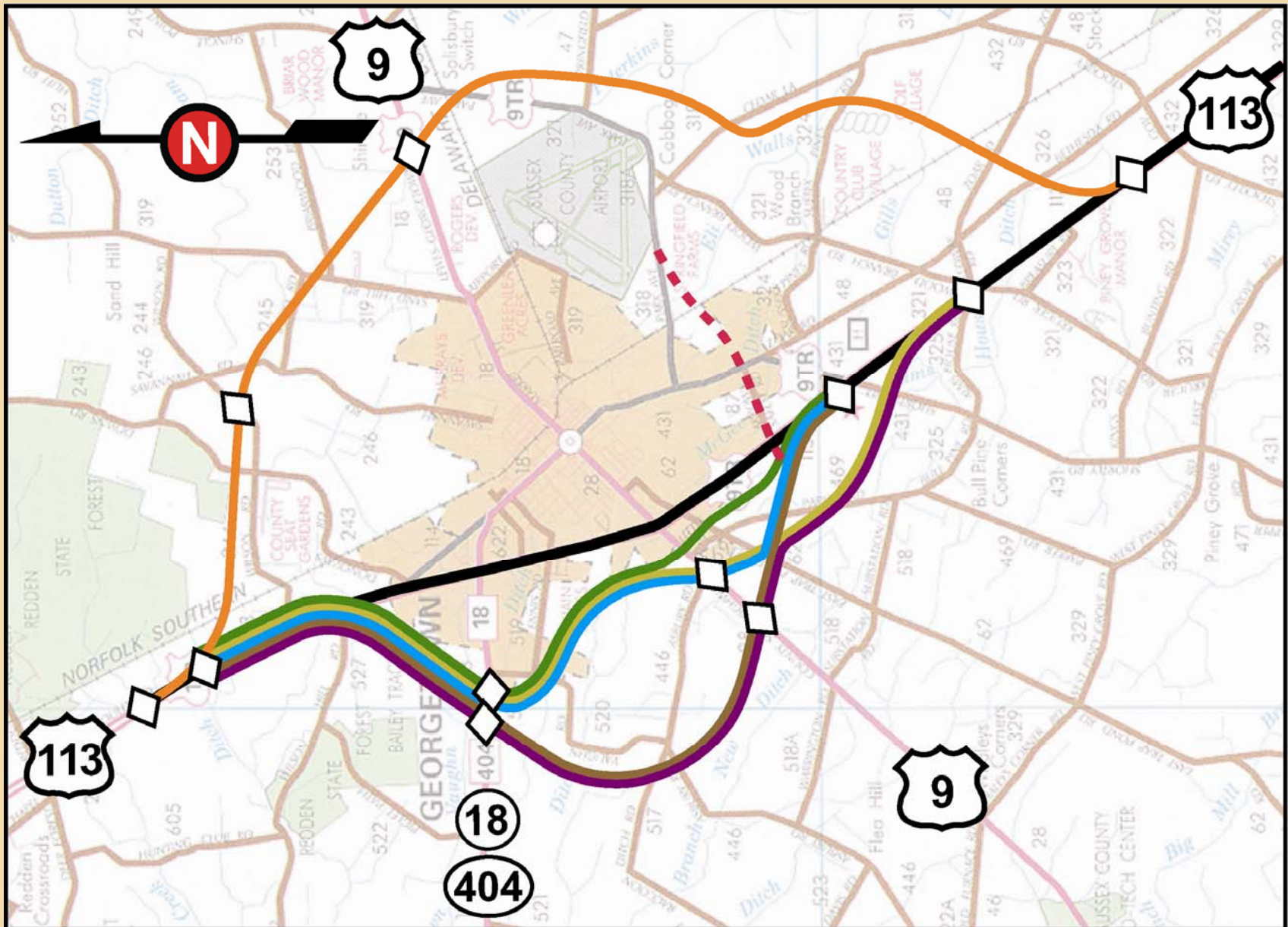
- This category includes impacts to both businesses and properties.
- Property impacts have been updated.
- The revised traffic forecasts have been completed, and updated business impacts are being recalculated.
- Impacts to agriculture have been determined.

# Georgetown Area Alternatives

## Agricultural Economic Impacts

| Alternative      | Impact Area (Acres) | Crop Sales (Annual)  | Total Sales (Annual)  | Jobs  |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Yellow, option 1 | 275                 | \$57,000 - \$125,000 | \$77,000 - \$169,000  | 1 – 2 |
| Yellow, option 2 | 297                 | \$62,000 - \$135,000 | \$83,000 - \$182,000  | 1 – 2 |
| Orange           | 459                 | \$95,000 - \$209,000 | \$129,000 - \$282,000 | 1 – 3 |
| Blue             | 437                 | \$91,000 - \$199,000 | \$122,000 - \$269,000 | 1 – 3 |
| Gold             | 408                 | \$85,000 - \$186,000 | \$114,000 - \$250,000 | 1 – 3 |
| Green            | 376                 | \$78,000 - \$171,000 | \$105,000 - \$231,000 | 1 – 2 |
| Brown            | 379                 | \$79,000 - \$173,000 | \$106,000 - \$233,000 | 1 – 2 |
| Purple           | 396                 | \$82,000 - \$180,000 | \$111,000 - \$243,000 | 1 – 3 |

# Georgetown Area Alternatives



# **Georgetown Area Alternatives Natural Areas**

- DNREC approved new State Resource Area and Natural Area maps in fall 2006.
- These data were provided to the project team by DNREC immediately upon approval and have been incorporated into the mapping.
- These impacts are being incorporated into the impact matrix.

# Georgetown-South Area

## Introduction of East-to-East Alternative

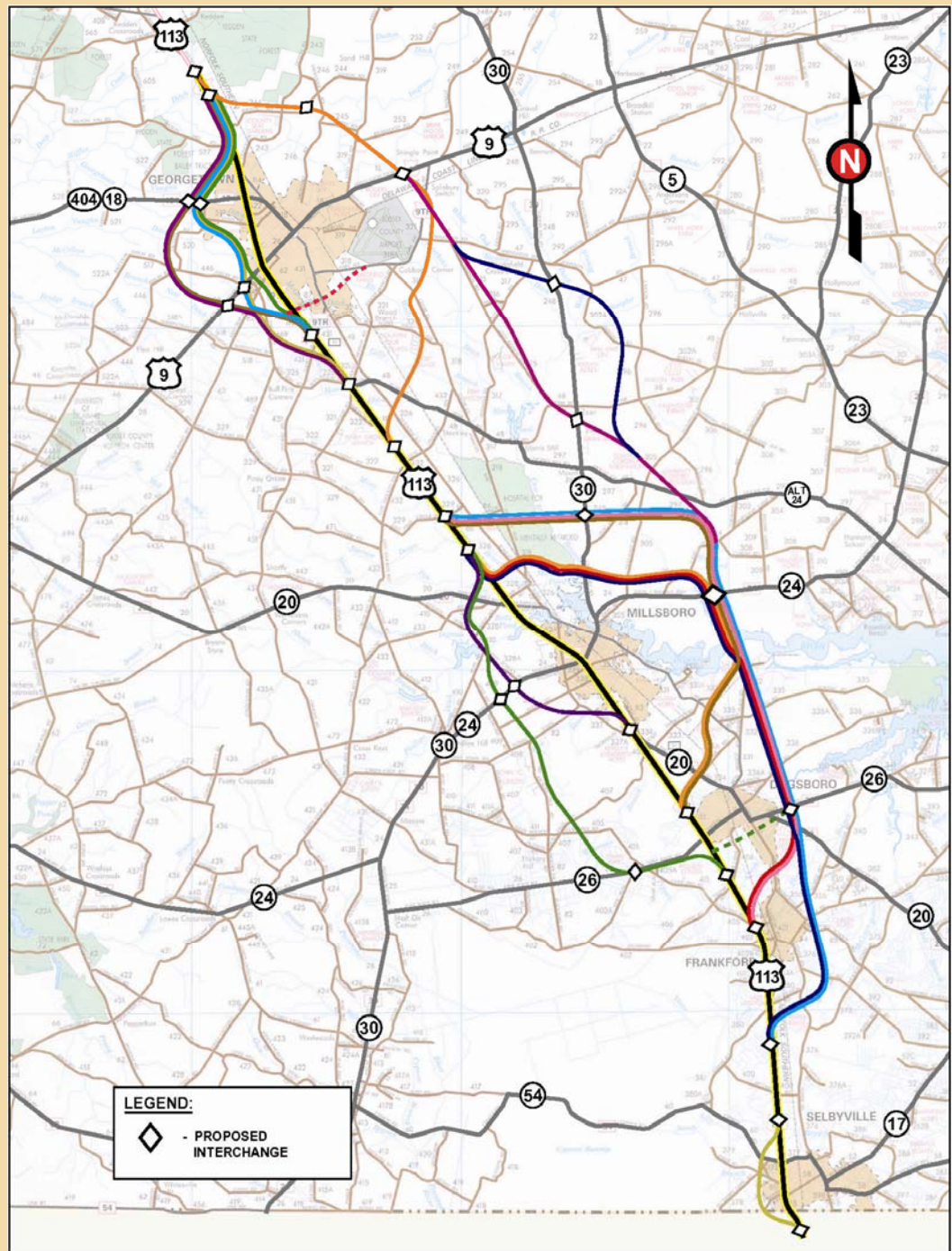
- DelDOT is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Georgetown-South Area
  - From north of Georgetown to Selbyville
- At the beginning of the study, two separate working groups were established in this overall area to get more focused input
  - Georgetown Area
  - Millsboro-South Area

# **Georgetown-South Area**

## **Introduction of East-to-East Alternative**

- A connection between the Georgetown and Millsboro-South east bypass alternatives may have:
  - Fewer natural resource impacts
  - Fewer community impacts
  - Shorter overall length
    - Less new highway
    - Lower cost

# Georgetown-South Area Alternatives

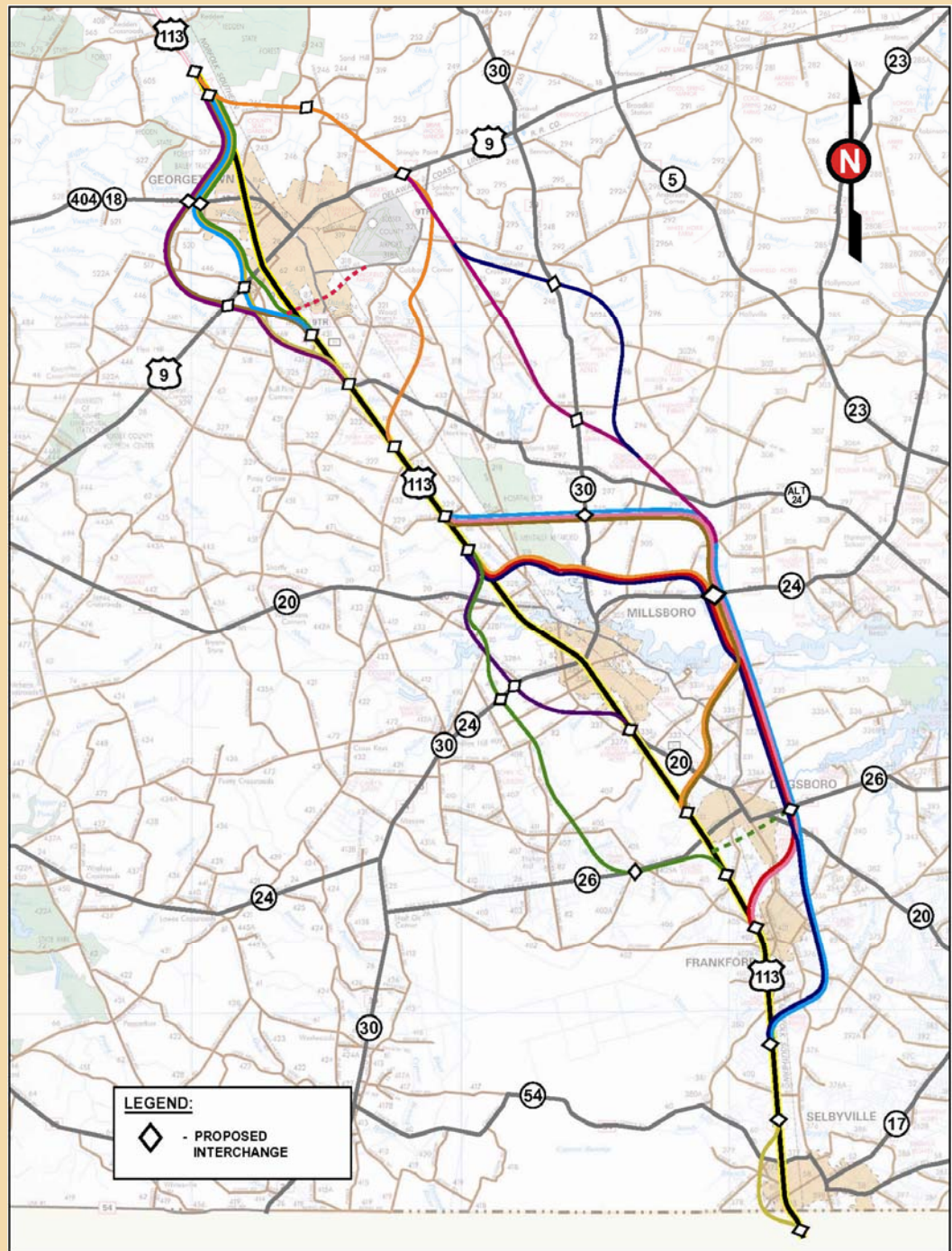


# Georgetown-South Area

## East-to-East Alternative

- **Georgetown Working Group Input**
  - No clear preference for an alternative
  - Generally support connection from US 113 to SR 9 on the east
  - East-to-East connection was suggested at the May 2006 meeting
- **Public Input**
  - Some business community support for on-alignment
  - No clear preference between east and west bypass alternatives
  - Need to address east-west traffic issues

# Georgetown-South Area Alternatives



# Georgetown-South Area East-to-East Alternative

## ■ Millsboro-South Working Group Input

- Favor longest east bypass alternative
- Oppose on-alignment alternative
- Some opposition to west bypass alternatives
- Need to address east-west traffic issues
- Favor connection from US 113 to SR 24
- Favor realignment of SR 26
- Favor Selbyville bypass

## ■ Public Input

- Mixed views about on-alignment (though there has been some strong opposition)
- Limited support for east and west bypass alternatives
- More opposition to west than east bypass alternatives
- Concern for east-west traffic issues
- Concern about relocation of SR 54 north and east of Selbyville
- Support for either west bypass or on-alignment in Selbyville



# Georgetown-South Area East-to-East Alternative

## Natural Resources – Field Observations

### ■ Forest

- Some areas evident on the aerial photo have been recently logged, including one during a site visit
- Loblolly pine - hardwood association of varying maturity
- Stands from 7 to 50 years old; understory primarily hollies and blueberry, typically sparse

### ■ Wetlands

- Upstream crossings of Cow Bridge Branch (i.e. East-to-East Alternatives) generally have lower quality wetlands; downstream crossings (i.e. Millsboro East Alternatives) generally have higher quality wetlands
- Field verification of wetlands is ongoing

# Georgetown-South Area East-to-East Alternatives

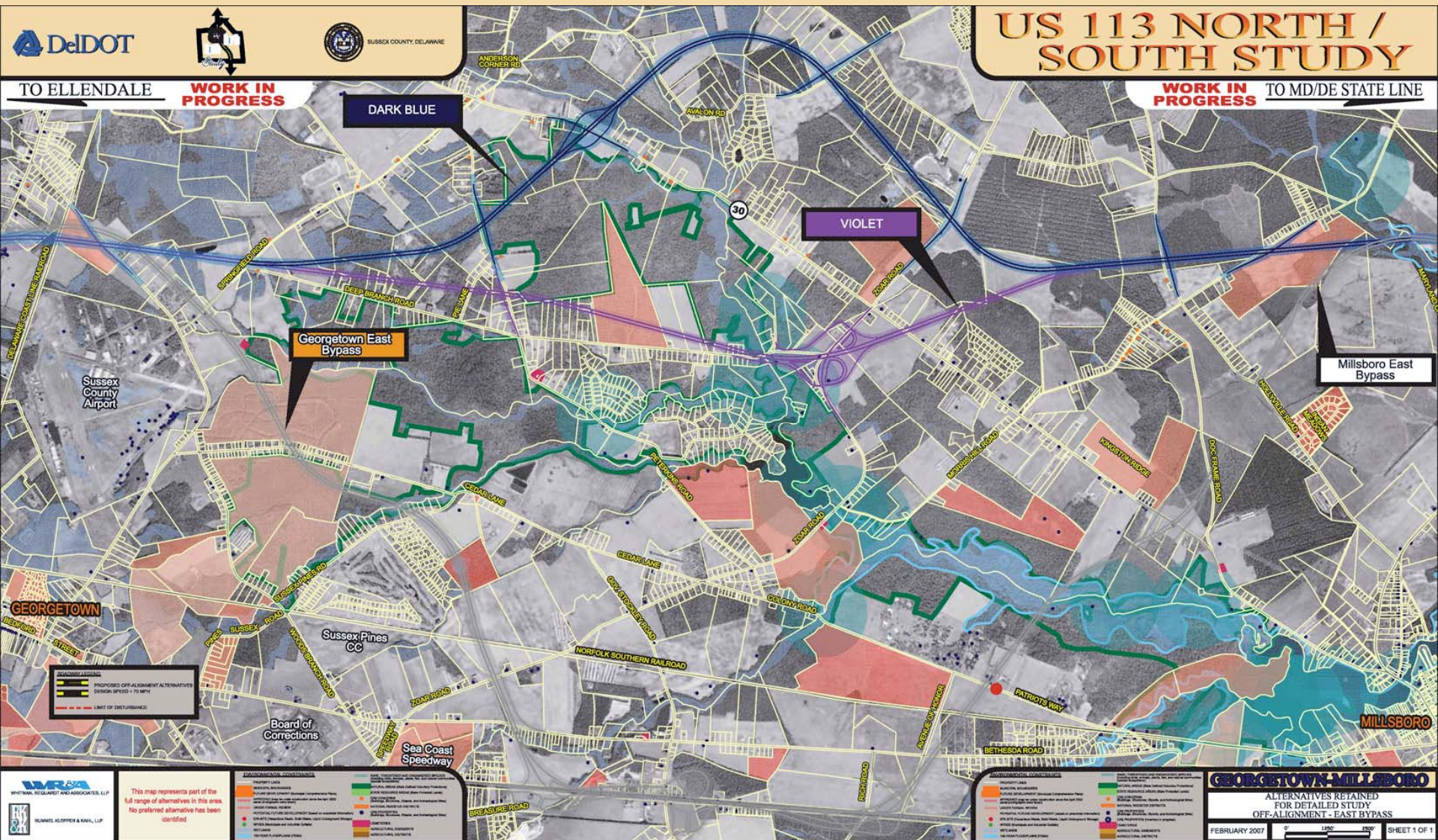
|                                                 | Existing East Bypass Alternatives |           |       | Dark Blue | Violet |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|--------|
|                                                 | Georgetown                        | Millsboro | Total |           |        |
| <b>Wetlands and Waters of the US</b>            |                                   |           |       |           |        |
| Wetlands (acres)                                | 9                                 | 8         | 17    | 18        | 15     |
| Waters of the US (linear feet)                  | TBD                               | TBD       | TBD   | TBD       | TBD    |
| <b>Cultural Resources</b>                       |                                   |           |       |           |        |
| Number of properties                            | 35                                | 31        | 66    | 42        | TBD    |
| <b>Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species</b>  |                                   |           |       |           |        |
| Potential RTE Areas (acres)                     | TBD                               | TBD       | TBD   | TBD       | TBD    |
| <b>Other Considerations</b>                     |                                   |           |       |           |        |
| Natural areas (acres)                           | TBD                               | TBD       | TBD   | 36        | 11     |
| State resource areas (acres)                    | TBD                               | TBD       | TBD   | 55        | 30     |
| Agricultural districts (ten year)               | 5                                 | 0         | 5     | 0         | 0      |
| (acres within properties)                       | 32                                | 0         | 32    | 0         | 0      |
| Agricultural Preservation Easements (permanent) | 0                                 | 0         | 0     | 4         | 3      |
| (acres within properties)                       | 0                                 | 0         | 0     | 21        | 21     |
| Forestlands (acres)                             | 50                                | 109       | 159   | 197       | 150    |
| State Forest Lands                              | TBD                               | TBD       | TBD   | TBD       | TBD    |
| Number of Cemeteries                            | 2                                 | 3         | 5     | 1         | 0      |
| <b>Properties</b>                               |                                   |           |       |           |        |
| Properties affected (numbers of)                | 79                                | 38        | 117   | 120       | 140    |
| Properties affected (total acres)               | TBD                               | TBD       | TBD   | TBD       | TBD    |
| Denial of access                                | 37                                | 11        | 48    | 23        | 31     |
| <b>Engineering</b>                              |                                   |           |       |           |        |
| Length (miles)                                  | 6.84                              | 4.95      | 11.79 | 9.38      | 8.62   |

# **Georgetown-South Area East-to-East Alternative**

## **Natural Resources and Other Considerations**

- 20-30% reduction in length, resulting in decreased land disturbance and cost
- East-to-east wetland crossings do not have the same high value as the Millsboro-South east bypass alternatives
- Acreage of wetland impacts is comparable to original bypass alternatives
- Acreage of forest impacts is comparable to original bypass alternatives
- 35-50% reduction in relocations
- Other impacts are being calculated

# Georgetown-South Area – East-to-East



# Georgetown-South Area East-to-East Alternative

## Cultural Resources

- Some evaluations have been submitted to SHPO for initial review; others will be submitted in March
  - Approximately 30 architectural properties will be added to the current 800+ in the Georgetown-South Area
- Based on initial consultant field review, direct impacts to architectural properties that may be National Register eligible have been avoided with the current alignments
- Field review with SHPO is anticipated in February
- Modifications, if necessary, to avoid direct impacts to National Register eligible architectural properties will be considered at that time

# Georgetown-South Area

## East-to-East Alternative – Summary

### ■ Public/Working Group views :

- East-to-East connection was suggested at the last Georgetown Working Group meeting.
- Georgetown Working Group has indicated no clear preference for any particular alternative.
- Georgetown public has indicated no clear preference for any particular alternative.
- All areas want east-west traffic addressed.
- East-to-East alternative provides some opportunity to address east-west traffic issues.
- Millsboro-South Working Group favors the longest east alternative and opposes the on-alignment and west alternatives.
- Millsboro public has limited support for east or west, with more opposition to west than east.
- Compares favorably with respect to natural environmental impacts.

# Georgetown-South Area

## East-to-East Alternative – Summary

- Potential advantages of East-to-East alternatives:
  - Eliminates impact to Cow Bridge Branch adjacent to Stockley Center.
  - Less cost due to shorter length of new alignment.
  - Avoids impacts to Georgetown's spray irrigation facilities.
  - Avoids Golf Village/Woods at Walls Creek developments.
- Potential disadvantages of East-to-East alternatives:
  - Adds another alternative that will require additional detailed evaluation.
  - Increases length of segment needed to be built to be operational.
  - Livable Delaware impacts with interchange on SR 30 – State Strategies
- What are your thoughts?

# Schedule

Our goal is to identify a recommended preferred alternative, and circulate a Draft Environmental Impact Statement containing that alternative, in November 2007.

# Schedule

| Milford Area |                                                                                          | Georgetown-South Area |                                                                                        |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Agencies     | Working Groups/Workshops                                                                 | Agencies              | Working Groups/Workshops                                                               |
| December 12  |                                                                                          | December 12           |                                                                                        |
| January 11   |                                                                                          |                       |                                                                                        |
|              |                                                                                          | January 25            |                                                                                        |
|              | January 31 WG                                                                            |                       |                                                                                        |
|              |                                                                                          | February 8            | February 6 (Millsboro) and 8 (Georgetown) WGs                                          |
|              |                                                                                          | February 22           |                                                                                        |
|              | February 26 (Lincoln) and 27 (Milford) workshops to present update and brown alternative |                       |                                                                                        |
|              | March 7 WG                                                                               |                       |                                                                                        |
| March 14     |                                                                                          | March 14              | March 12 (Millsboro) and 15 (Georgetown) workshops to discuss east-to-east alternative |
|              | March 21 WG                                                                              |                       |                                                                                        |
|              |                                                                                          |                       | March 27 (Millsboro) and 29 (Georgetown) WGs                                           |
|              |                                                                                          | April 5               |                                                                                        |
|              | April 11 WG                                                                              |                       |                                                                                        |
|              |                                                                                          |                       | May 1 (Millsboro) and 3 (Georgetown) WGs                                               |
|              |                                                                                          | May 10                |                                                                                        |
|              |                                                                                          |                       | May 29 (Millsboro) and 31 (Georgetown) WGs                                             |
|              | June 11 and 12 public hearings                                                           | June 20               |                                                                                        |
|              |                                                                                          |                       | June 26 (Millsboro) and 28 (Georgetown) WGs                                            |

INITIATE recommended preferred alternative discussion  
 CONTINUE recommended preferred alternative discussion  
 END recommended preferred alternative discussion

# **Next Steps**

## **Georgetown Area Working Group Meeting Dates:**

- **Thursday, March 29**
- **Thursday, May 3**
- **Thursday, May 31**
- **Thursday, June 28**

# Next Steps

## Public Meeting Dates:

### ■ Public Workshops

- Monday, March 12, Millsboro
- Thursday, March 15, Georgetown

### ■ DEIS Public Hearings

- January 2008 (TBD)