

Public Hearing

Jessie Drive Phase 1 Final Design
and Sweetgum Access Alternative
February 9, 2021





Presentation Highlights

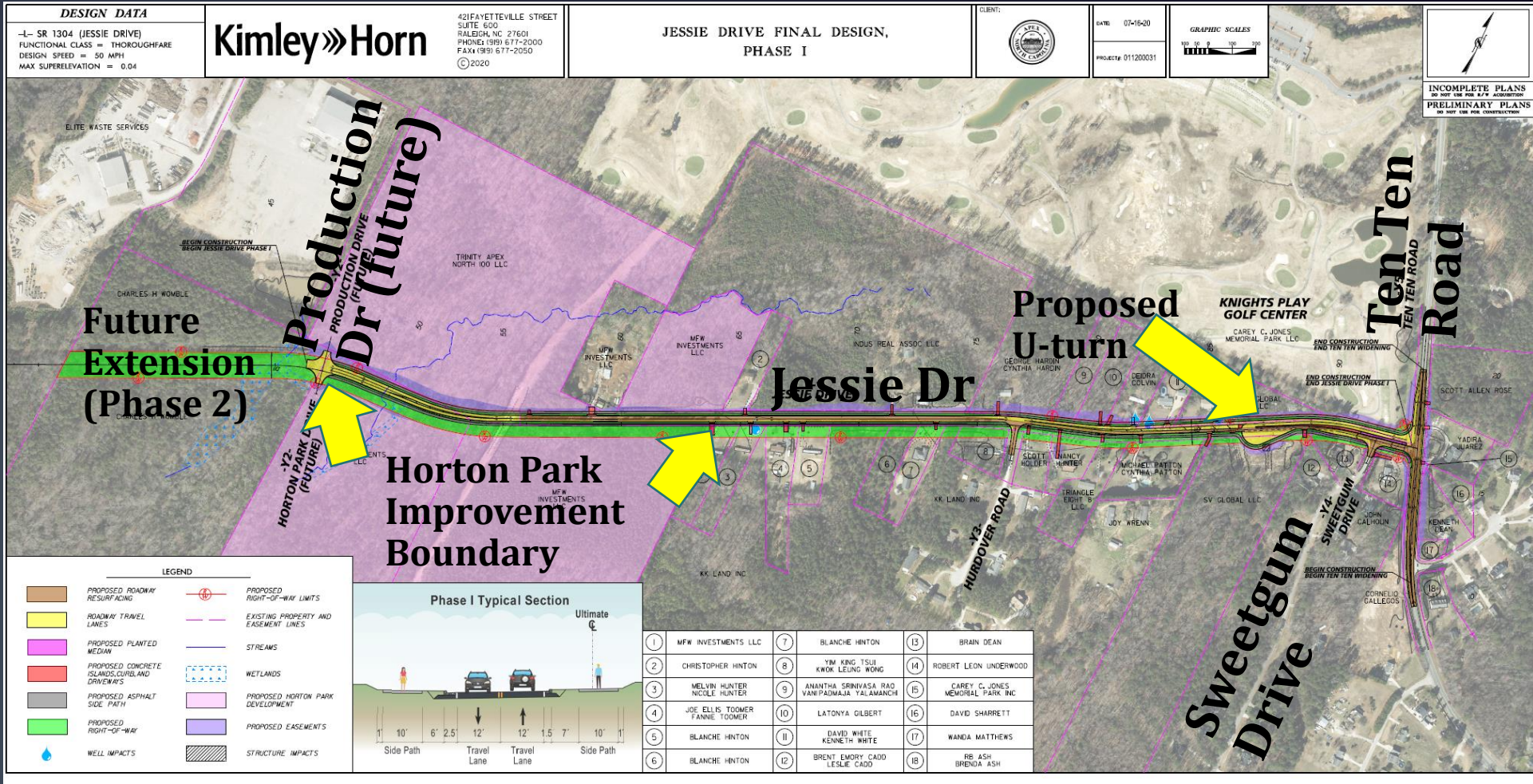
- **Review progress since the public meeting**
- **Highlight public feedback concerning access to Sweetgum Drive**
- **Discuss preliminary alternatives to address Sweetgum Drive comments**
- **Discuss preferred alternative and NCDOT recommendations**
- **Discuss proposed limits of 10-foot side paths and potential gap**
- **Request public input and Council action**



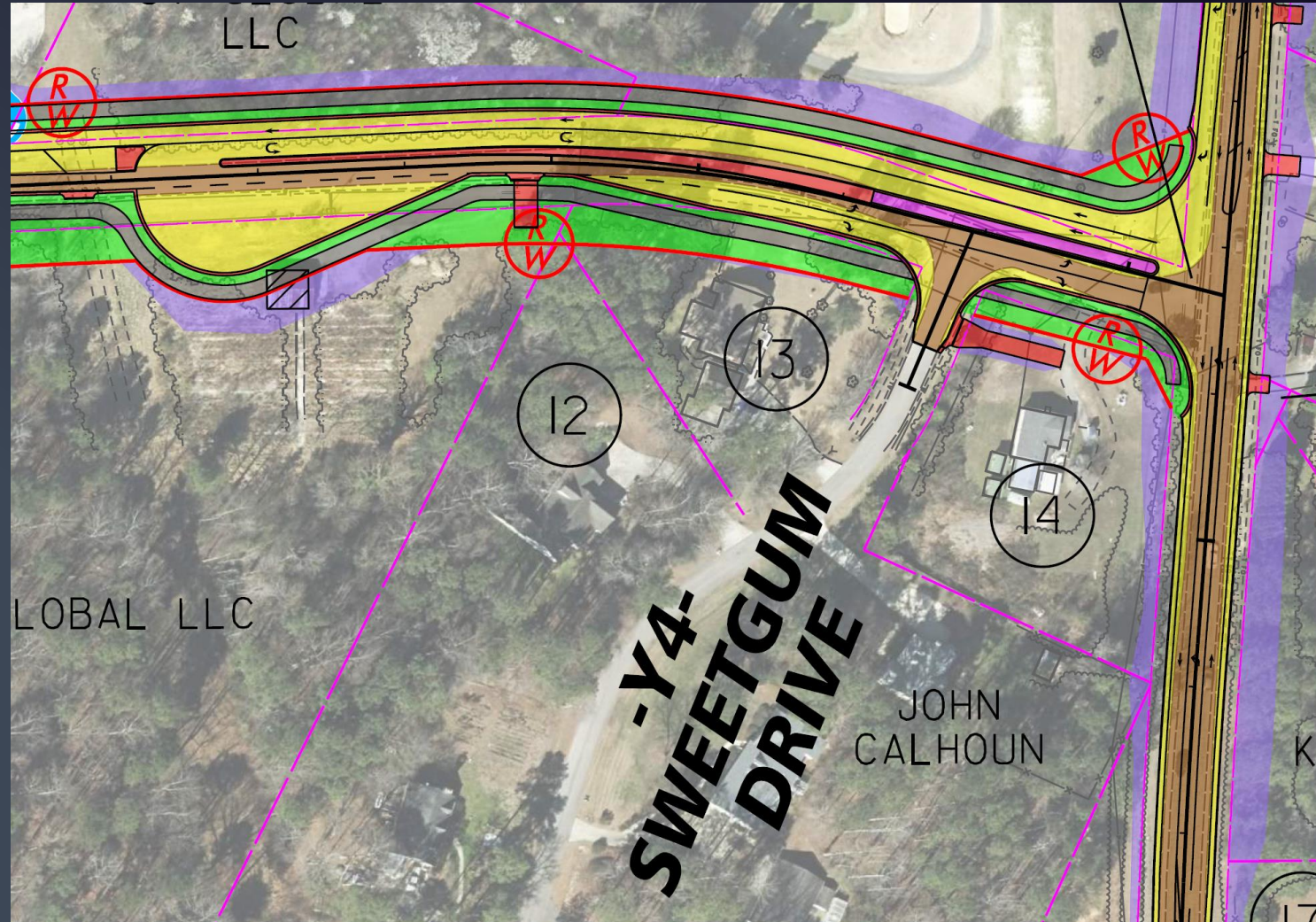
Timeline

- **May 6 & July 9 – 1st and 2nd Plan Review Submittals**
- **Jul 15 – Public Workshop**
- **Jul 28 – 3rd Plan Review Submittal**
- **Sept 18 – Apex staff & NCDOT discuss Sweetgum Dr options**
- **Oct 16 – Town staff review Sweetgum Dr access alternatives**
- **Oct 29 – Preferred alternative sent to NCDOT for input**
- **Dec 10 – NCDOT comments received on the alternative**
- **Dec 14 – 4th Plan Review Submittal (65% plans)**

Jessie Drive Phase 1 Public Meeting Map



Sweetgum Drive (RIR0 + U-turns)





Resident comments & concerns

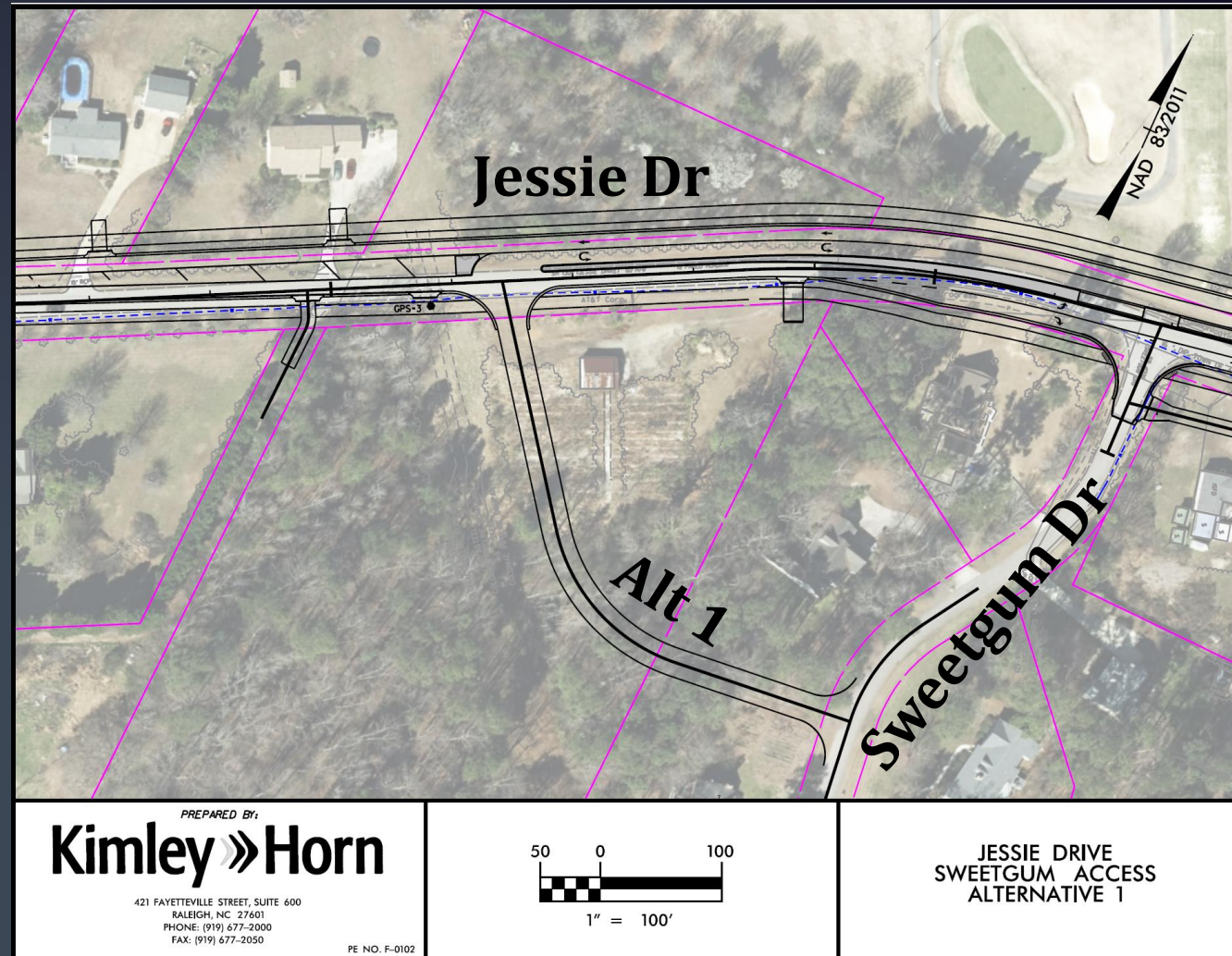
- **No direct lefts in or out: Sweetgum Dr residents have to use the proposed U-turn bulb-out and U-turn at Ten Ten Rd**
- **Traffic waiting at Ten Ten Rd may be blocking Sweetgum Dr at peak times due to short distance and added traffic**
- **School bus operations and emergency access**
- **Sweetgum Drive has no other access (>1,700' cul-de-sac) so consider an alternative connection to Sweetgum Dr for left turn access**
- **Walking along & crossing Jessie Drive on foot**



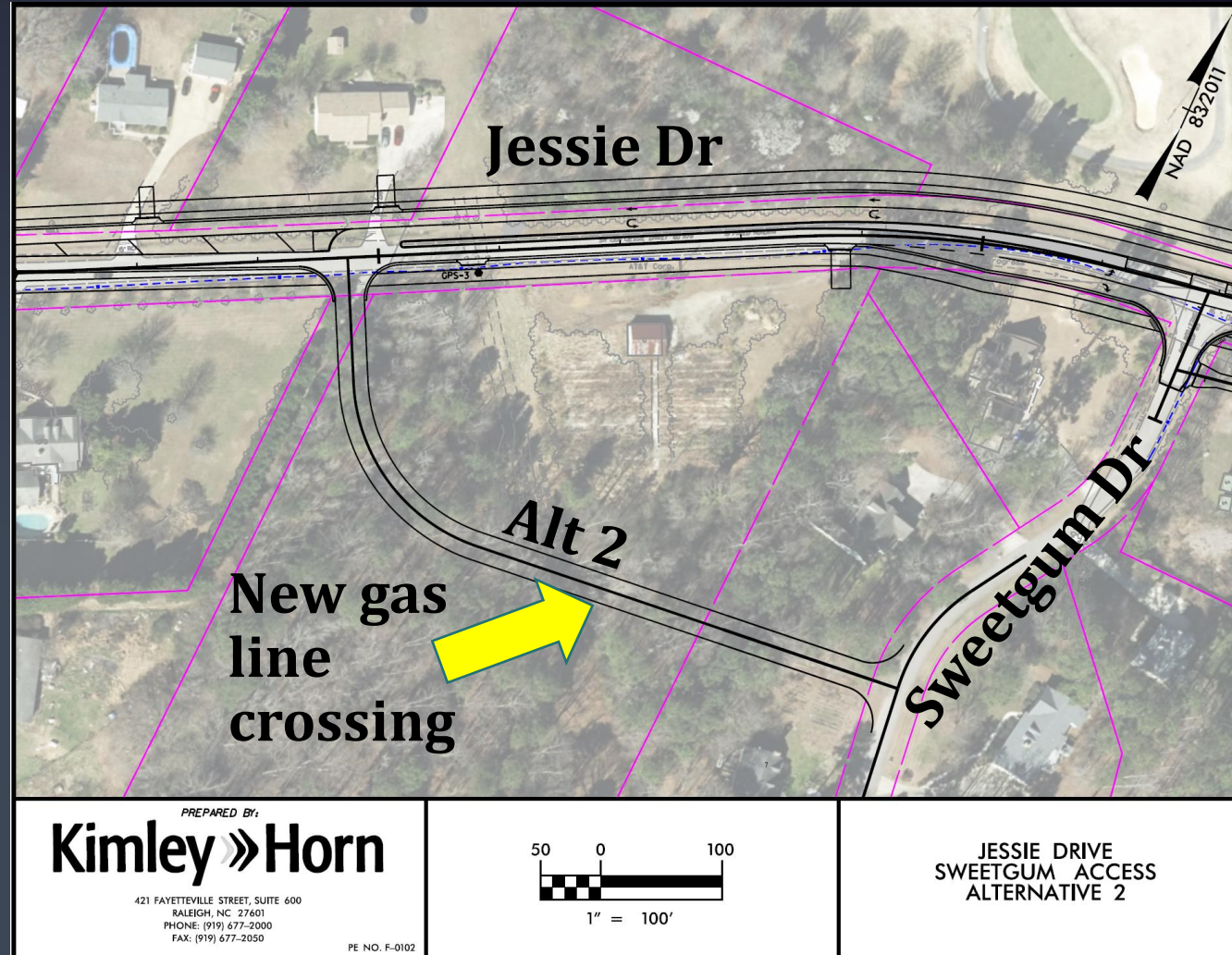
Preliminary Alternatives

- **New access road from Sweetgum Dr to Jessie Dr: two versions, with and without additional crossing of gas line corridor**
- **New access road from Sweetgum Dr to Ten Ten Rd: requires additional improvements on Ten Ten Rd but would eventually become right-in/right-out, plus concerns with traffic congestion and no possibility of a traffic signal**

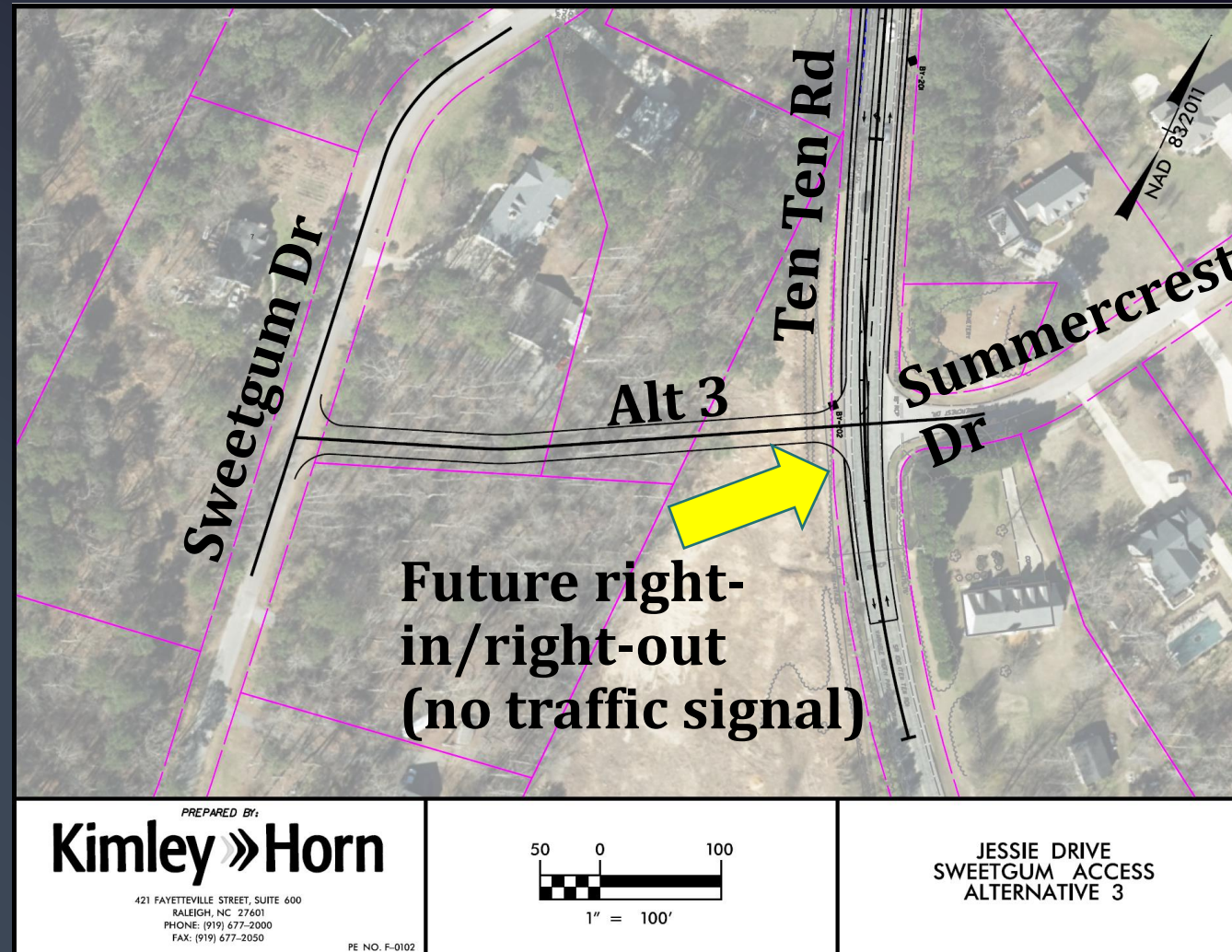
Preliminary Access Alternative 1



Preliminary Access Alternative 2



Preliminary Access Alternative 3





Preferred Access Alternative

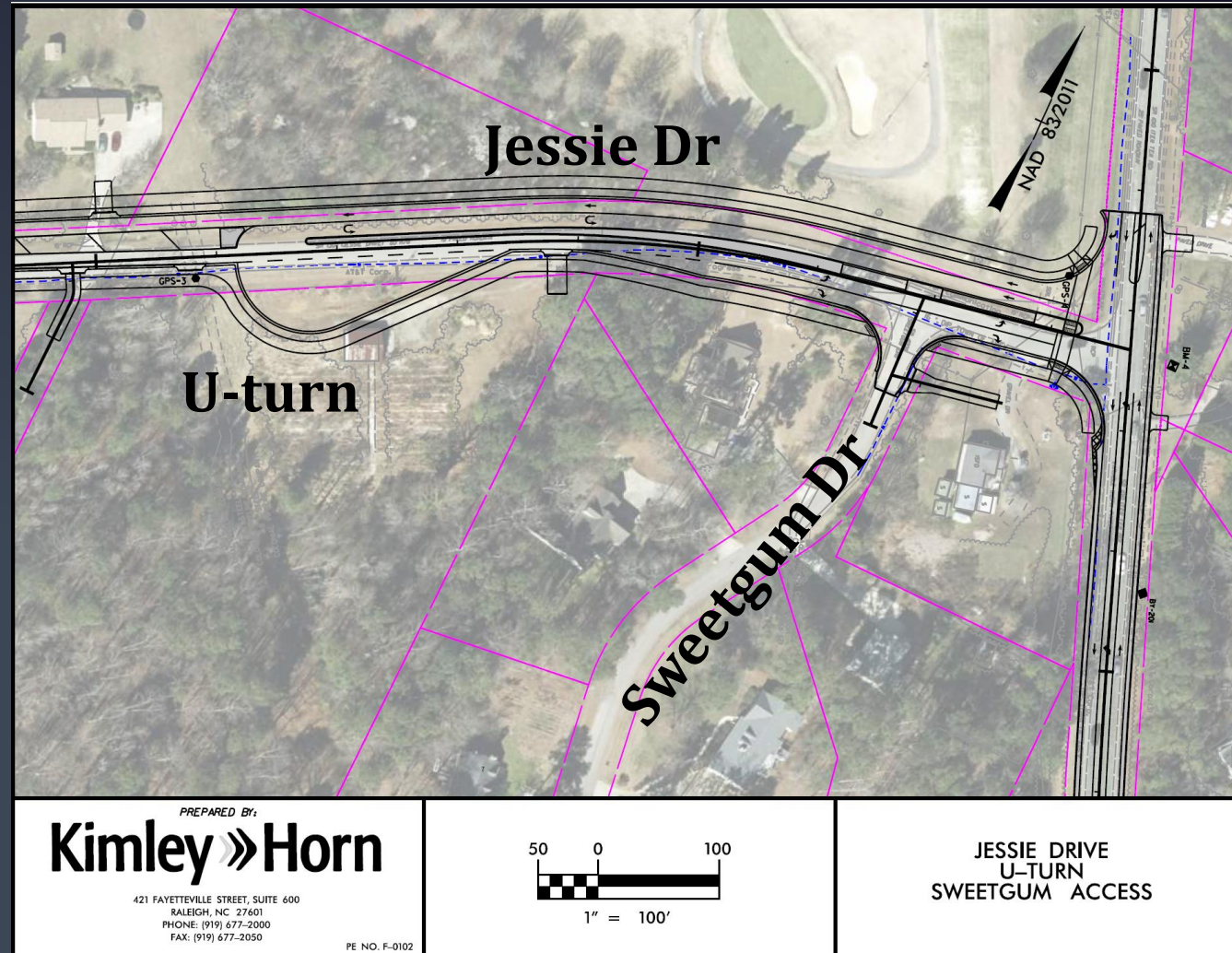
- **Apex staff recommend Alternative 1, with a full-movement intersection where it connects to Jessie Drive**
- **AFD recommends Alternative 1 (vs. U-turn) for emergency access to Sweetgum Drive**
- **Proposed modified Alternative 1 “Sweetgum Access Alternative” to NCDOT for consideration**



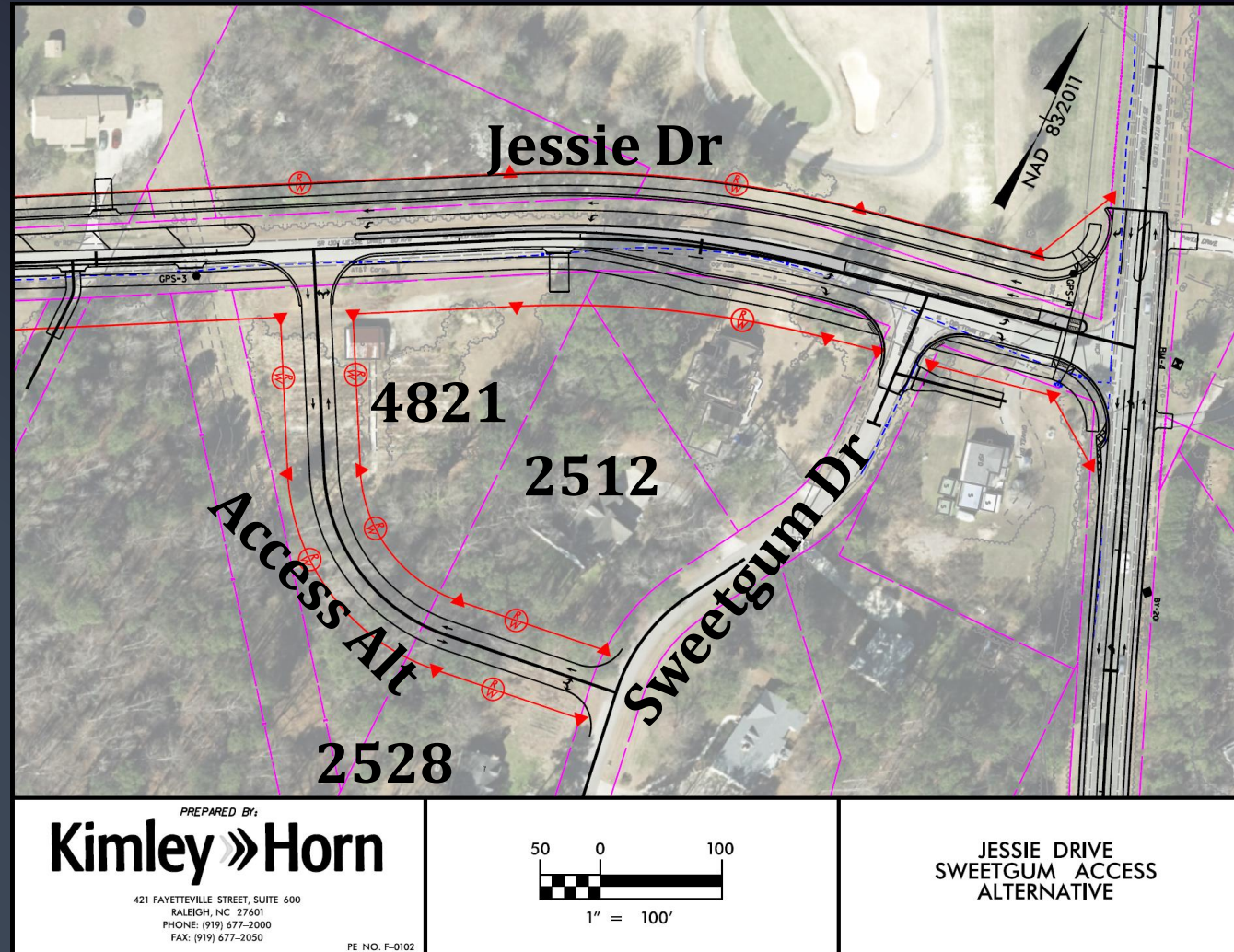
NCDOT comments

- **NCDOT prefers the Sweetgum Access Alternative as presented compared to the U-turn**
- **Recommend a 90-degree tie-in of Sweetgum Access Alternative to Jessie Drive for improved alignment**
- **Recommend severing the connection of Sweetgum Drive at Jessie Drive, but not required for Phase 1 plan. Noted concerns about later extension to NC 55 increasing traffic volumes at Ten Ten Rd, potentially blocking Sweetgum Drive.**

U-turn bulb-out (current plan)



Sweetgum Access Alternative (proposed)

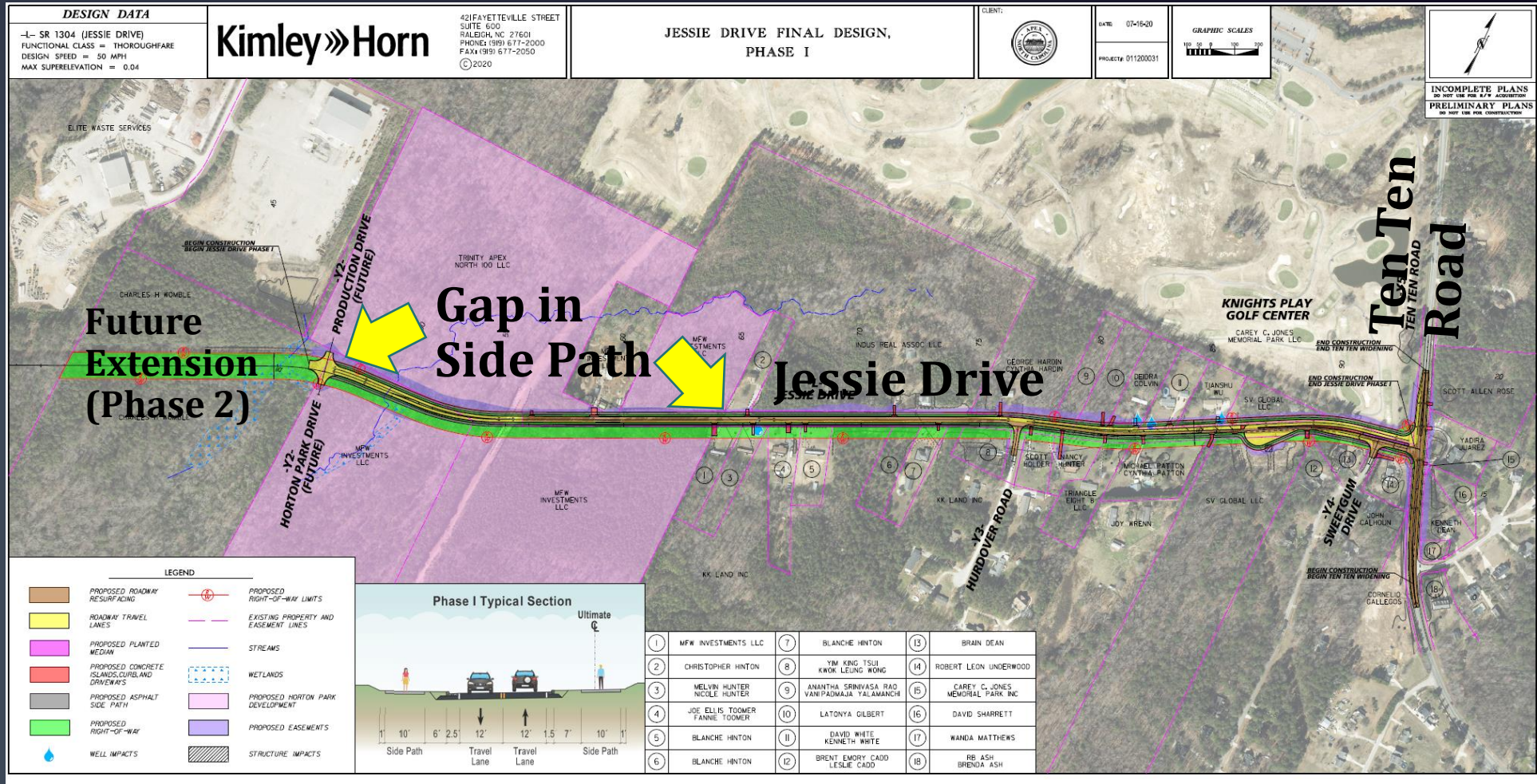




10-foot Side Paths

- **Town's roadway plan includes 10-foot side paths on both sides of Jessie Dr**
- **Horton Park portion of Jessie Dr road improvements and extension includes 10-foot side path on south side of Jessie Dr only**
- **With the Town's roadway improvements ending at Horton park, it would leave a 1,700-foot gap in side path on the north side, while contiguous to Ten Ten Rd on south side**

10-foot Side Path





Public Outreach

- **Notices concerning Sweetgum Rd access were mailed/e-mailed the first week of January (from emails received, workshop attendees, survey respondents, and parcel owners along Sweetgum Drive and along the proposed access road)**
- **The summary and responses to public comments from earlier outreach efforts were published to the Town's website in January following the mailing/e-mailing of notices**



Next Steps – Sweetgum Access Alternative

- **Requesting public input and possible motion:**
 - **Recommend modifying Jessie Drive Phase 1 final design plans to remove the proposed U-turn bulb-out and include the Sweetgum Access Alternative while keeping Sweetgum Drive connected to Jessie Drive as a right-in/right-out access as presented**
- **Current estimated construction cost of Phase 1 with U-turn \$3.7M (new access adds \$300,000) plus right of way acquisition**
- **Alternatively, staff will move forward with the U-turn bulb-out if no changes to are recommended by Council, or as otherwise directed**



Next Steps – 10-foot Side Path

- **Requesting public input and possible motion:**
 - Recommend continuing the 10-foot side path westward along the north side of Jessie Drive in the Phase 1 final design plans to the intersection at future Production Dr/Horton Park Dr**
- **Current estimated construction cost of additional side path is \$500,000 plus right of way acquisition**
- **Alternatively, staff will not extend the current limits of side path in Jessie Drive Phase 1 and the gap will remain until constructed as future development occurs or as part of Jessie Drive Phase 2**