

STAFF REPORT

Transportation Plan Amendments

May 11, 2021 Town Council Meeting



The Thoroughfare and Collector Street Plan map (last amended March 25, 2021) represents a network of current and future facilities that provide guidance on what is likely to be suitable for long term growth and connectivity. The plan does not require a schedule for implementation nor does it set aside funding for improvements. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider proposed amendments to the network of planned thoroughfare and collector streets in order to formulate a decision.

The proposed amendments are related to the network of collector and connector streets in the vicinity of Jessie Drive. The amendments would revise the planned roadway network as shown in Figure 1.

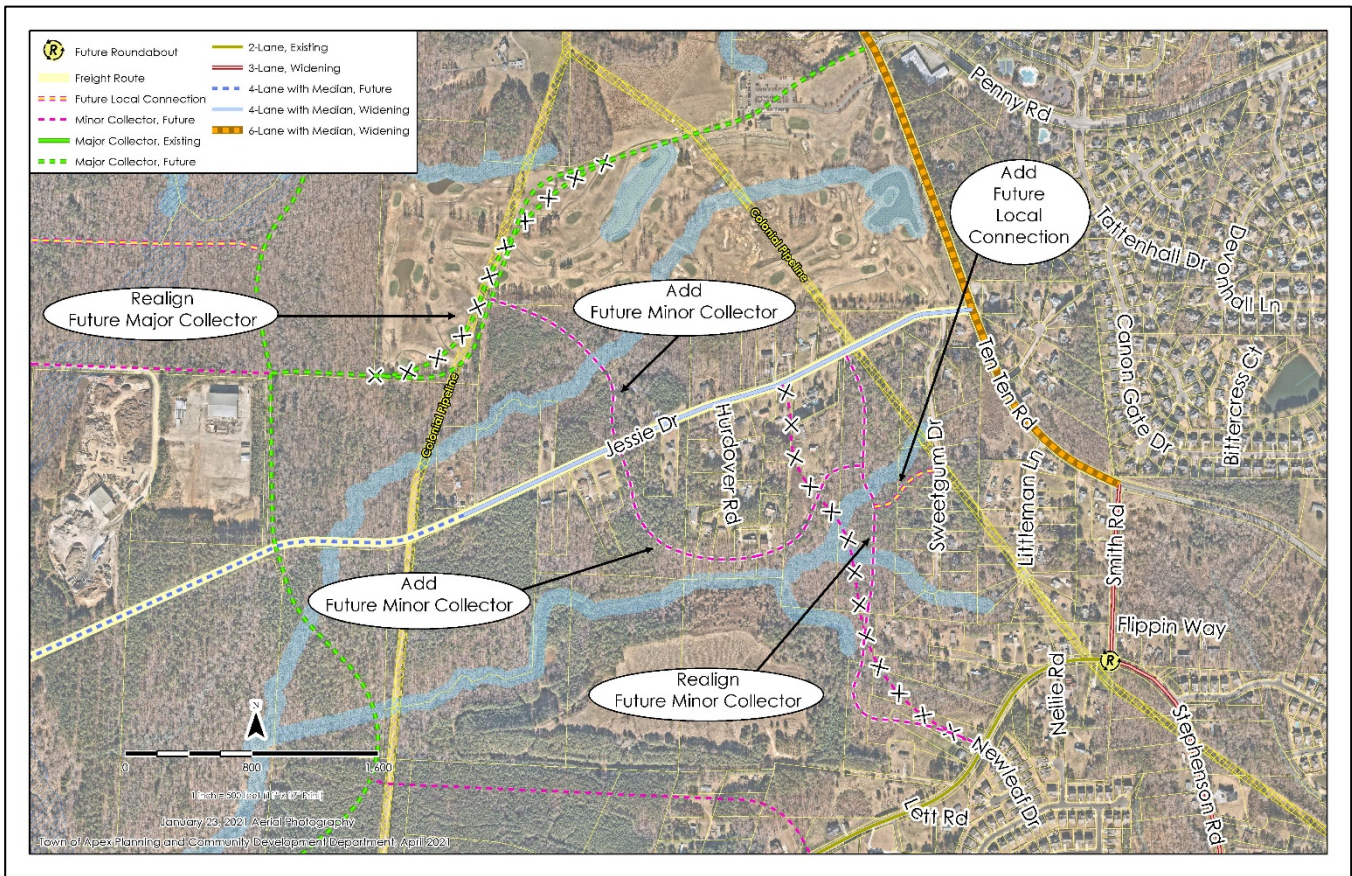


Figure 1. Proposed amendments to the Thoroughfare and Collector Street Plan map

During the Town Council public hearing held to review design alternatives for Phase I of Jessie Drive, there was substantial discussion regarding the need to plan for future connectivity to Sweetgum Drive. Town Council directed staff to review the Town’s Thoroughfare and Collector Street Plan map and consider identifying future roadway connections that could provide additional points of egress from Sweetgum Drive in addition to the existing connection at Jessie Drive.

Based on this direction and review, staff identified several recommendations to the network of streets in the vicinity of Jessie Drive. The purpose of these amendments is to prepare for future connectivity should this area experience additional development or redevelopment in the future:

- (1) Realign future north/south Minor Collector street between Jessie Drive and Smith Road – The revised alignment avoids impacts to properties that are currently developed, minimizes stream impacts, and avoids crossing the Colonial Pipeline. The proposed u-turn bulb associated with the Phase I Final Design of Jessie Drive would need to be adjusted in the future if the north/south Minor Collector street is aligned as proposed.
- (2) Add future Local Connection between the Minor Collector Street and Sweetgum Drive – The additional connection supports the request to plan for future connectivity to Sweetgum Drive, providing an additional point of ingress and egress. The alignment avoids crossing the Colonial Pipeline, minimizes stream impacts, and avoids properties currently occupied by residential dwelling units.
- (3) Add future Minor Collector street between future Major Collector street north of Jessie Drive and future north/south Minor Collector Street south of Jessie Drive – The additional collector street addresses the need for future connectivity. It is aligned to avoid impacts to existing dwelling units, minimize stream impacts, and avoid crossing the Colonial Pipeline. The future Minor Collector street is proposed to curve toward the future north/south Minor Collector street instead of extending toward the south due to the presence of a landfill.
- (4) Realign future Major Collector street north of Jessie Drive on the property occupied by Knight’s Play Golf Center – this shift is recommended to avoid linear impacts to the Colonial Pipeline.

There are no funded projects to complete construction of the future collector streets and connector streets in the vicinity of Jessie Drive. It is anticipated that these roadways would be constructed as part of future development or redevelopment. Improvement and extension of Jessie Drive, between Production Drive and Ten Ten Road, are anticipated by private development and a Town project proposed in the Capital Improvement Program.

Staff Recommendation:

Planning staff recommend supporting the proposed amendments to the Thoroughfare and Collector Street Plan map. The proposed amendments were reviewed with staff from Public Works and Transportation, Fire, and Police. Representative staff indicated support for the proposed amendments.

Planning Board Recommendation:

The Planning Board will consider the proposed amendments during a public hearing on May 10, 2021. The Planning Board recommendation will be shared during the Town Council meeting.