PROCESS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)

Estimated time frame for Tienken Road

RCOC begins preparation of EA

Project Development Activities:
--- Identify project purpose and need
--- Develop and Examine Alternatives (3 lane, 5 lane, 4 lane boulevard, No Build)
--- Coordinate with Federal and State agencies (FHWA, MDOT, SHPO, DNR, DOI)
--- Consideration of Social, Economic and Environmental Impacts (traffic safety, travel patterns, delays, social justice, ROW impacts, noise impacts, air quality, water quality, wetland and floodplain impacts, historic features and resources, threatened and endangered species)
--- Public Information Meetings (with input from the public, special concerns groups, local community, including the City's presence on the steering committee
--- Avoid/ Minimize/ Mitigate Impacts

July 7th or 8th, 2009

2 to 4 Months

RCOC addresses MDOT /FHWA comments, and completes EA and submits to FHWA for approval

Draft EA Reviewed by MDOT and FHWA

EA Approved / Signed by FHWA

1 Month

Notice of Public Meeting and Availability of EA (EA must be available a minimum of 15 days)

RCOC conducts Formal Public Meeting:
--- Information and comments collected
--- No decisions made

2 to 3 Months

RCOC makes project recommendation and requests Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) from FHWA

FHWA reviews RCOC recommendation, considering EA and Public Meeting comments and any other comments/concerns

If FHWA concurs with RCOC project recommendation they issue a FONSI

Project can now proceed to Final Design, ROW and Construction