

58 Update

News & Views on the Laurel Fork Project

Branch Highways, Inc. Design-Build Contractor



Issue 3: December 2014



We're Halfway There.

Branch Highways has completed 50 percent of the Laurel Fork Rt. 58 project, widening 8.2 miles in Carroll, Floyd and Patrick Counties. “The team met all the construction goals this year, and we look forward to resuming work in the spring,” said Pete Copes, General Superintendent.

Traffic now is using new roads in more than half the area. There is one detour of about one-half mile in the Torry Creek section. “We appreciate the understanding and patience from the residents of the area during the construction season,” said Copes.

“We have an excellent team that is committed to efficient construction activity,” he added. Copes credits the contributions of key subcontractors,



including D. L. Harrell Construction of Meadows of Dan, Steve Martin’s Trenching of Martinsville, Mountain Creek of Catawba, NC, Sandra’s Marking Company of Buchanan, Adams Construction of Roanoke, and Wright Brothers of Charleston, TN. These companies and others on the team employ hundreds of workers who live in Carroll, Floyd and Patrick Counties.

Facts & Figures

- Excavated 1,275,000 cubic meters
- Laid 54,000 metric tons of aggregate
- Laid 52,163 metric tons of asphalt
- Installed 10,250 meters of pipe
- Began reconstructing the existing road

The Vision of Super 58

More than 25 years ago, the Virginia General Assembly established the Route 58 Corridor Development Program to help strengthen the economy of southside and southwest Virginia. The goal is to create a four-lane highway across southern Virginia from the Port of Virginia at Hampton Roads to Interstate 77 and eventually to Interstate 81 and the coalfields.

The last section of the 680-mile project is the 36 miles between Hillsville and Stuart, which is divided into six

segments. Cooked Oak, Vesta and Lover’s Leap—the remaining segments—total approximately 20 miles.

The 58 project is part of a Comprehensive Agreement between VDOT and Branch Highways under Virginia’s Public Private Transportation Act (PPTA), which allows private companies to propose innovative solutions for design, construction, financing and operation of



transportation improvements.

Economic development, safety, connectivity and reduced traffic congestion are benefits to the Commonwealth of completing Route 58.



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Promotions

Three Branch Highway employees working on the Rt. 58 project have been promoted:

Matt White now is Crew Chief for the Maintenance of Traffic and Erosion control. That means now he is in charge of managing the flow of traffic during construction. He is from Austinville and joined Branch seven years ago.



Matt King is the Crew Chief of GPS. Matt is from Floyd County and has five years' experience with Branch.



Dustin Faulkner joined Branch one year ago and now is a Project Engineer. A Floyd native, Dustin is continuing his education through the Branch Education program while working full time.



Questions/comments

We hope you will contact us if you have questions or comments about the Laurel Fork Rt. 58 project.

Pete Copes, General Superintendent, leads the Branch team. Contact him at petec@branchhighways.com or 276 398-2120.

If you have questions or comments for VDOT, contact **Jason Bond** at Jason.bond@vdot.virginia.gov or 540 387-5493.