



US 301 Tiger Grant Project: Frequently Asked Questions



We are keeping a list of questions we hear from the community and will continue to expand this list. Please contact rlentz@wilsonnc.org if we haven't yet answered your question.

Q: CAN THE MONEY BE TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER PROJECT?

A: No, we cannot transfer the TIGER funding to another project. We are bound to the project that was submitted and awarded. The TIGER grant is very competitive and we cannot make changes that could jeopardize the grant contract. The application we submitted in 2015 was based on input from several community meetings and years of conversation about improvements needed on 301.

Q: DID THE CITY OF WILSON RECEIVE THE FULL REQUESTED GRANT?

A: No, the TIGER grant covers a little more than half of what we needed to complete the full project. The City will contribute about 20 percent of the project cost and we are working to obtain additional funding from the North Carolina DOT.

Q: WHAT IS BEING DONE TO FILL THE FUNDING GAP?

A: Once the grant award was announced, the City began the process of requesting State transportation dollars to fill the nearly \$7 million dollar funding gap. Presently, two different requests have been made to the State DOT for funding. Rest assured we are working hard to secure the funding for the full project. The state's infrastructure needs are extensive if you consider the entire state and we are working diligently to complete the full project.

Q: WHEN DOES THE PROJECT HAVE TO BE COMPLETED?

A: The project must be complete and all grant funds disbursed by September 30, 2022.

Q: WHEN CAN THE PROJECT START?

A: The project has already officially started, even though you can't see it on the ground. We have already assembled the project team and are completing the required federal grant agreement with the Federal Highway Administration. We will continue to work on all of the pre-construction work. Actual construction on the ground may not be seen for a few more years.



“ We see the investment in this section of 301 as a precursor to future development in east Wilson. It's a long-range project that will improve the safety along this important corridor. Additionally, securing a highly-competitive federal grant it is a tremendous opportunity for Wilson as a testament to our transportation and economic development planning. ”

- Rodger Lentz, Chief Planning and Development Officer