



**RINKER MATERIALS CUSTOMIZED REINFORCED CONCRETE PIPE
CARRIES LOAD FOR NEW U.S. 64 ASHEBORO BYPASS**

ASHEBORO, N.C. (April 7, 2021) – The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) recently completed the new southern bypass of U.S. 64 in Asheboro, which began in 2015. Designed to help reduce congestion, streamline traffic flow, and improve safety for a better travel experience in the region, the U.S. 64 Asheboro Bypass also serves as a connector to the North Carolina Zoo. Critical to providing the best possible driving conditions on the new 14.6-mile, four-lane highway is a 117,762 linear foot stormwater management system built with reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) from Rinker Materials®.

“The successful completion of a project of this magnitude can only be accomplished with a coordinated effort by all parties involved,” said NCDOT Division 8 Engineer Brandon Jones. “NCDOT, Asheboro Bypass Constructors LLC, the N.C. Zoo, the City of Asheboro and Randolph County each provided the vision and fortitude that involved years of planning and design followed by over four years of construction.”

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The robust drainage system will help prevent problematic flooding on U.S. 64 between Stutts Road in the West and Dewey Road on the East as well as the six interchanges including the roundabout entrance to the 1.7-mile Zoo Connector. Engineered by Rummel, Klepper & Kahl and installed by Wright Brothers Construction Company, the stormwater management system specified nearly 1,900 linear feet of direct design RCP to accommodate excessive loads at fill depths of up to 75 feet. In addition to these custom produced components, the remaining 115,862 linear feet of stormwater pipe for this project features a wide variety of Class 3, Class 4 and Class 5 RCP ranging in diameter from 15” to 72”.

“Rinker was able to supply the project with no quality issues and meet the production needs of the fast-paced construction needs. Everyone throughout the entire Rinker organization was great to deal with, all the way from Brian Carter, the NC General Manager, to Lynn Green, the dispatcher in their Thomasville plant. They made sure our needs were met and kept the pipe rolling in,” exclaimed Michael Prince, Construction Manager at Wright Brothers Construction Company, Inc.

One phase of the NCDOT's comprehensive plan to upgrade the U.S. 64 and N.C. 49 corridors from Statesville to Raleigh and from Charlotte to Raleigh, respectively, the \$264 million Asheboro Bypass also includes 24 bridges, 19 box culverts, seven grade crossings and a 1,600-foot long sound barrier. More than eight million cubic yards of earth and rock were excavated by Wright Brothers Construction to complete the project, which required thousands of cubic yards of concrete, tons of asphalt and millions of pounds of steel. One of 44 locations considered, the final U.S. 64 Asheboro Bypass path was selected because it was least disruptive to residents, businesses, and the environment.

“U.S. 64 is a vital corridor for the movement of people and goods throughout North Carolina,” said Lisa Mathis, the Division 8 representative on the North Carolina Board of Transportation. “The completion of this project provides high speed connectivity as well as enhanced access for the region’s top attraction – the N.C. Zoo.”

Added Asheboro Mayor David Smith, “Now visitors can get there rapidly and safely,” Smith said. “The N.C. Zoo is a great place to visit as the North American animals are moving and active, and families can enjoy the great Piedmont landscape and the world-class animal exhibits all while safely socially distanced.”