



# **The Tool Shed, Inc.**

**Construction • Industrial • Automotive • Woodworking**

March 26, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

I'm writing to you because I know that you are concerned for the small businesses in our state. You were part of a family business and are familiar with the multitude of obstacles entrepreneurs face in today's business climate.

My name is Nils Lindbloom and I am the president of The Tool Shed, Inc. located at 901 Poinsett Highway in Greenville, SC. We are a tool distributor focused on the professional contractor. We have been in business at this location since 1979 and currently employ eight people.

One of the most significant reasons for our longevity has been the accessibility that our location on Poinsett highway provides. Our customers are not pedestrians. Our business depends on vehicular traffic in the form of pick-up trucks with trailers, vans, box trucks and of course tractor trailers. Time is money to our clientele. They need to get here easily, park conveniently and exit back to the job with the least demand on their time.

Unfortunately, our business is now in jeopardy because of a proposed raised median being built in front of our location. This median has become an element of a Poinsett Highway revitalization project, sponsored by a coalition that includes the City of Greenville, Greenville County and the SCDOT. The median will prevent northbound customers from turning into our property and prevent customers from exiting left out of our property. The plan shows U-turns which our typical customer's vehicles would be unable to negotiate. This median would force our customers to be funneled off onto unfamiliar and difficult to navigate side streets. It is not enough to say "location, location, location" if one does not have "access, access, access."

Over our 37 years of business we have faced countless hurdles. We have survived recessions, governmental regulation, taxation and ever increasing competition. This proposed median is one more "barrier" to business, and one that we may not be able to overcome.

The Tool Shed has become a landmark in the area and has been an asset to the Poinsett corridor. Since 2008 I have spent approximately \$500,000 in additions and improvements to our facility to better serve our customers and to make our building more attractive. We have always been supportive of efforts to improve the Poinsett corridor, but the introduction of medians to the coalition's original concept will be to the detriment of existing businesses.

**901 Poinsett Highway • Greenville, SC 29609 • (864) 233-6185 • Fax (864) 271-6561**

For your review I have enclosed the original Poinsett corridor concept and an aerial photo of Greenville County's proposed plan of our section of Poinsett highway. As you can see, what was an attractive vision of what Poinsett Highway could be is now becoming our nightmare. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need more information.

I ask for your help in effecting the elimination or the altering of this proposed median in front of our property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nils W. Lindbloom III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nils" being the most prominent.

Nils W. Lindbloom III

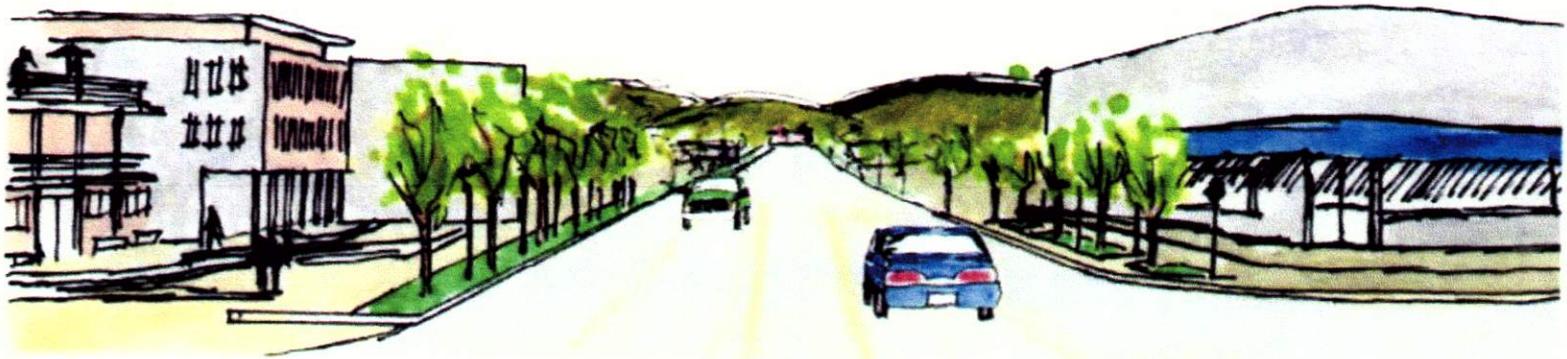
President

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**POINSETT CORRIDOR REVITALIZATION COALITION**

**A COLLABORATIVE VENTURE TO REVITALIZE THE POINSETT HIGHWAY CORRIDOR, THE GATEWAY BETWEEN DOWNTOWN GREENVILLE AND FURMAN UNIVERSITY, IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A VIBRANT ATMOSPHERE AND PICTURESQUE DRIVE CONDUCIVE TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THE CORRIDOR DESERVES**



**Tool Shed**

