

COUNTY OF MARLBORO

Jason K. Steen, *Chairman*
Marlboro County Council

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February 29, 2016

The Honorable Christy Hall
Secretary of Transportation
SC Department of Transportation
P. O. Box 191
Columbia, SC 29202

RE: Round-About on Highway 38 North in Bennettsville, SC

Dear Secretary Hall:

Marlboro County Council is concerned that the recently installed round-about on Highway 38 just North of Bennettsville is a hazard to trucks and other traffic in the area. As you may know, the county has an industrial park located within a few hundred feet of the round-about intersection. The truck traffic forced to use the round-about is therefore substantial. The round-about was constructed so small in width and with such a tight turn radius that truck traffic has difficulty making it through the intersection.

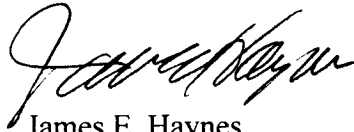
Tire track evidence at the round-about will show that trucks have run over both the inside and outside curbs as they travel around the circle. The circle is constructed such that a truck traveling either North or South and attempting to turn immediately onto Beauty Spot Road which intersects with Highway 38 will have to enter oncoming traffic lanes on the side road or run off the surface provided.

We feel that the round-about will not serve as a safety improvement as was intended but will actually be a hazard and will serve to damage economic opportunities in the county due to truck traffic attempting to avoid the intersection.

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We further understand that another round-about is planned just a few hundred yards south of this new round-about. We strongly urge a review of this plan so that we do not become even more of a hazard to truck traffic.

Sincerely,



James E. Haynes
Marlboro County Administrator

JEH:pmb

cc: ✓ The Honorable Nikki Haley, SC Governor
The Honorable Patricia M. Henegan, Member, SC House of Representatives
Ms. Emily Toler, SC Department of Transportation
The Honorable Jason K. Steen, Chairman, Marlboro County Council
Members, Marlboro County Council