



South Carolina
Department of Transportation

Deputy Secretary for Engineering
Christy A. Hall, P.E.
Phone: (803) 737-7900 Fax: (803) 737-5053

November 20, 2014

Ms. Valarie Thompson
103 Tasker Drive
Summerville, South Carolina 29485

RE: Concerns with Dorchester Road & Bacons Bridge Road Widening Projects

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Thank you for your letter to Governor Haley regarding several concerns you have related to current roadway projects being constructed adjacent to your neighborhood in Summerville. I have been asked to respond to you on her behalf.

The Dorchester Road and Bacons Bridge Road widening projects are part of the Dorchester County Sales Tax referendum that was approved several years ago in order to improve the transportation system throughout Dorchester County. Although these roads are state owned highways, the projects are managed by the Dorchester County Sales Tax Authority (DCSTA) who hired the professional services of Davis & Floyd Engineering to design and manage the construction of Dorchester and Bacons Bridge Road. Concerns and questions about their project would best be addressed directly to the DCSTA so they may have the opportunity to respond to your concerns, especially as it relates to the design of the access points to Tasker Drive, the need for noise walls, your broken fence, and the construction dump site adjacent to your home.

Unfortunately, since the project was designed, administered, and funded by the DCSTA, the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is not in a position to direct additions or deletions to their projects unless there is an issue of meeting current SCDOT design standards. These two major projects went through many iterations of engineering reviews to ensure they met current design standards, as well as meeting the National Environmental Policy Act. Multiple public hearings were held to allow public comments to be submitted and to inform interested parties about what was being proposed in the design.

I certainly understand your concern with the traffic congestion on these two roads and in particular this intersection. Unfortunately, the intersection cannot become fully operational until portions of Bacons Bridge Road are constructed to their final configuration. Once this portion of Bacons Bridge Road is constructed, it will allow the dual left turn lanes on Dorchester Road to become active and will help alleviate the time needed to maneuver through the heavily traveled intersection. I would also like to mention that the intersection is designed with pedestrian signals that will allow safe crossings for those who are using the sidewalk and multi-use paths in the area. Once all the improvements have been constructed, and all lanes are opened to traffic, the improvements made to these heavily traveled routes will improve safety and be less congested allowing the efficient movement of you, your fellow neighbors, and the traveling public.



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As stated above, these projects are being funded through the Dorchester County Sales Tax Authority sales tax program. Therefore, I encourage you to contact Marshall Murdaugh of the DCSTA so he may have the opportunity to address your concerns directly with his project engineering staff. Mr. Murdaugh can be reached at 843-821-0801. I hope you find this information helpful. If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call me at 803-737-7900.

Sincerely,



Christy A. Hall, P.E.
Deputy Secretary for Engineering

CAH:ths

cc: Governor Nikki R. Haley, c/o Katherine Haltiwanger ✓
ec: Janet P. Oakley, Secretary of Transportation
Alison Phillips, Legislative Coordinator
Wendy Nicholas, Chief of Staff
M. Thad Brunson, Chief Engineer for Field Operations
Robert T. Clark, District Six Engineering Administrator
File: D6/Construction
CTS 3035676

Ms. Thompson - I have taken the liberty of forwarding
your letter to Mr. Murdaugh with DCSTA.

Thanks,
Christy A. Hall