



South Carolina  
Department of Transportation

Deputy Secretary for Intermodal Planning  
Mark C. Lester, P.E.  
Phone: (803) 737-1444 Fax: (803) 737-4371

February 24, 2015

Mr. D. Monte Steedley  
400 Sweetwater Road  
North Augusta, South Carolina 29860

RE: Interstate 20 bridge over Savannah River

Dear Mr. Steedley:

Thank you for your recent comments and concerns regarding the safety of the Interstate 20 bridge over the Savannah River.

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is required by state law to prioritize projects based on established criteria including, but not limited to, financial viability, safety, economic development, traffic volumes, pavement quality, environmental impact, alternative transportation solutions, and consistency with local land use plans. The segment of Interstate 20, including the bridge over the Savannah River and extending from the state line to US 25 in Aiken County has been identified in SCDOT's planning efforts as a priority need for several years. Unfortunately, the level of federal and state funding available to address priority interstate capacity needs has not been sufficient to initiate improvements at this location.

SCDOT is actively pursuing funding opportunities for several interstate priority needs throughout the state. We are hopeful that additional funding will eventually be identified for this segment of Interstate 20 to advance efforts with Georgia DOT for improving the bridge crossing and providing additional travel lanes to better serve the Augusta/Aiken Metropolitan Region.

Sincerely,

Mark C. Lester, P.E.

Deputy Secretary for Intermodal Planning

JMS:sdb

cc: ✓ The Honorable Nikki R. Haley, Governor of South Carolina  
The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham, United States Senate  
The Honorable Timothy C. Scott, United States Senate  
The Honorable Joe Wilson, U.S. Representative, 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District  
The Honorable Shane Massey, South Carolina Senate  
The Honorable William M. Hixon, South Carolina House of Representatives  
Chairman Eric Dickey, South Carolina Alliance to Fix Our Roads  
ec: Janet P. Oakley, Secretary of Transportation  
Christy A. Hall, Deputy Secretary for Engineering

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