

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

July 15, 2015

Honorable Nikki Haley,

My name is Donna Willis and I am a resident of Horry County, South Carolina. I reside in North Myrtle Beach and am a full time resident. I have been employed in the same position for the past 12 years in the City of Myrtle Beach.

This will be a joint letter, and I hope I don't offend for not contacting each separately. I will keep this brief and hope this falls on helpful ears.

Highway 17 in Horry County runs the entire length of the Grand Strand. I travel 20 miles each way to work, 5 days a week. I am ashamed to say, that is was just last month that I noticed the weeds growing on the side of the roads. On the roadway itself, as well as in some cases the sidewalk. As I travel from Barefoot Landing until I reach the split for 17 Business and 17 Bypass, I notice the roadway is clear and cared for immaculately, unlike the area before. Kudos to Myrtle Beach for their street maintenance.

Honorable Nikki R. Haley

Now that the flag is no longer an issue, on to more important matters. (Insert laugh please). Myrtle Beach is a large monetary contributor to the state of South Carolina, we have millions of visitors that travel this particular stretch of roadway. To say the least, it is an eyesore. I understand from speaking with Steven Moore with the City of Myrtle Beach, that this area is maintained by the state, and is not his jurisdiction. He indicated that he has contacted the state to no avail. We need help, I'm asking for your help in cleaning up this area.

Kyle Berry

SCDOT Engineering District #5

Please drive this route...this county contributes to your department. Per the SCDOT Vegetation Management Guidelines, the following are items pertaining to your department; control noxious and invasive weeds, and protect pavement surfaces. We have weeds that have already invaded and have started breaking the concrete walks. It's a lot less expensive than having to replace 4" thick concrete sidewalks. Per a conversation with Shannon Welsh, he indicated he has too many roads that are in need of attention and is not able to take care of all issues. I understand, however, we have millions of visitors that travel 17. Make our visitors appreciate that we care about our appearance.

Mayor John Rhodes

I realize this is not a Myrtle Beach issue, however, sometimes when someone doesn't quite get a job done; someone has to pick up the slack. Please drive this route...From Carolina Opry to

Barefoot, then turn around and see the other side of the road. There are weeds over 3 feet tall. We all need to be responsible. Can you reach out to someone?

Brad Dean

You do an exceptional job promoting the city. Please take a ride up north and let me know how impressed you are with our roads. I know this isn't what the chamber is for, but you have a bigger voice than I do.

Thank you for allowing me to vent, I love the city, I love the beach, I have no agenda other than wanting the city to look the best it can.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Willis".

Donna Willis  
(843) 333-7609  
donhett@yahoo.com



These were taken just south of  
Restaurant Row on Hwy 17 in  
Myrtle Beach on July 15, 2015



