



South Carolina
Department of Transportation



September 14, 2016

The Honorable Nikki Haley
Governor of South Carolina
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

RE: Elected Officials 2016 Update and October 4 Public Information Meeting
Carolina Crossroads I-20/26/126 Corridor Project
Lexington and Richland Counties, Project ID P027662

Dear Governor Haley:

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is pleased to update you on environmental studies and potential alternatives for improving the Carolina Crossroads I-20/26/126 Corridor Project in Lexington and Richland Counties.

Thanks to you and other elected officials across our state, we have seen great progress regarding funding the No. 1 ranked interstate project in South Carolina. Without the new funding that the Legislature made available, the complete funding of this project would not have been possible. Our approach to funding the project will involve our normal Federal-Aid Interstate Program as well as leveraging new revenue streams approved by the Legislature in 2016. This blended funding approach will fully cover the anticipated cost of between \$1.3 and \$1.5 billion.

Since our last public input meeting in September 2015, the project team has been working diligently to move the project into the next phase of development. Traffic and environmental data collection has been completed, the Purpose and Need document for the project has been submitted and approved by the Federal Highway Administration, a Noise Advisory Board has been implemented, and Preliminary Alternatives have been screened and evaluated.

An Alternatives Public Information Meeting will be held at the date, time, and location below. The purpose of the meeting is to solicit comments on the Preliminary Alternatives developed to improve the Carolina Crossroads I-20/26/126 Corridor and the results of a two-level screening process. Maps showing the Preliminary Alternatives will be available for review, and the project team will be available to answer questions.

Date: Tuesday, October 4, 2016
Time: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Formal Presentation at 5:30 p.m.
Location: Seven Oaks Elementary School
2800 Ashland Road
Columbia, SC



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The public will have 15 days after the Alternatives Public Information Meeting to submit comments on the Preliminary Alternatives and screening process. Anyone unable to attend is encouraged to view the meeting online and submit comments from October 4 to October 19, 2016 by visiting www.SCDOTCarolinaCrossroads.com. Comments may also be emailed to info@CarolinaCrossroadsSCDOT.com, recorded via the Project Hotline number at (800) 601-8715, or mailed to:

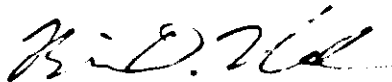
Carolina Crossroads Corridor Project
C/O South Carolina Department of Transportation
Midlands Regional Production Group, Room 418
PO Box 191
Columbia, SC 29202-0191

Public involvement, stakeholder involvement, and agency coordination will be continuous throughout the multi-year process. Ultimately, the goal of this process is to receive a Record of Decision (ROD) from FHWA on a recommended preferred alternative. Project development includes the following anticipated major milestones:

- Develop a set of detailed Reasonable Alternatives: Fall 2016 to Summer 2017
- Draft EIS: Summer 2017
- Final EIS: Summer 2018
- ROD: Summer 2018
- Procure Construction Contractor: 2019
- Right-of-Way Acquisition: 2019

We will be informing you of the project's progress throughout the process. You may visit the project website to provide additional project information and continual updates at www.SCDOTCarolinaCrossroads.com. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (803) 737-5051 or KlaukBD@scdot.org.

Sincerely,



Brian D. Klauk, PE, ENV SP
Special Programs Manager

BDK: kcr

cc: John N. Hardee, Vice-Chairman SCDOT Commission, Second Congressional District
Samuel B. Glover, SCDOT Commissioner, Sixth Congressional District
Christy Hall, P.E., Secretary of Transportation
Leland Colvin, P.E., Deputy Secretary for Engineering
Randall Young, P.E., Chief Engineer for Project Delivery
Ladd Gibson, P.E., Director of Preconstruction
Emily Lawton, FHWA Division Administrator

File: PC/BDK