

---

**From:** Mottel, Haley  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 1:59 PM  
**To:** Haley, Nikki; Patel, Swati; Godfrey, Rob; Veldran, Katherine  
**Subject:** FW: ICYMI: August 18, 2016 SCDOT Commission Meeting

FYI

---

**From:** Mike Burns [mailto:MikeBurns@schouse.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2016 10:33 AM  
**To:** Mottel, Haley  
**Subject:** Re: ICYMI: August 18, 2016 SCDOT Commission Meeting

Disgusting ... Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2016, at 9:20 AM, Mottel, Haley <[HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov](mailto:HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov)> wrote:

Last week, Department of Transportation commissioners approved, in a 7-1 vote, more than \$23 million for “low-priority projects” in one congressman’s district. (Post and Courier, 8/18/2016)

For example, commissioners approved millions of dollars for a university beautification project that would revamp the sidewalks and streets behind the Statehouse in Columbia instead of using these funds to improve roads, interstates and bridges identified as high priority statewide projects by state officials. Some have criticized this as “an example of politics coming before actual highway needs.” (Associated Press, 8/18/2016)

During last week's meeting, Commissioner Clifton Parker asked DOT Secretary Christy Hall: “Do you happen to have anything that would tell us...what you would do with this money if you had your choice of a list?”

**Secretary Hall’s answer: “We would likely apply the funds to an interstate resurfacing project...for fiscal year 2017.”**

What we saw commissioners do was an example of everything wrong with our roads system and why we so desperately need reform. The wishes of politicians are not more important than projects prioritized by the Department of Transportation.

**You will find video of DOT commissioners debating whether to fund sidewalk beautification projects instead of repaving interstates and fixing potholes here: <https://youtu.be/wKZpP5RISzY>**

Please take a moment to watch the video clip, and, then, share it with anyone who agrees that the people of South Carolina deserve better.

Sincerely,  
Haley

Haley Mottel

Legislative Liaison  
Office of Governor Nikki R. Haley  
Office: (803) 734-0082  
Cell: (803) 240-1512  
[HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov](mailto:HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov)