

From: Jerry Bellune <jerrybellune@yahoo.com>
To: Adams, ChaneyChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov
Date: 10/27/2015 1:32:50 PM
Subject: Re: New DOT Sec.

Here's our editorial this week.

Gov. Haley may have stuck her neck out in naming a new Department of Transportation honcho.

But the problems we have with roads in our county and state don't begin in the Governor's Office or at DOT.

More about that in a minute.

Our first concern is the governor's choice. We're all for promotion from within.

By picking DOT veteran Christy Hall as acting transportation secretary in July and now as permanent secretary, the governor must have a lot of faith in her choice.

"We think a lot alike," Haley told reporters last week. "Christy Hall," she said, "has been at the Department of Transportation for over 20 years and has been a staple there.

"I am proud to say that Secretary Hall will not only be someone who we will look to see what she's going to do," she said, but look at what she's done in the past. The governor was referring to how DOT has responded to this month's 1,000-year flood.

Hall called it a team effort which has reduced road

closings across the state by 72%.

Hall's experience may prove to be an asset — or an even greater liability. It opens the question to the skeptics: Will this become a new day at DOT — or just more of the same.

We'll have to wait and see.

The new secretary has held management positions as Deputy Secretary for Engineering and Deputy Secretary of Finance and Procurement.

The bigger question is how Haley and Hall will deal with Statehouse power brokers.

In an article Sunday, newspapers reported that the state will pay \$340 million to turn sparsely used Pamlico Highway into a five lane highway.

Two months ago, traffic on that road was so light, two activists lay down in the two-lane road during rush hour.

You can watch a video of this at <http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/state/south-carolina/article41439888.html>

We wish Gov. Haley and Secretary Hall good luck in trying to deal with the Statehouse politics responsible for this apparent misuse of our road money.

We also hope our local lawmakers will look into it, too.

— jerrybellune@yahoo.com

Jerry Bellune

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Lexington SC 29071-1500

Winners have faith.

They believe in themselves,

their purpose and higher calling.

From: "Adams, Chaney" <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>
To: "jerrybellune@yahoo.com" <jerrybellune@yahoo.com>
Cc: "Godfrey, Rob" <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 9:55 AM
Subject: New DOT Sec.

Jerry,

I wanted to make sure you saw the press conference where Governor Haley announced Christy Hall as the next SCDOT secretary. I think it should answer your questions.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPNNotJNZang&feature=youtu.be>

I have also included the press release we sent after the news conference.

Please let me know if there is anything else you need.



October 21, 2015

For immediate release

Contact: Brian Symmes, 803-673-9437

BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov

Gov. Nikki Haley Announces Next Department of Transportation Secretary

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Governor Nikki Haley today announced Christy Hall as the next Secretary of the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT).

“Many of you know Christy Hall – she has been at the Department of Transportation for over 20 years, and has been a staple there,” said Gov. Nikki Haley. “I am proud to say that Secretary Hall will not only be someone who we will look to see what she’s going to do going forward, but I would ask that you go and look to see what she’s done in the past, because if that’s any indication of the kind of leader she’s going to be, we are in for a great ride.”

Hall was named Acting Secretary of Transportation in July 2015 and has served at SCDOT for more than two decades, holding numerous management positions within the agency, including Deputy Secretary for Engineering and Deputy Secretary of Finance and Procurement.

“I appreciate the opportunity to serve as the Secretary for the SCDOT and thank Governor Haley for her leadership for the state of South Carolina,” Hall said. “I am honored to lead the men and women of the SCDOT whose dedication and commitment to service to this great state is inspiring to me. I look forward to continuing to advance and improve upon our shared goals of efficiently and effectively delivering our services for the benefit of our citizens.”



To watch video of the full event, click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPNNotJNZang&feature=youtu.be>

“The Department of Transportation’s coordinated and swift response to the recent disaster in South Carolina has proven Secretary Christy Hall’s leadership abilities,” said Speaker Jay Lucas. “Secretary Hall effectively communicated with the General Assembly in a time of crisis. I believe Secretary Hall is an outstanding choice to lead SCDOT and I look forward to working with her as we continue our efforts to make the agency more accountable and efficient.”

“When leadership was needed, leadership was found,” said Senator Larry Grooms, Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee. “In response to one of the costliest natural disasters to ever visit our state, Governor Haley turned to her cabinet agencies and directed them to respond together as Team South Carolina. And respond they did. Even the harshest critics of the SCDOT were blown away by their phenomenal response to the unprecedented damage to our state’s highway network. Christy Hall has certainly earned the top spot at SCDOT and I congratulate Governor Haley on selecting her to be the next SC Secretary of Transportation.”

Hall, 44, is a resident of Saluda County.

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