



# **Transportation Penny Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Monday, July 27, 2015, 5:30 PM**

**4<sup>th</sup> Floor Training Room**

**2020 Hampton Street, Columbia SC 29202**

## **Agenda**

- 1. Call to Order:** Hayes Mizell, Chairman
- 2. Approval of Minutes:**
  - o May 18, 2015: [Pages 2 –7]
- 3. SLBE Program Update**
- 4. The Comet Update**
- 5. June 2015 Progress Report: Questions and Answers**
- 6. Bluff Road Widening Project – Proposed Project Extension [Pages 8 - 9]**
- 7. 2015 Sidewalk Projects – Proposed Project Extensions [Pages 10 - 11]**
- 8. Response from Council Chair to TPAC Request [Pages 12 - 13]**
- 9. Council Action Update**
- 10. City of Forrest Acres request for new project (Info Only)[Pages 14 - 15]**
- 11. Other Business**
- 12. Next Scheduled Meeting:**
  - o Monday August 24, 2015 @ 5:30 PM –2020 Hampton Street
- 13. Adjourn**

TRANSPORTATION PENNY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2015  
2020 HAMPTON STREET, 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM



*In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, persons requesting notification, and was posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.*

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Hayes Mizell, Bill Wiseman, Dorothy Sumter, Trevor Bowers, Derrick Huggins, Bobby Williams, Councilman Paul Livingston, J. T. McLawhorn, Elise Bidwell, Virginia Sanders, Jennifer Bishop, Todd Avant, and James Faber

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Rob Perry, Chris Gossett, Tony McDonald, Shawn Salley, Quinton Epps, Michelle Onley, Tony Edwards, Hack McGill, Cheryl Patrick, Brenda Parnell, Kristen Hutto, Ismail Ozbek and Gloria Tanner

#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:31 p.m.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**March 23, 2015** – The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### SLBE UPDATE

Ms. Patrick introduced the employees from the OSBO Office.

Ms. Gloria Tanner stated she has been assisting with the development and implementation of the SLBE program. For the last few weeks, she has been identifying the pertinent items that need to be addressed and prioritizing those, in order, to prevent a delay in the construction schedule.

Ms. Tanner provided a report that outlining the activities of the OSBO Office for the last eight weeks.

The County's program unlike any other programs in the State, such as SCDOT (DBE Program), the Governor's Office (MWBE Program) and the City of Columbia (MWBE Program), the County could not do retro-processing.

- ✦ The County's program requires that the applicants are: (1) small business owners, (2) local (within Richland County) and (3) the program is race neutral.

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- ✦ The SCDOT's Program, which is federally funded, is a race conscious program
- ✦ The type of program an agency has is dependent on the type of funding they receive (i.e. federal or local)

Ms. Sanders inquired if the SLBE Office was endeavoring to certify a certain percentage of minority owned businesses.

Ms. Patrick stated the ordinance is race and gender neutral, therefore, businesses cannot not be certified based solely on race.

Ms. Tanner stated in most small local business programs 90% of the firms are minority/ethically oriented.

Mr. Faber stated they were under the impression the program would assist a certain percentage of African American businesses.

Mr. Livingston stated no one stated there would be a certain percentage certified because the law precludes the County from doing so. The consultant advised Council not to proceed with discussions of the DBEs until a disparity study was conducted. The disparity study cannot be conducted until a year's worth of data has been collected. At that time, Council will proceed with the disparity study.

Ms. Tanner stated projects that are funded utilizing SCDOT funds will have a DBE goal added.

Ms. Patrick stated in 2013 – 10% of firms were MWBEs and in 2012 – 12% of the firms were MWBEs.

Mr. Livingston stated assisting minority owned businesses is a major concern for Council. The goal at this time is to build more businesses and prepare them to work.

Ms. Tanner stated prior to her coming on board, there were 2 firms certified. To date there have been 19 applications processed.

Mr. McLawhorn stated the citizens, TPAC members, staff and Council need to communicate more effectively and be in one accord.

Ms. Bidwell stated the SLBE program is presently setting up small businesses that are certified and ready to do the work. As far as the disparity study, Council needs to keep the TPAC members informed.

Mr. Livingston stated Council has considered the SLBE program a high priority and has done all they can do with the constraints they are working with.

- ✦ What is the process to develop new businesses or to expand existing businesses into bigger businesses?

Ms. Tanner stated scheduled benchmarks have been put into place. With regards to construction, the County is looking to identify firms that can provide bonding services. In addition, a mentor protégé program is being developed. Through professional training and development, Ms. Tanner's firm has

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provided supportive services to assist and develop a new company. The services provided are: administration, technical, and training sessions that include marketing, website development, and estimating/scheduling education.

Ms. Patrick stated she has been working with Mr. Franklin Lee to draft the RFP for the disparity study. Once a year's worth of quantitative data has been collected, the County can proceed with the disparity study. If the disparity study was conducted now it would be going backward.

Mr. Huggins inquired once the firms have been certified, how will the firms know which projects to apply for and if they are not awarded the contract will it be explained to them why they were not chosen?

Mr. Perry stated there is a sheltered market program would assist in building a platform to go after work. In addition, Ms. Tanner suggested instead of holding a mandatory pre-construction meeting to conduct a forum approximately a month out and require the contractors to attend.

Mr. Huggins requested a good faith effort component be added to the report.

Ms. Patrick stated the office has begun to conduct outreach sessions and the compliance specialists are to track the SLBE's on the job to insure they are paid.

Ms. Tanner invited the TPAC members to the OSBO seminar on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Potential SLBEs are being invited to introduce them to what kind of projects the County has to offer.

Ms. Tanner stated at the outreach sessions it is suggested to the firms that they request to have their bids reviewed in order to identify where their shortcomings were.

Ms. Bidwell inquired as to what percentage of the firms certified are minority and/or women owned.

Ms. Patrick stated the firms are not tracked.

Ms. Patrick stated she and Ms. Tanner attended Small Business Week at the Chamber of Commerce and had a great response from those sessions.

Mr. McLawhorn requested the resumes/bios of Ms. Patrick's staff.

Mr. Wiseman inquired if it would be appropriate to forward firms that may not be aware of the program to the OSBO Office to follow up on.

**2015 TIGER GRANT**

Mr. Perry stated Council approved submission of two grants. One is for Bluff Road and the other is for Clemson Road. Staff will inform the members when the application is submitted. The awarding of the

grant will be in September. There is \$500 million in federal funding available nationwide; therefore, this is a very competitive process.

### **GREENE STREET CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Mr. Perry stated there was a pre-construction meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup> with the contractor, the City of Columbia, University of South Carolina and the utility providers. A notice to proceed was issued. The construction trailer has been set up and the groundbreaking will take place on June 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The project duration is approximately a year.

### **MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT**

Mr. Mizell stated monthly and bi-weekly progress reports are being shared with the committee members and Council. Mr. Perry has been requested to outline some of the major aspects of the reports.

- ✦ Notice to Proceed was issued to Cox & Dinkins for Atlas Road Widening
- ✦ Aerial surveys have been conducted for Bluff Road and Clemson Road
- ✦ Looking at partnering opportunities with SCDOT on Clemson Road
- ✦ Hardscrabble Road – SCDOT plans to open bids at the end of this year; construction will begin early 2016
- ✦ The construction costs estimate for Hardscrabble Road is \$50 million, which doesn't include construction inspections
- ✦ The 6 designable intersection bids will be opened July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ✦ Shop Road Extension Phase I will be ready with construction plans in the summer, but the County has to procure a permit from the U. S. Corps of Engineers.
- ✦ Lincoln Tunnel Greenway – the bid document is ready to go, but the City of Columbia has to receive an encroachment permit from the SCDOT. The SCDOT has forced the City to change their plans a few times.
- ✦ Clemson Road Project is slated to begin in 2017

Mr. Perry stated one of the items being taken up by the Transportation Ad Hoc Committee is whether the County can engage the CMCOG to put some federal guide shares on some of the major projects, so they are developed to federal standards on the front end.

Mr. Perry stated the SIB application was submitted for Assembly Street, Airport Phase II (Lexington County), the Innovista and beautification of Huger Street. The State Infrastructure Bank did not like the Innovista or Huger Street Beautification, but were supportive of Assembly Street and Airport Phase II. The \$446 million match funding was called into question.

### **2015/2016 SIDEWALK AND BIKEWAY PRESENTATION**

- ✦ There is approximately \$3 million in funding for bikeways and sidewalks this calendar year

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- ✦ PDT took the rankings for bikeways and sidewalks and evaluated how far \$3 million would go
- ✦ Some of the bikeways were on the City route, but the majority are on the SCDOT route

Mr. Sonny Timmerman from the PDT gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the sidewalks/bikeways.

- ✦ Priority list was set in the referendum
- ✦ Council defined the criteria to rank projects
- ✦ PDT ranked the projects based on the criteria

Ms. Bidwell inquired if there were any sidewalks proposed for Lower Richland near the high school.

Mr. Perry stated the Southeast Richland Neighborhood Improvement, the County's first NIP project, was presented \$6.69 million for the NIP project. The master plan proposed landscaping and sidewalks on Garner's Ferry Road, but no sidewalks up Lower Richland going to the neighborhoods. The citizens at the neighborhood meeting were not concerned with the landscaping on Garners Ferry Road. The citizens were more worried about sidewalks up Lower Richland and a multi-use path on Rabbit Run Connector; therefore, that it is the projects that are moving forward. Construction should begin in 2017.

Mr. McLawhorn inquired if there were any sidewalk plans for I-20 going north toward the Meadowlake Subdivision.

Mr. Faber inquired when projects will begin in the rural parts of the County.

Mr. Livingston stated he will forward a list of projects currently underway in the Lower Richland area.

Mr. Timmerman stated multi-use paths are typically 10X12 ft. asphalt or concrete paths that can be used for walking, jogging, cycling, etc. Sidewalks will typically be 5 ft. wide.

There will be several different kinds of bikeway improvements and numerous signs and pavement markings.

Public meetings will be held in the next few months to discuss the sidewalk and bikeway projects. The first meeting on sidewalks is to be held June 8<sup>th</sup> and the bikeways on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**DIRT ROAD PAVING PUBLIC OUTREACH RESULTS**

Mr. Gossett stated the Dennis Corporation has been selected to lead the Dirt Road Paving Program. As directed by the Dirt Road Paving Ordinance, they held a series of public meetings. Certified letters were sent to every property owner that was on the list of roads to be paved. Their feedback was solicited on whether they wanted their road paved. If 25% of more did not want their road paved, the road was moved to the bottom of the priority list. Of the 138 roads identified in Years 1 and 2, there are 67 that have moved forward to the design phase and 31 have moved to the bottom of the priority list.

If the certified letter is not picked up, then an additional letter is sent via regular First Class mail. The citizen then has 2 weeks to respond. If no response is received, they are deemed to be in consent of the project going forward.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Perry stated the Department of Revenue has requested an audit of the Transportation Department. The County has forwarded them the Procurement Ordinance, actions taken by Council in regard to the Transportation Projects, and a list of projects.

None of the other County programs have been audited by the Department of Revenue, but Charleston County has been audited by the SCDOT.

Mr. McLawhorn requested the committee be informed of any major occurrences affecting the Transportation Penny Program.

Mr. Mizell inquired about the committee's recommendation for a process with regard to changes in the Transportation Penny projects.

Mr. Livingston stated this item was taken up by the Transportation Ad Hoc Committee and forwarded to Council for discussion. As you are aware, the high priority projects were approved by the referendum. The medium and low priority projects were not a part of the referendum. Council and the committee recommend staff review any projects that may need to be considered if there is additional funding.

Mr. Mizell requested a written response from the Transportation Ad Hoc Committee and/or Council to any requests/recommendations from the TPAC Committee.

Ms. Bidwell inquired about how much flexibility Council has in spending transportation penny funding for items not identified by the referendum? If there is funding left after all of the high priority projects are completed, does Council have the flexibility to go through an approval process to take up the medium and low priority projects?

Mr. Livingston stated first a recommendation would have to be obtained by the TPAC Committee. The intent of Council was to cover the additional priorities if there is any additional funding.

Ms. Sanders requested a representative of COMET to be present at the TPAC meetings.

**NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2015 AT 5:30 PM – 2020 HAMPTON STREET**

#### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:54PM

## **6. Bluff Road Widening Project: Partnering opportunity with Central Midlands Council of Governments (CMCOG) and the County Transportation Committee (CTC)**

### Discussion Points:

CMCOG and the CTC collectively designated \$1.8 million to construct a sidewalk along Bluff Road and Rosewood Drive. CMCOG has approved \$1.0 million for the project, and the CTC \$800,000. This sidewalk was designed on Bluff Road from George Rogers Boulevard to Rosewood Drive, and on Rosewood Drive from Bluff Road to the entrance to the State Fairgrounds. SCDOT designed the project, bid it for construction unsuccessfully twice, and have now approached Richland County with the request to include these improvements within our Bluff Road Widening Project. The CTIP authorizes project design in 2015, right of way in 2016, and construction in 2017.

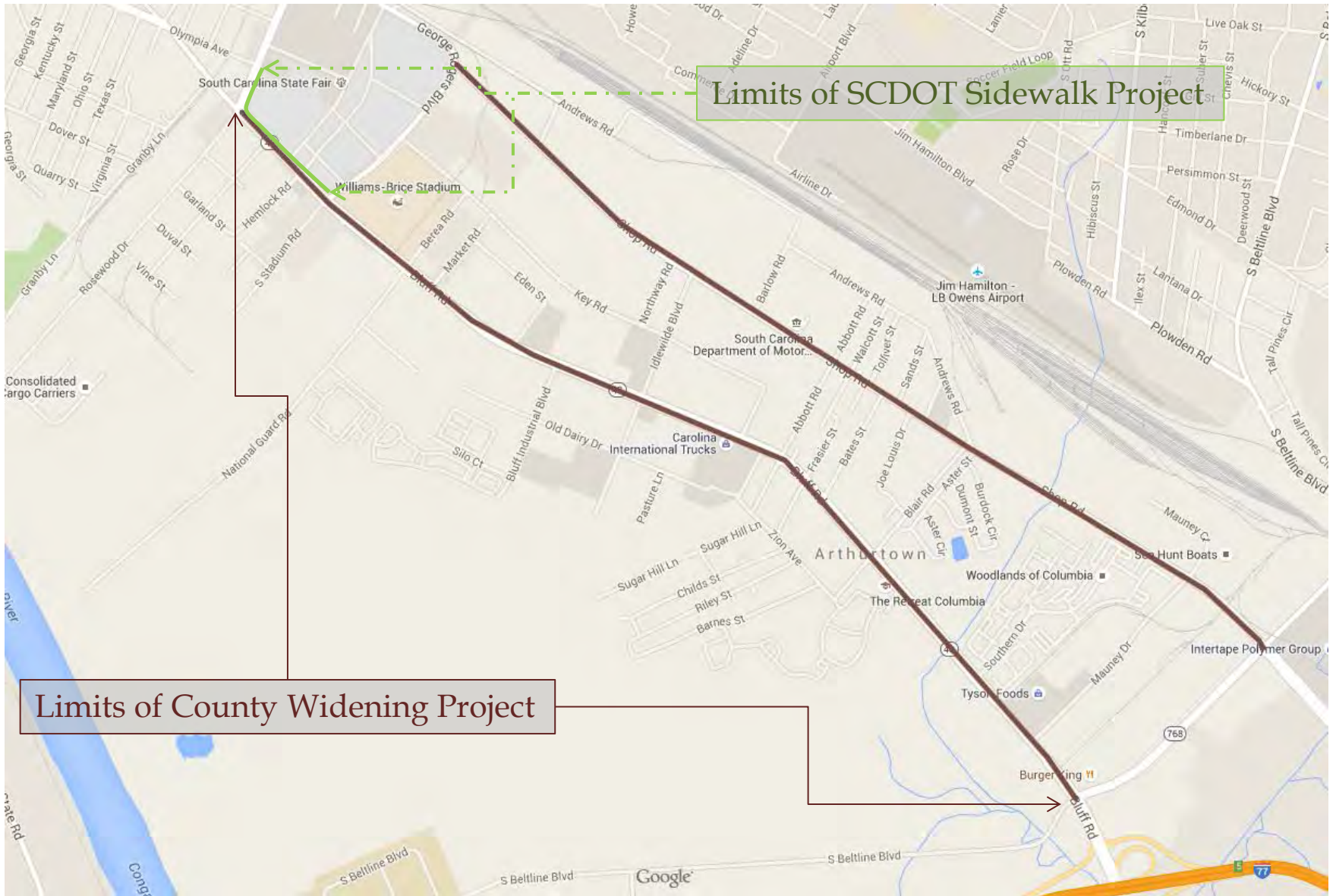
By extending our project 800' we can incorporate the SCDOT designed project, and add \$1.8 million in project funding. Staff supports this addition, and additionally recommended presenting it to TPAC based on their approved rules and responsibilities. Council approved this action during their May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

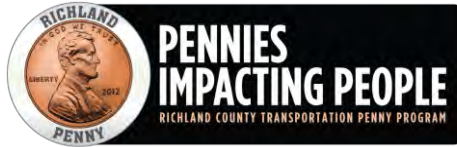
### Questions to be answered:

Does the Committee support extending the project to incorporate the SCDOT enhancement project and associated funding?



# Bluff Road Widening Project





**SIDEWALK PROJECTS PUBLIC MEETING**

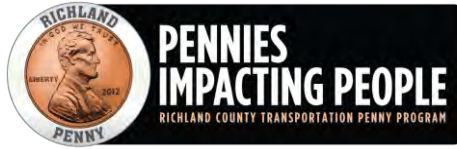
**Memo:**

**Date:** June 26, 2015  
**To:** Rob Perry, PE  
 Chris Gossett, PE  
**From:** David Beaty, PE  
 Sonny Timmerman, PE  
**RE:** Sidewalk Projects PDT Team Recommendations

Dear Mr. Perry,

The PDT Team conducted a public meeting regarding upcoming sidewalk projects and based upon the comments and observations we recommend the following:

Road Name	Total Tracts	Total Responses	Recommendations
Alpine	37	5	No Change (NC)
Clemson	181	2	NC
Columbiana	10	1	NC
Farmview	10	1	NC
Franklin	19	8	Extend from Sumter to Main. Place on South Side from Sumter to Main and North Side Main to Bull
Harrison	99	2	NC
Jefferson	12	5	Eliminate Marion to Sumter Block
Koon	38	3	NC
Magnolia	68	4	NC
Maple	6	3	NC
Mildred	9	3	NC
Percival	67	7	NC
Polo	10	3	NC
Prospect	21	7	Eliminate due to lack of connectivity and public opposition
S. Shandon	13	7	Eliminate due to heavy impact of mature trees
School House	36	6	NC
Senate	20	2	NC
Sunset	48	13	NC
Wildwood	12	7	NC
Wiley	15	1	NC
Windover	4	4	NC
<b>Total</b>		<b>42</b>	



We are available to discuss at your earliest convenience.

# RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

## SOUTH CAROLINA

FROM THE DESK OF **CHAIRMAN TORREY RUSH**, COUNCIL DISTRICT 7 REPRESENTATIVE

July 22, 2015

Hayes Mizell, Chairman  
Transportation Penny Advisory Committee

RE: Request for process to identify new transportation projects

Dear Mr. Mizell,

Thank you for submitting a letter to me April 7th on behalf of the Transportation Penny Advisory Committee (TPAC). Your letter requested for County Council to consider the following items:

1. Identify and publicize all Penny-priority projects that have been or are being funded and completed by entities other than Richland County, thereby making it unnecessary for such projects to be funded by the Penny
2. Calculate and publicize the total authorized Penny funding for projects that have been or are being funded and completed by entities other than Richland County, and thereby making it unnecessary for such projects to be funded by the Penny
3. Develop a procedure to review and determine the priority of new transportation improvement projects that will be funded by the Penny funds that have become available because they are no longer needed for projects that have been or are being funded and completed by entities other than Richland County

In response to items #1 and #2 I recommend a review of the County Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP) which already identifies projects that have been or will be completed by other entities such as SCDOT. The CTIP does not include the calculated funding for projects completed by others, but the original cost estimates for all projects are located on the Richland Penny website for anyone to view.

As you well know, the Richland Penny has been a huge undertaking that won't be realized for at least a decade even with the benefit of bonding. With that in mind, we are years away from knowing whether any excess funding may become available. Additionally, any excess funding from a singular project completed by another entity would then be applied to any high, medium or low priority projects which either face a funding shortfall or have no funding applied to them currently.



Chairman  
Airport Commission  
Budget Committee  
Central Midlands Council of Governments  
City of Columbia Liaison  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Courthouse Ad Hoc Committee  
Discretionary Grants Committee  
Dirt Road Committee  
Economic Development Committee  
Fire Advisory Committee  
Health Insurance Study Ad Hoc Committee  
I-77 Alliance  
Innovista Ad Hoc Committee  
International Ad Hoc Committee  
Midlands Technical College  
Ordinance Review  
Palmetto Health Alliance (RMH)  
Recreation Commission  
Richland County Department of Social Services Facility Ad Hoc Committee  
River Alliance

# RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

## SOUTH CAROLINA



However, I do concede there are projects not identified in the program that currently or in the future may become priorities for Richland County. This is largely due to the fact that the project list was first established in 2008 and most recently updated in 2012. Moreover, the Richland Penny is a twenty-two year program, and it would be shortsighted to believe we could not experience new transportation needs over that period. Under these circumstances we would accept new recommendations on transportation related opportunities, and seek appropriate funding sources.

In response to TPAC's item #3, I do concur with establishing a separate list of high priority transportation projects for Richland County. This list shall not take the place of any listed Richland Penny projects, and will instead remain an entirely separate list of projects the County will pursue with separate funding. In addition, any proposed projects shall be assessed similarly to those listed in the Richland Penny, and subject to ranking by the Council approved criteria.

We will consider and evaluate any project or programmatic recommendations submitted by TPAC. I have copied the County Administrator to ensure coordination, trust this response will be well received by the TPAC, and am happy to discuss in further detail if needed.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Torrey Rush", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Torrey Rush  
Chairman  
Richland County Council

cc: Richland County Council  
Tony McDonald, County Administrator  
Rob Perry, Director of Transportation



Frank J Brunson  
MAYOR

COUNCIL  
Ginger P. Duker  
Curtis L. Rye Jr.  
W. Shell Suber Jr.  
Roy A. Powell

C. Lee Holloway Jr.  
CITY ATTORNEY

Mark M. Williams  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

July 21, 2015

Honorable Torrey Rush  
Chairman  
Richland County Council  
2020 Hampton Street  
PO Box 192  
Columbia, SC 29202

Re: TPAC project amendments

Dear Mr. Rush:

I recently learned of an initiative of the Transportation Penny Advisory Committee (TPAC) to “open the door” to consideration of new transportation projects to be funded either by the transportation penny sales tax or by offsets created in other funding sources by virtue of the sales tax.

I applaud County Council’s possible receptiveness of allowing amendments to the projects list as changing times makes for changing priorities. For instance, we have identified a major, multi-million dollar project that was not even in anyone’s consciousness until recently. You may even have heard of the newly completed study of the Forest Drive corridor undertaken by the City of Forest Acres. City Council commissioned this study at our own expense in order to address concerns of residents and motorists have about this major transportation through the community.

Forest Drive features some of the busiest intersections in Richland County with daily traffic counts on the order of 28,000 vehicles per day. The impetus for our study was to identify ways to better manage the flow of traffic while still affording ready access to businesses on the corridor and making the entire street friendlier for pedestrians.

The study calls for a range of improvements from adaptive traffic signals, medians for managed control of left turns and removal of power poles so close to travel lanes—all of which will no doubt entail millions of dollars, far beyond our local financial capacity, on a road that benefits a sizable portion of the greater community.

If funding of new projects becomes a reality I would like to solicit County Council's support for adding the recommended Forest Drive corridor improvements to such a list. I again salute you for your farsightedness in recognizing that circumstances evolving since TPAC's conception have created new opportunities. I welcome an opportunity to discuss with you what we have learned about Forest Drive from our study and will share it willingly upon request.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank J. Brunson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Frank J. Brunson  
Mayor

Cc: Richland County Council