

MARK CLARK PROJECT  
UPDATE TO COUNCIL  
MARCH 2015

DECEMBER 2012

- Council approval to move forward with the project
- Letter sent to SCDOT to resume right of way purchases

JANUARY, 2013

- Prepared a draft Local Public Agency Agreement for internal review
- Prepared a draft modified Intergovernmental Agreement that is being reviewed internally
- Conducted a project kickoff meeting with SCDOT
- Held an agency meeting with SCDOT, Corps of Engineers, FHWA, etc.
- Staff (Public Works, Greenbelts, GIS, Transportation Development) continues to quantify and evaluate residences within 1000' of the proposed alignment of the project for diminished value, began a study of road and drainage opportunities within 1000' of the proposed alignment, and is exploring opportunities to preserve green space adjacent to the right of way

FEBRUARY, 2013

- Prepared a draft RFQ for professional services for internal review
- Project status meeting (Admin, Legal, Greenbelts, PWD, Transportation, GIS)
- 85 potential properties have been identified as possible green space parcels along the Mark Clark Project
- Current project team met with the BCDCOG to review all existing plus committed projects in the transportation plan for inclusion into the updated traffic analysis
- Work has been re-started on the environmental document, and modifications are being analyzed
- Staff is preparing documents and displays for a public information presentation tentatively being planned for late May 2013

- Received response from our 12-19-13 letter to SCDOT and SCTIB regarding request to purchase hardship and protective right of way and complete the environmental document
- There are 3082 parcels within 1000' of the proposed right of way. Maps are being prepared to illustrate this, and an analysis of these parcels is underway.
- First Draft of the 1000' maps completed. Staff continues research of criteria to establish an objective analysis of the potential diminution in value or other effect on these parcels. (Tools being used include the Land Use plan, Draft Noise analysis, and Socioeconomics and Communities chapters of the Draft EIS, along with several other case studies that have been conducted over the last decade across the nation.
- Established 2 alternative alignments for connector road "B" to be considered in the environmental analysis.
- Processing the 4Hardship and /or protective right of way requests (per uniform act requirements)
- Weekly progress meetings with SCDOT continue.
- Field surveys began to determine the environmental, and right of way impacts of the two alternatives identified for Connector Road "B"
- SCDOT staff began preparing written responses to comments received by the public.

#### MARCH, 2013

- Submitted the modified Intergovernmental Agreement to the South Carolina Transportation Infrastructure Bank for review and approval
- By virtue of the approved design criteria, a 200' right-of-way and a mainline speed limit of 45mph, the project is no longer considered an expressway and will not carry the 526 Shield.
- SCDOT is proceeding with the development of the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of the recommended preferred alternative. The design is being further refined, and environmental and traffic studies are being completed. Work associated with the finalization of the EIS and the associated federal approval process by FHWA and USACOE is expected to take approximately 12-18 months.

## APRIL, 2013

- To update the progress of the advanced right-of-way acquisitions, SCDOT, with federal concurrence, is proceeding with the acquisition of the Graham Finch/Phyllis Hanniford property, and is currently processing 6 other requests.
- The scope of the draft RFQ for Project Management and Construction Engineering Inspection services was submitted to SCDOT for review and concurrence.

## MAY, 2013

- Based on the matrix for Connector Road B, alternate 2 shows fewer impacts in every category except floodplains. Given the matrix justification, alternative 2 will be carried forward in the FEIS.
- Alignment and typical section design criteria to be carried forward to 30% plans is about 95% complete.
- It appears that relocations associated with the Savannahs condominiums will not be required.
- Received comments back from SCDOT on the RFQ for Project Management and Construction Engineering and Inspection services.
- Prepared a response to Debra Rountree's (SIB) request for information dated February 14, 2013.
- Responses to the Public Hearing Comments are scheduled to be mailed out the week of June 03, 2013.

## JUNE, 2013

- Staff responded to comments on the RFQ for Project Management and Construction Engineering and Testing Services. Final version is due back on July 15, 2013.
- Final alignment and updated location mapping is also due on July 15, 2013.
- Staff continues pursuing protective and advanced right of way acquisition on 10 parcels. Negotiations with Mr. Finch and Mrs. Hanniford are underway.
- Final version of the Local Public Agency Application (LPAA) will be submitted to SCDOT in July for approval.
- Staff continues research of criteria to establish an objective analysis of the potential diminution in value or other effects on parcels within 1000' of the proposed right of way. (Final alignment due July 15) Tools being used include the Land Use

Plan, the Draft Noise Analysis, and the Socioeconomics and Communities Chapters of the Draft EIS, along with several other case studies that have been conducted over the last decade across the nation. Further, staff has reached out to the American Institute of Appraisers, the Urban Land Institute, the Transportation Research Board, the National Cooperative Highway Research Program, The Research Services section of the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and the Arizona Transportation Research Center for guidance.

- Met with Charleston County Parks and Recreation Department to discuss access to James Island County Park.
- Met with the Corps of Engineers to discuss Mitigation options for salt marsh shadowing and physical impacts.

#### JULY 2013

- Submitted LPAA to SCDOT for review.
- Completed the final alignment of the new roadway implementing design changes based on Public Input and Charleston County Council action.
- Continue coordination efforts for mitigation with the James Island County Park.
- Continued coordination with USACE.

#### AUGUST 2013

- Revisited the delineation of wetlands and the development of wetland mitigation plans and alternatives to include final alignment adjustments.
- Began update of the Draft Noise Analysis.
- Conceptual planning and design of water quality treatment is underway.

#### SEPTEMBER 2013

- Began Geotechnical Investigations to be used in preliminary design and the Design-Build procurement.
- Ongoing coordination efforts for the amendments to the IGA continue between Charleston County and SCDOT.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition continues on nine parcels. 2 to 3 more hardship acquisition requests are anticipated in October, 2013.
- Settled with Phyllis Hanniford and Graham Finch for \$1.61 million. They have 3 months to move and have made an offer on another house.

- The final alignment does not require any relocation of citizens that live in “The Savannahs” condominiums located west of the Ashley.
- In the coming months, the wetland delineations, noise study, and historic property studies will be finalized.
- The final EIS remains on schedule to be completed in April 2014 with the record of decision in the summer of 2014 based on USACE and FHWA reviews.

#### OCTOBER 2013

- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition continues on nine parcels.
- Continued Geotechnical Investigations to be used in preliminary design and the Design-Build procurement. Anticipate field work to be complete December 2013.
- Continued on-going field surveying for preliminary design.
- Continued preliminary design and plan preparation to be used in the Design-Build procurement. Anticipate preliminary plans to be completed in spring 2014.
- Continuing agency coordination on cultural resources and wetland mitigation impacts.

#### NOVEMBER 2013

- Working with the SCDOT to revise the IGA.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition continues.
- Continued Geotechnical Investigations to be used in preliminary design and the Design-Build procurement. Anticipate field work to be complete December 2013.
- Continued on-going field surveying for preliminary design.
- Continued preliminary engineering and plan preparation to be used in the Design-Build procurement. Anticipate preliminary plans to be completed in spring 2014.
- Cultural resources fieldwork is complete. Final EIS wetland fieldwork is complete. Revised chapters of FEIS submitted to SCDOT for review. Remaining chapters of FEIS under revision. The final EIS remains on schedule to be completed in

April 2014 with the record of decision in the summer of 2014 based on USACE and FHWA reviews.

#### DECEMBER 2013

- IGA approved by SCDOT commission and forwarded to SIB for review.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition continues(10 property owners requesting acquisition on 14 parcels)
- Continued Geotechnical Investigations to be used in preliminary design and the Design-Build procurement. Field work to be completed end December 2013 and preliminary data reports prepared in January 2014
- Continued on-going field surveying for preliminary design.
- Continued preliminary engineering and plan preparation to be used in the Design-Build procurement. Preliminary plans on-track to be completed in spring 2014.
- Remaining chapter of FEIS under revision. Discussions on EFH (essential fish habitat) analysis and wetland mitigation continue.

#### JANUARY 2014

- IGA Negotiations continue.
- Geotechnical field work completed. Preparing draft geotechnical report to be used in preliminary design and the Design-Build procurement.
- Field survey completed for preliminary design.
- Continued preliminary engineering and plan preparation to be used in the Design-Build procurement. Preliminary plans on-track to be completed in spring 2014.
- Remaining chapter of FEIS under revision. Discussions on cultural resources, EFH (essential fish habitat) analysis and wetland mitigation continue.

#### FEBRUARY 2014

- Draft Geotechnical Data compiled. Evaluation of geotechnical data and soil seismic analysis initiated.
- Draft Stormwater Management Report initiated.

- Continued preliminary engineering and plan preparation to be used in the Design-Build procurement. Draft preliminary plans to be submitted to SCDOT for review in late March 2014. Final preliminary plans to be completed in late spring 2014 pending comments from SCDOT.
- Biological Assessment submitted to SCDOT for review; draft cultural resources report submitted to SCDOT for review; wetland mitigation exploration continues.

## MARCH 2014

- On March 3, 2014, Staff responded to an inquiry from the South Carolina Transportation Infrastructure Bank for additional details regarding the proposed match projects.
- Continued evaluation of geotechnical data and soil seismic analysis.
- Continued draft Stormwater Management Report.
- Continued preliminary engineering and plan preparation to be used in the Design-Build procurement. Draft preliminary plans to be submitted to SCDOT for review in April 2014. Final preliminary plans to be completed in late spring 2014 pending comments from SCDOT.
- Biological Assessment submitted to US Fish and Wildlife Service for review; draft cultural resources revisions underway; wetland mitigation exploration continues.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition continues (8 property owners requesting acquisition on 12 parcels).

## APRIL 2014

- Submitted draft Preliminary Plans (approximately 20% plans) to be used in the Design-Build procurement to SCDOT for review on April 9, 2014. Final preliminary plans to be completed in late spring 2014 pending review time and nature of comments from SCDOT.

- Continued preliminary bridge plans to be submitted with preliminary road plans in late spring.
- Submitted Draft Stormwater Management Report to SCDOT for review on April 9, 2014.
- Submitted Draft Geotechnical Data Report to SCDOT for review on April 9, 2014. Continuing soil seismic analysis.
- Draft Utilities Conflicts and Recommendations Report to be submitted with preliminary road plans in late spring.
- Field survey completed.
- Geotechnical field work completed.
- FEIS: Concurrence from US Fish and Wildlife Service on Biological Assessment; cultural resources submitted to State Historic Preservation Office for review; wetland mitigation exploration continues.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition continues (6 requests completed /settled and 7 requests being processed/ considered).

#### MAY 2014

- Received SCDOT comments to 20% preliminary plans and reports. Working with SCDOT to address comments and finalize 30% Preliminary Plans.
- Continued preliminary bridge plans to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans in summer.
- Continued Draft Utilities Conflicts and Recommendations Report to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans in summer.
- FEIS: wetland mitigation exploration continues.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – No new requests received and no new settlements. (6 requests completed /settled and 7 requests being processed/ considered).



## JUNE 2014

- Met with SCDOT on 6/12/14 to review and discuss SCDOT 20% preliminary plan comments. Working with SCDOT to address comments and finalize 30% Preliminary Plans for late summer 2014.
- Continued preliminary bridge plans to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans in summer.
- Continued Draft Utilities Conflicts and Recommendations Report to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans in late summer.
- FEIS: wetland mitigation exploration continues; Section 6(f) coordination with Charleston County PRC and National Park Service; FEIS preparation continues.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – No new requests received and no new settlements. (6 requests completed /settled and 7 requests being processed/ considered).

## JULY 2014

- Continued to address SCDOT comments and finalize 30% Preliminary Plans for late summer 2014.
- Continued preliminary bridge plans to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans in summer.
- Continued Draft Utilities Conflicts and Recommendations Report to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans in late summer.
- FEIS: wetland mitigation exploration continues; Section 6(f) coordination with Charleston County PRC and National Park Service; FEIS preparation continues.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – No new requests received and one new settlement were completed. (7 requests completed /settled and 6 requests being processed/ considered).

## AUGUST 2014

- Continued to address SCDOT comments and finalize 30% Preliminary Plans.
- Continued preliminary bridge plans to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans.
- Continued Draft Utilities Conflicts and Recommendations Report to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans.
- FEIS: wetland mitigation exploration continues; FEIS studies and preparation continues.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – No new requests received and no new settlements have been completed. Three settlement offers have been made to landowners in August. (7 requests completed /settled and 6 requests being processed/ considered).

## SEPTEMBER 2014

- Continued to address SCDOT comments and finalize 30% Preliminary Plans.
- Continued preliminary bridge plans to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans.
- Continued Draft Utilities Conflicts and Recommendations Report to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans.
- FEIS: Preparation of draft document for SCODT/USACE review; wetland mitigation exploration continues.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – No new requests have been received this month. Two new settlements have occurred. (9 requests settled and 4 requests being processed/ considered).

## OCTOBER 2014

- Continued to address SCDOT comments and finalize 30% Preliminary Plans. Revised 30% plans should be submitted in November.
- Continued preliminary bridge plans to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans.
- Continued Draft Utilities Conflicts and Recommendations Report to be submitted with 30% Preliminary Plans.
- Revised FEIS based on USACE/SCDOT review comments; turned revised FEIS in for FHWA review. Continued wetland mitigation search.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – No new requests have been received this month. No new settlements have occurred. (9 requests settled and 4 requests being processed/ considered).

## November 2014

- Submitted 30% plans to SCDOT.
- Submitted preliminary bridge plans to SCDOT.
- Submitted Draft Utilities Conflicts and Recommendations Report to SCDOT.
- Continued wetland mitigation search.

## DECEMBER 2014

- FHWA is reviewing the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). FHWA staff comments are expected in February.
- SCDOT is reviewing 30% plans, preliminary bridge plans and Utility Conflict reports. SCDOT comments will be submitted to the consultant in January.
- SCDOT is preparing an RFP for the saltwater mitigation. The evaluation committee will meet in January to review the RFP. The RFP will be issued in the Spring.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – No new requests have been received this month. No new settlements have occurred. Two additional settlements expected in first quarter of 2015.

## JANUARY 2015

- SCDOT and staff will meet with FHWA on February 5, 2015 to discuss the comments on the FEIS.
- SCDOT submitted their comments on the 30% plans to the consultant.
- The saltwater mitigation committee met in January and comments are being incorporated into the RFP. RFP is expected to be advertised this spring.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – No new requests have been received this month. One property settlement occurred in January.

## FEBRUARY 2015

- SCDOT and staff met with FHWA on February 5, 2015 to discuss the comments on the FEIS. Revisions to the FEIS have begun based on the comments.
- SCDOT and consultant staff met with BCDCOG staff to discuss upcoming updates to the CHATS Travel demand model.

- Consultant working to provide responses to SCDOT comments for 30% plans review. Working towards a meeting with SCDOT design leadership to review responses in mid-March.
- The saltwater mitigation committee met in February and the RFP continues to be developed for a spring release.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – Two new requests have been received this month. No property settlements occurred in February.

## MARCH 2015

- Continued with revisions to the FEIS based on FHWA comments. Revisions anticipated to be completed in June.
- Consultant met with SCDOT on March 16, 2015 to discuss SCDOT comments made to 30% plans and to resolve any open issues or concerns. Working towards incorporating comments and completing 30% plans. Revisions anticipated to be completed in June.
- SCDOT met with Army Corps of Engineers regarding saltwater mitigation to refine the RFP for a May release.
- Protective and Hardship right of way acquisition status – No new requests have been received this month. No property settlements occurred in March.