



Office of the Speaker
South Carolina House of Representatives

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ROBERT W. HARRELL, JR.
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

The Honorable Teddie E. Pryor, Sr.
Chairman, Charleston County Council
Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building
4045 Bridge View Drive
North Charleston, SC 29405

Dear Chairman Pryor:

Please accept our apologies for not being able to be there tonight. The issue of the completion of I-526 is incredibly important and we regret that we must remain at the State House to complete the organization of the House of Representatives.

We have been working on this issue as a community for over three decades. Our opportunity to finish it is at hand. Refusing to move forward will cost the Charleston Community a \$500 million project that will alleviate traffic and improve safety for years to come.

It is clear that our community wants this road finished. The survey from the Department of Transportation showed over 70% of people affected support it. Over 60% of people from James Island to Wadmalaw Island want it and over 80% of African Americans support the project.

There has been much conversation about diverting this money to other smaller projects. With the changes that are occurring in the State Infrastructure Bank membership with the new General Assembly, that simply is not possible to accomplish. The most likely result of pursuing such a course would be to cause the State Infrastructure Bank to transfer this \$500,000,000.00 to the next projects on their list.

We urge you to assure the completion of this project by agreeing to allow the City of Charleston to oversee its completion. This request is no different than your earlier vote to ask the same of the Department of Transportation.

If we fail to finish this road, generations from now, our citizens will be terribly disappointed that we let this opportunity pass.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Harrell, Jr.
Speaker of the House

Leon E. Stavrinakis
House District #119

Peter M. McCoy, Jr.
House District #115