

Charleston County RoadWise News Release

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See project feasibility study online:

http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/doc/ashleyriverbridgeretrofitstudy.pdf

Public Meeting on Ashley River Bridge Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Project, July 9

Public meeting from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, July 9, at St. Andrews Elementary School to discuss plans for a bicycle and pedestrian path from Albemarle Road to the Ashley River Bridge

<u>Charleston County Government</u> is holding a public meeting from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, July 9, to gather input on a proposed <u>Transportation Sales Tax</u> funded project located within the city of Charleston for a new bicycle and pedestrian path from Albemarle Road to the Ashley River Bridge.

The meeting will be held in the cafeteria of St. Andrews Elementary School (30 Chadwick Drive; Charleston, SC 29407).

Anyone who attends the meeting will receive information on the path forward for the project and will have an opportunity to make comments, ask questions, review conceptual designs and vote on alternative alignments for the proposed bicycle and pedestrian path.

Public comments on this project will be received through July 23, 2009, through the official Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax Web site at www.ccroadwise.com.

Description of the three proposed alternatives:

- Alternative A: Contains approximately 2,700 linear feet of elevated boardwalk to cross the
 existing wetlands. This alternative most closely follows the existing roadway network. This
 alternative has the most impact to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental
 Control's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (DHEC-OCRM) Critical
 Area.
- Alternative B: Contains approximately 2,300 linear feet of elevated boardwalk. This
 alternative closely resembles Alternative A but provides a more direct route to the Ashley
 River Bridge.
- Alternative C: Contains approximately 1,300 linear feet of elevated boardwalk. This
 alternative takes the most direct route across existing wetlands, has the least impact to the
 state jurisdictional Critical Area, but has a greater right-of way impact.

According to DHEC-OCRM, the Critical Area includes all coastal waters, tidelands, the beach/dune system and beaches. In this case, the critical area would be delineated based on vegetation (i.e. marsh grasses), soil type and slope/elevation. The state has jurisdiction over all tidelands/critical areas, and proposed impacts must be permitted through DHEC-OCRM.

The initial <u>Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax referendum</u> was approved by voters in November of 2004. Collection of the <u>Transportation Sales Tax</u> began in May of 2005 and will continue for 25 years or until \$1.303 billion is generated for transportation and greenspace related projects and improvements.

<u>Charleston County RoadWise</u> is the name of the Charleston County Government's management program for the construction of roads, highways, resurfacing, paving and drainage projects that are funded by the Transportation Sales Tax.

Visit <u>www.ccroadwise.com</u> for more information on this and other projects, public meeting notices and up-to-date news and information.