



Charleston County

**ROADWISE**

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## Charleston County News Release

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**Project website:** [http://www.ccroadwise.org/us17\\_sc61\\_wesley.html](http://www.ccroadwise.org/us17_sc61_wesley.html)

**Project design:** [http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/images/windermere\\_design.jpg](http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/images/windermere_design.jpg)

## Construction Complete on U.S 17/S.C. 61/Wesley Drive Improvements Project

*Charleston County completes major bond project funded by the Transportation Sales Tax*

[Charleston County Government](#) held a ceremony on Wednesday, July 6, 2011 to celebrate the completion of the [U.S. 17/S.C. 61/Wesley Drive Improvements Project](#) located in West Ashley.

The \$3.4 million project, which began in January 2011, was funded by the [Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax Program](#). The project was requested by the [City of Charleston](#) and approved by voters in [the first bond referendum](#) in November 2004.

### Speakers at the July 6 ceremony were:

- [Teddie E. Pryor, Sr., Charleston County Council Chairman](#)
- [Joseph P. Riley, Jr., City of Charleston Mayor](#)

The goal of the project was to improve traffic flow, drainage and pedestrian and bicyclist mobility. The project included improvements to Folly Road, Windermere Boulevard and Wesley Drive from the South Windermere Shopping Center up to St. Andrews Boulevard (S.C. 61). The project also included improvements to Folly Road Boulevard.

### Major components of the project improvements:

- Heading north on Folly Road from the Wappoo Bridge toward downtown Charleston:
  - Traffic lanes have been changed and include a left turn only lane from Folly Road onto Windermere Boulevard.
  - The remaining three lanes have been changed to provide for a through only lane to Wesley Drive, a lane in which the driver can choose either Wesley Drive or Folly Road Boulevard, and a through only lane to Folly Road Boulevard.
- Improvements to Wesley Drive between Folly Road and U.S. Highway 17 (Savannah Highway) include new curb and gutter, drainage improvements and new sidewalks. Additional measures were made behind the sidewalk to improve drainage for adjacent properties.
- The existing sidewalks on Folly Road Boulevard were replaced from Folly Road to Albemarle Road and include new ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant curb ramps.
- The project limits on Folly Road, Wesley Drive and Folly Road Boulevard have been repaved and include new pavement markings and improved crosswalks.
- The sidewalk has been widened to 10 feet for pedestrians and bicyclists using the West Ashley Greenway to travel to the crosswalks at Windermere Boulevard and Folly Road.
- The existing crosswalk at Wesley Drive and St. Andrews Boulevard has been relocated to shorten the pedestrian crossing distance.

- Stoplights were upgraded at the intersections of Folly Road at Windermere Boulevard, Folly Road at Wesley Drive, Wesley Drive at U.S. 17, and Wesley Drive at St. Andrews Boulevard. The upgrade included new pedestrian signals for the improved crosswalks.
- Measures were taken to protect the grand trees that line Wesley Drive and U.S. 17 during construction.
- Landscaping was added at the intersection of Wesley Drive and Folly Road and the large traffic island at the intersection.

**Quotes about the project:**

- **Teddie E. Pryor, Sr. Charleston County Council Chairman:** “We are excited to announce the completion of this project because it was designed with extensive public input, and greatly improves the traveling situation around a busy and increasingly popular local shopping center and for those needing to access nearby neighborhoods. Additionally, we are proud because it improves transportation not only for drivers, but for the many bicyclists and pedestrians who use the West Ashley Greenway for recreation. The new, 10-foot sidewalks near the shopping center and the new sidewalks and stormwater drains along Wesley Drive and Folly Road Boulevard are great improvements for the homes and businesses in this area.”
- **Joseph P. Riley, Jr., City of Charleston Mayor:** “The completion of this project has been the result of the extraordinary cooperation between City, County, State, and most importantly, the residents from the affected neighborhoods. Everyone worked together to see that the improvements not only serve to improve mobility for walkers, cyclists, and the motoring public, but also worked to further enhance the neighborhoods for the improvement of their quality of life. I commend the citizens from the Ashley Bridge District for their input throughout the process of designing and constructing the Wesley Drive improvements and for their desire and commitment to improve their neighborhoods and their surroundings. “

The public can get more information and see photos of the construction process online at [http://www.ccroadwise.org/us17\\_sc61\\_wesley.html](http://www.ccroadwise.org/us17_sc61_wesley.html). Visit the official website at [www.ccroadwise.org](http://www.ccroadwise.org) for public meeting notices and up-to-date news and information about all Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax road projects.

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