



Charleston County

ROADWISE

A Program of Charleston County Government

Charleston County News Release

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Public Meeting April 17 for Maybank Hwy. Improvements Project

View design alternatives and submit comment forms; official public comment period ends May 2

[Charleston County Government](#) invites residents to a public information meeting about the [Maybank Highway Improvements Project](#). The meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 17 from 6-8 p.m. at Haut Gap Middle School (1861 Bohicket Road, Johns Island) in the gymnasium.

Details on the meeting:

- Drop-in format beginning with a brief presentation about the project at 6 p.m.
- Engineering and environmental personnel will be available to answer questions at individual stations.
- Opportunity to see displays and design alternatives on the project.
- Opportunity to submit comments in writing on the design alternatives.
 - The official public comment period is currently open and will remain open through May 2, 2012.
 - Those who attend the public meeting can submit comment forms in person at the meeting.
 - Those who cannot attend the public meeting can submit comments online through May 2 at <http://www.croadwise.org/projects/maybank/comments.php> or by mail.
 - Although questions and comments are accepted by staff at any time, only comments received during the official comment period will be included in the official project record and are taken into consideration when evaluating project alternatives under the [National Environmental Policy Act](#) (NEPA).

In addition to the April 17 public information meeting, a separate, official public hearing will be held in the future, and the public will be notified when the hearing date is confirmed. At that time, citizens will have the opportunity to make formal, verbal comments immediately following a brief project presentation by County staff.

The intent of the project is to improve traffic flow and safety on Maybank Highway and to provide adequate bicycle and pedestrian accommodations.

The project has evolved, since its inception and the first public hearing on September 26, 2007, to include improvements recommended by the Urban Land Institute. These recommendations were approved by [Charleston County Council](#) on September 2, 2009, and were identified as the "Town/Country and Pitchfork Alternative."

The main elements of the Town/Country and Pitchfork Alternative are:

- Construct a new, parallel, two-lane road to the north of Maybank Highway (on the right side of the road if traveling from James Island) from the intersection of Maybank Highway and Fenwick Hall Allee to River Road.
- Construct a new, parallel, two-lane road to the south of Maybank Highway (on the left side of the road if traveling from James Island) from the Stono River Bridge to River Road.
- Add right turn lanes at the intersection of River Road and Maybank Highway.
- Construct a median and/or left turn lanes along Maybank Highway from River Road to Bohicket Road.
- Accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians from River Road to Bohicket Road.

While Charleston County Council has considered and directed staff to implement the Town/Country and Pitchfork Alternative, the NEPA process requires an evaluation of a “Widening Alternative” because, according to the Federal Highway Administration, it is a feasible and prudent alternative.

The main elements of the Widening Alternative are:

- Widen Maybank Highway from Main Road to River Road from the existing two-lane road to a four-lane, divided road with a landscaped median. In areas where there are numerous driveways, a center, two-way left turn lane will be added.
- Widen Maybank Highway from River Road to the Stono River Bridge from the existing two-lane road to a four-lane, divided road with a wide natural median to protect the tree canopy.
- Accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians from River Road to Bohicket Road.

Background: The project was requested by the City of Charleston and is funded by the [Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax](#) and CHATS Federal Guideshares. It is one of the projects that voters in Charleston County approved in the second Transportation Sales Tax bond referendum in November 2006. This authorized the County to issue an additional \$205 million in bonds, which will be repaid through Transportation Sales Tax revenues.

The public can get up-to-date project information, including the project status, schedule, designs and maps, and public meeting information online at <http://www.ccroadwise.org/projects/maybank/index.php>.

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