

BEAUFORT COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (BCTC)

MEETING MINUTES

From May 16, 2018

The regular meeting of the Beaufort County Transportation Committee (BCTC) was held on March 21, 2018 in the Executive Conference Room of the Beaufort County Administrative Complex located at 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, South Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Glover, Kraig Gordon, Christopher England, Craig Forrest, James Morrall, Mark McCain, Bob Arundell, Stephen Hill, Afif Combs

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe DeVito, Joseph Stroman, Jr.

VACANT DISTRICTS: N/A

OTHERS PRESENT: County Council Member Alice Howard, District 4
Rob McFee, Beaufort County Division Director for Construction, Engineering & Facilities
Colin Kinton, Beaufort County Director of Traffic and Transportation Engineering
Suzanne Larson, Lowcountry Inside Track
Andrew Isenhour, PE, Tensar

Notification. An audio recording of this meeting is available from the Beaufort County Engineering Department. Please contact the department at 843-255-2700 and request an audio copy. Power Point presentations given to the BCTC are available from the Beaufort County Engineering Department also.

1. **Call to Order & Members Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at approximately 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Gordon and an attendance roll call was taken. A quorum was achieved for this meeting.

2. **Introductions and Public Comment.** N/A

3. **Approval of Minutes.** Meeting minutes from the March 21, 2018 meeting were approved.

4. **Old Business.**

- A. **MELANIE LOWTHER MEMORIAL BRIDGE DEDICATION SIGNS:** A check for the purchase of the signs was sent to the program manager at SCDOT. The signs are in process.
- B. **COMMITTEE REPORT ON ANNUAL PROJECT REQUESTS:** It was discussed that there has been a group assigned to do the next phase of road projects starting next fiscal year.
 - There's a two part package for review in the first project for recommendation. The first package is for review of Washington, David Green, Capers Island and Rose Island Roads which are all in District 3. All of the dirt roads are moving through the process right now as they need to acquire additional drainage and ROW easements. It has been asked that the progress continue and be rolled over to CY 2019. The second part of the package is Washington Road ROW needs to be secured; the drainage outfalls recommendation is that Beaufort County Engineering move forward with the design for 2019. ROW and drainage

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has been acquired for David Green and Capers Island Roads. The acquisition of ROW and easements has been acquired and the roads are partially paved.

- The second project for recommendation is the signage for SC 46/Bluffton Parkway. A comprehensive study recommends that there be educational signage at an approximate cost of \$90k. Traffic Engineering will contribute 10%, \$45k has been requested of other funds, and Town of Bluffton should pay the remaining \$45k. The cost to correct the circle is multi-millions. In the meanwhile, signs can be used now, and the same signs can be used after the restructure. There was concern expressed about the signage. It is the feeling that CTC shouldn't correct other people's mistakes. It was said that is why CTC didn't commit to 100% but that there is still an obligation to Council and the citizens to support a solution. Mr. Gordon is drafting a recommendation letter to the Public Facilities Committee for the implementation of project 2. The MSA report states it take the tangent shoulders and instead of making right turn moves, separating them from the circle. He will suggest use of TAG funds and other funds to solve the problem. To show good effort by the CTC, it is funding \$40k for the signage. The recommendation to paint the pavement colors was deemed not to make a difference. There were no other low cost recommendations for a solution. There's a concern that the signage could have to be changed when reconstruction occurs. It is the feeling of some that the money shouldn't be spent on signage now, but to wait until reconstruction. It has been recommended that there be educational outreach once the purchase of signage occurs.
- The third project for recommendation is Phase 2 of 3-Resurfacing City streets in the amount of \$590k, of which the City will contribute 5% of the total. There is a denial of this request based on the CTC meeting two meetings ago (January 18, 2018) where it was offered to all municipalities that during the next PMS review they would be a part of the study with their roads taken into consideration. It was recommended that this be deferred until the next PMS cycle.
- The fourth project for recommendation is a request from Mr. McCain's district, District 2. There was report given out in the early part of a year about a road that's 279 feet long; the cul-de-sac is destroyed. The tangents are in good shape. There's a PQI rating of 2.89 which reflects fair but it doesn't truly reflect the complete road way. It is recommended that the road be incorporated in the next paving contract for good mobilization cost. The estimated cost is \$12k.

C. RESURFACING UPDATE AND CONTRACT 50 UPDATE:

- The contractor for Contract 50A is JH Heirs for \$2.17 million from TAG funds for 2.42 miles of paving. Butler Road is complete, Trotter's Loop is 90% complete and Johnson Landing Road is 40% complete.
- The contractor for Contract 50WE is PMI for \$3 million from C funds for 2.28 miles of paving. Albertha Fields Road is 40% complete; the work on the remainder of the roads has not started yet.

D. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR DAN CHISM, PE: Dan Chism worked for F&ME. He left and moved to Anderson to take care of his father. Mr. Gordon wrote a letter of recommendation to Anderson County. Dan will be doing the PMS and road work with design.

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E. UPDATE ON ONE CENT TAX FOR LADY'S ISLAND AND HH BRIDGES:

- The referendum will appear on November's ballot. An educational firm has been contracted to educate the public of the mechanics and finances as it relates to the One Cent question and how "vehicle financing" works to fund transportation projects. The One Cent question has three parts: (1) funding the Hilton Head Bridges, partially from local funds with \$80 million; (2) \$30 million for improvements to US 21 across Lady's Island; and (3) \$10 million to provide an alternate to vehicle transportation in areas where it is possible. The consultant will be doing outreach and surveys to understand the citizens' thoughts and find out what information they need to know.
- The EA for the Hilton Head bridges is moving forward with KCI. They have done the aerial surveying, preliminary geo-technical work, finished with the modeling of the existing structures, they are going to begin the exercise of modeling whether the pre-structures can remain and be widened at a reasonable cost, and if they will comply with seismic requirements. They have completed the inspection of existing bridges which showed that the bridges are in the exact condition as thought and spans are in very good condition. The 1955 span is in very poor condition and the bridges are way over capacity. Beaufort County has been working with the consultant and plans to request \$120 million. The Beaufort County match will be \$80 million; \$42 million of federal dollars has been programmed to go to one of the spans. There has been a kick off meeting and the 2006 SIB application was reviewed which funded the 170 Widening from US 21 and Route 462. That project was a mix of federal, state and local funds and it was a successful project. The HH Bridges are scheduled to be three lanes in each direction which will allow for capacity and better evacuation. It may cause a problem if the bridges in between are not also widened.

5. New Business.

- A. INTRODUCTION TO TENSAR AND CTC APPLICATIONS: Mr. Andrew Isenhour, PE, was introduced and he gave his presentation.
- B. RESULTS OF DOLPHIN POINT ROAD: The work on Dolphin Point Road was partial depth patching. The road is 18 feet wide and there's progressive edge break off from frost damage and from the fact that more houses are being built, which brings in construction traffic. It was also affected by the hurricanes and debris traffic. The project is due to start in two weeks.
- C. REPORT ON SCDOT MEETING WITH LATS (MPO): SCDOT gave an overview of areas in the Council of Government.
 - Pavement Management Systems-SCDOT will do PMS every year for interstate roads, every two years for primary roads and every three years for secondary/neighborhood roads.
 - Asphalt Contracts-These contracts will be let on a regional basis depending on the plant location and market area. Odd months will be resurfacing projects and even months will be rehab projects. All funding in SC is state funding except for interstate highways.
 - ROW relocation issues-Trees will be cleared on I-95 from mile post 0 to mile post 60 to increase safety.
 - \$80 million was approved for freight mobility and rural interstate improvement projects, National Highway Program mobility funds have been allocated for that; \$15 million for safety related programs have been allocated. All allocated monies total \$114 million.

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- Automated vehicles (without drivers)-Supporting technology is being debated over as to which technology is best. RTA is going to be pushed more.
 - 2019 Resurfacing Projects are going to the commission for approval; Beaufort County has 6-7 projects that are in that program. There's planning in discussion for farm-to-market and residential roads.
- D. LATS REPORT ON TIGER/BUILD FUNDS: The Federal Government had decided to change the TIGER Grant to the BUILD Grant. There are \$1.5 billion in funds available but states are only eligible to receive \$150 million. Beaufort County will be submitting an application for improvements from Windmill Harbor to Cross Island Parkway.
- E. REPORT FROM MAY 14, 2018 PALMETTO BAY ROAD: Mr. Gordon had a meeting with Town of Hilton Head Engineering staff regarding Palmetto Bay Road. Two years ago a grant was received in the amount of \$4.1 million as a recurring grant, and a \$1.5 million as a nonrecurring grant, both to be spent on SC roads; it was decided it would be spent on Palmetto Bay Road. Another \$600,000 was received to go towards the same road. The design of the road had been transferred to SCDOT and they said it would take approximately \$3.2 million to do the project, but they can't move forward with anything until all money has been received. Mr. Gordon explained Roller-Compacted Concrete (RCC), saying that it is used this day and age, and thinks it could be used in this project. Palmetto Bay Road is roughly a mile long and if full depth asphalt paving is utilized, it would take at least a month to do it. The RCC company said they could do the project in 5 days for a lesser cost. The website for the RCC company is www.andaleconstruction.com.
- F. REPORT ON MEETING WITH DISTRICT 6 RME/BC RME CONCERNING SECONDARY ROAD PROGRAM: It seems that the work on the secondary routes is being forced on the CTC's. The project for PMS for state secondary routes was bid out to F&ME. There's a new RME and there was a lunch with her and it went well. It was requested in the lunch meeting that the CTC's have input on the state secondary routes, and it was asked when the PMS for the state secondary routes would be completed. A meeting was scheduled to discuss this further.
- G. TREASURER REPORT: Joe DeVito emailed to say that he agrees with the monthly report that was sent.

6. Public Comment.

7. Meeting Adjourned. The next regular meeting the BCTC will be July 18, 2018 at 4:00 p.m., in the Executive Conference Room, County Administration Building, Robert Smalls Complex, Beaufort, SC.