



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING I-85 Widening Project Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties

Tuesday
March 24, 2015
&
Thursday
March 26, 2015

Project Description

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) proposes improvements along approximately 17 miles of I-85 in Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties. It includes widening I-85 from four lanes to six lanes between Gossett Road (Exit 80) and Shelby Highway (Exit 96). The project also includes improving five interchanges and replacement of the overpass bridge at Sunny Slope Drive (S-11-131). Major Interchange improvements are to be made at the Battleground Road interchange (Exit 83), the Green River Road interchange (Exit 87), the Pleasant School Road interchange (Exit 95), and the Shelby Road interchange (Exit 96). Minor improvements are being considered at the Hyatt Street interchange (Exit 90).

Purpose for the Project

These improvements are to add capacity to the interstate and to correct roadway operational deficiencies at the interchanges. The capacity will be expanded by adding a lane in each direction to the interstate and the deficiencies will be addressed by bringing the interchanges and the Sunny Slope Drive overpass bridge up to current design standards.

Purpose for Tonight's Meeting

This is the second round of Public Information Meetings being held for the I-85 Widening project. The first round was in November 2014 and provided basic information about the proposed improvement project. This round of meetings is to present the proposed conceptual designs for the improvements to the interchanges at Battleground Road, Green River Road, Pleasant School Road and Shelby Highway. It is also to gather the concerns and issues regarding these conceptual designs from each person that attends or otherwise participates in this process. The informal, drop-in style format of these meetings provides you the opportunity to speak with the SCDOT and the Project Team that is performing the design and environmental studies to ask questions and share with them your thoughts and concerns regarding the project. There is also the opportunity to provide written comments to be considered by the Team as the refinement of the design continues.

If you wish to send comments after this meeting you can mail them to the SCDOT Project Manager at:

Mr. Brad Reynolds, P.E.
South Carolina Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 191
Columbia, SC 29202-0191

Or via email at
ReynoldsBS@scdot.org



Project Development Process

The alternatives will continue to be developed and then will be evaluated to determine the benefits and impacts associated with each one. After consideration of these benefits, in light of the purpose and need for the project, a Preferred Alternative will be recommended in an Environmental Assessment (EA) document. Another public meeting, termed a Public Hearing, will be held to solicit your comments regarding the EA and its recommendation of a Preferred Alternative. After the Public Hearing, if the Federal Highway Administration agrees with the findings in the EA, they will issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The preliminary design of the Preferred Alternative also will be completed. The project will then proceed as a Design/Build project, meaning that it will be advertised and a Design/Build team will be selected to complete the project.

Project Schedule

The estimated schedule for the project is:

Complete Environmental Assessment	Fall 2015
Public Hearings	Fall 2015
Signed FONSI/Design Completion	Winter 2015
Advertise for Design/Build Construction	Summer 2016
Start Construction	Fall 2016
Complete Construction	Fall 2019





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