



# Charleston County

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## Transportation Development

### News Release

August 23, 2019  
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#### Charleston County Eliminates SC 7 and SC 171 Intersection Improvements Project

Charleston County Transportation Development will not pursue the SC 7 and SC 171 Intersection Improvements Project following the latest review of citizen comments. Staff will now design alternative improvements throughout the study area including additional multi-use paths and providing congestion relief.

#### Path forward

Staff is developing a new project scope focusing on the following items, while maintaining the alternate merge:

- Intersection improvements at Sam Rittenberg Blvd and Orange Grove Road.
- Construction of sidewalks and multi-use paths throughout the project study area.
- Improvements to Sumar Street.
- Extension of a multi-use path to Orange Grove Road along Sumar Street.
- Safety Enhancements at Donahue Drive and Old Towne Road.
- Study traffic signal at Amberly Road and Sam Rittenberg Blvd.
- Landscaping enhancement/vegetation management to provide better sight distance near the alternate merge.

#### History

The latest round of public comment, complete in June of this year, revealed no preferred option to eliminate the alternate merge. The county received almost 700 comments from citizens, and 87 percent selected the no-build option. In addition, public feedback focused on the need to maintain access to local business and neighborhoods along the corridor.

In 2016, the City of Charleston announced its West Ashley revitalization initiative, and shortly thereafter began a comprehensive planning study of the area called Plan West Ashley. In 2017, the City purchased the 2 ½-acre, old Piggly Wiggly grocery store site located at the north end of SC 7. Even with the elimination of the intersection improvements project at SC 7 and SC 171. They will continue with their plans to develop the old Piggly Wiggly site located at the north end of SC 7. You can find more information at <https://www.charleston-sc.gov/1527/Plan-West-Ashley-Master-Plan>

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