

Charleston County News Release

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Project Web site: http://www.ccroadwise.org/us17_sc61_wesley.html

Project area map: http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/images/1761wesleygraphic1110.jpg

Traffic Alert: Weekend Lane Closures on Folly Road and Wesley Drive in West Ashley

Lane closures for U.S 17/S.C. 61/Wesley Drive Improvements Project in West Ashley

<u>Charleston County Government</u> announces a traffic alert as part of the <u>U.S.17/S.C.61/Wesley</u> <u>Drive Improvements Project in West Ashley that will affect Wesley Drive and Folly Road as follows:</u>

- Drivers should expect delays due to lane closures this weekend from 9 p.m. on Friday, March 18 through 6 a.m. on Monday, March 21.
- Northbound lanes on Folly Road (heading away from Folly Beach) will be reduced to two lanes of traffic from Yeamans Road to the stoplight at Windermere Boulevard.
- The outside northbound lane on Wesley Drive (heading away from Folly Beach) will be closed from the stoplight at Windermere Boulevard to U.S. 17 (Savannah Highway).
- At no time during the work will the entire northbound roadway be closed to traffic.
- The closures are necessary to begin replacing the curb and gutter and to repair the storm drainage system on Wesley Drive.
- It is expected that additional weekend lane closures will be required to complete the project, and advance notice will be given as soon as construction dates are confirmed.
- Drivers traveling through the project area are asked to be aware of equipment and crews working in the area. Alternative routes are recommended if possible.
- The public is also asked to notice traffic control signs, reductions in speed limit and message board information, and note that all work is dependent on weather.

Get up-to-date project information, including construction status and traffic alerts, online at http://www.ccroadwise.org/us17_sc61_wesley.html.

BACKGROUND ON THE PROJECT:

- Construction on the project began in January 2011. The goal of the project is to improve traffic flow, drainage, and pedestrian and bicyclist mobility.
- The project, which is expected to be completed in May of 2011, is funded by the
 <u>Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax</u> and managed by <u>Charleston County</u>
 <u>Government</u>'s RoadWise Program, in close coordination with the <u>City of Charleston</u> and the <u>S.C. Department of Transportation</u>.
- The U.S. 17/S.C. 61/Wesley Drive Improvements Project includes improvements to Folly Road from south of Windermere Boulevard (Wappoo Bridge side) starting at Yeamans Road and continuing up Wesley Drive to St. Andrews Boulevard (S.C. 61).
- The project also includes improvements to Folly Road Boulevard from Windermere Boulevard up to Albemarle Road.
- Every effort is being made to schedule necessary lane closures for the project during offpeak, nighttime and weekend hours when possible to minimize effects on traffic.
- Some lane closures may be scheduled during the day on selected weekends.
- Advance notice of all lane closures will be provided to the media.
- The U.S.17/S.C.61/Wesley Drive project was requested by the <u>City of Charleston</u> and approved by voters in <u>the first bond referendum</u>. The voters of Charleston County

authorized the County to issue \$77 million in bonds, which will be repaid through Transportation Sales Tax revenues. The entire amount of the first bond referendum is allocated for the following transportation improvement projects:

- o Folly Road and Maybank Highway Intersection Improvements
- o Glenn McConnell Parkway / Bees Ferry Road Intersection (West Ashley Circle)
- o Harbor View Road Improvements
- o U.S. 17/S.C. 61/Wesley Drive Improvements
- o Palmetto Commerce Parkway
- o <u>US 17 / Johnnie Dodds Boulevard Improvements</u>

Visit the official Web site at www.ccroadwise.org for public meeting notices and up-to-date news and information about all Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax.

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