

## **Charleston County News Release**

Release Number: 3261 Release Date: April 8, 2011

Project Web site: http://www.ccroadwise.org/us17\_sc61\_wesley.html

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

## Traffic Alert: Closures on Stocker Drive 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 the following traffic alerts as part of the <u>U.S.17/S.C.61/Wesley Drive Improvements Project</u> in West Ashley that will affect Wesley Drive and Folly Road:

- Access to Stocker Drive from Wesley Drive will be closed beginning at 8 a.m. on Monday, April 11, and remain closed until work on the storm drainage system in this area is completed. The work is expected to be finished by 6 a.m. on Wednesday, April 13.
- Lane closures will occur on Wesley Drive and U.S. 17 (Savannah Highway).
  - April 10-14 from 9 p.m.-6 a.m. each night: the outside southbound lane on Wesley Drive (heading toward Folly Beach) will be closed from Highway 61 (St. Andrews Boulevard) to Windermere Boulevard.
  - April 10-14 from 9 p.m.-6 a.m. each night: the outside eastbound lane on U.S. 17 (heading toward downtown) will be closed for approximately 500 feet as you approach the intersection of U.S. 17 and Wesley Drive.
  - April 10-11 from 9 p.m.-6 a.m. each night: the outside northbound lane on Wesley drive (heading away from Folly Beach) will be closed from Windermere Boulevard to U.S. 17.
  - Drivers should expect delays during construction.
- At no time during the work will the entire roadways be closed to traffic.
- The closures are necessary to continue work replacing the curb and gutter and repairing the storm drainage system on Wesley Drive.
- Drivers traveling through the project area are asked to be aware of equipment and crews.
   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 <a href="http://www.ccroadwise.org/us17\_sc61\_wesley.html">http://www.ccroadwise.org/us17\_sc61\_wesley.html</a>.

## **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 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:
  - 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 US 17 / Johnnie Dodds Boulevard Improvements

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

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