



## Charleston County News Release

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**Project website:** [http://www.ccroadwise.org/harbor\\_view\\_road.html](http://www.ccroadwise.org/harbor_view_road.html)

**See public comments:** [http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/doc/harbor\\_view\\_meeting\\_1\\_6\\_29\\_06.pdf](http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/doc/harbor_view_meeting_1_6_29_06.pdf)

## County Holds Meeting for Harbor View Road Project on August 2

*Public input sought before County meets with SCDOT on Aug. 4*

Charleston County Council member [Joe Qualey](#) invites citizens to a meeting about the County's [Harbor View Road Widening Project](#). The meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 2 at 5 p.m. at the James Island Town Hall located at [1238 Camp Road](#).

Those attending the meeting will hear information presented by County staff working on the project and have an opportunity to ask questions about the project. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information to residents and also to gather additional input prior to the County's meeting with the [S.C. Department of Transportation \(SCDOT\)](#) on Thursday, Aug. 4.

The project was designed based on public input given at meetings and through the County's Web page on the project. The most requested feature of the project was to include bike and pedestrian paths (see break-down of public comments: [http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/doc/harbor\\_view\\_meeting\\_1\\_6\\_29\\_06.pdf](http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/doc/harbor_view_meeting_1_6_29_06.pdf))

After some residents spoke against certain components of the project at a recent County Council meeting, Council directed staff to meet with the SCDOT to ask about the feasibility of making the requested changes to the project scope.

"I don't want anyone to feel like they were left out of the process of planning this important project," Qualey said. "And I want everyone to know exactly what is going to happen, when it will happen, and how long it will take. The more information we can provide our citizens, the better."

Since Council's directive for staff to meet with the SCDOT, a few media stories have been published or aired on the news that contained inaccurate facts. The most frequent inaccurate statements in the media regarding the project concern the width and the amount of right-of-way acquisition needed. The below information gives the incorrect information that has been given out, followed by the correct facts of the project:

**Incorrect:** The project will widen Harbor View Road from 26 feet to 66 feet.

**Correct:**

- The existing pavement width on Harbor View Road is 30 feet.
- The plans for Harbor View Road do not widen the pavement width to 66 feet at any section along the corridor.
- The project's planned pavement widths are as follows:
  - 39 feet wide from North Shore Drive to Mikell Drive
  - 30 feet wide from Mikell Drive to Fort Johnson Road
  - 51 feet wide only at the intersections of North Shore, Quail and Mikell to accommodate a dedicated right turn lane.

**Incorrect:** The project requires 20 additional feet of right-of-way from all parcels along Harbor View Road.

**Correct:**

- Less than half of the parcels along Harbor View Road require additional right-of-way to be acquired in order to accomplish the project.
- Of the parcels that need additional right-of-way to be required, most only require small block sections for new drainage structures, an amount that varies for each parcel.
  - At the intersections with dedicated right turn lanes, the additional right-of-way varies from zero to 12 feet.

- Parcels located on the corners streets that intersect with Harbor View Road require additional right-of-way to provide vehicles with the necessary sight distances needed for safe turning.

## BACKGROUND

The project is funded by the [Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax](#) and managed by [Charleston County Government](#). It is one of the projects that voters in Charleston County approved in the first Transportation Sales Tax bond referendum in November 2004. This authorized the County to issue \$77 million in bonds, which will be repaid through Transportation Sales Tax revenues. The entire amount of the first Transportation Sales Tax bond referendum is allocated to the following transportation improvement projects, including Harbor View Road:

- [Folly Road and Maybank Highway Intersection Improvements](#)
- [Glenn McConnell Parkway / Bees Ferry Road Intersection \(West Ashley Circle\)](#)
- [Harbor View Road Improvements](#)
- [Hwy 17 / SC 61 / Wesley Drive Improvements](#)
- [Loop Ramp from James Island Connector to Folly Road](#)
- [Palmetto Commerce Parkway](#)
- [US 17 / Johnnie Dodds Boulevard Improvements](#)

### Harbor View Road Project Description

- Construction of a center left turn lane on Harbor View Road between North Shore Drive and Mikell Drive.
- An additional three right turn lanes at the Harbor View Road intersections with North Shore Drive, Quail Drive and Mikell Drive.
- The intersection of North Shore Drive and Harbor View Road will be changed to a right-turn-in and right-turn-out only. This new traffic pattern will be accomplished using a raised concrete island.
- The construction of a 10-foot wide multi-use path (bicycles and pedestrians) on the Charleston Harbor side of Harbor View Road from North Shore Drive to Fort Johnson Road. A five-foot wide sidewalk will be constructed on the opposite side of Harbor View Road from North Shore Drive to Fort Johnson Road.
- Improvements to the side roads where they intersect with Harbor View Road to accommodate turning school buses.
- Replace the existing ditch with a new drainage system that will include curb and gutter, catch basins, water quality measures and drainage pipes.

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