



# Charleston County

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## Transportation Development

# News Release

April 22, 2016

Release Number: 4029

## Traffic Alert - Ashley River Bridge Bike/Pedestrian Improvement Project Test Lane

Project webpage: [http://roads.charlestoncounty.org/projects/ashley\\_river\\_bridge/](http://roads.charlestoncounty.org/projects/ashley_river_bridge/)

[Charleston County Government](#) announces crews will be modifying the traffic merge lane onto the Ashley River Bridge, which is part of the test lane recently put into place. Crews will begin moving barricades near the Ashley River Bridge this Sunday, April 24. The work will start around 3 p.m. and be completed that afternoon. Currently, the traffic merge is located on Folly Road just north of Albemarle Road. It will be moved closer to the Ashley River Bridge in order to alleviate some of the traffic congestion associated with the lane closure.

Since the installation of the temporary lane closure, meant to test the impact of the proposed bike lane, Charleston County staff, City of Charleston staff and the County consultant have been monitoring the daily traffic counts and travel times on all the approaching routes, including the James Island Connector. We have observed travel times on U.S. 17 and S.C. 61 remain closely similar. However, we have seen delays in traffic approaching the bridge from Folly Road. We are moving the traffic merge point to reduce the conflict of the merging traffic caused by the lane closure and the traffic signals on Folly Road at Albemarle Road and at Windermere Blvd. This will allow two lanes of travel on Folly Road Blvd. for an extended distance and help to reduce the traffic congestion and delays being seen on James Island.

The lane closure will now remain in place for up to 30 days to allow for traffic patterns to adjust and further test runs and traffic counts to be completed. We anticipate the lane closure will be removed before May 30.

### **The lane is NOT open to bicyclists and pedestrians during the testing period**

Bicyclist and pedestrians are prohibited from using the lane closure to cross the bridge at this time due to necessary safety improvements for bike and pedestrian use have not been implemented at this time.

Visit the official website at <http://roads.charlestoncounty.org> for public meeting notices and up-to-date news and information about all Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax road projects. Anyone with questions about the project can call Charleston County's Transportation Development Department at (843) 202-6140.

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- Visit our website: [www.charlestoncounty.org](http://www.charlestoncounty.org)



- Prepared by the Charleston County Public Information Office -