

June 2008

AYNOR OVERPASS PROJECT



Update



Penny Sales Tax for Roads

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING SET FOR JULY 16, 2008 at AYNOR HIGH SCHOOL



Memorial Day weekend was the beginning of long lines of traffic for the Town of Aynor. These photos were taken on Memorial Day weekend; but the real traffic was seen later. At lunch on Saturday, June 21, traffic was backed up from the Marion Music Theatre through the Town of Aynor.

The Aynor Overpass was identified as a priority project in Horry County's RIDE II sales tax program. The new overpass will serve as the only uninterrupted thoroughfare that connects the two halves of Aynor that are separated by U.S. 501. This will not only decrease the travel time for commuters, but also decrease the number of accidents throughout the area. In the past three years, there have been 37 accidents just on U.S. 501 in the 1.5 mile segment between Bluewater Road and Jordanville Road. The proposed project will consist of approximately 2.5 miles of roadway, nearly 1.5 miles is on new alignment. The main line of the proposed project will include a landscaped median that will separate rate traffic, and a 10 foot multi-use path that will also span U.S. 501 to be used by the citizens of Aynor. The Aynor Overpass project also includes improvements at four major intersections throughout the town and access improvements to U.S. 501 to increase safety, enhance traffic flow and ease of commute between the two halves of Aynor.

Berry's Corner

Let me begin by thanking everyone for their emails and phone calls concerning the Aynor Overpass Project. The newsletter is generated by Adobe Palm Communications to inform the citizens of Aynor about their project and keep them updated about its progress. We appreciate your input, so feel free to contact me. Some of the frequently asked questions and our responses are listed below:

How Was The Southern Alternative Selected?

Based on a series of public meetings and a pros/cons evaluation of the Southern and Northern Alternatives, the District 11 Oversight Committee instructed SCDOT to begin evaluation of the Southern Alternative.

Is The Overpass Project Being Constructed To Four Lanes?

No, the project is being designed to acquire enough right of way to accommodate any future widening, but the existing project will only be built to two lanes. The overpass bridge will be built wide enough to accept four lanes. This is done because of the extremely high cost of widening the bridge at some point in the future.

The most important item of business for this month is that we have finalized the date for the Public Information Meeting. The meeting will be held on July 16, at Aynor High School. The meeting will be a drop in format and last from 4-7 pm. Feel free to drop by anytime to review the drawings and offer your comments. The same information and opportunity to comment will be available over the entire three hours. We normally try to avoid the conflict of church functions on Wednesdays for our meetings; but it was necessary this time. We understand that most of the local church functions do not begin until 7 pm; so please drop by to give us your comments.

Berry Still, PE
RPM Engineers
bstill@rpmengineers.com
Office: 803-996-2900
Cell Phone 803-315-6318

JUNE MILESTONES

- Final traffic study will be compiled and submitted
- Geotechnical investigation completed for the existing roads
- Environmental data collection is completed, and the wetlands have been delineated throughout the corridor
- Environmental analysis has begun, the alternatives are being compiled for review and selection
- A preliminary roadway cost estimate
 - Preliminary drainage design will begin
- Design criteria will begin for the landscape architecture

JULY MILESTONES

- Complete data collection
- Continue utility coordination
 - Conduct Public Information Meeting
- Select preferred alternative
 - Begin DHEC permitting
 - Preliminary bridge plans will be underway
 - Begin Right of Way plans
 - Complete Landscape Architecture Design Criteria
 - Complete Landscape Architecture Cost Estimate

