

S-48 Columbia Avenue

Project Update

July 2015

The Project

The Columbia Area Transportation Study Metropolitan Planning Organization (COATS MPO), in partnership with Lexington County, the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) and the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, is proposing improvements to the S-48 (Columbia Avenue) Corridor between I-26 and US Hwy 76 (Chapin Road) in Lexington County, South Carolina.

The primary purpose of the S-48 (Columbia Avenue) Corridor Improvement Project is to improve traffic congestion along approximately 2.5 miles of Columbia Avenue. The project will also improve system linkage, provide safety improvements, address roadway deficiencies and consider providing facilities for bicyclist and pedestrians for improved multi-modal forms of transportation.

Work Completed To Date

- The first Public Information Meeting was held November 6th of last year.
- A total of 31 alternatives have been evaluated through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.
- Based on the traffic engineering, two preliminary interchange designs have been completed.

The Road Ahead

- A detailed review of the three alternatives and the two interchange alternatives will move forward.

Project News

Public involvement is an integral part of the project development process and Lexington County, SCDOT, and the Mead & Hunt design team, is looking forward to gaining public input in developing improvements to the S-48 (Columbia Ave) Corridor.

Lexington County and SCDOT will host its second Public Information Meeting on Thursday, July 23rd from 5-7 pm at the Chapin Town Hall. The residents of the Chapin Community will be updated on the progress of the proposed improvements to S-48 (Columbia Ave). The 25 alternatives displayed at the previous Public Information Meeting have been further analyzed to render three viable alternatives to be carried forward for further detailed review. Additionally, two interchange alternatives will be on display for public comment.

The meeting will be conducted in an "Open House" format. Members of the Design Team will be there to answer questions about the project to date. Citizens are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and provide written and verbal comments. No formal presentations will be conducted at this meeting.

What is the "NEPA Process"?

NEPA, or National Environmental Policy Act was established in 1969 and simply compels all Federal Agencies to do three things prior to undertaking an activity similar to the S-48 Columbia Avenue Corridor Improvements. First, consider all environmental impacts in the decision making process. Second, utilize public involvement and public comment in the decision making process, and lastly, document the process by which the agency made its informed decision. Since the S-48 Columbia Avenue project is a federal project it must go through the NEPA Process.



For Additional Information:

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