

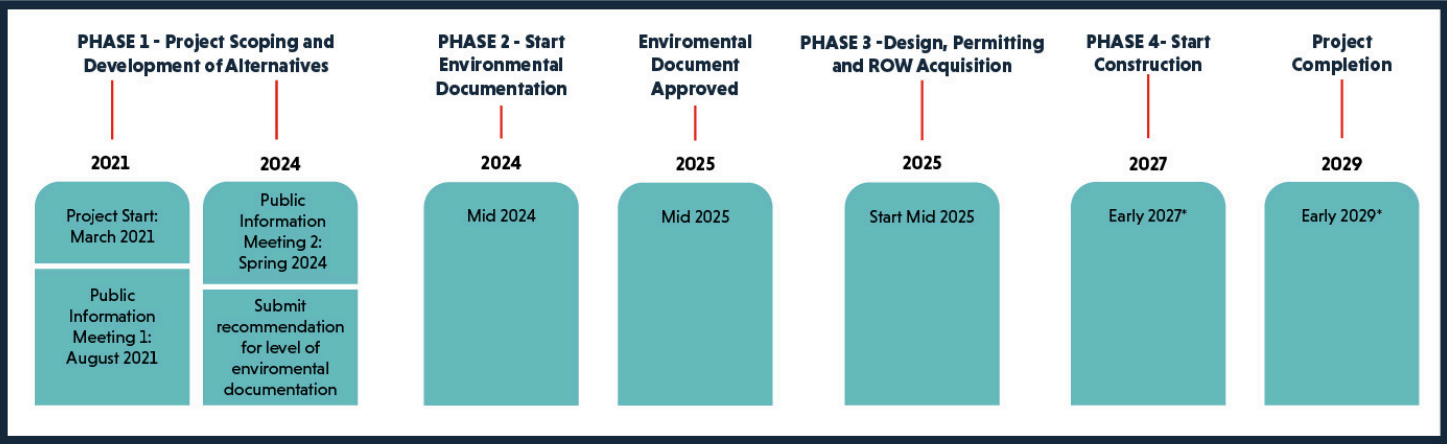
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The Federal Environmental Process requires that a detailed analysis be prepared if any federal agency is undertaking a major federal action, which may be through federal funding or issuance of a federal permit such as a US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Wetlands Permit. The detailed analysis is used to assess how a major infrastructure improvement project will affect both the natural and human environments, and to ensure that the chosen alternative has the least practicable amount of environmental impact.



PROJECT SCHEDULE

Hwy 78 Corridor Improvements Timeline / Milestones



All dates are subject to change and will be updated as the project development progresses.
*The Low Country Rapid Transit (LCRT) project is currently under design. Construction start and project completion could change based on the LCRT project schedule and the alternative that is ultimately approved for the Charleston County's Hwy 78 project.

Project information can be found on the project website: hwy78corridor.com

Please use the comment form provided to submit a comment about the project. Comments can also be emailed to info@hwy78corridor.com, or mailed to:

Charleston County
ATTN: Peter Dondanville, P.E.
4045 Bridge View Drive
Public Works, Suite B-309
North Charleston, SC 29405
Project Hotline: (843) 420-3016

All comments are due by June 7, 2024.

If you would like to be notified of project updates and future public involvement activities, please visit the project website to join the project mailing list.

If you would prefer to receive future project Newsletters via email, please indicate where noted on the comment form provided.



Corridor Improvements



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

HWY 78

CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

5:00 - 7:00 PM

No Formal Presentation is Scheduled

WANNAMAKER PARK

CYPRESS HALL

8888 UNIVERSITY BLVD.

NORTH CHARLESTON, SC 29406

PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

The purpose of the Public Information Meeting is to update the community on the project, present the results of traffic studies, introduce the preliminary alternatives, and gather input on the Preliminary Alternatives.

You are encouraged to review the various displays and discuss your questions or concerns with appropriate County staff or their representatives at this meeting. You are also encouraged to submit written comments on the forms provided, and place in the comment box provided. Comments will also be accepted by mail or email through June 7, 2024, contact information is provided on the back. Your attendance and feedback are very important components of the project development process.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

Charleston County, in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), proposes to make improvements to Hwy 78 from Rivers Avenue (US 52) to Berlin G. Myers Parkway (SC 165). The purpose of this project is to accommodate projected increases in traffic volume by improving roadway capacity, efficiency of key intersections, and system continuity throughout the project limits.

This section of roadway serves as a principal arterial that has historically experienced an increase in traffic due to regional growth and currently sustains operations that exceed the capacity of the current roadway system which are projected to worsen over time.

Project Goals

The proposed project will accomplish the following objectives:



Improve capacity along Hwy 78 from Rivers Avenue (US 52) to Berlin G. Myers Parkway (SC 165),

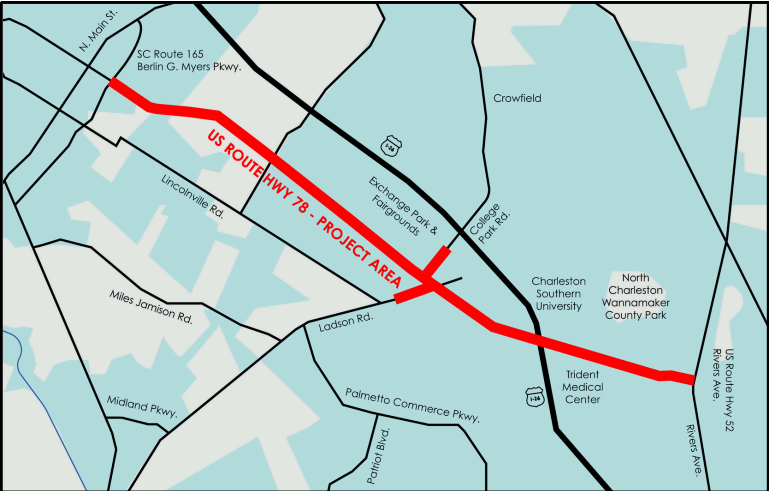


Provide safe opportunities for bicyclists and pedestrians, and



Reduce congestion and increase capacity at key intersections along the project corridor.

Project Study Area



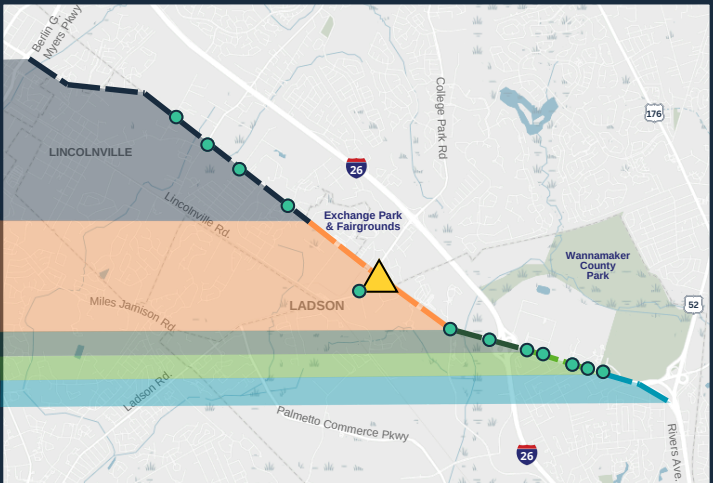
ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

A **Range of Alternatives** was developed using data from previous studies, traffic modeling and evaluation, environmental impacts, agency input, and community and stakeholder input. The **Range of Alternatives** were funneled through **Screening Level 1**, which evaluated each alternative based on the purpose and need and minimum design criteria.

Alternatives that passed Screening Level 1 are considered **Preliminary Alternatives**, shown as Alternatives 1 - 4 below. The **Preliminary Alternatives** will now be funneled through **Screening Level 2**, which will evaluate each alternative based on the following criteria:

- Traffic Operations
- Constructability & Maintenance of Traffic
- Public & Stakeholder Input
- Cost

Alternatives that pass Screening Level 2 will be considered **Reasonable Alternatives**. Reasonable Alternatives will undergo additional design and analysis.



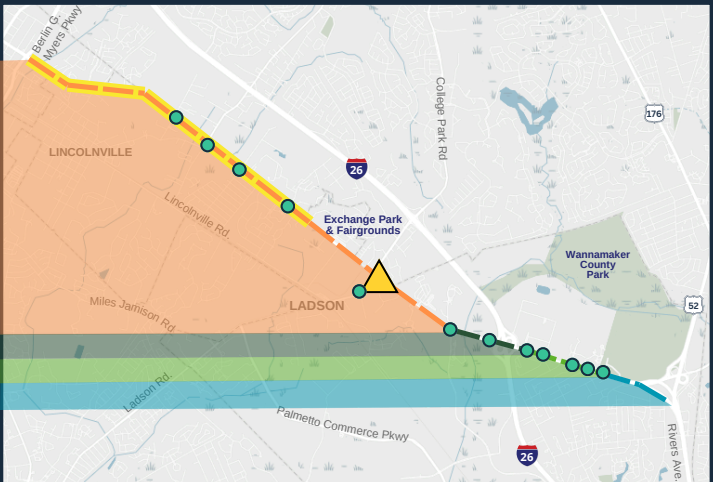
ALTERNATIVE 1

- Intersection Improvements
- 10' Multi-Use Path and 5' Sidewalk throughout Corridor



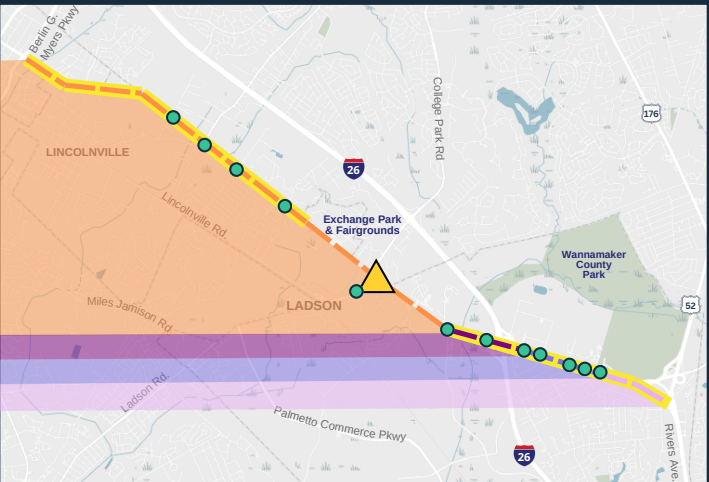
ALTERNATIVE 2

- Intersection Improvements
- 3 Lane Widening from Berlin G Myers to Fairground
- 10' Multi-Use Path and 5' Sidewalk throughout Corridor



ALTERNATIVE 3

- Intersection Improvements
- 5 Lane Widening from Berlin G Myers to Fairground
- 10' Multi-Use Path and 5' Sidewalk throughout Corridor



ALTERNATIVE 4

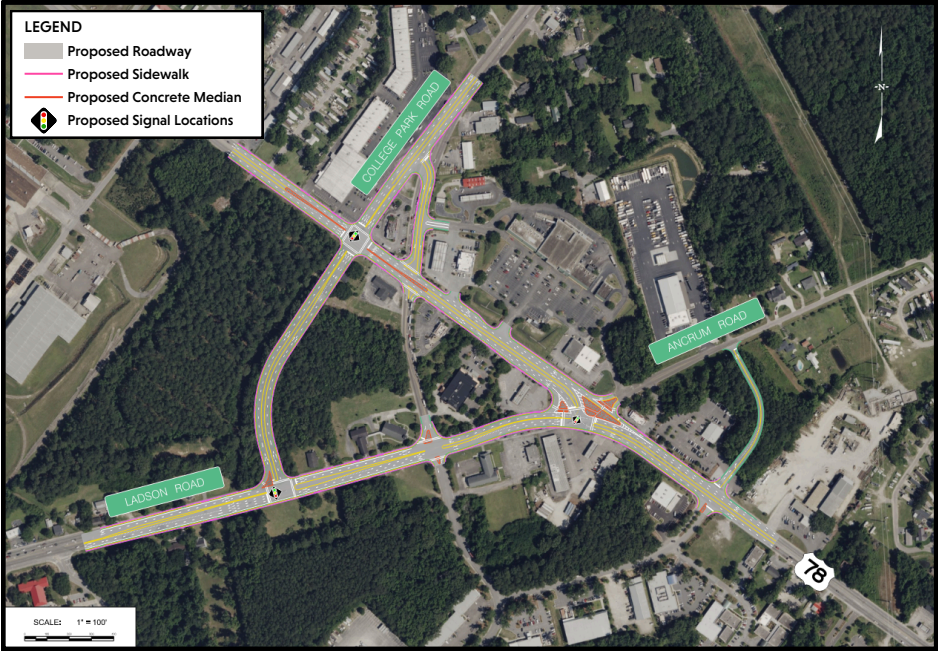
- Intersection Improvements
- 5 Lane Widening from Berlin G Myers to Fairground
- 6 Lane Widening from I-26 to Rivers
- 10' Multi-Use Path and 5' Sidewalk throughout Corridor

COLLEGE PARK/LADSON ROAD

In 2019, after reviewing traffic studies for the Lowcountry Rapid Transit project, Charleston County identified that the 3 intersections at Hwy 78 at College Park Road, Hwy 78 at Ladson Road, and Ladson Road at College Park Road are key to traffic delays experienced in the corridor. The traffic study included four alternatives consisting of multiple configurations to help alleviate current congestion experienced at these intersections and a traffic analysis was performed to review each configuration. **Alternative 4 was selected as the Preferred Alternative for the Ladson/College Park Intersection and it will be evaluated in more detail as part of the Hwy 78 project design.**

Intersection Preferred Alternative

- Relocates the intersections of Hwy 78 at College Park Road and Ladson Road at College Park Road.
- Signalizes the intersection of Ladson Road at College Park Road.
- Reconfigures Hwy 78 at the intersection of Hwy 78 at Ladson Road.
- Ancrum Road approach becomes right-in/right-out.
- Widens College Park Road to a 5-lane section between Hwy 78 and Ladson Road.
- Turning movements reduced at intersections. Extension of College Park Road reduces forced left and right turn movements on US 78.



TRAFFIC ANALYSIS

The Project Team completed a Traffic Study that analyzed the existing and future conditions for the no-build and the build alternatives. This study looked at Level of Service at intersections along the corridor and segments of Hwy 78. The project team then uses this data to determine how an alternative meets the purpose and need of the project.

Years Analyzed:
2029, 2039 & 2049

Incorporated Projects:

- Lowcountry Rapid Transit 30% Design
- Berlin G. Myers Pkwy Extension

Traffic Volumes:

- Approximately 48,000 daily vehicles south of College Park Road/Ladson Road area
- Approximately 16,000 daily vehicles north of College Park Road/Ladson Road area

Number of Locations where Level of Service Improves or Declines when Compared to the No Build Alternative

| | | Year 2029 | | Year 2039 | | Year 2049 | |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|------|
| Alternative 1 (\$) | Roadway Segments | ✓ 9 | ✗ 2 | ✓ 11 | ✗ 0 | ✓ 5 | ✗ 0 |
| | Intersections | ✓ 2 | ✗ 2 | ✓ 5 | ✗ 1 | ✓ 4 | ✗ 2 |
| Alternative 2 (\$\$) | Roadway Segments | ✓ 11 | ✗ 3 | ✓ 12 | ✗ 0 | ✓ 8 | ✗ 0 |
| | Intersections | ✓ 17 | ✗ 0 | ✓ 14 | ✗ 0 | ✓ 12 | ✗ 0 |
| Alternative 3 (\$\$\$) | Roadway Segments | ✓ 7 | ✗ 4 | ✓ 5 | ✗ 1 | ✓ 3 | ✗ 1 |
| | Intersections | ✓ 18 | ✗ 0 | ✓ 15 | ✗ 2 | ✓ 9 | ✗ 3 |
| Alternative 4 (\$\$\$) | Roadway Segments | ✓ 13 | ✗ 3 | ✓ 15 | ✗ 3 | ✓ 6 | ✗ 6 |
| | Intersections | ✓ 15 | ✗ 11 | ✓ 15 | ✗ 11 | ✓ 8 | ✗ 10 |

✓ = IMPROVE ✗ = DECLINE