

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SCDOT Kicks off Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan

[COLUMBIA, S.C.]

A formal kick off meeting of the 2040 South Carolina Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan was held on Tuesday, July 31 at the Colonial Center in Columbia. Hosted by the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), the kick off meeting was attended by 138 stakeholders from around South Carolina. Recognizing the importance of the transportation plan in supporting the state's economic growth and vitality Secretary Bob St. Onge from SCDOT was joined by Secretary Bobby Hitt from the SC Department of Commerce, Mr. Jack Ellenberg from the SC State Ports Authority and Mr. Bob Lee from Federal Highway Administration. Each provided welcoming remarks and challenged everyone to become involved in the planning process that will help guide multimodal transportation decisions over the next 25 years.

During the kickoff meeting, stakeholders participated in three interactive breakout sessions that focused on freight (rail, ports, airports, highways, and intermodal facilities), interstate and state strategic corridors (highways), as well as public transit and transportation alternatives.

Key elements of the performance-based statewide multimodal plan include defining a vision for future transportation decisions in South Carolina, assessing system deficiencies, estimating future revenues, formulating performance targets for maintenance and mobility, identifying intermodal and multimodal transportation needs, incorporating highway safety considerations, and environmental stewardship. The plan will have a strong focus on enhancing freight mobility across all modes to promote South Carolina's economic competitiveness in a global market place. The plan will address the federal planning requirements included in the surface transportation reauthorization act, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).

The anticipated time required to complete the project is approximately 18 months.

For more information about the South Carolina Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan project, please call Mark Pleasant at (803) 737-1437.

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