

# PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

## JUNE 2, 2016

### WELCOME

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is pleased to have you attend this public meeting on the proposed Interstate 85 (I-85) improvement project. The purpose of the meeting is to allow the local community, concerned citizens, and project stakeholders an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed widening of I-85. This meeting is being conducted with an informal, open house format. You are encouraged to review the various displays and discuss your questions or concerns with any of the SCDOT staff (or their representatives) at this meeting. You are also encouraged to provide written comments on the forms provided so that we may have a written record of your concerns and suggestions. SCDOT appreciates your attendance and strongly encourages you to provide your input regarding the project in one of the following ways:

- Leave it in the Comment Box
- Mail to: Mr. Brad Reynolds, PE  
SCDOT  
PO Box 191  
Columbia, SC 29202-0191
- Email to: Mr. Brad Reynolds at ReynoldsBS@scdot.org
- Fax to: 803.737.9868

**COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED THROUGH JUNE 17, 2016**



# I-85 Widening Cherokee County



## PROJECT BACKGROUND

The SCDOT proposes to improve the I-85 corridor from approximately one mile north of SC 18 (Exit 96) to US 29 (Exit 106) near the SC/NC state line, a distance of approximately 10 miles. There are various operational deficiencies associated with many of the interchange facilities, as well as mainline capacity needs.

Traffic count data indicates that the 2015 average daily traffic ranges between 35,400 and 46,500 vehicles per day and is expected to range between 51,990 and 68,480 vehicles per day by 2040. The study area is mixed use with open forest, residential, commercial, and industrial land uses.

Funding for preliminary engineering for the proposed project is included in the SCDOT's 2014-2019 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). This project is funded through Act 98 of 2013 dollars approved by the General Assembly to SCDOT to transfer to the State Infrastructure Bank to support bond proceeds for prioritized interstate infrastructure needs across the state.



## PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the project is to improve the operational performance of the existing facility. This section of I-85 is currently experiencing deteriorating levels of services, with many areas projected to be operating beyond capacity by the design year (2040). It is anticipated that the project would:

1. Add travel lanes along the I-85 mainline
2. Improve the operational efficiency and safety along various interchanges and ramps
3. Replace insufficient overpass bridges

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

SCDOT is currently performing environmental studies and preliminary design on the proposed widening project. The information gathered from various studies, along with your input will be used to assist with selecting a Preferred Alternative. Once selected, the Preferred Alternative will be presented at an official public hearing, at which time the public will have a second opportunity to ask questions and provide input on the project. The project is currently funded through the design phase. The construction schedule will be presented at the public hearing once funds are identified. The following is an anticipated project schedule:

Project Schedule	Date
Public Information Meetings	June 2016
Complete Environmental Assessment	December 2016
Public Hearing	February 2017
Advertise for Design-Build Construction	TBD
Construction Begins	TBD
Construction Complete	TBD

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