



The thirty-five miles of I-26 between Charleston and Ridgeville is the central corridor for the Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester region. With up to 169,000 average daily trips along I-26, most of which are traveled by single occupancy vehicles, several pinch points reduce travel speeds. Noise impacts have created several “hot spots” and crashes along I-26 have been increasing exponentially since 2011. The movement of people and goods through these corridors is in need of improvement. The questions are which public investments will deliver the best outcomes for safety, public health, and economic prosperity.

The Corridor Analysis for I-26 between Charleston and Ridgeville (see Study Area Map) invites local government agencies, stakeholders and the general public to learn about the activities and decisions driving the congestion and help shape the menu of potential solutions that need their support and funding.

The I-26 Corridor Analysis goals are to:

- Compile data to evaluate transportation funding and implementation decisions that achieve desired performance outcomes (performance based planning and funding).
- Determine projects that support economic growth and/or maintains the current economic vitality.
- Support SCDOT’s aggressive commitment to safety.
- Streamline SCDOT’s project delivery process.
- Accelerate project delivery and promotes innovation.
- Look at a variety of transportation enhancement options.



The study team's task is to assess the existing baseline conditions and develop a coordinated, systematic, and planned approach to meet the current and future mobility needs along these corridors. In the past, a typical transportation study only evaluated infrastructure components, but as construction costs have risen above the potential for public funding, SCDOT recognizes the need to look at all the factors which impact roadway capacity. This analysis looks beyond infrastructure components to also include strategies, which can lessen the travel demand or to shift the demand from the peak periods.

To consider feasible options based on existing data, traffic modeling, costs, and projected outcomes, the study team is engaging a steering committee, stakeholders, and the general public. The results of this analysis will yield a matrix of strategies in a Corridor Management Plan for the near-term to long-term identified by the cost associated with implementation.

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