

Town of Hilton Head Island U.S. 278 Gateway Corridor Committee

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

MEETING MINUTES

Present From the Committee: David Johnson, Jr., *Chairman;* Sarah Stewart, *Co-Chair;* Frank Babel, Alex Brown, Tom Crews, Jerry Cutrer, Craig Forrest, Hannah Horne, David Lunka, Tom Peeples, Brendan Reilley, John Taylor, Kyle Theodore, *Members;*

Absent from Committee: Marc Grant, Hilton Head Island Liaison; Larry McElynn, Beaufort County Liaison; Dan Wood, Bluffton Liaison; Palmer E. Simmons, Alternate

Present from Town Staff: Charles Cousins, Assistant to the Town Manager, Anne Cyran, Senior Planner; Krista Wiedmeyer, Exec. Assistant/Town Clerk

1. Call to Order

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. FOIA Compliance – Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and mailed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. November 7, 2019

Mr. Lunka moved to approve. Mr. Peeples seconded. The minutes from November 7, 2019 were approved as written.

4. Unfinished Business - None

5. New Business

a. Discussion of Alternative in Jenkins Island

Chairman Johnson opened the discussion by noting that the SCDOT is still having discussions regarding the alternatives as they relate to Jenkins Island. Mr. Crews asked if the SCDOT is taking the County's safety project into consideration with regard to the alternatives. Other questions raised concerning the County's safety project had to do with the new engineering firm the County has hired to review the project and potential changes needed. One member of the committee has asked if it might be possible to have a member of the County come and further explain this project to better understand its impacts on the reasonable alternatives. Chairman Johnson stated that he had noted this request, and would consider it. The committee then began to review the pros and cons of reasonable alternatives 1-4 as they impact Jenkins Island, and then moved on to discussing alternatives 5-6. Much of the discussion had to do with the different types of intersections and safety concerns for those residents living on Jenkins Island, as well as access to certain areas thereon Jenkins Island. Mr. Forrest asked the committee to keep in mind when reviewing the pros and cons for all of the alternatives that they are strictly looking at the mainline traffic, and that neither intersections nor actual safety concerns had been added yet. He said once the preferred alternative is chosen, then all of the details will be considered. But until then, what the committee should be concerned with is reviewing the mainline traffic routes.

Chairman Johnson opened the floor to Mr. Crews who gave a presentation on an alternative he had proposed for the Jenkin Island area.

b. Chairman's Comments

Chairman Johnson reported that he had met with the members of CSA in Sea Pines where they stated that a large portion of their employees travel from off Island. He also noted that the SCDOT feels that the SIB application is one of the strongest filed. Chairman Johnson reported that the SCDOT is currently working on answering questions regarding interchanges and minimizing left turns, hoping to have something back soon.

c. Public Comments

Members of the general public addressed the committee making comments with their pros and cons for consideration. Chairman Johnson stated that these would be noted and considered for addition to the list.

6. Adjournment – The meeting concluded and was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Krista Wiedmeyer, Exec. Assistant/Town Clerk **Approved:** 11/21/2019