



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

Thursday, July 11, 2019, 4:00 p.m.  
Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Present From the Committee:** David Johnson, Jr., *Chairman*; Frank Babel, Alex Brown, Tom Crews, Jerry Cutrer, Craig Forrest, Hannah Horne, David Lunka, Tom Peeples, Brendan Reilley, Sarah Stewart, John Taylor, *Members* Dan Wood, *Bluffton Liaison*

**Absent from Committee:** Kyle Theodore, *Members*; Marc Grant, *Hilton Head Island Liaison*, Larry McElynn, *Beaufort County Liaison*.

**Present from Town Council and Town Staff:** John J. McCann, *Mayor*, Tom Lennox, Glenn Stanford, *Council*; Steve Riley, *Town Manager*; Charles Cousins, *Assistant to the Town Manager*; Josh Gruber, *Assistant Town Manager*; Krista Wiedmeyer, *Executive Assistant/Town Clerk*

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### **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 Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

- a. Minutes from June 26, 2019

Mr. Cutrer moved to approve the minutes from June 26, 2019. Mr. Peeples seconded. The motion to approve the minutes was approved by a vote of 12-0.

### **4. New Business**

- a. Presentation by Craig Winn, SCDOT Project Manager for US 278 Corridor Improvement Project

Chairman Johnson introduced Mr. Winn and the members of the Project team who joined him for the evening's presentation. He went on to explain that questions would be answered from the members of Town Council, the members of the Committee, than the public at large.

Mr. Winn opened his presentation up by reviewing the project scope and needs. He reminded everyone where the study area runs (Moss Creek Drive to Squire Pope Road). He noted that there will be some additional studies from Squire Pope Road to the Cross Island parkway to identify if additional improvements might be needed. Mr. Winn noted that currently they project is currently in the stage where they develop conceptual road improvement alternatives. The next stage is to hold a public meeting to gather input on the conceptual alternatives. Mr. Winn said that the SCDOT's goal is to ensure the public is engage and informed throughout the project. He did note that there are critical points in the process where public information and feedback will be needed.

Mr. Winn covered many of the tasks that have been completed and those that are still on the horizon to be completed. He went over the purpose and need of the project. Explaining that the purpose of the project is to address structural deficiencies at the existing eastbound Mackay Creek bridge, as well as increase capacity and reduce congestion along US 278 from Moss Creek Drive to Spanish Wells Road. Mr. Winn went over the preliminary range of alternatives the project group has to review at this time prior to coming forward with the reasonable alternatives. He pointed out that a number of these alternatives shown would be eliminated right away because of the expense or the impact.

Mr. Winn asked for the Committees support in asking the community to participate in the SCDOT's Community Impact Survey. He said that the survey evaluates several issues of importance for each neighborhood to help better understand potential impacts from the project.

Mr. Winn went on to discuss the traffic analysis work flow, explaining that there are two major phases and applications of traffic analysis in the process. He said the first are the things that are happening now, such as the environmental analysis and development of alternatives. Mr. Winn said the second phase is the final design of the recommended preferred alternative. Mr. Winn went into greater detail about the traffic analysis work flow to include information regarding a purpose and need statement, existing conditions, the traffic count program, safety analysis, forecast conditions, the regional travel demand model, land use data, and the SYNCHRO level traffic modeling. Mr. Winn talked about the traffic growth rates, design hour volumes, mainline capacity needs, and performance alternatives. He covered in detail what to expect in the coming months into 2020 with regard to the final design of the recommended preferred alternative.

Mr. Winn closed his presentation with the information concerning the upcoming public involvement meeting on September 19, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the Boys and Girls Club of Hilton Head Island. He noted that they would be discussing the purpose and need statement, alternatives analysis process, full range of alternatives, alternatives analysis evaluation criteria, draft reasonable alternatives and the next steps. He also noted that they would be soliciting feedback as well.

- b. Traffic Volume/Data Forecasts

- c. Public Communication for the September 19, 2019 SCDOT Community Meeting

The above-referenced agenda items were covered during Mr. Winn's presentation

- d. Chairman's Comments

- e. Public Comment

## **5. Adjournment**

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

**Submitted by:** Krista M. Wiedmeyer, Executive Assistant/Town Clerk

**Approved:** August 1, 2019