

# PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

## Lady's Island Corridor Study Beaufort, South Carolina

February 16, 2016

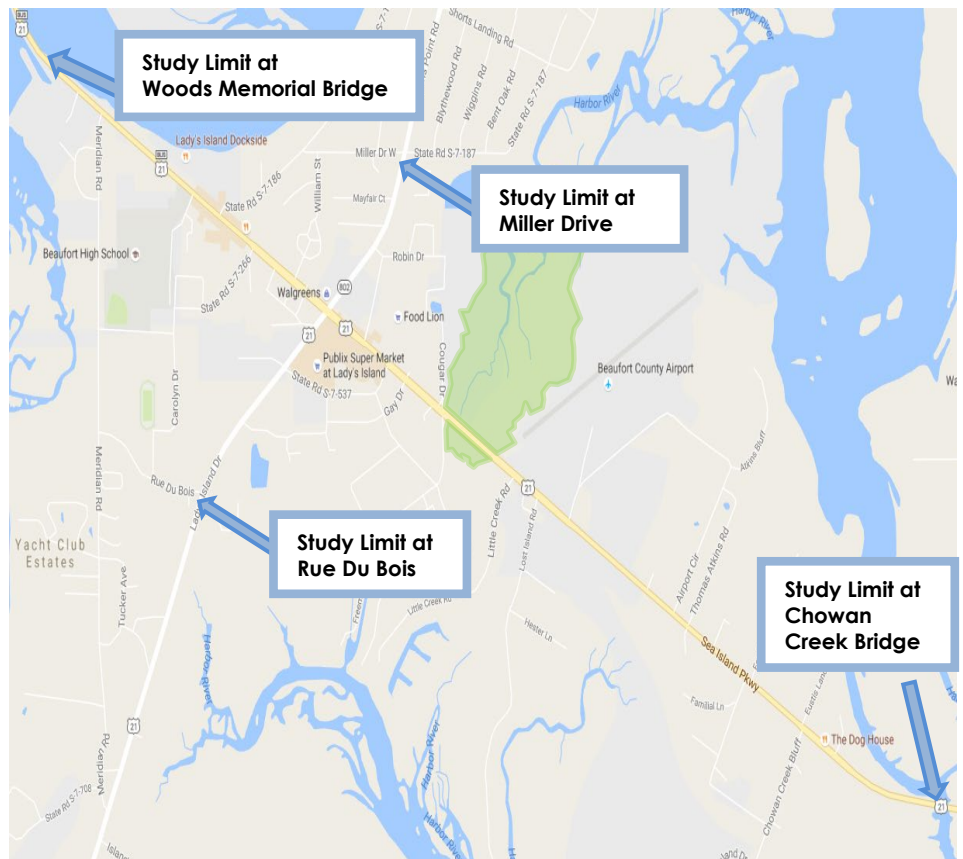
### STUDY BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The City of Beaufort, in cooperation with Beaufort County, is pleased to have you attend the second public meeting on the Lady's Island Corridor Study. This study covers the Lady's Island corridors within the limits shown below:

The goals of the study are to:

- Minimize traffic congestion and delays
- Improve safety
- Accommodate bicycles and pedestrians
- Enhance the corridor aesthetics

An initial public meeting was held on September 29, 2016. In that meeting, the study was introduced and participants were asked to share their thoughts on what improvements were desired. With the public comments in mind, the study team develop conceptual improvements for the corridors. By far, the most common comment was regarding traffic congestion and delays.



The study team carefully considered all available options for improvement. Among these options included: (1) widening the main corridors and (2) various versions of new access routes to the island. However, these large scale improvements were found to incur extensive property and environmental impacts and were deemed infeasible and out of character for the island community. Ultimately, a concept plan was developed that met the study's objectives while requiring minimal impacts or new right of way.

## CONCEPT ELEMENTS

The Lady's Island Corridor Study Concept incorporates eight different elements to meet the project objectives:

- **Improvements to the Main Intersection of US 21 and SC 802.** A new right turn lane will be constructed for the eastbound approach on US 21 Sea Island Parkway as part of a separate development. The concept for this project would add a new right turn lane for the southbound approach on SC 802 Sams Point Road.
- **Greater Street Connectivity.** Seven new connections will provide alternate routes for relief of congested intersections and safer means for difficult turning movements.
- **Traffic Signal Improvements.** New traffic signals are shown at US 21 Business Sea Island Parkway and Sunset Boulevard/Beaufort High School (relocation from current Beaufort High School access), SC 802 Sams Point Road and Miller Drive, US 21 Lady's Island Drive and Hazel Farm Road, and US 21 Sea Island Parkway and Gay Drive.
- **Extension of the US 21 Sea Island Parkway Eastbound Outside Through Lane.** Extending the outside through lane past the commercial area would provide both congestion and safety benefits.
- **Raised Medians for Access Management and Safety Improvements.** The medians are shown in the concept plan for parts of US 21 Business Sea Island Parkway, US 21 Sea Island Parkway, SC 802 Sams Point Road, and US 21 Lady's Island Drive.
- **Traffic Calming Elements on Residential Streets.** The traffic calming elements include groups of landscaped areas along the street shoulders that alternate with raised median islands. Combined with reduced speed limit postings, these measures will facilitate slow but steady traffic speeds.
- **Enhanced Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations.** The concept plan shows bicycle and pedestrian upgrades throughout the project area.
- **Corridor Enhancements.** Landscaping, irrigation, and lighting are planned to enhance the main corridors, as well as Sunset Boulevard, Miller Drive West, Gay Drive, and the Beaufort High School access road.

## RESULTS

The proposed conceptual improvements are expected to provide:

- Significant reduction in delays and congestion
- Safety improvements
- Greater access for bicycles and pedestrians
- Beautification enhancements

We thank you for your attendance and participation. You are encouraged to provide your feedback in the separate comment forms.

