STUART POINT ROAD PATHWAY PUBLIC MEETING 2 SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

Beaufort County conducted an in-person Community Meeting on October 5, 2021 at the Whale Branch Elementary School Cafeteria at 6 pm. This is the second meeting conducted for Stuart Point Pathway, one of the 14 priority pathways presented during the first Pathway Project Virtual Public Meeting held October 19, 2020 through November 20, 2020. A virtual meeting page was also created in association with the Community Meeting.

The project is a proposed 8-ft multi-use pathway along Stuart Point Road from the US 21 (Trask Parkway) intersection to Delaney Circle/Abdullah Lane/Stuart Point Road intersection. This pathway is approximately 2 miles and will provide a safe route for residents along the corridor and connect to Whale Branch Elementary and Middle Schools. Stuart Point Road is a SCDOT-owned and maintained roadway with a present 33' right of way from the centerline of roadway or total 66' width from US 21 to Delaney Circle/Abdullah Lane intersection. It is anticipated the pathway would be located within the present right of way with minimal or no new right of way required.

The meeting creation was a collaboration of the County and J. Bragg Consulting, Inc. with an overview exhibit provided by Infrastructure Consulting & Engineering, PLLC and a typical section exhibit prepared by J. Bragg Consulting, Inc. Other meeting materials were also prepared by J. Bragg Consulting, Inc.

Meeting Summary:

Time Period:

- Community Meeting: October 5, 2021 at the Whale Branch Elementary School Cafeteria, 15 Stuart Point Road, Seabrook, SC
 - In-person meeting conducted by Councilman Gerald Dawson, Capital Projects Coordinator Brittanee Fields, and Sales Tax Program Manager, Jennifer Bragg, PE. The meeting format was originally intended as an informal drop-in with exhibits and a handout as well as an area to leave a written comment. It was quickly switched to a presentation with question & answer session since citizens were sitting at the cafeteria tables instead of viewing the exhibits. 42 attendees sign-in, but it is estimated around 50 attended (i.e. several entered through a different door.)
- Virtual Meeting Page: October 6, 2021 through October 20, 2021 Hosted or <u>www.BeaufortCountyPenny.com</u>
 - Meeting page was created based on comments received during the Community Meeting question & answer session and it hosted the exhibits shown at the Community Meeting and provided an online comment form.

Advertisements:

- Press Release for public meeting published on September 27, 2021
- E-mail newsletter was sent out to 472 recipients on September 23, 2021
- Flyers were mailed to 112 property owners on or near the project
- 6 Sales Tax "Yard" Signs were placed on Stuart Point Road

Public Comments:

Comment forms were provided at the Community Meeting, and the extra forms were collected by attendees to distribute to friends/neighbors. The County also hand-delivered additional forms to a resident for distribution within









the community. In addition, an e-mail was sent to attendees with an electronic copy of the meeting handout and comment form as well as a link to the Virtual Meeting Page which could be forwarded. This is a summary of comments received:

Public Meeting: 46 comment responses were submitted as follows, with two citizens providing two comments:

- 27 comments were submitted at the Community Meeting.
- 9 online comments were submitted.
- 10 comments were hand-delivered to Beaufort County.
- 2 comments were mailed to Beaufort County Capital Projects.

Comments with a valid address will receive a mailed response.

On the Comment Form, they were asked if they were "In Favor Of" the project by answering "Yes" or "No", and if no, were they in favor of a reduced width pathway/sidewalk "Yes" or "No". This is a summary of those who responded to the questions:

Questions	Yes	No
Are you in favor of the proposed 8' shared-use pathway?	37	6
If no, are you in favor of a reduced width pathway/sidewalk?	6	7

Note:

- First Question: 1 person wrote in "Don't know" to the first question and 2 persons provided a written response but did not answer first question.
- Second Question: 1 person wrote "either" to the second question. 4 "No" responses are from citizens who want the proposed 8' pathway and aren't in favor of a reduced width. 3 "No" responses are from citizens who do not want the pathway and also voted "No" to the first question.

Recommendation:

Although there were a few comments not in favor of the pathway, the majority of the comments are in favor, and it is recommended to proceed with the proposed 8' pathway.





Comment Summary:

Note: Comments are copied as is with no edits.

In favor.

Very much interested in the widening of the road and where this take place as far as road sides. Are we considering the change in the 8 ft or downsizing the multiuse path. Are you all considering speed limit reduction as well?

I know this is not part of the project however, would there any way to coordinate this with Jasper Water to add a water line down the road to Abdullah Lane.

Thanks to Councilman Dawson and Beaufort County Council and staff for initiating this much needed project. While I do not live along the Stuart Point Road and proposed pathway, I am a property owner and concerned for the safety of the neighborhood. I fully support this project and will work to convince others to support it.

for this reason... I am concerned that children riding bikes will fall into the ditch; the ditch presents a real hazard. Are there other paths that have similar topography? Also your brochure states a "5 foot grassed shoulder" - not really transparent it is usually a ditch. So just a walking path. However - I think overall this will benefit the kids

I am in favor of the Stuart Point Road Pathway. It will provide a safe option for residence to walk, exercise, etc. I highly recommend the pathway be lite with lanterns along the way.

Reduce speed limit from 45? If reduce speed, what mph can you put speed bumps into plan? Trash is terrible on Stuart Point Rd. Clean up is done by volunteers - about 8 - who will clean the trash from the pathway. Individuals will not do this for their own property. Trash cans along path might be good.

We need the pathway regardless

Thank you for doing a pathway for us. Maybe a good time for BJWSA to put water & sewer lines in. Lower speed limit would be great. Wanted to add to my comment form: would be great to have a light at Stuart Point Rd & Hwy 21 especially with the 44 house development happening on that corner. Also to do water & sewer pipes when dug up for the pathway. Thank you

I think it is wishfull thinking that property owners will maintain adjacent land and pathway. So, what is spending budget for county's maintenance? During recent repaving of Stuart Pd Road, there was also some widening of roadway and the excavated dirt still is piled up on the edge of the road. The county seems to be saying: "Not for us to do." I think responsibility for maintenance needs to be funded.

Lighting for sidewalk. Trash Service. Reduce Speed

Info on county bike & ped. Path please

Concerns are lighting and trash bins (pet bins).

My concern will there be trash bin along the sidewalk. Will there be lighting along the sidewalk. Thank you!

Trash container & pooper scoopers







I think it will be a great improvement to our community as a whole. I would like a copy of the plan to be emailed to me.

Would like to have a 5 ft pathway not 8 ft. I like plan for connection of bikes in Beaufort.

Mail please. I'm in favor of the sidewalk. But I live on a dirt road, I can't the the road scraped. You don't have to pave it, just scrape it from time to time. My tax money is being used to put in this sidewalk.

Trash cans

No we do not need. Leave it like it is Just fine"

We do not want or need a sidewalk that "steals" our land to accommodate new-comers. The county has never cared about Stuart Point Community until new-comers/developers came in and decide what they want, which only affects the Black people's lands.

I oppose the building of a sidewalk in the Stuart Point Community for the following reasons 1. This is a rural community that no one walks from place to place 2. the funds could be used for something that would benefit both the youth and seniors a Community Center would be better utilization of the funds. 3. The sidewalk would take away from individual property.

I would love to see a traffic light put to the end of Stuart Point Road. I am the waving man and I stand to the end of Stuart Point Road and Trask Parkway. And that traffic get bill up there quickly especially when school buses is in it. You need to consider putting a traffic light there.

Robert wanted me to add that a good idea to put water & sewer pipes in when area dug up for pathway (Cheryl Mansson)

A few wastebaskets along the way

Any enhancement done regarding Stuart Point is appreciated.



