

## **RESOLUTION 2025/46**

### **A RESOLUTION TO REDEFINE THE PROJECT LIST FOR THE 2018 TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, On November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017, by ordinance number 2017/34, Beaufort County Council ("County Council") adopted enabling legislation authorizing the levy and collection of a one-cent transportation sales tax; and

**WHEREAS**, the tax was approved in a referendum vote on November 6, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the tax was originally estimated to generate \$120,000,000 over a four-year collection period; and

**WHEREAS**, the referendum defined three project categories: US 278 Corridor Traffic Improvements (\$80 million), Lady's Island Corridor Traffic Improvements (\$30 million) and Sidewalks and Multi-Use Pathways (\$10 million); and

**WHEREAS**, actual collections exceeding expectations, totaling \$146.5 million

**WHEREAS**, inflationary pressures and rising construction costs have significantly increased the estimated costs of delivery for the original projects, resulting in insufficient funds to complete all projects as originally envisioned; and

**WHEREAS**, a new transportation sales tax referendum was proposed for the November 5, 2024, election to address the funding shortfall, but it did not pass; and

**WHEREAS**, without an additional funding source, the approved project list must be redefined to clearly identify the projects that can be completed with the funds already collected; and

**WHEREAS**, several projects identified in the original referendum have been completed, including SC 802 (Sam's Point Rd) Right Turn Lane, Airport Frontage Road – Phase 1, Bluffton Parkway Pathway, Laurel Bay Road Pathway, and Ribaut Road Sidewalk.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL**, in meeting duly assembled, establishes the redefined project list and project scopes within the three project categories for the 2018 One Cent Transportation Sales Tax funds;

#### **US 278 Corridor Traffic Improvements**

- Construction of a new three-lane eastbound bridge (striped for two lanes) spanning both Mackay Creek and Skull Creek, with direct access to Pinckney Island.
- Demolition of the existing Mackay Creek bridge.

## **Lady's Island Corridor Traffic Improvements**

1. *US 21/SC 802 Intersection*
  - Safety and capacity improvements including restriping, signal upgrades and the addition of dual turn lanes in both directions on Sea Island Parkway.
  - Includes resurfacing and median improvements in all four approaches to the intersection.
2. *US 21 Widening near Wal-Mart*
  - Approximately 4,000 linear feet of widening to create four travel lanes through the US 21/Airport Frontage Road intersection.
  - Includes turn lane and signal improvements.
3. *Lady's Island Middle School Access*
  - New access road to the Lady's Island Middle School connecting to US 21 at a new signalized intersection at Gay Drive.
  - Removal of the existing Cougar Drive entrance.
  - Construction of a 5-foot sidewalk along Robin Drive from the school to Sam's Point Way.
4. *Hazel Farm Road and Gay Drive*
  - Paving of the unpaved section of Hazel Farm Road.
  - Construction of a roundabout at Hazel Farm Road and Gay Drive.
  - Resurfacing of Hazel Farm Road and Gay Drive from SC 802 to US 21.
5. *Sunset Boulevard and Miller Drive West*
  - Reduce the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph.
  - Realign the intersection of Sunset Boulevard and Miller Drive West for a perpendicular approach.
  - Install a 3-way stop and raised intersection.
  - Add two speed humps on Miller Drive East.
  - Resurface both roads from US 21 to SC 802.
6. *Airport Frontage Road – Phase 2*
  - Complete design, permitting, right-of-way acquisition, and wetland mitigation.
  - Construction will not be undertaken at this time.

## **Pathways**

1. *Alljoy Road*
  - 6-foot concrete sidewalk on the east side from Burnt Church Road to Shad Avenue, then shifting to the west side from Shad Avenue to Thomas Lawton Drive.
2. *Salem Road*
  - 8-foot concrete pathway on the east side from Old Salem Road to SC 170.
  - Includes a short section of 5-foot sidewalk and a midblock crossing to serve apartments on the west side.
  - Includes a 10-foot-wide wooden boardwalk over the creek
3. *Burnt Church Road*
  - 6-foot concrete sidewalk on the east side from Alljoy Road to Bluffton Parkway.
4. *Stuart Point Road*
  - 8-foot concrete pathway on the north side from US 21 to Delaney Circle.
5. *Depot Road*
  - 10-foot concrete pathway on the south side from Ribaut Road to the Spanish Moss

Trail.

6. *Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive*

- 5-foot concrete sidewalk on the east side from US 21 to Jonathan Francis Sr. Road.
- Includes a 10-foot-wide wooden boardwalk over the tidal marsh.

7. *Big Estate Road*

- 8-foot concrete sidewalk on the west side from US 17 to African Baptist Church Road.

8. *Broad River Boulevard and Riley Road*


- 5-foot concrete sidewalk beginning at Broad River Elementary School and extending along Broad River Boulevard.
- Turns onto Riley Road and continues to the intersection with Fair Road, serving the Shadow Moss neighborhood.

9. *Broad River Road*

- 5-foot concrete sidewalk on the south side beginning at Shell Point Road to the Lowcountry Montessori School.

Adopted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 2025.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

BY:   
Alice Howard, Chairman

ATTEST:



Sarah W. Brock, Clerk to Council