



County Transportation Committee
Charleston, SC



Transportation Plan

Updated June 2020



CHAIRPERSON

Wilbert O'Brien Limehouse
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APPOINTMENT

Appointed by the House
of Representatives
Delegation

SUBCOMMITTEE

VICE CHAIRPERSON

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Appointed by the
Chairman of the Roads
and Bridges Committee

Funding Overview

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

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Appointed by the
Charleston Legislative
Delegation

Funding Overview

Paul Gawrych
755 Gypsy Lane
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Appointed by the
Charleston Legislative
Delegation

Funding Overview
(Chairperson)

TECHNICAL MEMBERS

James D. Armstrong
Deputy County Administrator
Transportation / Public Works
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Representing Charleston
County Appointed by
the Charleston
Legislative Delegation

Funding Overview

Michael D. Dalrymple, P.E.
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City of North Charleston
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Representing City of
North Charleston
Appointed by the
Charleston Legislative
Delegation

Technical
Oversight
(Chairperson)

Paul Lykins
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Representing Town
of Mount Pleasant
Appointed by the
Charleston Legislative
Delegation

Technical Oversight

Keith Benjamin
Director of Traffic and Transportation
City of Charleston
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Representing City of
Charleston Appointed
by the Charleston
Legislative Delegation

Technical Oversight



FUNDING SOURCES

In accordance with Section 12-28-2740(A) of the S. C. Code of Laws 1976, as amended, “C” Funds are derived from 2.66 cents per gallon of the state user fee which is deposited in the County Transportation Fund to be allocated to the counties. The County Transportation Fund is held by the State Treasurer until payment is requested by the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). Payments are requested by SCDOT for the expenses of the CTCs administered by SCDOT and for monthly distribution to self-administered CTCs.

An additional allocation of \$9.5 million, called Donor Funds, is transferred annually from the State Highway Fund for distribution to donor counties. A “donor county” is a county in which the 2.66 cents per gallon user fee collected in the county (based on information provided by the Department of Revenue) exceeds the amount which the county receives in “C” funds. Donor funds were established between 1994 and 1997 as part of the extensive changes that took place in the “C” Fund Program during that time. Charleston County has donor status.

Another change that occurred in 1997 was Act 145 that ensured all interest earnings on the County Transportation Fund must be added to the distribution to individual counties in proportion to each county’s portion of the entire County Transportation Fund. Interest earned on the County Transportation Fund held by the State Treasurer will be credited based on actual balances to those CTCs whose funds are managed by SCDOT. For those CTCs that manage their own funds, interest will be paid on any funds held in the County Transportation Fund for projects that are to be accomplished by SCDOT.

In 2016, the State of South Carolina Legislature voted to pass Act 40, raising the state user fee from 16.75 cents to 28.75 cents per gallon. This change took place in 2-cent increments beginning in 2017. The amount of money allocated to the “C” Fund will also increase from 2.66 cent per gallon to 3.99 cents

per gallon sold, which began taking place in .3325 cent increments beginning in the fiscal year 2019 and will end in 2021.

Furthermore, Section 12-28-2740(H) stipulates that Donor Funds will increase to seventeen million dollars. Distribution of Donor Funds will remain based on the ratio of the individual donor county’s contribution in excess of ‘C’ fund revenue allocated to the county. If a donor county’s receipt of ‘C’ funds and the distribution of the seventeen million dollars in donor funds is still less than a donor county’s contribution, the county will then be eligible to a portion of an additional three and one-half million dollars in Donor Funds. Based on current SCDOT projections, the CCTC will receive a portion of the three and one-half million dollars based on the ratio of the county’s excess contribution.

APPORTIONMENTS

“C” Funds are apportioned to each County in the following manner:

1. one-third based on the ratio of the land area of the county to the land area of the state,
2. one-third based on the ratio of county population to state population as determined by the latest ten year census, and
3. one-third based on the ratio of rural road mileage in the county to rural road mileage in the state.

This distribution is prescribed in Section 12-28-2740(A) of the S.C. Code of Laws 1976, as amended.

Donor county funds are apportioned based on a ratio of the county’s user fee contribution in excess of its “C” fund apportionment to the total excess contributions of all counties.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The Charleston County Transportation Committee



(CCTC) will continue to accept the responsibility to administer its funding in Charleston County as prescribed in the amendments to Section 12-28-2740 S.C. Code of Laws.

Through accepting this responsibility, the CCTC elects to receive its allocation of funds on a monthly basis to implement the transportation plan described herein once approved by the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) Commission.

At its initial public meeting held on December 15, 1993, the CCTC delegated coordination of the CCTC's transportation plan to the County of Charleston with the daily responsibilities of the program being managed by its Department of Public Works. This coordination effort was re-delegated at the May 8, 2001 meeting of the CCTC via unanimous decision. Due to an internal County staff reorganization, in May 2009 County staff responsible for CCTC program administration transferred from the Public Works Department to the Transportation Development Department. In the Fall of 2019, another internal County Staff reorganization occurred in which the Transportation Development Department was merged back with the Public Works Department. Therefore, the Public Works Department will continue to work with the CCTC to coordinate, administer, and oversee the CCTC's transportation plan. The Department's duties will be to provide administrative services, design services, engineering, quality and quantity control, materials testing, inspections and investigations, right-of-way acquisitions, procurement, financial accounting, contracts preparation, bidding and letting, construction administration, and legal services.

Correspondence, questions, or comments for the Charleston County Transportation Committee should be addressed to the following:

Mr. Wilbert O'Brien Limehouse, Chairperson
or
Mrs. Devri DeToma, P.E., Program Coordinator
at
4045 Bridge View Drive, Suite A301
North Charleston, SC 29405-7464
Office (843) 202-6140
Fax (843) 202-6152

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The CCTC will continue utilizing its funding on a county-wide transportation network that will consist of the SCDOT's secondary road system and the County and Municipal government's road and bridge systems. Since road system needs continue to far exceed the available funds, the CCTC will continue to purposefully choose to exclude roadways for funding that are considered Interstate, U.S., and SCDOT primary routes unless specific requests or extenuating circumstances arise.

The CCTC will continue to manage and administer its local government program utilizing the 1995 edition of the CCTC's Standard Specifications for Local Governments Road and Street Construction. This document was prepared as required by legislation and will be revised as deemed necessary. Additionally, the CCTC will continue to utilize its computerized county-wide Pavement Management System (PMS) for project development of the entire SCDOT secondary system and local government roadway systems.

This PMS maintains a comprehensive automated inventory and performs technical analyses and objective evaluations of the CCTC's existing and future county-wide paved roadway network. The PMS provides the CCTC (without regard to political boundaries or jurisdiction) proposed maintenance schedules, surface condition analyses, financial analyses, and recommendations for existing roadways. It allows for coordinated management of the road system in conjunction with local governments' routine maintenance and construction projects. The PMS is routinely maintained and updated by County staff to provide the CCTC with current road conditions on an annual basis. Information generated by the PMS, coupled with various intangible factors, will be utilized by the CCTC to assist in selecting maintenance projects warranting funding.

In order to simplify program management and provide the needed financial controls, the CCTC will manage and administer its construction and maintenance program



locally through the Charleston County Public Works Department with the cooperation of other local governmental agencies including the SCDOT. By adopting a centralized management structure, the CCTC anticipates taking advantage of several opportunities including more competitive bids on single, large scale multi-jurisdictional contracts, centralized accounting controls for simplified fiscal monitoring and required audit reports, comprehensive and uniformly controlled materials testing procedures to insure consistent quality control standards, and reports to the SCDOT assuring the CCTC's annual projects conform to the requirements of the South Carolina law for "C" Funds.

Projects constructed under the "C" program fall into two divisions: State road projects which are located on the State highway system and local government projects which are not on the State highway system.

SCDOT PROJECTS

Local "C" Funded project management on the SCDOT highway system will be performed either by the Charleston County Public Works Department through a written agreement between the County and the SCDOT, or, if appropriate, by the SCDOT itself. All work will be designed and constructed in accordance with the SCDOT's current edition of its Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, the AASHTO Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges (including the latest interim specifications for each), AASHTO's Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, and any modifications which may be recommended and approved by the SCDOT and/or the Federal Highway Administration. SCDOT certified inspectors will be principal inspectors on all SCDOT projects to insure compliance with current SCDOT road specifications and testing procedures. Any and all project engineering, design, or testing on the SCDOT highway system must be performed by, managed by, or under control of the SCDOT

through a contractual agreement approved by SCDOT officials.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROJECTS

Any project under local government jurisdiction will be designed and/or constructed to meet the CCTC's Standard Specifications for Local Governments Road and Street Construction in Charleston County. After approval and programming by the CCTC, these projects will be supervised and managed locally through the Charleston County Public Works Department, with assistance from local governments. Funding for all projects will be designated by the CCTC and will not exceed limits established by State Legislation. Project selection and fund distribution will be done in an equitable manner between unincorporated and incorporated areas of the County.

The CCTC reserves the right to review and revise the County Transportation Plan from time to time. Changes, additions, or deletions will be forwarded to the SCDOT for approval.

PROPOSED FUNDING ALLOCATION

Priority No. 1

Preservation, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction

(Annual Expenditure: Up to 80 percent annual funds)

Due to limited funding and continual deterioration of the existing local government and State secondary road and bridge systems, the CCTC will consider the preservation, rehabilitation and reconstruction of these systems as its primary priority. Projects considered for funding under this classification will include, but will not be limited to, conventional resurfacing, pavement preservation treatments, roadway reconstruction and various improvements and upgrades on both earth and paved roads and bridges.

The CCTC will utilize the county-wide Pavement Management System plus recommendations from



the SCDOT and local governments to assist in selecting projects in this category for funding. The CCTC desires to maintain the paved road system in Charleston County in a good condition by systematically utilizing preservation, rehabilitation and reconstruction techniques to keep our good roads in good condition while addressing the needs of the failed roads in a logical manner. Routine maintenance, such as shoulder or median mowing, pothole repair or patching, ditch and pipe cleaning, street sign installation or replacement, etc., will be the obligation of each jurisdictional government responsible for perpetual maintenance and will not be funded through the “C” Fund Program.

In developing the CCTC’s recommendations for maintenance projects within the county-wide transportation system, the following database information will be utilized:

- Length, surface type, and condition of each secondary road maintained by the SCDOT
- Length, surface type, and condition of each road maintained by the County
- Length, surface type, and condition of each road maintained by Municipalities

ESTIMATED CHARLESTON COUNTY
PAVED ROADWAY DATA

SCDOT Secondary Road Miles.....	881.58
County Government Road Miles.....	87.33
Municipal Government Road Miles.....	818.09
Total Paved Miles	1,787.00

Priority No. 2

New Construction Projects

(Annual Expenditure Contingent Upon Request)

Proposed projects considered by the CCTC under this priority will be site- specific projects and fall under one or more categories. Each request will be considered by the CCTC as a separate issue and can be placed under separate headings such as Road Construction and Improvements or another heading such as Safety Projects depending on the type, number of requests, and available funding.

Road construction and improvements could consist of, but are not limited to, categories for building new roadways or paving and/or rocking existing earth roads, improving community access, etc.

Safety Projects could consist of, but are not limited to, sidewalk construction, road or street intersection improvements, roadway striping or reflectorization for improved night visibility, and signage projects.

Total funding allocated toward this priority will be subordinated to maintenance projects and can be broken down or budgeted for each heading or subcategory mentioned above. Projects can be requested by or through governmental agencies (State, County, or Municipal), school or public educational entities, business groups or agencies, citizen groups, or other interested parties. Funding allocations are conditionally required to include perpetual, recognizable public maintenance agreements as a part of the request.

Each request will be individually scrutinized by CCTC members. Project requests may compete against each other, but will be considered and evaluated separately on individual merit by CCTC members and budgeted accordingly.



It is the intention of the CCTC that project requests within highly urbanized areas will not be classified or ranked on a standardized basis as to directly compete with project requests or needs within the smaller rural municipalities or rural areas of the County.

Priority No. 3

Funding Reserve

(Annual Funding Held in Reserve: Up to 10 percent and at least 5 percent of annual fund amount)

Funding held in this priority will be reserved for possible project cost overruns, highway bond funds, matching funds, or emergency funds during that fiscal year.

SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROCESS OF PROJECTS

The CCTC will accept project requests on a regular basis from the SCDOT, local governments, citizens, or other groups. All requests will be routed for prioritizing to the governmental entity having jurisdiction at that location and to also identify perpetual maintenance responsibilities. Each governmental entity will have the responsibility to prioritize its list of requested projects and submit that list to the CCTC for funding consideration.

The CCTC will evaluate and compare each governmental entity's project requests. New construction project requests will be evaluated on an individual merit basis. Each request evaluated by the CCTC must meet certain criteria, such as acceptance by a governmental agency for perpetual maintenance; the requested project is within the public domain, etc.

The CCTC will discuss publicly the other intangible factors that would be subject to individual member's discretion and scrutiny.

Through this procedure, the CCTC will generate and

fund a singular list of prioritized projects that coincides with the Transportation Plan budgetary and funding allotments as previously presented which will hopefully improve transportation quality in Charleston County.

CONTRACT FIELD MANAGEMENT

For projects developed and bid for the CCTC, contract field management is provided by the Charleston County Public Works Department. This service includes management of the construction, inspection, surveillance, and materials testing. The contract field management activities assure that the projects are built to high standards in compliance with the plans and specifications, and, further, that payments are commensurate with the construction progress and quality standards.

CCTC SUBCOMMITTEES

Funding Overview Subcommittee

- Review funding compliance with SCDOT's Women Owned Businesses (WBE) and Minority Owned Businesses (MBE) guidelines
- Recommend new construction projects for funding allocation(s)
- Review and provide recommendations regarding project change orders
- Other duties or projects as assigned by the Chairman

Technical Oversight Subcommittee

(New Construction, Maintenance and Safety Projects)

- Review and recommend new construction and maintenance program annual funding allotments
- Review and provide recommendations regarding project addition(s) or scope reductions, etc.
- Monitor project schedules and contracts
- Review information and provide technical services for the committee
- Review and provide recommendations regarding maintenance and construction standards



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1994 - 2020

Resurfaced 810 miles of paved roadways

Improved 20.5 miles of earth roadways

Replaced 5 bridges

Installed 90,450 linear feet of sidewalk

Improved 49 intersections



PRESENT MEMBERS

- Wilbert O'Brien Limehouse 1999 to Present
Elected Chairperson in 2006
- Bill Hanahan 2006 to Present
Elected Vice Chairperson in 2016
- James D. Armstrong 2003 to Present
- Larry Shirley 2016 to Present
- Michael D. Dalrymple, P.E. 1997 to Present
- Paul Gawrych 2018 to Present
- Paul Lykins 2016 to Present
- Keith Benjamin 2019 to Present

PAST MEMBERS

- David L. Purcell 2003 to 2016
- Dolph Rodenberg 1996 to 1997
- Gabriel Magwood 1993 to 1997
- James C. Hutto 1993 to 2008
- James C. Rogers 1993 to 2003
- Johnny Kinloch 1993 to 1999
Chairperson from 1993-1999
- Joe Qualey 2005 to 2006
- Joel P. Ford 1993 to 2016
- Robert H. Dunlap, Jr 1993 to 2003
- Robert Miller, Jr 2005 to 2018
- William B. Gore 1993 to 1997
- William Swails, Sr. 1993 to 1996
- Willie Frazier, Sr. 2000 to 2005
- Howard R. Chapman, P.E. 1993 to 2019
Chairperson from 1999-2006
- Laura S. Cabiness, P.E. 1999 to 2019