

Charleston County News Release

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See project's Web page: http://www.ccroadwise.org/sea_islands_greenway.html

Sea Islands Greenway Study to be Presented to County Council on Aug. 12

The results of the [Sea Islands Greenway](#) Preliminary Environmental and Traffic Analysis Concept Study will be presented to [Charleston County Council](#) on Thursday, August 12. The presentation will be given during Council's 4:15 p.m. finance committee meeting, which will be held in Council Chambers at the Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building (4045 Bridge View Drive; N. Charleston).

County Council authorized the study in 2009, which began with a workshop that was held on Dec. 7, 2009 at the Johns Island Regional Library.

The Aug. 12 meeting is open to the public, and will stream live at www.charlestoncounty.org (and will be available for viewing on the Web site any time after the meeting), and will air on Comcast channel 60 on Friday, Aug. 13 at 7 p.m.

The idea of the greenway is being offered as a potential alternative to widening River Road or Bohicket Road because it would provide another option for travelers crossing Johns Island, and, therefore, take pressure off of the current road system. The greenway would stretch across Johns Island from the area of the Maybank Highway and River Road intersection to Betsy Kerrison Parkway. The proposed road concept envisions a rural roadway, buffered on both sides and protected from development. The buffering concept would be similar to the [Colonial Parkway in Virginia](#).

Background:

- In 2001, Charleston County Council authorized a study to gather public input on ways to relieve traffic concerns on Johns Island. Maybank Highway, Bohicket Road and River Road are the boundaries of the area that was studied.
- In 2006, Charleston County Council authorized an update to the original 2001 study. The update was funded by the County's [Transportation Sales Tax](#).
- Charleston County Council held a public meeting on Thursday, June 19, 2008, to gather input on the idea of building a road, then known as the Sea Islands Parkway, across Johns Island, and whether or not Council should pursue asking the S.C. Department of Transportation to begin considering a limited-access toll road option. Council chose to re-evaluate this concept in relation to comprehensive traffic solutions for Johns Island.
- **On Sept. 1, 2009, County Council approved the following directives:**
 - To perform an alignment study for the Sea Islands Greenway
 - To prepare a [Request for Proposal \(RFP\)](#) for potential public-private financing and construction of the Greenway

- To move forward with the Maybank Highway improvements, based upon the “pitchfork” concept at the intersection of Maybank Highway and River Road
- To study and seek funding for improvements at seven Johns Island Intersections
- To study the widening of Bohicket and Main Roads as an alternative to the Sea Islands Greenway project.
- The link to the Charleston County Council minutes for the Sept. 1, 2009 action is:
http://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/Council/Minutes/2009/09_01_09.pdf
- A workshop was held on Dec. 7, 2009 at the [Johns Island Regional Library](#). The workshop included a presentation by County staff and consultants that was given at the following times: 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. The public was invited to drop in, comment and give input at any time throughout the day.
 - See public comment summary report of the Dec. 7 workshop:
http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/doc/comment_summary.pdf
 - See the public workshop handout:
http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/doc/flyer_final.pdf
 - See the public information poster:
http://www.ccroadwise.org/file/doc/bullet_board_ldm.pdf