

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 19

Date: October 9, 2021

Time: 10:00 am

Location: I-526 Lowcountry Corridor Community Office, 5627 Rivers Avenue, N. Charleston, SC; Microsoft Teams (Virtual)

Project Name: I-526 Lowcountry Corridor WEST

Attendees:

Tina A. Baxley, Ferndale

Earl Muhammad, Ferndale

Michael Halls, Ferndale

Gilbert Reeves, Ferndale

Michael Miller, Highland Terrace

Angela Anderson, Russelldale

Joy Riley, SCDOT

Chad Long, SCDOT

Pamela Foster, FHWA

Shane Belcher, FHWA

Maxine Smith, Maximum Consulting

Mattese Lecque, Maximum Consulting

Gwendolyn Boyd, Maximum Consulting

Clay Middleton, Maximum Consulting

Rick Day, Stantec

LaTonya Derrick, Stantec

Ryan White, Stantec

Jenny Humphries, CDM Smith

Participant Summary:

Total participants: 18

Ferndale: 4

Highland Terrace/ Joppa Way: 1

Liberty Park: 0

Russelldale: 1

Adjacent affected communities/ agencies: 0

SCDOT: 2

FHWA: 2

Community Liaisons: 4

Stantec: 3

CDM Smith: 1

Meeting Summary:

Welcome and Introductions

- Roll call (online and phone participants)

Agenda Review

- Welcome and Administrative Items
- Neighborhood Update
- Action Items from Meeting #18
 - Commitment Revisions
 - Update on Russelldale Pocket Park
- I-526 LCC EAST Project Update
- CAC Best Practices Review Survey
- Outreach Update
- Project Schedule and Milestone Review
- Summary and Next Steps

Neighborhood Update

No updates were provided

Action Items from Meeting #18

Commitment Revisions - Based on input received at Meeting #18, the additional following language is proposed for the named commitments. The additions are highlighted:

Project Oversight Committee:

Assist SCDOT in outreach efforts and meetings to get input from the greater community on detailed design concepts for those mitigation items that require physical construction.

Community Meetings:

“SCDOT will work with the POC to conduct community meetings and distribute flyers throughout the implementation of the EJ Community Mitigation Plan to keep residents informed of the project schedule and to seek input on any mitigation-related commitments.”

Programs and Activities:

“Volunteer and job opportunities with priority given to neighborhood residents,”

Facilities and Amenities:

SCDOT will acquire parcels located within the affected neighborhoods and provide funding to the City of North Charleston who will oversee design and construction of one large, modern, centrally located community center complex with expanded programs and operating hours and two pocket parks, one within the Liberty Park neighborhood and one within the Russelldale neighborhood. The Russelldale pocket park location is preliminary and SCDOT is committed to continuing to identify additional locations within Russelldale and reviewing the options with community members.

Update on Russelldale Pocket Park

A rendering has been prepared for the parcel at the end of Russelldale Avenue on the corner of Twitty. The recreational amenities currently available at the existing Russelldale Community Center were included along with additional features that were shared early in the project development and EJ Mitigation discussions. It is important to keep in mind that this parcel may not be impacted due to updates in the design. Also, renderings are subject to change, are not committed designs and are intended to be a frame of reference.

During the ride-along with CAC Member Angela Anderson and EJ Team Co-Leader LaTonya Derrick, two (2) additional properties were identified with vacant, boarded properties on Southern Street. While these parcels have the same owner, the proximity to the rail line and existing residences raise safety concerns. As the project progresses, further communication with the neighborhood residents and the City of North Charleston will be important in determining placement of the future pocket park.

I-526 LCC EAST Project Update

SCDOT provided an in-depth review of the I-526 LCC EAST project. Except for timeline concerns, no other questions were presented by the CAC.

CAC Best Practices Review Survey

The Project Team shared a survey with the CAC which requested feedback regarding the areas below. The corresponding rating is also provided (scale from 1 (needs significant improvement) to 5 (excellent)):

- CAC Selection Process
 - CAC Recruitment – 4.4
 - Explanation of Roles – 4.4
- Communication with the Project Team
 - Availability – 4.8
 - Surveys/Social Needs Assessment – 4.4
 - Responsiveness – 4.8
- Community Office
 - Hours of Operation – 4.8
 - Services Provided – 4.6
 - Location – 5.0
- CAC Meetings
 - Agenda Items – 4.6
 - Materials – 4.6
 - Facilitation – 4.6
 - Time & Duration – 4.8
 - Locations – 4.8
- Speaker & Subject Matter Experts
 - At CAC Meetings – 4.6
 - Other Info Sessions – 4.6
- Adjustments due to COVID
 - Online Meetings – 4.8
 - Community Office Safety – 5.0
 - In-person meetings – 5.0
 - Community Meeting Safety – 4.8
- Community Outreach & Engagement
 - Relevance of Info – 4.4
 - Outreach Materials – 4.4
 - Outreach Efforts – 4.4
 - Meeting Accessibility and Convenience – 4.6
- EJ Community Mitigation Plan
 - Development – 4.2
 - Plan Components – 4.6
 - Responsiveness to Concerns – 4.4
- CAC Transition Process
 - POC Explanation – 4.0
 - Mitigation Schedule – 4.2
- Overall Comments
 - The team members are very knowledgeable, respectful and professional. It is always a pleasure working with them.
 - I think overall you have done an excellent job. These areas are hard to work.

Outreach Update

The following sessions have been offered at the Community Office:

Let's Talk about Public Safety! – August 23rd with 13 attendees

Let's Put Your Financial House in Order! – September 27th with 9 attendees

The schedule for the next events is noted below:

October 25th: White Coat Fright (Are you afraid to visit a doctor)?

Dr. Thaddeus Bell, Closing the Gap in Healthcare

November 8th: What's the Difference in Trusts Versus Wills?

Attorney Arthur McFarland

December 6th: What is PTSD (Personal Traumatic Stress Disorder)?

Annette "Toni" Doyle, Charleston, Dorchester Mental Health Center(CDMHC)

Project Schedule and Milestone Review

Community Office Stats

(August 14–October 1, 2021)

- Visitors: 74
- Incoming Calls: 45
- Voicemails: 5
- ROW Appointments: 4
- Outgoing Calls: 160

Summary and Next Steps

If necessary, notice of CAC Meeting #20 will be provided at a later date.