

Program Updates



From left: SCDOT Seventh Congressional District Commissioner Tony Cox, SCDOT Fourth Congressional District Commissioner Woody Willard, Jr., SCDOT Third Congressional District Commissioner Pamela Christopher, President and CEO of the S.C. Trucking Association Rick Todd, State Representative Chip Huggins, State Senator Nikki Setzler, U.S. Representative Joe Wilson, Governor Henry McMaster, Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall, SCDOT Commission Chairman, and Sixth Congressional District Commissioner J. Barnwell Fishburne, Federal Highway Administration S.C. Division Administrator Emily Lawton, SCDOT Fifth Congressional District Commissioner Gene Branham, Jr., SCDOT Commissioner At-Large James McLawhorne, Jr., SCDOT Second Congressional District Commissioner Bill Dukes. Photo courtesy of Mike Cameron/HDR.

SCDOT officially breaks ground on Carolina Crossroads

On Monday, November 8, 2021, Secretary of Transportation, Christy A. Hall, was joined by statewide dignitaries for a groundbreaking ceremony for the South Carolina Department of Transportation's \$1.7 billion Carolina Crossroads project. The project will improve 14 miles of I-20, I-26 and I-126 including the area commonly called "Malfunction Junction."

Governor Henry McMaster hailed the start of Carolina Crossroads as a harbinger of economic growth for the state saying, "We are booming and the next 10 years are going to be extraordinary and this is a big part of it."

Secretary Hall defined the moment as celebration of the start of Carolina Crossroads as well as "the success of a commitment to the citizens of this state by the state D.O.T."

Carolina Crossroads will be constructed in five phases and is scheduled to be finished in 2029.

Fire training takes place at SCDOT properties

In October 2021, fire personnel from City of Columbia, West Columbia, Irmo, and Lexington County came together at the Spherion Building located on Berryhill Road for training exercises.

The building was purchased as right of way for Carolina Crossroads. Its use as a fire training site gave participants the opportunity to learn about flat roof ventilation techniques and gave them simulated field experience.

After the fire training completed, the building was demolished.



Fire personnel atop the Spherion Building on Berryhill Rd. in Irmo on Oct. 27, 2021. Photo courtesy of Cody Crouch/SCDOT



Firemen from Irmo Fire Department train inside the Spherion Building on Berryhill Rd. in Irmo on Oct. 21, 2021. Photo courtesy of Cody Crouch/SCDOT





Aaron Livingston from the Archer United Joint Venture (AUJV) construction team explains a rendering to members of the public who attended the Carolina Crossroads Phase 1 Construction Public Information Meeting. Photo courtesy of Maria Yesenia Trejo/HDR.

Phase 1 Virtual Public Meeting now available

Members of the public who are interested in learning more about construction of the Carolina Crossroads Phase 1 Project can visit the virtual public meeting site to see all of the information, renderings, displays, and video that were shared at the in-person meeting.

To access the meeting site, visit [SCDOTCarolinaCrossroads.com/phase1meeting/](https://www.scdotcarolinacrossroads.com/phase1meeting/)

SCDOT holds Phase 1 Construction Public Information Meeting

On Thursday, November 18, 2021, SCDOT hosted the Carolina Crossroads Phase 1 Construction Public Information Meeting at Dutch Square Mall.

The meeting gave the public an opportunity to interact with project personnel, ask questions, and gain an understanding of the anticipated construction impacts of Phase 1. Conceptual design renderings and project area maps were available for review. The project team also debuted an informational video that outlines project details and explains many of the key facets of Phase 1 design and construction.



Screenshot of Carolina Crossroads project video on website

Phase 1 construction updates

Archer United Joint Venture received Notice to Proceed (NTP) for the Carolina Crossroads Phase 1 Project in June 2021. The contract bid amount was \$207.9 million. In the months since NTP, preliminary and right of way design plans for Phase 1 have been submitted and are under review by SCDOT. Utility relocation coordination is on-going and there is isolated clearing taking place to facilitate the relocation of Outdoor Advertising (ODA) signs. Milling and resurfacing of the existing pavement was recently completed on I-26 eastbound and westbound between the Saluda River and the ramps nearing US-378. This activity will facilitate the installation of concrete barriers along the outside shoulders of I-26 in the coming months. Additional preliminary activity planned for the next six months includes:

- Finalizing design plans and construction permits
- Reconstructing paved shoulders on I-26 and I-126
- Beginning rehabilitation of existing bridges at Colonial Life Boulevard
- Relocating fiber optic lines and 30-inch City of Columbia force main sewer lines

Construction permits are anticipated to be obtained and full construction is scheduled to begin in early-summer 2022. Substantial completion is expected to be in fall 2024.



PHASE 2 – Broad River Road at I-20 Interchange



Preliminary design concepts of the I-20 interchange at Broad River Road. Rendering is courtesy of AUJV.

AUJV receives Notice to Proceed for Phase 2

In August 2021, SCDOT announced that it would be moving forward with a \$127 million contract to Archer United Joint Venture (AUJV) for Phase 2 of the Carolina Crossroads project. AUJV received Notice to Proceed (NTP) in November 2021. Now that NTP has been issued, AUJV is moving forward with preliminary design plans submittal and utility relocation coordination. Preliminary work planned in the next six months include:

- Finalizing design plans and construction permits
- Demolishing vacated structures
- Reconstructing paved shoulder on I-20
- Clearing brush throughout the project area

Construction permits are anticipated to be obtained and full construction is expected to begin in late summer 2022.

A look ahead

Our next quarterly newsletter will feature construction photos and highlights from Phases 1 and 2.

Stay informed of traffic delays and detours

Throughout the duration of the Carolina Crossroads Program, traffic changes will be inevitable.

Temporary lane closures, occasional ramp detours, and additional traffic information can be found on the Carolina Crossroads website and corresponding social media platforms.

You are also encouraged to download the **SCDOT511 Traveler Information System** to find real-time traffic information.

