

Carolina Crossroads Quarterly

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There's a new bridge in town



An aerial view of the new bridge over I-20 at Broad River Road.

On May 18, Phase 2 officially opened a new bridge over I-20 at Broad River Road. This bridge is a key component of improving the I-20 Interchange at Broad River Road.

Currently, all traffic is being directed over the new bridge while the old bridge over I-20 is being replaced.

Once completed, drivers traveling on Broad River Road from Irmo toward downtown Columbia will utilize the bridge you see at the top of the photo above and drivers traveling in the other direction will utilize the bridge that will replace the one closer to the bottom of the photo.

In total, the I-20 interchange at Broad River Road will consist of three new bridges: two new bridges over I-20 and a third bridge for a new on-ramp from Broad River Road to I-20 westbound.

Other milestones achieved within the Phase 2 project area include the relocation of Garner Lane, and the addition of a 1500' exit ramp lane from I-20 westbound to I-26 westbound.

Fun Facts:

The new Broad River Road bridge consists of approximately:

- 64 steel pilings, totaling 4000 linear feet in the ground
- 141 tons of reinforcing steel
- 2350 linear feet of prestressed concrete beams supporting the bridge deck
- 1400 cubic yards of concrete poured

Phase 3 Updates

Phase 3B and Phase 3C procurements have advanced since spring. Phase 3B is scheduled to advertise in August with the winning firm announced in September. Clearing and grubbing is slated to begin in early 2025.

The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Phase 3C procurement was released in May. Five firms submitted their qualifications for evaluation. The final Request for Proposal (RFP) is expected in October, with procurement wrapping up in April 2025.

SCDOT will continue to refine details of the Project Re-phasing Plan; this information will be announced as it becomes available. The momentum on the Carolina Crossroads Project will continue uninterrupted.



Phase 3B: Clearing and grubbing of vegetation around the I-20/I-26 interchange.



Phase 3C: 1-20 widening between Bush River Road and Sunset Boulevard and replacement of the I-20 bridges over the Saluda River and CSX railroad.







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Phase 1 - Colonial Life Boulevard at I-126 Interchange

Get prepared for a new traffic pattern

The new full access interchange at I-126 and Colonial Life Boulevard is continuing to make progress. In fact, Phase 1 is 85 percent complete.

The next major milestone for Phase 1 is the permanent closure of the I-26 interchange at Bush River Road.

This closure will occur as a three-step process.*

Step 1: On-Ramp Closures and New On-Ramp Openings

By mid-September 2024, the I-26 on-ramps at Bush River Road (near the old Walmart) will be permanently closed. Once closed, drivers will use Colonial Life Boulevard to access a new bridge to reach I-26 eastbound and westbound.

Step 2: Eastbound Off-Ramp Closure and New On-Ramp Opening (30 days later)

The second step will involve the closure of the off-ramp from I-26 eastbound to Bush River Road. A new off-ramp at Colonial Life Boulevard will replace the newly closed ramp. This closure is expected to take place 30 days after the on-ramp closures and new on-ramp openings.

Step 3: Westbound Off-Ramp Closure (90 to 180 days later)

The final step will be the closure of the off-ramp from I-26 westbound to Bush River Road. This off-ramp will remain open for an additional 90 to 180 days Specific dates and details of the off-ramp closures will be announced at a later date. A new off-ramp at Colonial Life Boulevard will replace the newly closed ramp.

*Dates and timelines are subject to change.

Bush River Rd

Veer Right and

EB To Charleston

Use New

Bridge to

Access I-26

Take Flyover

Colonial Life Blvd

Phase 2 - Broad River Road at I-20 Interchange

Phase 2 Updates



Construction of new bridge ramp from Broad River Road to I-20 westbound.

As mentioned previously, Phase 2 has opened the first new Broad River Road bridge over I-20. More progress has also been made.

STEP 1

No Access to I-26 East

bound/Westbound from Bush River Rd

WB To Spartanburg

access to I-26.

Merge Left and Continue Straight

Map reflects new traffic pattern for on-ramp

- Demolition of the existing Broad River Road Bridge over I-20 and excavation (removal of material and debris) in preparation for the second Broad River Road bridge has begun. Foundation work has recently started.
- Construction of a new bridge ramp from Broad River Road to I-20 westbound towards Augusta is almost complete.
- Waterline, telecommunication, electric, and gas utility relocations are almost complete.







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