

**SCDOT Seeks Public Input on Draft
Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan**

Seven Public Information Meetings to be held Across South Carolina

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) Commission on Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014, gave staff approval to initiate a 30-day public comment period for the draft of the 2040 Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan (SMTP).

SCDOT is in the process of updating the SMTP in partnership with the SC Department of Commerce; SC State Ports Authority; Federal Highway Administration; Federal Transit Administration, and other key stakeholders. The SMTP is titled, "Charting a Course to 2040."

The SMTP is updated every 5 years to reflect the latest information on travel and growth trends, goals and objectives, infrastructure conditions, future deficiencies, estimated funding, and strategies to move South Carolina forward. The SMTP includes the following, stand-alone statewide plans:

- **Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan (Summary);**
- **Statewide Interstate Plan** to evaluate current and future congestion specific to each interstate corridor;
- **Statewide Strategic Corridors Plan** to develop a priority non-Interstate network with a focus on interregional connectivity for the traveling public and freight movement and includes an evaluation of current and future congestion on the network;
- **Statewide Transit Plan** to identify existing public transportation services, current and projected needs, and long-range transit strategies;
- **Statewide Rail Plan** to establish priorities and implementation strategies to enhance passenger and freight rail service in South Carolina, and serve as the basis for Federal and State rail investment;
- **Statewide Freight Plan** developed for the first time in South Carolina to identify a Strategic Freight Network necessary for the efficient movement of goods in South Carolina, and focused strategies to address the state's current and projected freight needs;
- **The Draft Statewide Strategic Safety Plan** to identify emphasis areas and strategies aimed at eliminating highway fatalities and severe injuries

A copy of this press release, an overview of the update process, and a link to the Draft 2040 SMTP are available for public review and comment until **Sept. 25, 2014** online at:

http://www.scdot.org/inside/public_comment.aspx

In addition, seven public information meetings will be held across the state in September to engage the public and provide citizens an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft 2040 SMTP. The meetings will have a drop-in format with displays of the draft plan available for viewing

from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. A brief presentation regarding the Draft 2040 SMTP will be given at the beginning of each meeting. The Draft Statewide Strategic Safety Plan also will be available for public review and comment at the regional meetings.

The meetings will be held at the following locations:

- **September 8, 2014** **Colonial Life Arena, McGuire Room**
801 Lincoln St
Columbia, SC 29201
- **September 9, 2014** **Florence Public Library, Stukes Meeting Room**
509 S. Dargan St.
Florence, SC 29506
- **September 11, 2014** **Piedmont Technical College, 102–C Building**
James C. Self Conference Center
620 N. Emerald Road
Greenwood, SC 29648
- **September 16, 2014** **Greenville County Square, Suite 400**
301 University Ridge
Greenville, SC 29601
- **September 17, 2014** **Manchester Meadows, 2nd Floor Conference Room**
337 Mt. Gallant Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730
- **September 18, 2014** **Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College, Cyber Cafeteria**
3250 St. Matthews Road
Orangeburg, SC 29118
- **September 23, 2014** **Daniel Island School, Multi-Purpose Room**
2365 Daniel Island Drive
Charleston, SC 29492

An interpreter will be available to assist Spanish-speaking individuals who wish to review the draft plans. Persons with disabilities who may require special accommodations should contact Mr. Mark Pleasant at (803) 737-1437.

To assist those who do not have internet access, a hard copy of this information is available for public review and comment at the following locations:

South Carolina Council of Governments:

Appalachian Council of Governments

Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville,
Oconee, Pickens & Spartanburg
30 Century Circle
Greenville, SC 29606
(864) 242-9733

Lower Savannah Council of Governments

Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell,
Calhoun & Orangeburg
2748 Wagener Road
Hwy 302 North
Aiken, SC 29801
(803) 649-7981

Upper Savannah Council of Governments

Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens,
McCormick & Saluda
222 Phoenix Street, Suite 200
Greenwood, SC 29646
(864) 941-8050

Santee-Lynches Council of Governments

Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee & Sumter
36 West Liberty Street
Sumter, SC 29151
(803) 775-7381

Catawba Regional Council of Governments
Chester, Lancaster, York & Union
215 Hampton Street
Second Floor
Rock Hill, SC 29731
(803) 327-9091

Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments
Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence,
Marion & Marlboro
2319 Regional Road
Florence, SC 29501
(843) 669-3138

Central Midlands Council of Governments
Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry & Richland
236 Stoneridge Drive
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 376-5390

Lowcountry Council of Governments
Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton & Jasper
634 Campground Road
Yemassee, SC 29945
(843) 726-5536

**Waccamaw Regional Planning and
Development Council of Governments**
Georgetown, Horry & Williamsburg
1230 Highmarket Street
Georgetown, SC 29440
(843) 546-8502

**Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of
Governments**
Berkeley, Charleston & Dorchester
1362 McMillan Ave, Suite 100
North Charleston, SC 29405
(843) 529-0400

SCDOT District Offices:

District 1
1400 Shop Road
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 737-6660

District 2
510 W. Alexander Ave.
Greenwood, SC 29646
(864) 227-6971

District 3
252 S. Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC 29607
(864) 241-1010

District 4
1232 J.A. Cochran Bypass
Chester, SC 29706
(803) 377-4155

District 5
3018 East Palmetto
Florence, SC 29506
(843) 661-4710

District 6
6355 Fain Blvd.
North Charleston, SC 29406
(843) 740-1665

District 7
US Route 178 East Bowman Road
Orangeburg, SC 29116
(803) 531-6850

Comments will be accepted until the close of business on **Sept. 25, 2014** and should be forwarded to Mark Pleasant, Statewide Planning Chief at SCDOT, 955 Park Street, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, S.C. 29202 or pleasantmd@scdot.org.

NOTE: Information provided, including name and address, is subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Charting a Course to 2040 **(The Process of Updating the** **South Carolina Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan)**

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), in partnership with the South Carolina Department of Commerce, South Carolina State Ports Authority, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and other key stakeholders is in the process of updating the **South Carolina Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan**, entitled “**Charting a Course to 2040**”.

Every five years the **Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan** is updated to reflect the latest information on travel and growth trends, goals and objectives, infrastructure conditions, future deficiencies, and estimated funding.

The updating process is performance-based and includes developing vision, goals, and objectives, formulating performance targets, identifying multimodal transportation needs, estimating future revenues, developing future scenarios, environmental screening, integrating bike and pedestrian planning, and safety. The **Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan** also includes strategic plans for the Interstate system, Significant Corridors, Public Transit and Human Health Service Coordination, Freight, and Rail systems

In 2012, Congress passed “**Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act**” (**MAP-21**) which requires state transportation plans to focus on a performance-based, outcome-driven planning process.

“**Charting a Course to 2040**” attempts to address the enhanced federal planning requirements by providing a vision for improving future condition, performance, and accessibility of transportation infrastructure and services that enhance the mobility and economic competitiveness of South Carolina.

There are numerous challenges in planning for the State’s future transportation system. Growth trends in population, employment, vehicle miles of travel and transit usage indicate a greater demand for future mobility. The maintenance of the existing system, which is the fourth largest in the nation, is a significant consideration with over 41,000 miles of state maintained highways and over 8,300 bridges.

The South Carolina Ports Authority relies on an effective highway and rail system for the movement of goods in support of the State’s economy. Tourism is the largest economic sector in the State and transportation infrastructure provides a critical linkage for visitors.

Finally, improving the safety of the traveling public is an ongoing priority as South Carolina has one of the highest mileage death rates in the nation. Effectively balancing all of these considerations with available resources is the focus of the **South Carolina Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan**.