



**Steering Committee Meeting
Video Conference**

Minutes

August 24, 2022

3:30PM – 4:30PM

- I. **Welcome** – Councilmember Honeycutt
Councilmember Honeycutt welcomed everyone.

- II. **Previous Meeting Minutes** – Councilmember Honeycutt
Minutes from June 22, 2022 Steering Committee meeting were approved unanimously.

- III. **Phase 1 Project Update** – Sheila Parker
Right-of-way (ROW) acquisition is still in progress. The negotiations with property owners and businesses along Folly Road continue and are going well. The City of Charleston’s TRC process has gone well, and they have given conditional approval. The main focus is getting through SCDOT and getting the land disturbance permit; there have been a few challenges. For example, it was agreed to micro-surface Folly Road during construction. Instead, SCDOT now wants a mill and overlay; this will add around \$350,000 to the construction costs. We are almost a quarter of the way through the parcels that are still depending on ROW acquisitions. The utility coordination is going well and is still on track. We are looking to complete the project development and learning process by the end of the third or fourth quarter of this year and to get the project advertised for construction early next year, breaking ground early spring 2023.



IV. Public Outreach Update – Toole Design

Property and Business Owner Outreach Program - We are planning to extend our opportunities to do more one-on-one communications with property and business owners. We are revamping the flyer and reposting it on our social media sites, the neighborhoods' social media sites, and on the web page. A resident expressed interest in having Toole Design give a presentation to their neighborhood association, which staff is currently coordinating. The expectation is that this may lead to further discussion and interest on having a trail in the vicinity of their neighborhood.

Appreciation Plaques - In June, we began presenting plaques to property and business owners in recognition of their contributions to the Rethink Folly Road initiative; recognition was for either building or dedicating right-of-way for future construction of a multi-use path along their property frontage. At the June meeting, we recognized Mr. Craig Kilgore and this month staff recognized two additional businesses - the James Island Public Service District Fire Station Number One, located at 1108 Folly Road, and Chase Bank, located at 896 Folly Road.

V. Funding Opportunities Overview – Kyle James and Sheila Parker

Kyle James provided an overview of the federal funding opportunities that would be a good fit for the Rethink Folly Road Initiative over the next four or five years. There are two funding sources that are coming out of Congress, the past two spending bills, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act. To summarize, the focus areas of all the grants over the last few cycles have really placed an emphasis on being shovel-ready, matching funds early, and persistence.



Sheila Parker provided an overview of two Charleston County programs, the Transportation Sales Tax (TST) program and Charleston County Transportation Committee (CTC) program.

- TST - Historically, the county has allocated \$9 million dollars for the half-cent sales tax program. The program began in 2005 and it runs for 25 years. Typically, the breakdown for the allocations is \$4 million for resurfacing, \$1 million for bike and pedestrian, \$2 million for local paving, and \$2 million for intersection improvements. The 2016 half-cent sales tax program will go into effect in 2030, once the 2005 program ends. Allocations are made annually.
- CTC - The funds for the CTC program are generated through the gas tax and counties within the state receive 2.5 cents per gallon sold and use those funds for the CTC program. All municipalities and entities submit their project request, and then Charleston County puts them through a cost benefit analysis.

VI. Phase 2 Project Discussion – Toole Design

In February, a rough draft of estimates of four segments was presented, and we have narrowed those down to two. The two segments start at George Griffith Boulevard to South Grimball Road, then from South Grimball Road to Sol Legare Road. We have gone back and revisited the cost estimates that were previously presented, and they have changed significantly. The reasons for the changes in the cost estimates from February to August are inflation prices have increased dramatically and the cost of materials. We have also added 20% for design, a 30% construction contingency, drainage structures, and utility relocation; right-of-way acquisition was removed at this time. At this point, we want to look at finding the right fit and timing of the potential pots of federal, state, and local funding to start the



design process and position ourselves to be ready to begin applying for construction grants.

VII. Jurisdictional Updates – Various

City of Charleston – James Wallace

- The Refuel Gas Station – Passed TRC with paperwork only on its fifth review. They have to return to TRC; they just have to finalize permits with the DOT and storm water paperwork. The Refuel Station is located by Cross Creek and Folly Road.
- Folly & Country Club Pedestrian Improvements – There are some remaining stormwater comments, so there is a 17-day return to TRC as of last week.

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned.