



INTERSTATE 26 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT FROM MILE MARKER 172 TO 187 DORCHESTER AND BERKELEY COUNTIES

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025 | 5:00 TO 7:00 PM
WOODLAND HIGH SCHOOL | 4128 HWY 78, DORCHESTER, SC 29437

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) welcome you to this public information meeting. We appreciate your attendance and encourage your feedback. You are welcome to review the displays and submit written comments. Please see the reverse side for ways to submit a comment.

MEETING PURPOSE

Provide the public with an opportunity to review and discuss the proposed project with SCDOT, FHWA, and their project team, and provide comments.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Widening Interstate (I) 26 to provide three continuous lanes in each direction between Columbia and Charleston is a key priority for SCDOT. This project is a vital piece of that plan. It is also a major component of the Department's Rural Interstate Freight Mobility Program due to its regional and economic significance.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- SCDOT is proposing improvements to I-26 beginning just west of the US 15 interchange at Exit 172 and ending just west of the SC 27 interchange at Exit 187 (see reverse side).
- The approximately 15 miles of widening of I-26 will occur by utilizing the existing right-of-way within the interstate median.
- Both the US 15 (Exit 172) and SC 453 (Exit 177) interchanges will be reconstructed to accommodate the widening while also planning for future traffic volumes. Each interchange has three preliminary alternatives available for comment. A recommended preferred alternative is identified for each. Details can be found in the public meeting display area or by visiting the project website.
- Temporary detours will be implemented for the bridges over I-26 on both the S-28 (First Bend Road) and S-55 (Second Bend Road) overpasses during construction. Details can be found in the public meeting display area, on a separate handout, or by visiting the project website.

PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the project is to improve traffic operations and existing geometry associated with roadways and bridges along I-26 between mile marker (MM) 172 and 187. The project is needed due to existing and projected traffic volumes and operating conditions along this section of I-26. Specifically, the existing and projected traffic volumes indicate that I-26 would be operating beyond capacity and would experience an increase in traffic congestion and operational deficiencies if no improvements are made.



IMPROVE TRAFFIC OPERATIONS



ADJUST ROADWAY GEOMETRY

PROJECT SCHEDULE

JANUARY 2026

Right-Of-Way Acquisition Anticipated to Begin

SPRING 2027

Construction Anticipated to Begin

FALL 2031

*Estimated Construction Completion
Approx. 4-Year Construction Duration*



South Carolina Department of Transportation



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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YOUR FEEDBACK IS REQUESTED

If you would like to submit written comments about the project, you may do so by:

- Completing a comment form and depositing it in the comment boxes in this meeting room.
- Visiting the project website: www.i26improvements.com/mm172-187
- Scanning the QR code provided below with your smartphone.
- Mailing or emailing comments using the contact information provided below.

C.T. York, PE

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Columbia, SC 29201



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(803) 737-3122



SCDOT will respond to comments if requested. Both your comments and SCDOT's response will be included in an official public meeting file. All materials from tonight's meeting can be found at: www.i26improvements.com/mm172-187

PLEASE SUBMIT COMMENTS TO SCDOT NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31, 2025

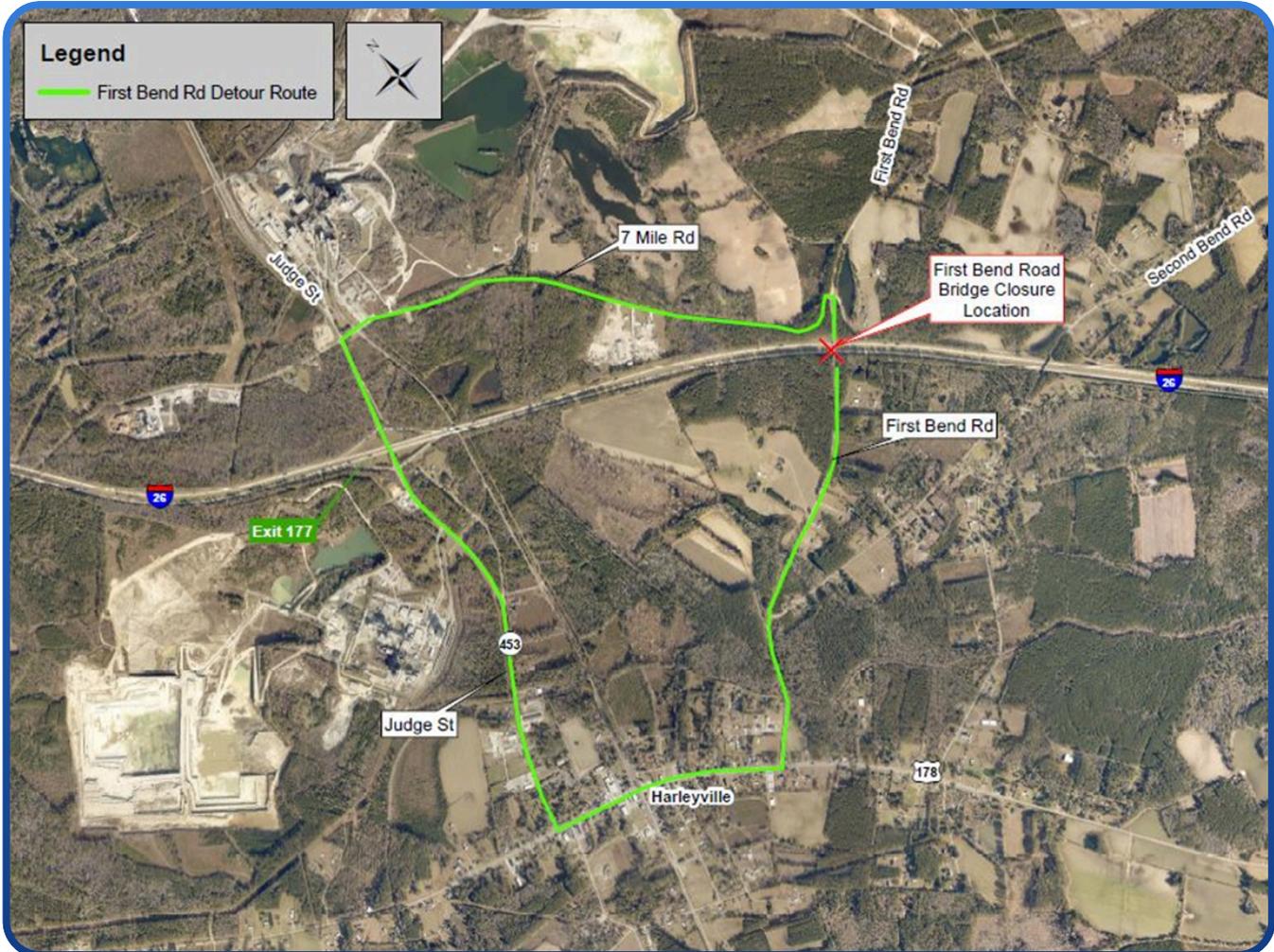


The Recommended Preferred Alternative would add a third travel lane in each direction, modify existing interchanges that allow access to/from the interstate, and replace overpass bridges to accommodate the additional travel lanes.

Title VI Compliance: SCDOT complies with all requirements set forth by Federal regulations issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation under the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. Any persons who believe that he or she has been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or disability, or nation origin under a program receiving federal aid has the right to file a complaint with SCDOT. The complaint shall be filed with the Title VI Program Compliance Coordinator, at the Office of Business Development & Special Programs, 955 Park Street, Suite 117, Columbia, SC 29202 or at 803-737-5095. The complaint should be submitted no later than 180 days after the date of the alleged act of discrimination. It should outline as completely as possible the facts and circumstances of the incident and should be signed by the person making the complaint.

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FIRST BEND ROAD BRIDGE CLOSURE DETOUR ROUTE



BRIDGE/DETOUR OVERVIEW:

- To accommodate the widening of Interstate (I) 26, each of the bridges in the project study area will need to be demolished and reconstructed to meet the height and width requirements of the modified interstate.
- A few of the bridges will remain open while a new bridge is constructed adjacent to the old bridge. Once complete the old bridge will be demolished.
- The First Bend Road bridge will be replaced on existing roadway alignment due to design constraints.
- Access across I-26 from First Bend Road will be detoured for approximately 12 months while demolition and new construction is completed.
- The detour has a maximum distance of 5.2 miles.
- The detour will utilize 7 Mile Road, Judge Street (SC 453), and US 178 to connect First Bend Road travelers.
- The construction of the First Bend Road bridge will be completed before the Second Bend Road bridge is demolished.

For more information please visit the project website at:
www.i26improvements.com/mm172-187 or scan the QR code.



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SECOND BEND ROAD BRIDGE CLOSURE DETOUR ROUTE



BRIDGE/DETOUR OVERVIEW:

- To accommodate the widening of Interstate (I) 26, each of the bridges in the project study area will need to be demolished and reconstructed to meet the height and width requirements of the modified interstate.
- A few of the bridges will remain open while a new bridge is constructed adjacent to the old bridge. Once complete the old bridge will be demolished.
- The Second Bend Road bridge will be replaced on existing roadway alignment due to design constraints.
- Access across I-26 from Second Bend Road will be detoured for approximately 12 months while demolition and new construction is completed.
- The detour has a maximum distance of 4.0 miles.
- The detour will utilize Greenhill Road, First Bend Road, and US 178 to connect Second Bend Road travelers.
- The construction of the Second Bend Road bridge will not begin until the First Bend Road bridge is completed.

For more information please visit the project website at:
www.i26improvements.com/mm172-187 or scan the QR code.

