South Carolina Department of Transportation

US 17 (North Myrtle Beach) Proposed Safety Improvements

Crash History

2018-2022

910 Total Crashes
7 Fatal Crashes
8 Pedestrian Related Crashes
4 Bicycle Related Crashes
192 Injury Crashes

2018
187
16 per Month

2019
153
13 per Month

2020
162
14 per Month

2021
218
18 per Month

2022
190
16 per Month

Project Background

This project was initiated by SCDOT's Office of Traffic Safety. The project began with a Road Safety Audit (RSA) which was performed by a multidisciplinary team consisting of representatives from SCDOT, Federal Highway Administration, engineering firm AECOM, Horry County, City of North Myrtle Beach, SC Highway Patrol, and Grand-Strand Area Transportation Study.

With input from these organizations, the RSA provided recommendations for improving the safety along US 17. The recommendations included in the report are now being designed for implementation on the corridor with this project.

Key Project Elements

- Installation of concrete medians in areas with high frequency of angle collisions
- Installation of ADA compliant pedestrian ramps, crosswalks, and countdown pedestrian signals at signalized intersections to improve pedestrian safety
- Installation of new sidewalks
- Upgrading signal equipment and intersection operation to improve safety at signalized intersections

ADA Ramps

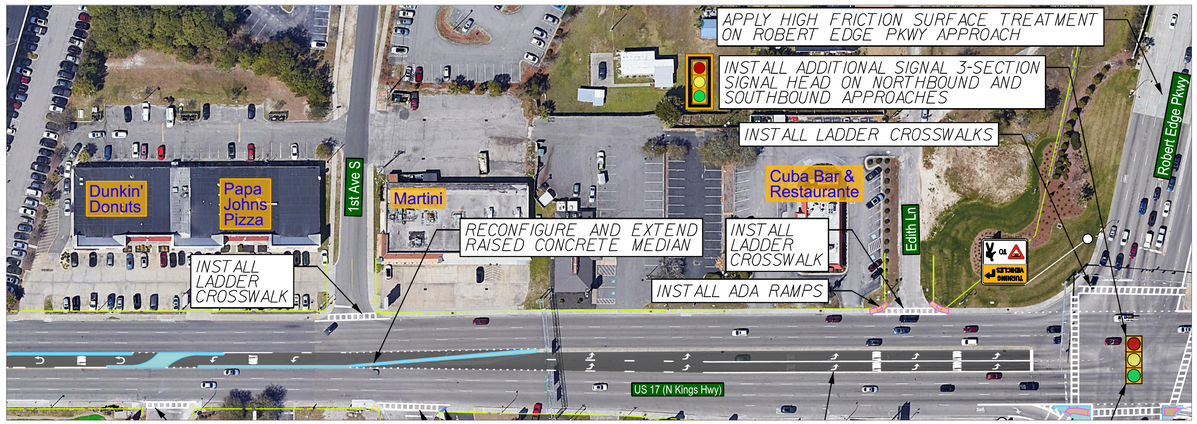
The Americans with Disabilities Act defines criteria for ramps and pedestrian features. This criteria includes width of ramp and sidewalk, placement of pedestrian push buttons, slope of the sidewalk, etc.

Sidewalks

Sidewalks were proposed in areas that have existing gaps in connectivity. The proposed improvements will aim to increase accessibility and connectivity to surrounding amenities, transit, and store fronts.

Raised Concrete Median

Providing a raised concrete median in an area with no existing median has been found to reduce crashes in that segment by approximately 23%. Medians reduce the number of turning movement conflicts on the roadway. (Source: Crash Modification Factors Clearinghouse)



Angle crashes (circle icons) make up 38% of the total crashes. Rear end crashes (star icons) account for 37% of all crashes in the studied segment of US 17.

