



## MEETING MINUTES

# COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 1

**Date:** September 30, 2019

**Time:** 6:04 – 8:35 PM

**Location:** Harvest Pointe Church, 4870 Piedmont Avenue, Charleston, SC 29406

**Project Name:** I-526 Lowcountry Corridor WEST

### Attendees:

Charlynn Smith, Ferndale

Amy Gregory, Ferndale

Gilbert Reeves, Ferndale

Larenda Baxley, Ferndale

Tina A. Baxley, Ferndale

Michael S. Halls, Sr., Ferndale

Ruth Mae Whitney, Highland Terrace

Carolyn Varner, Liberty Park

Jeanaris Bannister, Liberty Park

Tony Grasso, Russelldale

Prayonda Cooper, Joppa Way

Saint Julian Corey VanHannegeyn, IV, Deas Hill

Rev. David Johnson, Harvest Pointe Church

DeAndre Muhammad, Muhammad Mosque

Earl Muhammad, Muhammad Mosque

Pamela Foster, FHWA

Yolonda Jordan, FHWA

Henry Jones, SCDOT

Barbara Beagles, SCDOT

Joy Riley, SCDOT – Project Manager

Chad Long, SCDOT

Jamelle Ellis, Empowerment Strategies, LLC

Amy Sackaroff, Stantec

LaTonya Derrick, Stantec

Ryan White, Stantec

### Participant Summary:

Total participants: 25

Ferndale: 6

Highland Terrace: 1

Liberty Park: 2

Russelldale: 1

Adjacent/affected communities/agencies: 5

SCDOT: 4

FHWA: 2

Stantec: 3

Facilitator: 1

### Meeting Summary

#### Welcome and Introductions

- Roll call

#### Administrative Items

- Agenda Review
  - Project overview and schedule
  - Introduction to regulations and project development process
  - Current outreach efforts
  - Community Advisory Council (CAC) purpose and member roles and responsibilities
  - Creating a Vision Statement
  - Discuss approach to future CAC meetings

### **Project Overview and Schedule**

Project team provided an overview and schedule for the I-526 Lowcountry Corridor (LCC) WEST project, including the purpose of the project, a map of the geographical footprint of the project, outreach components (2019-2020), and regulatory requirements on which the project is based.

### **Current outreach efforts/CAC purpose and member roles and responsibilities**

Project team explained the role of Environmental Justice in the mitigation process, discussed the purpose of the Community Advisory Council, roles and responsibilities of CAC members, and reviewed the CAC handbook provided to each CAC member during the meeting. A video was shown to demonstrate a project similar to the I-526 LCC WEST project that experienced successful outcomes - *"The Road that Rebuilt a Neighborhood - The Newtown Pike Extension Project"* - <https://youtu.be/B4ke-j5P6yY>.

CAC members were encouraged to share their thoughts and experiences throughout the process and to advise the project team on issues most beneficial to residents of the affected communities.

### **CAC Discussions/Comments**

- Discussion with CAC members about most convenient meeting times moving forward
- Discussion about the most effective way to ensure accurate project information is being shared with residents throughout the affected communities. SCDOT's Project Manager restated her availability to answer any questions community members may have about the project and emphasized her accessibility and transparency in providing accurate project information. She provided contact information to be shared with CAC members and other community members.
- The project team indicated door hangers with printed project facts will be produced before the next CAC meeting to assist CAC members in answering project-related questions when talking with community members. Door hangers will also be distributed 3 weeks in advance of the November 13<sup>th</sup> Community Drop-in.
  - NOTE: An additional Community Drop-in was scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup> subsequent to this initial meeting of the CAC.
- There is currently a drop-in scheduled at the Life Changers Covenant Ministries (Liberty Park). The complete meeting schedule is outlined in the CAC handbook. The Public Information Meeting is scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Convention Center. The project team will also accommodate requests for presentations at homeowners association meetings.
- All public meetings are advertised, so people who live in other communities may also attend.

### **Rules of Engagement**

The facilitator led a brainstorming session to develop a list of rules for engagement designed to maintain respectful dialogue and effectiveness during CAC meetings throughout the life of the project. CAC members developed the following Rules of Engagement:

1. Respect others' opinions
2. Address one community at a time
3. Determine how much of each community will be affected
4. Consistent attendance and participation
5. Respect meeting time and agenda
6. Ask questions/active participation
7. Listen with an open mind
8. Silence cell phones

9. Remain solution-oriented and stay on topic
10. Agree to disagree
11. Agree to table topics that need additional research
12. Respect privileged information and maintain confidentiality
13. Give time for community leaders to discuss concerns shared by community members
14. Attack the issues, not the person
15. Engage with the SCDOT team in an honest way to best facilitate the process
16. Be mindful of meeting times (children, work, etc.)

Upon approval, a printed copy of the Rules of Engagement will be provided to all CAC members to include in CAC handbooks.

#### **Upcoming meeting topics**

- Finalizing a regular day and time for future CAC meetings
- Review the Rules of Engagement. Once the CAC finalizes and approves the list, they will go into CAC handbooks.
- Next CAC meeting will be held either at the end of October or the beginning of November, prior to the Public Information Meeting on November 21, 2019 during which the project team will review maps and public meeting materials.
- The CAC is encouraged to familiarize themselves with upcoming Community Drop-in places and times.
- The project team will bring meeting flyers and door hangers to the next meeting for CAC members to distribute to community members.
- The CAC should develop a list of community issues, needs, and priorities that community members would like addressed as a part of mitigation plans.
- The CAC and project team will start the conversation about mitigation steps at the next meeting.
- When necessary, the project team will invite subject matter experts who are able to answer technical questions regarding specific elements of the project.
- Open mic sessions will be included in upcoming meetings to allow CAC members to share feedback from neighbors.
- The project team will be conducting a series of meetings ahead of the Public Information Meeting related to high-level mitigation concepts, housing regulations and guidelines, and CAC feedback on those topics. The project team will share the results of those meetings with the CAC.
- The February 2020 CAC meeting will focus on fine-tuning mitigation concepts.
- The March 2020 meeting will focus on a review of a draft framework with detailed input from the CAC on potential mitigation concept modifications.
- The vision statement activity was postponed until the next meeting.

**CAC meeting #2 is scheduled for November 1, 2019 beginning at 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM at Harvest Pointe Church.**