



Governor Henry McMaster and Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall discuss the I-26 Midlands Connection Project in Newberry County and other interstate widening projects that are benefiting from additional federal and state funding made available to SCDOT this year.

The sound of progress

SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

By Bob Kudelka

There was plenty of good news to report when Governor Henry McMaster, Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall, Commission Chairman Gene Branham Sr. and Commissioner Bill Dukes met with the media in September.

“What you hear up and down this road is the sound of progress,” McMaster said, with a background of steady traffic rolling down Interstate 26 in Little Mountain. “This is progress in South Carolina.”

The Governor added, “Christy Hall and her team have found a way to use every dime that’s available to use the federal money that’s come in, as well as the state money.”

Accelerated construction along

South Carolina’s interstate system was a major theme of the Sept. 21 news conference, thanks to innovative methods of funding and design.

Hall first gave an update on SCDOT’s Midlands Connection Project, which improves a 16-mile segment of I-26 from exit 85 in Little Mountain to Exit 101 in Irmo. Twelve of the miles are being widened to six lanes and four miles from the Peak exit to Broad River Road will expand to eight lanes.

“This is nearly 60 percent complete,” Hall said. “We expect completion by end of 2024... This was accelerated and is being delivered about 3 years earlier than it would have traditionally been delivered.”

The project not only widens I-26, but also upgrades and modernizes three major interchanges

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Accelerated widening program starts on I-26

OCTOBER 11, 2022

By Bob Kudelka

All eyes were on **Greg Smith** behind the controls of an 86,000-pound trackhoe in the grassy median of Interstate 26. Governor Henry McMaster, Secretary **Christy A. Hall**, a host of dignitaries and news camera crews watched from atop a nearby overpass.

In his 36 years at SCDOT, never before had the Colleton resident maintenance foreman been in

such a spotlight.

On the Governor’s command via a two-way radio, Smith guided the trackhoe and made a ceremonial first dig into the bright green sod to cap off a media event for the I-26 widening project.

“That’s a groundbreaking right there,” the Governor said as, on cue and without a hitch, Smith’s trackhoe scooped up 27 cubic feet of fresh Ridesville earth.

The crowd applauded.

“Just another day at the DOT,” Smith said afterward. “I’ve been here too long to get butterflies.”

The Oct. 11, 2022, I-26 Widening Project Kickoff was held after the agency signed a contract

for the first leg to widen 70 miles of I-26 between Charleston and Columbia.

In addition to McMaster and Hall, speakers at the event included SCDOT Commission Chairman David E. “Gene” Branham Sr.; SC House of Representatives Speaker Murrell Smith; Senate Transportation Committee Chairman Larry Grooms; SC Manufacturers Alliance President/CEO Sara Hazard; SC Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Bob Morgan; and SC Trucking Asso-

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The I-26 widening project between mile markers 187 and 194 began with a ceremonial dig with a trackhoe on Oct. 11, 2022, by Colleton Maintenance Foreman Greg Smith. The dig was part of a ceremony by state officials including Governor Henry McMaster, House Speaker Murrell Smith, Senate Transportation Committee Chairman Larry Grooms and Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall.



Greg Smith
Colleton
Maintenance



Corporal Roy 'Drew' Barr

Commission honors fallen officer

Cayce officer killed in the line of duty

The South Carolina Department of Transportation Commission passed a resolution Thursday, May 19, 2022, naming the intersection of Taylor Road and 12th Street in Cayce, South Carolina, as the "Cayce PD Corporal Roy 'Drew' Barr Memorial Intersection" in his honor.

RESOLUTION

TO HONOR ROY "DREW" BARR BY NAMING THE INTERSECTION OF TAYLOR ROAD AND 12TH STREET IN CAYCE, SOUTH CAROLINA THE "CAYCE PD CORPORAL ROY 'DREW' BARR MEMORIAL INTERSECTION"

WHEREAS, Roy Andrew "Drew" Barr Jr., 27, was born June 24, 1994, in West Columbia, South Carolina. He was the beloved son of Roy and Sonia Wheeler Barr, and a beloved brother to Andrea Kelly; and

WHEREAS, Drew began working with the Sandy Ridge Volunteer Fire Department at the age of 14 and then worked for Lexington County as a certified Emergency Medical Technician. He was an active volunteer with the Monetta Volunteer Fire Department, where he served for many years. Drew loved to fish, hunt and spend time with his friends. Drew was a public servant and was married to the profession of public safety. He never let a waking minute pass without serving others through firefighting, emergency care or policing; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Drew joined the City of

Cayce as a firefighter and police officer. In 2017, Drew was shot in the line of duty. Drew committed himself to service and returned to full duty as a police officer and firefighter. In October 2020, he was promoted to K9 handler where he worked with his K9, "Molly"; and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, April 24, 2022, Officer Drew Barr was killed in the line of duty, paying the ultimate sacrifice in a life given to the service of others;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the South Carolina Department of Transportation Commission, duly assembled on Thursday, May 19, 2022, that the intersection of Taylor Road and 12th Street in Cayce, South Carolina, is hereby named the "Cayce PD Corporal Roy 'Drew' Barr Memorial Intersection" in his honor.

SCDOT Commission



William B. Dukes
2nd Congressional District



Pamela Christopher
3rd Congressional District



Max Metcalf
4th Congressional District



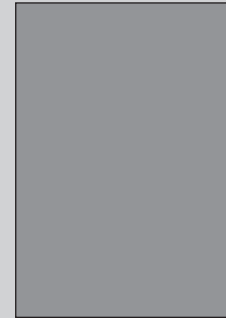
Gene Branham
Commission Chairman
5th Congressional District



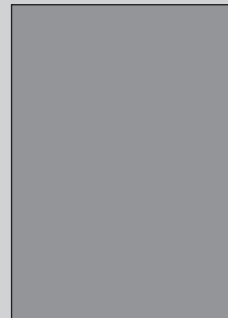
Barnwell Fishburne
6th Congressional District



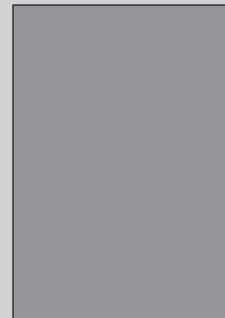
Tony K. Cox
Commission Vice Chairman
7th Congressional District



Vacant
Commissioner
At-Large



Vacant
Commissioner
At-Large



Vacant
Commissioner
1st Congressional District

THE CONNECTOR

Winner of awards from S.C. Division, Public Relations Society of America; Carolinas Association of Business Communicators; S.C. Press Association and AASHTO.

Editor: Pete Poore

Photography / Layout Editor: Rob Thompson

Editorial Board: Kelly Moore, Bob Kudelka, Bonnie Cramer, Tasha Crumpton, Cody Crouch and Zoe Cook.

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Christy A. Hall is the South Carolina Secretary of Transportation.



South Carolina
Press Association
Associate Member

SCDOT wins regional transportation award for Harbor River Bridge Replacement project in Beaufort County

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has won a regional transportation award for innovative technology used in the U.S. 21 over Harbor River Bridge Replacement Project in Beaufort County.

"We are extremely honored to accept this award that is an example of some of the great work by SCDOT," South Carolina Secretary of Transportation **Christy A. Hall** said. "SCDOT continues to lead the way in innovation for both operations and project designs."

Sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), AAA, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the America's Transportation Awards competition was created to showcase the tremendous projects delivered by state departments of transportation every year to tell the broader story on the importance of transportation. SCDOT won in the "Best Use of Technology and Innovation, Medium Project" category.

SCDOT's winning project consisted of a 3,353-foot long fixed-span Harbor River bridge to provide uninterrupted access for shrimping and sailing vessels along the river below as well as improved safety for motorists. The new bridge replaced a swing-span bridge that was deteriorating and required on-going repairs and maintenance.

To keep the road open during construction and to minimize environmental impacts, the SCDOT project team used an innovative construction-staging scheme, which involved using connectable barges to create a wide access road across the salt marsh and open water.

The barges created little or no impacts to the salt marshes, oyster banks or essential fish habitats and helped reduce the overall time to build and open the new bridge.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

HARBOR RIVER BRIDGE

The Harbor River Bridge in Beaufort County won a SASHTO award for innovative technology used in the bridge replacement project.

SCDOT is debt free: Agency makes final payment on outstanding highway bonds, loans

SCDOT officials announced the final payment on the agency's outstanding highway bonds. By paying off all outstanding debt, including State Infrastructure Bank loans, the agency is saving money on future interest payments and that money can be reinvested into ongoing projects.

With this announcement, the SCDOT becomes one of six state departments of transportation in the nation with no outstanding highway bonds or loans. This

announcement follows the early repayment of loans to the State Infrastructure Bank in December 2021. By using one-time funding, that action saved SCDOT \$9.2 million in future principal and interest payments.

Secretary of Transportation **Christy A. Hall**, P.E. said, "I'm proud to announce that we have reached this significant milestone. We are grateful to Governor McMaster and the South Carolina General Assembly for their

continued investment in our work and we take seriously our responsibility to be responsible stewards for the people of South Carolina. We appreciate the support of our colleagues at the State Treasurer's Office as we continue to plan strategically for the future of the agency."

SCDOT Commission Chairman David E. "Gene" Branham Sr. said, "The SCDOT is making tremendous progress on our Strategic 10-Year Plan and we are

better positioned than ever before to expedite the projects we have in the pipeline."

"I want to congratulate Secretary Hall and her team for reaching this important financial milestone," said State Treasurer Curtis Loftis. "Under Hall's leadership, SCDOT's financial stewardship has continued to grow, and I appreciate her efforts to support accountability and transparency in state government."

In 2003, the Agency carried

approximately \$1 billion in transportation debt, with annual payments up to \$100 million in 2008. Those funds were used to expedite a large number of projects across the state including the Ravenel Bridge and the widening of U.S. 17 in the ACE basin. By paying off debt now, the agency is in a better position financially, preserving and building debt capacity for financing larger projects, like the reconstruction of I-526 between Mt. Pleasant and West Ashley.

I-20 widening, improvement project is completed in Lexington County

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) announced on June 27, 2022, that all six lanes of the widening and improvement project along the 11-mile section of Interstate 20 in Lexington County had been opened to traffic.

Over the course of the project, six new concrete lanes were built including widening each travel direction of I-20 from two to three lanes from mile marker 60.6 west of U.S. 378 to mile marker 49.8 west of Longs Pond Road.

A new bridge was built over the Norfolk Southern Railroad Line.

The result is a safer, much improved roadway with two additional lanes to help traffic flow.

This project was part of SCDOT's Strategic 10-Year Plan to improve interstate highways, repave road surfaces, replace and repair aging bridges and improve the safety of rural roads.



JOHN BURNS/RICHLAND CONSTRUCTION A

U.S. 1 bridge replacement over I-20 progressing

Bridge is part of interchange improvement in Lexington County



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

By Bob Kudelka

There has been more progress in the U.S. 1 over I-20 Interchange Improvement project in Lexington County, where SCDOT is replacing the existing interchange and frontage road connections with an innovative design to upgrade safety, allow for future growth and improve traffic operations on U.S. 1.

It is part of SCDOT's Strategic 10-Year Plan to rebuild South Carolina's roads and bridges.

Among the latest accomplishments:

- Grading operations are going well and will continue for the new Monroe Lane alignment through the end of 2022.

- Utility relocations for the realignment of Dooley Road were expected to be completed by the end of September, weath-

er permitting. Once those relocations have been done, road construction crews will be able to finish paving the new Dooley Road alignment and placing the concrete curb and gutter. Once the new roadway is paved, traffic will be switched over to it and construction can begin on the west approach of the new Cedar Road bridge over U.S. 1.

- After constructing a new bent, or support structure, within the I-20 median earlier this year, crews have been working on the substructure for new retaining walls on both sides of the interstate. Progress is farther along for the westbound side of the highway but work on the eastbound side should catch up by the end of the year. Retaining walls are in place, and beams are now being set into place over I-20.

The project is estimated to be finished in the summer of 2024.

Governor's Electric Vehicle Summit

South Carolina officials, electric vehicle industry coordinate the move toward electric vehicles



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

Governor Henry McMaster welcomes participants to the Electric Vehicle Summit in Greenville on Oct. 13, 2022.



SCDOT Commissioner Max Metcalf and Governor Henry McMaster look at a BMW Xdrive 44e plug-in hybrid vehicle manufactured in South Carolina. BMW builds 1,500 vehicles a day in South Carolina which is BMW's largest global production plant.



SC Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall makes remarks and answers questions from the media during a noon press conference after the Governor's Electric Vehicle Summit. Hall participated earlier in a panel discussion on the government's objectives to accelerate South Carolina's transition to electric vehicles. In the background were several electric vehicles from BMW, Clemson University ICAR, Volvo and DASH EV.

SCDOT was a part of the inter-agency working group created by Governor Henry McMaster to coordinate the State's electric vehicle roll-out.

several panel discussions as a part of electric vehicle summits hosted by the Governor and the National Governor's Association in Greenville.

On Oct. 13, 2022, Secretary **Christy A. Hall** and Chief of Staff **Justin Powell** participated in and moderated

For more information on our National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program, visit scdot.org/nevi

RIGHT: Director of Engineering Support Rob Bedenbaugh, who is also in charge of SCDOT's electric vehicle charging program, checks out a self-driving electric prototype from Clemson University's ICAR program.



SCDOT Chief of Staff Justin Powell, left, led a discussion at the afternoon National Governors Association Infrastructure Summit following the EV Summit. Here, he leads the discussion on national electric vehicle infrastructure overview and federal resources. From left: Powell, Joint Office of Energy and Transportation Chief Technology Officer Alex Schroeder, FHWA General Counsel Andrew Rogers, Federal Transit Regional Administrator Dr. Yvette Taylor and Environmental Protection Agency Director of Transportation and Climate Division Karl Simon.

Questions asked, answered at CCR Phase II meeting

By Bob Kudelka

Dutch Square Mall was the place to be on an August evening for anyone looking for what comes next in the Carolina Crossroads I-20/26/126 Corridor Project.

Video screens, table-sized maps, extra-large photographs and helpful staffers from the Carolina Crossroads team helped answer questions from a sizeable crowd at the Phase 2 public information meeting on Aug. 30.

A Chapin woman smiled and breathed a sigh of relief after getting project information firsthand from SCDOT Construction Alternative Delivery Engineer David Rister.

“At least now I know what it’s going to look like,” the woman said. “Now, when I look at the map, I understand it better.”

Interest remains strong for one of the largest transportation projects in SCDOT’s history.

Designed to relieve a major pinch point in South Carolina’s Interstate Highway System, it includes widening 14 miles of interstate across portions of I-26, I-20, and I-126, with seven rebuilt interchanges and safer interchange entrance and exit points.

“It’s a great turnout tonight,” said SCDOT Project Manager **Brian Klauk**. “We are really thrilled that people are coming out to figure out how Phase 2 will improve their commute, their

travel and their business.

“They are also coming out just to see what will happen during construction of Phase 2 – how will their commute in the afternoon, or morning, change? They are asking good questions and absorbing the material and giving us some feedback, too. A lot of people watch our online meeting as well.”

The overall project is divided into five phases.

Phase 1 construction, which focuses on reconstructing the Colonial Life Boulevard interchange at I-126 and lengthening the I-26 eastbound exit ramp to U.S. 378, is on track for completion in 2024.

Phase 2 focuses on the re-

construction of the Broad River Road interchange at I-20. Phase 2 will also complete a portion of the I-20 widening and add a new ramp to improve access from I-20 westbound to I-26 westbound towards Irmo.

Phase 3 of the Carolina Crossroads Project is the largest and most extensive phase of the project. It includes the cloverleaf interchange connecting I-20 and I-26 in the area commonly known as “malfunction junction.” Procurement for a Design-Build Contractor for Phase 3 began in September 2022 and construction activity is anticipated to begin in 2024.

The \$2.08 billion project is a part of SCDOT’s Strategic 10-

Year Plan to bring our state’s infrastructure up to a state of good repair and modernize key portions of our interstates. The 10-Year Plan is funded with a combination of federal and state funds, including funds made possible by the 2017 state gas tax increase. The Carolina Crossroads project will be funded by 90 percent federal funds and 10 percent state funds.

All five phases of Carolina Crossroads are anticipated to be fully complete and open to traffic by the end of 2029.

“We all know fixing Malfunction Junction has been a priority,” Klauk said. “We can say goodbye to Malfunction Junction one day, and it’s going to be something we all can celebrate.”



Work begins on the old U.S. 301 bridge in Santee for bike/pedestrian traffic

By Pete Poore

Work is beginning this fall to improve the old U.S. 301 pedestrian bridge crossing Lake Marion in Santee. The structure was closed in 2017 out of concern over the safety of the bridge.

The project is expected to be completed in the spring of 2023. At that time, the bridge will be reopened for pedestrians, bicyclists and hikers. Motorized vehicles will be prohibited. The project is made possible by a \$1.6 million appropriation from the General Assembly.

The improvements will include:

- Removal of chain link fence, dirt mounds and other barriers restricting access
- Removal of vegetation and brush immediately adjacent to or on the bridge
- Repair or replacement of damaged steel railings and

painting of the railings

- Repair of breaks in the concrete joints to reduce tripping hazards

- Installation of signs, markings and bollards that will provide directions and restrict access by motorized vehicles.

Buddy Jennings of the Palmetto Conservation Foundation said the reopening of the U.S. 301 bridge in Santee will make an important connection. “The bridge is a link in the Palmetto Trail between the Town of Awendaw in Charleston County and downtown Columbia.

The Palmetto Trail is a 500-mile long recreational hiking and biking passage through the state. The trail extends between the mountains in Oconee County and the Intracoastal Waterway in Charleston County.

When the bridge is opened to the public, only pedestrian and non-motorized traffic will be allowed.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

The old U.S. 301 bridge over Lake Marion was closed to vehicular traffic years ago and was used as a pedestrian/bike path and fishing pier for years. Due to safety concerns, it was closed to pedestrian traffic in 2017. The bridge is now being repaired and will reopen to pedestrian traffic next year.

Enterprise Road bridge crossing Carolina Bays Parkway reopens month ahead of schedule

By Bob Kudelka

The Enterprise Road bridge crossing Carolina Bays Parkway (S.C. 31) in Horry County reopened in May 2022, a month ahead of schedule after emergency repairs were completed.

The Enterprise Road bridge was damaged on Dec. 14, 2021, when struck by an oversized load hauled by a tractor trailer. Due to the extent of damage, an extensive design of a repair method had to be developed and followed by bids from potential repair contractors.

This project was originally scheduled to be completed at the end of June; however, due to the hard work of all individuals involved this project was able to be completed and reopened to traffic a month ahead of schedule.

“This is a great example of teamwork, communication and meeting challenges to complete a job ahead of schedule,” said District 5 District Engineering Administrator **Kyle Berry**. “We are pleased to reopen Enterprise Road, an important artery for the local community. Thank you to everyone for a job well done.”



PHOTO BY DISTRICT 5

After an oversized load hit the Enterprise Road Bridge crossing the Carolina Bays Parkway, an extensive repair plan had to be developed and followed by contractors. The repairs were completed a month ahead of schedule.

LEAD

Congratulations to this year's participants!



Michael Buck
RCE
Richland Construction



Brian Gambrell
Attorney IV
Legal Services



Blake Gerken
Bridge Engineer
FHWA



David Gray
Multimodal Planner
Office of Intermodal & Freight



Jennifer Gruber
State Vegetation Manager
Director of Maintenance



Jesse Hames
ARCE
District 4 Special Projects



Danny Hornsby
Fleet Safety Manager
Safety



Joshua Johnson
District Traffic Engineer
District 6 Office



David Kelly
Program Manager II
Environmental Administrator



Dahae Kim
Asst State Pavement Design
Engineer
Office of Materials & Research



Christopher Madden
ADME
District 3 Office



Crystal McCutcheon
STIP Financial Manager
Financial Planning



Kurt Mead
ARME
Anderson Maintenance



Elizabeth Penn-Sanders
RME
Beaufort Maintenance



Robert Ryggs
D3 Utility Coordinator
District 3 Office



Shawn Salley
Program Manager-Traffic Safety
Traffic Engineering



Cothea Scott
Program Manager I
Office of Intermodal & Freight



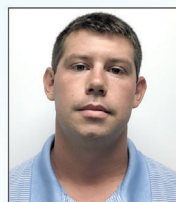
Emily Smith
Program Manager
Finance & Admin/Contracting Office



M. Freedom Spradley
RPG 4 Design Manager
Reg Prod Group 4 - Upstate



Jennita Sumter-Jacobs
RME
Calhoun Maintenance



George David Townsend
ARME
Florence Maintenance



Rontreal Tyler
Director of HR Operations
Human Resources



Emily Watts
GIS Manager II
Information Technology Services



Ashton Williams
Engineering Tech III
MSBA - DBE



Craig Winn
RPG1 Program Manager
Reg Prod Group 1-Lowcountry



LOWCOUNTRY CORRIDOR

CDL training offered as part of North Charleston project

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) began sponsoring free commercial driver's license (CDL) training for residents in the Ferndale, Highland Terrace, Joppa Way, Liberty Park, and Russelldale communities in February 2021 as part of the I-526 Lowcountry Corridor (LCC) WEST project.

Through a partnership with Miller-Motte College, the courses are offered as part of an initiative to provide professional development opportunities that support career placement in the transportation industry.

The program combines in-classroom instruction with hands-on experience. To date, three North Charleston residents have completed the CDL program offered through this partnership. Two of the three residents, Prayonda Cooper and Ran-Dell Alexander, have received their licenses and are now actively working as CDL drivers. The remaining student is scheduled to take the driving test at the end of October. Additionally, over the next few months, three more students are expected to begin the classroom component of Miller-Motte's program.

This program will continue to be offered throughout the implementation of the I-526 LCC WEST Environmental Justice Community Mitigation Plan as one way to increase the quality of life and provide opportunities to increase the generational wealth of the impacted communities.

Additional slots are available for residents from the Ferndale, Highland Terrace, Joppa Way, Liberty Park, and Russelldale communities to enroll in this free CDL training. Interested persons should visit the I-526 LCC Community Office or call 843-258-1135 to obtain more information about enrollment.



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Safety ^{1st} - Live It!

SCDOT

LEAD SCDOT Class of 2023

RETIREMENTS

John L. Anderson retired from Clarendon Maintenance after 11 years of service.

Dennis G. Branham retired from Surveys Engineer after 30 years of service.

Dale R. Brisbane retired from Berkeley Maintenance after 15 years of service.

Leon Brock retired from Clarendon Maintenance after 34 years of service.

Duane M. Burdick retired from IT Services after 23 years of service.

Jessie M. Burton retired from Central Sign Shop after 22 years of service.

Alph Caldwell retired from Anderson Maintenance after 29 years of service.

Evelyn P. Carmichael retired from Dillon Construction after 34 years of service.

Betty M. Cato retired from Florence Maintenance after 23 years of service.

Lisa A. Chandler retired from Financial Planning after 15 years of service.

Yvonne F. Clark retired from Human Resources after 13 years of service.

Edward D. Copeland retired from Human Resources after 31 years of service.

Viola F. Covington retired from Office of Planning after 16 years of service.

Patricia A. Crouch retired from Accounting after 19 years of service.

Rickey Davison retired from Darlington Maintenance after 29 years of service.

Kenneth L. Eaddy retired from Florence Maintenance after 28 years of service.

James R. Ellis retired from Greenville Maintenance after 16 years of service.

Stacy J. Eubanks retired from Chesterfield Construction after 30 years of service.

Teresa B. Gaskin retired from Human Resources after 22 years of service.

Janet R. Griffis retired from Edgefield Maintenance after 25 years of service.

Matthew C. Henderson retired from Orangeburg Maintenance after 26 years of service.

Allen D. Heyward retired from Lexington Maintenance after 16 years of service.

Charles E. Hite retired from Rights of Way after 9 years of service.

John A. Klein retired from D5 Traffic Signals after 11 years of service.

Darin B. Kyzer retired from Building Services after 33 years of service.

Brenda L. Langley retired from Clarendon Maintenance after 28 years of service.

Georgette R. Lewis retired from Edgefield Maintenance after 23 years of service.

Wilma L. Magyar retired from D1 OSHA after 1 year of service.

Betsy D. McCall retired from Office of Planning after 30 years of service.

Dewey T. McCraw retired from Spartanburg Maintenance after 15 years of service.

Ronald McCullough retired

from Florence Maintenance after 16 years of service.

Rebecca I. Mitchell retired from Aiken Maintenance after 17 years of service.

Gary A. Nicholson retired from District 3 Office after 28 years of service.

Jasper Quick retired from Marlboro Maintenance after 33 years of service.

Donnie Rivers retired from Chesterfield Maintenance after 33 years of service.

Stanley L. Roof retired from RPG 2 – Pee Dee after 25 years of service.

Matthew D. Sanford retired from Jasper Maintenance after 23 years of service.

Jesse E. Sessions retired from D1 Traffic Signals after 15 years of service.

Ruth E. Smalls retired from Barnwell Maintenance after 23 years of service.

Jason G. Stillwell retired from RPG 2 – Pee Dee after 24 years of service.

John C. Taylor retired from

Aiken Maintenance after 15 years of service.

Patricia L. Thew retired from Office of Materials and Research after 28 years of service.

Michael R. Turner retired from Union Maintenance after 31 years of service.

Julius L. Twiggs retired from Aiken Maintenance after 14 years of service.

Vincent S. Wade retired from Pickens Maintenance after 32 years of service.

Danny C. West retired from Spartanburg Maintenance after 29 years of service.

Brian L. Whiting retired from Laurens Maintenance after 15 years of service.

John C. Williams retired from Greenville Maintenance after 13 years of service.

Betsy J. Woodward retired from Human Resources after 5 years of service.

Min-Lin Wu retired from RPG 1 - Lowcountry after 32 years of service.

PROMOTIONS

Olivia B. Alford was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate II in RPG 4 - Upstate.

John M. Altman was promoted to IT Consultant I in IT Services.

Chadwick J. Anderson was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Charleston Maintenance.

Christopher J. Anderson was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Lexington Maintenance.

William W. Apperson was promoted to Shop Foreman in Supply and Equipment.

Jonathan A. Arnold was promoted to Engineering Technician II in Fairfield Maintenance.

Travis L. Arthur was promoted to Engineering Technician II in Greenwood Construction.

Jerry L. Banks was promoted to Crew Foreman in Berkeley Maintenance.

Richard C. Baxley was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Marion Construction.

John K. Baxter was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate

II in Rights of Way.

Ronald W. Bearden was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Pickens Maintenance.

Tony L. Bell was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Georgetown Maintenance.

Daniel A. Booth was promoted to Resident Maintenance Foreman in Edgefield Maintenance.

James H. Bowen was promoted to Shop Foreman in Laurens Maintenance.

Timothy T. Bowers was promoted to Engineering Technician IV in Chesterfield Construction.

Nathan W. Bowie was promoted to Specialty Crew Leader in Greenwood Maintenance.

Stephanie M. Boykin Jackson was promoted to Engineering Associate I in Kershaw Maintenance.

James O. Branham was promoted to Crew Foreman in Charleston Maintenance.

James Brown was promoted to Facilities Maintenance Manager I in Building Services.

Danielle N. Bryson was pro-

moted to Accountant/Fiscal Analyst in Accounting.

Donald A. Bunch was promoted to Resident Maintenance Foreman in Berkeley Maintenance.

Ashley N. Butler was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Horry Construction.

Deshawn R. Byrd was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Office of Materials and Research.

Kevin J. Campbell was promoted to Engineering Technician II in Florence Maintenance.

Nicholas T. Camper was promoted to Engineering Associate I in Sumter Construction.

Randolph E. Carothers IV was promoted to Attorney V in Legal Services.

Kenneth Carter was promoted to Engineering Technician II in Bamberg Construction.

Dylan S. Casey was promoted to Mechanic III in Spartanburg Maintenance.

Michael D. Cassidy was promoted to Engineer/Engineering

Associate III in RPG 1 - Lowcountry.

Howard J. Castle was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Georgetown Maintenance.

Richard S. Cates was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Newberry Construction.

Earl L. Cederborg was promoted to Engineering Associate I in Chester Surveys.

Domenica T. Cesare was promoted to Engineering Technician II in Laurens Construction.

Morgan C. Chapman was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Richland Maintenance.

Kody D. Clack was promoted to Crew Foreman in Chester Maintenance.

Jay A. Clingman was promoted to Engineering Technician IV in District 1 Office.

Tobias S. Coe was promoted to Specialty Crew Leader in Lee Maintenance.

Brandon M. Coggins was promoted to Assistant Resident Construction Engineer in Cherokee

Construction.

Ryan A. Cole was promoted to Program Manager II in Legal Services.

Amy F. Collins was promoted to Procurement Manager I in Procurement - Commodities and Services.

William R. Collins was promoted to Senior Accountant/Fiscal Analyst in Accounting.

Daniel C. Cook was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate III in Office of Materials and Research.

Stafford L. Cooper was promoted to Heavy Equipment Operator in Williamsburg Maintenance.

Edward D. Copeland was promoted to Human Resources Manager II in Human Resources.

Peyton B. Cox was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Florence Construction.

Daniel A. Davis was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Greenwood Construction.

PROMOTIONS CONTINUED

Joseph H. Davis was promoted to Crew Foreman in Darlington Maintenance.

Tabitha Davis was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in York Maintenance.

Jeffery A. Denoma was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Lexington Maintenance.

Danny W. Diaz was promoted to Section Shed Supervisor in Charleston Maintenance.

Lisa A. Dorazio-Huggins was promoted to Right of Way Agent I in Right of Way - Greenville District.

Marena A. Duncan was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate II in RPG 4 - Upstate.

Lamont T. Edmond was promoted to Engineering Technician II in Newberry Construction.

Mashund L. Edwards was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Berkeley Maintenance.

Joe O. Ellis was promoted to Engineering Associate I in Chester Surveys.

Nyklas T. Ellis was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Richland Maintenance.

Ara E. Faulkenberry was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Richland Maintenance.

Deonta R. Favor was promoted to Senior Accountant/Fiscal Analyst in Accounting.

Joseph C. Feda was promoted to Program Coordinator in Oversize/Overweight Permits.

Michael F. Fisher was promoted to Mechanic III in Jasper Maintenance.

William M. Fleming was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Greenville Maintenance.

Shawn P. Flood was promoted to Specialty Crew Leader in Richland Maintenance.

Carl Floyd was promoted to Specialty Crew Foreman in Sumter Maintenance.

Catherine B. Floyd was promoted to Human Resources Manager II in Human Resources.

James G. Floyd was promoted to Crew Foreman in Horry 1 Maintenance.

Endy M. Fonrose was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in D6 Bridge Inspection.

Elizabeth C. Fowler was promoted to Medium Equipment Op-

erator in Oconee Maintenance.

Anthony J. Fubio Jr. was promoted to Resident Maintenance Foreman in Anderson Maintenance.

Bryan S. Fulmore was promoted to Heavy Equipment Operator in Georgetown Maintenance.

Robert V. Giddens was promoted to Program Manager II in Rights of Way.

Oliver J. Gidron was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Bamberg Maintenance.

Michael A. Goodwin was promoted to Electronics Technician III in D1 Traffic Signals.

Theron Gordon was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Williamsburg Maintenance.

Romaine O. Grant was promoted to Crew Foreman in Charleston Maintenance.

Antonio J. Graves was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate III in RPG 2 - Pee Dee.

Michael E. Gresham was promoted to Heavy Equipment Operator in Union Maintenance.

Robert M. Griffin was promoted to Resident Construction Engineer in Clarendon Construction.

Satish C. Gupta was promoted to Engineering Associate I in Greenville Construction.

Robert C. Hall was promoted to Electronics Technician IV in D4 Traffic Signals.

Evan O. Harper was promoted to Engineering Technician II in Aiken Maintenance.

David N. Harvell was promoted to Highway Maintenance Worker IV in D4 Bridge Maintenance.

Marvin L. Harvey was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Spartanburg Maintenance.

Tamera D. Haynes was promoted to Crew Foreman in Charleston Maintenance.

Michael P. Healy was promoted to Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer in Beaufort Maintenance.

Lorenzo A. Heatley was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Calhoun Maintenance.

Pamela K. Hensley was promoted to Program Coordinator - OSOW in Oversize/Overweight Permits.

Kyle K. Herringdine was promoted to Engineering Technician II in Darlington Maintenance.

Joshua J. Hodge was promoted to Crew Leader in Horry 1 Maintenance.

James D. Hughes was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Abbeville Maintenance.

Michael A. Humphries was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate IV in Director of Construction.

Brandon C. Hunter was promoted to Shop Foreman in Berkeley Maintenance.

Matthew T. Hunter was promoted to Highway Maintenance Worker IV in D4 Bridge Maintenance.

Adam O. Huskins was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate II in York Construction.

Frederick D. Jackson was promoted to Section Shed Supervisor in Berkeley Maintenance.

Shelley L. Johnson was promoted to District Human Resources Coordinator in Human Resources.

Sherry J. Johnson was promoted to Administrative Assistant in York Maintenance.

Travis G. Jolly was promoted to Resident Construction Engineer in Lexington Construction.

Marvin Jones was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Chesterfield Maintenance.

Ryan T. Jordan was promoted to Electronics Technician II in D4 Traffic Signals.

Yelena Kalashnikova was promoted to Program Manager III in Road Data Services.

Shamekia L. Kearsse was promoted to Crew Leader in Orangeburg Maintenance.

Joshua S. Kelly was promoted to Specialty Crew Foreman in Sumter Maintenance.

Danny R. Kennedy was promoted to Crew Foreman in Abbeville Maintenance.

William B. Kennedy was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate II in Greenwood Construction.

Soheyl Khademian was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate III in RPG 4 - Upstate.

Shawn L. Kinloch was promoted to Crew Foreman in Richland Maintenance.

Laura C. Kline was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate

IV in Director of Maintenance.

Kenneth P. Korrek was promoted to Crew Foreman in Edgefield Maintenance.

Annie M. Ladson was promoted to General Maintenance Technician I in Building Services.

Robert S. Lamb was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Pickens Construction.

Garrett C. Lane was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Dillon Construction.

David W. Lanier was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Pickens Construction.

Troy M. Lann was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Chester Maintenance.

Herbert D. Latten was promoted to Resident Construction Engineer in Newberry Construction.

Timothy W. Lee was promoted to Crew Leader in Spartanburg Maintenance.

Phillip E. Leviner was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Darlington Construction.

George G. Lewis was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Lexington Maintenance.

Ricky A. Lorick was promoted to Specialty Crew Leader in Calhoun Maintenance.

Tamara R. Lovelace was promoted to Specialized Equipment Operator in Sumter Maintenance.

Donnie D. Mack was promoted to General Maintenance Technician II in Central Sign Shop.

Donald W. Mahoney was promoted to Crew Foreman in Clarendon Maintenance.

Joshua F. Makison was promoted to District Construction Engineer in District 3 Office.

Malinda D. Manley was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Darlington Maintenance.

James Mansfield was promoted to Electronics Technician III in D3 Traffic Signals.

John B. Martin was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Cherokee Maintenance.

Kenneth E. Martin was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate IV in RPG 2 - Pee Dee.

Tracy A. Martin was promoted to Program Manager I in Environmental.

Austin M. Mason was promoted to Engineering Technician III in District 7 Office.

Michelle Mazza was promoted

to Human Resources Consultant I in Human Resources.

William C. McAbee was promoted to Bridge Inspection Supervisor in D4-Bridge Inspection.

Joseph O. McBreaity was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Richland Maintenance.

Maurice D. McCottry was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Richland Maintenance.

Joshua L. McDowell was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Spartanburg Construction B.

Boyd W. Melton was promoted to Mechanic III in Kershaw Maintenance.

Roger D. Melton was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Lee Maintenance.

William J. Melvin was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Bamberg Maintenance.

Kevin L. Miller was promoted to Crew Foreman in Georgetown Maintenance.

Aaron M. Milstead was promoted to Specialty Crew Leader in Richland Maintenance.

Kevin L. Mitchell was promoted to Resident Maintenance Engineer in Dorchester Maintenance.

Jeffrey S. Morrow was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Cherokee Maintenance.

Ray L. Murphy was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Chester Maintenance.

Jennifer E. Nelums was promoted to Human Resources Consultant I in Human Resources.

Jennifer E. Nelums was promoted to Human Resources Manager II in Human Resources.

Wesley S. Ott was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Dorchester Construction.

Christopher F. Owens was promoted to Mechanic III in Berkeley Maintenance.

Keyaris B. Parler was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Orangeburg Maintenance.

Jeffrey S. Persianni was promoted to Supply Specialist III in Dorchester Maintenance.

William E. Pitts was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Laurens Maintenance.

Jamie L. Polston was promoted to Crew Foreman in Marlboro Maintenance.

Ashley A. Porter was promoted to Program Coordinator II in Minor and Small Business Affairs.

PROMOTIONS CONTINUED

Bo S. Price was promoted to Specialized Equipment Operator in Lexington Maintenance.

Austin T. Purgason was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate II in RPG 4 - Upstate.

Billy G. Quick was promoted to Shop Foreman in Marlboro Maintenance.

Sean C. Rafferty was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Greenville Maintenance.

Rob M. Richardson was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Greenville Maintenance.

Brian D. Rister was promoted to Systems Engineer I in IT Services.

Andrew A. Rowe was promoted to Engineering Associate I in Richland Maintenance.

Joshua K. Rowe was promoted to Resident Maintenance Engineer in Greenville Maintenance.

Ryan L. Salley was promoted to Electronics Technician II in D4 Traffic Signals.

David E. Sargent was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Georgetown Maintenance.

David J. Scheffer was promoted to Specialized Equipment Operator in Anderson Maintenance.

Blake L. Shaffer was promoted to Specialized Equipment Operator in Lexington Maintenance.

Edwin D. Sharpe was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate III in RPG 2 - Pee Dee.

James T. Simpson was promoted to Crew Foreman in Anderson Maintenance.

Thomas A. Singer was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate II in Greenville Construction.

James C. Slice was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate II in District 2 Office.

Amoretta F. Smith was promoted to Right of Way Agent III in Right of Way - Florence District.

Joshua M. Smith was promoted to Specialized Equipment Operator in D4 Pavement Repair and Preservation.

Kent L. Smith was promoted

to Medium Equipment Operator in Horry 1 Maintenance.

Daisy M. Smith-Lee was promoted to Program Manager I in Call Center.

Cody W. Sonnet was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Cherokee Maintenance.

Nathan E. Sovine was promoted to Specialized Equipment Operator in Kershaw Maintenance.

Lakesha Starkes was promoted to Crew Leader in Orangeburg Maintenance.

John B. Stephenson was promoted to Electronics Technician III in D4 Traffic Signals.

Joshua A. Still was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Bamberg Maintenance.

Cory M. Stone was promoted to Crew Foreman in Bamberg Maintenance.

Jason A. Stone was promoted to Resident Maintenance Foreman in Beaufort Maintenance.

Seth B. Tanner was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate II in Florence Construction.

Amy H. Taylor was promoted to Engineering Associate I in Bamberg Maintenance.

Olivia S. Taylor was promoted to Administrative Assistant in Aiken Maintenance.

Matthew J. Thompson was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Pickens Maintenance.

Devin B. Tindal was promoted to Engineering Associate I in Horry Construction.

James M. Todd was promoted to Resident Maintenance Engineer in Kershaw Maintenance.

Jarod L. Todd was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Pickens Maintenance.

Kayla H. Todd was promoted to Administrative Assistant in Georgetown Maintenance.

Joseph D. Tolley was promoted to Incident Responder II in SHEP - Upstate I-85.

Jessica D. Townsend was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Dillon Maintenance.

Brandon M. Turner was promoted to Mechanic III in Edgefield Maintenance.

Todd A. Visokay was promoted to Assistant Resident Construction Engineer in Jasper Construction.

James H. Walden was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate IV in Office of Planning.

Kenneth T. Waldrep was promoted to Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer in Greenwood Maintenance.

Harold A. Walker was promoted to Crew Foreman in Barnwell Maintenance.

Tina V. Walker was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Lee Maintenance.

Jordan L. Wallace was promoted to Engineering Technician II in Spartanburg Construction A.

James Q. Wannamaker was promoted to Engineering Associate I in Orangeburg Construction.

Jonathon V. Webber was promoted to Engineering Technician III in Spartanburg Construction B.

Leroy Weeks was promoted to Medium Equipment Operator in Richland Maintenance.

Benny E. Welch was promoted to Specialized Equipment Operator in Lee Maintenance.

Charles R. Willbanks was promoted to Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer in Spartanburg Maintenance.

Benjamin P. Williams was promoted to Engineer/Engineering Associate II in Richland Construction.

Delicia G. Wingard was promoted to Program Manager I in Minority and Small Business Affairs.

Marquise R. Witherspoon was promoted to Specialty Crew Leader in Sumter Maintenance.

Forrest L. Yates was promoted to Engineering Associate I in D3 Maintenance Operations.

Justin Powell named Chief of Staff for SCDOT

Maggie Hendry will be Acting Deputy Secretary for Finance and Administration

Secretary of Transportation **Christy A. Hall**, P.E. announced that **Justin Powell**, previously the Deputy Secretary for Finance and Administration, will become the Chief of Staff for the agency, effective immediately.

In this role, Powell will be charged with the oversight and execution of a number of strategic initiatives on behalf of the agency.

Secretary Hall said, "I'm pleased to appoint Mr. Powell as the Chief of Staff. This agency has made incredible progress on our Strategic 10-Year Plan and I know Justin's leadership in this capacity will further the SCDOT's initiatives."

Powell was appointed by Secretary Hall in 2019 to be the Deputy Secretary for Finance and Administration at the South Carolina Department of Transportation.

Previously, he served as Assistant County Administrator in Horry County where he provided financial leadership to the County's \$500 million roads sales tax program, doubled local funding for transit, and managed a project to restore freight rail service to a three-county region. In addition, Powell has also worked at other local government agencies including the City of Greenville, Dorchester County, and Fairfax County, VA.

He earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a bachelor's degree from Wofford College.

In addition, **Madeleine "Maggie" Hendry** will be stepping in as the Acting Deputy Secretary for Finance and Administration, having served as Chief of Financial Planning since 2019. Hendry has served in increasingly senior roles for the Agency since 2014 including Chief of Professional Services and Project Fund Manager.

As Acting Deputy Secretary for Finance and Administration, Hendry will manage a \$2.7 billion annual budget, and direct the agency's financial, procurement, information technology, and local government functions which support the con-



Justin Powell



Maggie Hendry

struction and maintenance of the nation's fourth largest state-owned highway system.

"Ms. Hendry has a long track record of supporting the 10-year plan to assure successful implementation and I have every confidence she will continue the progress we have seen since 2017," said Secretary Hall.

She previously worked in several managerial capacities in Finance, Procurement, and Information Technology with the South Carolina State Budget and Control Board, now the Department of Administration. Hendry earned a Master of Business Administration from Winthrop University and a bachelor's degree from the University of South Carolina.

As the agency migrates towards implementing our Target Operating Model, specific positions have been reclassified to reflect how their roles impact the agency based on our new structures: ● Crew Leaders ● Crew Foremen ● Resident Maintenance Foremen ● Assistant Resident Construction Engineers ● Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineers ● Resident Maintenance Engineers ● Resident Construction Engineers

Kelly Moore named Director of Public Engagement, Senior Advisor to Secretary

Secretary of Transportation **Christy A. Hall** has named **Kelly Moore** to the position of Director of Public Engagement and Senior Advisor to the Secretary.

The Director of Public Engagement and Senior Advisor to the Secretary is a new role in the Department. The position reflects the intention of Secretary Hall to enhance SCDOT's communication efforts statewide in order to ensure effective and robust engagement with the public and other stakeholders regarding road work and other SCDOT activities. Director Moore will also serve as a senior advisor the Secretary and SCDOT leadership regarding innovations and improvements to current agency approaches regarding communication techniques and other outreach opportunities.

Hall said, "Mrs. Moore has the ideal skillset and experience to serve in this role. She has a decade of experience in communications and understands the importance of ensuring the public is actively involved and engaged in SCDOT's 10-Year Plan and more." Previously to her appointment, she served as the Director of Public Information for Horry County. In that role, she consolidated public information into a single office, established the County's social media presence and managed communications related to the County's RIDE Program. She



Kelly Moore

acted as lead public information officer during emergency events such as Hurricane Florence, Dorian and Isis, and led training programs with the Emergency Management Division on crisis communications. In addition to her experience in Horry County, she has previous experience with the City of Charleston and the North Carolina Stage Company.

Moore is a native of the Upstate, she earned a Master of Public Administration from the College of Charleston and Bachelor of Arts from Clemson University.

Grant money awarded for bridge planning along I-95 over the Great Pee Dee River

SCDOT announced the agency received a grant award of \$720,000 from USDOT for bridge planning along I-95 over the Great Pee Dee River.

Secretary of Transportation **Christy A. Hall** said, "This is another example of the SCDOT maximizing an opportunity to bring federal dollars to South Carolina to address the priorities of South Carolinians. We continue our vigorous planning and programming efforts to align federal dollars to meet our state priorities."

The grant proposal included planning projects for rehabilitating or

replacing 12 rural bridges along the I-95 corridor in Marion and Dillon counties. Since 2017, SCDOT has spent approximately \$15 million in repairs to this infrastructure. In addition to routine maintenance and upkeep, these bridges have been impacted by regional flooding events. This portion of I-95 is a major hurricane evacuation route for residents and visitors along the coast.

In addition to improving the safety of the corridor, this will improve the road network allowing the movement of freight from the Port to the Inland Port in Dillon and continuing across the region.

Daisy Smith-Lee is Customer Service Center Manager

Daisy Smith-Lee has been promoted to serve as the Customer Service Center (CSC) Manager. Her effective start date was May 17, 2022.

Smith-Lee spent five years as a call agent before being promoted to the CSC Training Coordinator/Assistant Manager position in 2018. She has been instrumental with training staff to provide top-notch service to our customers statewide.

Smith-Lee is a native

of West Columbia with her husband, Michael, and their dog Whidbey. She is a 1978 graduate of Airport High School. She has three adult children, a son, Michael; two daughters, Amanda and Allie; and nine grandchildren. She is a member of Mt. Hebron Methodist Church. She and her husband love traveling, especially visiting National Parks. She also enjoys fishing, gardening, building and making things, and having fun with her grandchildren.



Daisy Smith-Lee

Julie Martino is SCDOT Assistant Chief Counsel, Claims Agent for Legal Office

Julie K. Martino of Columbia has been selected to serve as Assistant Chief Counsel and Claims Agent for the Legal Office.

As Assistant Chief Counsel, Martino will be assisting in the review and preparation of agreements, specifications and other legal documents between SCDOT and outside entities. She will also serve as the Claim Agent responsible for responding to all damage claim appeals as well as processing SCDOT's claims against the public. As Claims Agent she will be working closely with the Insurance Reserve Fund on the coordination of tort claims against the SCDOT.

Martino has been practicing law in South Carolina for the past 23 years. She comes to us from the Office of Disciplinary

Counsel (ODC) where she investigated and prosecuted complaints against lawyers for the past 11 years. Prior to her service with ODC, Martino worked for the South Carolina Attorney General's Office and the South Carolina Supreme Court. She is also an Adjunct Instructor at South University where, once a week during the evenings, she teaches classes on Legal Research and Writing, Introduction to Law and Ethics, Evidence, Family Law, Constitutional Law, Contract Law, Civil Litigation and Cyber Law.

Martino earned her law degree from the University of South Carolina and a bachelor's degree from Bradley University in Theater Production/Radio TV Production.

Martino is originally from Waukegan, Illinois,



Julie Martino

and has two children Lana (27) and Sally (23).

In her spare time, she enjoys playing with her dog and taking her on walks.

Martino's effective date as Assistant Chief Counsel and Claims Agent was May 17, 2022.

Ryan Cole is Statewide Risk Manager in SCDOT Legal Office

Ryan Cole has been promoted to serve as the Statewide Risk Manager, a new position created in the Legal Office, in addition to his oversight management role in SCDOT's Customer Service Center.

As the new Statewide Risk Manager, Cole will direct and manage the damage claims program for SCDOT. Included in this responsibility will be establishing damage claim program objectives to ensure compatibility with SCDOT's mission, developing and implementing policies and procedures for statewide claims management, including statewide training to ensure milestone accountability. As part of this position, the Statewide Risk Manager will be responsible for damage claim trend analysis, claim risk management reporting, and working with the Insurance Reserve Fund on claims issue resolution. Cole will continue to provide oversight management to SCDOT's Customer Service Center, with day to day operation being performed by his staff.

Cole attended the University of South Carolina, earning a bachelor's degree in Political Science with a



Ryan Cole

minor in Business Administration. He then spent five years in the Rights of Way Office assisting with property acquisitions before moving to his current position as manager of the Customer Service Center. He has been instrumental in streamlining customer service calls and emergency call services over the past ten years.

Cole is a native of Irmo with his wife, Maria, and two children, Charles (15) and Lily (13). He and his family are members of Salem United Methodist Church. He enjoys fishing, golf, gardening, and spending time with his family.

Cole started his new position on May 17, 2022.

Yelena Kalashnikova is Director of Road Data Services

Yelena Kalashnikova will serve in the position of Director of Road Data Services. She assumed the director position on July 2, 2022.

Kalashnikova has more than 12 years of experience within the agency most recently serving as Program Manager for the SCDOT GIS/Mapping Department. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Geography in 1997 from Moscow State Pedagogical University and a master's degree in Public Management/Urban and Regional Planning from East

Tennessee State University as well as a master's degree in GIS and Remote Sensing from the University of South Carolina.

Kalashnikova is a Certified Public Manager and a LEAD Program Graduate.

Kalashnikova was born in Moscow, Russia. She is married to Allen Bowers of Columbia. They live in Elgin and have a daughter, Sophia, and a son, Nikita.

In her spare time, she enjoys reading, baking, traveling and spending time with her family.



Yelena Kalashnikova

Joseph Sturm named Chief of Regional Mobility Program in Planning Division

Joseph "Joe" Sturm has been offered and accepted the position as Chief of the Regional Mobility Program in the Planning division. He assumed the Chief position on May 17, 2022.

Sturm has more than 13 years of experience within the agency most recently serving as "C" Program Administrator training and coaching County Transportation Committees (CTC) and local government recipients on best prac-

tics for the program.

Sturm earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in Civil Engineering from Clemson University. He is a registered Professional Engineer and a recent LEAD Program Graduate. He and his wife, Danielle, have two children, Henry (7) and Edith (5), whom they also homeschool. In his free time, Joe enjoys making memories with his family and serving in his local church.



Joe Sturm

Main Road on John's Island named for Buck Limehouse

SCDOT held a dedication ceremony on Aug. 24, 2022, for the "Harry Bancroft 'Buck' Limehouse Jr. Memorial Highway" on Johns Island.

The ceremony was held at the Berkeley Electric Cooperative's Community Room at 1135 Main Road, Johns Island.

Limehouse died on Feb. 3, 2022.

On Feb. 23, 2022, the SCDOT Commission approved a resolution to name Main Road on Johns Island between U.S. 17 and S.C. 700 as the "Harry Bancroft 'Buck' Limehouse Jr. Memorial Highway" citing his extraordinary accomplishments

and service to the State of South Carolina.

A native and lifelong resident of Charleston, Limehouse served as South Carolina's first Secretary of Transportation from 2007 to 2011; and served as Chairman of the SCDOT Commission from 1994 to 1999. During his tenure as SCDOT Commission Chairman, he was instrumental in the creation of the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) in 1997 and served as a member of the SIB's board from 1997 to 1999 where he was involved in the initiation of several major transportation projects totaling in the billions of dollars in value. Those

projects included the Cross Island Parkway, the Conway Bypass (S.C. 22), the Carolina Bays Parkway (S.C. 31) and the U.S. 17 Ace Basin project.

Limehouse, who held a lifelong appreciation for the natural beauty of South Carolina, championed the effort for SCDOT to acquire Sandy Island in Georgetown County. This preservation purchase permitted SCDOT to create a mitigation bank of 9,000 acres and allowed key coastal projects to move forward at an accelerated rate. This action also protected Sandy Island from further development.



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

H.B. 'Buck' Limehouse Jr. Memorial Highway runs between U.S. 17 and S.C. 700 on Johns Island.

Work begins on Berlin G. Myers Parkway – Phase III



PHOTOS BY ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

Along Greenwave Boulevard in Summerville crews are clearing a path for Phase III of the Berlin G. Myers Parkway.

By Pete Poore

Construction began in August of 2022 as crews started clearing land for the new road that will complete the final and third phase of the Berlin G. Myers Parkway in Summerville. The \$137 million project will build the final 3.9 miles of the Parkway.

Phase III will deliver a new four-lane roadway and a shared use multipurpose pathway along the Sawmill Branch Trail for pedestrians and bicyclists. The Parkway will serve Summerville by reducing traffic on Main Street. Dorchester County will be served by a road that

provides connectivity with other well-travelled roads, including U.S. 17A and Bacon's Bridge Road.

The final phase of this project caps off 18 years of complex planning, permitting and engineering work. These accomplishments were the result of a high level of interagency coordination.

In addition to the current construction activities on the roadway, a related flood mitigation project is also underway. This work is being done to reduce the effect of any water flowing into the nearby canal due to roadway construction. The entire project is expected to be complete in the fall of 2026.



Clearing work can also be seen along Luden Drive for Phase III of the Berlin G. Myers Parkway.

Gaffney 'T-Bridge' to be upgraded

Sidewalks, railings will improve pedestrian safety

By Pete Poore

A preview of the project to upgrade pedestrian facilities on a landmark bridge in Gaffney was held on Sept. 2, 2022. The downtown structure has served as a bridge crossing over rail lines since 1919.

The project is intended to improve safety for pedestrians by replacing sidewalks and adding sidewalks where none had existed before. Railings will also be refurbished. Fencing will be placed on top of bridge walls. Conduit will be installed during construction to provide for future lighting. All sidewalks will comply with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) when construction is completed.

Construction of the \$1.6 million project is expected to begin in late 2022. The work could be completed either in late 2023 or early 2024.

This project is consistent with SCDOT's "Complete Streets" policy. The goal of the policy is to provide facilities for alternative transportation, such as sidewalks and bike lanes on the state's roads wherever feasible.

RIGHT: Dignitaries held a project ceremony for the upcoming rehabilitation of the historic T-Bridge in Gaffney on Sept. 2, 2022.

BELOW: Originally constructed in 1919, rehabilitation work will begin on the bridge later this year, slated to be completed in late 2023 or early 2024. Speakers at the event included Gaffney Mayor Dr. Randy Moss, City Administrator James R. Taylor, Senator Harvey S. Peeler Jr., Representative Dennis C. Moss and Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall.



PHOTOS BY CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR



Carolinas AGC, SCDOT, AGC of America release results of Work Zone Safety Survey

By Bob Kudelka

Secretary of Transportation **Christy A. Hall** joined members of Carolinas Associated General Contractors (AGC) and AGC of America this past spring for a news conference on work zone safety.

“Drivers, I’m pleading with you, please do your part,” Hall said during the May 26 event in front of SCDOT Headquarters. “Pay attention, slow down, safe a life. That life could be your very own.”

Carolinas AGC (CAGC) partnered with AGC of America (AGC) and SCDOT to release the South Carolina results of AGC of America’s 2022 Work Zone Safety Awareness Survey. AGC members from across the nation participated in the survey, including many from South Carolina and North Carolina.

The survey showed that 93 percent of highway contractors in South Carolina had motor vehicles crash into their work zone in the past year. That’s nearly a third of the national average.

Marty McKee, Vice President of King Asphalt and CAGC Highway Division Vice Chair, began the media event at the SCDOT headquarters by saying, “As a contractor, safety is the most im-

portant thing for our employees and for everyone working on our jobsites.”

Brian Turmail of AGC of America highlighted the survey results with members of the media, CAGC members, SCDOT employees and OSHA employees. According to the survey results, motorists are in even greater danger from highway work zone crashes than construction workers, Turmail noted. While 17 percent of South Carolina contractor survey participants experienced crashes that resulted in injury to construction workers, nearly three times as many, 42 percent, reported experiencing a crash in which drivers or passengers were injured.

“The best thing anyone can do to protect themselves and workers is to slow down, put the darn phone down, and pay attention when you are in a work zone,” Turmail said.

“SCDOT is entering the second half of our Strategic 10-Year Plan to repair South Carolina roads and bridges. From the beginning of the plan in 2017, SCDOT has been working in every county of South Carolina,” said Hall, who joined Turmail and others to release the new work zone data. “More work zones are occurring all across our state as we make progress. For the

safety of all highway workers, it is imperative that all motorists use an abundance of caution when approaching and driving through work zones.”

Hall said roadwork is currently at an unprecedented level—four times the normal level—and is continuing to increase with road work in every county of the state.

“There are probably close to 10,000 people on a daily basis working on our roadside just a few inches—a paint line—away from what could be a catastrophic event,” Hall said.

Hall and Turmail noted that contractors and SCDOT are doing their part to make work zones safer through improved technology, lighting, signage, and safety gear as well as increased law enforcement. They begged motorists to do their part as we enter the summer season, the peak of both traffic and road construction.

“Roadwork has ramped up all across the state,” Hall said. “There’s roadwork happening in every county of this state... Memorial Day starts not only the peak of travel and vacation season, but it is also the peak time for highway construction. These workers put their lives on the line every single day.”

SCDOT crews prepare for hurricane season



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

SCDOT workers from Lexington Maintenance stand ready to put out cones and barricades during the June 9 hurricane lane reversal drill.

By Bob Kudelka

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) participated in a statewide hurricane evacuation lane reversal drill on Thursday, June 9.

No lanes were closed during the drill, which ran from 8 a.m. to early afternoon.

Motorists were advised to use caution as SCDOT crews were stationed along roadsides.

SCDOT crews rehearsed the placement of traffic control devices along portions of I-26 between Columbia and Charleston; U.S. 21 and U.S. 278 in Beaufort County; and U.S. 501 in Horry County.

During the exercise, SCDOT Maintenance crews traveled to pre-designated locations along these routes to deploy barrels and cones. Employees deployed the barrels on roadsides and shoulders for the drill so as not to interrupt traffic, but during an actual hurricane lane reversal these barrels and cones would be used to safely manage evacuation traffic. During an actual evacuation, barrels would be deployed on the travel lanes, intersections and exits. Other SCDOT staff members were involved in monitoring the flow of traffic from the Traffic Management Centers and deploying

traffic control devices such as message boards along the routes that would be reversed.

“With the ever-increasing popularity of South Carolina’s beautiful coastal region, the number of residents and visitors continues to grow,” Secretary of Transportation **Christy A. Hall** said. “This makes it critical that we rehearse implementing lane reversals should they be needed during hurricane evacuations. Please watch for our employees and our partners as we conduct this drill.”

SCDOT in 2020 announced an updated plan for reversing lanes on I-26, which includes beginning the reversal at a median crossover near the Nexton Parkway, exit 197, instead of at I-526 as in past years. While this shortens the length of the reversal by 15 miles, it is designed to reduce traffic impacts for the Charleston area and be simpler for motorists to access the reversed side of I-26.

Motorists are encouraged to identify their evacuation routes well ahead of an actual evacuation, and can do so by accessing SCDOT’s 511 traveler information site, www.511sc.org and clicking on “Evacuation Resources.”

SCDOT crews were ready for Hurricane Ian on Sept. 30. See story on pages 16-17.



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

S.C. Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall makes remarks on May 26 during a news conference with Carolinas AGC and AGC of America on work zone safety. From right, Brian Turmail of AGC of America and Marty McKee of Carolinas AGC.



SCDOT's Newest CPM Graduates

ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

SCDOT had seven employees earn their Certified Public Manager certifications on May 18, 2022. The honorees, from left are: Brian Heape, Lori Campbell, Chad Rawls, Tina Kennedy, Jeff Terry, Rontreal Tyler and Anthony Cromartie. The ceremony took place at Brookland Baptist Church in Columbia.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

Making Repairs to Jarvis Klapman Bridge

SCDOT District 1 bridge crew members remove lead-based paint and install steel plates on the S.C. 12 bridge over the Congaree River in Lexington County on Aug. 10, 2022.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

SCDOT on the Air in Rock Hill

SCDOT Director of Communications Pete Poore speaks with Manning Kimmel on WRHI's Straight Talk series on July 28, 2022. During the live radio set Kimmel and Poore spoke about SCDOT's Strategic 10-Year Plan and road projects ongoing in the York County area, where the station is based.



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

SCDOT Congratulates National Basketball Champions

Athletics Director Ray Tanner, Gamecock Women's Basketball Head Coach Dawn Staley and South Carolina Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall unveiled one of the new highway signs recognizing the Gamecocks' 2022 National Championship during a ceremony in front of Colonial Life Arena on June 23, 2022. A total of 15 signs will go up across the state.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

Clemson Men's Soccer Wins National Championship

The Clemson University Men's Soccer national championships highway sign is unveiled at a ceremony at the South Carolina state house on March 1, 2022. Participants in the ceremony included Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, Clemson Soccer Head Coach Mike Noonan and SCDOT Chief Engineer for Operations Andy Leaphart.

2022 LEAD class finishes program with field experience



The graduating class members were: Michael Bagley, District 1; Lauren Benjamin, Office of the Secretary (served as Class Secretary); Shawn Burroughs, Human Resources; Tony Edwards, RPG 3; Carolyn Fisher, FHWA; Renee Gardner, RPG 3 (served as Class Treasurer); Meagan Hare, Agency Events; Lisa Johnson, Financial Planning; Eric Jones, District 6; Joe Laws, District 3; Christina Lewis, Planning; Casey Lucas, RPG 4 (served as Class President); Erin Porter, Strategic Planning; Brian Rister, IT (served as Class Vice President); David Rogers, Director of Construction Office; Toya Scipio, Traffic Engineering; William 'Stephen' Shehan, District 2; Emily Thomas, Traffic Engineering; Brad Trout Jr, District 4; Raleigh 'Tripp' Ward, District 5; J. Cruz Wheeler, Director of Maintenance Office; Clifton White, District 2; Cynthia Whittenburg, Human Resources; Chris Williams, District 7; and Delicia Wingard, Minority and Small Business Affairs Office.

The LEAD Class of 2022 graduated on July 28 after presenting their class project to Secretary Hall, Deputy Directors and special guests.

The class project outlined a plan to revamp SCDOT's damage claims process, focusing on increasing customer service and streamlining the process by which citizens report damage claims to the Department.

The LEAD class was invited to the Richland County Maintenance Office on May 18 to try their hand at setting up a temporary work zone and pot hole patching. The Richland County Maintenance and Sign Crews instructed the class on the proper procedures and were on hand to fix any mistakes.

The class was divided into teams to create a friendly competition, however, no one seems to recall who won.



SCDOT Equipment Operators score big at regional roдео

SCDOT equipment operators participated in the 2022 Southeastern Regional Equipment Operators Rodeo on September 27-30 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Out of 11 participating states

(Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia) SCDOT finished in second place.

South Carolina had several in-

dividual award winners: Scott Burgess from Lexington took first place in the motor grader competition, Jake Pagels from Oconee took second place in the motor grader completion. Jeremy Shrewsberry of District Four Pavement took

second place in the tandem axle dump truck, and Brian McAbee from District Four Pavement took second place in the tractor-mower competition.

The effort from all of the SCDOT equipment operators led to

the team securing second place, just 47 points shy of the first place team of Arkansas. The host state of Louisiana rounded off the top three with third place. Congratulations to team SCDOT and all individual winners.



The top two state winners in each category of the SCDOT Rodeo participated in the Southeastern Regional Rodeo competition in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The SCDOT Team, standing from left is: Brandon Fish, Jeremy Shrewsberry, Brian Hodges, Brian McAbee, Steven Ford, Scott Burgess, Scotty Anderson, Jake Pagels, Jeff Muellenbach, William Blackwell and J.W. Austin. Team captain Sam Riddle is kneeling in front. Not pictured: Charles Long, who is featured in a story on page 25.

State Rodeo finds top operators, prepares them for regional

The 2022 Equipment Operators' Safety Training Conference and Rodeo was held May 24-25, 2022, at the SCDOT Supply and Equipment facility on Shop Road in Columbia.

The rodeo is a statewide event where SCDOT team members from all seven districts take part in truck and heavy equipment competitions. The first and second place winner in each category went to the Southeastern Regional Rodeo in Baton Rouge shown above.



PROGRESS from page 1

and replaces seven overpasses, Hall said. Higher clearance will be critical for freight movement, and the improvements prepare for any need for future widening.

The concrete pavement will be 12 inches thick, topping 2 inches of asphalt below and additional 12 inches of foundation, for a total of “26 inches on I-26,” Hall said. This type of pavement extends the service life 40 to 50 years.

“A long-lasting, durable, innovative, accelerated project is what you’re looking at here today,” Hall said, adding that the proj-

ect created 400 jobs and used locally manufactured concrete.

The \$512 million Midlands Connection project is part of SCDOT’s overall vision to improve I-26 from Newberry to Charleston, a 114-mile strategic initiative.

But interstate work is going on well beyond I-26.

“We currently have about 80 miles of interstate under construction underway today, well north of \$2 billion worth of work including Phases I and II of Carolina Crossroads in Columbia and the I-85 corridor from Spartanburg to the North Carolina state line. Work is going on at I-20 at the Georgia border...and several interchanges are being worked on along I-77.

“So pretty much, every interstate in this state is under construction or receiving some sort of upgrade. That speaks really clearly to the commitment of the policymakers to

make sure our infrastructure is set to take us to that next level,” Hall said.

The funding is a combination of federal American Rescue Plan Act dollars, state money and gas tax revenue, along with the welcome news in August of an additional \$190 million in federal road funds for South Carolina.

The innovative acceleration project to widen I-26 in between Columbia and Charleston is another success story.

“Every other year, we’ll push out a 10- to 11-mile section of widening between Columbia and Charleston,” Hall said. “Instead of starting in 2034, we hope to have everything wrapped up in that time frame.

“This is a good example of our industry’s commitment and dedication to ensuring that we’re delivering a world-class project on an expedited time frame with the dollars entrusted to the State DOT.”

I-26 from page 1

ciation President/CEO Rick Todd. SCDOT Commissioner John Barnwell Fishburne of the 6th Congressional District was among the state officials in attendance.

Built more than 60 years ago, I-26 has seen its traffic increase to more than 22 million vehicles per year. The segment between Charleston and Columbia has at times been “plagued with congestion, delays and accidents,” Hall said.

The widened interstate will improve traffic flow, safety and “help support the growth that is occurring in this fast-growing region of our state,” Hall said.

“This initial \$218 million project that we’re launching today is 7 miles in length and stretches between Jedburg Road and S.C. 27,” Hall said. It is designed to modernize and upgrade the S.C. 27 interchange and replace several bridges.

“I’m pleased to announce Banks Construction, a construction company located right here in the Charleston area, will be building the project for us,” Hall said. “They have also pledged that approximately \$13 million of the project will be done by small and minority businesses located right here in South Carolina.

“We’re not stopping there,” Hall said. “Not only is this project being built by South Carolina firms, but the overwhelming majority of the materials that will go into building this magnificent interstate will be sourced right here from South Carolina. Concrete, steel, asphalt, rock, cement – all of that is homegrown and is amplifying the economic impact of just a single road project.

“Think about the ramifications of what that investment does to our economy.” Hall said.

In 2023, SCDOT will push out another \$600 million for work to widen a section of I-26 from the Columbia end to complement this first leg from Charleston, Hall said.

“And we’ll jump right to the I-26/I-95 interchange and upgrade that,” Hall said.

Looking at the big picture, SCDOT’s annual program has grown from \$1 billion, many years ago, to nearly \$4 billion today. “And I expect it to continue to grow as we push more and more interstate work, bridge work, safety projects and other much needed infrastructure work to contract all across our state,” Hall said.

Hall marveled at the speed in which the I-26 project came to fruition over the past few months.

While the initial plan called for widening 70 miles of I-26 in a few segments every few years all the way to 2034, the new, accelerated plan brings the total project six years ahead of schedule, she said.

“We have responded to the call of the Governor and Legislature by putting the pedal to the metal. We received final legislative approval for the funding for this project at the end of June 2022, just a few months ago. Within 30 days, we had a contract out to bid. We didn’t let the funding sit idly, we put it right out to market to get our contractors on board.”

Hall appropriately ended her remarks with three words: “Let’s get started.”

“If you turn your attention to the heavy equipment in the median, I’m going to ask the Governor to give the command to begin work,” Hall said.

“Hit it, brother,” the Governor said on his radio.

And Greg Smith dug it.

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The form may be completed anonymously.



Safety and Health News

Chemical safety at home

With Fall nearly here, many of us will start to utilize fertilizers and other chemicals to help take care of our lawns and gardens. This is a good time to evaluate your chemical storage at home to protect your children or grandchildren.

Poison control centers across the country get more than 2 million calls a year about potential exposure to poisons. Almost all of these exposures occur in the home and 80% of all poisonings are in children between the ages of 1 and 4. Follow these guidelines to prevent poisoning in the home.

✓ Install safety locks/childproof latches on all cabinets to restrict access to children.

✓ Store potential poisons including detergents, medications, cosmetics and perfumes, and chemical products (like pesticides and drain cleaners) out of reach and out of sight of children -- inside the house as well as in the garage or shed.

✓ Store potential poisons in their original containers. Do not transfer them to food

containers like milk jugs or coffee cans.

✓ Keep food and potential poisons separate; store them in different cabinets. Children can mistake the identity of products that look alike to them.

✓ Return all products to storage immediately after use. Keep the products and your children in sight during use.

✓ Safely discard -- into a sealed, outdoor trash receptacle -- all household products and medications that are old or aren't used regularly.

✓ Never mix products; dangerous fumes could result.

✓ Make sure medications are in child-resistant containers. Vitamins and supplements also should be out of reach of children. Remember that child-resistant is not child-proof.

✓ Keep indoor plants out of reach; some may be poisonous.

✓ Stay away from areas that have been sprayed recently with pesticides or fertilizer.

Hurricane Season

FEMA Family Emergency Supply Kit

Here is a list of recommended items for a Basic Emergency Supply Kit

- Water and non-perishable food for several days
- Extra cell phone battery or charger
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio that can receive NOAA Weather Radio tone alerts and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place.
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Non-sparking wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps

Here is a list of some supplies to add to your Basic Emergency Supply Kit

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food, water and supplies for your pet
- Important family documents: Insurance policies, identification and bank records put in a portable waterproof container
- Cash and change
- Emergency reference materials such as a first aid book or information from www.ready.gov
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider more bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Complete change of clothing including a long-sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Fire extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies, personal hygiene items and hand sanitizer
- Mess kits, paper cups, paper plates and disposable utensils, paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

www.ready.gov

* Clip and save these great safety tips to keep and remind you. Stay safe, stay healthy!

What can hurt me today?

Every day before our work begins we should go through some type of process to evaluate the work for the day as well as the associated hazards. This process can include a self-check as well as a work area inspection and inspection of tools or equipment.

During this process, a main objective should be identifying hazards so that you can take steps to eliminate or mitigate the hazards found. One useful question to ask yourself before a work task begins is: "What can hurt me?"

Asking this Question as a Tool

Sure, it may seem very dark and negative to ask yourself this right as your workday is starting or when starting a new work task, but it can be the difference in recognizing the hazard that could injure you or someone else that day. Asking this question should trigger you to stop and really look around your work area and consider what dangers you are dealing with. Identifying uncontrolled hazards should be a top priority before starting any work task. Taking ownership of these hazards and seeing them through to get corrected is necessary for a

safe workplace.

Taking Ownership of Mitigating Hazards

Identifying hazards is not worth much if you do not see it through that they are properly addressed. Even if you spot something and make a mental note to avoid that hazard it could seriously injure someone else in the area. Take the time and energy to properly mitigate the hazard so not only will you not be affected by it, but also your coworkers will not be either.

Summary

While a positive mindset and attitude are important for success in the workplace, asking yourself critical questions such as "what can hurt me today?" can trigger you to take the extra time to really evaluate a work task. Take ownership of hazards in your work area and see them through that they get fixed. After all, you never know what safeguard or action may make the difference in preventing an injury.

Discussion point:

What other questions are helpful to ask yourself before a work task begins?

Minority & Small Business News

2022 AASHTO Agency Administration Conference held in Charleston

By Mary Wyeth

SCDOT served as this year's host state for the 2022 American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Agency Administration Conference in Charleston, South Carolina, Aug. 22 – 25, 2022.

The annual meeting “provided the opportunity for State DOT members to discuss successes, issues and challenges in the administration, civil rights, human resources and knowledge management arenas. In addition, the meeting provided the forum for the Equity Task Force and the Transportation Workforce Management Committee to meet in person for the first time,” said AASHTO Program Director for Civil Rights, Agency Administration and Active Transportation Shannon Eggleston.

In addition to the “diverse and dynamic speakers and attendees, this conference had the most attendees to date.”

Eleven Division of Minority & Small Business Affairs (MSBA) staff joined SCDOT colleagues from Human Resources, Knowledge Management and Headquarters served as volunteer ambassadors throughout the conference assisting conference attendees.

They received glowing accolades from AASHTO’s Washington D.C. based staff.

Eggleston said, “they made the conference run smoothly with a smile.”

SCDOT’s Event Planning staff, **Tina Kennedy** and **Meagan Hare**, and MSBA Division Director **Greg Davis** were recognized and offered sincere appreciation for the countless hours spent preparing for the conference.



PHOTOS BY ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

SCDOT Director of Civil Rights Programs Barbara Beagles, center, and DBE Certification Lead Rodrick Stevenson, right, greet and assist FHWA’s ADA Program Analyst James T. ‘Todd’ Webb during the four-day conference.

Even though AASHTO is an annual national conference, it has an impact across the state and in the work of the Agency’s Division of Minority and Small Business Affairs who

works to enhance opportunities for small disadvantaged highway construction related companies who can help rebuild South Carolina roads and bridges.



Michael Bryant of Texas DOT, left, and Greg Davis of SCDOT share the microphone at the opening of the Civil Rights Session at the AASHTO 2022 Agency Administration Conference in Charleston. Bryant is the current Chair of AASHTO’s Civil Rights Executive Committee (CREC) and Davis is CREC’s chair emeritus.

Roundtable discussions have real-time impact, chance to discuss DBE issues

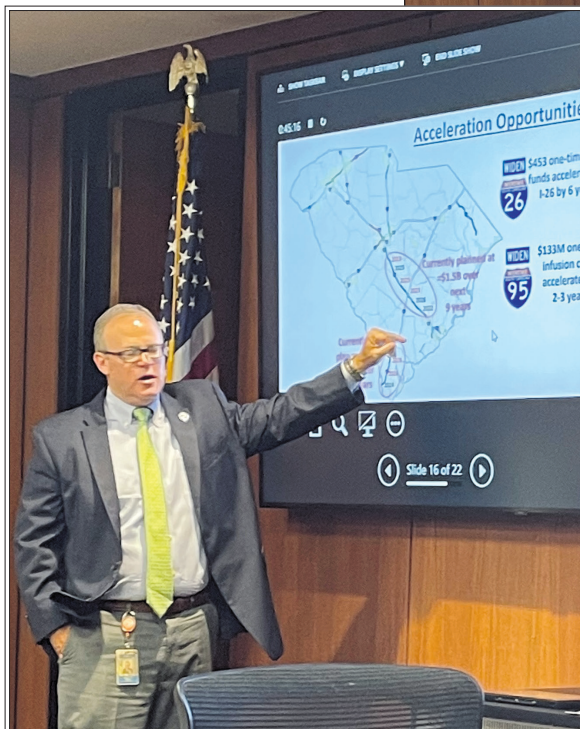
By Gary Linn

SCDOT’s Division of Minority & Small Business Affairs recently held several roundtable discussions led by SCDOT’s Deputy Secretary for Engineering **Leland Colvin**. The firms in attendance shared concerns about rising costs and other barriers to providing services. While recovery is underway, many firms are still dealing with the impacts of the pandemic.

Several of the issues identified by the firms helped inform the Department’s approach to determine what materials are eligible for price adjustments. Attendees also recommended further discussion about additional support for DBE firms – specific training opportunities, assistance “breaking in” to the industry as a sub-consultant, and streamlining processes.

SCDOT is committed to responding to each concern identified and has scheduled follow up

sessions to continue the conversation and offer additional support for firms.



PHOTOS BY GREG DAVIS/MINORITY & SMALL BUSINESS AFFAIRS

ABOVE: DBE firms participated in a roundtable discussion in August 2022.

LEFT: Deputy Secretary for Engineering Leland Colvin presented information on accelerated opportunities for Professional Services DBEs during the meeting.

District 1 News

Kershaw, Lee, Lexington, Richland and Sumter counties

*District Engineer: Robert Dickinson (803) 737-6660
FAX: (803) 737-6401*

SCDOT participates in Elgin earthquake meeting

By Brian Motley
Assistant District 1
Maintenance Engineer

Kershaw County has had numerous earthquakes since December 2021. Recently, the Town of Elgin hosted a town-hall-style virtual meeting where residents could send in their questions to a panel of experts.

Deputy Secretary for Engineering **Leland Colvin** represented SCDOT and did an outstanding job explaining how the Department monitors bridges for seismic events and our protocol for responding to those events.



Deputy Secretary for Engineering **Leland Colvin**, second left, answers questions about SCDOT's monitoring of bridges during the recent earthquakes in Kershaw County.

Lexington Maintenance fixes flooding issue on Calks Ferry Road ahead of school opening

By Brian Motley
Assistant District 1
Maintenance Engineer

Lexington Maintenance had a road flooding issue at an area with triple crossline pipes. In lieu of the expensive box culvert replacement, it was decided to install a 24" crossline ahead of the crossing to alleviate the flooding issue due to the large volume of water on the upstream side of the road.

Lexington Maintenance scheduled this work to be completed before school started back. They had some setbacks the first week due to rock and utility conflicts. The crossline location was moved a little further up the hill and once utility locations were marked, the crew began work on cutting the road and digging the ditch. The roadway work was completed and the road was reopened on schedule. That same day, they experienced a torrential rainfall and the pipe worked exactly as planned. The crew also completed several problem areas in the vicinity since the road was closed.



Lexington Maintenance crews install a 24-inch concrete pipe to alleviate a flooding issue on Calks Ferry Road.

Got news?

Contact Alan Kozusko at:
803-737-6420 or email him at
KozuskoAR@scdot.org

**Alan
Kozusko**



Bridge crews find problems, fix them

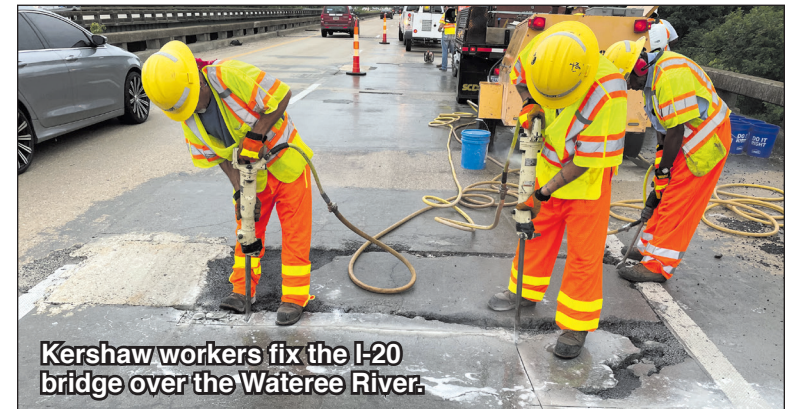
By Alan Kozusko
District 1 Maintenance
Engineer

The weekend of Aug. 20 was busy for District 1. Crews found and repaired two holes on interstate bridge decks in Lexington and Kershaw counties.

Lexington Foreman **Rob Liljegren** found a hole in the

Congaree River bridge on I-77 about 1 a.m. that Friday and Kershaw RME **Michael Todd** reported a hole in the Wateree River bridge on I-20 at 2:30 p.m. the same day.

Personnel from each county in the district and both district bridge crews came together to complete the job and had the lanes open by Sunday afternoon.



Kershaw workers fix the I-20 bridge over the Wateree River.

Meet Daniel Bailey



Daniel Bailey

Daniel Bailey has about a month's service so far in the District Permits Office. He is from Washington state and has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Engineering Geology. He has 25 years of experience in the construction industry.

Bailey served as an aircraft mechanic in the Navy and enjoys watching and playing most sports, and tinkering.

He lives in the Red Bank area with his wife and child, and has another grown child in Washington.

District 2 News

Abbeville, Anderson, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda counties

District Engineer: *Kevin McLaughlin* (864) 227-6971
FAX: (864) 227-6567

Paint crews earn their stripes

As temperatures begin to rise following the cool upstate winter, the District 2 Center Line Paint Crew gears up to refresh pavement markings throughout the eight counties within the District. Led by **Anton Rouse**, the crew uses a 2020 paint truck to refresh center line and edge line markings as well as place new markings on previously unmarked roadways.

As part of the installations, recycled glass beads are deposited on the wet paint. As the paint cures, these glass beads are bonded to the paint and allow for retroreflectivity. This means that light from vehicle headlights will reflect back into the line of sight of the driver. This retroreflectivity provides clear visibility of lane boundaries even in wet weather conditions.

Since the beginning of April 2022, the crew has placed approximately 1,490,620 linear feet of center line and edge line markings. They used approximately 4,660 gallons of paint and approximately 25,000 lbs. of recycled glass beads.



ABOVE: The paint crew is refreshing pavement markings throughout District 2 like this example on Old Calhoun Falls Road in Abbeville County.



District 2 paint crew, from left: Ivan Corona, Franklin Moss, Nathan Bowie, T.K. Yeldell and Anton Rouse

SUMMER INTERNS

District 2 summer interns visited an asphalt plant in Greenwood County to get a firsthand look at the paving process.

From left, Jacob Piontek, Reagan Petersheim, La'Shanda Andrews, District Two Asphalt Manager Jeff Lawson, Tyrese Chinn and Isaac Braaten.



Got news?

Contact Nick Rebovich at 864-889-8016 or email him at RebovichNS@scdot.org.



Nick Rebovich

Meet Charles Long



Charles Long

Charles Long started his career with SCDOT in 1997 as a maintenance employee on the Saluda Patching Crew.

After working three years on this crew, he accepted a position on the Saluda Multi-Purpose Crew. His Supervisor, **Frank Lorick**, would prove to be both his friend and mentor. "I owe everything I know to Frank," Long said.

Long served under Lorick until 2007 when he was promoted to Foreman. In 2019, Long was promoted to Resident Maintenance Foreman and was recently promoted to Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer. He has a passion for his work and his team. He recently grilled an "end of summer" lunch for his road crews.

Long has participated in the Equipment Rodeo every year since its inception at the S.C. State Fair. He has consistently risen to the challenges and won numerous championships including the most recent 2022 State Championship in Backhoe operations.

In his free time Charles is an avid crappie fisherman and turkey hunter. He also enjoys supporting the USC Gamecocks and has season tickets to the football games.

District 3 News

Greenville, Oconee, Pickens and Spartanburg counties

District Engineer: David Hebert (864) 241-1010
FAX: (864) 241-1115

Bridge Crew repairs pilings on Liberty Highway bridge



The bridge repair crew members working on the repair included, from left: Matthew Huller of Oconee, Chris Wilson of District 3, Tyler Stewart of Oconee, Eli Whitman of Oconee and Joey Griffin of District 3.

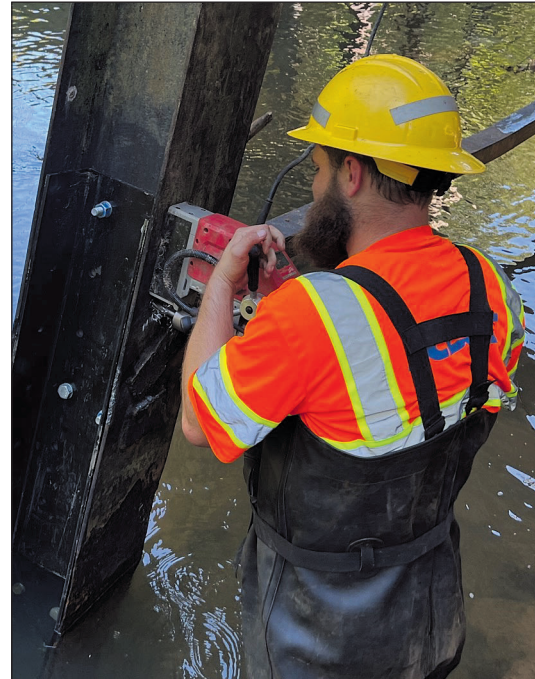
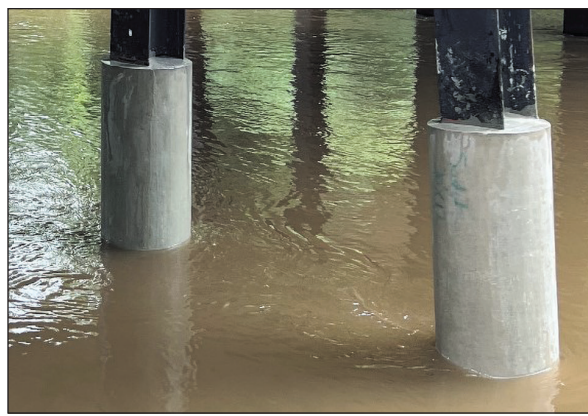
The District 3 Bridge Repair crew teamed with several county crews over the last month to work on a bridge located on Liberty Highway over Twelve Mile River in Liberty.

The crews had to remove and replace old, rusted bracings, as well as reinforce existing steel pilings that had rusted and deteriorated over the years. The crews reinforced the steel pilings with new steel “jackets and sleeves,” then encased those repairs with concrete. That ensures that the repairs would be safe from debris that may float downstream, as well as extend the life of the steel repairs.



LEFT: Chris Wilson of the District 3 Bridge Repair Crew was responsible for the welding.

RIGHT: The bridge piling repairs were encased in concrete to extend the life of the repairs.



Got news?

Lorraine Beck is temporarily serving as the District 3 Connector Coordinator. You can contact her at 864-239-6003 or by emailing her at BeckLK@scdot.org

D3 Maintenance workers train on defensive driving simulator



District 3 Maintenance employees were recently trained by NextGen Driver Training on proper ways and methods of defensive driving by use of their driving simulator.

This training gives employees an opportunity to experience roadway, vehicular, or pedestrian hazards, as well as hone their skills at everyday tasks as CDL drivers. More than 80 veteran and rookie employees were able to participate in the training over a period of two weeks.

This is the fourth year that District 3 Maintenance has provided this training to the employees. NextGen Driver Training will be back in mid-October to perform driver training in snow/icy roadway conditions as District 3 prepares for the 2022-2023 winter weather season.

Woodruff Road Widening Project



Here, work progresses at the corner of Scuttletown Road and Adams Mill Road which is part of the Woodruff Road widening project.

Construction progress continues on the Woodruff Road widening project in Greenville County.

Housing and business growth in the area has substantially increased traffic which in turn manifested heavy congestion during

rush hour. This project will provide traffic flow relief, decrease delays and increase safety for travelers in this area.

Resident Construction Engineer Javier Bejarano anticipates the completion of this project in October 2022.

District 4 News

Cherokee, Chester, Chesterfield, Fairfield, Lancaster, Union and York counties

District Engineer: Jason Johnston (803) 377-4155
FAX: (803) 581-2088

Phase III of I-85 widening nears completion

SCDOT is nearing completion of Phase III of the I-85 Widening Project in Cherokee County. This project is one of the interstate widening projects on the Strategic 10-Year Plan to rebuild our state highway system. This project begins at the Broad River and ends at the North Carolina state line and is expected to have all six lanes of traffic on the interstate in its final configuration by the end of September. Final work on the crossing routes and ramps is expected to be completed by March 2023.

This project utilized a design-build contract method which required the contractor to design, obtain permits, acquire right-of-way, coordinate utility relocation, and construct approximately eight miles of interstate; all under the oversight of the SCDOT and the Federal Highway Administration. The first public hearing was held for Phase III of the I-85 Widening Project in March 2017. Lane Construction Corporation of Charlotte, N.C., was awarded the contract on March 15, 2018, and began construction of Phase III in August 2019.

The Phase III segment of the I-85 Widening Project is creating additional capacity for more reliable travel times, more efficient movement of freight and enhanced mobility for traffic headed into and out of South Carolina while increasing road user safety using this heavily traveled corridor.

Originally constructed as a two-lane highway in the 1920s, U.S. 29 was initially widened to four lanes and designated as I-85 in the late 1950s. Since the I-85 designation in the late fifties, only limited improvements have been made. This project will provide a

financial boost to the local economy and increase the capacity of this section of the interstate system so it may function more efficiently for many years to come.

In addition to widening from four to six lanes in both directions, four interchanges and associated secondary roads were reconfigured and upgraded to provide better roadway safety by eliminating two-way ramps, and providing the required separation between ramps and frontage roads. These new interchanges also raised all bridges crossing the project from as low as 14' 5" to the new height of minimum of 17 feet. Lastly, a Norfolk Southern Railroad bridge over I-85 was reconstructed to provide greater vertical clearance to meet design standards.

During this project, Lane Construction moved more than 1 million yards of dirt, installed around 35,000 linear feet of storm drainage, and placed over 500 thousand tons of asphalt. Phase III of the I-85 widening project will be completed and opened in October 2022. The work performed on these roads and bridges will help alleviate traffic congestion throughout this entire corridor.



Five hundred thousand tons of asphalt was used on the project. Here, crews do paving overnight on I-85.



Crews put the finishing touches on I-85 widening near exit 104, Tribal road. The project includes an extra lane of travel and a concrete barrier wall.



All new bridges on the project will have more vertical clearance.

Got news?

Contact Lee Oliver with your ideas at 803-377-8101 or by emailing him at OliverHL@scdot.org



Lee Oliver

Meet Jacky Steen

Please welcome **Jacky Steen** to the SCDOT family as District 4's newest safety officer. Steen joined SCDOT on May 17, 2022.

Steen brings with him knowledge and skills honed while working at his previous job with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR). While employed with SCDNR, he was assigned to the Land, Water and Conservation division with the state-wide drilling program. He possesses a diverse background of education and work experience, that ranges from law enforcement to heavy equipment operation to administrative duties and management.

He is a devoted husband to his wife of 29 years, Lisa, and resides in Lancaster County. They have one daughter, Macy, and one grandson, Reese. Steen loves being a grandfather. Between t-ball games, soccer matches, and ice cream snacks



Jacky Steen

with 5-year-old Reese, he still manages to find some time for enjoying hunting, fishing and racing. He cherishes his time with family and friends.

So when you see him around, take a moment to share a smile, a handshake or a few friendly words and welcome him to our SCDOT family.

District 5 News

Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Marion, Marlboro and Williamsburg counties

District Engineer: Kyle Berry (843) 661-4710
FAX: (843) 661-4704

Building and grounds specialists kept offices clean, employees safe during the Covid-19 pandemic

During the Covid-19 pandemic, SCDOT, like most businesses, were unsure how to maintain a functional workforce while preventing the spread of the virus.

Recommendations were changing daily on how to “Stop the Spread.” The front line of most

safety plans was sanitization of basically everything, and our Building and Grounds Specialists were leading the charge.

Every day, multiple times a day, they cleaned and wiped down door knobs, desks, tables, kitchens, and any public area in the DOT.

When protocols stated every-

one stay 6 feet apart, they cleaned. When an employee tested positive, they suited up with PPE and cleaned the area.

We cannot begin to thank these employees for the work they did to keep the SCDOT offices open and safe for everyone.



The District 5 Building and Grounds Specialists are, from left: Betty Brice in Marion County, Agie Grissett in Horry County, Emerson Wallace in Georgetown County, Eric McElveen in Florence County, Theodora Locklear in Marlboro County, Anna DeParolis in Dillon County and Leroy Williams in Williamsburg County. Not Pictured: Connie Bradley in Williamsburg County, Gloria Carter in Darlington County and Leroy Brown in the District 5 Office.

Meet Leroy Brown

Leroy Brown is the building and grounds specialist for the District 5 District Office. He has worked with SCDOT for more than 10 years.

Brown says that the best thing about working at the DOT is he enjoys the work and loves the people he works with. He has been married for more than 25 years and has 5 children and 6 grandchildren.

Brown's hobbies include doing handy man work for his neighbors and fishing. When he retires, he says will be on the river bank fishing every day.



Leroy Brown

Got news?

Contact Michael Miller at 843-661-4710 or by emailing him at MillerMW@scdot.org

Michael Miller



Malinda Manley practices her cutting skills while other Darlington and Marlboro Maintenance employees watch and wait their turn to practice their skills.

SCDOT encourages chain saw safety

Darlington Maintenance held a Chain Saw Training class recently.

SCDOT work crews regularly are asked to remove trees and limbs from the roadway and during inclement weather

it is a necessity.

Maintenance employees sat through a classroom safety briefing and equipment review, then had a hands on practice session. The class was a success for everyone.

District 6 News

Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester and Jasper counties

District Engineer: **Tim Henderson** (843) 740-1665
 FAX: (843) 740-1663

SCDOT employees assist motorists after crash

By Debra Jerideau

Every day as employees work along the highway, they encounter dangerous situations and need to stay alert to return home unharmed to their families. They also go above and beyond their regular duties when necessary, and their good deeds do not go unnoticed.

On Sept. 6, 2022, **Charlie Tenio** and **Alan Haynes** of District 6 Traffic Signals were working in the right lane of Redbank Road and Harbour Lake Drive. They were out of their truck troubleshooting a traffic device. And suddenly, they heard a crash.

Two vehicles had collided and struck the rear of an SCDOT bucket truck.

Tenio and Haynes ran across the street to the accident site to as-



Alan Haynes

sist the vehicle occupants. When they got to the site, they noticed the occupants had multiple lacerations including a baby with a severe laceration on its forehead.

Tenio took charge of the situation and instructed a bystander to call 9-1-1 while he retrieved the



Charlie Tenio

first aid kit from his work truck.

He then administered first aid to the baby's forehead to stop the bleeding until medical personnel arrived.

Once medical personnel arrived Tenio continued to assist them.



Two cars collided and then hit an SCDOT bucket truck. Fortunately, no employees were injured. SCDOT employees rushed to assist an infant injured before emergency personnel arrived.

Got news?

Contact Debra Jerideau : 843-834-9034 or by emailing her at JerideauDJ@scdot.org



Debra Jerideau



Josh Johnson recognized as one of Charleston's 'Forty Under 40' professionals

By Rob Thompson

Josh Johnson was recently honored by Charleston Regional Business Journal as one of Charleston's "Forty Under 40."

The 40 individuals selected for this honor are described as "an elite group of influential young professionals making their impact felt in the community."

Johnson is the District 6 Traffic Engineer for SCDOT. In the article published on Sept. 5, 2022, Johnson was asked a few questions about himself.

These questions and his re-

sponses are shown here:

Charleston Regional Business Journal: What made you select your chosen profession? Was this your dream job when you were growing up?

Josh Johnson: I didn't know I wanted to be a traffic engineer growing up, but I was always interested in how to make things operate more efficiently. It wasn't until my junior year of high school that a family member suggested I look into engineering. Traffic engineering specifically appealed to me not only as a way to improve people's day-to-day lives through

optimizing traffic flows, but also because of the traffic safety component where I have the ability to work on projects to get people home to their families safely.

Charleston Regional Business Journal: Any advice for the next generation?

Josh Johnson: Be considerate of other people. It seems the trend is to be more and more self-centered and to make everything about picking sides with an extreme point of view. Humanity has always achieved the most when setting aside differences and working together toward a common goal.

District 7 News

Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Clarendon, Hampton and Orangeburg counties

District Engineer: *Jeff Terry* *(803) 531-6850*
FAX: *(803) 531-6854*

Got news?

Contact Danny Simmons at:
803-395-7165 or
by emailing him at
SimmonsD@scdot.org

**Danny
Simmons**



Electrical Awareness Training

Crews encouraged to look for overhead dangers

Working with or near power lines can expose workers to electrical hazards, but these dangers can be avoided through safe work practices.

Crews should conduct a hazard assessment to identify and address potential safety hazards before work begins. Between 2011 and 2020, 39 percent of all electrically related workplace fatalities were caused by overhead power lines. In the majority of these cases, fatalities occurred in occupations with little to no electrical safety training. In 2016, 53 percent of all fatal electrical injuries occurred in the construction industry.

Employees should be provided with a constant reminder to work safely near power lines. These practical guidelines can prevent injuries from contact with power lines. Always conduct a job hazard assessment to identify and address potential safety hazards before work begins.

1. Locate all overhead power lines
2. Keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet away (as voltage increases- distance increases) from all overhead power lines
3. Never not touch anything that is in contact with the power line
4. Beware of fencing near power lines
5. Carry ladders and other equipment horizontally
6. Lower equipment apparatus (boom's, buckets, truck beds, etc.) before driving
7. Never spray water near power lines
8. Stay at least 35 feet away from downed power lines and wait for clearance from the electric company and unit management
9. Know the safe working distance for workers and equipment

When you're on a job site, remember to always look up, always – it can save your life.



Foreman Ashton Walker reviews the Job Hazard Analysis form with Barnwell Maintenance employees Mike Jones, Zaviell Faust and Travis Grubbs.

Walt Holladay celebrates 50 years of service

Walt Holladay first joined the South Carolina Department of Transportation on Nov. 7, 1970. In his initial position, Highway Maintenance Worker II, he worked with bridges and concrete in Clarendon County on what would now be called a specialty crew. He was then promoted to Mowing Foreman in Clarendon County and held that position for six years.

Holladay then transferred to Calhoun County and continued there in his position as mowing foreman for four years. In 1984, Holladay became Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer at Orangeburg Maintenance. One year later he was appointed Resident Maintenance Engineer (RME) there. He later served as Assistant Construction Engineer in Barnwell County for approximately three years and then became the Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer at Colleton Maintenance. In 2005, he became the RME at Colleton Maintenance.

Holladay then retired from the department. His retirement lasted one year. Upon returning to

SCDOT, he worked at Richland Maintenance until November 2020.

He then returned to Orangeburg Maintenance and is currently serving as the Resident Maintenance Engineer at Orangeburg Maintenance. When asked what are some of the most significant changes seen over the years he stated how the communication and cooperation between the districts and the counties has greatly improved, along with the ability to share resources.

Holladay also stated that he is extremely grateful for the relationships, and friendships and knowledge experienced through the years here at the department.

Holladay lives in Neeses along with his wife, Deborah. They have three children: Derrick, Deanna and Darcy. His hobbies include spending quality time with his family, especially his grandchildren Abigail and Elijah.

Congratulations on 50 years of service to the South Carolina Department of Transportation Resident Maintenance Engineer Walt Holladay!



District 7 Engineering Administrator Jeff Terry, left, and District 7 Maintenance Engineer Efreem Dantzler, right, present Walt Holladay with a sign recognizing his 50 years of service.

SCDOT mourns the passing of two maintenance employees in August

Two SCDOT employees passed away in August. One while on the job and another on his way to work.

Dennis Moore of Richland Maintenance passed away on Aug. 24, 2022, after collapsing from an apparent heart attack while working with a ditching crew.

Moore was nearing retirement and was known as “Bo Diddly” to his Richland Maintenance team mates. His dedication to his family, both at home and at Richland Maintenance, was evident to all who knew him. He leaves behind a wife and was a loving family man to his children and grandchildren.

On Aug. 25, 2022, while on the way to work, **Lethaniel Gathers** passed away after he struck a tree that had fallen across the road. Gathers served as the Resident Maintenance Foreman for the Hot Crews in Charleston Maintenance and had been with SCDOT for more than 23 years.

Gathers has been described as a “Rock Star” by his colleagues in District 6 and was a great role model for many. He leaves behind a loving family and will be deeply missed by all.



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

Deputy Secretary for Engineering Leland Colvin places flowers during a ceremony at SCDOT Headquarters on Aug. 26, 2022, to honor the two fallen employees.



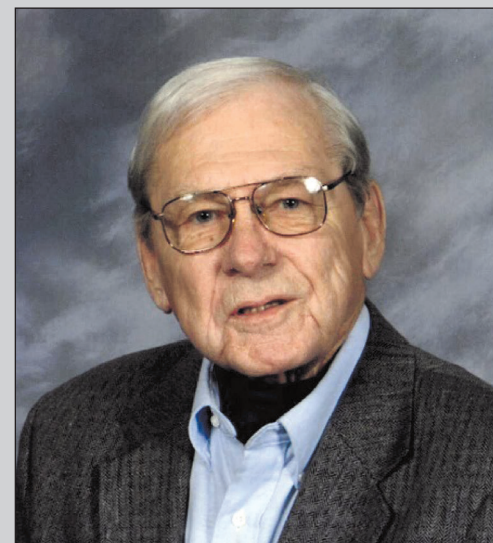
Long-time D7 Engineering Administrator Samuel ‘Dean’ Campbell passes away

Samuel Dean Campbell, 89, of Orangeburg, S.C., passed away peacefully at his home on Monday, Oct. 3, 2022. He was the husband of Rozanne Ayers Campbell for more than 62 years.

Campbell was born in Columbia, the son of Charles Dean Campbell and Lula Mae Bridges Campbell. After graduating from Orangeburg High School, he attended Clemson University and earned a degree in Civil Engineering. Following his service in the Korean War, he began his engineering career in Charleston. Shortly thereafter, he returned to Orangeburg and served as the District Engineering Administrator for SCDOT District 7 for more than 47 years.

Some of his past colleagues honored his memory with recollections of his influence and impact on District 7.

District Traffic Engineer **Ems Baskin** wrote: “Mr. C was a character, totally ‘old school.’ His influence on me was good and like a mentor. Although his directness scared many people, I came to appreciate, respect, and learn from it. He had an obvious wit and humor. While he was a tough boss, I learned much from him. I think he was a living example of loyalty, leadership, and no-nonsense devotion to his work. The district was molded and shaped to be high quality with lots of proud accomplishments under him more so than anyone I know. His long tenure in charge, of course, had some bearing on that. My favorite answers from him to questions about why we



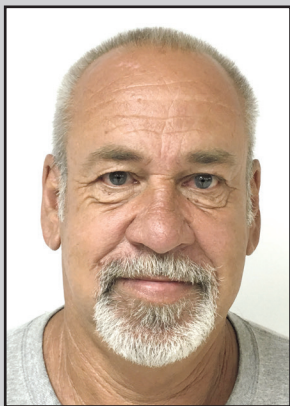
Dean Campbell

couldn’t do something on the job were ‘Nah’ with a chuckle, ‘When you get to be DEA then you can decide,’ and ‘Let’s vote on it’ knowing that he got 2 votes to your 1. Chewing on his cigar was his trademark.”

District Maintenance Engineer **Efrem Dantzler** commented on Campbell’s lean operating style and the fact that he was well known by everyone.

Campbell was a member of First Baptist Church where he served as a Deacon. He was predeceased by his parents, his brother Dr. Roy Campbell, his sister-in-law Robin Campbell and his brother-in-law Gelzer Sims.

DEATHS



Ronald K. Dunaway

Ronald Keith “Kebo” Dunaway, 62, SCDOT retiree from Waterloo, died July 29, 2022.



Lethaniel Gathers

Lethaniel Gathers, 52, of Charleston Maintenance, died Aug. 25, 2022.



Dennis Moore

Dennis “Bo Diddly” Moore, 65, of Richland Maintenance, died Aug. 24, 2022.



Shirley Fulmer Smith

Shirley Fulmer Smith, 74, SCDOT retiree from Gaston, died June 5, 2022.



Terry T. Smith

Terry Thomas Smith, 62, SCDOT retiree from Gaffney, died June 23, 2022.

Daniel Walter Blakely, 66, SCDOT retiree from Spartanburg, died Oct. 2, 2022.

Samuel Dean Campbell, 89, former District 7 Engineering Administrator, died Oct. 3, 2022.

Charles E. Vliet, 63, retiree from Isle of Palms, died Oct. 16, 2022.

Fred Earl “Ted” Walker, 84, a retiree from Greenwood, died Oct. 7, 2022.

William Oscar “Bud” Weathers, 90, a retired maintenance foreman from Bowman, died June 26, 2022.

VIEWPOINTS

**By Christy A. Hall
South Carolina Secretary
of Transportation**

As the year comes to a close, I want to take an opportunity to celebrate the things we have accomplished together and look towards the priorities for the future.

At a recent groundbreaking event, Governor Henry McMaster told the folks gathered that traffic cones are quickly becoming the state flower of South Carolina. That is what progress looks like. And that progress is because of your effort and commitment to our organization and this state.

We have seen unprecedented

levels of investment from our Governor and the General Assembly – this increase in funding allowed us to accelerate the I-26 and I-95 widening projects along with other widening and improvement projects on every interstate in South Carolina. We're paving the way for freight and distribution from the Port to the Upstate—strengthening the economy of South Carolina and making our state an even better place to live and work.

Our state leadership put their trust in us and we are going to deliver.

The pages of this Connector highlight just a few of the recent projects happening around the

state. We also implemented programs to improve customer service, speed up work orders and engage with our local communities. We're delivering on the Strategic 10-Year plan, and we're extending those priorities and values into everything we do. We must move toward execution to deliver on those promises.

We have a number of bridge replacement projects that are under construction or have been completed in the last year. That includes the Harbor River Bridge Replacement project in Beaufort County – a project selected for national recognition.

We recognize that our bridge system in South Carolina is rap-

idly aging. As many of the bridges in our network approach 60 and 70 years old or even older, SCDOT must continue and accelerate its focus on bridges in the coming year. We're targeting the worst issues first, but we know that we need improvements across the network, and we need to accelerate those improvements. We already have a robust inspection and inventory program. Now is the time to build on the work already done and strategically invest our resources to improve connectivity around the state.

We build things here – we build roads, we build bridges and we're building a better future, together. Thank you for all that you do.

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SCDOT Fall Litter Cleanup

SCDOT held its bi-annual litter pickup event on Nov. 29, 2022. SCDOT employees in every county across the state volunteered to pick up roadside litter as part of SCDOT's Fall Cleanup event.



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

Crews pickup litter along I-77 near Forest Drive in Columbia.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

Lexington Maintenance team members and volunteers from Headquarters remove litter from the center median of U.S. 321 near Gaston in Lexington County.