

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

RFQ #2025 -03

**Program Manager – Transportation Sales Tax
Program**



Advertised: March 17, 2025

RFQ Due: April 30, 2025

Jasper County, South Carolina
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Program Manager – Transportation Sales Tax Program

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Jasper County is soliciting responses from qualified engineering firms (“Offerors” or “Contractors”) licensed in South Carolina to provide Program Management and Civil Engineering related professional services as further described herein.

RFQ MUST BE PHYSICALLY RECEIVED, AS INDICATED BELOW, BY 3:00PM ON Wednesday, April 30, 2025.

Issue Request for Qualifications (RFQ)	March 17, 2025
Pre-Submittal Conference	April 9, 2025, 1 pm
Deadline for Inquires	April 11, 2025, 1 pm
Response to Inquiries	April 16, 2025
Deadline for Submitting Proposal	April 30, 2025, 1 pm

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

1. Pre-Submittal Conference

The County will conduct an in-person Non-Mandatory Pre-Submittal conference as part of this process to provide additional project information and expound upon potential questions. This conference will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 1:00 PM in Jasper County, Clementa Pinckney Government Building, County Council Chambers, Third Floor, 358 Third Avenue, Ridgeland, SC 29936.

Attendance is not mandatory, all interested firms are strongly encouraged to attend.

Any questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing via email no later than Friday April 11, 2025, by 1:00 PM. Questions should be emailed to jiwanicki@jaspercountysc.gov. All submitted questions will be addressed and posted on Jasper County’s Bids and Solicitations Web Page <https://www.jaspercountysc.gov/services/bids-and-solicitations> and the [Jasper County Vendor Registry website/](#) April 16, 2025.

2. Proposal Opening Location

The Proposals will be publicly opened at the Jasper County, Clementa Pinckney Government Building, County Council Chambers, Third Floor, 358 Third Avenue, Ridgeland, SC 29936. ***Proposals will be opened on the due date, Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 1:00 pm. Only the names of Offerors will be provided at the opening. No other information will be shared at that time.*** All Offerors or their representatives are invited to attend the proposal opening.

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3. Submittals

Jasper County is hereby issuing this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to firms that have the capability and interest in undertaking and performing the scope of work described in this RFQ. The RFQ is being publicly advertised in accordance with Jasper County procurement guidelines. Each firm responding to this solicitation is officially a RESPONDENT or PROPOSER. Each respondent must submit a sealed package containing original and eight (8) copies of the RFQ. In a separate sealed package original and two (2) copies of the Fee Schedule. All submissions will be logged in and date and time stamped.

Printed submittals must be clearly labeled on the outside of the envelope with the following wording:

- a. For the RFQ:
JASPER COUNTY RFQ #2025 – 03 March 17, 2025 RFQ DOCUMENTS
- b. For the Fee Schedule:
JASPER COUNTY RFQ #2025 – 03 March 17, 2025 Fee SCHEDULE

All late submittals will be rejected. Jasper County, South Carolina is not responsible for late submissions caused by delays in mail delivery or a delay in any other method of delivery. Print size shall be 12 pt. font minimum, on 8½ by 11 paper, double-sided and must include all of the information required in this RFQ. Provide a cover page that includes: Company Name, Address, Point of Contact (Email Address and Phone Number, and Date of Submission.

SUBMITTALS SHALL NOT EXCEED A TOTAL OF 75 PAGES. A PAGE IS CONSIDERED TO BE ONE SIDE OF A SHEET OF PAPER IF PRINTED. EXCEEDING THE PAGE LIMIT IS GROUNDS FOR REJECTION OF THE SUBMITTAL. The following **WILL NOT** be counted as pages:

- a. Front and/or back cover pages of your Qualifications document
- b. Table of Contents for your Qualifications document
- c. Section Dividers for your Qualifications document
- d. AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLIANCE document
- e. Fee Schedule/Proposal - Submitted Separately from the Qualifications

If you have any questions on the above page limit information email iiwanicki@jaspercountysc.gov .

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4. Proposed Procurement Timeline

Release date for RFQ	March 17, 2025
Pre-Submittal Conference	April 9, 2025
Final Date to Receive Written Questions	April 11, 2025
Addenda to Answer Questions	April 16, 2025
RFQ Closing Date	April 30, 2025
Completion of Selection Committee Review and Recommendation	May 21, 2025
Jasper County Council	June 2, 2025
Execution of Contract	June 16, 2025

5. Sealed and Marked

If sent by mail, or hand-delivered, original signed Proposals shall be submitted in a sealed package, clearly marked on the outside of the package with **RFP #2025 – 3 PROGRAM MANAGER** and addressed to:

Kimberly Burgess, Procurement Officer
Director, Administrative Services Division Jasper County
358 Third Avenue, Suite 304
P.O. Box 1149
Ridgeland, SC 29936

It is the proposer’s sole responsibility to deliver the proposal to the Jasper County Administrative Services Division Procurement Office for receipt on or before the due date and time indicated. If a Proposal is delivered by U.S. Mail, the Proposer shall be responsible for its timely delivery to the Procurement Office. Proposals delayed by mail shall not be considered and shall be rejected. Proposals may be mailed to the Procurement Office and accepted if the signed Proposal forms and required submittals are mailed and received prior to the due date and time. Proposals submitted via email will not be accepted. All submissions will be logged in and date and time stamped. ***Any Qualifications received after the date and time specified will be logged and date and time stamped as "late" and will remain unopened. and returned unopened to the respondent.***

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6. Legal Name and Signature

Proposals shall clearly indicate the legal name, address, and telephone number of the Proposer. Proposals shall be manually signed above the printed name and title of signer on the Affidavit of Compliance page. The signer shall have the authority to submit Proposals on behalf of the Proposer. Failure to properly sign the Proposals form shall invalidate the Proposals and it shall not be considered for award.

7. Clarification and Addenda

Each Proposer shall examine REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS documents. The Administrative Services Division, Procurement Officer shall not be responsible for interpretations or clarifications of **Project Scope**.

All inquiries or suggestions, concerning interpretation, clarification, or additional information pertaining to the **Project Scope** shall be made in writing or through email to:

Jim Iwanicki, Engineering Services Director
Jasper County
623 Live Oak Drive
P.O. Box 1244
Ridgeland, SC 29936
jiwanicki@jaspercountysc.gov

Any inquiries or suggestions, concerning clarification of the REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (**excluding Project Scope**) shall be made through the Procurement Officer in writing or through email to:

Kimberly Burgess, Procurement Officer
Director, Administrative Services Jasper County
358 Third Avenue, Suite 304
P.O. Box 1149
Ridgeland, SC 29936
kburgess@jaspercountysc.gov

8. Responsive and Responsible Proposals

To be responsive, the proposal shall conform in all material respects to the requirements set forth in the REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS. To be responsible, the proposal shall perform fully the requirements, experience, reliability, capacity, and equipment that will ensure good faith performance.

9. Reserved Rights

Jasper County reserves the right to make such investigations as it deems necessary to make the determination of the proposer's responsiveness and responsibility.

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10. Applicable Law

All applicable laws and regulations of the United States of America, the State of South Carolina and Jasper County will apply to any resulting agreement, contract, or purchase.

11. Right to Protest

Appeals and remedies are provided for in the Jasper County Purchasing and Contracting Ordinance, Article V, Jasper County Code of Ordinances.

12. Contract Forms

Any agreement, contract, or purchase order resulting from the acceptance of a Proposal shall be on forms either supplied by or approved by the Jasper County Procurement Officer.

13. Forms, Alternates, Variances

Proposals must be submitted on the attached REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS forms, although additional information may be attached. The Offerors must indicate any variance from the requested scope of services and/or terms and conditions, on the RFQ Affidavit of Compliance. Otherwise, Offerors must fully comply with the requested Scope of Services, terms and conditions. Alternate Proposals may or may not be considered at the sole discretion of Jasper County.

14. Proposal Prices

Provide an Hourly Rate Schedule for each billable title within the firm, mark-up costs for subconsultants, vendors, and suppliers, etc., and a schedule of reimbursable costs and rates. Each item must be proposed separately, and no attempt is to be made to tie any item(s) in with any other item or items.

15. Descriptive Information

All equipment, materials, and articles incorporated in the product/work covered by this REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS are to be new and of suitable grade for the purpose intended.

16. Deviations to Scope of Work and Requirements

Any deviation from the scope of work as written and accepted by the County may be grounds for termination of the Contract.

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Quality

If any work product delivered does not meet applicable scope of work, or if the work product does not meet industry standard performance and professionalism, the Contractor shall redo the work at no expense to Jasper County. Contractor shall refund to the County any money which has been paid to the Contractor for any work not redone to meet industry standards and professionalism. The Contractor shall be responsible for attorney fees in the event the Contractor defaults and court action is required.

The County reserves the right to reject any or all materials/equipment if, in its judgement, the item reflects unsatisfactory workmanship, manufacturing, or shipping damages.

17. Regulations

It shall be the responsibility of the Consultant to ensure compliance with Federal, State of South Carolina, and County laws, rules, regulations, or other requirements, as may apply.

18. Termination of Award

Failure of the Consultant to satisfy the requirements of Jasper County shall be reason for termination of the award. Any Proposal may be rejected in whole or in part for good cause when in the best interest of the County.

19. Royalties and Patents

The successful Consultant shall pay all royalties and license fees for equipment or process in conjunction with the equipment being furnished. Consultant shall defend all suits or claims for infringement of any patent right and shall hold the County harmless from loss on account or cost and attorney's fees incurred.

20. Inspection and Acceptance

No item(s) received by the County pursuant to this contract shall be deemed accepted until the County has had reasonable opportunity to inspect the item(s). Any item(s) discovered defective, or which do not conform to any warranty of the seller upon inspection may be returned at the seller's expense for full credit or replacement.

If later, defects are discovered which were not ascertainable upon the initial inspection, the item(s) may also be returned at the Seller's expense for full credit or replacement. The County's return of defective items shall not exclude any other legal, equitable or contractual remedies the County may have.

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III. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Exceptions to Specification

Offerors taking exception to any part or section of the specifications shall indicate such exceptions on the Affidavit of Compliance Form and continuation page(s), if necessary. Failure to indicate exceptions shall be interpreted as the Proposer's intent to fully comply with the specifications as written.

2. Evaluation of Proposals

Any Purchase Order or Purchase Sales Agreement resulting from this REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS shall be awarded to the PROPOSER providing the best proposal as determined by Jasper County, South Carolina.

AWARD WILL NOT BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF PRICE.

The committee will have representatives from the County, City of Hardeeville, Town of Ridgeland, and Jasper County School District.

Responses will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- A. **Qualifications, Abilities, and Experience of Key Personnel (35%)** - Each firm will be evaluated on the experience and qualifications of the key personnel that will be assigned to the Program Management Team.
- B. **Experience of the Firm and References (35%)** - Each firm shall be evaluated on its demonstrated capabilities and experience to provide the desired services. Review will include but not be limited to past performance on similar types of work, quality of work, and adherence to schedules and other related factors. History of working with municipalities and other local governments will also be considered. Review will include review of any subcontractors specified in Offeror's submittal as well.
- C. **Succession Planning (20%)** – Each firm will be evaluated on its ability to provide quality service during a change in the Project Team's key personnel.
- D. **Proposal Quality (10%)** - Each firm will be evaluated on how the RFQ was put together and the readability of the document.

After initial scoring of the above criteria, the County reserves the right to select a short list of finalists for a presentation/interview. Results of the interview process shall factor into the final scoring for contract award.

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3. Award

Each factor of the evaluation will be considered relative to obtaining the most effective plan consistent with the needs of the County.

4. Product Liability Insurance

The successful proposal will supply proof of professional liability insurance and workers compensation.

IV. SCOPE OF SERVICES

1. Project Purpose

Jasper County voters passed a transportation sales tax referendum ~~that passed~~ in November 2024. The County seek proposals from firms qualified to provide program and financial management, project management, project planning, scoping, conceptual design, utility coordination, and preliminary right-of-way coordination for **Transportation Projects** for the proposed 2024 1% Transportation Sales and Use Tax and for civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives** identified in this RFQ. The sales tax program is included as an attachment. Responses to the solicitation for Program Management should be consider the following:

- The firm selected for Program Management will be excluded from working as the design engineer for any design contract awarded through the sales tax program.
- Selected Program Manager may be able to perform construction management and CEI services for projects under the sales tax program.

2. Scope of Work

Task 1 – Project Management Services

- Assist the County in obtaining Local Public Agency (LPA) status with South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT).
- Act as an extension of County staff and provide all the needed services to the County to comply with SCDOT’s LPA requirements.
- Coordinate, manage, and review project plans, technical reports, specifications, and estimates prepared by consultants providing professional services to the County for consistency with contract budgets, schedules, scope of work, design criteria, and applicable standards. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Prepare independent estimates for professional services and assist the County with scope and fee negotiations with project design consultants also to include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Review project design consultant invoices for accuracy, compliance with

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contract terms, and progress of the work. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.

- Conduct meetings, monitor design progress, and keep the County informed of each project’s status. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Ensure compliance with SCDOT LPA procedures for projects involving state and/or federal funds.
- Ensure that all necessary permits and environmental approvals are obtained prior to letting a project for construction. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Ensure that all rights and easements necessary for the project are acquired prior to the construction letting. This would include civil site improvement associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Ensure that all utility coordination activities necessary to facilitate project construction have been performed prior to the construction letting. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Responsible for overseeing the preparation of construction bid documents. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Conduct pre-bid meetings, review bids, and advise the County through selection and contract award. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Review and maintain project related correspondence and files. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Coordinate value engineering studies and recommendations. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Perform technical, constructability, and maintainability reviews, including life cycle costs, accessibility, equipment clearances, etc. This would include civil site improvement associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Coordinate with municipalities, environmental agencies, and other project stakeholders as applicable to secure necessary approvals and permits. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Perform public outreach activities including public meeting facilitation, mailer and handout design, coordinate response to public comments and meetings, or as required. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.

Task 2 – Program & Financial Management

- Provide a written monthly Program Status Report for County staff and Council due by 12:01p.m. local time on the 15th of each month.
- Attend all meetings associated with the program as directed by the County.
- Provide quarterly financial reports to include revenues, encumbrances, and expenditures.

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- Develop and maintain a Program Financial Plan to forecast Program revenues, project expenditures, and cash balances. The financial plan shall be in accordance with the CIP and the Consultant will participate in the County’s annual CIP planning process. Revenue and cash reports will be County driven and maintained.
- Provide the County with recommendations for the timing and amount of bond issuances based upon the Program Financial Plan.
- Develop and maintain cost loaded schedules for the design, right of way acquisition, permitting, and construction for all projects within the program.
- Develop and implement a project filing system that provides readily accessible, complete, and well-organized files.
- Review and recommend methods to maximize efficiency and achieve economies of scale in the procurement of projects.
- Develop consistent design criteria, standards, and specifications for use on projects developed by the Program.
- Investigate and pursue available grant opportunities on behalf of the County.
- Develop and implement a public involvement program which should include, at a minimum, a Program website hosted and maintained by the Consultant with a link to the County’s web site, and use of social media to provide accurate, up to date project information to the citizens of Jasper County. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.
- Assist with document production related to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and other requests for information as applicable.
- Assist with the development of encroachment permits, intergovernmental agreements (IGA), memorandums of understanding (MOU), memorandums of agreement (MOA) and financial participation agreement (FPA) to facilitate coordination with the SCDOT, South Carolina State Infrastructure Bank (SCTIB) and other applicable parties as needed.
- Determine a method to evaluate project risk and cost, conduct risk analysis as needed, and make recommendations based on analysis.
- Conduct bid analysis/evaluation of bids or prepare cost estimates for comparison when appropriate. Provide “engineers estimate” when requested.
- Other items assigned by Jasper County.

Task 3 – Project Planning, Scoping, and Conceptual Design

- Establish the scope of improvements, cost estimates, and baseline cost-loaded schedules for each project including the following subtasks. This would include civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.

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A. Development of Conceptual Project Design

- Perform feasibility and initial constructability review of a conceptual design and scope of each project. Provide baseline costs and schedule, to include design, right-of-way, construction, utility coordination, utility relocation, and permitting.
- The conceptual designs shall be developed in accordance with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) Highway Design Manual and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) “A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets”.
- Conceptual designs shall be developed on aerial photography and available GIS. Design features to be illustrated shall include the proposed roadway typical sections, roadway alignments, lane configurations, auxiliary intersection turn lanes, and bicycle & pedestrian facilities. The conceptual designs shall be presented on color roll-plots for coordination with project stakeholders and on 11” x 17” size sheets for incorporation into a project planning report.
- Work to minimize impacts to private property, buildings, cultural features (churches, cemeteries, parks, etc.), major utilities, and natural resources in the development of the project conceptual designs. COUNTY GIS property lines shall be referenced into the conceptual design to estimate right of way impacts for each project. Impacts on buildings and cultural features shall be estimated from aerial photography and a project field review.
- Perform an environmental screening to determine the presence of likely hazardous material sites, threatened and endangered species, historical/cultural resources, floodplains, and jurisdictional wetlands within the project area. The presence of these environmental constraints will be determined through a windshield survey and database searches.
- Identify the expected permits and NEPA compliant environmental document (Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment, or Environmental Impact Statement) required for each project based on conceptual design and environmental screening.

B. Baseline Cost Estimates and Schedules

- Prepare a cost estimate for each project based on the conceptual project design. Project cost estimates shall represent the total cost of project development and include the following typical project costs:
 - Engineering services (planning and design),
 - Right of way acquisition (land and services),
 - Wetland mitigation,
 - Utility relocation (utilities with prior rights),
 - Construction,
 - Construction engineering & inspection.

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- Appropriate factors shall be applied in coordination with the COUNTY to provide for contingency within each project budget to address unforeseen conditions.
- Baseline schedules to be developed for each project shall include the project phases of planning and design, right of way acquisition, environmental permitting, utility coordination, construction procurement, and construction. Cost estimates associated with each of these project phases shall be used to create a cost loaded schedule for purposes of program financial planning.
- Evaluate projects through a cost-risk analysis to identify risks to the project scope or schedule which may significantly impact project cost. A cost-risk workshop will be conducted for each project to engage subject matter experts in a review of the projects to identify potential risks based on their experience with transportation project development in the area. The project cost estimate will be refined to account for the magnitude and likelihood of each identified risk.

C. Environmental Overview

- Prepare a Project Planning Report for each project to present the conceptual design, environmental overview, utility overview, cost estimate, and schedule. The reports shall contain the following information:
 - Draft Purpose and Need Statement,
 - Project Description,
 - Design Criteria,
 - Conceptual Design,
 - Project Location and Length,
 - Environmental Constraints
 - Identify the Required NEPA Environmental Document,
 - Identify the Required Environmental Permits,
 - Utility Information
 - Cost Estimate
 - Schedule
- These reports will be submitted to the County and SCDOT (if applicable) for review and comment. All comments will be addressed as applicable in a comment response matrix and revised final reports will be provided to the County.

D. Plan Review

- For projects on SCDOT roadways or within SCDOT ROW, the consultant shall conduct a cursory review prior to submittal to SCDOT. The review will ensure that plans satisfy SCDOT requirements and foreseeable errors are addressed. Detailed review of design and/or calculations will not be required.

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- For projects in the County or municipal system, the consultant will act as the County reviewer and will review for design, calculation, adherence to appropriate standards and specifications, and constructability.
- If plans require submittal to County planning or other departments for review, then the Consultant will facilitate and communicate as needed.

Task 4 – Utility Coordination Services

- Notify utility owners of the projects and identify those utilities with facilities in the project area.
- Facilitate and act as intermediary between project design team and utility representatives.
- Arrange for Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) to establish utility locations and identify conflicts.
- Obtain letters of “no-conflict” for those utilities which are not impacted.
- Coordinate with utility owner(s) and designer(s) to develop relocation plans for those conflicts which cannot be eliminated.
- Review all utility owners’ relocation plans to ensure that relocations proposed by one owner do not conflict with another’s relocation.
- Establish prior rights of occupancy.
- Obtain no-cost letters from those utility owners without prior rights or develop utility agreements with those owners who can document their prior rights.
- Evaluate the feasibility of in-contract utility relocation and develop necessary agreements in coordination with the utility owner.
- Monitor the progress of utility relocation and incorporate utility relocation schedules into the overall project schedule.

This would include Utility Coordination Services for civil site improvements associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.

Task 5 – Construction Administration

- Constructability reviews of plans and specifications prepared for projects prior to construction letting.
- Attend pre-construction conferences, routine construction coordination meetings, etc.
- Reviewing and maintaining records of plans, specifications, shop drawings, revisions, correspondence, warranties, etc.
- Monitor each construction project and prepare monthly status reports.
- Evaluating and recommending actions related to progress payments, change requests, claims, disputes, etc.
- Performing project close-out activities.
- Fostering and maintaining a positive public image related to construction operations by proper interaction with the public and media, maintenance of traffic, attention to safety, permit compliance, etc.

This would include Construction Administration for civil site improvements

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associated with the **Greenbelt Initiatives**.

3. Approved Projects

S-442 (Argent Boulevard) (from US 278 to SC 170): 4-lane divided or 5-lane widening with multi- use paths on both sides for approximately 3.8 miles and would be coordinated with the SC 170 Widening and Access Management project (\$57,000,000).

US 278 Corridor Phase 1 (Beaufort County Line to Argent Blvd): 6-lane road widening for approximate 1 mile (\$15,000,000).

US 278 Corridor Phase 2 (Argent Blvd to I-95): 6-lane road widening for approximately 4.75 miles with two bridges (approx. 360 LF and 90 LF) (\$50,000,000).

SC 46/SC 170/SC 315 Intersection Improvements and Widening: assume 1 mile widening with intersection improvements at SC 46 and SC 170 to potentially combine into 1 intersection (\$30,000,000).

US 17/US 321 Intersection Improvement: skewed intersection in Hardeeville and may contain complicated right of way acquisition, assumes existing bridge over railroad can remain (\$4,000,000).

US 17 Widening (SC 315 to SC 170): 4-lane divided widening for approximately 2 miles (\$24,000,000).

SC 315 Widening from SC 170/SC 46 intersection to US 17: 4-lane/5-lane widening for approximately 6 miles (\$41,500,000).

SC 336 Intersection Improvements (Grahamville Rd to SC 336): potential realignment of SC 336 for approximately 0.3 mile and potential for complicated R/W acquisition: (\$5,000,000).

I-95 Exit 18 Interchange with US 17, Bees Creek Road, and Glover Road Improvements: Upgraded interchange included with SCDOT I-95 project from MM 8 to MM 21. Project would include road improvements to US 17, Bees Creek Road, and Glover Road (\$12,000,000).

I-95 Exit 22 Connector (US 278 to Bees Creek Road): new road with potential new bridge over I-95, dependent upon alignment and SCDOT's improvements for Exit 22 for approximate 3 miles: (\$36,000,000).

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Glover Road (Bees Creek Road (S-13) to SC 462): Dirt road and paved road improvement – assume 2 lanes with R/W purchase for future widening (\$26,000,000).

US 278/SC 652 (Calf Pen Bay Road) Intersection Improvement: A traditional intersection improvement on US 278 has been installed with left turn lane and right turn onto SC 652, but improvements were not incorporated on SC 652. Turn lanes with improved intersection realignment should be considered or a roundabout should be installed as this could be a key intersection for traffic calming for entrance to Ridgeland: (\$2,000,000).

SC 462 (SC 170 to Snake Road): 4-lane divided or 5-lane widening for approximately 3 miles and safety improvements for approximately 5 miles (\$56,000,000).

US 17/Mackay Point Road Intersection: Realignment of S-27-37 to eliminate skewed intersection with Mackay Point Road and may involve improved access management on US 17, dependent on coordination with SCDOT, assume 0.6-mile realignment and intersection improvement: (\$5,000,000).

US 321/SC 336 Intersection Improvement: skewed intersection in Tillman (\$2,500,000).

Reconstruction of Levy Road: (\$10,000,000).

Greenbelt Initiatives: \$94,000,000 for financing greenbelt initiatives (including but not limited to, purchasing property for conservation, purchasing conservation easements, creating passive greenspace, creating active greenspace, protecting natural resources, protecting agricultural or heritage landscapes, and protecting scenic corridors).

Notes:

- Program Manager will be involved as noted with civil site improvement associated with the Greenbelt Initiatives.
- Appendix 1 includes location maps

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4. Initial Priorities:

Jasper County officials have met, and the preliminary unofficial roadway priorities are as follows:

S-442 (Argent Boulevard) (from US 278 to SC 170): 4-lane divided or 5-lane widening with multi- use paths on both sides for approximately 3.8 miles and would be coordinated with the SC 170 Widening and Access Management project (\$57,000,000).

US 278 Corridor Phase 1 (Beaufort County Line to Argent Blvd): 6-lane road widening for approximate 1 mile (\$15,000,000).

US 278 Corridor Phase 2 (Argent Blvd to I-95): 6-lane road widening for approximately 4.75 miles with two bridges (approx. 360 LF and 90 LF) (\$50,000,000).

I-95 Exit 18 Interchange with US 17, Bees Creek Road, and Glover Road Improvements: Upgraded interchange included with SCDOT I-95 project from MM 8 to MM 21. Project would include road improvements to US 17, Bees Creek Road, and Glover Road (\$12,000,000).

Reconstruction of Levy Road: (\$10,000,000).

SC 336 Intersection Improvements (Grahamville Rd to SC 336): potential realignment of SC 336 for approximately 0.3 mile and potential for complicated R/W acquisition: (\$5,000,000).

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V. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS AND FORMATTING

Offerors are REQUIRED to submit all requested information and/or documentation outlined in this section of the solicitation. Any Offeror failing to do so may have their response rejected as being non-responsive and making them ineligible for contract award. Offerors shall submit their responses in a format and sequence that follows the section numbering and layout provided in this solicitation to assist the County in its evaluation of responses.

Offerors shall submit written qualifications which clearly demonstrate their ability to provide quality services in an effective manner.

The County desires a firm with a history of meeting or exceeding client expectations, providing effective communication between the client and the firm, a record of meeting schedules and deadlines, distinct knowledge of local sales tax programs, permitting requirements, a reputation as an effective steward of natural resources and the environment, prudent contract administration and project accounting, and a quality presentation of project deliverables.

Submittals shall include the following information, and should be arranged in labeled sections as follows:

QUALIFICATIONS:

Section A: Personnel Technical Competence/Qualifications

1. Project Team Organizational Chart:

Provide an organizational chart identifying team members who would be assigned to this contract (including sub-consultants). The organizational chart must include the name, role/position, and office location of each team member and subconsultant. A project team member may be responsible for more than one area. The offeror shall identify the following, at a minimum:

- Overall Project Manager(s)
- Key Financial Management Team Members
- Communication/Public Engagement Team Members
- Civil Engineering Team Members
- Environmental Team Members
- Right of Way Team Members
- Construction Administration Team Members

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2. Professional Resumes: Provide professional resumes of key project personnel proposed for this contract and detailed background information including:
 - Education;
 - Professional registrations and certifications, applicable to South Carolina;
 - Experience;
 - Years with firm;
 - Office location;
 - Specific role and responsibilities on past projects of this type;
 - Hourly billing rates (in a separate sealed envelope).
3. Firm Reserves: Description of available backup personnel, resources and their location.
4. Primary Point of Contact: Identify the Firm's Primary Point of Contact.
5. Organization of sub-consultants and personnel: Provide the name of any firm(s) and their personnel that will be providing sub-consulting services to your firm. Also include the services they will provide, their office location, and a contact name and phone number.

Section B: Background, Capabilities, Experience and Succession Planning

1. Range of Services: Provide a description of the full range of services the Firm provides. Provide the number of years in business and the location of the main office that will service the Town's account including the location of any sub-consultants.
2. Capabilities: Discuss the firm's unique qualifications, capabilities and methodologies that will be used for the Program Management of a Sales Tax Program.
3. Prior Experience: Provide a complete list with detailed descriptions including dollar value and time frame of the firm's experience on similar Sales tax Programs within the past 10 years. Specify the type of work performed, the Firm's Project Manager and personnel that worked on the referenced projects including their role. Include project photos, budget and schedule. Identify if the project was completed on time and on budget.

Jasper County, South Carolina
RFQ #2025 - 03
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4. **Prior Experience:** Provide experience, other than sales tax program experience, from South Carolina that will help show the Offerors capabilities in delivering a successful sales tax program. Include projects started no earlier than January 1, 2021. Also detail the firm’s experience working within Jasper County, if any within the same period.
5. **Succession Planning:** Describe how the firm will address internal succession planning so that as key personnel retire or move on from the company the County’s Program is not negatively affected. Also list any long-term municipal clients that have used the firm consistently (5 or more contracts) between January 1, 2014, and today. Include the number of contracts and a contact name phone number and email. Please note Section VII which states that if key team members identified in this RFQ are no longer available and/or not being used on this project the County reserves the right to terminate the contract.
6. **Project References:** Provide at least three (3) written references from Items 3, 4 and 5 above. Each reference shall provide a signed (electronic signatures are acceptable) written reference from the client contact. The reference shall include a short statement of satisfaction with the Offerors’ services as well as why, in their opinion, the project(s) were successful. The references shall include current e-mail and current phone number. The references shall come from sources outside Jasper County.
7. **Workload:** Provide a summary of current workload and workload projections. Present and anticipated workload of project team (please show in tabular format with each team member’s anticipated obligations depicted over the life of the project).
8. **List of litigation history of the firm and all subconsultants for the past 5 years.**

Section D: Scope of Work Approach

Discuss and provide insight into the Offerors approach to accomplish the Scope of Work. Please make sure to identify what would set the Offerors approach apart from others in the industry.

1. Project Management
2. Program & Financial Management
3. Project Planning, Scoping, and Conceptual Design
4. Utility Coordination
5. Construction Administration

Jasper County, South Carolina
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Section E: Forms and Information

AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLIANCE must be submitted.

Section F: Costs (Submitted As a Separate Document)

THIS SHALL BE SUBMITTED AS A SEPARATE DOCUMENT AND NOT INCLUDED WITH THE OTHER MATERIAL REQUESTED. Hourly rates will not be used in the evaluation of submittals but instead will form the basis for contract negotiations with the selected firm.

1. The Offeror shall submit a Billable Costs Document for their firm and all other firms listed in the RFQ. At a minimum the document shall have the following:
 - a. An Hourly Rate Schedule for each billable title within the firm.
 - b. Mark Up Costs for subconsultants, vendors, and suppliers, etc.
 - c. A schedule of reimbursable costs and rates. (i.e. travel, copies, mailing, etc.)

2. Once an initial hourly rate schedule is agreed upon, rates shall remain fixed for the first year of the resulting contract. After the first year, Contractor may request one (1) annual adjustment to the hourly rates to be effective on each anniversary of the contract, but such increase shall not exceed the most recently published Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), before seasonal adjustment as of sixty (60) days prior to the contract anniversary date. Any rate increase shall require a written contract amendment signed by both parties to become effective. If Contractor's request for an increase is made after the applicable contract anniversary date, such increase shall not be retroactive to the anniversary date and instead shall be effective as of the date of the signed contract amendment. Mark up cost and reimbursable cost once established shall not be changed for the life of the contract.

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Program Manager – Transportation Sales Tax Program

AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLIANCE (continued)

Telephone Number _____

Email _____

Federal Tax ID No. _____

DBE Vendor (Yes/No)

Minority Owned: _____

Women Owned: _____

Veteran Owned: _____

Date _____

ADDENDA

Proposer acknowledges receipt of the following addendum:

Addendum No. _____

Addendum No. _____

Addendum No. _____

Addendum No. _____

RETURN THIS PAGE

Jasper County, South Carolina
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Program Manager – Transportation Sales Tax Program

STATEMENT OF “NO PROPOSAL”

Return this page only if your company provides the products/services being requested and DECLINES to do so.

We, the undersigned, have declined to respond to the above REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS for Program Manager - Sales Tax Program for the following reasons:

- _____ Specifications too “Narrow”, geared to one brand or manufacturer (Please explain below).
- _____ Insufficient Time to Respond to REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
- _____ Unable to Meet Specifications
- _____ Specifications Unclear (Please explain below)
- _____ Other (Please explain below)

Remarks

Company Name _____

Address _____

Name and Title _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Jasper County, South Carolina
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Program Manager – Transportation Sales Tax Program

VI. CONTRACT AWARD

Contract award, as well as contract continuation of the contract in subsequent fiscal periods, is subject to availability of County funds. In the event that contract negotiations with the highest rated Offeror are unsuccessful, the County reserves the right to begin contract negotiations with next highest rated Offeror.

If a contract is awarded as result of this solicitation, such award shall be made to the most qualified respondent(s). In the event that contract negotiations with the most qualified respondent(s) are unsuccessful, the County reserves the right to begin contract negotiations with the next most qualified respondent(s).

VII. STANDARD CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Offeror acknowledges that a contract will need to be executed with terms and conditions acceptable to the County and the Offeror.

The Offeror agrees that terms and conditions provided in this RFQ, and in their response to the RFQ either in their entirety or relevant portions thereof, shall be included and become part of any resulting contract.

Please note that if the County determines that key team members identified in this RFQ are no longer available and/or not being used on this project the County reserves the right to terminate the contract.

The anticipated term of the resulting contract shall be five (5) years.

Jasper County, South Carolina
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Program Manager – Transportation Sales Tax Program

APPENDIX 1 – Maps



JASPER COUNTY Special Sales & Use Tax

Sample Ballot Questions



QUESTION 1

I approve a special sales and use tax in the amount of one percent (1%) to be imposed in Jasper County for not more than fifteen (15) years to fund the following projects:

Projects:

Project (1) Using eighty percent (80%) of the referenced tax for financing the costs of highways, roads, streets, bridges, and other transportation-related projects, including drainage facilities related thereto: \$376,000,000.

Project (2) Using twenty percent (20%) of the referenced tax for financing the costs of greenbelt projects (including but not limited to, purchasing property for conservation, purchasing conservation easements, creating passive greenspace, creating active greenspace, protecting natural resources, protecting agricultural or heritage landscapes, and protecting scenic corridors): \$94,000,000.

- YES, IN FAVOR OF THE QUESTION
- NO, OPPOSED TO THE QUESTION

Instructions to Voters:

All qualified electors desiring to vote in favor of levying the special sales and use tax shall vote "YES;" and

All qualified electors opposed to levying the special sales and use tax shall vote "NO."

QUESTION 2

I approve the issuance of not exceeding \$150,000,000 of general obligation bonds of Jasper County, payable from the special sales and use tax described in Question 1 above, maturing over a period not to exceed 15 years, to fund any of the projects from among the categories described in Question 1 above.

- YES, IN FAVOR OF THE QUESTION
- NO, OPPOSED TO THE QUESTION

Instructions to Voters:

All qualified electors desiring to vote in favor of the issuance of bonds for the stated purposes shall vote "YES;" and

all qualified electors opposed to the issuance of bonds for the stated purposes shall vote "NO."

ROAD REPAIR & GREENBELT (WATER & LAND PROTECTION)

Proposed Projects

ROADWAY CONSTRUCTION:

- S-442/Argent Blvd. (US 278 to SC 170) - \$57M
- US 278 Corridor Phase 1 - \$15M
- US 278 Corridor Phase 2 - \$50M
- Glover Road (Bees Creek Rd. (S-13) to SC 462) - \$26M
- SC 462 (SC 170 to Snake Rd.) - \$56M
- Levy Road (reconstruction) - \$10M

INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS:

- SC 46/SC 170/SC 315 (incl. widening) - \$30M
- US 17/US 321 - \$4M
- SC 336 (Grahamville Rd. to SC 336) - \$5M
- US 278/SC 652 - \$2M
- US 17/Mackay Point Rd. - \$5M
- US 321/SC 336 - \$2.5M

ROADWAY WIDENING:

- US 17 (SC 315 to SC 170) - \$24M
- SC 315 (SC 170/SC 46 to US 17) - \$41.5M

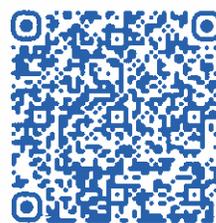
INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS:

- I-95 Exit 18 Interchange with US 17, Bees Creek Rd. and Glover Rd. Improvements - \$12M
- I-95 Exit 22 Connector (US 278 to Bees Creek Rd.) - \$36M

GREENBELT PROJECTS, WATER & LAND PROTECTION:

Including but not limited to land acquisition for conservation, purchasing conservation easements, creating passive and active greenspaces, and protecting natural resources, agricultural or heritage landscapes, and scenic corridors - \$94M

Citizens will be able to nominate projects for consideration. Example priorities include lands along the Savannah River, Broad River, connecting the ACE Basin to the Savannah Wildlife Refuge, and in the Euhaw District.



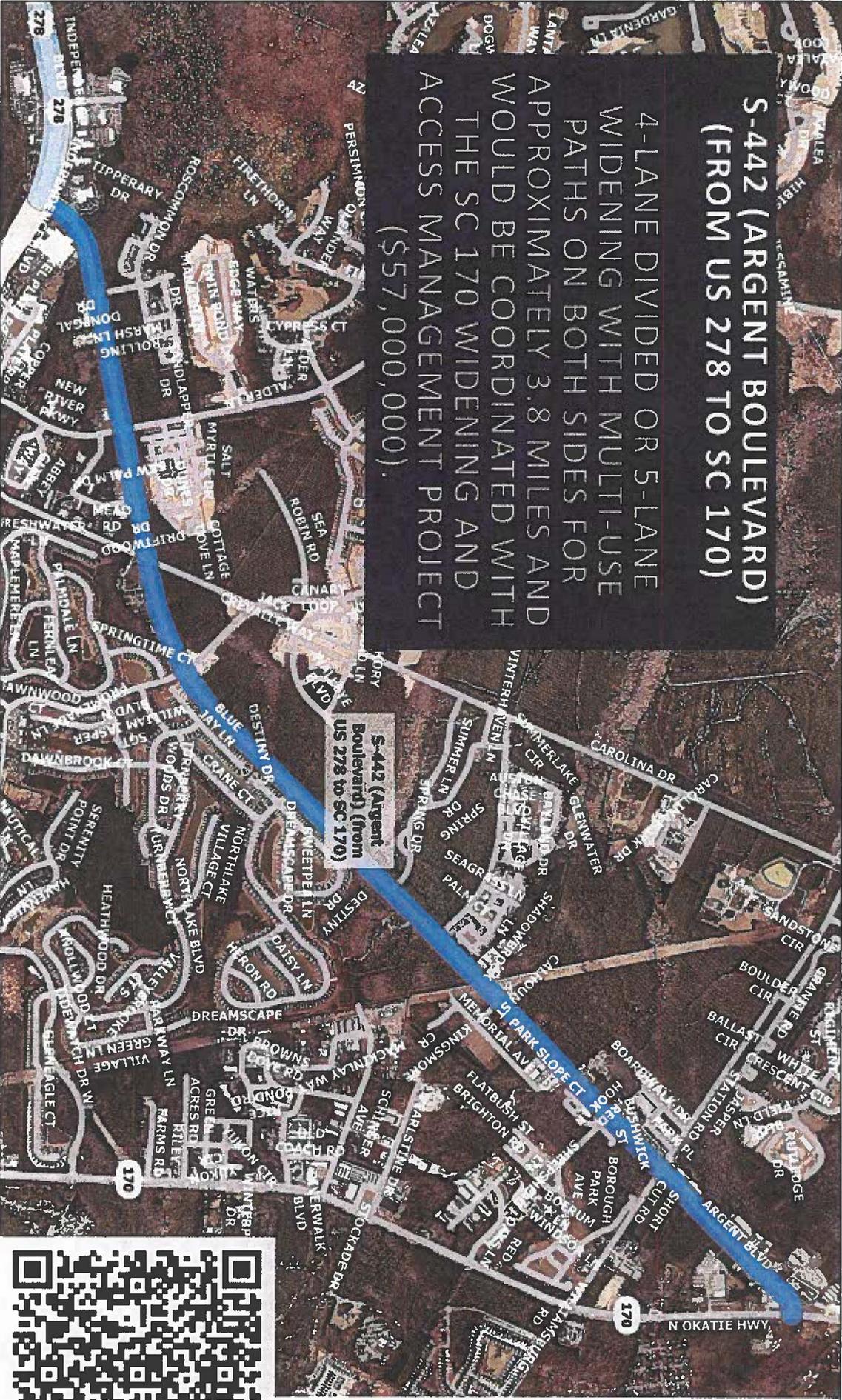
Want to learn more?

Scan here for additional project specific details, the prioritization process, and project oversight!

S-442 (ARGENT BOULEVARD) (FROM US 278 TO SC 170)

4-LANE DIVIDED OR 5-LANE
WIDENING WITH MULTI-USE
PATHS ON BOTH SIDES FOR
APPROXIMATELY 3.8 MILES AND
WOULD BE COORDINATED WITH
THE SC 170 WIDENING AND
ACCESS MANAGEMENT PROJECT
(\$57,000,000).

S-442 (Argent
Boulevard) (from
US 278 to SC 170)



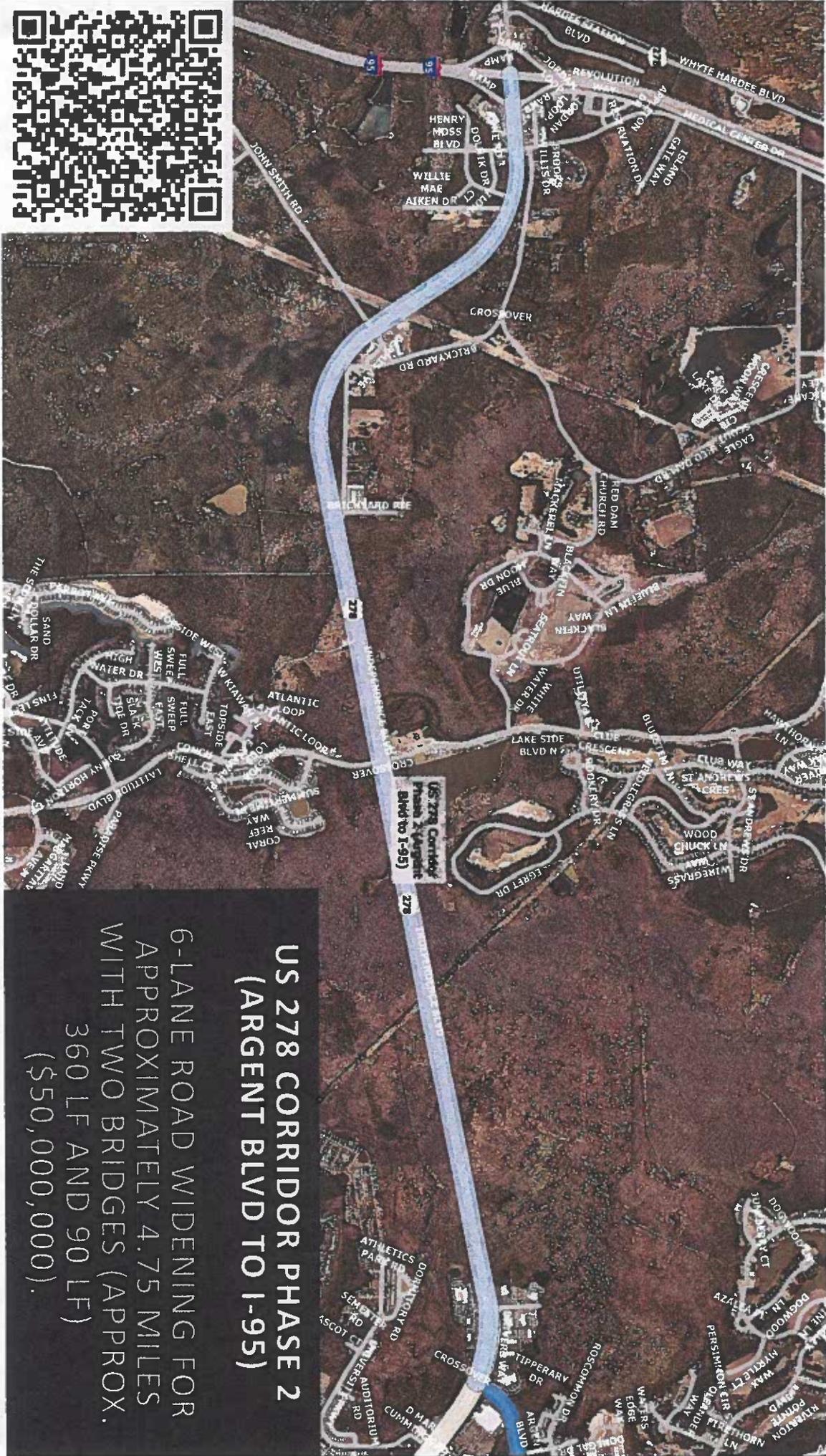
US 278 Corridor
Phase 2 (Argent
Bvd to I-95)

US 278 Corridor Phase
1 (Beaufort County
Line to Argent Blvd)

**US 278 CORRIDOR PHASE 1
(BEAUFORT COUNTY LINE TO
ARGENT BLVD)**

6-LANE ROAD WIDENING FOR
APPROXIMATE 1 MILE
(\$15,000,000).





**US 278 CORRIDOR PHASE 2
(ARGENT BLVD TO I-95)**

6-LANE ROAD WIDENING FOR
APPROXIMATELY 4.75 MILES
WITH TWO BRIDGES (APPROX.
360 LF AND 90 LF)
(\$50,000,000).



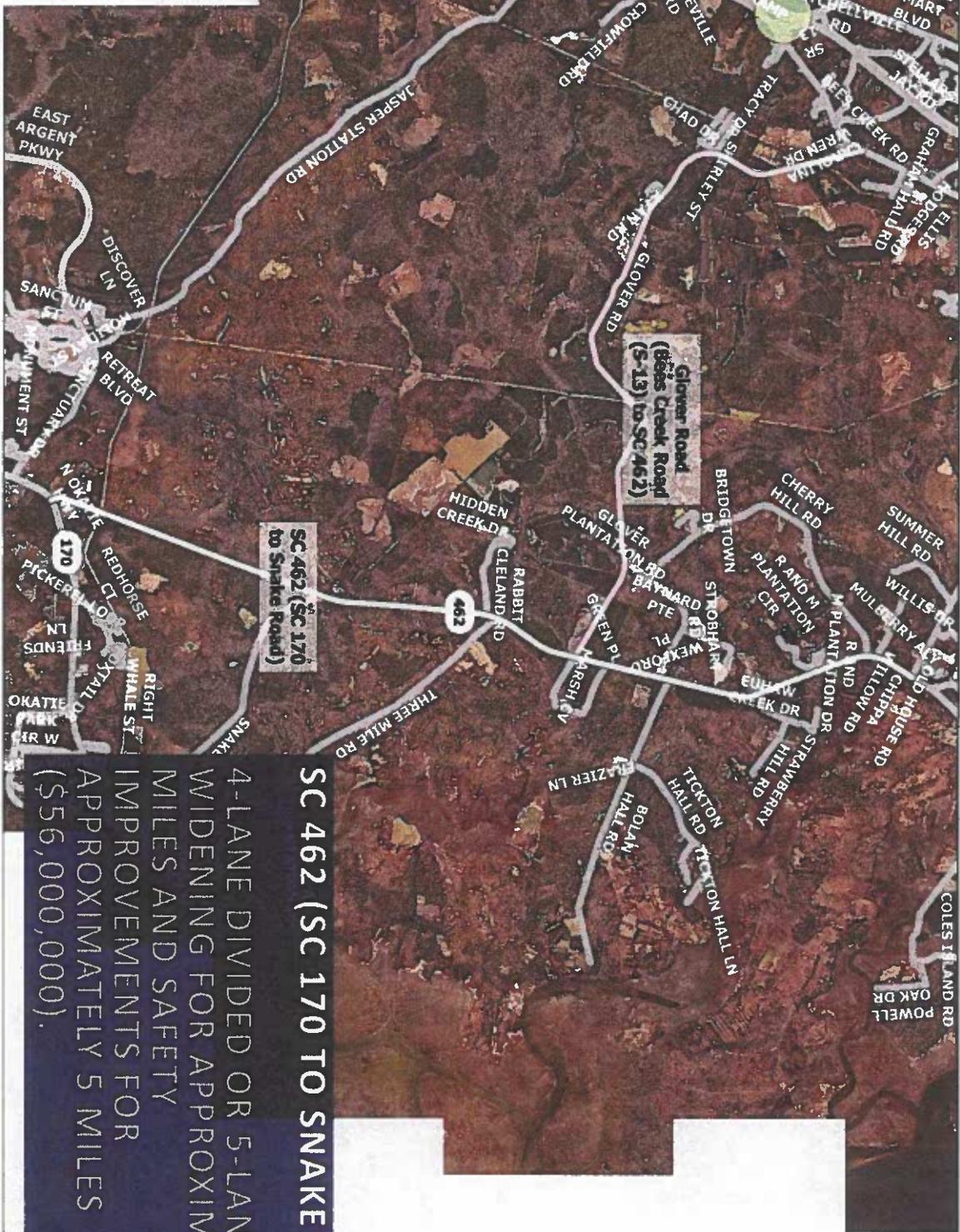
GLOVER ROAD (BEES CREEK ROAD (S-13) TO SC 462)

DIRT ROAD AND PAVED ROAD IMPROVEMENT – ASSUME 2 LANES WITH R/W PURCHASE FOR FUTURE WIDENING (\$26,000,000).

Glover Road (Bees Creek Road (S-13) to SC 462)

SC 462 (SC 170 to Spike Road)

SHIRLEY TRACT DR
 BEES CREEK RD
 GRAHAM HILLS
 BRIDGETOWN DR
 GLOVER RD
 GLOVER PLANTATION RD
 WEXFORD PL
 BANNARD PTE
 ST OBILIA RT RD
 GREEN PL
 MARSH CV
 462
 170



SC 462 (SC 170 TO SNAKE ROAD)

4-LANE DIVIDED OR 5-LANE
WIDENING FOR APPROXIMATELY 3
MILES AND SAFETY
IMPROVEMENTS FOR
APPROXIMATELY 5 MILES
(\$56,000,000).



US 17 Widening
(SC 315 to
SC 170)

Reconstruction
of Levy Road

**RECONSTRUCTION OF LEVY
ROAD**
(\$10,000,000)

SC 315 Widening
from SC 170/SC 46
Intersector to US 17



MUNGIN
CREEK RD

PIN TAIL
CREEK DR
WILLIAMS LN
PURYSBURG RD

RIVERPORT PKWY

EXCHANGE PL

17

17

170

SHADOWING
PINES RD
JAMES FORD LN
RAINTREE DR

BERKLEY
HALL RD

FOND
K

GRANT DR

RILEY RD

HONEYSUCKER RD

SHADOWING
PINES RD

JAMES FORD LN
RAINTREE DR

MELBONS CT

MARBLE RD

INDUSTRIAL
NORTH LOOP RD

MACEDONIA RD

SHERWOOD DR

PRINCE CT

MITCHELLS CT

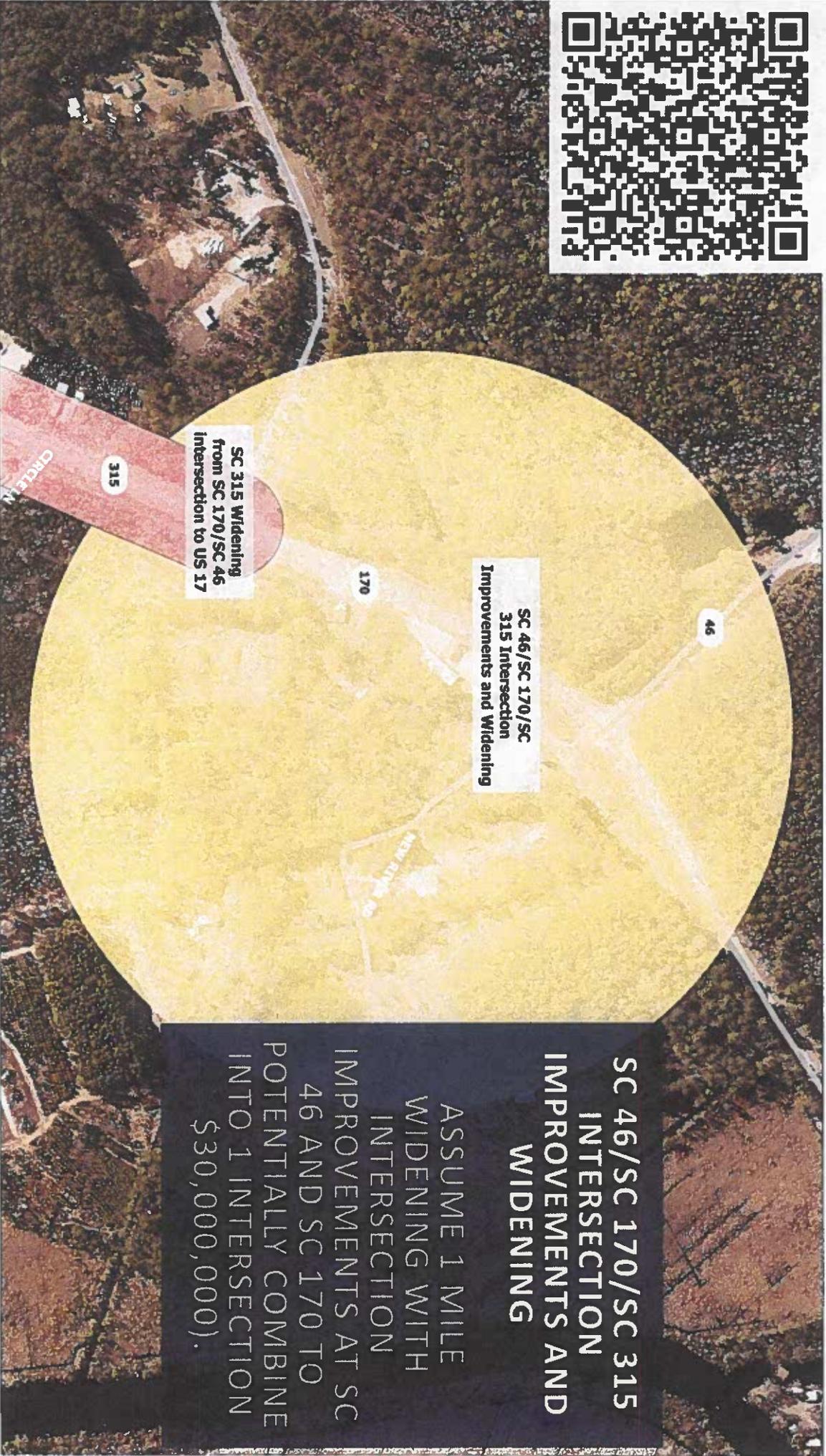
BO GATOR CT

CALLAJON
WAY

BREEZY
LN

BREEZY
LN

COOKS
INDIG RD



SC 46/SC 170/SC 315 Intersection Improvements and Widening

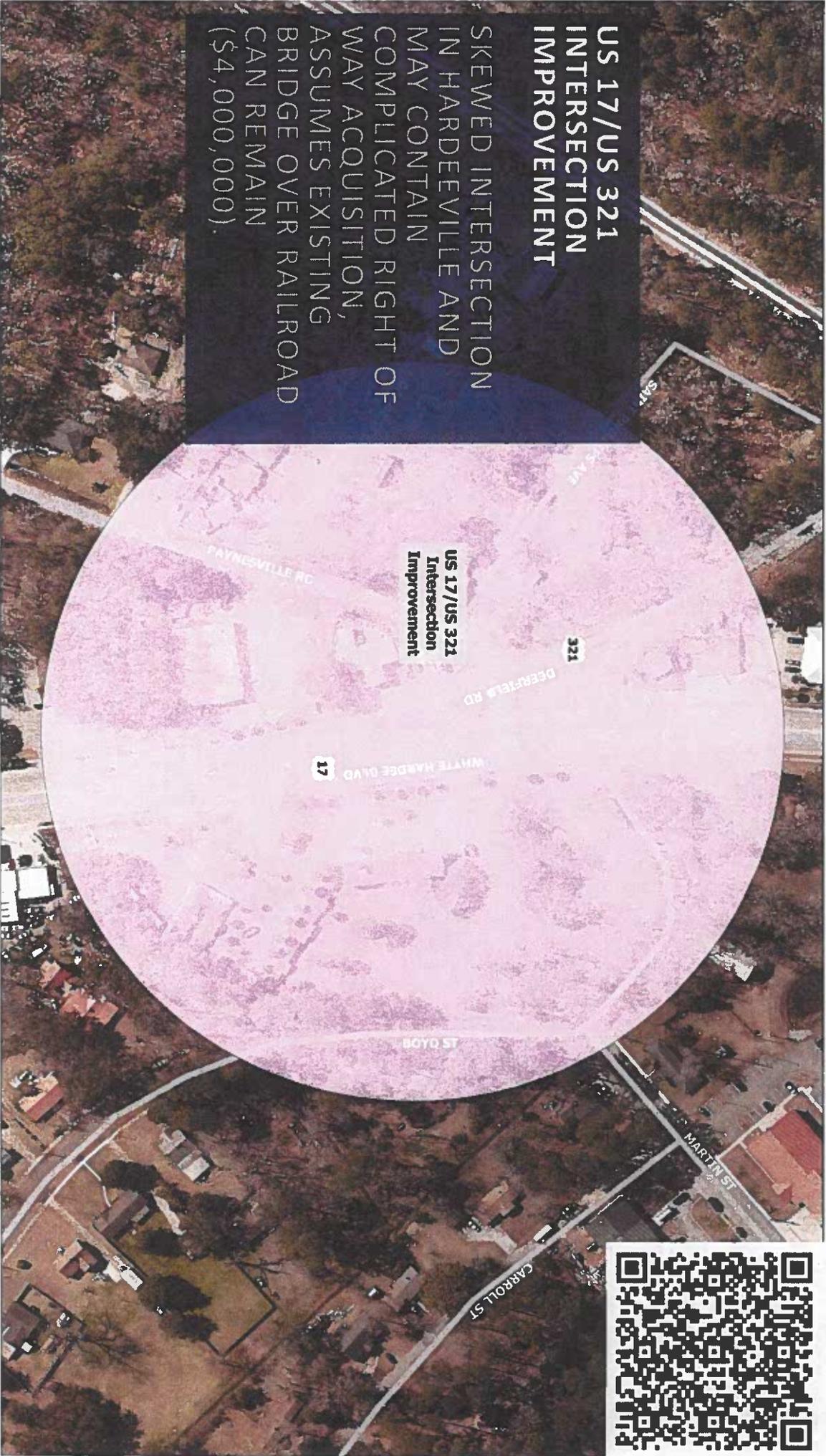
SC 315 Widening from SC 170/SC 46 Intersection to US 17

SC 46/SC 170/SC 315 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND WIDENING

ASSUME 1 MILE WIDENING WITH INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT SC 46 AND SC 170 TO POTENTIALLY COMBINE INTO 1 INTERSECTION (\$30,000,000).

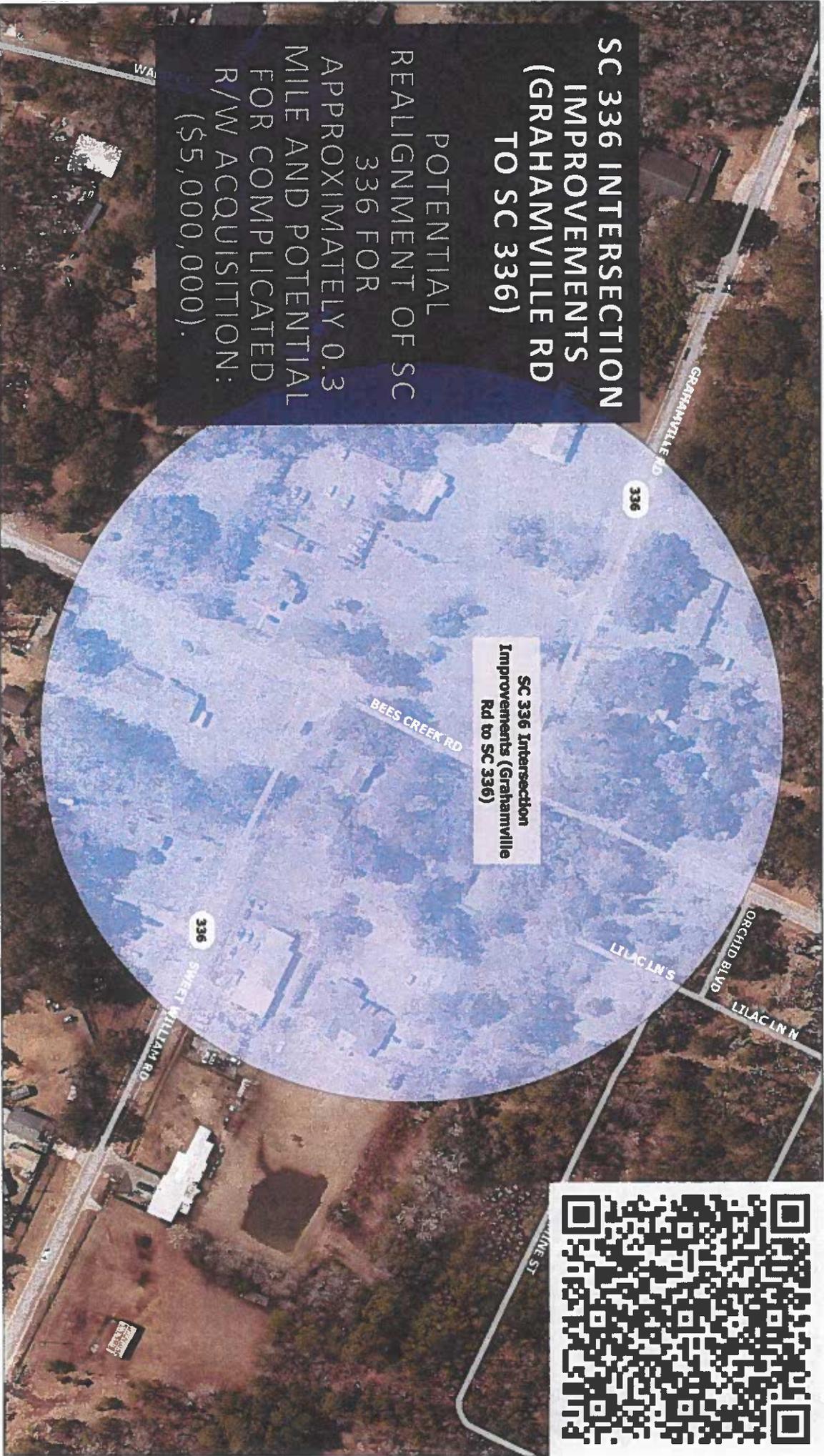
**US 17/US 321
INTERSECTION
IMPROVEMENT**

SKewed INTERSECTION
IN HARDEEVILLE AND
MAY CONTAIN
COMPLICATED RIGHT OF
WAY ACQUISITION,
ASSUMES EXISTING
BRIDGE OVER RAILROAD
CAN REMAIN
(\$4,000,000).



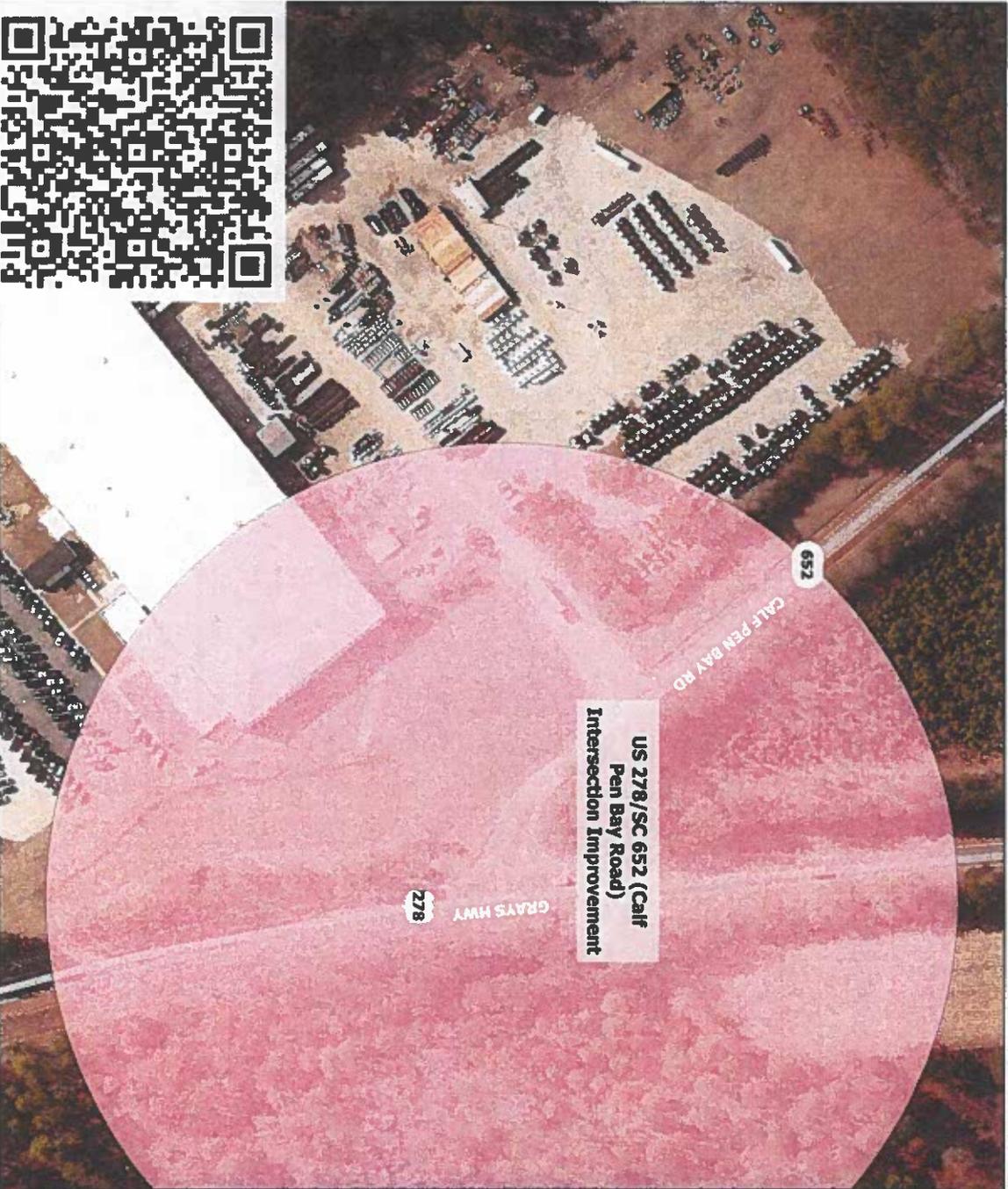
**SC 336 INTERSECTION
IMPROVEMENTS
(GRAHAMVILLE RD
TO SC 336)**

POTENTIAL
REALIGNMENT OF SC
336 FOR
APPROXIMATELY 0.3
MILE AND POTENTIAL
FOR COMPLICATED
R/W ACQUISITION:
(\$5,000,000).



**SC 336 Intersection
Improvements (Grahamville
Rd to SC 336)**





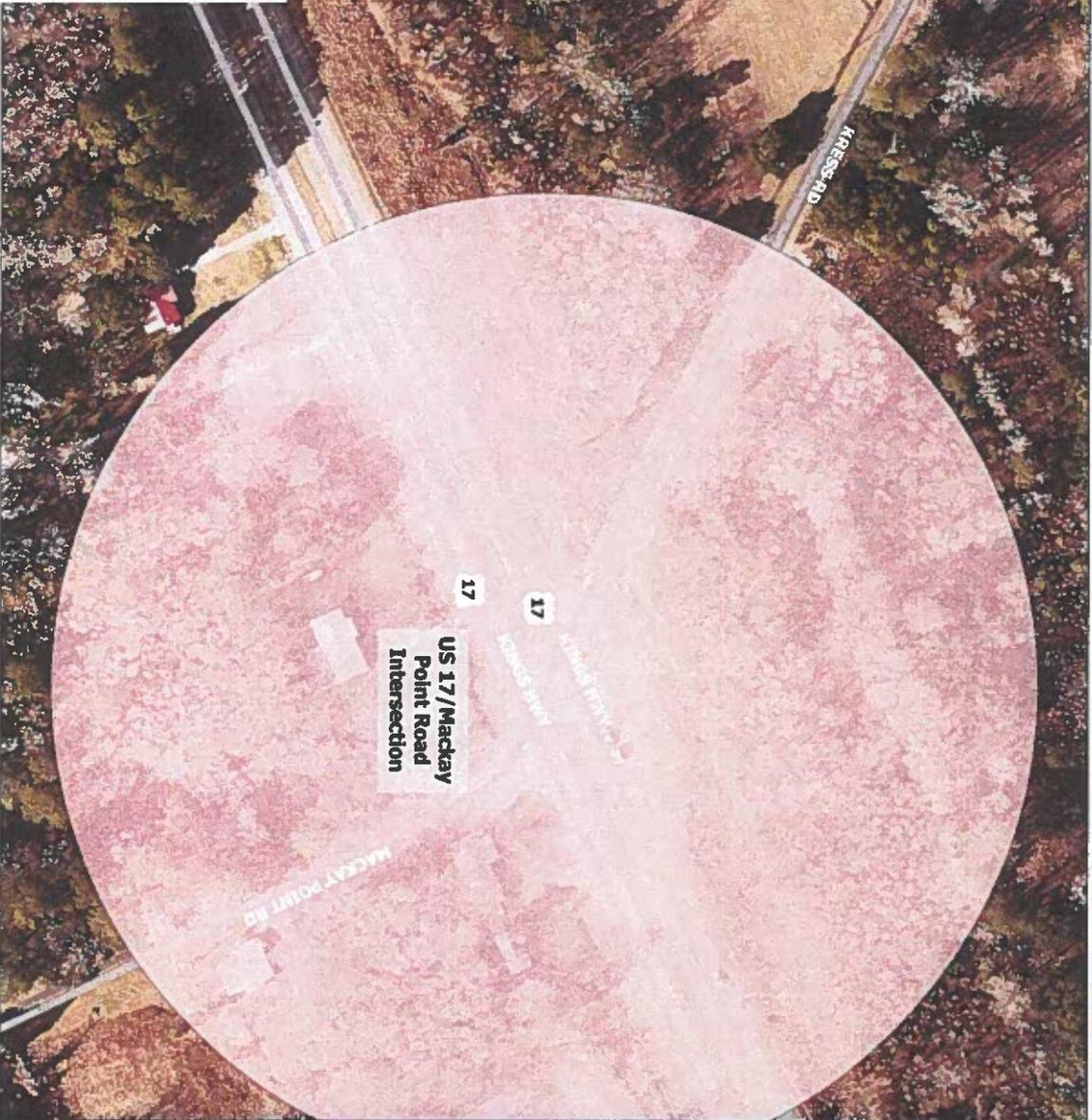
**US 278/SC 652 (Calif
Pen Bay Road)
Intersection Improvement**

US 278/SC 652 (CALIF PEN BAY ROAD) INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT

**A TRADITIONAL
INTERSECTION**

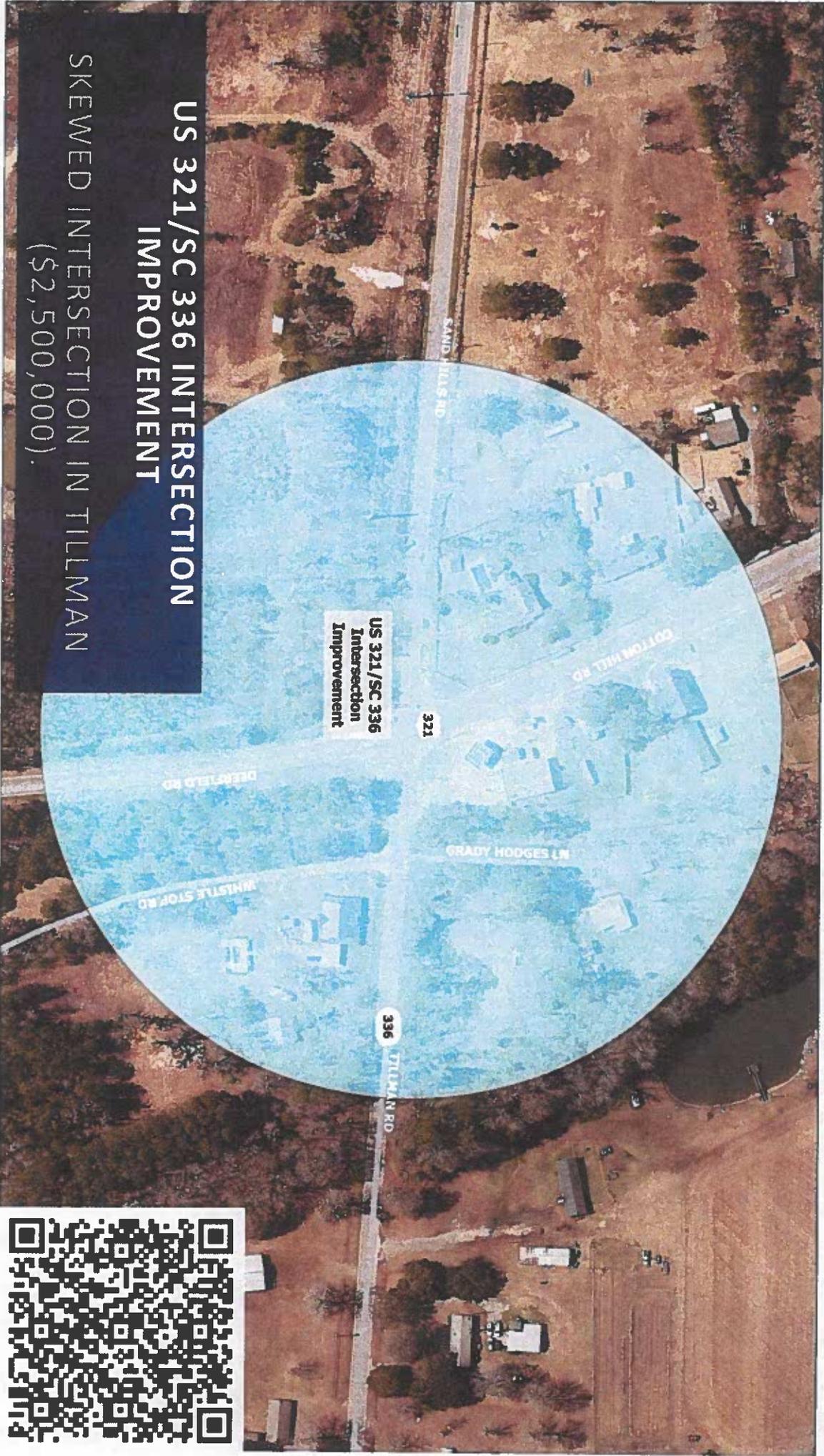
IMPROVEMENT ON US 278
HAS BEEN INSTALLED WITH
LEFT TURN LANE AND RIGHT
TURN ONTO SC 652, BUT
IMPROVEMENTS WERE NOT
INCORPORATED ON SC 652.

TURN LANES WITH
IMPROVED INTERSECTION
REALIGNMENT SHOULD BE
CONSIDERED OR A
ROUNDABOUT SHOULD BE
INSTALLED AS THIS COULD
BE A KEY INTERSECTION FOR
TRAFFIC CALMING FOR
ENTRANCE TO RIDGELAND:
(\$2,000,000).



US 17/MACKAY POINT ROAD INTERSECTION

REALIGNMENT OF
S-27-37 TO ELIMINATE
SKEWED
INTERSECTION WITH
MACKAY POINT ROAD
AND MAY INVOLVE
IMPROVED ACCESS
MANAGEMENT ON US
17, DEPENDENT ON
COORDINATION WITH
SCDOT, ASSUME 0.6-
MILE REALIGNMENT
AND INTERSECTION
IMPROVEMENT:
(\$5,000,000).



**US 321/SC 336 INTERSECTION
IMPROVEMENT**
SKEWED INTERSECTION IN TILLMAN
(\$2,500,000).





US 17 Widening (SC 315 to SC 170)

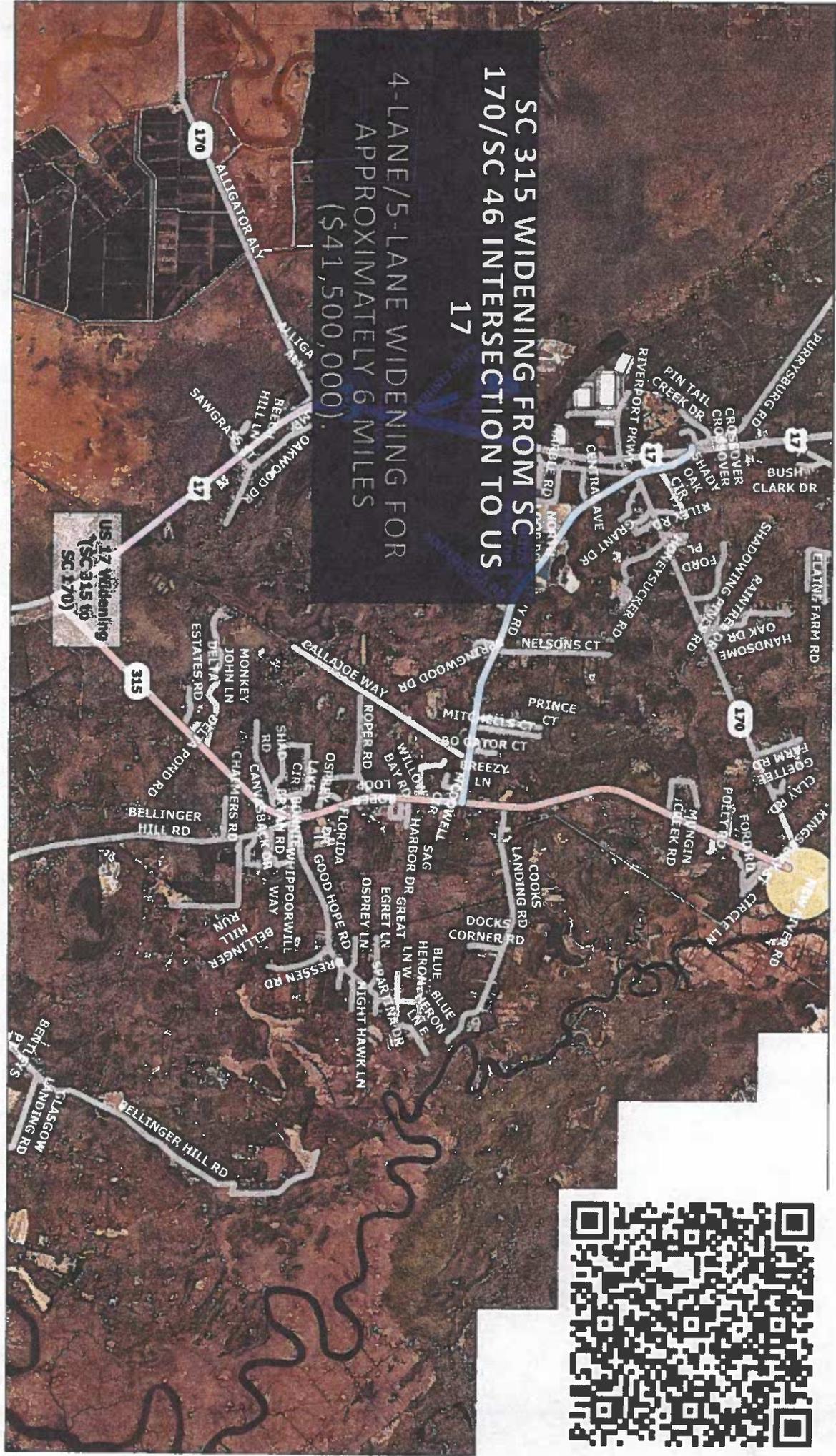
SC 315 Widening from SC 170/SC 46 Intersection to US 17

US 17 WIDENING (SC 315 TO SC 170)
4-LANE DIVIDED WIDENING FOR APPROXIMATELY 2 MILES (\$24,000,000)



SC 315 WIDENING FROM SC
170/SC 46 INTERSECTION TO US
17

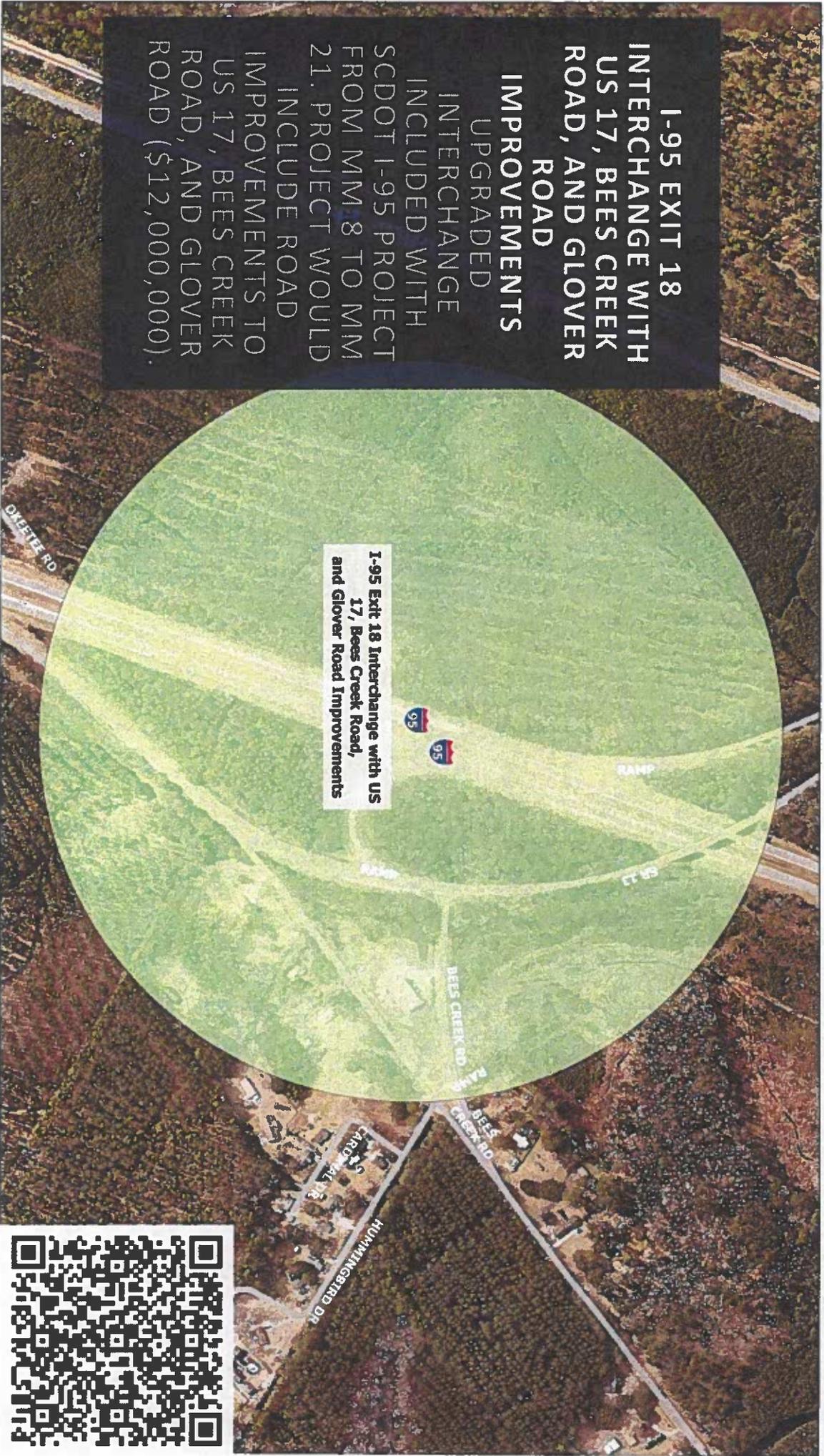
4-LANE/5-LANE WIDENING FOR
APPROXIMATELY 6 MILES
(\$41,500,000)



US 17 Widening
(SC 315 to
SC 170)



**I-95 EXIT 18
INTERCHANGE WITH
US 17, BEES CREEK
ROAD, AND GLOVER
ROAD
IMPROVEMENTS**
UPGRADED
INTERCHANGE
INCLUDED WITH
SCDOT I-95 PROJECT
FROM MM 8 TO MM
21. PROJECT WOULD
INCLUDE ROAD
IMPROVEMENTS TO
US 17, BEES CREEK
ROAD, AND GLOVER
ROAD (\$12,000,000).

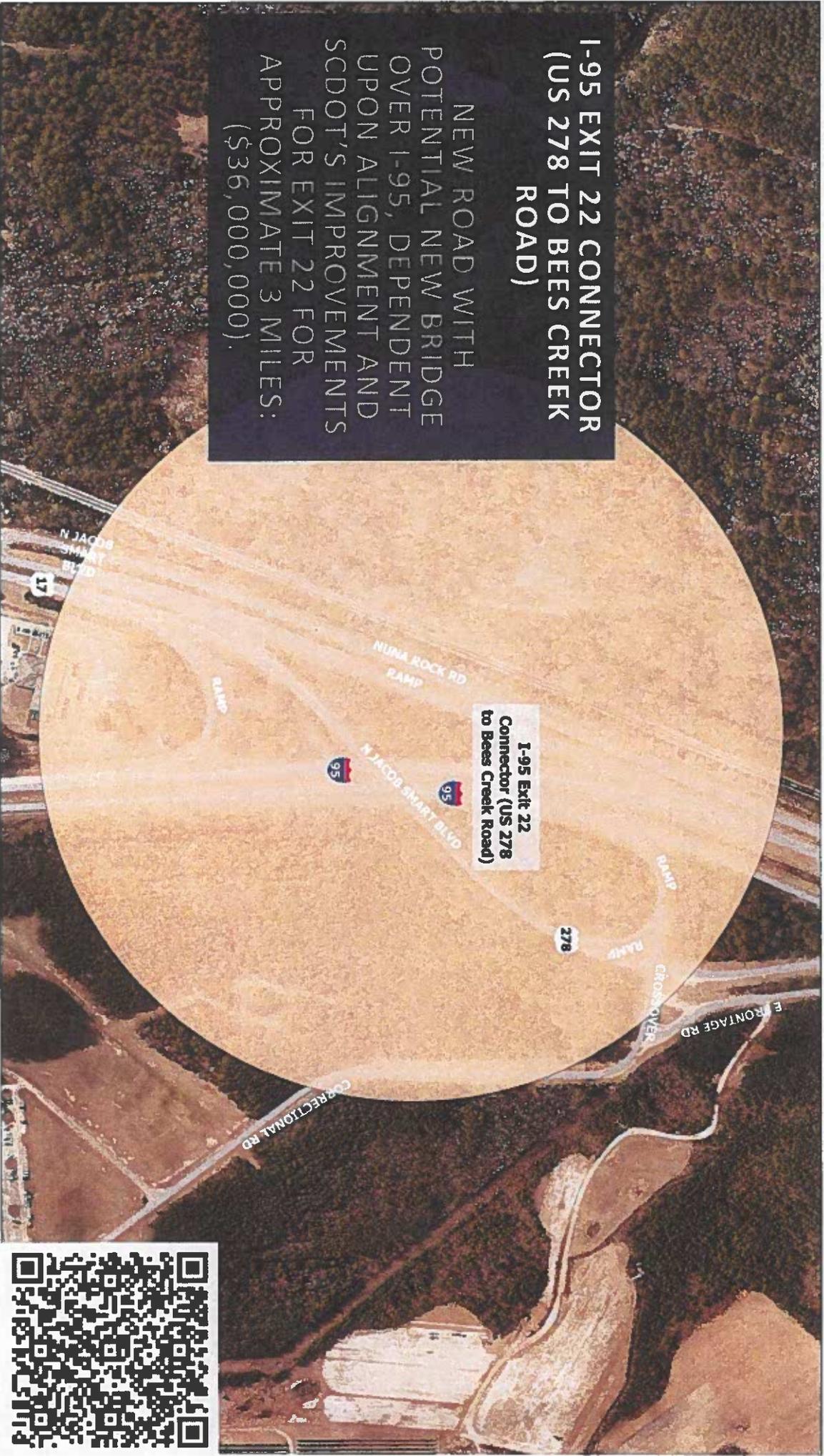


**I-95 Exit 18 Interchange with US
17, Bees Creek Road,
and Glover Road Improvements**



**I-95 EXIT 22 CONNECTOR
(US 278 TO BEES CREEK
ROAD)**

**NEW ROAD WITH
POTENTIAL NEW BRIDGE
OVER I-95, DEPENDENT
UPON ALIGNMENT AND
SCDOT'S IMPROVEMENTS
FOR EXIT 22 FOR
APPROXIMATE 3 MILES:
(\$36,000,000).**





GREENBELT INITIATIVES

\$94,000 FOR FINANCING GREENBELT INITIATIVES (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PURCHASING PROPERTY FOR CONSERVATION, PURCHASING CONSERVATION EASEMENTS, CREATING PASSIVE GREENSPACE, CREATING ACTIVE GREENSPACE, PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES, PROTECTING AGRICULTURAL OR HERITAGE LANDSCAPES, AND PROTECTING SCENIC CORRIDORS).



Jasper County, South Carolina
RFQ #2025 - 03
Program Manager – Transportation Sales Tax Program

APPENDIX 2- Ordinance #0-2024-16

This document Ordinance #**O-2024-16** is certified this 24th day of July, 2024 as a true and accurate copy of the records on file with the Clerk of Council's office for Jasper County, South Carolina

Wanda H. Giles

Wanda H. Giles, Clerk to Council

(Seal)



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
JASPER COUNTY



ORDINANCE #0-2024-16

ORDINANCE OF JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY AND IMPOSE A ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX, SUBJECT TO A REFERENDUM, WITHIN JASPER COUNTY PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-37-30 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED; TO DEFINE THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES AND DESIGNATE THE PROJECTS FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF THE TAX MAY BE USED; TO PROVIDE THE MAXIMUM TIME FOR WHICH SUCH TAX MAY BE IMPOSED; TO PROVIDE THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE PROJECTS FUNDED FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR A COUNTY-WIDE REFERENDUM ON THE IMPOSITION OF THE SALES AND USE TAX AND THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND TO PRESCRIBE THE CONTENTS OF THE BALLOT QUESTIONS IN THE REFERENDUM; TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE REFERENDUM BY THE BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS OF JASPER COUNTY; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TAX, IF APPROVED; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE TAX, IF APPROVED; AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF JASPER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED:

Section 1. Recitals and Legislative Findings. As an incident to the enactment of this Ordinance, the County Council of Jasper County, South Carolina (the "County Council") makes the following findings:

(a) The South Carolina General Assembly has enacted Section 4-37-30 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended (the "Act"), pursuant to which the county governing body may impose by ordinance a sales and use tax in an amount not to exceed one percent, subject to the favorable results of a referendum, within the county area for a specific purpose or purposes and for a limited amount of time to collect a limited amount of money.

(b) Pursuant to the terms of Section 4-37-10 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, the South Carolina General Assembly has authorized county government to finance the costs of highways, roads, streets and bridges, greenbelt initiatives, and other transportation related projects either alone or in conjunction with other governmental entities. As a means to furthering the powers granted to the County under the provisions of Section 4-9-30 and Sections 6-21-10, *et. seq* of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, the County Council is authorized to form a transportation authority or to enter into a partnership, consortium, or other contractual arrangement with one or more other governmental entities pursuant to Title 4,

Chapter 37 of the Code of Laws of the South Carolina 1976, as amended. The County Council has decided to provide funding for highways, roads, streets, bridges, greenbelts, and other transportation related projects without the complexity of a transportation authority or entering into a partnership, consortium, or other contractual arrangements with one or more other governmental entities at this time; provided that nothing herein shall preclude County Council from entering into partnerships, consortiums, or other contractual arrangements in the future. County Council may utilize such provisions in the future as necessary or convenient to promote the public purposes served by funding highways, roads, streets, bridges, greenbelts, and other transportation related facilities as provided in this Ordinance.

(c) The County Council finds that a one percent (1%) sales and use tax should be levied and imposed within Jasper County for the following projects and purposes (including use as the local match for other funds to finance):

(i) For financing the costs of highways, roads, streets, bridges, and other transportation-related projects and facilities related thereto, including, but not limited to, drainage facilities related to highways, roads, streets, bridges, and other transportation related projects; and

(ii) For financing the costs of greenbelt initiatives (including, but not limited to, purchasing property for conservation, purchasing conservation easements, creating passive greenspace, creating active greenspace, protecting natural resources, protecting agricultural or heritage landscapes, and protecting scenic corridors) (collectively with the above-described projects and facilities, the "Projects");

for a period not to exceed 15 years from the date of initial imposition of such tax, to fund the Projects at an estimated capital cost of \$470,000,000 to be funded from the net proceeds of a sales and use tax imposed in Jasper County pursuant to provisions of the Act, subject to approval of the qualified electors of Jasper County in referendum to be held on November 5, 2024. The imposition of the sales and use tax and the use of sales and use tax revenue, if approved in the referendum, shall be subject to the conditions precedent and conditions or restrictions on the use and expenditure of sales and use tax revenue established by the Act, the provisions of this Ordinance, and other applicable law. Subject to annual appropriations by County Council, sales and use tax revenues shall be used for the costs of the Projects established in this Ordinance, as it may be amended from time to time, including, without limitation, payment of administrative costs of the Projects, and such sums as may be required in connection with the issuance of bonds, the proceeds of which are applied to pay costs of the projects. All spending shall be subject to an annual independent audit to be made available to the public, and an advisory committee consisting of the County Council Chairperson, the Mayor of Hardeeville, the Mayor of the Town of Ridgeland and the Chairperson of the Jasper County School District, shall be formed and annually assess the projects proposed for construction, provide a recommendation to County Council for the ranking

of projects, and with the assistance of County staff, prepare a report of the progress on, and the status of each project for presentation to the local government councils. Any of the above listed committee members may designate an elected member of their council or board to serve in their stead.

(d) County Council finds that the imposition of a sales and use tax in Jasper County for the Projects and purposes defined in this Ordinance for a limited time not to exceed 15 (fifteen) years will serve a public purpose, provide funding for highways, roads, streets, bridges, greenbelts, and other transportation related projects, including, but not limited to, drainage facilities relating to the highways, roads, streets, bridges, and other transportation related projects, as provided in this Ordinance to facilitate economic development, promote public safety, provide needed infrastructure, promote desirable living conditions, enhance the quality of life in Jasper County, and promote public health and safety in the event of fire, emergency, and other dangers, and prepare the County Council to meet present and future needs of Jasper County and its citizens.

Section 2. Approval of Sales and Use Tax Subject to Referendum.

(a) A sales and use tax (the "Sales and Use Tax"), as authorized by the Act, is hereby imposed in Jasper County, South Carolina, subject to a favorable vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting in a referendum on the imposition of the tax to be held in Jasper County, South Carolina on November 5, 2024.

(b) The Sales and Use Tax shall be imposed for a period not to exceed fifteen (15) years from the date of imposition, ending on April 30, 2040.

(c) The estimated capital cost of the Projects to be funded from the proceeds of the Sales and Use Tax in the aggregate is the sum of \$470,000,000, and the maximum amount of net proceeds to be raised by the tax shall not exceed the greater of either the costs of the Projects or the cost to amortize all debts related to the Projects. The estimated principal amount of authorization of bonds to be issued to pay costs of the Projects and to be paid by all or a portion of the Sales and Use Tax is \$150,000,000. All proceeds of the Sale and Use Tax and any bonds payable therefrom shall be held by the County until County Council has approved the allocation and expenditure of funds for the Projects or portions of Projects as further identified below.

(d) The Sales and Use Tax shall be expended for the costs of the following described Projects, including payment of any sums as may be required for the issuance of and debt service for bonds, the proceeds of which are applied to pay costs of such Projects, for the following purposes:

(i) For financing the costs of highways, roads, streets, bridges, other transportation-related facilities and drainage facilities related thereto, and greenbelt initiatives (including, but not limited to, purchasing property for conservation, purchasing conservation easements, creating passive greenspace, creating active greenspace, protecting natural resources, protecting agricultural or heritage landscapes, and protecting scenic corridors), the following Projects at the estimated capital costs indicated, not to exceed in the aggregate \$470,000,000.00:

Projects and Estimated Capital Costs

S-442 (Argent Boulevard) (from US 278 to SC 170): 4-lane divided or 5-lane widening with multi-use paths on both sides for approximately 3.8 miles and would be coordinated with the SC 170 Widening and Access Management project (\$57,000,000).

US 278 Corridor Phase 1 (Beaufort County Line to Argent Blvd): 6-lane road widening for approximate 1 mile (\$15,000,000).

US 278 Corridor Phase 2 (Argent Blvd to I-95): 6-lane road widening for approximately 4.75 miles with two bridges (approx. 360 LF and 90 LF) (\$50,000,000).

SC 46/SC 170/SC 315 Intersection Improvements and Widening: assume 1 mile widening with intersection improvements at SC 46 and SC 170 to potentially combine into 1 intersection (\$30,000,000).

US 17/US 321 Intersection Improvement: skewed intersection in Hardeeville and may contain complicated right of way acquisition, assumes existing bridge over railroad can remain (\$4,000,000).

US 17 Widening (SC 315 to SC 170): 4-lane divided widening for approximately 2 miles (\$24,000,000).

SC 315 Widening from SC 170/SC 46 intersection to US 17: 4-lane/5-lane widening for approximately 6 miles (\$41,500,000).

SC 336 Intersection Improvements (Grahamville Rd to SC 336): potential realignment of SC 336 for approximately 0.3 mile and potential for complicated R/W acquisition: (\$5,000,000).

I-95 Exit 18 Interchange with US 17, Bees Creek Road, and Glover Road Improvements: Upgraded interchange included with SCDOT I-95 project from MM 8 to MM 21. Project would include road improvements to US 17, Bees Creek Road, and Glover Road (\$12,000,000).

I-95 Exit 22 Connector (US 278 to Bees Creek Road): new road with potential new bridge over I-95, dependent upon alignment and SCDOT's improvements for Exit 22 for approximate 3 miles: (\$36,000,000).

Glover Road (Bees Creek Road (S-13) to SC 462): Dirt road and paved road improvement – assume 2 lanes with R/W purchase for future widening (\$26,000,000).

US 278/SC 652 (Calf Pen Bay Road) Intersection Improvement: A traditional intersection improvement on US 278 has been installed with left turn lane and right turn onto SC 652, but improvements were not incorporated on SC 652. Turn lanes with improved intersection realignment should be considered or a roundabout should be installed as this could be a key intersection for traffic calming for entrance to Ridgeland: (\$2,000,000).

SC 462 (SC 170 to Snake Road): 4-lane divided or 5-lane widening for approximately 3 miles and safety improvements for approximately 5 miles (**\$56,000,000**).

US 17/Mackay Point Road Intersection: Realignment of S-27-37 to eliminate skewed intersection with Mackay Point Road and may involve improved access management on US 17, dependent on coordination with SCDOT, assume 0.6 mile realignment and intersection improvement: (**\$5,000,000**).

US 321/SC 336 Intersection Improvement: skewed intersection in Tillman (**\$2,500,000**).

Reconstruction of Levy Road: (**\$10,000,000**).

Greenbelt Initiatives: **\$94,000,000** for financing greenbelt initiatives (including but not limited to, purchasing property for conservation, purchasing conservation easements, creating passive greenspace, creating active greenspace, protecting natural resources, protecting agricultural or heritage landscapes, and protecting scenic corridors).

2.4 The Sales and Use Tax shall be expended for financing (including use as the local match for other funds to finance) the costs of highways, roads, streets, bridges, greenbelts, and other transportation-related projects facilities, and drainage facilities related thereto, including payment of any sums as may be required for the issuance of and debt service for bonds, the proceeds of which are applied to such projects.

2.5 If the Sales and Use Tax is approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting in a referendum to be held in Jasper County on November 5, 2024, the tax is to be imposed on the first day of May, 2025, provided the Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Jasper County shall certify the results not later than November 30, 2024, to Jasper County Council and the South Carolina Department of Revenue. Included in the certification must be the maximum cost of the Projects to be funded in whole or in part from the proceeds of the tax, the maximum time specified for the imposition of the tax, and the principal amount of initial authorization of bonds, if any, to be supported by a portion of the tax.

2.6 The Sales and Use Tax, if approved in the referendum conducted on November 5, 2024, shall terminate on the earlier of:

- (1) on April 30, 2040; or
- (2) the end of the calendar month during which the Department of Revenue determines that the tax has raised revenues sufficient to provide the greater of either the costs of the Projects as approved in the referendum or the cost to amortize all debts related to the approved Projects.

2.7 Amounts of Sales and Use Tax collected in excess of the required proceeds must first be applied, if necessary, to complete each Project for which the tax was imposed. Any

additional revenue collected above the specified amount must be applied to the reduction of debt principal of Jasper County on transportation infrastructure debts only.

2.8 The Sales and Use Tax must be administered and collected by the South Carolina Department of Revenue in the same manner that other sales and use taxes are collected. The Department may prescribe amounts that may be added to the sales price because of the tax.

2.9 The Sales and Use Tax is in addition to all other local sales and use taxes and applies to the gross proceeds of sales in the applicable area that is subject to the tax imposed by Chapter 36 of Title 12 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, and the enforcement provisions of Chapter 54 of Title 12 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina. The gross proceeds of the sale of items subject to a maximum tax in Chapter 36 of Title 12 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina are exempt from the tax imposed by this Ordinance. The gross proceeds of the sale of food lawfully purchased with United States Department of Agriculture Food Stamps are exempt from the tax imposed by this Ordinance. The tax imposed by this Ordinance also applies to tangible property subject to the use tax in Article 13, Chapter 36 of Title 12 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina.

2.10 Taxpayers required to remit taxes under Article 13, Chapter 36 of Title 12 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina must identify the county in which the personal property purchased at retail is stored, used, or consumed in this State.

2.11 Utilities are required to report sales in the county in which the consumption of the tangible personal property occurs.

2.12 A taxpayer subject to the tax imposed by §12-36-920 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, who owns or manages rental units in more than one county must report separately in his sales tax return the total gross proceeds from business done in each county.

2.13 The gross proceeds of sales of tangible personal property delivered after the imposition date of the Sales and Use Tax, either under the terms of a construction contract executed before the imposition date, or written bid submitted before the imposition date, culminating in a construction contract entered into before or after the imposition date, are exempt from the sales and use tax provided in this ordinance if a verified copy of the contract is filed with Department of Revenue within six months after the imposition date of the sales and use tax provided for in this Ordinance.

2.14 Notwithstanding the imposition date of the Sales and Use Tax with respect to services that are billed regularly on a monthly basis, the sales and use tax authorized pursuant to this ordinance is imposed beginning on the first day of the billing period beginning on or after the imposition date.

Section 3. Remission of Sales and Use Tax; Segregation of Funds; Administration of Funds; Distribution to Counties: Confidentially.

3.1 The revenues of the Sales and Use Tax collected under this Ordinance must be remitted to the State Treasurer and credited to a fund separate and distinct from the general fund

of the State. After deducting the amount of any refunds made and costs to the Department of Revenue of administering the tax, not to exceed one percent of such revenues, the State Treasurer shall distribute the revenues and all interest earned on the revenues on deposit with him quarterly to the Jasper County Treasurer and the revenues and interest earnings must be used only for the purposes stated herein. The State Treasurer may correct misallocations by adjusting later distributions, but these adjustments must be made in the same fiscal year as the misallocation. However, allocations made as a result of city or county code errors must be corrected prospectively.

3.2 The Department of Revenue shall furnish data to the State Treasurer and to the Jasper County Treasurer for the purpose of calculating distributions and estimating revenues. The information which must be supplied to the County upon request includes, but is not limited to, gross receipts, net taxable sales, and tax liability by taxpayers.

Section 4. Sales and Use Tax Referendum; Ballot Question.

4.1 The Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Jasper County shall conduct a referendum on the question of imposing the Sales and Use Tax in the area of Jasper County on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. under the election laws of the State of South Carolina, mutatis mutandis. The Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Jasper County shall publish the date and purpose of the referendum once a week for four consecutive weeks immediately preceding the date of the referendum in a newspaper of general circulation in Jasper County, and shall publish such additional election and other notices as are required by law.

4.2 The referendum question to be on the ballot of the referendum to be held in Jasper County on November 5, 2024, must read substantially as follows:

JASPER COUNTY SPECIAL SALES AND USE TAX

QUESTION 1

I approve a special sales and use tax in the amount of one percent (1%) to be imposed in Jasper County for not more than fifteen (15) years to fund the following projects:

Projects: Project (1) Using eighty percent (80%) of the referenced tax financing the costs of highways, roads, streets, bridges, and other transportation-related projects, including drainage facilities related thereto: \$376,000,000.

Project (2) Using twenty percent (20%) of the referenced tax for financing the costs of greenbelt projects (including but not limited to, purchasing property for conservation, purchasing conservation easements, creating passive greenspace, creating active greenspace, protecting natural resources, protecting agricultural or heritage landscapes, and protecting scenic corridors): \$94,000,000.

YES _____

NO _____

Instructions to Voters: All qualified electors desiring to vote in favor of levying the special sales and use tax shall vote "YES;" and

All qualified electors opposed to levying the special sales and use tax shall vote "NO."

QUESTION 2

I approve the issuance of not exceeding \$150,000,000 of general obligation bonds of Jasper County, payable from the special sales and use tax described in Question 1 above, maturing over a period not to exceed 15 years, to fund any of the projects from among the categories described in Question 1 above.

YES _____

NO _____

Instructions to Voters: All qualified electors desiring to vote in favor of the issuance of bonds for the stated purposes shall vote "YES;" and

All qualified electors opposed to the issuance of bonds for the stated purposes shall vote "NO."

4.3 In the referendum on the imposition of a special sales and use tax in Jasper County, all qualified electors desiring to vote in favor of imposing the tax for the stated purposes shall vote "yes" and all qualified electors opposed to levying the tax shall vote "no". If a majority of the

electors voting in the referendum shall vote in favor of imposing the tax, then the tax is imposed as provided in the Act and this Ordinance. Expenses of the referendum must be paid by Jasper County government.

4.4 In the referendum on the issuance of bonds, all qualified electors desiring to vote in favor of the issuance of bonds for the stated purpose shall vote "yes" and all qualified electors opposed to the issuance of bonds shall vote "no". If a majority of the electors voting in the referendum shall vote in favor of the issuance of bonds, then the issuance of bonds shall be authorized in accordance with S.C. Constitution Article X, Section 14, Paragraph (6). Expenses of the referendum must be paid by Jasper County government.

Section 5. Imposition of Tax Subject to Referendum.

The imposition of the Sales and Use Tax in Jasper County is subject in all respects to the favorable vote of a majority of qualified electors casting votes in a referendum on the question of imposing a sales and use tax in the area of Jasper County in a referendum to be conducted by the Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Jasper County on November 5, 2024, and the favorable vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting in such referendum shall be a condition precedent to the imposition of a sales and use tax pursuant to the provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 6. Miscellaneous.

(a) If any one or more of the provisions or portions hereof are determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to law, then that provision or portion shall be deemed severable from the remaining terms or portions hereof and the invalidity thereof shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this Ordinance; if any provisions of this Ordinance shall be held or deemed to be or shall, in fact, be inoperative or unenforceable or invalid as applied to any particular case in any jurisdiction or in all cases because it conflicts with any constitution or statute or rule of public policy, or for any other reason, those circumstances shall not have the effect of rendering the provision in question inoperative or unenforceable or invalid in any other case or circumstance, or of rendering any other provision or provisions herein contained inoperative or unenforceable or invalid to any extent whatever; provided, however, that the Sales and Use Tax may not be imposed without the favorable results of the referendum to be held on November 5, 2024.

(b) This Ordinance shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina, and all suits and actions arising out of or with respect to this Ordinance shall be instituted only in a court of competent jurisdiction in the State of South Carolina.

(c) The headings or titles of the several sections hereof shall be solely for convenience of reference and shall not affect the meaning, construction, interpretation, or effect of this Ordinance.

(d) This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval following third reading.

(e) All previous ordinances regarding the same subject matter as this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

ENACTED THIS 24th DAY OF July 2024.

(SEAL)



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

L. Martin Sauls, IV
L. Martin Sauls, IV, Chairman

Wanda H. Giles
Wanda H. Giles, Clerk of Council

First Reading:	May 6, 2024
Second Reading:	July 15, 2024
Public Reading:	June 24, 2024
Continuation of Public Hearing:	July 15, 2024
Third Reading:	July 24, 2024

Reviewed for form and draftmanship by the Jasper County Attorney.

David L. Tedder Date: July 24, 2024