

FLATS

ANNUAL MPO NEWSLETTER

Issue No.14

AUGUST 2024

STATE CALLS FOR PUBLIC'S PARTICIPATION IN UPDATING PLAN

FY2024-33
Transportation Improvement Program Gets Updated

January 22, 2024
Florence, South Carolina

The FLATS Policy Committee convened on a brisk but sunny winter day and approved the FY2024-33 Transportation Improvement Program. FLATS Staff had worked hard through the holiday season to update the old 7-year outlook window to a new 10-year outlook and freshened up the 22 page document. The Transportation Improvement Program or TIP as it is colloquially referred to is a fiscally constrained document that lists regionally significant transportation projects and is a very important tool used for the continued, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process.

Columbia, South Carolina. In the spring of 2023 the State of SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT) began work on updating the Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan. This plan is important for all South Carolinians as it serves as a comprehensive guide for the SCDOT on how to best move goods and people across the state over the next twenty-five years. It covers all modes of transportation from walking and biking to trucks and cars and also air and rail travel.

MOMENTUM 2050
Moving South Carolina Forward

"Scan the QR Code above with your mobile device to take part in this important endeavor or go to movingsouthcarolinaforward.com to learn more..."

The SCDOT can't tackle this important task alone; they need your help! They want to know how you travel and what types of transportation needs, challenges and expectations you value. Take a quick five minutes to scan the QR Code above with your mobile device to take part in this important endeavor or go to movingsouthcarolinaforward.com to learn more about Momentum 2050 and to participate.

WHO WE ARE

The FLATS Metropolitan Planning Organization
518 South Irby Street, Florence, South Carolina 29501
www.florenceco.org/planning/flats
Map Image to right is of the FLATS MPO Study Area Boundary

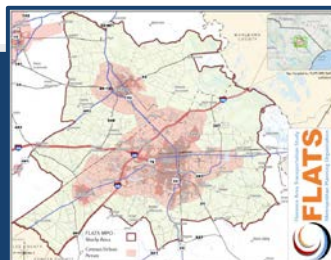


Image shown above is the Cover Page of the updated FY2024-33 TIP that was approved by FLATS Policy Committee in January 2024.

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NEW TRANSIT STUDY IS REVVING UP & ROLLING OUT...



Florence, South Carolina. Through great efforts put forth by staff of the Florence Area Transportation Study and the Pee Dee Regional Transportation Authority, the PDRTA Transit Study has officially started. This Transit Study is coming during a pivotal moment for PDRTA, which just recently celebrated its 50th year in service. Ridership is exponentially increasing and many new employers (as well as existing employers) are looking towards the PDRTA to carry the load and help connect the region's workforce to the growing job market. PDRTA is ready to make the jump and 'grow with the flow', but they want to do it right; enter...The Transit Study. This Study will provide PDRTA with a complete look at their current services and present critical insight as to where they need to focus their efforts in a way that will help them grow and be beneficial to all citizens. The Transit Study is being undertaken by consulting firm, Kimley-Horn & Associates; Mary Kate Morookian is the Project Manager. PDRTA provides public transit services across six counties in the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina. Their headquarters are located at 313 S. Stadium Rd in Florence, SC.

"This Transit Study is coming during a pivotal moment for the PDRTA..."

A CLOSER LOOK PLANNED FOR THE I-95 / SC 327 INTERCHANGE

June 14th, 2024 - Florence, South Carolina. An amendment to the FY2024-FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program was presented by FLATS Staff, Mr. Ethan Brown, to the Policy Committee members during the most recent FLATS Policy Committee meeting. Mr. Brown discussed updates to the FY2025 portion of the UPWP using recently received Metro PL allocation amounts from the SCDOT Office of Planning. He also made note of two new work categories added to the document; one being a Complete Streets category and the other was an upcoming Planning Study proposed for the growing interchange where SC 327 meets I-95, located in the northeast quadrant of Florence County (just near the Darlington County line). This area has seen a tremendous amount of growth over the past several years and is likely to continue growing. Work on the I-95/SC 327 Interchange Planning Study is expected to begin sometime in FY2025.



Considerable Growth around the I-95 & SC 327 Interchange Over a Span of Twenty Years