



Mark Clark Expressway Summary of Public Comments

*Charleston County Council
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Public Hearing Attendance

- August 31, 2010 at Burke High School Attendance = 171
- September 2, 2010 at Burke High School Attendance = 93
- September 7, 2010 at West Ashley High School Attendance = 210
- September 8, 2010 at James Island High School Attendance = 430
- September 9, 2010 at St. John's High School Attendance = 326

Total Attendance = 1,230

**154 attended multiple hearings, for a total of 1,076 individuals*



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Summary of Verbal Comments

- Burke High School, Aug. 31 28
- Burke High School, Sept. 2 19
- West Ashley High School 25
- James Island Charter High School 52
- St. Johns High School 45

**169 vocal comments given at the meetings were delivered by 128 individuals.*



Summary of Written Comments

- Public Hearing Submittals 354
- Email / Website Comments 1,310
- Telephone Hotline Messages 2
- Comment Forms Mailed 169
- Comments Forwarded by Chas Co. 160





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Public Comment Overview

- A total of 1,657 individuals submitted comments:
 - 1,033 (62%) included a statement of opposition to the project;
 - 522 (32%) included a statement of support for the project;
 - 102 (6%) included questions or suggestions



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Petitions:

- Four (4) petitions were received during the comment period;
- A petition of opposition was received at the second public hearing and was updated throughout the public comment period. A total of 335 names were ultimately included.
- A petition was received from Savannah HOA with 19 names having questions/concerns about the impacts of the project;
- A petition of support including 14 names was received;
- A petition of support including 169 names was received





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Municipal Involvement:

Municipalities showing opposition:

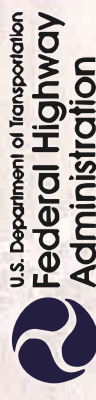
- Town of James Island – resolution(s) against the project
- Town of Folly Beach – resolution against the project previously passed and included in the DEIS.

Municipalities showing support:

- City of Charleston – letter of support with recommended modifications
- Town of Seabrook Island – letter of support
- Town of Kiawah Island – letter of support



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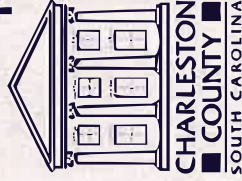


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Statements of Concern:

Those in support of extending the Mark Clark Expressway stated that the project would:

- help to alleviate traffic congestion;
- contribute to safer roads;
- reduce travel times;
- aid in hurricane evacuation;
- contribute to economic development for the region;
- support future growth, and;
- provide important regional infrastructure.



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Statements of Concern:

Those opposed to the project as presented by SCDOT were concerned that it would:

- increase traffic congestion;
- impact traffic for the intersections of the James Island Connector at Folly Road and Calhoun Street;
- increase development and thus, add traffic;
- impact wetlands/marshes and communities and contribute to noise;
- devalue property, and;
- cost too much for a minor benefit.



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Statements of Concern:

Those opposed to the project suggested:

- Improve existing roads instead of building the project;
- Additional consideration of mass transit and light rail along the I-26 corridor, and;
- Additional consideration of the New Way to Work alternative.



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Frequently Asked Questions and Concerns:

General:

- Suggestions to build the facility to interstate standards
 - Parkway speeds are too low and not enforceable.
 - Numerous traffic lights would increase congestion.
- Concern with minimal improvements to travel times
 - Within the study area (West Ashley, Johns Island, James Island):
 - Reduction in overall miles traveled = 98,797 miles per day
 - Reduction in time spent in vehicles = 6,946 hours per day
 - Reduction in delay (congestion, stop & go conditions) = 5,020 hours per day





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Frequently Asked Questions and Concerns:

West Ashley:

- Battery Haig
 - Concern with roadway elevation as it crosses the neighborhood with respect to noise and privacy
- Waterway South
 - Concern about impacts to the surrounding marsh, impacts to their views of the marsh, and a significant increase in noise.
- Neighborhoods between US 17 and the Stono River
 - Concern about East Shore Lane being cut off, making access to nearby Oakland Elementary School difficult
 - Concern with noise, drainage, and pollution impacts.





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Frequently Asked Questions and Concerns:

James Island:

- Central Park Road residents
 - Concern with local connections to Central Park Road by Up on the Hill Road and Riley Road.
- The Regatta HOA and residents
 - Concern with the Up on the Hill Road connection to Central Park
- Terrabrook
 - Concern with the proximity of the parkway, noise impacts, and property values declining.
- Consideration of an overpass at Folly Road



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Frequently Asked Questions and Concerns:

Johns Island:

- The Bend at River Road
 - Concerns with the proximity of Connector Road A and potential noise, traffic, property values and privacy impacts
- Shoreline Farms
 - Concerns about the increase of traffic along Maybank Highway.
- Headquarters Island
 - Requests for alignment shift away from HQ island to an equidistance between HQ Island and mainland Johns Island.
- Rushland Plantation
 - Concern about the proximity of Connector Road A and increased traffic on River Road.



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Frequently Asked Questions and Concerns:

Downtown / Peninsula:

- Project will worsen congestion on the James Island Expressway at the connection to Calhoun Street





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