

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
JUNE 24, 2008**

The Public Works Committee met on Tuesday, June 24, 2008 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building beginning at 3:31 p.m. Ms. Summers, Committee Chairman presided.

Members Attending:

Debra B. Summers, Chairman	Bobby C. Keisler
John W. Carrigg, Jr.	William C. Billy Derrick

Absent:

*M. Todd Cullum, V Chairman

*Mr. Cullum was not present due to a prior commitment out of town.

Also attending: Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator; Joe Mergo, Deputy County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Assistant County Administrator; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

Overview of Road Related Projects in Lexington County (Goals 1,2,3) - Public Works -

John Fechtel, Director – Mr. Fechtel presented an overview of road related projects in Lexington County with assistance from the Central Midlands Council of Governments (CMCOG) and SCDOT. The CMCOG provided a letter with a project listing for all the Columbia Area Transportation Study (COATS) projects waiting on funding totaling over \$570 million. Mr. Norman Whitaker, Executive Director for the CMCOG, was introduced and provided additional information. Mr. Fechtel's update included the County dirt road paving list representing 30 percent of the County's dirt roads estimated at \$174,366 for paving. The overview does not include the Lexington Connector (estimated to be \$100,000,000) or the Chapin Connector (estimated at \$25,000,000). The Committee discussed road fees instituted by other counties for road improvements and maintenance and the one-penny sales tax. It was requested that staff provide a list of all South Carolina counties with their road fees. Mr. Fechtel stated that if the County adopted a \$25 per vehicle user fee, excluding those 65 and older, it would generate approximately five million dollars a year. Legislation would need to be changed in order for the County to add a one-penny sales tax for roads. For discussion only, no action taken.

Mr. Derrick acknowledged representatives from the Town of Lexington, including Mayor Halfacre, who were in attendance for the presentation.

Old Business/New Business - Policy for Skip Paving, Road Right-of-Way Issues, Traffic Congestion – None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee
Assistant to the Clerk

Debra B. Summers
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk