

# North Augusta



*South Carolina's Riverfront*

## MINUTES OF MARCH 1, 2021

*Robert A. Pettit, Mayor*

*J. Robert Brooks, Councilmember*

*Pat C. Carpenter, Councilmember*

*Fletcher L. Dickert, Councilmember*

*David W. McGhee, Councilmember*

*Eric H. Presnell, Councilmember*

*Kevin W. Toole, Councilmember*

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of North Augusta of March 1, 2021 having been duly publicized was called to order by Mayor Pettit at 7:00 p.m. and streamed online for public viewing at the City Facebook page: "City of North Augusta – Public Information" and City YouTube page: "City of North Augusta Public Information" then adjourned at 7:35 p.m. Per Section 30-4-80, (e) notice of the meeting by email was sent out to the current maintained "Agenda Mailout" list consisting of news media outlets and individuals or companies requesting notification. Notice of the meeting was also posted on the outside doors of the Municipal Center, the main bulletin board of the Municipal Center located on the first floor, and the City of North Augusta website.

Mayor Pettit rendered the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present were Mayor Pettit, Councilmembers Brooks, Carpenter, Dickert, McGhee, Presnell, and Toole.

Also in attendance were James S. Clifford, City Administrator; Rachele Moody, Assistant City Administrator; Kelly F. Zier, City Attorney; Cammie T. Hayes, Chief Financial Officer; Richard

L. Meyer, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism; Thomas C. Zeaser, Director of Engineering and Public Works; John C. Thomas, Director of Public Safety; Lillian E. (Libby) Hodges, Director of Planning and Development; J.D. McCauley, Manager of Human Resources; Ricky Jones, Manager of Information Technology and Sharon Lamar, City Clerk.

The minutes of the Virtual Study Session and City Council meeting of February 1, 2020 were approved by general consent.

**ITEM 5. ELECTIONS: Ordinance No. 2021-02 – An Ordinance to Partner with the Aiken County Board of Registration and Elections to Conduct a Portion of the 2021 City of North Augusta Municipal General Election; Ordinance - Final Reading**

On the motion of Councilmember Toole, second of Councilmember Brooks, Council agreed to consider an ordinance on final reading to partner with the Aiken County Board of Registration and Elections to conduct a portion of the 2021 City of North Augusta Municipal General Election. Kelly Zier, City Attorney, explained this request is to partner with Aiken County for their assistance on Election Day, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. There were no comments from citizens. The final reading of the ordinance was approved with a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Please see a copy of the proposed ordinance below:

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-02  
AN ORDINANCE TO PARTNER WITH THE AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF  
REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS TO CONDUCT A PORTION OF THE  
2021 CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Laws of South Carolina, and Ordinance No. 2020-35 adopted December 7, 2020, the City of North Augusta will hold an election on April 27, 2021 to elect the Mayor and three City Council Members; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to partner with the Aiken County Board of Registration and Elections to conduct a portion of the election; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED AND BY THE AUTHORITY THEREOF, THAT:

I. The City Administrator is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Aiken County Board of Registration and Elections. Under the terms of the agreement, the Aiken County Board of Registration and Elections will provide:

- a. Staffing of polling locations on Election Day, Tuesday, April 27, 2021

- b. Delivery, set-up, maintenance, and removal of voting machines
- c. Absentee and provisional ballots; seals, forms, and supplies
- d. Poll workers and support staff

II. The Aiken County Board of Registration and Elections has estimated the election costs and expenses to be \$5,376.82 and to be paid from the City Council Professional Services account.

III. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption on second reading.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**ITEM 6. ELECTIONS: 2021 Municipal General Election – Certification of Candidates from Municipal Election Commission – Motion to Accept**

On the motion of Councilmember Brooks, second of Councilmember Dickert, Council accepted a letter from the Municipal Election Commission certifying the candidates for the Municipal General Election on April 27, 2021. The certified candidates are:

Mayor- Richard Adams (Democratic Party)  
 Briton Williams (Republican Party)

Councilmember- Pat Carpenter (Republican Party)  
 Trina Mackie (Democratic Party)  
 Jenafer McCauley (Republican Party)  
 David McGhee (Republican Party)

City Attorney, Kelly Zier, advised the two incumbent Councilmembers who are seeking re-election to recuse themselves from the vote. There were no comments from citizens. The certification of candidates was accepted with a 5-0 vote. Councilmember Carpenter and Councilmember McGhee recused themselves.

Please see ATTACHMENT #6 for a copy of the recusal statements.

The letter from the Municipal Election Commission is attached below:



**Municipal Election Commission**

P. O. Box 6400  
North Augusta, South Carolina 29861

February 26, 2021

The Honorable Robert A. Pettit, Mayor  
City of North Augusta  
P.O. Box 6400  
North Augusta, South Carolina 29861

Dear Mayor Pettit,


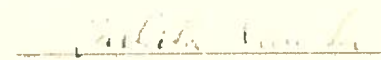
The following candidates have been certified by the Municipal Election Commission for the office of Mayor and three seats on City Council in the forthcoming General Election on April 27, 2021.

Democratic Party: Richard Adams, Mayor  
Trina Mackie, Councilmember

Republican Party: Briton Williams, Mayor  
Pat Carpenter, Councilmember  
Jenafer McCauley, Councilmember  
David McGhee, Councilmember

No other candidates have qualified by nomination or petition.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Watson  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Machel Knox  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carleton Vaughn

**ITEM 7. ANNEXATION: Ordinance No. 2021-03 – To Change the Corporate Limits of the City of North Augusta by Annexing ±0.40 Acres of Property Fronting on Gregory Lake Road and Owned by the City of North Augusta; Ordinance – First Reading**

On the motion of Councilmember Presnell, second of Councilmember Carpenter, Council considered an ordinance on first reading to change the corporate limits of the City of North Augusta by annexing ±0.40 acres of property fronting on Gregory Lake Road and owned by the City of North Augusta. There were no comments from citizens. The first reading was approved with a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Please see a copy of the proposed ordinance below:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2021-03**  
**TO CHANGE THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF**  
**NORTH AUGUSTA BY ANNEXING ± 0.40 ACRES OF PROPERTY,**  
**FRONTING ON GREGORY LAKE ROAD AND OWNED BY**  
**THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA**

WHEREAS, Section 5-3-150(3) of the Code of Laws of the State of South Carolina provides that: "Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, any area or property which is contiguous to a municipality may be annexed to the municipality by filing with the municipal governing body a petition signed by all persons owning real estate in the area requesting annexation. Upon the agreement of the governing body to accept the petition and annex the area, and the enactment of an ordinance declaring the area annexed to the municipality, the annexation is complete"; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Augusta, have approved Resolution No. 2020-02 dated January 6, 2020 authorizing the City Administrator to execute any documents necessary to request annexation of the property and determined that such Petition should be accepted and the property annexed into the City; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Augusta, have approved Ordinance No. 2020-04 dated February 3, 2020 authorizing the change to the corporate limits of the City of North Augusta by annexing 148 +/- acres of property generally known as the North Augusta Country Club property; and

WHEREAS, a Scribner's error occurred in Ordinance No. 2020-04 omitting one number from identifying Tax Parcel No. 004-18-02-013, the small portion of property located in Aiken County; and

WHEREAS, the zoning classification recommended for the properties proposed for annexation has been reviewed for consistency with the Future Land Use Classification of the properties as specified in the Land Use Element of the North Augusta 2017 Comprehensive Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Augusta, South Carolina, in meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof that:

- I. The Petition was previously accepted with the approval of Resolution No. 2020-04 and the following described property shall be annexed into the City of North Augusta:

The property to be annexed is also shown on a map identified as "Exhibit A" titled map of property sought to be annexed by the City of North Augusta dated February 17, 2021 and prepared by the City of North Augusta.

Being a portion of the land conveyed by DWT Properties, LLC to the City of North Augusta by deed dated the 29<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019 and recorded in the Office of the RMC for Aiken County, South Carolina in Record Book 4812 at Pages 2047-2051. The said property is known pursuant to the tax parcel numbers for the Office of the RMC for Aiken County as Tax Parcel No: 004-18-02-013.

- II. This property is intended for use by the City as recreational property and the zoning classification recommended for said property has been reviewed by the Planning Commission for consistency with the future land use classification of the property as specified in the North Augusta 2017 Comprehensive Plans; Therefore, the property shall be zoned "P", public use on a map identified as "Exhibit B" Plat prepared by the City of North Augusta dated February 17, 2021. Such zoning classification was approved by the Planning Commission at its meeting held on November 21, 2019.
- III. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.
- IV. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption on second and final reading.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS  
\_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**ITEM 8. FINANCE: Resolution No. 2021-05 – Resolution Approving Financing Terms for the Financing of Vehicles and Equipment**

On the motion of Councilmember Brooks, second of Councilmember Carpenter, Council considered a resolution to approve financing terms for the financing of vehicles and equipment. Council had already approved the lease purchase of the vehicles and equipment with the approval of the 2021 Budget. This resolution is a document required by Truist Bank. Councilmember Dickert acknowledged the interest rate is a better rate than expected leading to savings for the City. There were no comments from citizens. The resolution was approved with a vote of 7-0.

Please see a copy of the proposed resolution below:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-05  
RESOLUTION APPROVING FINANCING TERMS FOR  
THE FINANCING OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, the City of North Augusta, SC (“Borrower”) has previously determined to undertake a project for the financing of vehicles and equipment (the “Project”), and the Chief Financial Officer has now presented a proposal for the financing of such Project.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Augusta, South Carolina, in meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof that:

1. The Borrower hereby determines to finance the Project through Truist Bank (“Lender”) in accordance with the proposal dated March 3, 2021. The amount financed shall not exceed \$1,728,219.00, the annual interest rate (in the absence of default or change in tax status) shall not exceed 0.79%, and the financing term shall not exceed four (4) years from closing.

2. All financing contracts and all related documents for the closing of the financing (the “Financing Documents”) shall be consistent with the foregoing terms. All officers and employees of the Borrower are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any Financing Documents, and to take all such further action as they may consider necessary or desirable, to carry out the financing of the Project as contemplated by the proposal and this resolution.

3. The Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to hold executed copies of the Financing Documents until the conditions for the delivery of the Financing Documents have been completed to such officer's satisfaction. The Finance Officer is authorized to approve changes to any Financing Documents previously signed by Borrower officers or employees, provided that such changes shall not substantially alter the intent of such documents or certificates from the intent expressed in the forms executed by such officers. The Financing Documents shall be in such final forms as the Finance Officer shall approve, with the Finance Officer's release of any Financing Document for delivery constituting conclusive evidence of such officer's final approval of the Document's final form.

4. The Borrower shall not take or omit to take any action the taking or omission of which shall cause its interest payments on this financing to be includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of the registered owners of the interest payment obligations.

5. The Borrower intends that the adoption of this resolution will be a declaration of the Borrower's official intent to reimburse expenditures for the Project that are to be financed from the proceeds of the Lender financing described above. The Borrower intends that funds that have been advanced, or that may be advanced, from the Borrower's general fund or any other Borrower fund related to the Project, for project costs may be reimbursed from the financing proceeds.

6. All prior actions of Borrower officers in furtherance of the purposes of this resolution are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed. All other resolutions (or parts thereof) in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed, to the extent of the conflict. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**ITEM 9. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: Resolution No. 2021-06 – Authorizing the City of North Augusta to Enter into a Professional Services Contract with the Lower Savannah Council of Governments to Perform Planning Services for the 2021 Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update**

On the motion of Mayor Pettit, second of Councilmember Brooks, Council agreed to consider a resolution authorizing the City of North Augusta to enter into a professional services contract with the Lower Savannah Council of Governments to perform planning services for the 2021 Comprehensive Plan five-year update. There were no comments from citizens. The resolution was approved with a unanimous 7-0 vote.

Please see a copy of the proposed resolution below:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-06  
AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA  
TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH THE LOWER  
SAVANNAH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
TO PERFORM PLANNING SERVICES  
FOR THE 2021 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FIVE-YEAR UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the importance of planning for the future growth and development of the City of North Augusta; and

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2017, the Mayor and City Council adopted the 2017 City of North Augusta Comprehensive Plan pursuant to the Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act of 1994 as recommended by the North Augusta Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 6-29-510(e) of said act, the Comprehensive Plan should be reviewed, not less than every five (5) years, to determine whether changes in the amount, kind or direction of development of the area or other reasons make it desirable to make additions or amendments to the Plan. The Comprehensive Plan, including all elements of it, must be updated every ten (10) years; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council previously approved funds for a capital projects request in 2020 for a planning consultant to assist in the development of a five year comprehensive plan update; and



WHEREAS, the City of North Augusta desires to retain the services of the Lower Savannah Council of Governments to provide services related to the evaluation and update of the 2017 City of North Augusta Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Savannah Council of Governments is able to provide this update as qualified professionals and it is in the best interest of the City to use an intergovernmental agreement with the Lower Savannah Council of Government to complete this update; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Augusta, South Carolina, in meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof that the City is authorized to enter into professional services contract with the Lower Savannah Council of Government to provide comprehensive plan update services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Administrator is authorized to execute such documents as necessary to enter into said contract for an amount not to exceed \$25,000, paid from existing Capital Project Funds.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**ITEM 10. ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS: Resolution No. 2021-07 – Re-Prioritizing Projects and Funding for the Aiken County Capital Projects Sales Tax II**

On the motion of Councilmember Presnell, second of Councilmember Toole, Council agreed to consider a resolution to re-prioritize projects and funding for the Aiken County Capital Projects Sales Tax II. City Administrator, Jim Clifford, explained the re-prioritization would allow for repaving of Five Notch Road from just south of I-20 to Georgia Avenue. The project would be a continuance of a SCDOT project planned to repave Five Notch Road north to Sweetwater Road in Edgefield County. The project completion date in November 2021. There were no comments from citizens. The resolution was approved with a unanimous 7-0 vote.

Please see a copy of the proposed resolution below:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-07**  
**RE-PRIORITIZING PROJECTS AND FUNDING FOR THE**  
**AIKEN COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX II**

WHEREAS, in November 2004 the citizens of Aiken County approved the Capital Project Sales Tax (CPST) II referendum; and

WHEREAS, the City had \$19,350,000 in projects on the CPST II ballot; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2018-25 City Council re-prioritized and reallocated funding among certain projects; and

WHEREAS, at this time, the following projects/funds are remaining (not including accrued interest):

- Street Lighting at Entrances of Riverview Park \$32,261
- Georgia Avenue and Five Notch Intersection Improvements \$475,000

WHEREAS, the CPST II ballot also included the project “Street Resurfacing Program”; and

WHEREAS, Council now wishes to re-appropriate a portion of the remaining funds to the CPST II Street Resurfacing Program, specifically for resurfacing a portion of West Five Notch Road, as shown on Exhibit A; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Augusta, South Carolina, in meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof that, the City North Augusta CPST II projects and funding allocations are hereby prioritized as listed on the attached Exhibit B.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**ITEM 11. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: Planning Commission Recommendation Memorandum #21-010: W. Martintown Road Corridor Study; Receipt of Information by Council**

The Planning Commission Recommendation memorandum was accepted with no objections. Council will discuss the W. Martintown Road Corridor Study at the March 15, 2021 Study Session. A resolution will be prepared for Council’s consideration at the regular Council meeting of April 5, 2021.

Please see ATTACHMENT #11 for a copy of the memorandum.

**ITEM 12. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

There were no administrative reports.

**ITEM 13. PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**

A. Citizen Comments:

There were no citizen comments.

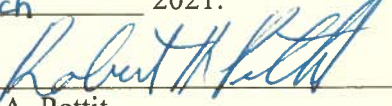
B. Council Comments:

Councilmember Carpenter inquired about the status of the Knobcone Avenue sidewalk project. Rachele Moody, Assistant City Administrator, explained the City is waiting for a Participation Agreement from SCDOT.


Councilmember Presnell inquired about in-person City Council meetings. Mayor Pettit explained that while Governor McMaster has lifted some restrictions there is still a declared State of Emergency for the State of South Carolina due to the pandemic. City Leadership will continue to monitor the Governor's Executive Orders.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF  
March 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert A. Pettit  
Mayor

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Lamar  
City Clerk

# RECUSAL STATEMENT

Member Name: Pat Carpenter

Meeting Date: March 1, 2021

Agenda Item: Section New Number: 6

Topic: 2021 Municipal General Election- Certification of  
Candidates from Municipal Election Commission

*The Ethics Act, SC Code §8-13-700, provides that no public official may knowingly use his office to obtain an economic interest for himself, a family member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated. No public official may make, participate in making, or influence a governmental decision in which he or any such person or business has an economic interest. Failure to recuse oneself from an issue in which there is or may be conflict of interest is the sole responsibility of the council member (1991 Op. Atty. Gen. No. 91-37.) A written statement describing the matter requiring action and the nature of the potential conflict of interest is required.*

**Justification to Recuse:**

Professionally employed by or under contract with principal

Owns or has vested interest in principal or property

Other: Being on ballot for re-election  
may name was listed in candidates

Date: 3/2/21 Pat C. Carpenter  
Member

*that will be voted on April 27, 2021*

Approved by Parliamentarian: \_\_\_\_\_

# RECUSAL STATEMENT

Member Name: David McGhee

Meeting Date: March 1, 2021

Agenda Item: Section New Number: 6

Topic: 2021 Municipal General Election - Certification of  
Candidates from Municipal Election Commission

*The Ethics Act, SC Code §8-13-700, provides that no public official may knowingly use his office to obtain an economic interest for himself, a family member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated. No public official may make, participate in making, or influence a governmental decision in which he or any such person or business has an economic interest. Failure to recuse oneself from an issue in which there is or may be conflict of interest is the sole responsibility of the council member (1991 Op. Atty. Gen. No. 91-37.) A written statement describing the matter requiring action and the nature of the potential conflict of interest is required.*

**Justification to Recuse:**

Professionally employed by or under contract with principal

Owns or has vested interest in principal or property

Other: I am a candidate listed for Election  
or the Certification

Date: 3/2/21 David McGhee  
Member

Approved by Parliamentarian: \_\_\_\_\_


# Department of Planning and Development



**Memorandum # 21-010**

City of North Augusta

**To:** James S. Clifford, City Administrator

**From:** Libby Hodges, Director of Planning and Development 

**Subject:** Planning Commission Recommendations: W. Martintown Rd. Corridor Study

**Date:** February 22, 2021

At the February 18, 2021, Planning Commission meeting, the Commission reviewed the recommendations from AECOM regarding the W. Martintown Corridor Study.

The Commission unanimously recommended approval of the study with cases prioritized as indicated on attached list. The Commission also recommended that Council consider funding these projects through ARTS (Augusta Regional Transportation Study, Metropolitan Planning Organization), Capital Projects Funds, and Impact Fees.

The study is being forwarded to Council to consider for adoption. By adopting the study and its recommendations, the study results will be used as a guiding document for staff project planning. The following information is included for review and reference:

- Project prioritization list: This is the Planning Commission's preferred project prioritization. After confirmation with the Chair, the intended order of prioritization are the "Primary Projects," projects I-4, L-3, I-5, I-2, and I-1. The remaining recommended projects are listed as "Secondary Projects." Adopting this priority list will not remove any other projects, but will clarify what projects are pursued first by staff.
- PowerPoint Presentation about the study
- Local Funding Brief
- Public comment: Public comment received to date (updated to the date of this memo) and the funding brief submitted to the Planning Commission. Comments will be accepted until at least March 1, 2021.
- Draft resolution for adoption: Several details remain at the discretion of the Council.

The entire plan may be reviewed here: <http://www.northaugusta.net/MartintownRoadStudy>

If any Council member would like a hard copy of the study, please let us know and we will assemble a notebook. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**PRIMARY PROJECTS**

Project ID	Location	Description	Notes	Estimated Cost
I-4 (Figure 7C)	Knobcone Avenue	Install a traffic signal with dual southbound left-turn lanes and northbound right-turn lane on West Martintown Road.	Constructed in conjunction with Hamrick Farms development schedule	\$1,500,000
L-3 (Figure 7C)	Frontage Road to Old Plantation Road	Develop a parallel road to the west side West Martintown Road that provides access to River Falls Apartments and Circle K that connects to Old Plantation Road and eventually to the new signal at Knobcone Avenue (approximately 1700 ft)	Should be considered with any future development in the vicinity to help reduce the number of vehicles U-turning / taking left onto Frontage Road	\$1,000,000
I-5 (Figure 7C)	Knobcone Avenue to Hammond Pond Rd	Build a sidewalk on both sides of the road connecting the two intersections (2500 centerline ft, 5000 linear ft of sidewalk, Needs Right of Way)	Provides a connection to multimodal facilities but not directly attributed to one particular development	\$800,000
I-2 (Figure 7B)	I-20 WB Off Ramp	Install a dual lane roundabout	Constructed by 2027 or completion of Hamrick Farms Development	\$2,750,000
I-1 (Figure 7A)	Gregory Lake Road	Install a single lane roundabout	Constructed by 2030 or completion of Saunders Place PD	\$2,250,000

## SECONDARY PROJECTS

Near Term: 2020-2025

Project	Description	Status	Cost
N-1 (Figure 7B)	Bogert Road	In progress	\$100,000
N-2 (Figure 7C)	I-20 EB Off Ramp	In progress	\$150,000
N-3 (Figure 7C)	I-20 EB Off Ramp / Hamrick Farms Site Driveway #1	In conjunction with Hamrick Farms development schedule	\$2,000,000
N-4 (Figure 7B / Figure 7C)	Restripe West Martintown Road northbound right-turn lane onto I-20 EB On Ramp to a shared / through-right-turn lane that end at I-20 WB Loop On Ramp.	In conjunction with Hamrick Farms development schedule	\$10,000



N-5 (Figure 7C)	Hamrick Farms Site Driveway #2	Provide a northbound right-turn lane with 150 feet of storage and access to / from Hamrick Farms Driveway #2 should be right-in / right-out (Overhead Utilities will have to be relocated)	In conjunction with Hamrick Farms development schedule	\$300,000
N-6 (Figure 7C)	Hamrick Farms Site Driveway #3	Provide a northbound right-turn lane with 150 feet of storage and access to / from Hamrick Farms Driveway #3 should be right-in / right-out. Old Plantation Road should remain full access. (Overhead Utilities will have to be relocated)	In conjunction with Hamrick Farms development schedule	\$300,000



# **Martintown Road Corridor Study Public Information Presentation**

**January, 2021**

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**Planning & Development Department**



## **Project History and Background**

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**Planning & Development Department**

### History of the Project:



- Project was awarded in January, 2020, to AECOM to:
  - Conduct a corridor study that included a review of the existing traffic operation and safety
  - Assess conditions along the corridor within the study area,
  - Project future traffic conditions based on potential future land use and development plan, and
  - Identify potential deficiencies to propose improvement measures.

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**Planning & Development Department**

### History of the Project:



- AECOM studied traffic conditions during a typical weekday in the AM and PM peak hours for three (3) scenarios:
  - Existing 2020: An analysis of existing conditions in the year 2020.
  - No-Build 2040: An analysis of future conditions in the year 2040 using historic traffic volume trends in the surrounding area (assuming no improvements).
  - Build 2040: An analysis of the future 2040 conditions for multiple development scenarios.

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**Planning & Development Department**



### History of the Project:

- AECOM conducted traffic counts and initial projected traffic volumes, *prior to pandemic impacts*
- Project delayed to accommodate updated development information provided along the corridor
- Project limits were truncated to *Knobcove*, as most traffic impacts were on the northern section of the study area
- Additional information provided in the *Final Study Report*

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**Planning & Development Department**



### History of the Project:

- Final Study Report:  
<http://www.northaugusta.net/MartintownRoadStudy>
- Provides an online comment entry form (see last slide for other methods to submit comments)
- Hard copy available at the P&D Department, 100 Georgia Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

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**Planning & Development Department**

# Existing Conditions Maps



Planning & Development Department

Study Limits:  
Overall Map



**AECOM**

FIGURE 1  
Study Area Limits  
West Marlinton Road Corridor Study  
North Augusta, SC



Overall Maps,  
Existing Aerials:  
W. Martintown Rd.  
at Gregory Lake Rd.



Overall Maps,  
Existing Aerials:  
I-20 Exits and  
Frontage Road



Overall Maps,  
Existing Aerials:  
Frontage Road, Old  
Plantation Road, and  
Knobcone Avenue



## Summary of Recommendations



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**Planning & Development Department**

## Recommended Projects

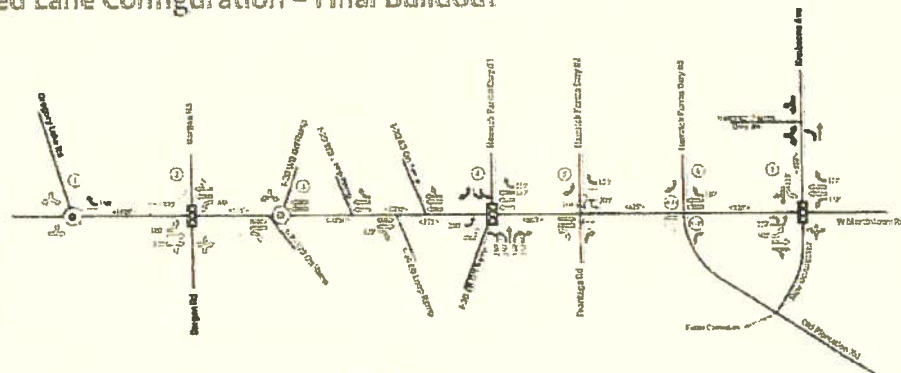


Broken into three time frames:

- Near Term: 2020 – 2025 (“N” projects)
- Intermediate Term: 2025 – 2035 (“I” projects)
- Long Term: 2035+ (“L” projects)
- Improvement timing may change if conditions change (following slides show list form and aerial illustrations)

### Planning & Development Department

## Recommended Lane Configuration – Final Buildout



- LEGEND**
- Existing Lane
  - New Lane
  - New Signal
  - Stop Control
  - New Roundabout
  - Sample Signal Plan
  - Change of CC
  - Direction ID

West Marintown Road Corridor Study  
 Figure 5 - Recommended Lane Configuration

**AECOM** November 2020  
 North Augusta, SC



### Near Term Project List

West Martintown Road Corridor Study

Project Number: 000725

Table 15: Near-term (2020-2025) Project Summary

Project #	Location	Consideration	Cost
N-1	Bergan Road	Install a traffic signal (Currently in progress)	\$100,000
N-2	I-20 WB Off Ramp	Install a Traffic Signal (Currently in progress) – Includes dual eastbound left-turn lanes and maintains free flow right-turn lane	\$150,000
N-3	I-20 WB Off Ramp / Hamrick Farms Site Driveway #1	With proposed development, install a 4 <sup>th</sup> leg for the Site Driveway for Hamrick Farms Development to include dual westbound left-turn lanes and one single right-turn lane. I-20 EB Off Ramp approach should have a through lane constructed to access Hamrick Farms driveway and the free flow right-turn lane should be replaced with dual right-turn lanes (350 feet storage). On West Martintown Road, a northbound right-turn lane (250 feet storage) and southbound left-turn lane (200 feet storage) should be provided.	\$2,000,000
N-4	I-20 EB On Ramp to I-20 WB Loop Ramp	Restripe West Martintown Road northbound right-turn lane onto I-20 EB On Ramp to a shared / through-right-turn lane that extend to I-20 WB Loop Ramp.	\$10,000
N-5	Hamrick Farms Site Driveway #2	Provide a northbound right-turn lane with 150 feet of storage and access to / from Hamrick Farms Driveway #2 should be right-in / right-out (Overhead Utilities will have to be relocated).	\$300,000
N-6	Hamrick Farms Site Driveway #3	Provide a northbound right-turn lane with 150 feet of storage and access to / from Hamrick Farms Driveway #3 should be right-in / right-out. Old Plantation Road should remain full access. / Overhead Utilities will have to be relocated.	\$300,000
Total			\$2,860,000

### Intermediate Term Project List

West Martintown Road Corridor Study

Project Number: 000725

Table 16: Intermediate-term (2025 - 2035) Project Summary

Project #	Location	Consideration	Cost
I-1	Gregory Lake Road	Install a single lane roundabout	\$2,250,000
I-2	I-20 WB Off Ramp	Install a dual lane roundabout	\$2,750,000
I-3	Frontage Road / Hamrick Farms Site Driveway #2	Reconfigure Frontage to a reduced conflict intersection (RCI) and provide a flare out to make northbound U-turns	\$300,000
I-4	Knobcone Avenue	Install a traffic signal with dual southbound left-turn lanes and northbound right-turn lane on West Martintown Road.	\$1,500,000
I-5	Knobcone Avenue to Hammond Pond Rd	Build a sidewalk on both sides of the road connecting the two intersections (2500 centerline ft, 5000 linear ft of sidewalk, Needs Right of Way)	\$800,000
Total			\$7,600,000

## Long Term Project List

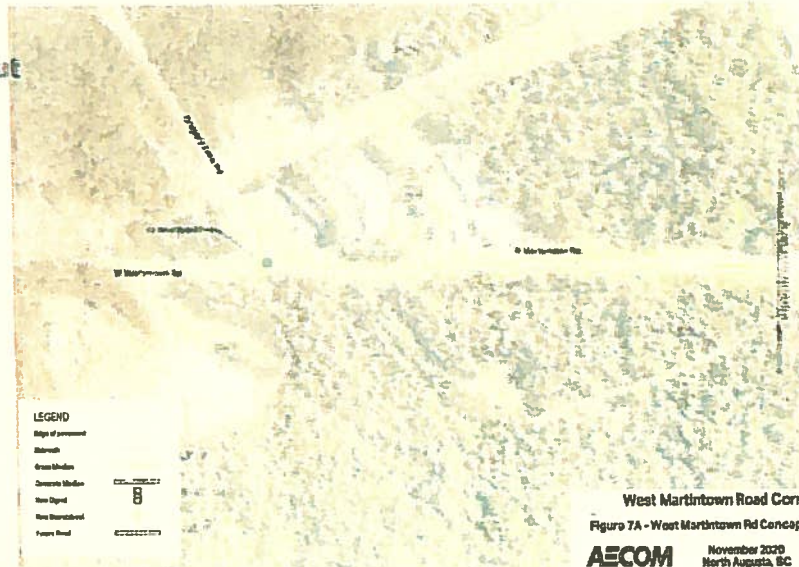
West Martintown Road Corridor Study

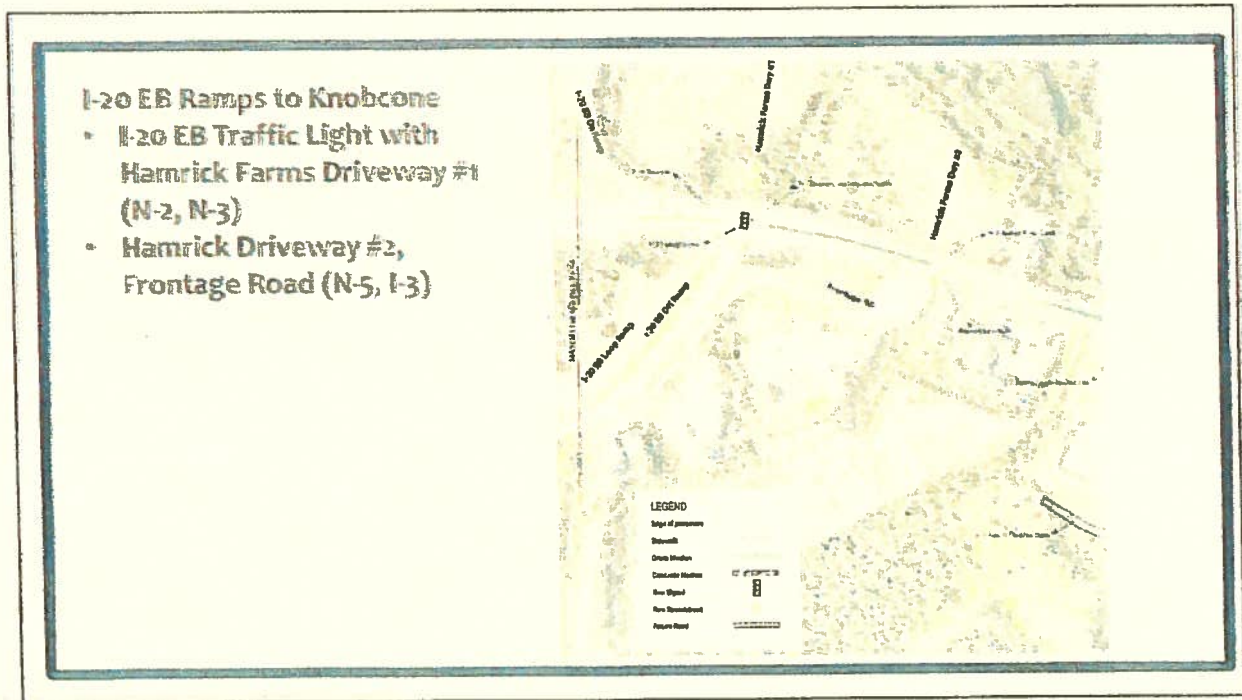
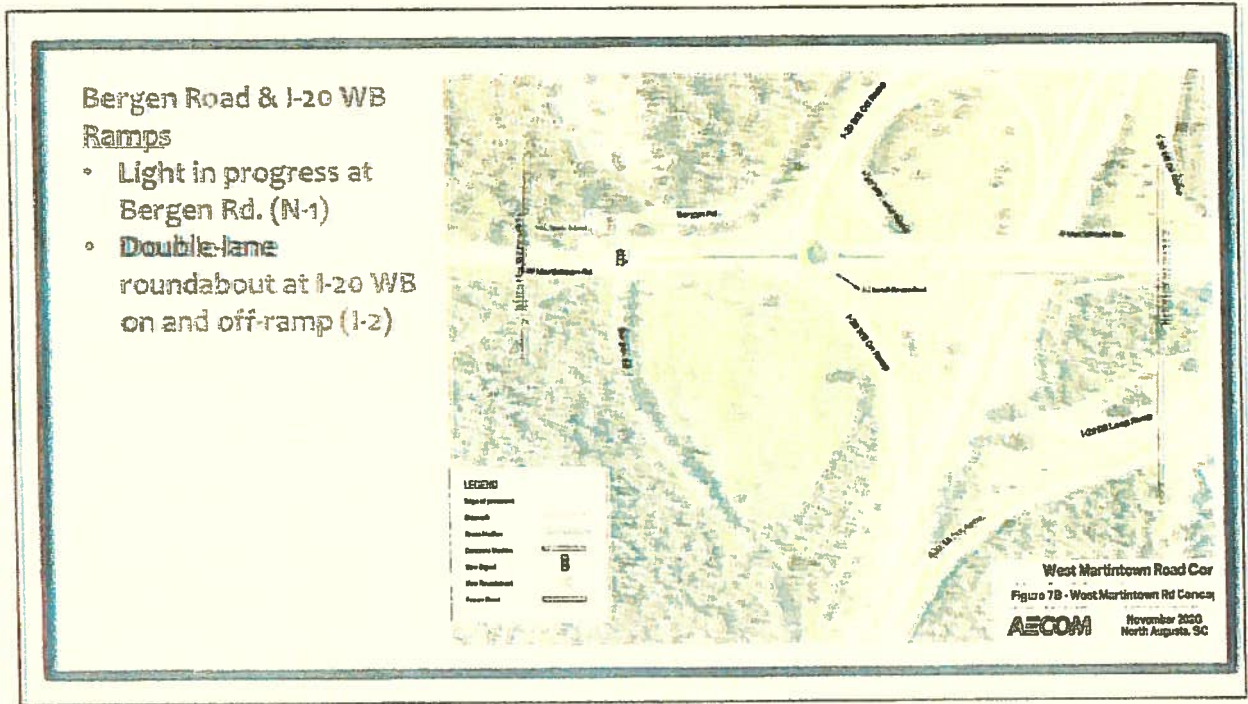
Project Number: 00107289

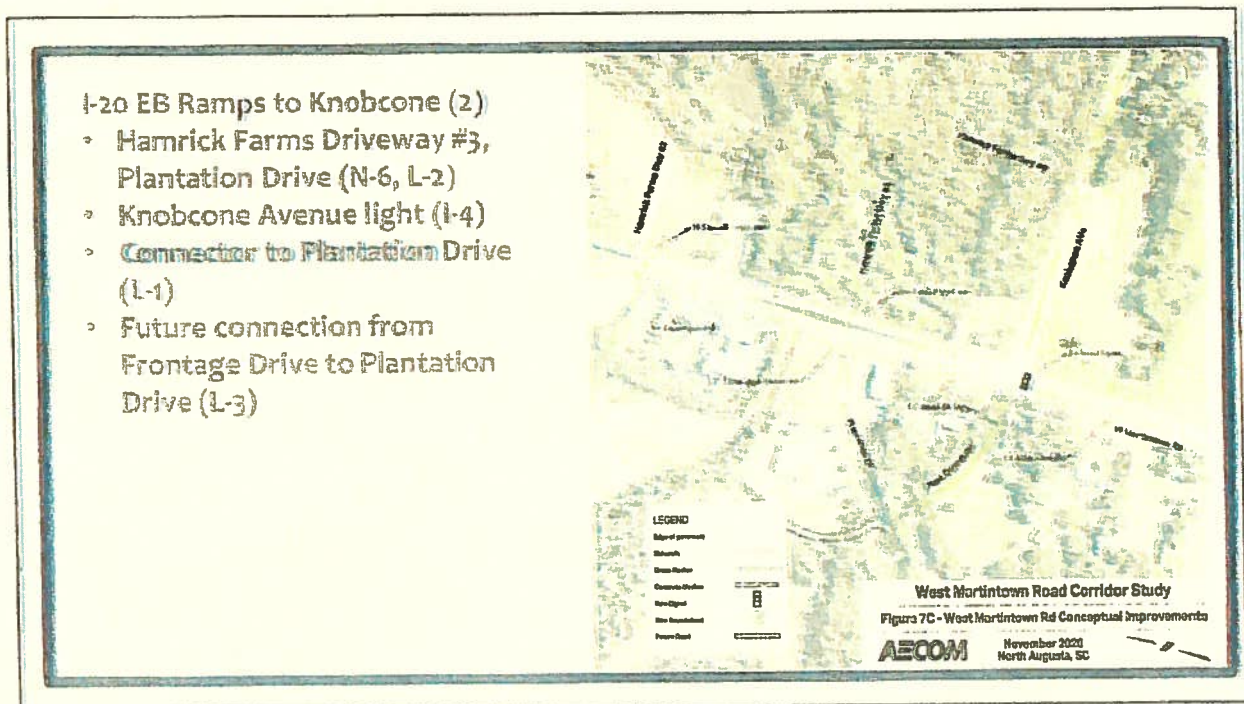
Table 17: Long term (2036-2040) Project Summary

Project #	Location	Consideration	Cost
L-1	Knobcone Avenue	Install a 4 <sup>th</sup> leg connecting to Old Plantation Road	\$800,000
L-2	Old Plantation Road	Restrict access to Old Plantation Road to right-in / right-out after completing a new connector road to Knobcone Avenue by installing a median that connects to RCI at Frontage Road.	\$100,000
L-3	Frontage Road to Old Plantation Road	Develop a parallel road to the west side West Martintown Road that provides access to River Falls Apartments and Circle K that connects to Old Plantation Road and eventually to the new signal at Knobcone Avenue (approximately 1700 ft).	\$1,000,000
Total			\$1,900,000

### Gregory Lake Road - Single lane roundabout (Project I-1)







### Bicycle and Pedestrian Recommendations:



- Along West Martintown Road (I-5):
  - Sidewalks should be five feet wide and connected between building entrances to surrounding streets, transit stops, parking lots, and adjacent development;
  - Sidewalks should be landscaped with shade trees at an average of one tree every 50 feet; and
  - Crosswalks should be designated and coordinated to move people safely to and from buildings and through parking areas.

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### **Bicycle and Pedestrian Recommendations:**

- Given the lack of pedestrian facilities along the corridor, it will be critical to provide internal pedestrian facilities and pedestrian crosswalks and signals at key locations across West Martintown Road and to any future transit stops.

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**Planning & Development Department**



### **Bicycle and Pedestrian Recommendations:**

- The study area corridor has limited on-road bicycle opportunities. Additions to the on-road bicycle network will improve safety and comfort for bicyclists and may encourage more bicycling.
- Recommendations for bicycle facilities include:
  - Install bike lanes
  - Install shared lane markings
  - Seek opportunities to connect to the North Augusta Greenway

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**Planning & Development Department**

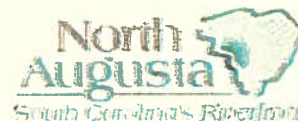
## Plan Adoption and Funding



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**Planning & Development Department**

## Plan Adoption and Funding



- Adoption of the plan helps to ensure it is developed as the City prefers
- Generally, without an adopted plan, projects are installed by developers as development occurs along the corridor as required by SCDOT with limited City input

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## Plan Adoption and Funding



- Plan adoption helps staff facilitate project installation through regional, state and local transportation partners
- The City may use the plan to look at other funding options
- Staff currently plans to submit projects to ARTS
  - 4-10+ year funding horizon (minimum), ranked and scored against all other SC regional projects
- Discussion item: Local funding options

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**Planning & Development Department**

## Plan Adoption and Funding



- Planning Commission may provide a recommendation to the City Council regarding adoption and any other recommendations for implementation
- If adopted, plans will be forwarded to SCDOT (draft plans have been shared) and other regional transportation planning groups

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**Planning & Development Department**

## Request for Public Comment



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**Planning & Development Department**

## Public Comment



- Public comments may address the following, or provide other information:
  - General support or opposition to projects
  - Statement of a preference of order for projects
  - Recommendations for specific improvements or details related to projects
  - Recommendations for specific funding or resources related to projects

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**Planning & Development Department**



## Public Comment



- Initial Public Comments gathered April 9, 2020 thru June 18, 2020 (report in Appendix G)
- Additional Public Comment in process now (January, 2021)
  - Regular Mail: PO Box 6400, North Augusta, SC 29561-6400
  - Email: [planning@northaugusta.net](mailto:planning@northaugusta.net)
  - Online: <http://www.northaugusta.net/MartintownRoadStudy>
  - Telephone: 803-441-4221

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## Discussion



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**Planning & Development Department**

# Policy Brief

Planning and Development Department  
Local Transportation Project Funding –  
For Information Only  
February 11, 2021  
Written by: Libby Hodges, AICP



## LOCAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING OPTIONS

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Planning Commission may use this brief to review options for local funding assistance for W. Martintown Road Corridor projects. The Planning Commission's recommendation will be forwarded to City Council for consideration.

### ACTION REQUESTED

Along with the recommendation to Council regarding the overall study for W. Martintown Road Corridor, the Planning Commission may include recommendations for local funding options for improvement projects.

### BACKGROUND

Most large transportation projects are achieved using a mixture of funding sources – federal, state and local. The W. Martintown Road Corridor Study was undertaken to provide coordinated projects that will address current traffic and safety challenges along this corridor.

With the completion of the W. Martintown Road Corridor study, staff has requested the Planning Commission prioritize the recommended projects. As part of this prioritization, the Planning Commission may wish to review funding options. City participation in improvement projects may serve to speed their installation.

The City currently uses City tax collections, Capital Project Sales Tax (CPST), and has traditionally used the Augusta Regional Transportation Study (ARTS) Metropolitan Planning Organization and Lower Savannah Council of Governments to fund projects.

Following is a review of local funding options for transportation projects.

## LOCAL FUNDING METHODS

Following is a brief description of alternate types of local funding methods.

- General obligation bonds
  - This is mostly used on very large capital projects or a series or package of large projects.
  - Generally not a cost effective solution for small to moderate transportation projects.
  
- Capital Project Sales Tax (CPST)
  - We have used this source, however, the next cycle will not be ready for several years. Current funds are allocated to other high-priority projects.
  
- Municipal/County improvement and assessment districts
  - There will be some lag between assessment and collection that may not provide immediate relief for needed projects
  - Plan would be required for districts and rate calculations
  
- Special tax district (debt-limit exempt) bonds for localized facilities and services
  - There will be some lag between assessment and collection that may not provide immediate relief for needed projects, but may be faster than ARTS
  
- Impact fees
  - Adopting these fees would require us to create a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). There are some specific requirements for those plans.
  - Websites with more information:
    - Mount Pleasant: <https://www.tomlinsonsc.com/154/Estimate-Mount-Pleasant-Impact-Fees>
    - Lexington: <https://www.lexsc.com/684/Impact-Fee-Documents>
    - To give you an idea of what these fees would be, Fort Mill recently completed a study and has proposed charging the following: The max fee for an apartment would be \$2,397 per unit. It's \$2,461 per 1,000 square feet of office building, \$1,939 per 1,000 square feet of shopping center and \$1,350 per 1,000 square feet of light industrial space.  
(<https://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/community/article243363771.html>)

Rural infrastructure, CDBG or other grant or loan programs may be available as well, but will require additional research and will have very specific applications.

Enter your name below  
Chris Morris

Email

[REDACTED]

Please type or attach your comments regarding the W. Martintown Rd. Corridor Study below.

**Paragraph Text**

I20 WB exit ramp is a disaster. No one yields. Knobcone could use a traffic light with all of the high school traffic. Gregory Lake Road intersection could use a slow down of some sort.

Attachment

**\*\*SKIPPED\*\***

enter your name below  
Debble Arflin

**Email**  
[REDACTED]

Please type or attach your comments regarding the W. Martintown Rd. Corridor Study below.

**Paragraph Text**

I agree completely that something needs to be done with this stretch. Traffic is heavy and fast. I live in Savannah Barony and getting out onto Martintown Road is a challenge. Realigning Old Plantation Rd to align with Knox Avenue would be great with a red light.

Attachment  
\*\*SKIPPED\*\*

Enter your name below  
Jonathan Turner


**Email**  
[REDACTED]

Please type or attach your comments regarding the W. Martintown Rd. Corridor Study below.

**Paragraph Text**

Let's do it! I'm in favor of the roundabouts. Go get it done!

**Attachment**  
\*\*SKIPPED\*\*

 enter your name below  
Denise Vaughn

**Email**  


Please type or attach your comments regarding the W. Martintown Rd. Corridor Study below.

**Paragraph Text**

Would love to see a red light on Martintown and Bergan Rd for safety. Too many accidents at this location.

Attachment  
\*\*SKIPPED\*\*



Enter your name below  
Cynthia White

Email

[REDACTED]

Please type or attach your comments regarding the W. Martintown Rd. Corridor Study below.

**Paragraph Text**

We live off Gregory Lake Rd. Traffic circles are a terrible idea. What is needed on Martintowne Rd are traffic lights and lower speed limits. Speed traps on Gregory Lake but not Martintowne are equally ridiculous.

Attachment

\*\*SKIPPED\*\*



RESOLUTION NO. 2021-xx  
TO ADOPT THE 2020-2021 WEST MARTINTOWN  
ROAD CORRIDOR STUDY

WHEREAS, the West Martintown Road Corridor has seen significant growth, leading to both capacity and safety challenges along the 1.1 mile corridor between Knobcone Avenue and Gregory Lake Road; and

WHEREAS, corridor improvements through transportation plans require a coordinated approach to solve long term issues with access, safety and funding; and

WHEREAS, the City of North Augusta contracted with AECOM to complete a study of the West Martintown Road Corridor in January of 2020 to accommodate future development as well as to mitigate any existing safety issues and improving multi-modal access; and

WHEREAS, the resulting project list is a guide for future improvements along the West Martintown Road Corridor with projects projected for near, intermediate and long term completion until 2040; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission, after reviewing the study and hearing any submitted public comment, unanimously recommended approval and a prioritization of projects at their February 18, 2021 regular meeting; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Augusta, South Carolina, in meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof, that: The North Augusta City Council does hereby adopt the West Martintown Road Study; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff is directed to enact the prioritized list of projects and facilitate funding of these projects through xx and xx.