



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

W E L C O M E T O T H E

I-26

CORRIDOR

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

MM 172-187

P U B L I C

HEARING

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to evaluate the project's impacts.
The approved EA is available for public review and comment through May 13, 2026.

A hard copy of the EA is available at the following locations:

- At the in-person public hearing on April 28, 2026 (4128 US 78, Dorchester, SC 29437)
- Dorchester County Library (506 N Parler Ave, St George, SC 29477)
- SCDOT Dorchester Maintenance (5225 E Jim Bilton Blvd, St George, SC 29477)
- SCDOT Headquarters (955 Park Street, Columbia, SC 29201)

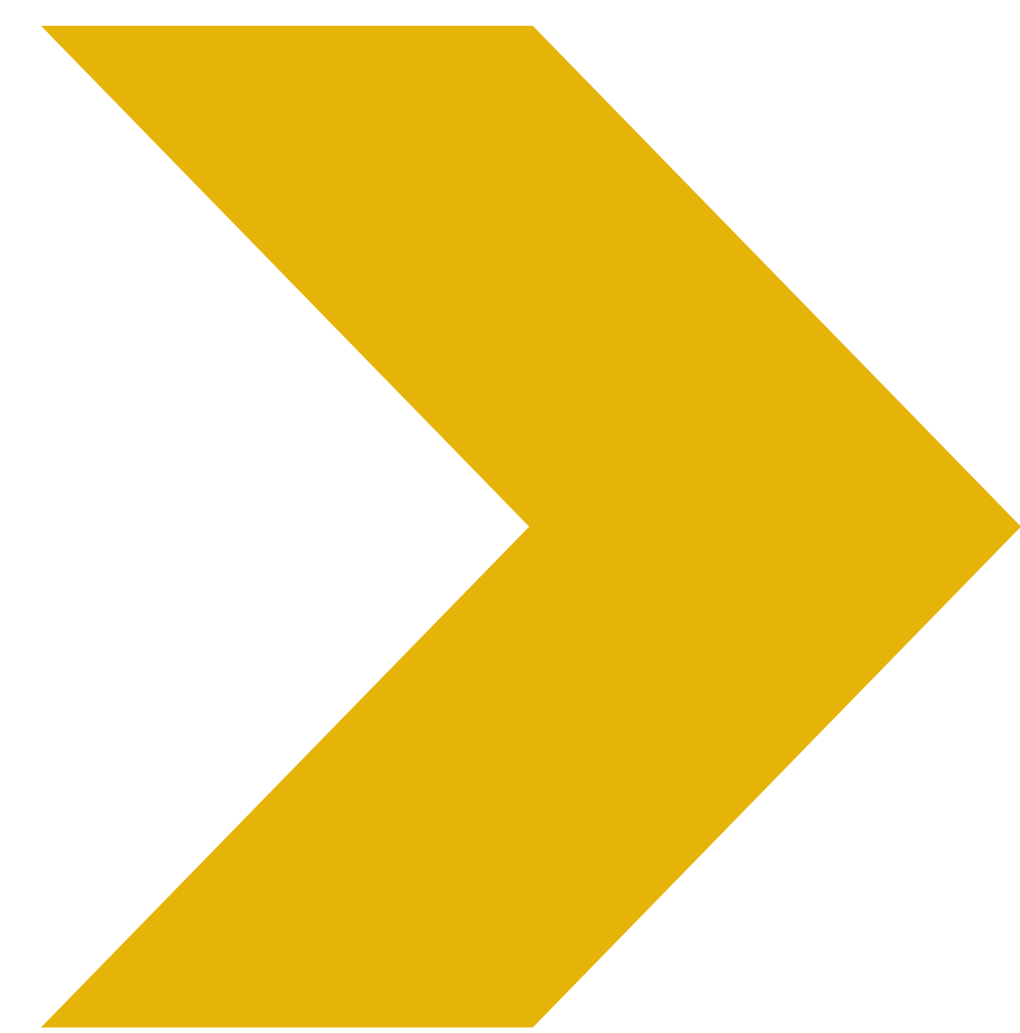
On the project website: www.i26improvements.com/mm172-187



AGENDA

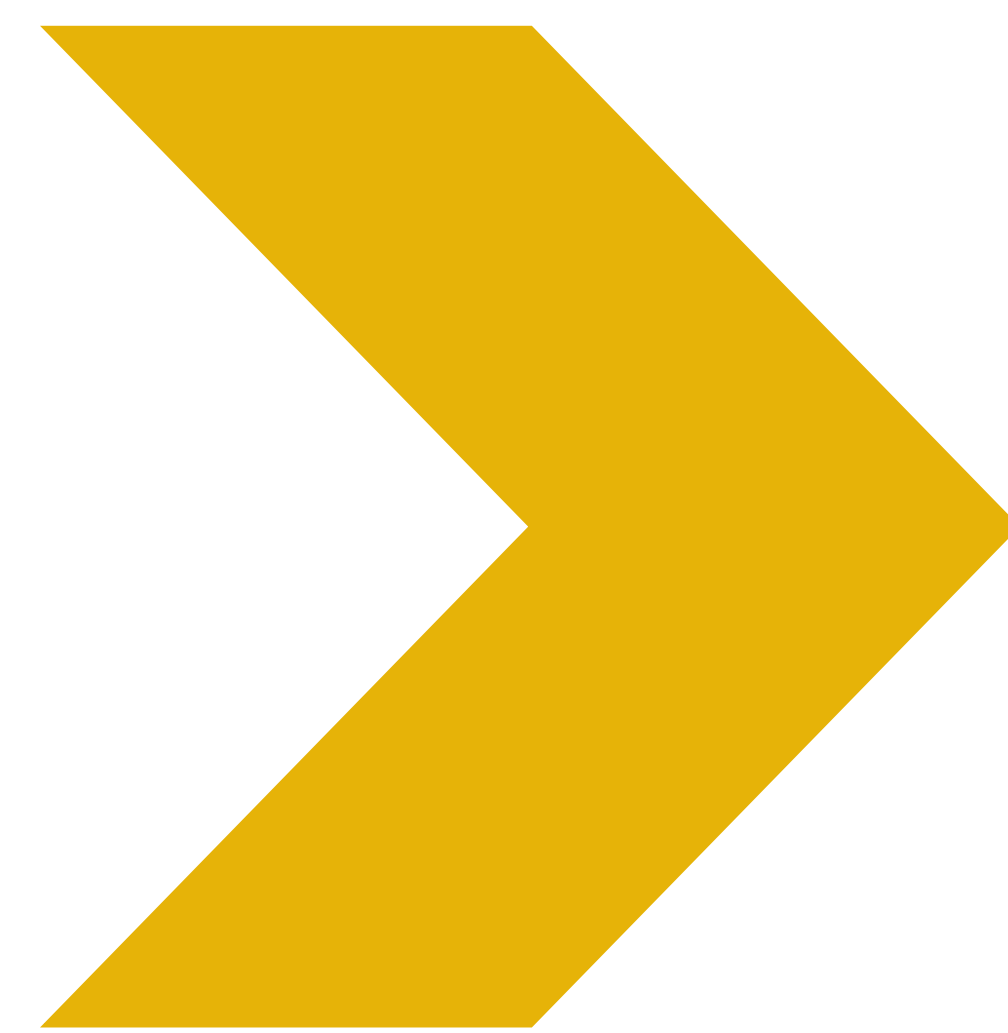
1

**Comment
Procedures**



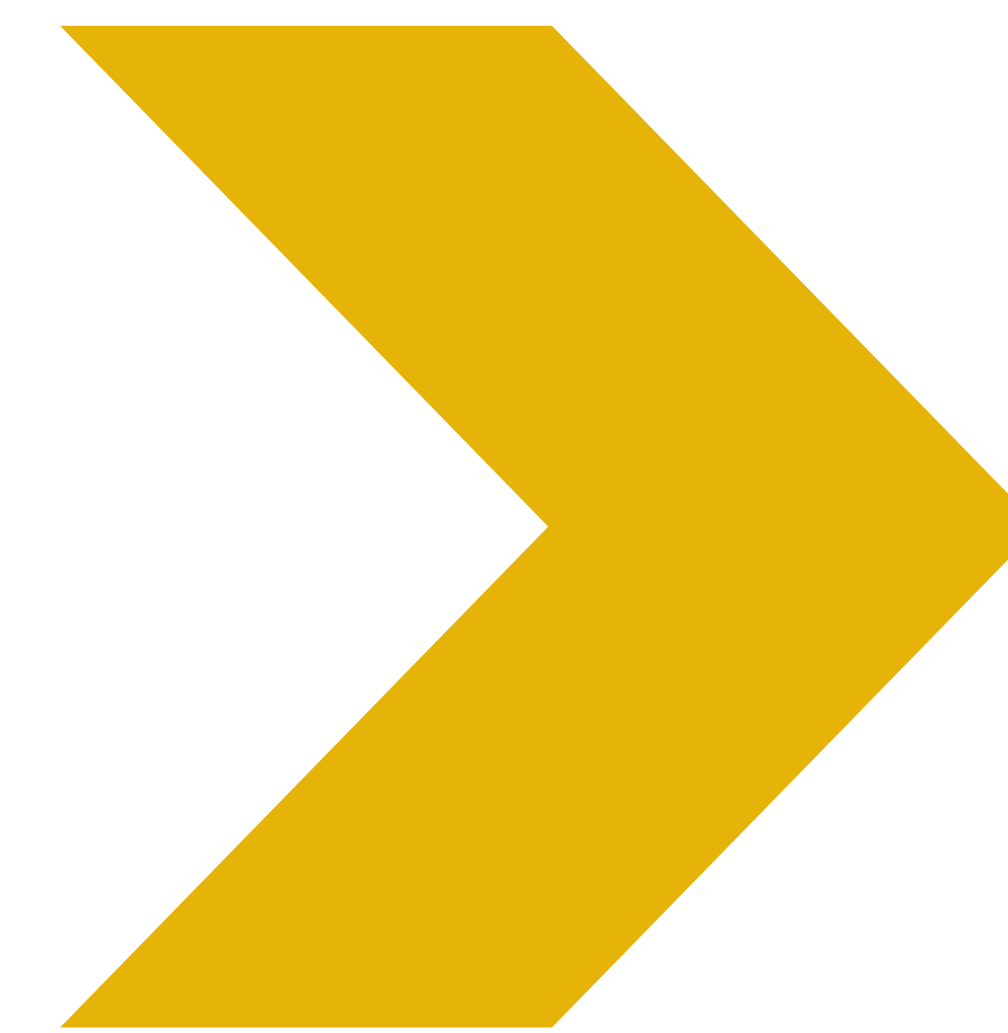
2

Formal Presentation



3

**Formal Verbal
Comment Session**



4

Closing





VERBAL COMMENT SESSION

PROCEDURES

- There will be no Q&A
- Commenters **MUST** have signed up in advance to speak
- **2-minute limit** per comment; 30 second warning provided
- Time is not transferable
- No profanity or personal attacks
- State your **name, address, and any group affiliation**





SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

Submit written comments in the following ways:



Public Hearing

Complete a comment form and place it in the box provided at the hearing.



Project Website

Complete an online comment form
www.i26improvements.com/mm172-187



Email

i26improvements@scdot.org



Mail

SCDOT
ATTN: C.T. York
P.O. Box 191
955 Park Street
Columbia, SC 29202

All written comments received by
May 13, 2026 will receive a written
response.

*All formal comments received during the comment period will be evaluated and included in the project record.
All information provided will be published and subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.*





PRESENTATION



I-26 OVERVIEW



Interstate 26

- » 222 miles across South Carolina
Longest interstate route in the state
- » Connects the three largest metro areas:
Greenville → Columbia → Charleston
- » Vital statewide corridor supporting:
Commercial freight • Daily personal travel • Tourism

Columbia to Charleston

- » Widen to three continuous lanes in each direction
- » Reduce frequent travel interruptions caused by congestion
- » Meet regional needs for safety, reliability, and economic stability





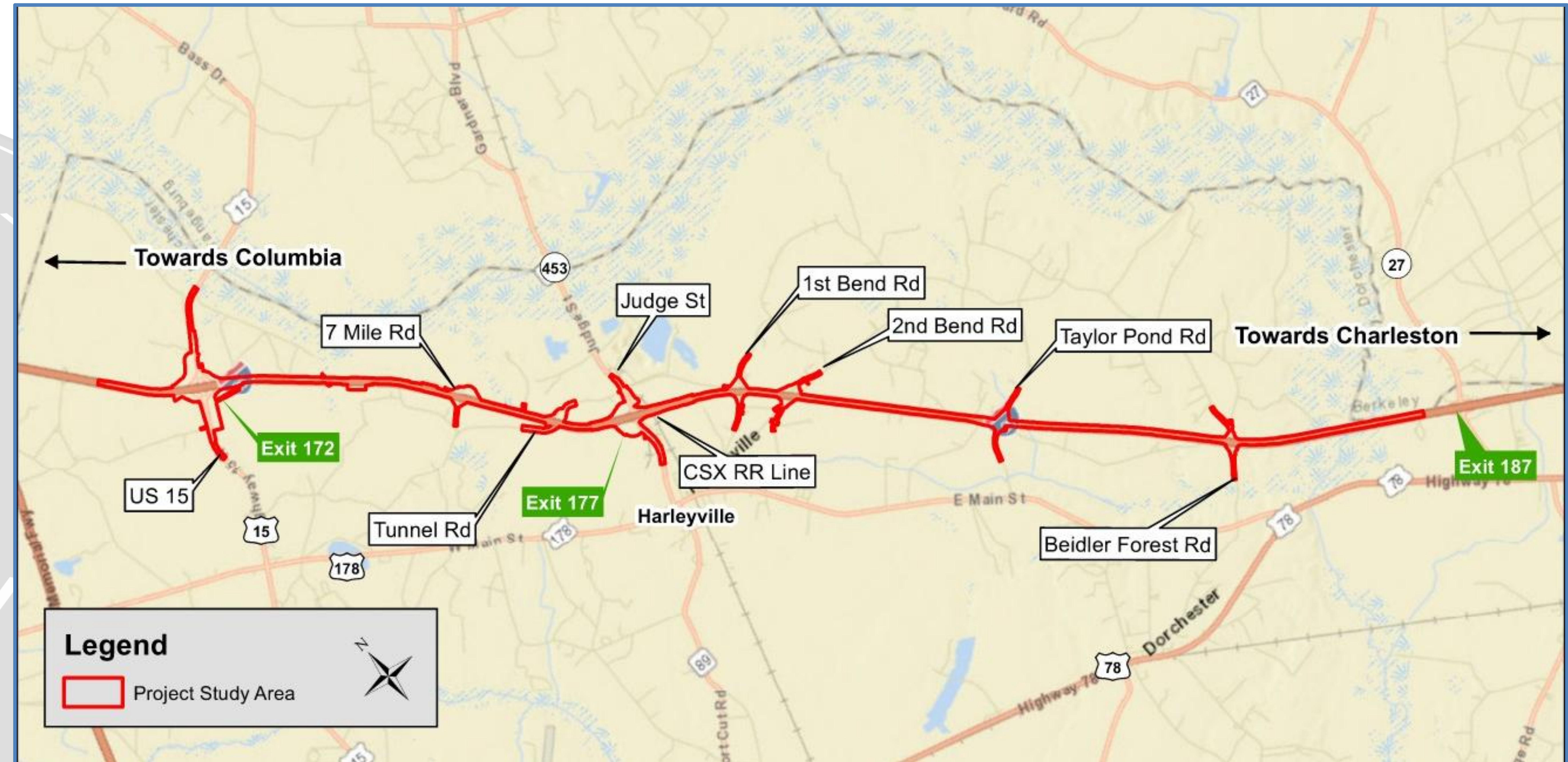
I-26 MM 172-187 PROJECT STUDY AREA

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

11 BRIDGES

5 OVERPASS BRIDGES
4 MAINLINE BRIDGES
2 INTERCHANGE OVERPASSES

6 BOX CULVERTS





PURPOSE & NEED

PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the project is to **improve traffic operations** and existing geometry associated with the existing roadways and bridges **along I-26 between mile markers (MM) 172 and 187.**

The project is needed due to existing and projected traffic volumes and operating conditions along this section of I-26.



CAPACITY

Increase the number of vehicles that can travel on the segment safely.



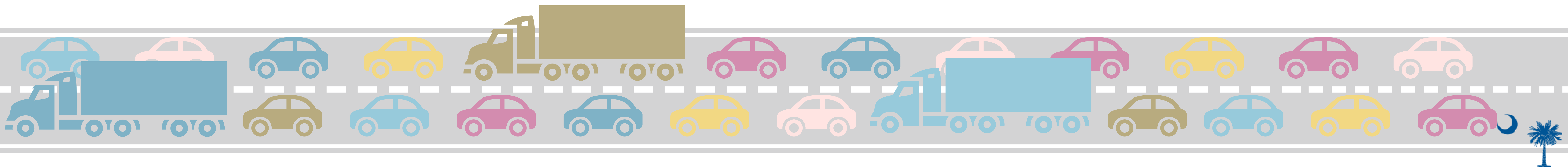
OPERATIONS

Update interchanges and bridges to current design standards and desired performance levels.



DESIGN OPTIMIZATION

Address geometric deficiencies that contribute to the corridor's operational deficiencies.

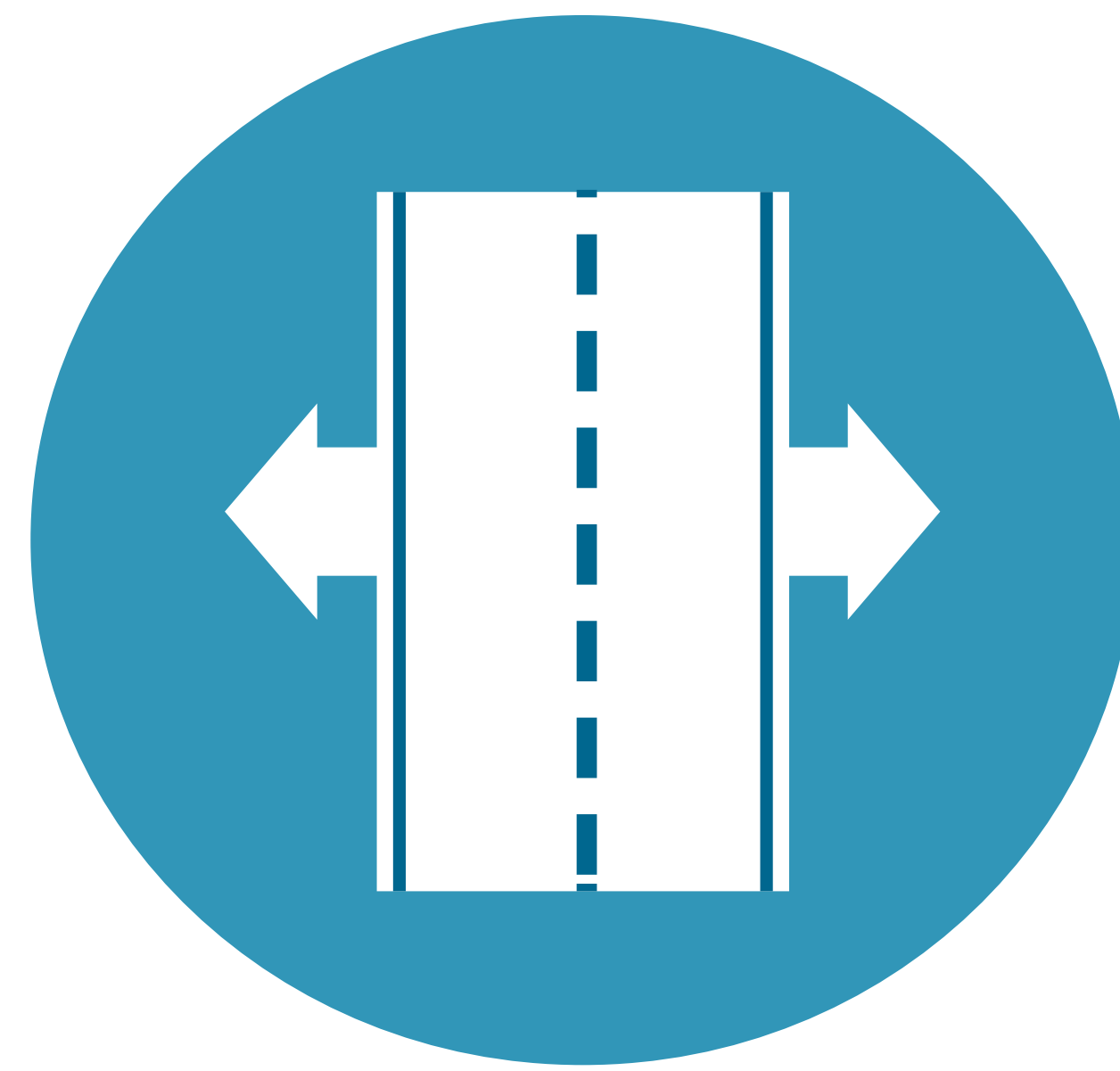


RECOMMENDED PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

**AS CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE PUBLIC INFO MEETING IN
JANUARY 2025**



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS



15

Miles of Interstate
Corridor

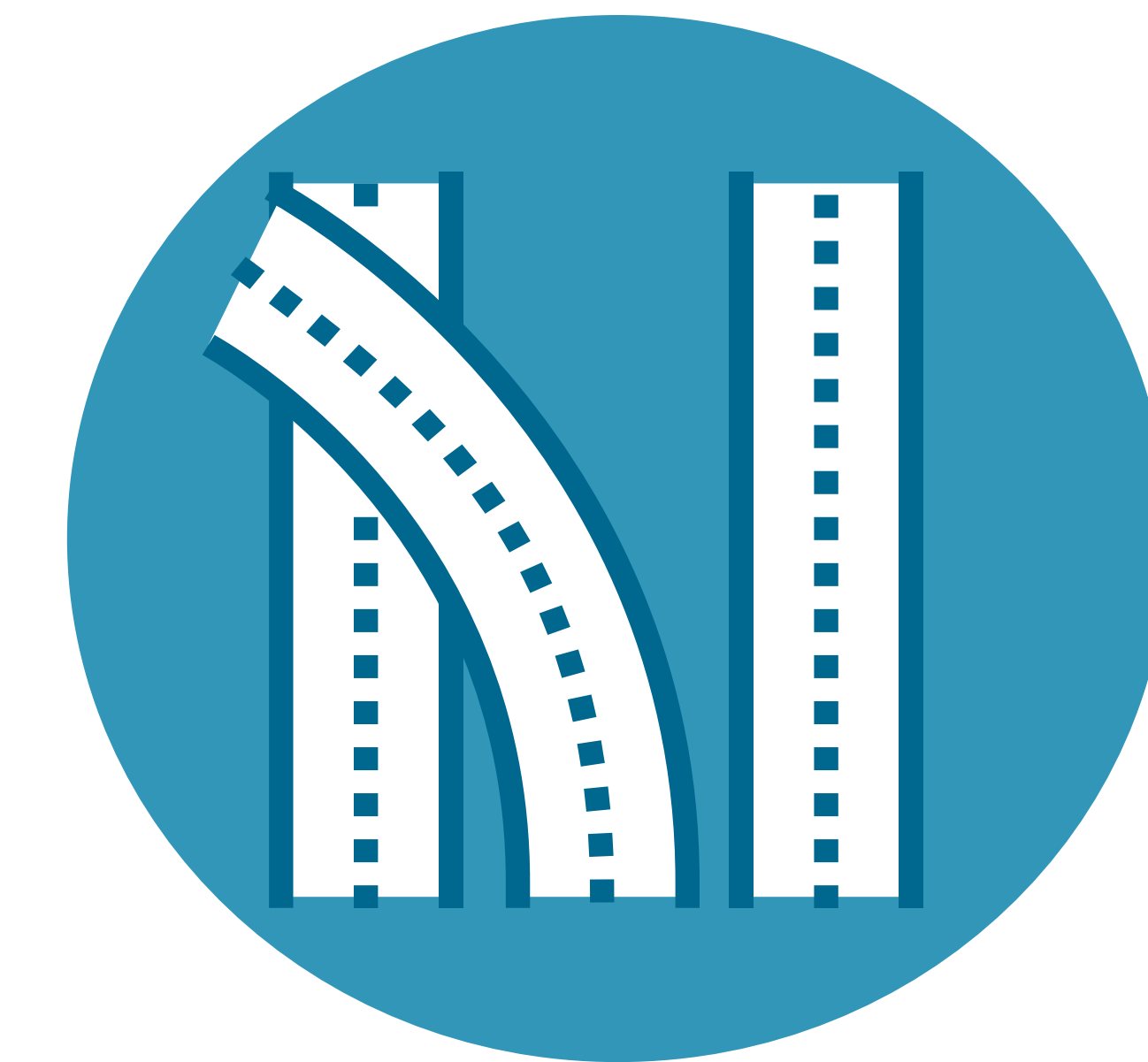
*1 new lane
in each direction*



9

Overpass/Mainline
Bridges

*Replace to
accommodate
interstate widening,
with 2 requiring a
close and detour*



2

Interchanges

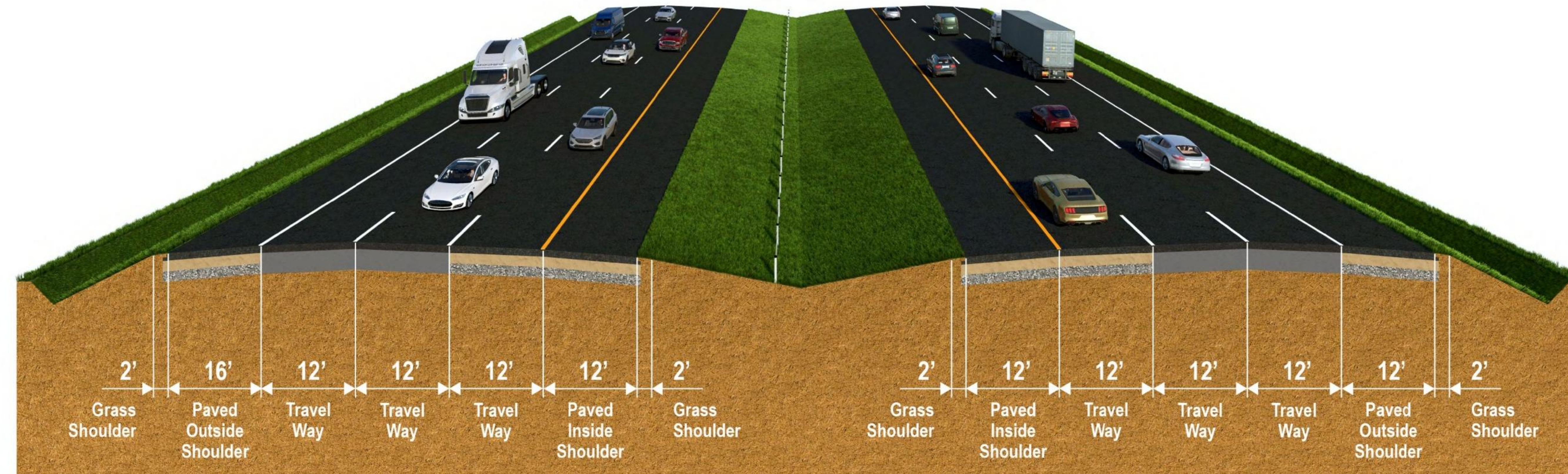
*Major interchange
improvements at
Exit 172 and
Exit 177*



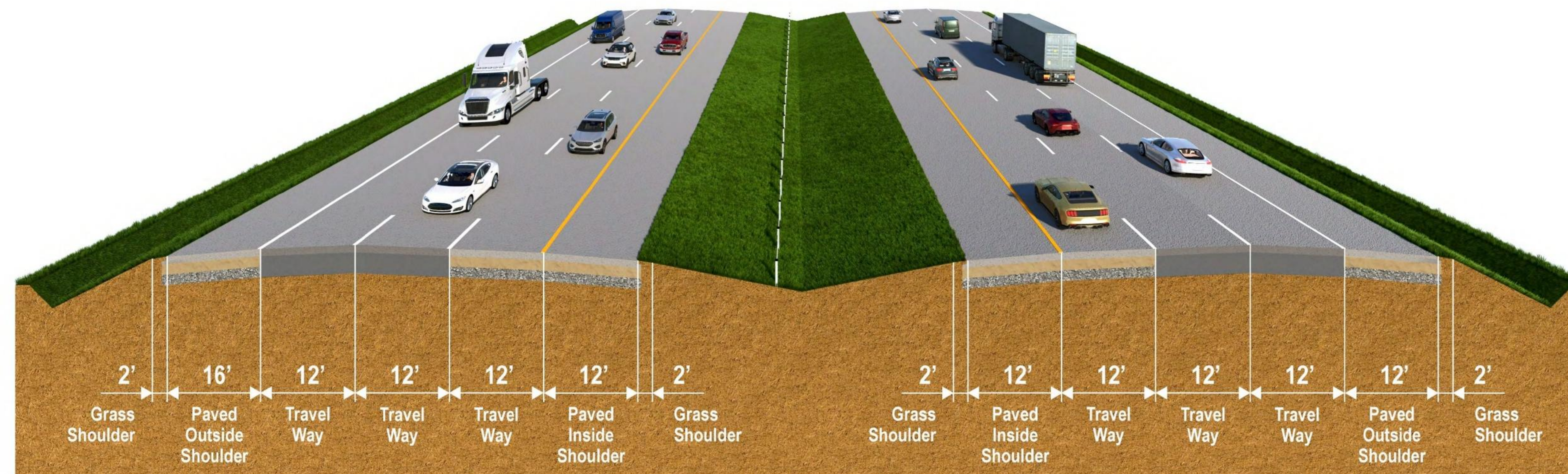


I-26 MAINLINE TYPICAL SECTION

LOOKING TOWARDS CHARLESTON



ASPHALT SECTION MILE MARKER 172 TO MILE MARKER 173 & MILE MARKER 182 TO MILE MARKER 187

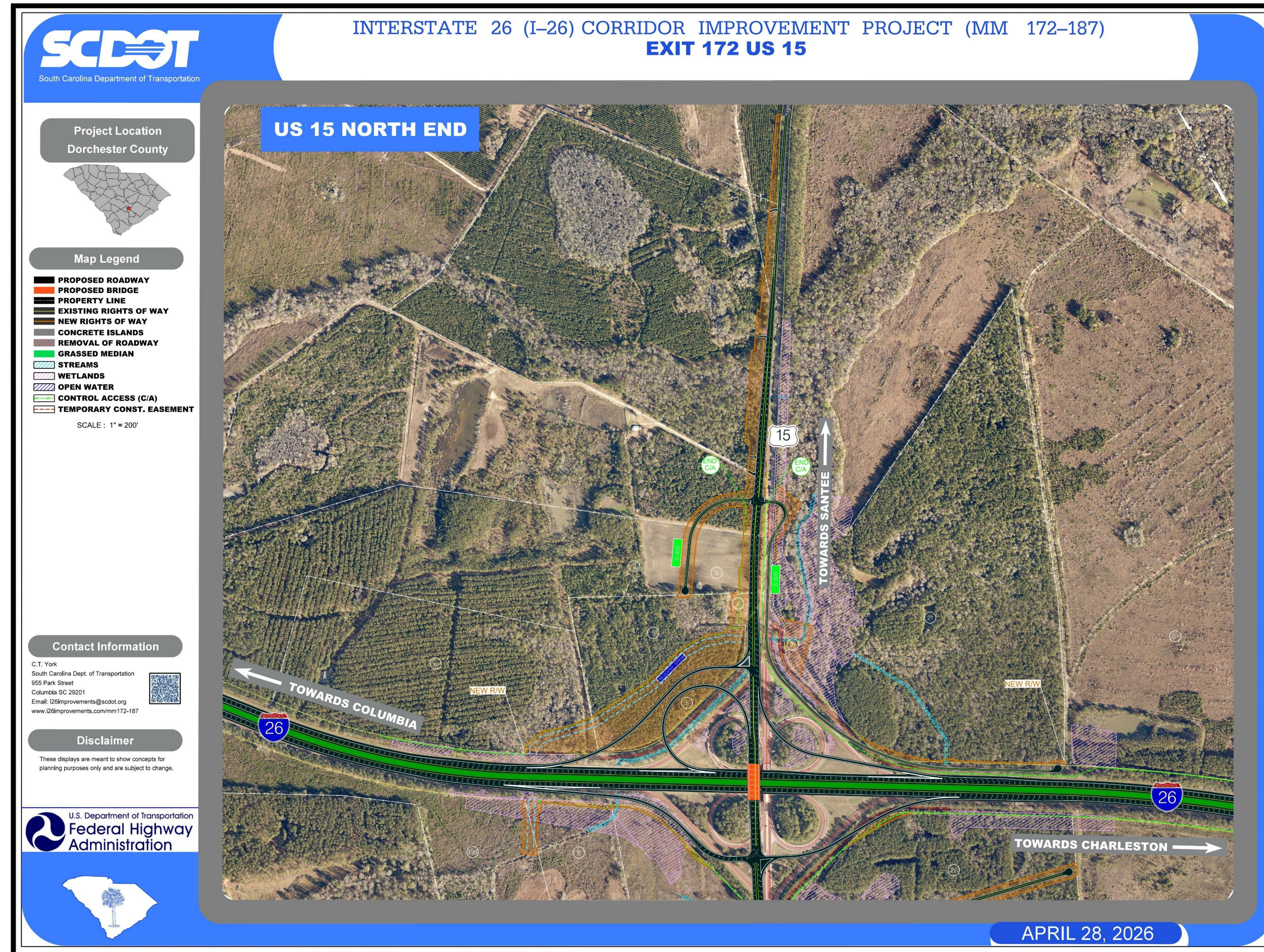


CONCRETE SECTION MILE MARKER 173 TO MILE MARKER 182



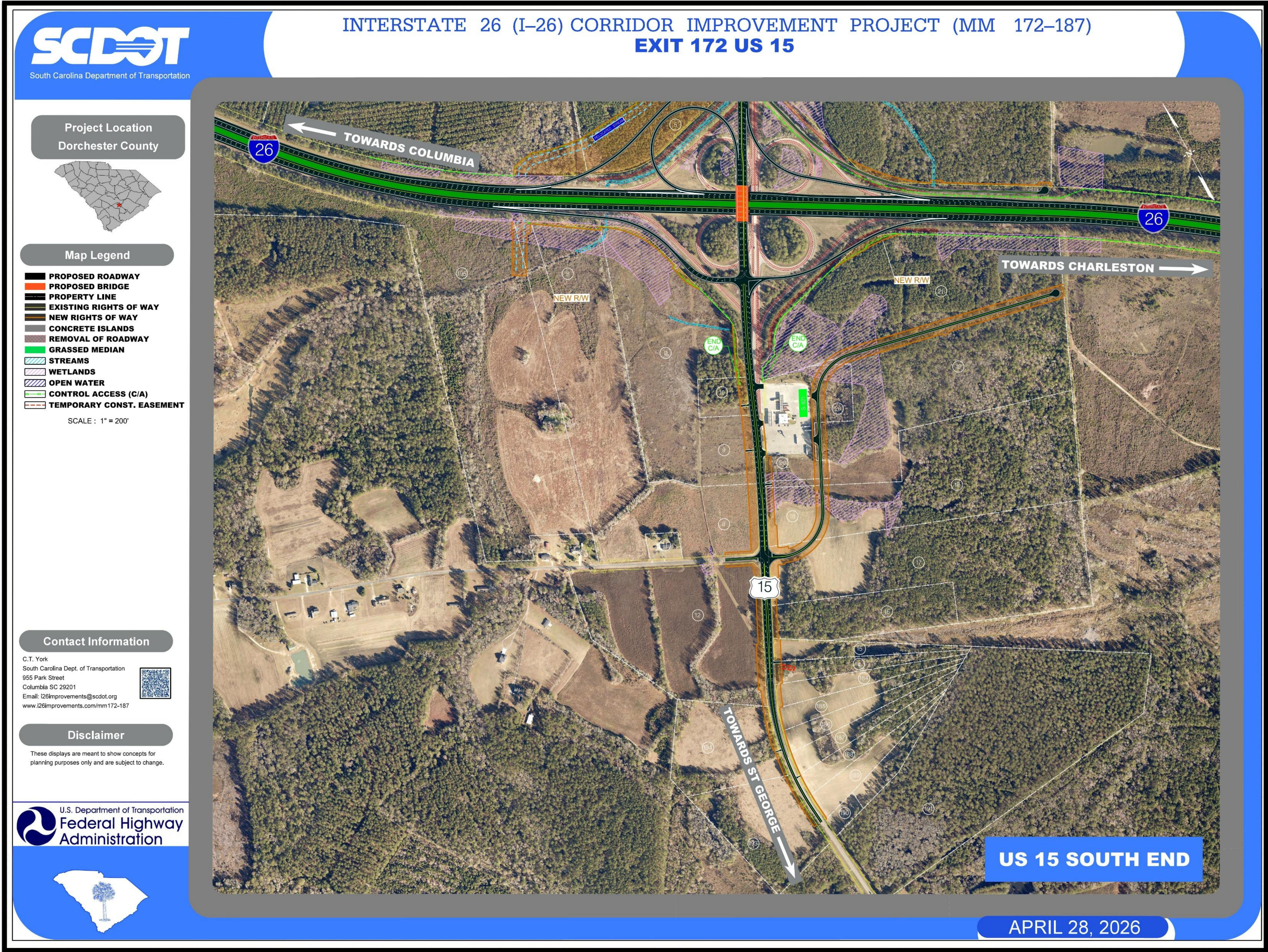


US 15 at I-26 Interchange (Exit 172)



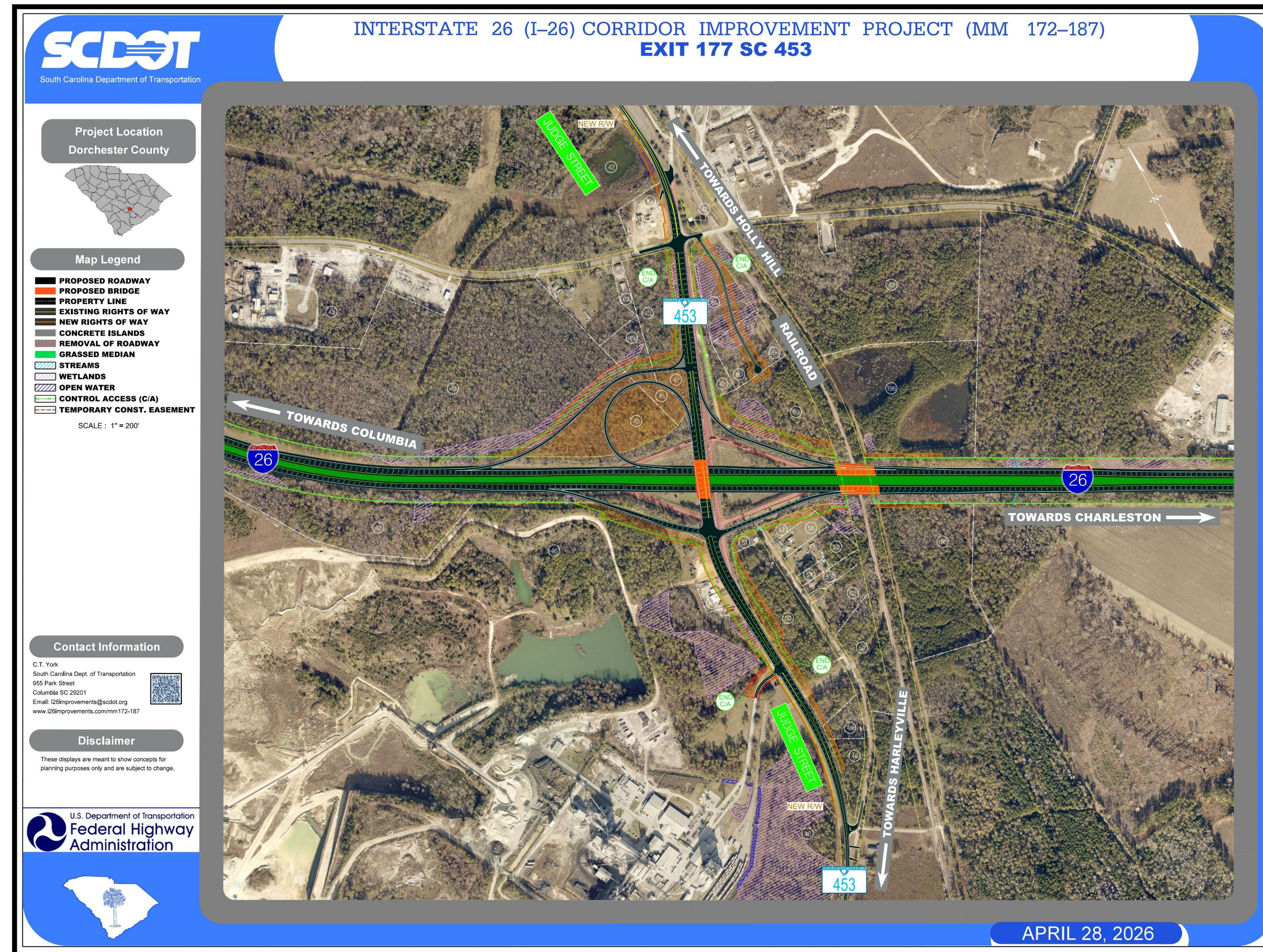


US 15 at I-26 Interchange (Exit 172)





SC 453 at I-26 Interchange (Exit 177)





BRIDGES & OVERPASSES

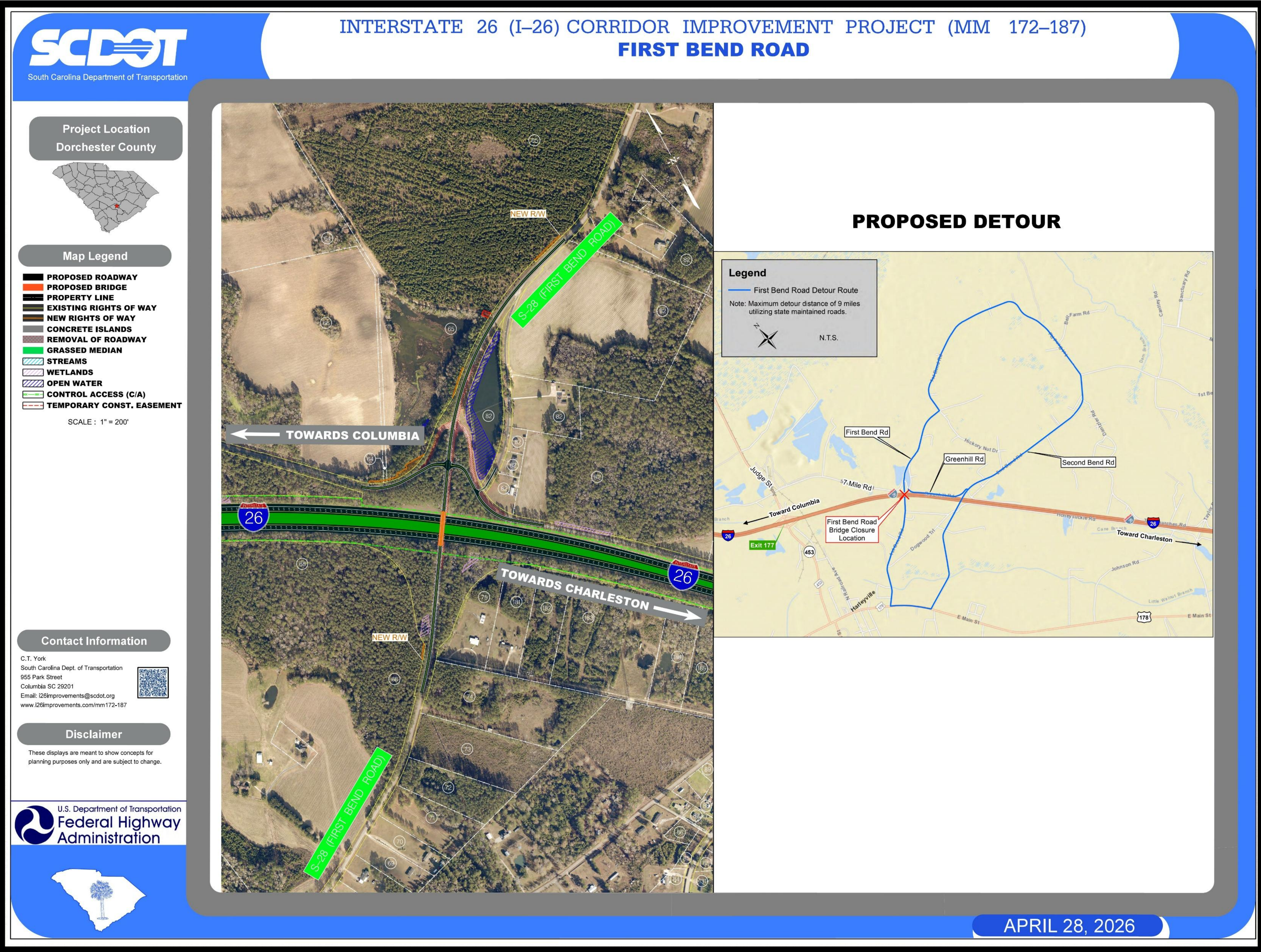
Seven Mile Road Overpass



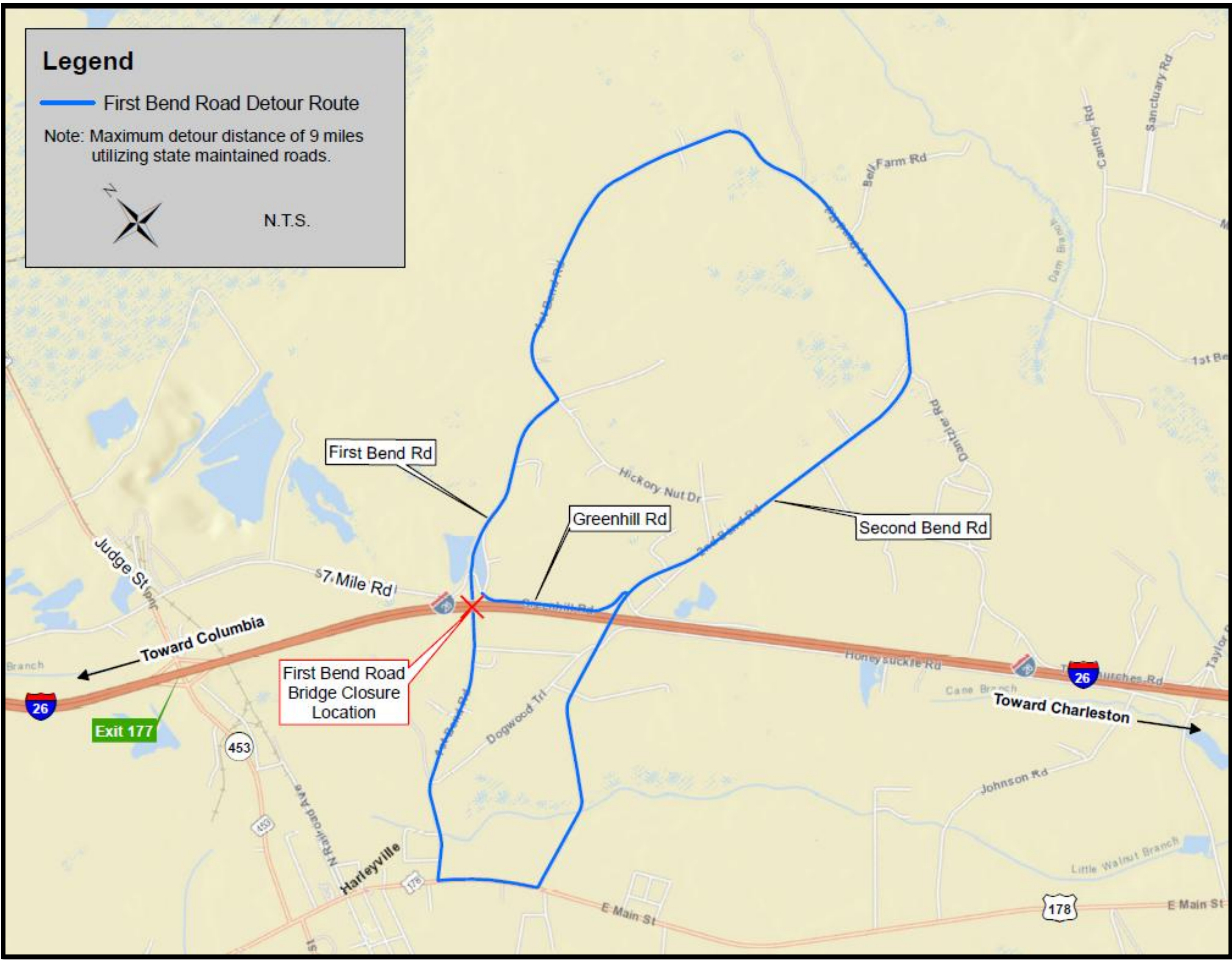


BRIDGES & OVERPASSES

First Bend Road Overpass



First Bend Road Overpass Detour

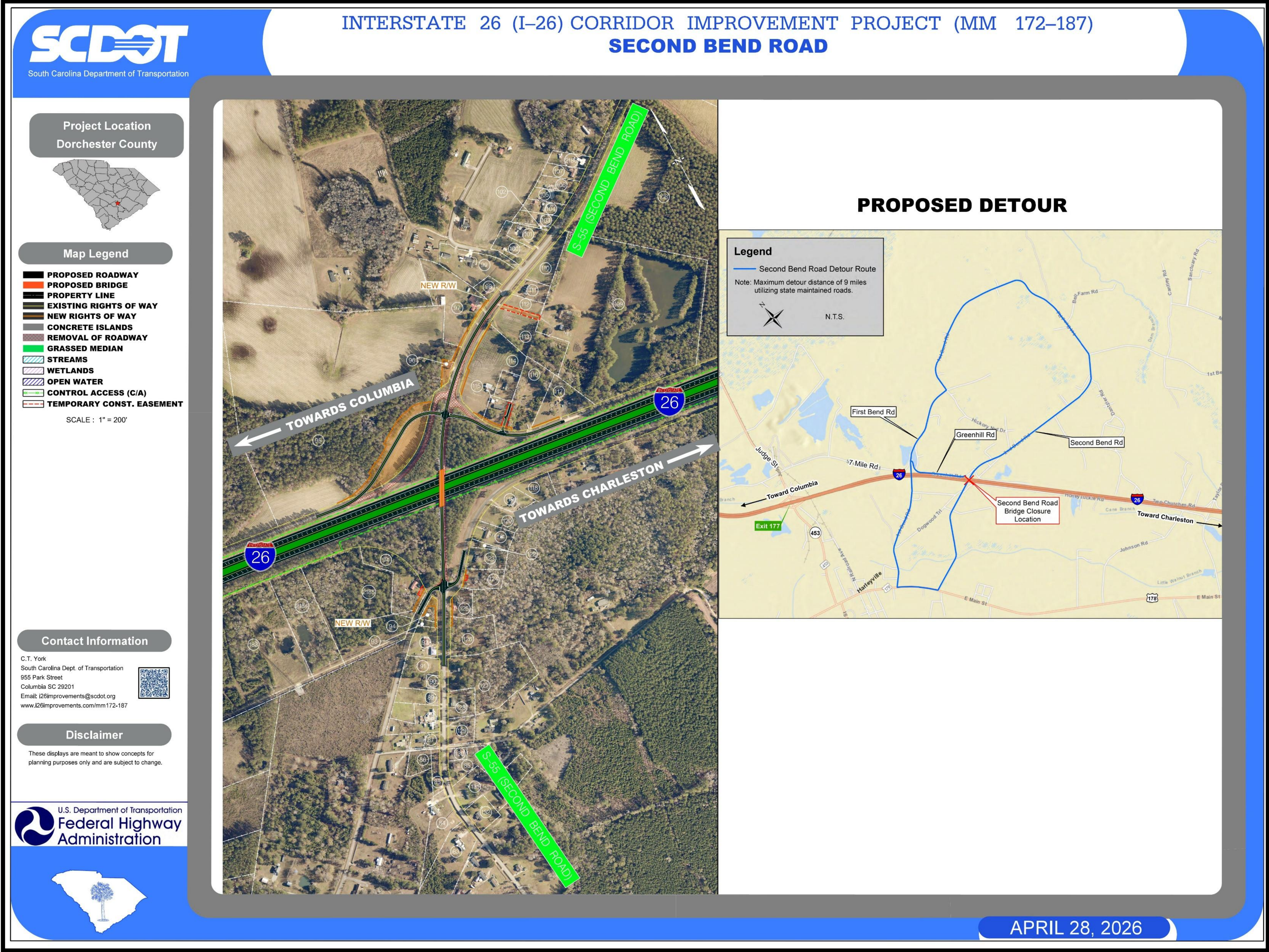




BRIDGES & OVERPASSES

Second Bend Road Overpass

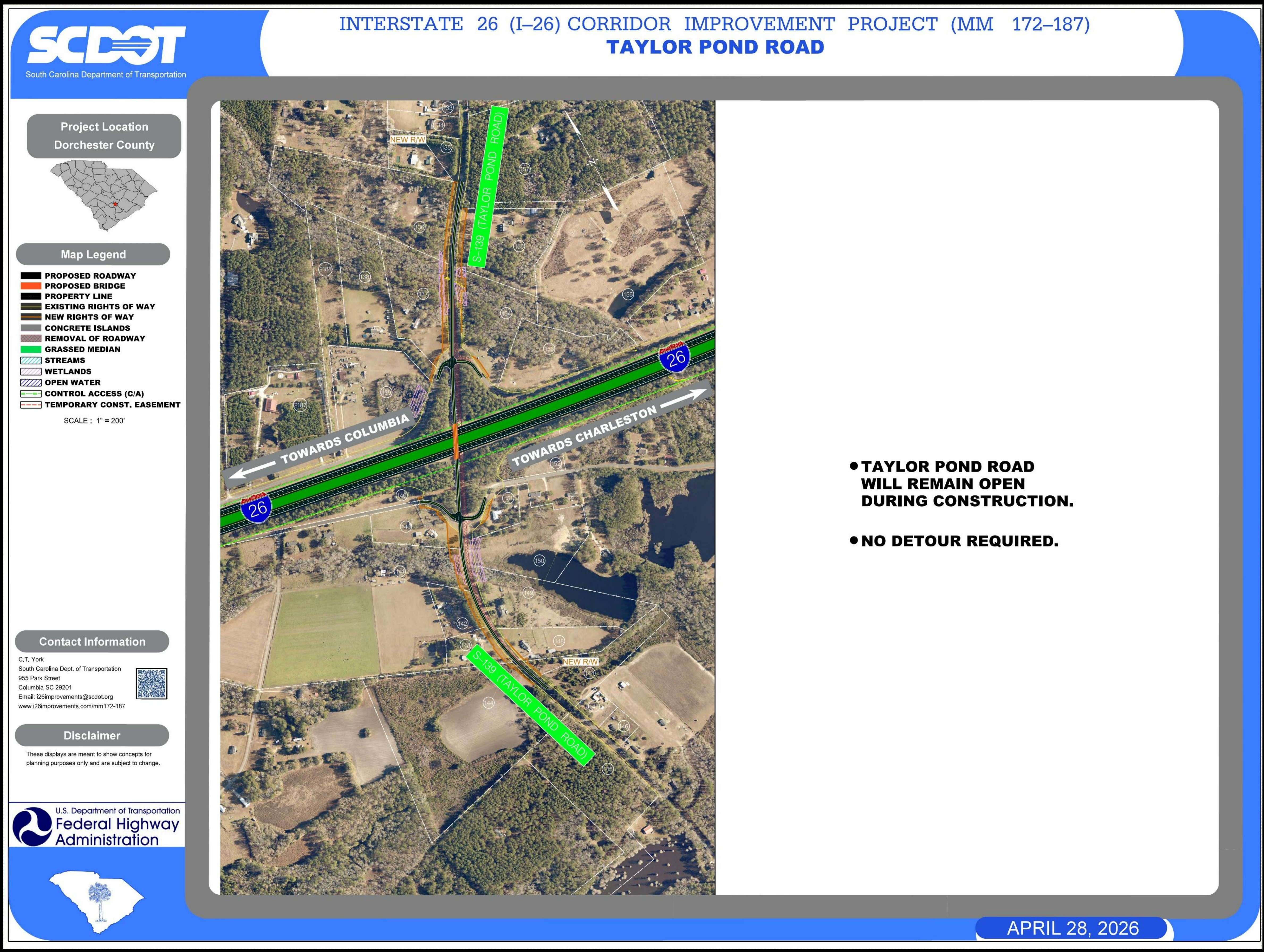
Second Bend Road Overpass Detour



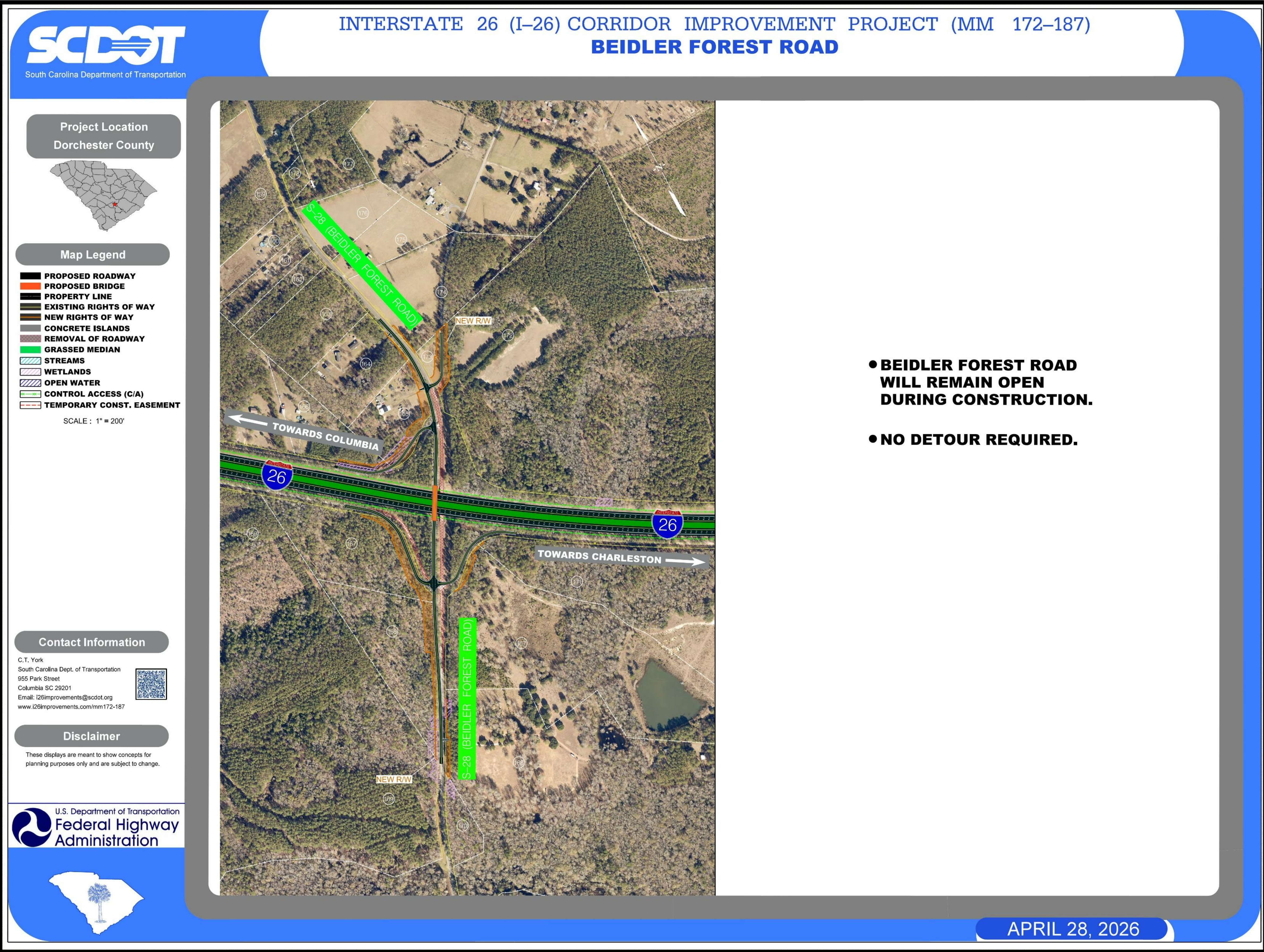


BRIDGES & OVERPASSES

Taylor Pond Road Overpass



Beidler Forest Road Overpass





POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Impact category	US 15 interchange	SC 453 interchange	Mainline and overpasses	Total impacts
New potential ROW (acres)	42	28	18	88
Stream impacts (linear feet)	2,230	120	950	3,300
Wetland impacts (acres)	13.5	8.0	7.5	29.0
Pond (acres)	0	0.10	0	0.10
Possible relocations (commercial)	0	2	1	3
Hazardous materials sites	2	5	1	8
Floodplain impacts (acres)	53.5	0	25.5	79.0

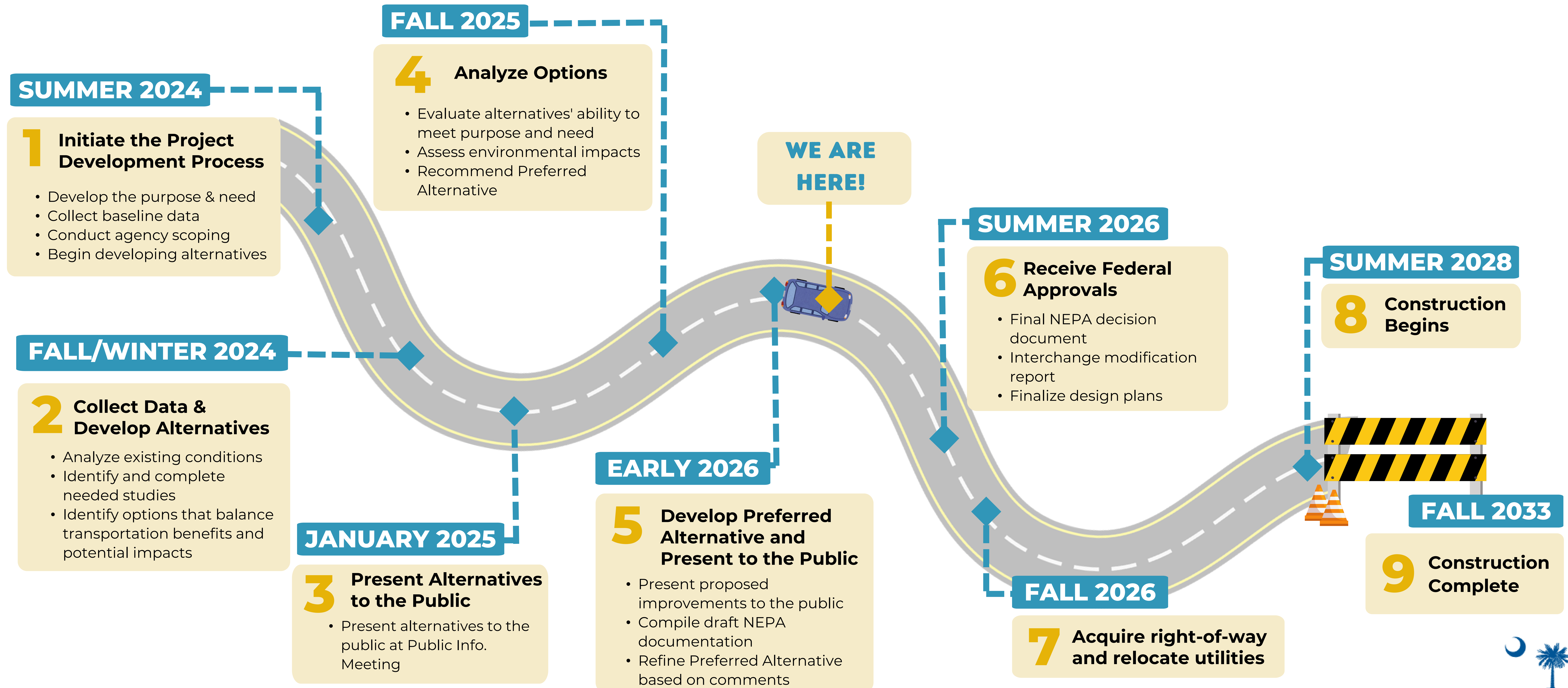




PROJECT TIMELINE



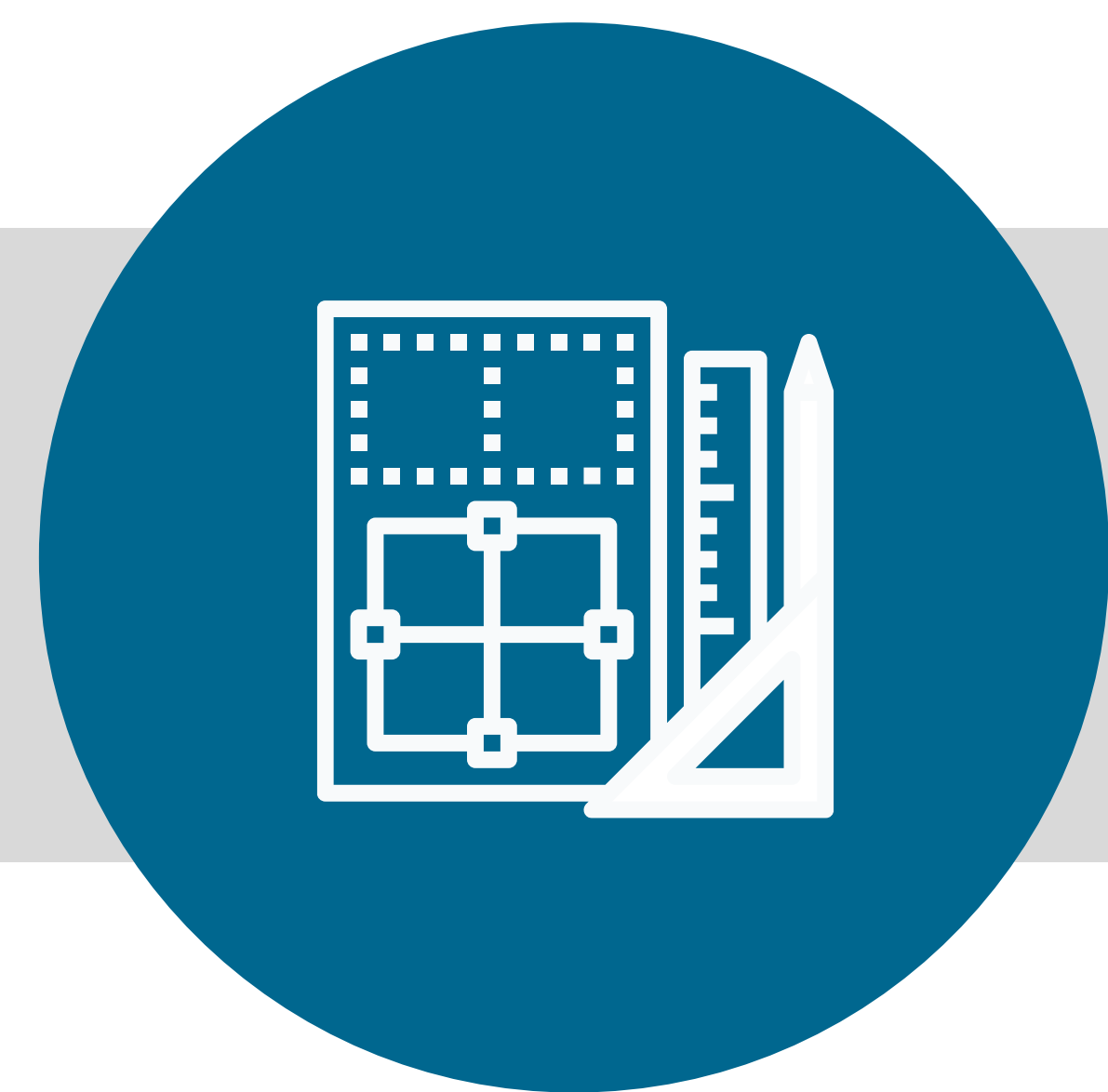
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS





TYPICAL RIGHT-OF-WAY PROCESS

SCDOT right-of-way processes follow the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970



Design



Initial Contact



Appraisals



Offers



Relocations



**Closing,
Payment**





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Federal Highway Administration

VERBAL PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION



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