



**Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**In-Person Meeting at James Island Town Hall**  
**1122 Dills Bluff, James Island, SC 29412**  
**December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 3:00 P.M.**

In attendance: Chairwoman Brook Lyon, Mike Hemmer, Spencer Wetmore, Chris Bizzell, Katie Zimmerman, Bobbie Lyon, Monica Eustace, Aaron Pope, Eliza Story, Amanda Cox, Jacquie Berger, Jenna Stephens, Joe Walters, Ashley Kellahan, Torrey Sanders, Charles Wilson, Eric Draper, Carol Temple, Mary?

- I. Welcome – Chairwoman Lyon called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
- II. Previous Meeting Minutes – Chairwoman Lyon  
A motion to approve the minutes from September 25th, Steering Committee Meeting was made and seconded to approve; passed unanimously.
- III. Public Comments:
  - Charles Wilson introduced himself as a property owner along Folly Road near Grimball Road and indicated he is against the raised medians being planned by SCDOT as a safety improvement. Mr. Wilson feels this will be to the detriment of businesses along Folly Road.
  - Eric Draper introduced himself as a property owner along Folly Road and indicated he is against the raised medians being planned by SCDOT as a safety improvement. Mr. Draper also feels this will be to the detriment of businesses along Folly Road.
- IV. Old Business:
  - a. SCDOT Road Safety Audit  
The Committee discussed the Audit at length. Mr. Walters also represents property interests along Folly Road and has concerns over the raised medians and “uncontrolled crosswalks” being planned. Mr. Whittle could not attend, but emailed in a list of areas he felt would be affected by the raised medians. Other committee members questioned the locations of the raised medians and other improvements. The group discussed possible changes if SCDOT can incorporate any adjustments after the public input period.  
  
Spencer Wetmore moved, seconded by Chris Bizzell to ask Stantec and DOT to reconsider accident data and its correlation to the most dangerous areas along Folly Road and review the necessity of raised medians where they would impact business areas; motion approved unanimously.



Spencer Wetmore moved, seconded by Jenna Stephens, to reiterate to Stantec that there should be no uncontrolled pedestrian crossings going across Folly Road and that the side streets would be the only uncontrolled crossings; motion approved unanimously.

b. Consultant Discussion

The Committee reviewed and discussed information developed by Katie Zimmerman and Kristin Crane regarding a Rethink Folly Road Consultant/Program Manager. The group discussed how the scope would be smaller and more specifically grant-oriented.

V. New Business:

a. Discretionary Grant Opportunities

Kyle James of the BCDCOG previously provided notices of funding opportunity regarding Fiscal Year 2025 RAISE and 2025 PROTECT grants. The committee discussed the deadlines for these programs and that the RAISE program may be focused on a Better Northbridge application. However, RAISE is a possibility for planning and consulting work.

Jenna Stephens moved and Brook Lyon seconded to communicate to BCDCOG that the committee would be interested in pursuing a RAISE grant for pre-engineer for Rethink Folly Road phases 2 and 3; motion approved unanimously.

VI. Jurisdictional Updates:

- a. Amanda Cox with the City of Charleston indicated they were seeking zoning code update input through February.
- b. Jenna Stephens noted that Folly Beach is working on gathering input for the Bowen's Island/Folly Road improvement project.
- c. Brook Lyon noted that James Island is working on a flagpole display at the Carolina One office building location and soliciting input for a new James Island Arts Center.

VII. Next Meeting – To be determined.

VIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm