

Beaufort County News Release

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH SECTION | COMMUNICATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY DEPARTMENT

Contacts:

Joshua A. Gruber
Deputy County Administrator/Special Counsel
Beaufort County
843.255.2055

Adrian Morris
General Manager and Chief Operating Officer
Berkeley Hall
843.815.8494

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 14, 2015



Beaufort County and Berkeley Hall Reach Consensus for Frontage Road Project at Saint Gregory the Great Campus

Beaufort County and Berkeley Hall are pleased to announce that Berkeley Hall residents recently voted in favor of a proposed frontage road project along U.S. Highway 278, which will help ease traffic congestion at the Saint Gregory the Great Catholic Church campus. The 315-4 vote comes after more than 6 years of negotiations between the parties.

“We are delighted that we can now move this project forward,” said Paul Sommerville, Beaufort County Council Chairman. “All parties had a mutual desire to focus on a solution. I am proud of the outcome that will increase public safety at one of the busiest traffic corridors in the County. I especially want to thank my colleagues on Beaufort County Council, the Berkeley Hall Board of Directors, State Senator Tom Davis, State Representatives Bill Herbkersman and Weston Newton, and Bluffton Township Fire Chief John Thompson for their assistance. I also want to thank Reverend Monsignor Ronald Cellini and his parishioners, as well as the Saint Gregory the Great Pastoral Council, for their support during this process.”

The proposed project entails construction of a frontage road at the church campus by connecting it to U.S. 278 at the entrances to Berkeley Hall to the west and the Bluffton Township Fire District headquarters (Fire Station 35) to the east, as well as installation of a fully-signalized traffic light at the entry point to the fire station to replace the yellow flashing light. The South Carolina Department of Transportation has indicated that they will approve the plan.

“Berkeley Hall is very pleased that the parties have come to a suitable resolution regarding this matter. The new traffic signal will especially help to increase safety for all of our residents and visitors,” said Adrian Morris, Berkeley Hall General Manager and Chief Operating Officer.

Beaufort County Administrator Gary Kubic concurred with Morris, adding that the proposed roadway improvements will help ensure increased public safety for Saint Gregory’s parishioners and students, as well as other motorists traveling on U.S. 278. “The County has funding in place to complete the project. As a result of collaborative efforts and the Berkeley Hall residents’ vote, the County’s Traffic Engineering Division will immediately take steps to finalize the design process to facilitate construction of the project.”