



Highway 41 Corridor Improvements Update

Town of Mount Pleasant Briefing

January 27, 2026





Why We're Here

- More than 2,500 homes have been added in Carolina Park over the past decade
- Ongoing growth in Berkeley County continues to push additional traffic into Mt. Pleasant, with the potential for up to 12,000 new homes
- Approximately 25% of new trips generated in Cainhoy are expected to use Hwy 41 within Charleston County



Growth is worsening congestion on Hwy 41 and action is needed now



The Reality

- Highway 41 functions as a regional connector, carrying both local and regional traffic
- Limited routes force all travel onto Highway 41, so crashes and incidents quickly ripple across the system
- As congestion increases, traffic diverts into neighborhood streets, worsening cut-through traffic
- Emergency response times and daily travel reliability are already being affected
- Further delay will only increase project costs and community impacts over time
- The 3-lane section through Phillips will not support future growth



Doing nothing is choosing continued congestion, neighborhood impacts, and delayed emergency response.



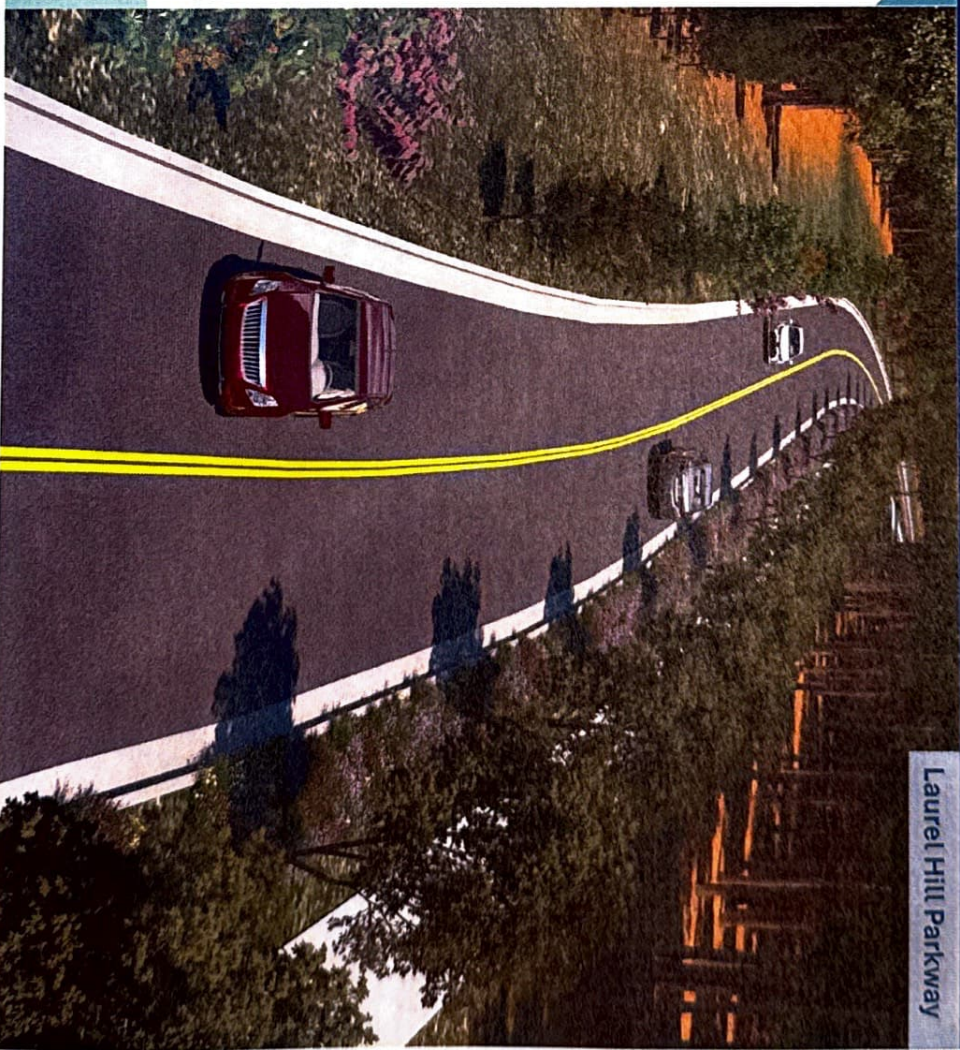


Why Laurel Hill Parkway Matters

- Provides a direct route home for Park West and Dunes West residents, reducing traffic through the 3-lane section through the historic Phillips Community
- Relieves pressure at key intersections, improving the corridor
- Reduces backups from Highway 41 into the Dunes West Boulevard intersection, especially during peak hours
- Keeps regional and commuter traffic off neighborhood streets, improving safety and quality of life for Mt. Pleasant residents
- Restores Bessemer Road as a true neighborhood street, with nearly a 90% reduction in future vehicle traffic



Laurel Hill Parkway is a relief valve for Dunes West and Park West residents, not a bypass for commuting traffic.



Laurel Hill Parkway

LHP - Environmental Considerations

- 10 acres of the far western edge of the Park will need to be cleared
- Of the Park's 750 acres, 740 will remain untouched
- No trails will be impacted
- Less than 2 acres of wetlands will be affected
- The design includes narrower shoulders, boardwalk crossings over wetlands, and drainage improvements



Environmental considerations are built into the design of LHP.



What Highway 41 Delivers

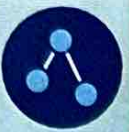
- Reduced congestion along Highway 41 and improved mobility on local roadways
- Less cut-through traffic in neighborhood streets like Bessemer Road
- Improved safety and more reliable emergency access
- A stronger, more resilient transportation network that functions under everyday and incident conditions
- Enhanced bicycle and pedestrian connectivity through Mt. Pleasant Way



Improved roundabout at Park West Blvd, Dunes West Blvd and Laurel Hill Parkway

The Responsible Choice

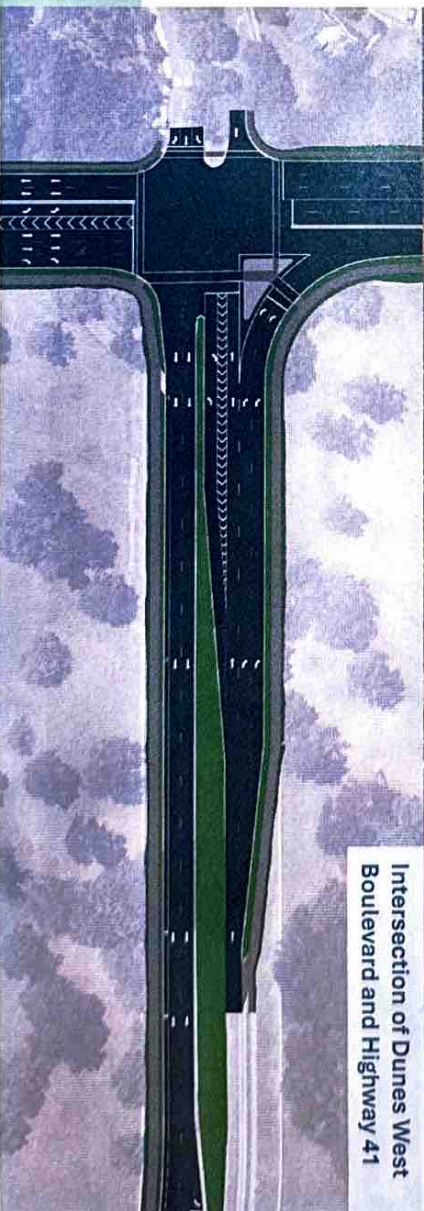
- Growth is occurring and will continue with or without new roadway investments
- Highway 41 and Laurel Hill Parkway function together as a coordinated corridor solution
- Proactive investment today protects neighborhoods, safety, and mobility for the future
- The 4-3-4 alone isn't enough. Laurel Hill Parkway is critical to allowing traffic to flow through the 3-lane section of the Phillips Community



This project reflects a responsibility to plan for growth.



Intersection of Dunes West Boulevard and Wando Plantation Way



Intersection of Dunes West Boulevard and Highway 41

Upcoming Schedule



Construction plans submitted to SCDOT – January 9, 2026



Environmental permit approvals expected – End of February 2026



Final construction plans submitted to SCDOT and Town – March 2026



Construction plan approved by SCDOT – May 2026



Town encroachment permit and maintenance agreement is needed – May 2026



ROW acquisition completed – June 2026



Advertise for construction – June 2026



Construction contract awarded – September 2026

Thank You

