

MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

Dorchester County and the Town of Summerville held a public meeting about the Main Street Improvements Projects on Tuesday, January 13, at Summerville Elementary School. The Main Street Improvements Projects are a collaborative initiative between Dorchester County and the Town of Summerville to enhance Main Street (US 17A) from Carolina Avenue to US Highway 78. The projects are designed to improve safety, strengthen corridor resiliency, and promote pedestrian and bicycle use within the downtown corridor. Public comments were accepted at the meeting and will continue to be accepted through February 13.

We have reviewed initial comments from the public and appreciate the constructive feedback we've received so far! Your feedback is critical in helping us shape and improve the project designs. Likewise, we want to provide context on the proposed improvements for additional clarification.

This project will provide:

- **Sidewalk and Shared-Use Path Improvements** to enhance pedestrian safety, connectivity, and accessibility within the project corridor. Improving the existing sidewalks and adding shared-use paths will enhance walkability and bikeability along Main Street, encourage residents to use alternative modes of transportation, and reduce vehicular traffic between residential, school, and commercial sites. These improvements will also promote future bicycle and pedestrian improvement connectivity projects throughout the Town.
- **Raised Medians** to improve safety and traffic flow by reducing conflict points between vehicles, encourage slower vehicle speeds, improve overall traffic operations, and add cohesive landscaping to preserve and enhance the historic character of Main Street. Installing raised medians has been shown to reduce crash rates by almost 30% and decreases fatal crashes significantly!
- **Intersection Improvements** including turn lane modifications and crosswalk upgrades. These modifications will better accommodate traffic operations and improve driver and pedestrian safety.
- **Additional On-Street Parking** to better accommodate the growing needs of the downtown corridor and improve access to local businesses. This project will bring an additional 56 parking spaces throughout the project corridor!
- **Roadway Reconfiguration** to repurpose one travel lane in each direction for on-street parking (Luke Street to W 4th North Street). Contrary to the common belief that removing traffic lanes causes congestion, data shows that reducing the number of lanes – when applied to the right

corridors – can effectively calm traffic and encourage through-traffic to use more appropriate, higher-speed, higher-capacity routes such as Berlin G Myers Parkway. Many drivers may also choose to walk or bike instead of driving since they'll have dedicated, safer facilities to do so.

- **Commitment to minimizing impacts to historic trees and properties** by incorporating design strategies such as meandering sidewalks to avoid impacts and planting additional landscaping throughout the corridor. No residential or commercial relocations are expected as part of the current design.

The graphic below provides a before and after illustration of how the corridor could be improved from the existing to proposed conditions.



There's still time to provide comments and we want to hear from you! These plans are still in early development, and your comments are instrumental in improving the design. Let us know what improvements you would like to see on Main Street! The comment period for this project will continue through February 13, 2026. All meeting materials and an online comment form are available on the project website at [Main Street \(US 17A\) :: Dorchester County Transportation Sales Tax Program](#) or by scanning the QR code below.

