

**Significant Project Update
US 17 Widening Project
Jasper County
June 6th, 2025**

Scope

The US-17 Widening Project entails widening US-17 for approximately 4 miles, 2 lanes to 4 lanes divided by a grassed median, from SC-315 to the Georgia State Line. This project also includes intersection improvements at SC-315 and US-17 to include a traffic signal and the addition of a twin bridge over the Back River. The construction of the Back River Bridge will be constructed separately from the widening and is considered as Phase 2.

Status

The Back River bridge agreement has been revised and Georgia is working on developing the project.

The project was let for construction on August 11th and was awarded to R.B. Baker Construction with a completion date of September 30th, 2025. The low bid amount was \$41,889,381.92.

Construction Update

- The project is in Phase III. Traffic has been shifted to the new Southbound alignment allowing Northbound lanes construction. Drainage installation is nearing completion.
- Northbound fine grading and stone placement is in progress as surcharge is removed. The final surcharge is expected to be complete this week.
- Upcoming activities include, paving of the SC 315 Intersection, culvert 3 extension and continued surcharge removal.





I-95 Widening MM 0-8 Project Jasper County, SC

June 6th, 2025

Scope

Widen I-95 from its existing 4-lane section to a 6-lane section beginning at the 6-lane section in Georgia at the Knoxboro Bridge at its southern terminus to approximately 1.0 mile north of US 278 (Exit 8) near Hardeeville at its northern terminus at MM 8. The project will include not only include widening from the existing 4-lanes to 6-lanes but will also include improvements at the Exit 8 (US 278) interchange that required an Interchange Modification Report (IMR), minor improvements to the Exit 5 (US 17) interchange, replacement of the Savannah River Bridges along with all mainline bridges over I-95 (Savannah River Overflow, Sand Island Swamp, SCL Railroad), the replacement of the John Smith Road Bridge and the US 278 bridge over I-95 as a part of the improved interchange. The widening will take place within the median of I-95 and include barrier walls, cable guardrail installation and drainage improvements.



Status

This project was originally scoped as a 50-month delivery project but was accelerated to a 34-month delivery project as a part of the rural interstate widening initiative. A public information meeting was held on September 15, 2022 (12 months after notice to proceed).

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) continues to actively participate in monthly meetings as we coordinate this project between the two agencies.

The final approval for the Right of Way Plans was on September 21, 2023 and right of way acquisition services began immediately. As of the date of this update, all 40 properties that will require a right of way or permission have title checks completed and each property owner has been contacted. ROW acquisition has been certified.



The draft Non-Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (Non-PCE) and the Exit 8 Interchange Modification Report (IMR) were submitted for this project and received FHWA approval on August 21, 2023.

The project was officially designated as a Project of Division Interest (PoDI) and a Major Project by FHWA. . The FHWA processes for a Major Project includes a Cost/Schedule Risk Analysis (CSRA) Workshop, Financial Management Plan and Project Management Plan. The CSRA Workshop was held at SCDOT Headquarters on January 9, 10 and 11 which included representatives from Federal Highways (FHWA), SCDOT subject matter

experts, the consultant team and SCDOT Management. The purpose of this workshop was to facilitate an unbiased risk-based review to verify the accuracy and reasonableness of the cost estimate and schedule to complete the major project. As a result, a probability range for the cost estimate that represents the project's current level of design is being developed. The Initial Financial Plan (IFP) and the Project Management Plan (PMP) have been certified by SCDOT Management and submitted to FHWA

Design Update

- The final Roadway and Bridge plans have been completed and submitted for letting
- All permits have been secured.
- SCDOT has received final approval from CSX on the final plans and construction agreement.
- Utility Coordination has been finalized and certified.
- Construction Bids were received on May 13th, 2025 and 2 bids were recieved with Webber-Ferrovial JV as the apparent low bidder in the amount of \$728, 757,807.03.
- The completion date is set for June 30th, 2030

