



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

August 2nd, 2024

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.



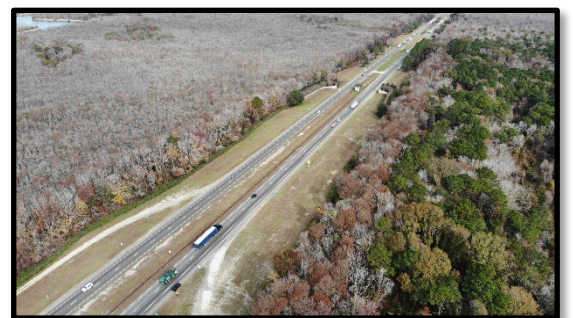
Status

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 is being finalized.

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 team is working on the Financial Plan (IFP) and the Project Management Plan (PMP) which will include the findings from the CSRA Workshop.

Design Update

- The final Roadway and Bridge plans have been completed
- The draft NOI has been submitted for review and the final NOI will be submitted once the permit is received from the US Army Corps of Engineers.
- SCDOT is awaiting final approval from CSX on the final plans and construction agreement.
- Utility Coordination is being finalized and majority of utilities are complete
- Final plan turn is August 26th, 2024 with a February 2024 letting
- SCDOT will host a contractor forum in August/September to present the project to potential contractors.



**Significant Project Update
US 17 Widening Project
Jasper County
August 2nd, 2024**

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 construction of the new roadway embankment and surcharge have been completed for the southbound lanes and contractor continues to fine grade ahead of paving. Drainage installation continues along the southbound alignment and culvert work has been completed. Asphalt base on southbound alignment has started where drainage and subgrade prep are complete.
- Contractor is continuing to advance work on northbound lane and surcharge has been complete outside of the travel lanes.
- Upcoming activities include, completion of southbound drainage, and paving of the new widened roadway. Once this occurs, traffic will shift and the same process will be followed to improve the old section of the roadway.
- The traffic shift onto the southbound alignment is anticipated in August 2024.

