



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

City of Greenville, South Carolina

Agenda Item No.

11f

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
FROM: John F. McDonough, City Manager

Ordinance/First Reading
 Ordinance/Second & Final Reading
 Resolution/First & Final Reading
 Information Only

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: May 23, 2022

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION CAPTION:

ORDINANCE TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF GREENVILLE, GREENVILLE COUNTY, AND CITY OF MAULDIN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A FOCUSED PLANNING EFFORT FOR THE AREA SURROUNDING AND CONCERNING THE FUTURE WOODRUFF ROAD CONGESTION RELIEF PROJECT'S PARALLEL ROAD.

SUMMARY BACKGROUND:

As part of the Woodruff Road Congestion Relief Parallel Road, the City desires to work with Greenville County and City of Maudlin to create a common Woodruff Parallel Area Plan to holistically address the needs of the future corridor. The focus will be on land use and access management. This plan will go through the normal public planning process, and once complete, submitted to the the respective governing bodies for approval through their adopted processes. This MOU will empower the Planning and Engineering staffs of the respective jurisdictions to convene regularly, be proactive in reaching out to stakeholders, and work diligently with SCDOT towards the completion of the Woodruff Parallel Area Plan.

IMPACT IF DENIED:

The City will not enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Greenville County or the City of Maudlin.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

Department Director

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City Attorney

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OMB Director

City Manager

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A N O R D I N A N C E

TO ESTABLISH A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CITY OF GREENVILLE, COUNTY OF GREENVILLE, AND CITY OF MAULDIN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A FOCUSED PLANNING AREA FOR THE AREA SURROUNDING AND CONCERNING THE FUTURE WOODRUFF ROAD CONGESTION RELIEF PROJECT'S PARALLEL ROAD.

WHEREAS, the Greenville-Pickens Area Transportation Study (GPATS) has prioritized the Woodruff Road Congestion Relief Project (WRCRP) in its Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and has progressed through Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) inclusion, Preliminary Engineering National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) design, and has entered Right-of-Way planning; and

WHEREAS, funding for the WRCRP has been secured by GPATS, the South Carolina Transportation Infrastructure Bank (SCTIB), and Greenville County in the amount of \$121.2 million; and,

WHEREAS, the WRCRP includes a new, alternate parallel route to Woodruff Road that will pass through the City of Greenville, the City of Mauldin, and Greenville County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Greenville and the Cities of Greenville and Mauldin, understand that the Woodruff Road corridor and new parallel road from Verdae Boulevard to Smith Hines Road need a single vision and standardized implementation policy in order to establish proactive area planning and infrastructure best practices, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the County of Greenville and the Cities of Greenville and Mauldin Planning and Engineering staffs have been meeting regularly to review the proposed route and design plans; and

WHEREAS, the County of Greenville and the Cities of Greenville and Mauldin Planning and Engineering staffs collaborated to submit one set of coordinated comments on the design to South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) on April 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the County of Greenville and the Cities of Greenville and Mauldin Planning and Engineering staffs wish to coordinate to establish a common Woodruff Parallel Area Plan ("Area Plan") overlay to holistically address the needs of the corridor, and upon completion shall timely present the Area Plan to their respective governing bodies for approval through their adopted processes; and

WHEREAS, in order to preserve the character and accessibility of the corridor, the City of Greenville desires to ensure that such plan considers the values, sentiment, and input of the City of Greenville community; and

WHEREAS, this process will reduce the possibility of future development not aligning with the long-term access plans for the corridor or conflicting with the corridor route; and

WHEREAS, City of Greenville City Council finds this Memorandum of Understanding represents proper planning for the long-term health of the corridor, ensuring a collaborative

process among borders and allowing for a regional planning process irrespective of jurisdictional boundaries;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, the Memorandum of Understanding between County of Greenville, City of Greenville, and City of Mauldin is approved as set forth in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. This Ordinance shall be effective upon second and final reading.

DONE, RATIFIED AND PASSED THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY

REVIEWED:

CITY MANAGER

EXHIBIT A

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF GREENVILLE, SC,
THE CITY OF GREENVILLE, SC, AND
THE CITY OF MAULDIN, SC FOR THE
WOODRUFF PARALLEL AREA CORRIDOR PLAN

WHEREAS, A Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Greenville, SC, the City of Greenville, SC, and City of Mauldin, SC, for the purpose of establishing a focused planning effort for the area surrounding and concerning the future Woodruff Road Congestion Relief Project's parallel road.

WHEREAS, the Greenville-Pickens Area Transportation Study (GPATS) has prioritized the Woodruff Road Congestion Relief Project (WRCRP) in its Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and has progressed through Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) inclusion, Preliminary Engineering National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) design, and has entered Right-of-Way planning, and

WHEREAS, funding for the WRCRP has been secured by GPATS, the South Carolina Transportation Infrastructure Bank (SCTIB), and Greenville County in the amount of \$121.2 million, and

WHEREAS, the WRCRP includes a new, alternate parallel route to Woodruff Road that will pass through the City of Greenville, the City of Mauldin, and Greenville County (see Attachment 1), and

WHEREAS, due to the Woodruff Road corridor being of critical and sensitive commercial, industrial, and residential importance and the land uses affected by and affecting the WRCRP parallel road are currently established development, potential redevelopment, and/or at risk of adverse impacts due to the project, and

WHEREAS, due to the NEPA Environmental Assessment's "Purpose and Need" stating the project must "improve operational efficiency and alleviate traffic congestion on Woodruff Road to improve mobility,"

THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN, that the following provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding are understood and acceptable to all parties:

- 1) That the GPATS and SCDOT "Woodruff Road Congestion Relief Project," including the new parallel road, is an imminent project currently in Right-of-Way planning and scheduled to be under construction between Calendar Year 2026-2029, and that the impacts to the greater SC "Upstate" region will be far-reaching and crucial to prepare for in advance.
- 2) That SCDOT will administer the WRCRP with Federal funding and under Federal regulations, and that the County and Cities will abide by, adhere to, and accommodate the

project time frames as they are established and are changed/updated, and that properties affected by access changes and Right-of-Way purchases by SCDOT will be dealt with by SCDOT at the appropriate time as prescribed by Federal regulations.

- 3)** That the County and Cities of Greenville and Mauldin will take necessary action to protect the proposed project Right-of-Way by remaining informed and participating in project updates as they are made available by SCDOT, and shall distribute relevant information to their departments, developers, businesses and residents as appropriate.
- 4)** That the County of Greenville and the Cities of Greenville and Mauldin will be proactive in their land use planning along Woodruff Road and the new parallel road corridor to ensure appropriate development and redevelopment at the appropriate times to avoid impediments to SCDOT acquisition of Right-of-Way, and to prevent undue impacts to property owners, businesses, and residents during Right-of-Way acquisition.
- 5)** That the congestion currently existing on Woodruff Road should not be allowed to be replicated on the new parallel road, and that the local jurisdictions have a responsibility to identify and utilize the “best practices” of Access Management and Parcel Connectivity to mitigate negative land use impacts on the future corridor infrastructure.
- 6)** That the County of Greenville and the Cities of Greenville and Mauldin, understand that the Woodruff Road corridor and new parallel road from Verdae Blvd to Smith Hines Rd need a single vision and standardized implementation policy in order to establish proactive area planning and infrastructure best practices, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.
- 7)** That the County of Greenville and the Cities of Greenville and Mauldin shall coordinate to establish a common Woodruff Parallel Area Plan (“Area Plan”) overlay to holistically address the needs of the corridor, and upon completion shall timely present the Area Plan to their respective governing bodies for approval through their adopted processes.
- 8)** That once an Area Plan is adopted, each jurisdiction will seek to implement the standards and regulations set forth in the Area Plan as appropriate within their boundaries subject to further approval that may be necessary by their respective governing bodies, and if such standards and regulations are not implemented, the parallel road will not serve its intended purpose of congestion relief and mobility improvement.
- 9)** That this Memorandum of Understanding shall empower and entrust the planning and engineering staffs of the County of Greenville and Cities of Greenville and Mauldin to convene regularly, be proactive in reaching out to stakeholders as appropriate, and work diligently with SCDOT towards the completion of a Woodruff Parallel Area Plan.

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into this ___ day, of _____, 2022.

Willis Meadows, Chairman of Greenville County Council

Knox White, Mayor of the City of Greenville

Terry Merritt, Mayor of the City of Mauldin

Attachment 1

Visit www.fixwoodruffroad.com for more detail

