

The Expansion of Highway 9: The Plan for a Complete Street

The Project: Highway 9 is going to be widened and enhanced in three phases.

- Phase 1: Old Furnace Road to Seay Road
- Phase 2: The intersection at Hwy 292 and Hwy 9
- Phase 3: Seay Road to Hwy 292

The design of the road will be determined based on community input. It is important for those that live, work and recreate in Boiling Springs to express their views to the community's decision makers.

The Proposal: The proposed cross section for phase 1 includes sidewalks, grassy buffers between the road and sidewalk, bicycle lanes, two travel lanes in each direction, and a large planted center median with occasional turn lanes. The sidewalks, buffers and bicycle lanes will be included on both sides of the street, as is shown below.



The Reason for Sidewalks & Bicycle Lanes:

Health: The Spartanburg community has one of the highest rates of cardiovascular disease in the country. Because of this growing trend, daily physical activity must be integrated into our community's daily routine, like walking from work to lunch. In order for this to happen, Spartanburg County must begin providing safe places and connections for activity.

Transportation: As gas prices continue to increase, more of Spartanburg County residents will continue to look for ways to cut their costs. With 40% of all trips made being 2 miles or less, alternative transportation options are going to continue to become more attractive and necessary. These alternatives cannot even be considered if the appropriate infrastructure is not in place.



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In addition, many of Spartanburg's residents who do not own a car walk or ride a bicycle out of necessity. These members of our community deserve a safe, designated area to walk and bicycle. Sidewalks and bicycle lanes provide this.

Environment: Spartanburg County continues to struggle to meet federal air quality regulations. In order to build and develop a more environmentally-friendly community, Spartanburg must provide its residents and employees with alternative forms of transportation. This can only happen if the proper, safe infrastructure is in place.

The Reason For Highway 9 Infrastructure:

Connector: Highway 9 serves as a vital connection for those that work, live and recreate in Boiling Springs. A safe, multi-modal connection that allows community members to travel from one part of the community to another is essential for creating a thriving residential and commercial corridor. In addition, this portion of Highway 9 will provide an important first step for developing a connected network for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Recently, the Spartanburg County government has approved annual funding to incrementally increase pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. In order to leverage this funding, Boiling Springs needs to have the initial, essential pieces in place.

The Benefits of Center Medians: There are a number of important reasons to include planted, center medians. Such reasons include:

- Increased road capacity of 30%
- Decrease in delay by 30%
- Reduction in crashes by 35%
- Substantially improved beautification

A Call To Action:

Please contact the following elected officials and let them know that you feel it is absolutely necessary to include sidewalks, bicycle lanes and planted medians on Highway 9 (it is important to do this even if you will not be directly impacted by the widening so that a strong precedent for good road design is set):

For those that live and work in Boiling Springs, please contact County Council –

Jeff Horton, Chairman: dziegler@spartanburgcounty.org

O'Neal Mintz, representative: oneal@spartanburgcounty.org

For others that feel strongly about this issue, please contact SPATS Policy Committee Members –

Bill Barnet, Mayor of the City of Spartanburg: emgilliam1@aol.com

Senator John Hawkins: senator@bellsouth.net

Julian Hankinson, private sector: Julian@hankinsoninc.com

Rock Adams, Spartanburg County Council



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Junie White, Spartanburg City Council: junius@charter.net

Robert Fogel, Mayor of Lyman: lymanmayor@aol.com

John Hamby, Mayor of Duncan

Elaine Harris, Mayor of Pacolet: eh3500@charter.net

Mike Hamrick, Mayor of Cowpens

Whit Kennedy, Spartanburg County Planning Commission

Robert Johnson, Mayor ProTem of Chesnee

Bill Painter, Spartanburg County Transportation Commission (CTC): painter152@aol.com

Sallie Peake, Mayor of Wellford: wellfordcity1@juno.com

Ricky Richardson, City of Sptbg Planning Commission: Robert.p.richardson@smithbarney.com

Wright Gaines, Mayor of Inman: TCINMN1@alltell.net

Representative Bob Walker, Spartanburg County delegation: bwalker@landrumins.com

Woodrow Willard, Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce

Public Meetings about the Issue:

SPATS Policy Meeting - Monday, August 11 at 10:00am in County Council Chambers

Public Input Session – Tuesday, September 9

(Check the Partners for Active Living website as the date gets closer for additional details:

www.active-living.org)

Boiling Springs Business Association – Thursday, September 11

