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October 20, 2023

Stephen Steese
Town Manager
20 Bridge Street
Bluffton SC 29910

RE: Bluffton Parkway Corridor Studies Local Match Request

Dear Stephen,

The Lowcountry Area Transportation Study (LATS) Policy Committee has programmed two corridor studies related to the Bluffton Parkway in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). SCDOT requires that local match be provided by local entities on all studies or improvements on roads not on the state transportation system. The two studies and the cost break down are described below:

1. The *SC 315/SC46, Bluffton Parkway Extension Study* requires a local match for the Bluffton Parkway portion of the study which totals \$200,000 of the \$450,000 total project. The federal share is \$160,000 making the local portion required \$40,000. We are asking that each of the four parties (Beaufort County, Jasper County, City of Hardeeville, and the Town of Bluffton) involved in the study equally split the local match, each contributing \$10,000.
2. The *Bluffton Parkway Corridor Study (from the US 278 Flyover to SC 170)* requires a local match of \$40,000. The total study cost is \$200,000. The federal share will be \$160,000. We are asking that Beaufort County contribute \$30,000 (75%) of the local match and the Town of Bluffton contribute the remaining \$10,000 (25%).

LCOG typically will invoice for the local match at the conclusion of the project which in this case would likely be in Spring 2024 for the first study noted above and December 2024 for the second.

Please approve and sign the attached MOU and return it at your earliest convenience. We are looking forward to working with you on these timely and necessary projects. If you have any questions, please contact me at 843-473-3974 or Stephanie Rossi, Planning Director at 843-473-3958.

Sincerely,

Sabrina P. Graham
Sabrena P. Graham
Executive Director

Lowcountry Council of Governments

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