

SC 7/ SC 171 Public Meeting Comments January 27, 2009

A public meeting was held at the Northbridge Baptist Church on Jan. 27, 2009. A total of 30 people signed in at the meeting. The comment period lasted for two weeks and 16 comment forms were received. The comment forms included a survey regarding the citizen's preference. The statements in the survey are listed in the table-1 (page 2) of this report with the number of citizens that checked that preference. Recommendations and general comments that each citizen submitted are also included in Table-1. The chart below illustrates the number of people who are in favor and not in favor of the project.

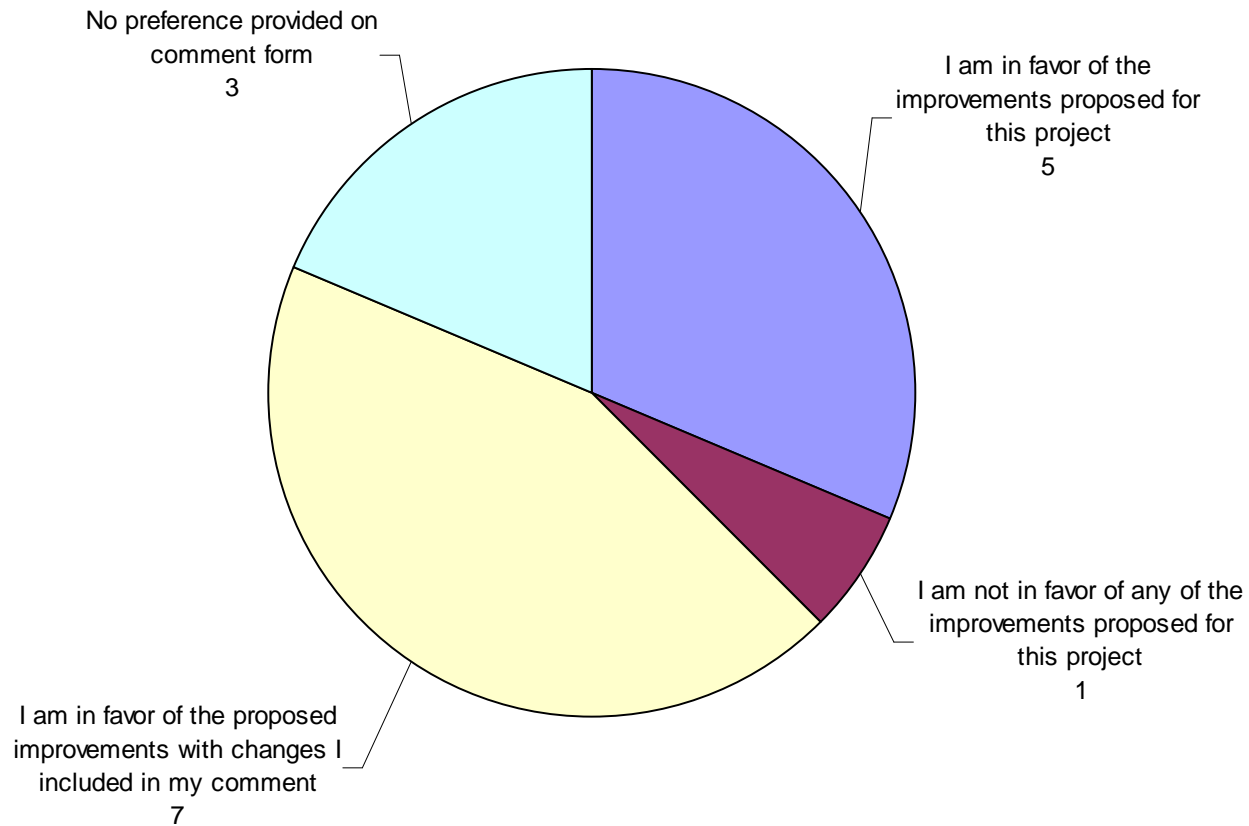


Table - 1

I am in favor of the improvements proposed for this project = 5 people

Recommendations:

No recommendations were listed on these comment forms.

General Comments (These are taken directly from citizens and are not edited):

1. Very nice work.
2. I am very glad to see this new plan gets rid of the merge of 171 and 7 heading toward the Northbridge.
3. Strongly consider speed limit reductions.
4. We like that you are getting rid of the alternate merge lane where 7 and 171 meet. We appreciate the display boards and the number of people available to answer questions.
5. Keep left hand turn onto Northbridge Baptist Church Property going North on Hwy 7.

I am not in favor of any of the improvements proposed for this project = 1 person

Recommendations:

No recommendations were listed on this 1 comment form.

General Comments (These are taken directly from citizens and are not edited):

1. I do not favor closing the access to Orange Grove in front of the Burger King. I do not favor moving the light to for run a "T" at Sam Rittenburg and Old Towne Road. This will just cause backups on Sam Rittenburg. Having two lanes become 3 past Orange Grove will be a mess for people going to the bridge in the morning rush. For the bike trail what is wrong with using frontage road and paving lots? Except for a problem crossing Orange Grove it is easy now! This project is a waste of money. Improve Northbridge!

I am in favor of the proposed improvements with the following changes = 7 people

Recommendations (These are taken directly from citizens and are not edited):

1. Piggly Wiggly Carolina Company favors the proposed improvements to SC 7 / SC 171 based upon the following conditions:

The SC 7 entrance is currently full access. The proposed, extended median will prevent drivers heading south from making a left turn into the shopping center. We suggest modifying the design to provide a middle, left-turn lane allowing cars to decelerate out of traffic and easily turn into the center as they do today. Also, at this egress point, we would like to confirm that cars still will be able to make a left turn onto SC 7 to head south.

The SC 171 entrance is also currently full access. We have grave concerns about this being changed to a right-in, right-out only, and feel strongly that this could prove detrimental to our business. It is very important that this remain full access and that a center lane for both ingress and egress turns remains intact. It also appears that the deceleration lane into the parking lot is being shortened on the southbound side and the ingress/egress is being narrowed, which is puzzling.

The newly located curve behind the store, tying in to the new traffic light may create logistical challenges for our truck delivery access. We suggest very close collaboration on this issue, and possibly meeting to mark the planned curbing lines and access points with a truck on site to determine how we will be able to make deliveries.

Please know that we support the overall concept of these improvements and wish to work with the Charleston County

General Comments (These are taken directly from citizens and are not edited):

1. Thank you for doing such a great job on this study.
2. Improve signage for northbound 171 traffic indicated the left turn at Charlestowne Dr. To access southbound 171. See 3 under recommendations. Please reduce speed limit through this area to, and past the Northbridge. Thank you for meeting on Tuesday and the opportunity to express my ideas.
3. Post picture of the project on the website. Do this for all projects.

and RoadWise teams to make this project successful. It may be most helpful to try and schedule a meeting on site to discuss these concerns and work together on solutions.

2. Move the curving intersection behind the Piggly Wiggly further away from the Piggly Wiggly.
3. 1) Take into account tractor trailer trucks maneuvering to the Piggly Wiggly loading docks. If helpful, eliminate curving right turn merge and square off all three lanes to planned traffic light. Right turn traffic will likely be minimal, so being controlled by the traffic light should pose no major inconvenience. 2) In the process of paving and re-marking roadway, consider adding extra shoulder width for bike lane where possible. If unable due to code requirements and available width, make roadway as wide as absolutely possible, so shoulder to right of white line might be sufficiently wide to be used as unofficial bike lane. Every bit of extra paved shoulder helps. 3) Most importantly - Reduce speed limit to 35mph between Charlestowne Drive (on both Hwy 7 and Hwy 171) and Azalea Drive in North Charleston.
4. Take into account tractor trailer trucks maneuvering to loading docks of Piggly Wiggly. If helpful, eliminate curving merge and square off all three lanes to traffic light. In the process paving and remarking roadway, consider adding extra. Improve signage for North bound 171, indicating left turn at Charles Towne Dr. to access 7 south. Reduce speed limit from Charles Towne Dr. on both 7 and 171 all the way to I-26 to 35 mph.
5. The Traffic light on 171 and 7 – Traffic in the right two lanes heading towards Orange Grove on 171 should be allowed to pass regardless of the light.

6. I'm in favor of improvements from Orange Grove turning into S.C 7. Also I'm in favor of bicycle and pedestrian paths. I don't see that it is much and advantage to change the existing traffic patterns between Sam Rittenburg and S.C 171.
7. Bike Lane or Multi-USC Lanes added or Improve access across roadway.

**No preference was checked on comment form = 3 people
(All comments are taken directly from citizens and are not edited)**

Recommendations:

1. Do not add any new streets. Leave as they are. Install a stop light at Southgate 171. Tie the present light at Hwy 7 & 171 and the new light at Southgate together so that Hwy 7 stops where Hwy 171 goes and where 171 stops.
2. Be conscious of bus stops for pedestrians crossing Sam Rittenburg they need protection.
3. Do not change any streets. Install a stop light at Southgate at 171. This new stop light and the present stop light will act as one stop light. When Hwy 7 goes 171 will stop and when 171 stops 7 goes. This will give safe road across Hwy 171.

General Comments:

1. Need left turn lanes into Northbridge.