

October 29, 1992

MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Maria N. Wall
Project Engineer
Feasibility Studies Unit

SUBJECT: R-2921, Carolina Bays Parkway, from South Carolina
State Line to US 17, Brunswick County

The Feasibility Studies Unit has contacted several agencies about the subject project. On October 2, 1992, Jim Campbell, Director of Planning for the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation, stated that a feasibility study for the Carolina Bays Parkway had not been completed but he would send a map of the corridor under study (See attached map). The map showed the Carolina Bays Parkway corridor ending south of North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. We also contacted Doug Bowers, Division 3 Engineer, on October 9, 1992; who suggested contacting John Harvey, Brunswick County Planning Director. In a telephone conversation with John Harvey on October 10, 1992, he stated that the project had been initiated by South Carolina. He had also heard of a project to construct a US 17 Bypass of Myrtle Beach and the Grand Strand Area, utilizing SR 1303 (NC) and Route 57 (SC). Dick Elliot of the South Carolina House of Representatives, wrote a letter on November 18, 1991 to Wayne Bailey, North Carolina State Highway Engineer discussing the US 17 Bypass and Carolina Bays projects. He asked that North Carolina review the possibility for North Carolina and South Carolina to work ~~to~~ together to put the project in place. Dr. Larry R. Goode responded to Mr. Elliot's letter on November 26, 1991, stating that " North Carolina had plans to improve US 17 to a multi-lane facility (TIP # R-97) from the South Carolina State Line to NC 211 in Brunswick North, but there were no current plans to improve SR 1303." He also stated that "North Carolina would be willing to open lines of communication to improve SR 1303 in the future in conjunction with the State of North Carolina improving Route 57." In a letter to John Harvey, dated September 21, 1992, Thomas J. Harrelson, Secretary of the

Department of Transportation stated that "the R-2921 project was in the 1993-1999 TIP and that South Carolina would be contacted to look at upgrading SR 1303 (NC) along with their proposals to improve Route 57. On October 12, we called Jim Campbell to inquire about the US 17 Bypass project. Mr. Campbell and his Project Engineer, Tommy Elrod, were not aware of any projects utilizing US 17 or SR 1303 (NC)/ Route 57 (SC). In a letter dated October 28, 1992, Jim Campbell stated that "The ten year State Highways Improvement Plan of South Carolina contains no improvements to either US 17 or Route 57 in Horry County, South Carolina at the North Carolina line."

Since South Carolina has no programmed projects along the US 17 or SR 1303 (NC)/Route 57 (SC) corridors near the North Carolina State Line, the Feasibility Studies Unit recommends that no further study be done on this project.

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