



City of Bennettsville

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
843-479-9001 P. O. BOX 1036

Bennettsville, South Carolina 29512

November 22, 2006

Mr. Mitchell Metts
SCDOT Program Manager
P. O. Box 191 Room 508
Columbia, S.C. 29202-0191

Ref: I-73 Preference Letter

Dear Mr. Metts:

I am pleased to notify you that during our regular meeting on November 21, 2006, the Bennettsville City Council approved a motion "in support of the center route and an exit ramp" for I-73 in Marlboro County. I have also notified the other mayors of the Marlboro County communities that you would like to know their preference. I hope this helps expedite this important project and please let me know how I can assist further.

Sincerely,

Mayor Benji Rogers

Cc: Bennettsville City Council
Mayor Thomas, Town of Blenheim
Mayor Barnett, Town of Tatum
Mayor McRae, Town of Clio
Mayor Quick, Town of McColl

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November 16, 2006

Mr. Mitchell Metts
I-73 Project Manager
S.C. Department of Transportation
Columbia, SC

Dear Mitchell:

Please accept this letter as my strong recommendation that you and others give serious consideration to the more central route for I-73 through Marlboro County.

After studying all of the available maps, etc., it is my opinion that the route passing just east of Bennettsville is the much more preferable one.

As I studied this 2500-ft. path on your computer at the Hamlet meeting, it became abundantly clear to me that this path comes very close to existing water, sewer, electricity, and natural gas services provided by the City of Bennettsville. This means we can readily provide infrastructure at the intersection with US 15-401.

Already these services are available at Marlboro County High School on Fayetteville Avenue Extension and at International Cup Corporation's plant on Hanes Road. My choice is the path noted as **Potential Corridor 3** among the six choices offered.

My other strong opinion is that I-73 should **not** travel coterminous with I-95 at all.

I like your projections which call for a new I-73/I-95 intersection several miles north of the SC 38/I-95 intersection at Oak Grove, which seems to be the most logical one to connect with the preferred southern route near Latta.

I truly appreciate the friendship and collegial way you and others working for I-73 have met me and others working at the grass roots level to help make this dream become a reality.

Thank you for your many courtesies and I look forward to seeing you and working with you many more times in the future until I-73 becomes a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Kinney, Jr." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Bill Kinney, Jr.
Editor and Publisher

"Serving Marlboro County and Pee Dee Area Residents Since 1874"