

SUMMARY OF LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX REFERENDA

1 Ordinance 1990/23, adopted September 25, 1990

Topic: Establishing guidelines to Beaufort County Council and staff for use of any monies generated by a local option sales tax.

2 Referendum / General Election November 6, 1990

Type: Property tax relief

Ordinance: No

Question: Shall (must) a one-percent sales and use tax be levied in Beaufort County for the purpose of allowing a credit against a taxpayer's county and municipal ad valorem (real property) tax liability and for the purpose of funding county and municipal operations in the Beaufort County area?

Election Results: Failed - Vote: Yes 7,715; No 10,433

US. Justice Dept. Pre-Clearance: Unknown

3 Referendum / Special Election November 5, 1991

Type: Property tax relief

Ordinance: No

Question: Shall (must) a one-percent sales and use tax be levied in Beaufort County for the purpose of allowing a credit against a taxpayer's County and Municipal ad valorem (real property) tax liability and for the purpose of funding County and Municipal operations in the Beaufort County area?

Election Results: Failed - Vote: Yes 3,794; No 10,329

US Justice Dept. Pre-Clearance: Unknown

4 Referendum / General Election November 5, 1996

Type: Transportation

Ordinance: 1996/18, adopted August 26, 1996

Question: I approve a special purpose one percent sales and use tax to be imposed in Beaufort County for not more than sixty-nine (69) months, beginning June 1, 1997, to supplement available South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) funds to accelerate the completion of the following project: Widen to divided four lanes 4.42 miles US 278/SC 170 "overlap" from McGarvey's Corner to the Career Education Center; widen to four travel lanes 10.55 miles from Career Education Center to S-20 (Broad River Road) including new four lane bridges over the Chechessee and Broad Rivers; widen to four travel lanes 2.97 miles from S-20 to the Beaufort City limits near SC 280 for not more than \$102,014,600, in addition to SCDOT funds, with the tax funds collected and utilized on the project to be reimbursed by SCDOT to Beaufort County and its municipalities.

Dollar Amount: \$102,014,600

Election Results: Failed - Vote: Yes 7,015; No 13,939

U.S. Justice Dept. Pre-Clearance: Unknown

5 Referendum / Special Election November 3, 1998

Type: Transportation

Ordinance: 1998/17, adopted August 25, 1998

Question: I approve a special purpose one percent sales and use tax to be imposed in Beaufort County for not more than 24 months, beginning June 1, 1999 to add to available SCDOT and State Infrastructure Bank funds to provide for the rapid completion of the following project: widen to divided four lanes approximately 13 miles of SC 170 from Career Education Center to the Beaufort City limits near SC 280, including new bridges over the Chechessee and Broad Rivers, for not more than \$40,000,000 in addition to the \$100,000 to be provided by the State. The collection of the tax shall automatically cease on May 31, 2001 or upon collection of \$40,000,000 whichever shall occur first.

Dollar Amount: \$40,000,000

Election Results: Passed - Vote: Yes 17,865; No 12,638

U.S. Justice Dept. Pre-Clearance: Unknown

6 Referendum / General Election November 2, 2004

Type: Transportation

Ordinance: 2004/24, adopted August 9, 2004

Question: Must a special one-percent sales and use tax be imposed in Beaufort County for not more than five years to raise the amounts specified for the following purposes (Note to reader: to view the lengthy list of projects see attachment.). Total estimated cost of all capital projects is \$117,203,500.

Dollar Amount: \$117,203,500

Election Results: Failed - Vote: Yes 26,561; No 26,702

U.S. Justice Dept. Pre-Clearance: Approved

7 Referendum / General Election November 7, 2006

Type: Transportation

[Question 2A:](#) I approve a special transportation sales and use tax in the amount of one percent to be imposed in Beaufort County for not more than six year, or until a total of \$152,000,000 in resulting revenue has been collected, whichever comes first.

Bluffton Parkway - Phase 5 (US 278 Alternate), new road construction from Buckwalter Parkway to Mackays Creek - \$50,000,000

US 278 Improvements, from Sea Pines Circle to SC 170 - \$28,000,000

SC 170 Widening, from Bluffton Parkway to Tide Watch Drive - \$6,000,000

US 17 Widening, from US 21 to Colleton County Line - \$5,000,000

US 21 (Boundary Street) improvements, from Broad River Road to Palmetto Road - \$9,500,000

Boundary Street Parallel Road, new road construction from SC 170 to Palmetto Street - \$4,200,000

SC 802 (Ribaut Road) improvements, from Lenora Drive to Lady's Island Drive - \$600,000

US 21/SC 802 (Lady's Island Drive) Widening, from Ribaut Road to Sea Island Parkway - \$35,500,000

Planning and Engineering for a Northern Beaufort Bypass, from Gray's Hill to Lady's Island - \$6,000,000

SC 802 (Savannah Highway), widening from SC 170 to Parris Island Gateway - \$7,200,000

Election Results: Passed - Vote: Yes 21,482; No 15,561

[Question 2B:](#) I approve the issuance of not exceeding \$152,000,000 of general obligation bonds of Beaufort County, maturing over a period not to exceed seven (7) years to fund the Transportation-Related projects identified in Beaufort County Local Referendum Question 2A.

Dollar Amount Questions 2A and 2B: \$152,000,000

Election Results: Passed - Vote: Yes 22,926; No 13,322

U.S. Justice Dept. Pre-Clearance: Approved

8 Referendum / General Election November 7, 2016

Type: One Percent Capital Projects Sales Tax

[Question 1:](#) Must a special one percent sales and use tax be imposed in Beaufort County for not more than four years to raise the amounts specified for the following purposes?

[Click here to view list of projects.](#)

Dollar Amount: \$119,904,653

Election Results: Failed - Vote: Yes 34,069; No 40,331

U.S. Justice Dept. Pre-Clearance: No longer required; Supreme Court's 2013 decision in Shelby County v. Holder weakened a core provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Supreme Court has struck down a key provision of the landmark 1965 Voting Rights Act that establishes a formula to identify states that may require extra scrutiny by the Justice Department regarding voting procedures.

CATEGORY 1, PUBLIC SAFETY:	
Jenkins Island (Windmill Harbour) Roadway Improvements	\$7,400,000
Pinckney Island Road Improvements	\$2,000,000
County Safe Routes to Schools (11):	\$4,640,000
Salem Road/Old Salem Road/Burton Hill Road	
Burnt Church Road and Ulmer Road Pathway and Intersection Improvements	
Joe Frazier Road	
Meridian Road	
Middle Road/Coosa Safe Routes to School	
Stuart Point Sidewalk	
US 17 Pathway Extension	
Big Road	
Seabrook Road	
Pine Grove Road/Burton Wells Road	
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive	
EMS Facilities - Bluffton/Pritchardville and Burton	\$6,000,000
Implementation of US 278 Traffic Safety Study Recommendations	\$5,600,000
Detention Center Security Improvements and Repairs	\$1,000,000
278 Improvements Jenkins Island to Squire Pope Road	\$4,500,000
Sheriff's Office Communication Equipment	\$6,255,698
Sheriff's Office Traffic Management Improvements	\$836,955
Buck Island and Simmonsville Road Improvement between May River Road and US 278	\$750,000
Hilton Head Island Safe Routes to Schools (2):	\$2,910,000
Main Street West and Connections to US 278	
William Hilton Parkway Eastbound - Gardner Drive to Jarvis Park	
Resurfacing of Town of Port Royal-Owned Roads	\$2,500,000
Port Royal Sidewalk Construction	\$300,000
Sub Total:	\$44,692,653
CATEGORY 2, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:	
Bluffton Sanitary Sewer Installation and Connection	\$4,000,000
Stoney Creek Sub-Basin Pond Improvements and Wetlands Restoration	\$4,250,000
Rose Dhu Creek Sub-Basin Pond Improvements and Wetlands Restoration	\$1,750,000
Oyster Factory Park Improvements	\$2,000,000
Daufuskie Island Consolidation of Island-Wide Solid Waste Disposal	\$1,800,000
Sub Total:	\$13,800,000
CATEGORY 3, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:	
Waddell Mariculture Improvements	\$750,000
Beaufort Downtown Parking Garage	\$13,000,000
Calhoun Street Dock Improvements and Expansion	\$750,000
Construction of New Port Spine Road (Port Redevelopment)	\$4,500,000
TCL Culinary Arts Teaching Institute and the Health Sciences Expansion	\$10,000,000
Sub Total:	\$29,000,000

CATEGORY 4, QUALITY OF LIFE:	
US 21 ITS Bridge System	\$500,000
Waterfront Park and Marina Improvements and Southside Park Improvements	\$4,000,000
Acquisition and Paving of Certain Dirt Roads on Hilton Head Island (21):	\$7,000,000
Aiken Place	
Allen Road	
Mackerel Drive	
Pine Field Road	
Sassafras Lane	
Clifford Miller Road	
Orange Road	
Amelia Court	
Amelia Drive	
Bligen Road	
Cobia Court	
Murray Avenue	
Outlaw Road	
Adell Lane	
Alice Perry Drive	
Benjamin Drive	
Great Barracuda Lane	
Horse Sugar Lane	
Mitchellville Road Ext	
Triggerfish Trail	
Christopher Drive	
Arts, Entertainment & Cultural Campus	\$6,202,000
Pavilion at Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park	\$210,000
Hilton Head Island Recreation Center Expansion	\$10,000,000
Daufuskie Island Road Right-of-Ways	\$1,350,000
USCB Academic/OLLI Building (Bluffton Campus)	\$3,150,000
Sub Total:	\$32,412,000
TOTAL ESIMATED COST OF ALL PROJECTS:	\$119,904,653