

Abbeville
County
Transportation
Plan

ABBEVILLE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

County Wide Transportation Plan

Abbeville County has approximately 924 miles of publicly maintained roads. Of this S. C. Department of Transportation maintains 642 miles, including 14.3 miles of unpaved roads. Abbeville County Department of Public Works, City of Abbeville, Town of Calhoun Falls, Town of Due West, Town of Donalds, Town of Lowndesville, and a portion of the Town of Ware Shoals maintains approximately 282 miles of roads including 175 miles of gravel roads and 107 miles of paved roads.

The basic concept behind the establishment of the "C" Fund gasoline tax was to pave dirt roads enabling farmers to carry their products to the appropriate market. For this reason these were referred to as farm-to-market roads. In addition to Abbeville County's historical farming interest, the population of Abbeville County has increased slightly in rural areas, with a moderate growth in urban and industrial areas.

The Abbeville County Transportation Committee is made up of the members of Abbeville County Council as appointed by the Abbeville County Legislative Delegation in September of 1997.

The Abbeville County Transportation Committee (CTC) will make allocations to Abbeville County, Municipal Councils in Abbeville County, School District 60, Abbeville County Legislative Delegation and other requests meeting the requirements of the SCDOT "C" Funds Program. These allocations will be based on prioritization of projects according to the immediate and long term needs of the requests made.

The CTC has requested the SCDOT to administer all funds available to Abbeville County under the "C" Fund Program.

The Abbeville County Department of Public Works, under the direction of the County Council (CTC) will maintain a "Priority Ranking System" which will rate all roads which have been petitioned for improvement. These petitions must be accompanied by the completed right of way agreements for the petitioned roadway.

An overview of how the system works is attached but there are five basic criteria that are used to “weigh” each road. All R/W agreements signed by property owners, annual maintenance cost, number of homes, traffic counts, and is the road used by the school system. A numerical rating will be given each road for the priority ranking system.

The Abbeville County Transportation Committee proposes using this system in the majority of projects funded through the “C” Fund Program. Projects will be completed either through a contract in conjunction with SCDOT or through a “Local Paving Project” in which the county can contract with local vendors for road construction. On a case by case basis “Special Projects” will be evaluated as to need and the availability of funds.

It is the opinion of the Abbeville County Transportation Committee that most short roads can be paved faster and more economically through “Local Paving Projects” than in conjunction with SCDOT. Abbeville County Council “CTC” must approve all local-paving projects. The CTC has the capability to complete the work required on these roads including engineering, right-of-way acquisition, contract administration, etc., through the Department of Public Works, local engineering firms and contractors.

Abbeville County Council CTC will delegate all routine operations of the CTC to the Department of Public works. The “Priority Ranking System” will be used on a county-wide basis, and all special projects will be evaluated and recommendation forwarded to the CTC for a vote on project approval. A master list of projects will be submitted (not less than every two years) with cost estimates and priority of funding by the CTC with the Public Works Department monitoring changes as required.

The Director of Public Works will be the primary contact with the SC Department of Transportation as to “day to day” questions and operations. General and official written documentation from SCDOT will be forwarded to the County Director and Chairman, who will ensure that the Public Works Director and council members receive a copy in a timely manner.

"C" FUND RANKING PROCESS

The following information and data will be gathered for each petitioned road in Abbeville County.

1. Petitioned road name
2. Council district
3. Location
4. Year petitioned
5. Petitioned length
6. Total length of road
7. Average annual maintenance cost
8. Number of houses/mobile homes on petitioned portion
9. Average daily traffic count
10. School bus route or not

Once the information has been gathered on each petitioned road it will be entered into a program will assigned a total weighted value to each road as follows:

Average annual maintenance cost divided by total length of road = Average Annual Maintenance Cost/Mile.
From this information maintenance cost factor is assigned to each petitioned road as follows:

For Maintenance Cost per Mile:

Less than 1000 -----	Maintenance Cost factor = 50
1000 to 2500 -----	Maintenance Cost factor = 100
2500 to 3500 -----	Maintenance Cost factor = 150
3500 to 4500 -----	Maintenance Cost factor = 200
4500 to 5500 -----	Maintenance Cost factor = 250
5500 to 6500 -----	Maintenance Cost factor = 300
Greater than 6500 -----	Maintenance Cost factor = 350

The density per mile is determined and also the average daily traffic (if necessary). If the road is a school bus route then the traffic count is increased by one/tenth.

The total weighted value = Maintenance Cost Factor + Density/Mile + Average Daily Traffic.

The roads which receive the highest total weighted value will be recommended for paving as funds are available.

ROAD PROFILE INFORMATION SHEET

1. Name of road as posted on sign _____
2. Location _____

3. Length of road _____ Average width of road _____
4. Road surface and condition _____
5. Cross line pipes/culverts _____
6. Condition _____
7. Any other comments that affect condition of road such as drainage close fences, etc.

Length _____

Avg. Maint. Cost _____

Maint Cost/mile _____

Maint cost factor _____

No. of Homes _____

Density/mile _____

Bus Route _____

Traffic count _____

TOTAL WEIGHTED VALUE _____