

**Public Comment Sought for Lowcountry COG Veterans
Transportation FTA Grant Project**

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is seeking comment from the public on projects receiving funding from the Federal Transit Administration's Section 5309 Discretionary Programs for amendment into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP):

The Lowcountry Council of Governments (LCOG) has been awarded a grant from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in the amount of \$124,480 under the FTA Section 5309 discretionary funding program (Bus and Bus Facilities Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative). The purpose of the Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative (VTCLI) Program is to increase the availability of community transportation resources to veterans, service members and military families. In addition, the VTCLI Program has the objective of improving the accessibility of existing mobility resources and other transportation information to the entire community.

Lowcountry COG has partnered with the transit provider in the area, the Lowcountry Regional Transportation Authority (LRTA, which operates as Palmetto Breeze), to carry out the operational aspects of this project. Since a key objective of this grant program is to utilize technology to improve and expand service delivery, the project partners will use a significant portion of the VTCLI grant to install mobile data terminals in regional transit vehicles to implement automatic vehicle location capability, and create a website portal that can be accessed by transit customers.

The Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative Project, as carried out by the Lowcountry COG and Palmetto Breeze, will operate in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties.

Also a copy of this press release and other pertinent information is available for public review and comment on the world web at:

http://www.scdot.org/inside/public_comment.shtml

To assist those who do not have internet access, a hard copy of this press release is available for public review and comment at the following locations:

**South Carolina Council of Governments:
Appalachian Council of Governments**
Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville,
Oconee, Pickens & Spartanburg
30 Century Circle
Greenville, SC 29606
(864) 242-9733

Lower Savannah Council of Governments
Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun &
Orangeburg
2748 Wagener Road
Hwy 302 North
Aiken, SC 29801
(803) 649-7981

Upper Savannah Council of Governments
Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens,
McCormick & Saluda
222 Phoenix Street, Suite 200
Greenwood, SC 29646
(864) 941-8090

Santee-Lynches Council of Governments
Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee & Sumter
36 West Liberty Street
Sumter, SC 29151
(803) 775-7381

Catawba Regional Council of Governments

Chester, Lancaster, York & Union
215 Hampton Street
Second Floor
Rock Hill, SC 29731
(803) 327-1912

Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments

Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marion
& Marlboro
2319 Regional Road
Florence, SC 29501
(843) 669-4392

Central Midlands Council of Governments

Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry & Richland
236 Stoneridge Drive
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 376-5390

Lowcountry Council of Governments

Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton & Jasper
634 Campground Road
Yemassee, SC 29945
(843) 726-5536

**Waccamaw Regional Planning and Development
Council of Governments**

Georgetown, Horry & Williamsburg
1230 Highmarket Street
Georgetown, SC 29440
(843) 546-8502

**Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of
Governments**

Berkeley, Charleston & Dorchester
1362 McMillan Ave, Suite 100
North Charleston, SC 29405
(843) 529-0400

SCDOT District Offices:**District 1**

1400 Shop Road
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 737-6660

District 2

510 W. Alexander Ave.
Greenwood, SC 29646
(864) 227-6971

District 3

252 S. Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC 29607
(864) 241-1010

District 4

1232 J.A. Cochran Bypass
Chester, SC 29706
(803) 377-4155

District 5

3018 East Palmetto
Florence, SC 29506
(843) 661-4710

District 6

6355 Fain Blvd.
North Charleston, SC 29406
(843) 740-1665

District 7

US Route 178 East Bowman Road
Orangeburg, SC 29116
(803) 531-6850

Comments will be accepted until the close of business on **January 12, 2012** and should be forwarded to Ms. Diane Lackey, Statewide Programs Manager Office of Public Transit at SCDOT, 955 Park Street, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, S.C. 29202 or lackeydm@scdot.org.