



## Five Firms Selected To Begin One-Cent Sales Tax Road Improvements

Five firms have been chosen to design and oversee the new road projects slated for expansion/improvement through one-cent sales tax revenue voters approved in November. Statements of qualifications were received from 44 firms. After carefully reviewing qualifications and conducting a series of interviews, the following firms were selected: Dennis Corporation, The LPA Group, RPM Engineers, STV/Ralph Whitehead Associates and Wilbur Smith Associates.

"We're very excited to begin work on these projects," says Dan Davis, Berkeley County Supervisor, "we feel we have selected a team of highly qualified and

talented professionals to ensure Berkeley County taxpayers receive the best services for their tax dollars."

A brief summary of qualifications for each firm:

**Dennis Corporation** Has performed engineering services for a number of counties including Abbeville, Beaufort, Charleston, Fairfield and Georgetown. Projects include: SC 802 Widening, City of Port Royal; Palmetto Commerce Parkway Phase II, Charleston County; Whipple Road Widening, Town of Mount Pleasant; US17 Widening (17 miles between I-526 and the Isle of Palms Connector) Town of Mount Pleasant.

**The LPA Group** Has performed engineering services for a number of counties including Aiken, Berkeley, Charleston, Horry, Kershaw and Richland. Projects include: Indian Waters Trail, Aiken County; Jim Hamilton Boulevard, Richland County; Old Tram Road, Horry County, Mill Pond Road, City of Conway; 1997-2007 Roadway Resurfacing, Richland County.

**RPM Engineers** Has performed engineering services for a number of counties including Aiken, Beaufort, Colleton, Dillon and Horry. Projects include: One Cent Sales Tax Program, Horry RIDE I and RIDE II, Horry County; Watertower Road / Carolina Bay Parkway Interchange Project, City of Myrtle Beach; 22 miles of US17 widening through ACE Basin, Beaufort and Colleton Counties; Cumbee Trail Road Widening and Improvements, Aiken County.

**STV/Ralph Whitehead Associates** Has performed engineering services for a number of counties including Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, and Horry. Projects include: Bowman Road Widening, Town of Mount Pleasant; Roadwise Sales Tax Program, Charleston County; US17 Bypass / SC 707 Interchange, Horry County; S-20 Widening, Charleston County; Fantasy Harbour Roadway and Bridge Project, City of Myrtle Beach.

**Wilbur Smith Associates** Has performed engineering services for a number of counties including Anderson, Charleston, Horry, Lexington and Richland. Projects include: 38th Avenue North & Grissom Parkway, City of Myrtle Beach; Environmental Assessment for the Central Parkway expansion in Horry County; Good Cents Program, Anderson County; Route 6 Improvement Project, Lexington and Richland Counties; Widening of US17 / SC61, Charleston County.

According to Davis, the proposed road projects will employ a number of local workers, a welcomed announcement, especially during a challenging economy.

"Not only are we embarking upon some long overdue road improvements and expansions, but we're putting people to work," says Davis.

Last November, Berkeley County citizens agreed that "One Cent . . . Makes Sense" as an overwhelming majority voted 'Yes' to the One-Cent Sales Tax Referendum, a campaign spearheaded by the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce. Berkeley County began collecting the sales tax on May 1, 2009. Voters agreed to allow the county to pursue bonds to acquire funding up front, thus allowing road project design and planning to commence immediately.

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