

State of South Carolina    )  
County of           Anderson    )

ANDERSON COUNTY  
CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX COMMISSION  
June 16, 2025

IN ATTENDANCE:  
RICHARD DORN, CHAIRMAN  
TREY THOMAS, VICE-CHAIRMAN  
JOEY BLACK, SECRETARY  
MICHAEL MANCE

ALSO PRESENT:  
RUSTY BURNS  
MATT HOGAN  
GARY POPE  
RENEE WATTS

1 RUSTY BURNS: We appreciate everybody being here.  
2 And before we do anything, if we could all rise and say the  
3 Pledge of Allegiance.

4 **(PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE)**

5 RUSTY BURNS: Again, we thank everyone for being  
6 here. But we would really like to thank the Commissioners who  
7 have agreed to do this. And this is purely voluntary.  
8 They're not getting paid anything. They will not get their  
9 road paved. We will not put them in a new driveway or any of  
10 those things, because they're going to run this straight. But  
11 I would like for them to introduce themselves. But first I'm  
12 going to ask Trey to introduce the two people he selected.

13 TREY THOMAS: I'm Trey Thomas. I've selected Richard  
14 Dorn out of Belton. Richard's here to my right. And then  
15 Joey Black out of Pendleton, on the far right.

16 RUSTY BURNS: And we'll start again. This is Trey.

17 TREY THOMAS: Yeah, Trey Thomas.

18 RUSTY BURNS: And this is the Right Honorable Michael  
19 Mance.

20 MICHAEL MANCE: I'm Michael Mance.

21 RUSTY BURNS: Richard Dorn.

22 RICHARD DORN: I'm Richard Dorn.

23 JOEY BLACK: Joey Black.

24 RUSTY BURNS: And then I'm going to introduce a few  
25 of the people who are here. We have Councilman Chris Sullivan  
26 who is here with us tonight. And we have Deputy County  
27 Administrator, Mr. Hogan and Mr. Gary Pope, our attorney for  
28 this project. Also, we have Ms. Gaye Sprague right here. She  
29 works with us on this. Jonathan Fox, Drew Cole, Bee. These  
30 are the brains who handle all of this stuff and will be our  
31 resource to do this. But again, thank y'all so very much for  
32 doing this. You're going to make a lot of friends and you're  
33 going to find people who want to shoot you. So you just need  
34 to understand that.

35 But one of the things that we have been asked, are you  
36 getting paid? And unfortunately, you aren't getting paid.  
37 The other thing is y'all are going to spend all of this money  
38 on Buc-ee's. No. None of this money, not one penny will be  
39 used for Buc-ee's. So when people tell you that, that's a  
40 misnomer. It's not true. It's not a fact. That's not it.  
41 What it will be spent on is what the members of the Commission  
42 decide that it will be spent on and placed on the ballot. So  
43 that's how that process runs. But I'm not going to belabor  
44 that fact because all of these smart people are going to do  
45 that for you. Thank you. Matt.

46 MATT HOGAN: Thank you, Mr. Burns. Can you hear me?  
47 Thank you, Mr. Burns. I also want to show for the minutes  
48 that we do have two members that are not here tonight, Mr.  
49 Jamie Cantrell and Matt Reeves are not here. They both had

1 emergencies they had to attend to. Again, I'll echo what Mr.  
2 Burns says. Thank you all for agreeing to do this. This is  
3 so important for Anderson County. I want to talk a little bit  
4 about how we got here. Decades of just deferring maintenance,  
5 the funding there. With that, we've looked at a couple of  
6 options. Our first option we looked at was a road fee, a \$25  
7 road fee, would generate about 6 to 8 million dollars a year,  
8 which with about a mile is about a million dollars to pave  
9 a mile of road. So that's not going to get us very far. We  
10 looked at millage increases; not enough there. I think a mill  
11 is about a million dollars also. Just not enough there to get  
12 enough money to where we need to be. So we looked at this  
13 option. And hopefully, the county will see this is probably  
14 one of our better options to raise 250-something million  
15 dollars over the next six, seven years. It's the kind of  
16 funding we need to dig out of the hole that we've created  
17 here. So that's kind of how we got here. Again, thank you  
18 for your willingness to serve.

19 And the first thing we need to do tonight is to elect our  
20 Chair, Co-Chair, and Secretary. So I'm going to open it up by  
21 do we have any nominations for Chair?

22 JOEY BLACK: I nominate Richard Dorn.

23 MICHAEL MANCE: I second.

24 MATT HOGAN: Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER: Looks like we're signing up  
26 for a lot of good stuff here.

27 COMMISSIONER: Yep.

28 COMMISSIONER: (Inaudible - microphone not  
29 on)

30 MATT HOGAN: All in favor?

31 **(Commission voted unanimously in favor of Richard Dorn as  
32 Chairman)**

33 MATT HOGAN: All right. Thank you. Mr. Chairman,  
34 would you like to nominate the co-chair?

35 RICHARD DORN: I'd like to nominate Trey Thomas to be  
36 the co-chair.

37 MICHAEL MANCE: Second.

38 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: I second.

39 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: I second.

40 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

41 **(Commission voted unanimously in favor of Trey Thomas as Co-  
42 Chairman)**

43 RICHARD DORN: All right.

44 MATT HOGAN: Thank you. Would you also like to do  
45 secretary?

46 RICHARD DORN: Sure. I'm going to nominate Joey to  
47 be the Secretary.

48 MATT HOGAN: Do you have a second.

49 MICHAEL MANCE: Second.

50 MATT HOGAN: All in favor?

1       **(Commission voted unanimously in favor of Joey Black as**  
2       **secretary)**

3           MATT HOGAN: Thank you for that. So next on the  
4 agenda is kind of -- I've got Gary Pope here. He's going to  
5 kind of go through the process.

6           GARY POPE: Can y'all hear me?

7           UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Very good.

8           GARY POPE: Who has the how do I point out to  
9 advance the slides?

10          RENEE WATTS: You're going to have to pull out the  
11 drawer of this table.

12          GARY POPE: Just pull the drawer here? Perfect.  
13 That's great.

14          All right. As Mr. Burns said, I'm Gary Pope. I am with  
15 the Law Firm Pope Flynn. We work pretty much almost  
16 exclusively in the -- in the public finance. And I've worked  
17 on a number of these sales taxes around the state. And there  
18 are a number of nuances to it. And I'm here to sort of help  
19 guide y'all through that process and be a resource for any  
20 questions y'all have. I mean, frankly, maybe my biggest  
21 contribution is I already have documents that do everything  
22 y'all are probably going to want to do, so we don't have to  
23 reinvent the wheel in doing that. You can be a little bit  
24 more efficient and sort of having a chassis on upon which y'all  
25 can build and sort of make the role of the Commission known.

26          But before we start that, it maybe helpful for Members of  
27 the Commission as well as the members in the audience to sort  
28 of give an overview of, you know, what is a Capital Project  
29 Sales Tax? How do you implement it? And sort of how do you  
30 go through that process? If y'all have any questions feel  
31 free to just jump right in at any point and interrupt me.

32          But otherwise this is a pretty comprehensive presentation,  
33 but I'll try to move through it fairly quickly.

34          UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: (Inaudible -- microphone  
35 not on)

36          GARY POPE: Yes, please.

37          UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: (Inaudible)

38          GARY POPE: In this county?

39          UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Yes.

40          GARY POPE: My understanding, and Mr. Burns will have  
41 to correct me, is that a transportation sales tax was proposed  
42 last year and was narrowly disfavored. And then this would be  
43 -- would this be the first time the Capital Project Sales Tax  
44 has been proposed? This would be the first time the Capital  
45 Project Sales Tax has been proposed. I'm sorry. Second time.

46          JONATHAN FOX: Second.

47          JONATHAN FOX: 2006.

48          GARY POPE: In 2006. Thank you. I appreciate that.

49          UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: What's the difference  
50 between those two?

1 GARY POPE: I'm so sorry. That's a great question.  
2 So, first slide. There are two types of sales taxes that a  
3 county can implement in order to finance transportation  
4 projects. This presentation is in y'all's packets.

5 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Okay.

6 GARY POPE: There is a Capital Projects Sales Tax;  
7 there's a Transportation Sales Tax. Both are -- essentially  
8 have the same scope of items that they apply to.  
9 Transportation has to only go to fund transportation items  
10 only. You do not form a Commission. It is up to County  
11 Council as to what goes on the ballot. And it can run for a  
12 much, much longer period of time.

13 A Capital Project Sales Tax, you have to form a  
14 Commission. The Commission has to be half appointees of the  
15 municipalities in the county. The Commission gets to decide  
16 what goes on the ballot. You are not strictly limited to  
17 transportation, although many of them have been by choice  
18 limited to just transportation projects. And those are the  
19 two vehicles by which a county can impose a one percent sales  
20 tax, subject to referendum in both cases. One being the  
21 Transportation Sales tax, the other the Capital Project. The  
22 primary difference is County Council decides what goes on the  
23 transportation sales tax ballot. The Capital Project Sales  
24 Tax Commission, you fine gentlemen, would decide what goes on  
25 the Capital Project Sales Tax (inaudible) ballot.

26 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Now, does every penny go  
27 towards the Capital, just as the Transportation, which you  
28 explained? Or is the --

29 GARY POPE: Correct. They must go to capital  
30 projects. And it has to go to the capital projects that are  
31 on the ballot. And also, the Department of Revenue has a  
32 significant oversight responsibility to make sure that every  
33 single penny that is raised goes to one of the projects that  
34 is on the Capital Project Sales Tax.

35 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: (Inaudible - microphone  
36 not on)

37 GARY POPE: Yes. And the form of that ballot is  
38 going to be a decision that the Commission makes. There have  
39 been ones that have had 375 projects on there, and there have  
40 been ones that have been a little bit easier, reader friendly,  
41 that are down to four or five purposes that it's been to. And  
42 there is a lot of space in between. And it will be up to the  
43 Commission to determine what is aimed at best informing the  
44 voters of the -- what would be funded from the sales tax.

45 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Is there any way that  
46 any of that can change? Once it's voted, it's either a yes or  
47 no vote, and there's no changes to it from there?

48 GARY POPE: It's like you've -- yes. You're  
49 (inaudible). Some of the things we're going to later that  
50 absolutely it cannot change once the -- once you've formed the

1 ballot and it goes to County Council, their decision is up or  
2 down, yes or no. They cannot line item veto. They cannot  
3 amend, alter any of the projects that are on the ballot.

4 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: The deadline for that is?

5 GARY POPE: County Council has -- so I'll work  
6 backwards. And the County Council has to have the ballot to  
7 the Election Commission by noon on August 15th of this year.  
8 They have to give three readings to it. If -- three readings  
9 to the ordinance that sends that to the Election Commission.  
10 Assuming a normal reading schedule, that would mean that the  
11 first reading would be in the middle of July.

12 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: And the reason why I ask  
13 is because I was looking through these and Anderson County is  
14 a very large area. I saw Belton mentioned multiple times.  
15 And I reached out to our Mayor and (Inaudible). I see  
16 Pendleton next in there. So when's the deadline that we need  
17 to get possibly infrastructure upgrades or --

18 GARY POPE: And I think the sooner the better, but  
19 the, the sort of first soft deadline to have the ballot  
20 completed by the Commission is the middle of July. It has to  
21 be on the County Council Agenda by then. So, you know, the  
22 sooner the better.

23 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: (Inaudible)

24 GARY POPE: Yeah, I would say something that's --

25 GAYE SPRAGUE: I can address that.

26 GARY POPE: Yeah. Oh, Ms. Sprague can address that.

27 GAYE SPRAGUE: I can address that yeah, when I come  
28 up there, yeah.

29 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: And just for  
30 clarification, I just want to piggyback on that. I saw some  
31 of those said Belton and Pendleton as well. I would just --  
32 making sure that I'm not assuming incorrectly, that some of  
33 them said county for county roads; and some of them say city  
34 for city roads. And a lot of those fall within Anderson  
35 County, even though some they're specifically for Pendleton  
36 and some specifically for Belton; is that correct?

37 GARY POPE: I need to let the county folks --

38 MATT HOGAN: We can speak to that.

39 GARY POPE: Yeah. Let me run through the rest of  
40 this, this process part. And then we will get to what y'all  
41 actually want to talk about --

42 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Okay.

43 GARY POPE: -- which is the substance of all of this,  
44 right after this. But this will sort of set the table and  
45 then we can sort of figure out what y'all want to have for  
46 dinner after that.

47 All right. So step one, the County Council creates the  
48 Commission. The appointees are made. Y'all -- so we're at  
49 step three. We're right at the point where we need to  
50 received the projects. From there, y'all would create the

1 ballot, and then the County Council adopts the ordinance.  
2 Prioritization, System Funding Projects: Y'all can have a say  
3 in that. It's up to y'all. It's optional. If y'all don't do  
4 it, County Council has to do it. You would then conduct the  
5 referendum -- sorry. County Council adopts the referendum  
6 August 15th. You would conduct the referendum in November  
7 impose the sales tax -- excuse me -- May 1. And then it ends  
8 on the date that's selected in the ballot for it to end, which  
9 will be the April 30th of an even year, whether it's 2, 4, 6,  
10 or 8 years. That's sort of subject to some debate and  
11 discussion. But that'll be something that'll need to be  
12 decided. You can't go beyond 8 years and it has to be in two-  
13 year increments up to that.

14 I think y'all are pretty familiar with how the  
15 Commission's appointed. But just for members of the audience  
16 reference, the county appoints three members; then the largest  
17 -- essentially, the way it works, the largest municipality in  
18 the county, which is the City of Anderson, they only have a --  
19 they're the only one that had a whole number next to their  
20 point of index, so they got to appoint Mr. Thomas. And then  
21 Mr. Thomas then gets to appoint the other two municipal  
22 commissioners, which is a strange quirk in the statute. It's  
23 the way I've always read it. That's the guidance from the  
24 Attorney General as well. So that is our process.

25 As discussed before, the County Council does not select  
26 the projects for the ballot. That is the domain of the  
27 Capital Project Sales Tax Commission. It can be many small  
28 projects. It can be just a few large projects, but that will  
29 be what gets talked about and decided a little bit further on.  
30 There's no statutorily defined process for how you decide what  
31 goes on the ballot or what gets selected, other than it needs  
32 to be the type of project that's in the statute. This is a  
33 capital projects, with a bricks and mortar project. But I've  
34 found that it's helpful to have a, you know, more formalized  
35 proceeding like we're having now. And to have a nice schedule  
36 and various sort of documents that you can look at and -- as  
37 references that other counties have used and sort of get some  
38 go-bys.

39 The form of the ballots -- you can't get too creative  
40 here. It says must a special one percent sales and use tax be  
41 imposed in Anderson County for not more than, the specified  
42 amount of time, to raise the amounts for the specified -- for  
43 the following purposes. And then you list out all of your  
44 purposes and that's it. The only thing that County Council  
45 can do is they could send it back to you, I guess, if they  
46 didn't agree with your ballot or they can also add a borrowing  
47 question if they decide to do that, but that's the only sort  
48 of discretion that's out there for them.

49 This is a former ballot. I call this sort of a hybrid  
50 form. This is what the Spartanburg County Sales Tax

1 Commission did the other year. And they did only  
2 transportation. And the way they did it was they have this  
3 amount for this purpose, which consist of this many projects.  
4 And here's an illustrative list. That's not all 38 that's in  
5 that first category, but that sort of an illustrative list.  
6 There have been others that have had it really, really short,  
7 like I've said. And then have had others that put 368  
8 projects on a ballot and made it 25 pages long. And I'm not  
9 saying people should vote or not vote for a 378 project list,  
10 but I think that one lost 70 to 30. I think people didn't  
11 like a 25-page ballot, but be that as it may. County Council  
12 ordinance: this just sort of goes through some items I've  
13 already talked about. The referendum has to be held at the  
14 General Election time frame. That's defined in the statute as  
15 the first Tuesday following the first Monday in a month. So  
16 that's November 4th of this year, I believe. And these are  
17 just some sort of implementation items. It's collected and  
18 distributed by the Department of Revenue. The County probably  
19 wouldn't get any significant distributions. If it's imposed  
20 on May 1, they're not going to get a significant distribution  
21 until probably the September/October time frame based on past  
22 experience. We've already covered these items. But there's  
23 the financing. It would need to be also as part of the  
24 referendum.

25 And then I'm going to let Ms. Sprague speak more to the  
26 time line. This is just sort of a general time frame. One of  
27 the lines we've already discussed. And that's my contact  
28 information. But with that, I'll sort of hop out of there and  
29 turn it over to Ms. Sprague. Thank you.

30 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Mr. Pope.

31 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

32 GAYE SPRAGUE: Thank you. I want to add my thanks  
33 for your service. Thank you so much.

34 I want to go over the process sort of, information and  
35 we'll address a couple of your questions. In your notebook,  
36 you will see in the very front is the time line. And so per  
37 Commissioner Black's question let me tell you where your input  
38 about projects is vital. So we're meeting on the 16th, which  
39 is tonight. On the 23rd, we'll have the second meeting. And  
40 at that meeting we will have a suggestion for y'all about the  
41 resolution, which puts all of this together for you to  
42 consider. That evening also, we'll have a public  
43 participation meeting. It will be held in this room  
44 immediately after our 5:30 meeting. And we'll get comments  
45 from the public. We'll also receive them via email. So  
46 really, over the next week we need y'all's -- any input you  
47 have about the projects so we can put all of that together and  
48 get it back to you in a final form by the 30th.

49 Then, let's see what else is on my list. Public  
50 participation we just talked about. People can -- we want to

1 have their comments in writing, so they can send them via  
2 email or if they come to that meeting in a week, they can  
3 write their comments. Just a reminder, I've already told  
4 y'all this, but just for the public's benefit, that it's  
5 important to remember that you are a public body and so you  
6 cannot convene -- four or more of you cannot convene unless  
7 it's a public meeting. So that's by email; that's by a text  
8 chain. It's very important that this process be totally  
9 transparent. So I will -- if it's necessary for me to send  
10 you something as a group, if you have questions if you would  
11 just reply back to me so we're always sure that we're not  
12 convening by accident.

13 Then if you have any questions about the process, please  
14 call me. You have the contact information there. Matt Hogan  
15 for any big picture questions. And then you're going to meet  
16 Jonathan Fox later, and Drew Cole on our team. And our  
17 fearless leader is Bee Baker, our principal engineer. Call --  
18 you can talk to them about project information.

19 You also have in your packets some information about  
20 advocacy because that comes up a lot in these processes. Can  
21 the or is the Commission allowed to play an advocacy role for  
22 the referendum. And the answer is yes. That's in your  
23 packet. What's very important, once again, through all of  
24 this about advocacy, is no county resources can be used to  
25 advocate for the referendum. Y'all don't have a county phone.  
26 You don't have a county email. I don't believe you'll be in  
27 making copies on the county copier. So I'm not worried about  
28 all of that, but just once again, for the public's benefit, to  
29 know that it where the line is drawn. No county resources can  
30 be used in advocacy. The county staff, county resources can  
31 be used for education, but in a campaign advocacy kind of way,  
32 that is not the case. Let's see. And then I -- Jonathan is  
33 up next and he will talk about some of those project questions  
34 that you had. Any other questions for me?

35 **(No response)**

36 GAYE SPRAGUE: Thank you.

37 JONATHAN FOX: Well, thank you, Ms. Sprague. I'm  
38 glad you left all the questions for me. I appreciate that  
39 very much.

40 The list you guys are looking at right now, that's a draft  
41 list. You may see that some years are stacked with a lot of  
42 Belton roads or year two stacked with a lot of Pendleton roads  
43 if you've been looking through that. This is a draft. Our  
44 final list won't be ready until about a week and a half now.  
45 That gives you guys plenty of time for input, the public  
46 plenty of time for input, the municipalities that we've been  
47 working with. We want to hear from everybody. We want to  
48 hear what you guys are hearing. And if you didn't know,  
49 Anderson County has 1553 miles of roads and 159 bridges. We  
50 have 81 people on staff to take care of all of that, including

1 myself. And you don't see me getting dirty everyday so we've  
2 got 80 people out there working every day to keep track of  
3 everything.

4 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: We've got more than 1553  
5 roads --

6 JONATHAN FOX: 1553 miles of roads in Anderson  
7 County. Now, that's not including municipalities. If you  
8 include the municipalities we're up to 1932 miles of road, and  
9 that's not including state roads outside of municipalities.

10 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: How many bridges?

11 JONATHAN FOX: 159. So when we were developing this  
12 list, we had a company come in about a year ago and scan all  
13 of our roads. They did a -- it's an automated scan. They're  
14 using lasers and all sorts of futuristic technology. If you  
15 saw the van driving around -- I think we made a joke about it  
16 being a mystery machine at one point. So that scanned every  
17 road in the county and gave us an idea of what the current  
18 condition was on every road. So we took that data, used it  
19 against road classification that helped show us, you know, on  
20 a major local road we're not seeing as much traffic as we're  
21 seeing on a major collector road or a major arterial road. So  
22 we want to make sure that when we presented this list, we want  
23 to present the roads that are getting the most impact. You  
24 know, we're not paving my subdivision, but we're paving the  
25 main road that I use to get to work everyday, the one that I  
26 hit potholes on everyday. And then again, going back to the  
27 list as you see -- we started grouping those geographically  
28 because that makes sense, you know. If a contractor's going  
29 to be working in the Belton area, it makes sense for him to  
30 stay in the Belton area for a year or two. Again, we need to  
31 take some time, digest that with the input of the public and  
32 you guys to make sure that we come up with a finalized list  
33 that you guys can stand behind and so can we, as we send this  
34 to the voters in November.

35 And with that, if you guys have any questions for me,  
36 anything specific or any of the municipalities, some of them  
37 are here tonight to represent themselves, as well. If you've  
38 got any project-specific questions --

39 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: At this meeting the main  
40 question is how much does the decision to add to the list of  
41 roads, does public perception weigh in that decision factor  
42 outside of the technology and the wear and tear of the main  
43 roads. I would just -- not necessarily -- I'm asking you  
44 that, but make sure you consider that because I already know  
45 that's the type of suggestions I'm going to be getting. So I  
46 just want to kind of cut that off at the...

47 JONATHAN FOX: So absolutely. So there's three  
48 factors that we use. And I talked about two of them, the PCI,  
49 which is the pavement condition index; the second one was the  
50 classification that tells us what kind of road it is, what

1 kind of volumes of traffic it should be seeing. The third  
2 one, we added in the 10 percent factor for what we called the  
3 repeat maintenance factor. What roads, what major, minor  
4 collector of these large roads are we getting calls about  
5 frequently? What roads are we going out every other week and  
6 patching potholes on? Those are the ones that we need to take  
7 care of and take care of now before the next thing we know  
8 we're busting tires and everything else that you guys are  
9 likely going to hear over the next few weeks.

10 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Something you said  
11 earlier, you said -- I think there were 1553 miles of -- is  
12 that county roads?

13 JONATHAN FOX: That's just county roads. So there's  
14 another ---

15 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: And then there's another,  
16 let's say, 400 miles of municipalities?

17 JONATHAN FOX: Uh-huh. (Affirmative response)

18 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: And then -- so this list  
19 and everything in this list, this has nothing to do with state  
20 roads or federal roads or anything like this, just county  
21 roads, right?

22 JONATHAN FOX: So the 1553 is just county roads. The  
23 400 is -- that's between -- that's the city and state roads  
24 within the municipalities. So with the county's list, any  
25 road that you see county next to, it is a county road. It is  
26 not a state road.

27 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Okay.

28 JONATHAN FOX: Within the municipalities they may  
29 have some state roads. We left that up to their discretion.  
30 They know their constituents, they know their communities and  
31 how they would best be served by this tax, so we left that to  
32 their discretion.

33 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Okay.

34 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: So that being said like  
35 we've got a lot of county roads in the Pendleton area,  
36 obviously. We also have -- 76 runs right through the middle.  
37 So if we were to go and do improvements, such as where some of  
38 the new gas stations or grocery store or fast food places are  
39 coming in, are they going to help us out at all with like  
40 crossings, safety improvements, any of that?

41 JONATHAN FOX: So that's something that -- whenever a  
42 new development comes or a new business comes, they're  
43 required to submit a traffic study to us and whatever  
44 municipality they serve in. So all of that's brought in when  
45 they build their business. We do look after the fact. As  
46 things grow, as they do over time, we do look to add new  
47 crosswalks and new safety improvements. And there are some  
48 safety improvements listed in here. That's another thing, why  
49 we want to get the public input. Because I drive the same way  
50 home every day, but I don't drive the same way you do. And

1 you may see things that I don't see every day. So you know --  
2 you know, you and the public can see where those safety  
3 concerns are that I may not experience in my day-to-day  
4 travels.

5 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: So traffic impact studies  
6 have been looked at. Has population growth? You've kind of  
7 touched that.

8 JONATHAN FOX: Yes.

9 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: (Inaudible)

10 JONATHAN FOX: And that's more Ms. Sprague's  
11 expertise than mine.

12 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Okay.

13 GAYE SPRAGUE: Do you want me --

14 JONATHAN FOX: Yes, Gaye, if you want.

15 GAYE SPRAGUE: So in the county, any development that  
16 generates more than 75 trips in the peak hour, has to do a  
17 traffic impact study. And very often that also has to be  
18 reviewed by the DOT. And if the impact is only on a DOT road,  
19 then it is up to the DOT whether or not to require  
20 improvements. But they often do and we often do. So it's  
21 based on what the impact is of that specific development.

22 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: So I guess my question  
23 is, I understand how a traffic impact study works. The  
24 question was is population growth, future population growth  
25 built into --

26 GAYE SPRAGUE: A traffic study?

27 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: No. What we are  
28 deciding. What we're investing in?

29 GAYE SPRAGUE: I think --

30 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: I mean, say if you've got  
31 two neighborhoods going in that aren't done just quite yet,  
32 you're going to have 4, or 5, 600 new single homes. When you  
33 go into either building infrastructure or maintaining current  
34 infrastructure -- or say you've got a one and half lane  
35 bridge, back when we had those. I'm sure there are some of  
36 those running around on the county roads here as well. Is  
37 that thought about as well for future -- like if we're  
38 investing, are we looking at future investment --

39 JONATHAN FOX: Yes.

40 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: -- as opposed to just  
41 current, what's the problems at hand?

42 JONATHAN FOX: So we have tried -- we have done our  
43 best to take a blend of both. Currently, as Matt mentioned,  
44 we're decades behind on doing the maintenance that we should  
45 have been doing all along. We haven't paved a county road  
46 with county funds in five years, if I'm not mistaken, maybe  
47 six, other than CTC funds. So we're falling behind  
48 desperately. And we're at a point we need to catch up, but we  
49 also need to be taking into account these new developments.  
50 And if you look on your list you'll see Harriet Circle's in

1 there, which is a common area. Midway's in there.  
2 Crestview's in there. Vandiver's in there. That area that's  
3 booming over there. And there's other areas across the county  
4 that are facing the same thing. Mt. Airy Church so on and  
5 so forth. When you look through that list, those are why  
6 you're seeing those roads. It is not only is there growth  
7 that's here now, but there's growth that's coming that we  
8 foresee, and those roads need to be widened. They need to be  
9 stripped. They need rumble stripes, so on and so forth to  
keep,

10 you know. I don't have teenage drivers yet, but I will soon,  
11 to keep my kids safe just like we keep all our other kids --  
12 everybody else's kids safe.

13 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Just to add to that, I do  
14 want to stress the importance of that because you take White  
15 Street where the county dump is. Just last night I was  
16 driving through there and I had to go around somebody that was  
17 using a scooter. And right there where everybody's going to  
18 dump their dump, there's no walkway. There's no curbing for  
19 anybody to walk or ride their bikes. But I did see there was,  
20 what, I think, 5 million dollars for redoing the curbs and the  
21 walkways on Clemson Boulevard. And I think that might need to  
22 be in consideration because they've torn out all those trees  
23 and they're redeveloping that area. And it's a lot more  
24 houses going in that area, just on White Street. And not only  
25 there but also off of the end of Plantation Road. So just  
26 something to think about.

27 JONATHAN FOX: Yeah, absolutely and that's -- and  
28 that's -- If I can pinpoint (Inaudible) I believe that was one  
29 of his projects that he had on the list. That's why we want  
30 you guys out here. That's why we want all the mayors, the  
31 town representatives here. You guys drive a different way  
32 home than we do everyday. You see something different than we  
33 do. And we need to hear about it.

34 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

35 JONATHAN FOX: You're welcome. Thank you.

36 GAYE SPRAGUE: We're not widening.

37 JONATHAN FOX: Yeah, there's no -- so we're not going  
38 from a two-lane road to a four-lane road. We're -- if we're  
39 talking about widening, we're talking about adding a two-foot  
40 shoulder to add, you know, safety there for people who run off  
41 the road. I just want to mention that.

42 Does the Commission have any other questions from me?

43 **(No response)**

44 JONATHAN FOX: I want to thank you all for being  
45 here. We really appreciate you guy's support, you working  
46 with us, and I'll turn it back over to Mr. Hogan.

47 MATT HOGAN: Thank you, Jonathan. All right. So --  
48 do we have any presentations from the municipalities? Does  
49 anybody want to do --

50 UNIDENTIFIED MUNICIPALITY REPRESENTATIVE: Not so

1 much in depth tonight for everybody here, but if we could be  
2 provided in the next couple days an exhaustive breakdown of  
3 what y'all have approved planning-wise, what's coming down the  
4 pipe, because that will help us look at the roadways that are  
5 needing infrastructure and roadways that might need  
6 infrastructure.

7 MIKE GAY: We can certainly provide you with that  
8 kind of information, but bear in mind that housed at the city  
9 is also the Metropolitan Planning Organization. And we are  
10 charged with looking 25 years into the future and we plan for  
11 projects, for transportation projects that way. It's staffed  
12 in my office. So a lot of our projects have come from those  
13 projections and things of that nature. So we do a data-driven  
14 kind of selection process.

15 UNIDENTIFIED MUNICIPALITY REPRESENTATIVE: Okay. So  
16 if we want to talk to somebody about future population growth,  
17 you would be the gentleman we need to reach out to?

18 MATT HOGAN: You can certainly talk to me about that.  
19 Yes, sir.

20 UNIDENTIFIED MUNICIPALITY REPRESENTATIVE: Okay.  
21 Thank you.

22 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Does the technology exist  
23 to visually map out the projects and maybe color code them by  
24 the type of project they are, based on where they are  
25 visually?

26 JONATHAN FOX: Yep. I'm going to step back up and  
27 get that one. Yes. So we're working on maps before the  
28 meeting next week when we go public with what we currently  
29 have, which, as you know, is a draft list. We want to be able  
30 to display that. We're also going to have -- Mr. Cole here is  
31 going to set up a table over there where Ms. Renee's sitting.  
32 And he's going to have a map pulled up where somebody can walk  
33 up and say hey, I live on this road or I travel this way to  
34 work. Can you show me what improvements I'm going to see in  
35 the next eight years with this tax. So we're going to have  
36 that visual for you guys in the next week.

37 MATT HOGAN: Thank you, Jonathan. So I will just  
38 kind of wrap up with a couple of announcements for -- our next  
39 meeting is Monday, 6/23 at 5:30 in Council Chambers here. And  
40 following that at 6:30 we'll have our public comment section  
41 of that, as Ms. Gaye's talked about. Does anyone have any  
42 other questions?

43 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: I have one last question  
44 of Ms. Gaye. Sorry. You tried to send me digital copies of  
45 what was in this where you sent. Can we get updated, as I was  
46 asking you to do, in Excel spreadsheets of the projects that  
47 are currently listed in the back?

48 GAYE SPRAGUE: Yeah. That -- yes, we will definitely  
49 send you that tomorrow. We will send you -- because we do  
50 want to add in -- we've got Williamston, Iva. We've got a

1 couple of extra. So we will get that in and get that to you  
2 tomorrow.

3 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Thank you. Because that  
4 will help budget-wise looking at numbers, like what we're  
5 proposing to the public. And that's kind of going to segue to  
6 the question that I have for everybody here. Like, so this is  
7 the third time this is going up. What went wrong the first  
8 two times that it was not appealing enough to the public for  
9 them to pass, because they obviously see infrastructure being  
10 needed and maintenance being needed. So I guess how, as a  
11 community, are we going to show them? It's hard to explain  
12 in depth to people that don't understand transportation or --

13 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: That's why I asked the  
14 question about public perception earlier.

15 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: Yeah.

16 RUSTY BURNS: We're already going around the county  
17 having safety meetings in various parts of the county. That's  
18 already being done. How many have we had, two or three?  
19 We've had several of those meetings across the county to  
20 receive public input on where do you think the most dangerous  
21 areas are? And that process is continuing. But as to your  
22 population, the population of Anderson County right now as of  
23 three weeks ago from the Census Bureau was 217,000 plus. And  
24 so that's quite a dramatic increase in a very short time. And  
25 I just want -- Matt, with your permission, we have Mayor Ed  
26 Sokol from Starr. Mayor, would you stand up?

27 **(Mayor of Starr stands)**

28 RUSTY BURNS: The Mayor of Belton; Mayor of Honea  
29 Path. Where's Frank? Also Lyn Merchant, she's back here.  
30 Everybody who's affiliated with a government, would you please  
31 stand so everybody could see who you are.

32 **(Government officials stand)**

33 RUSTY BURNS: And you can ask these people what they  
34 think the priorities are in their areas, because they're the  
35 ones -- we requested they send us what they thought was the  
36 most important. And so that's what we have from everybody.  
37 And so that will be part of this. But, again, it's going to  
38 be up to y'all to decide what goes on that list and how it  
39 should be listed on that list. So that's -- do y'all have any  
40 other questions about anything?

41 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: So is it okay if we get  
42 you guys contacts to us so we can reach out if we have any  
43 questions on specific projects and their need, the detriment  
44 of the need? That would be very, very helpful and thank  
45 y'all.

46 RUSTY BURNS: I will have that -- yeah, I'll have  
47 that list tomorrow.

48 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: That's perfect. If they  
49 could -- if they would include it in the spreadsheet that they  
50 send us, that would help us out even more because we can just

1 flip, you know, Pendleton, this is who we need to reach out  
2 to. Belton, it's who do you reach out to.

3 RUSTY BURNS: I think Jonathan told you if you add  
4 the city and county roads it's around 1900. But there are  
5 also 1,250 miles of state roads in the county. So as you can  
6 see, because of the large geographical size of the county, we  
7 have a lot of roads, a whole lot of roads.

8 And in conclusion, you got something to say, Matt?

9 MATT HOGAN: I was going to -- the 2006 capital tax,  
10 I don't know what went wrong there. I was not here.

11 RUSTY BURNS: I can tell you what went wrong there.

12 MATT HOGAN: I think that was before --

13 RUSTY BURNS: They packed every piece of pork known  
14 to mankind on that list from putting Buster a playroom out in  
15 the back yard. And that's why it went down in flames. I can  
16 assure you of that. That's why the Council wanted this to be  
17 strictly for roads and transportation. And it will be up to  
18 y'all to make sure that that's what it's about because that's  
19 the biggest need in the county. But, again, thank y'all very,  
20 very much for volunteering to do this. This won't be easy,  
21 but, I mean, I just thank y'all very, very much. We good?

22 UNIDENTIFIED COMMISSIONER: We good.

23 RUSTY BURNS: Now, the Chairman has to adjourn the  
24 meeting.

25 RICHARD DORN: The motion --

26 RUSTY BURNS: You have a motion to adjourn.

27 RICHARD DORN: Do have a motion to adjourn?

28 MICHAEL MANCE: So move.

29 JOEY BLACK: Second.

30 RICHARD DORN: All in favor?

31 **(The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn)**

32 RICHARD DORN: All right. We're adjourned. Thank  
33 you.

34 **(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:12 P.M.)**