



Town of Hilton Head Island TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

An Update from Deputy Town Manager Josh Gruber 9/23/2020

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

Here's an update on what's happening around Town:

SCDOT's Public Notification of Proposed Conversion of Cross Island Parkway to Non-Tolled Road in Hilton Head

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is providing notification of the Transportation Commission-approved public comment period for the proposed conversion of the Cross Island Parkway toll facility into a non-tolled road in Hilton Head, SC. The public has the opportunity to comment on an action to amend the 2017-2022 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) to include engineering and construction for the conversion. SCDOT will receive public comment for a 21-day period from September 22, 2020 through October 13, 2020.

The toll on the Cross Island Parkway (US 278) is set to expire in 2021. This project includes the removal of existing toll infrastructure and roadway improvements required to change the Parkway to a conventional, non-tolled four-lane road. The total estimated cost of the project is \$14 million.

Pending consideration of public comments, the proposed changes will be recommended for inclusion in a future revision to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

A copy of this press release, along with a location map, is available for public review and comment until October 13, 2020 online at these links:

English: <https://bit.ly/ccipntr>

Spanish: <https://bit.ly/ccipntrsp>

ArborNature Construction and Demolition Debris Transfer Station Virtual Public Meeting, September 24th

S.C. DHEC's Bureau of Land and Waste Management (BLWM) will hold a virtual public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, September 24th, about the proposed ArborNature Transfer Station. The meeting is being held virtually using an online platform in a live-event setting. This platform allows public involvement in DHEC's permitting process while following local and state guidelines for social distancing and avoiding large group gatherings. Interested persons can join the meeting remotely using a phone or computer.



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Access to the meeting will open at 5:30 p.m. on the day of the event. Early log-in is encouraged. An access link and instructions on how to join by phone or computer will be available at that time at DHEC's website at <https://scdhec.gov/events/arbournature-construction-demolition-debris-transfer-station-virtual-public-meeting-0>

During this public meeting, DHEC will provide additional information about the proposed transfer station, follow-up on questions asked during public meeting #1, and provide an opportunity for additional questions to be asked. Anyone who plans to participate in the public meeting should complete the [registration form](#). Information about how to join the virtual meeting can be found on our Virtual Meeting page at <https://scdhec.gov/virtual-meetings-hearings>

Update on Beaufort County Schools

Beaufort County Schools Superintendent Frank Rodriguez shared an update this morning during the weekly Tele-Town Hall zoom call sponsored by the Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce. Here are some highlights:

- Special needs students were welcomed back to the classroom last week.
- A hybrid face-to-face model of instruction begins Monday, Oct. 5, for parents who requested that for their children.
- Mi-Fi devices have been issued to 470 families that requested them to deal with connectivity issues.
- District staff is continuing to monitor its own metrics as well as DHEC metrics pertaining to COVID-19.

Check out more at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iV6L3-o3Pcl>

Future Scholar When I Grow Up Contest Open Through Friday

Through **September 25**, parents are invited to enter their child, age 10 or under, in the "When I Grow Up" Sweepstakes. Simply take a photo of your child dressed as what they want to be when they grow up and post it publicly to your personal Facebook or Instagram account with the hashtag **#FutureScholarWhenIGrowUp**. Twenty winners (10 from Facebook and 10 from Instagram) will be randomly selected to receive a privately-funded \$529 contribution to their child's Future Scholar account. **Visit** www.futurescholar.com/growup for more contest details.

COVID-19 Cases in Our Community

DHEC's assistant epidemiologist, Dr. Jane Kelly, announced today that DHEC has added a new feature to the COVID-19 dashboard on its website. This new feature gives an update on the number of South Carolinians that have recovered from the coronavirus.

Here's an update from the dashboard: As of **September 21, 2020**, of the total positive cases of COVID-19 in South Carolina (**140,789**), DHEC has symptom onset data