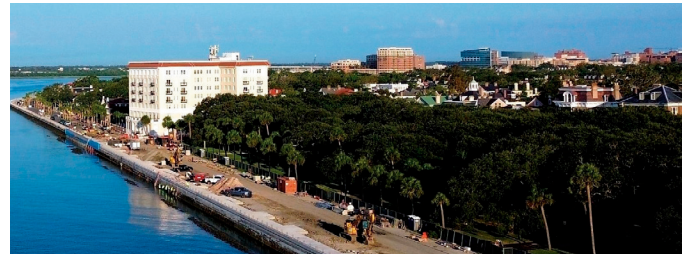


Charlestowne Neighborhood Association

The Transportation Sales Tax will fund critical projects for Charleston

AS YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW, the 2026 Transportation Sales Tax Program (TST) will be on the ballot in the upcoming election on November 3rd. Passage of this referendum will renew a 0.5% sales tax, which has been in place since 2004 and is set to expire in 2027. The projected revenue generated from the tax is \$4.25 billion over 25 years.

This marks the second time that the referendum will be on the ballot. It was defeated in the 2025 election due to voters' concerns about transparency, accountability, and opposition to the inclusion of a plan to extend I-526. After this defeat, the County made a concerted effort to understand the public's concerns through a comprehensive outreach program that included a survey, a published website and public meetings. With the public's input the County drafted a list of potential projects



(which does not include I-526) and was finally able to reach a concrete plan containing key transportation and infrastructure improvements throughout Charleston County.

TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX PROGRAM

The County published the proposed program on its website, charlestontransportation.com. The program defines each project and how the funds from the TST will be allocated. It includes improvements such as repaving roads, bike and pedestrian safety, public transit, the Greenbelt program, and special projects of interest to South of Broad residents, including the Battery Wall Extension and the Calhoun West Project which includes the MUSC district and focuses on infrastructure improvements to address flooding.

The new program is designed to distribute investment among all neighborhoods, improving access and interconnectedness throughout the city and creating benefits that reach beyond any one area.

DOES THE TST FUND ALL OF THIS?

It is worth noting that since 2004, 30% (\$1.02 billion) of the sales tax funds were generated by non-Charleston County residents. Another \$1.17 billion came from federal and state matching funds and grants. In total, 48% (\$2.19 billion) of the funds are sourced outside of Charleston County.

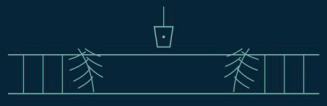
WHAT'S NEXT?

Voters were clear that the last proposal lacked transparency, public input, and accountability, and the County responded to address those concerns. At the CNA membership meetings in January and May of this year, Councilmember Mike Seekings stressed the importance of this tax as he shared updates with our members and challenged us to consider what happens if the tax fails. He noted that continuing an existing tax involves fewer obstacles and less time than trying to pass a completely new tax later. With major transportation, infrastructure, flooding, and preservation needs still ahead of us, this vote asks Charleston County residents to support funding the work our community will need and the County has provided the informational tools to help with that decision.



Charlestowne Neighborhood Association

Meet Your Neighbor Socials



Look for an invitation to join your neighbors for a friendly social gathering, organized by the Charlestowne Neighborhood Association (CNA). Gatherings will start in November, with a chance to mingle at various neighborhood homes. We're excited to get together with you!



This is a CNA member event.

Not a member yet?

Join the **Charlestowne Neighborhood Association**



Learn more at charlestontransportation.com