



Jasper County South Carolina

News Release

May 18, 2023

Contact: Andrew Fulghum, Jasper County Administrator, 843-717-3691,
afulghum@jaspercountysc.gov

Drainage and street flooding near Hardeeville to be addressed by Jasper County and multi- million-dollar grants

Years of street flooding damage during heavy rains around Hardeeville soon will be addressed through a multi-million-dollar improvement plan funded by \$2.8 million in state and federal grants.

“This is a large-scale project that we have been putting together since 2017,” Jasper County Administrator Andrew Fulghum said. “We built and opened a new fire station with ambulance service, and 36 dilapidated buildings have been demolished. This new project will work to improve the flooding problems.”

Most of the work will address Church Road, just outside the City of Hardeeville and will include parts of Stiney Road, Deerfield Road, Jackson Loop, Portabella Drive, Richard Jones Road, Sanders Road, Stiney Funeral Home Road, Turning Leaf Lane, Wick Lumber Road, Williams Avenue and Youmans Estate Road.

The total cost of the drainage project is approximately \$2.75 million. In late April, Jasper County received a \$1.8 million grant through the South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program of the Rural Infrastructure Authority.

In previous years, Jasper County received an additional \$1.72 million in Community Development Block Grants for work associated with the drainage problems.

The bulk of the drainage improvement project consists of installing stormwater conveyance pipes, adding curb and gutter, and building raised sidewalks in the affected areas.

“Open ditch drainage systems require regular county maintenance as they are more susceptible to collecting litter, leaves and erosion during periods of heavy rainfall,” said Jasper County Director of Planning and Building Services Lisa Wagner.

“Installing this drainage system will provide better access to local property, minimize property damage due to flooding, and improve public health by minimizing stagnant water which creates an environment for mosquitos and other insects,” she said.

Road improvements have included widening and paving of the road shoulders, brighter pavement markings, rumble stripes and additional guardrails to protect against serious and fatal injury run-off-the-road crashes.

It was important to remove the dilapidated and abandoned structures, Fulghum said, because they tend to attract criminal activity, including drug use. County officials have worked to demolish unsafe and derelict buildings in the community.

While crime rated the third biggest concern among residents, the primary issues were traffic, burglary and theft, domestic issues and suspicious people and vehicles in the area, according to a Lowcountry Council of Governments’ report in 2017.

The Stiney Road Fire Station is a 5,000-square foot, three-bay facility staffed 24 hours a day by four people – two to the fire engine and two to the ambulance. The new facility cost \$1.62 million, including land, architecture and engineering, and construction.

“Having the fire station with an ambulance, and staffed full-time, is a game-changer for that part of the community,” Fulghum said. “The more we can reduce response times, and get qualified people to help the injured as quickly as possible, the better we do as a county and as a community of helpers.”

END