



# Vaughn Ed Kee Parkway

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## Description

This project entails a new two-lane connector roadway from US 17 to Billy Swails Boulevard and Rifle Range Road, primarily through the jointly owned Town of Mount Pleasant and Charleston County park. The road provides better connection between the existing and planned arterial network, which decreases trip lengths and disperses traffic to more intersections, versus concentrating it at fewer. The project was authorized for design in FY 2017 and is on-going. The design scope of work follows the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Note that this project was previously called both the Long Point Road Extension and the US 17 to Rifle Range Connector road. The roadway has more recently been named *Vaughn Ed Kee Parkway* in honor of Officer Kee who was killed in the line of duty December 13, 1985.

## History

- Vaughn Ed Kee Parkway has been discussed for many years and is reflected in the 2011 CHATS Long Range Transportation Plan (Long Point Road Extension).
- A 2013 transportation study indicated top priorities for Town-funded roadway projects north of the IOP Connector were, in ranking order:
  - Billy Swails Boulevard 4A [Construction completed 2015]
  - Billy Swails Boulevard 4B [ROW acquisition underway, construction in 2023]
  - Long Point Realignment [Design complete]
  - Long Point Road Extension [Vaughn Ed Kee Parkway currently under construction]
- Design, ROW and Construction funding for the project was identified in the Town's FY 2017 CIP.
- The project was authorized for design in FY 2018 and was renamed Vaughn Ed Kee Parkway by the Planning Commission in 2020.
- Construction of Vaughn Ed Kee Parkway began June 2022 and is scheduled for completion in October 2023.

## Cost Estimate

- \$10,661,081 (Funded in the 2021-2025 CIP)

## Goals and Project Purpose & Need

- 2019-2029 Comprehensive Plan Goals (Safe and Efficient Mobility)
  - Provide a highly connected road network designed to respond to changing demand and utilizing innovative technology.
  - Integrate bike and pedestrian facilities and programs into the Town's road network, linking various destinations within the planning area.
  - Provide services and infrastructure required to support anticipated future conditions in the town.
- Strategic Plan Goal: Protect Neighborhoods and Community Systems - Review all capital projects and seek new ones that maximize multipurpose infrastructure.
- Project Purpose & Need: To increase connectivity and capacity on the Town's transportation network by dispersing traffic to additional facilities and intersections by providing a connection between US-17 and Rifle Range Road and a new intersection with future Billy Swails Boulevard Phase 4B.