

Ask LaFleur: Can you update us on the Roper Mountain project?

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Question: I see tree clearing on Roper Mountain Road Extension and on Roper Mountain Road to the I-85 bridge. Can you get a project update and timeline for widening and paving?

Answer: I have good news. This project, which I first wrote about in August, 2018, is nearing the construction phase.

For those who don't know, the South Carolina Department of Transportation plans to widen the entire length of Roper Mountain Road Extension.

The road, which is home to office parks, an apartment complex, a church and several residences, runs from Pelham Road to Roper Mountain Road.

Plans include widening the road to three lanes and adding bike lanes and sidewalks.

Casey Lucas is the DOT engineer on that project. Lucas said the project was let out to bid earlier this month.

Roper Mountain Road Extension is set for a widening project. The road will be going to three lanes with bike lanes and sidewalks.

Once DOT has a good bid, the project will be awarded to a contractor for construction.

The anticipated contract completion date remains undetermined, according to Lucas.

The project is close to another widening project on Roper Mountain Road. DOT plans to widen Roper Mountain from four lanes to five from Roper Mountain Road Extension to Blacks Drive and from two lanes to three from Blacks Drive to Interstate 85. That plan also includes bike lanes and sidewalks. It's also in the pre-award stage, according to the SCDOT projects website.