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Speaker Announces New Ad-Hoc Committee *Committee Tasked to Study Modernization of SCDOT*

(COLUMBIA, S.C.) – House Speaker Murrell Smith (District 67) has announced the formation of a new Ad-Hoc Committee, led by Co-Chairs Shannon Erickson (District 124) and Heather Crawford (District 68), which will be tasked to study the modernization of the South Carolina Department of Transportation. The committee will focus on identifying ways to improve the agency’s efficiency, streamline operations, and ensure it is equipped to meet the demands of a growing population and the evolving challenges of the 21st century.

The House of Representatives has worked hard to secure billions in funding for roads, bridges, and infrastructure improvements in recent years—but South Carolinians aren’t seeing the results quickly enough. This committee will begin an effort to improve and streamline the services, responsiveness, and efficiency of SCDOT.

Starting this summer, the newly formed SCDOT Modernization Committee will hold statewide public hearings to hear directly from citizens about their experiences with South Carolina’s roads and bridges. This feedback will drive policy recommendations to bring real reform and real results.

Key priorities will include:

- Modernizing SCDOT’s outdated and slow permitting process
- Accelerating timelines for project funding and completion
- Deploying additional resources in fast-growing, high-need areas of the state
- Addressing congestion and expanding road capacity statewide

“As South Carolina continues to grow, it is critical that our infrastructure keeps pace,” **said Speaker Smith**. “This committee will take a comprehensive look at how SCDOT can better serve the needs of our citizens—today and in the future. From innovation and technology to organizational structure and long-term planning, no idea is off the table.”

"South Carolinians deserve a transportation system that works as hard as they do," **said Co-Chair Erickson**. "This committee will begin by listening to our communities with the aim of delivering solutions that modernize SCDOT and make a meaningful difference in the daily lives of our citizens."

"We're at a pivotal moment for South Carolina's infrastructure," **said Co-Chair Crawford**. "By engaging the public and working closely with local and state partners, this committee will help drive reforms that lead to faster project completion, better service, and a stronger foundation for future growth."

The Ad-Hoc Committee will be composed of a bipartisan and geographically diverse group of House members. It will work closely with transportation stakeholders, agency leadership, and the public to develop recommendations for legislative or administrative improvements.

The committee will begin to meet soon, with meetings announced in advance and open for public testimony.

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