

an update from

MakeHardscrabbleSafe.org

FROM THE DESK OF MICHAEL A. LETTS

May 18, 2006

On behalf of the Northeast Business Association and the Central Midlands Council of Governments, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in joining the collective voice to encourage widening Hardscrabble Road to five lanes to ensure safety and efficiency of our neighbors, children, and local businesses.

Included is an update on the Hardscrabble Road widening project, as well as things you can do to help.

Your support is vital in making this project a reality. Together, we can make Hardscrabble Road safer and ensure our quality of life for our children. Should you have any suggestions, questions or input, please feel free to contact me by e-mail to mletts@in-vest.org or by phone at 803-361-0147.

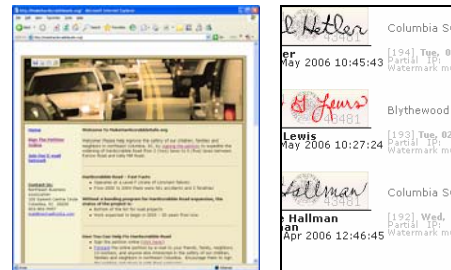
For safer roads,

Michael A. Letts

Central Midlands Council of Governments
Transportation Committee; Northeast
Business Association



THE ONLINE PETITION: SPREAD THE WORD!



The Hardscrabble Road petition effort is organized by the Northeast Business Association, which announced the launch of MakeHardscrabbleSafe.org in 2005. The website was specifically designed to address Hardscrabble Road issues.

Please help improve the safety of our children, families, businesses and neighbors in northeast Columbia, by visiting MakeHardscrabbleSafe.org to sign the online petition to expedite the widening of Hardscrabble Road from 2 (two) lanes to 5 (five) lanes between Farrow Road and Kelly Mill Road. And be sure to forward it to your friends, family and neighbors to support the effort to widen Hardscrabble Road. There's no such thing as too many signatures!

To contact the Northeast Business Association, please call 803-865-9497 or send an e-mail to mail@michaelkoska.com



5 WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

1.) The first phase of preliminary engineering for Hardscrabble Road has begun, and members of the Legislative Delegation have inserted \$200,000 in this coming year's State budget to assist in continuing the preliminary engineering of Hardscrabble Road. Please encourage these key Richland County legislative delegation members to fight to maintain these funds in the budget:

- South Carolina Senate Delegation:
 - Joel Lourie, District 22 – 803-765-9200 ext.257 or 803-212-6116; JBL@scsenate.org
 - Kay Patterson, District 19 – 803-212-6048; KAY@scsenate.org
- South Carolina House Delegation:
 - Dr. Jimmy C. Bales, District 80 – 803-776-7355 or 803-734-3058; JCB@schouse.org
 - Joan Brady, District 78 – 803-787-9712 or 803-734-3027; BradyJ@schouse.org
 - Joe E. Brown, District 73 – 803-734-3046; HMM@schouse.org
 - William F. "Bill" Cotty, District 79 – 803-736-0756 or 803-734-4851; WFC@schouse.org
 - Leon Howard, District 76 – 803-254-9468 or 803-734-3061; LH@schouse.org
 - John L. Scott, Jr., District 77 – 803-733-5176 or 803-734-2963; JLS@schouse.org

2.) The Richland County Transportation Committee approved \$1 million to widen the intersection of Hardscrabble and Farrow Road. This improvement has been completed with great success. We are asking that an additional \$100,000 be allocated to help complete the preliminary engineering. Your support of this will be a great help.

- James Brown, Executive Director – 803-576-1908; jamesbrown@richlandonline.com

3.) An annual \$15 road maintenance fee as well as a 2% hospitality tax is collected in Richland County. Contact our Northeast Richland County Council members and request that the county earmark \$200,000 for the widening and safety of Hardscrabble Road:

- Joyce Dickerson, District Two – 803-750-0154; JDicker282@aol.com
- Joseph McEachern, District Seven – 803-786-8304 or 803-735-1808; joemceachern@richlandonline.com
- Mike Montgomery, District Eight – 803-736-3023 or 803-779-3500; MMontgomery@rcgov.us
- Val Hutchinson, District Nine – 803-462-1373; hutchv@rcgov.us

5 WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE – CONTINUED

4.) Central Midlands Council of Governments will be updating the Transportation Improvement Plan for road projects in the five county region for upcoming years. While CCMCOG is not a taxing authority, it does help determine road project needs in the entire region that are funded with an annual federal gas tax revenue of \$13.8 million. Please contact these key members of Central Midlands Council of Governments and ask that Hardscrabble Road widening be made a top priority.

- Larry C. Cooke – 803-730-1140; Lcooke@sc.rr.com
- Earl F. Brown, Jr. – 803-939-0041; earl.brown@mail.house.gov
- Val Hutchinson – 803-462-1373; hutchv@rcgov.us
- Damon Jeter – 803-376-4303; djeter@rcgov.us
- Michael Letts – 803-361-0147; mletts@in-vest.org
- Paul Livingston – 803-765-1192 or 803-738-7655; livingstonp@rcgov.us
- Joseph McEachern – 803-786-8304 or 803-735-1808; joemceachern@richlandonline.com
- Anthony Mizzell – 803-776-8788; mizzell@richlandonline.com
- Bernice Scott – 803-353-8812; bscott@richlandonline.com

5.) South Carolina is a donor state that does not receive back all of the federal gas tax dollars collected in South Carolina. This funding is needed to make our roads safe. Contact our Federal Senators and Representatives and ask that an appropriation be made in the Federal Transportation Bill earmarked for the widening of Hardscrabble Road.

- Senator Lindsey O. Graham – 803-933-0112 or 202-224-5972; or complete his online contact form at <http://lgraham.senate.gov>
- Senator Jim W. DeMint – 803-771-6112 or 202-224-6121; or complete his online contact form at <http://demint.senate.gov>
- Congressman Addison "Joe" Graves Wilson – 803-939-0041 or 202-225-2452; or complete his online contact form at <http://joewilson.house.gov>
- Congressman James E. Clyburn – 803-799-1100 or 202-225-3315; or complete his online contact form at <http://clyburn.house.gov>



***This update compliments of the Northeast Business Association and
MakeHardscrabbleSafe.org***