

# I-20 widening, improvement project is completed in Lexington County

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) announced on June 27, 2022, that all six lanes of the widening and improvement project along the 11-mile section of Interstate 20 in Lexington County had been opened to traffic.

Over the course of the project, six new concrete lanes were built including widening each travel direction of I-20 from two to three lanes from mile marker 60.6 west of U.S. 378 to mile marker 49.8 west of Longs Pond Road.

A new bridge was built over the Norfolk Southern Railroad Line.

The result is a safer, much improved roadway with two additional lanes to help traffic flow.

This project was part of SCDOT's Strategic 10-Year Plan to improve interstate highways, repave road surfaces, replace and repair aging bridges and improve the safety of rural roads.



JOHN BURNS/RICHLAND CONSTRUCTION A

# U.S. 1 bridge replacement over I-20 progressing

*Bridge is part of interchange improvement in Lexington County*



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

By Bob Kudelka

There has been more progress in the U.S. 1 over I-20 Interchange Improvement project in Lexington County, where SCDOT is replacing the existing interchange and frontage road connections with an innovative design to upgrade safety, allow for future growth and improve traffic operations on U.S. 1.

It is part of SCDOT's Strategic 10-Year Plan to rebuild South Carolina's roads and bridges.

Among the latest accomplishments:

- Grading operations are going well and will continue for the new Monroe Lane alignment through the end of 2022.

- Utility relocations for the realignment of Dooley Road were expected to be completed by the end of September, weath-

er permitting. Once those relocations have been done, road construction crews will be able to finish paving the new Dooley Road alignment and placing the concrete curb and gutter. Once the new roadway is paved, traffic will be switched over to it and construction can begin on the west approach of the new Cedar Road bridge over U.S. 1.

- After constructing a new bent, or support structure, within the I-20 median earlier this year, crews have been working on the substructure for new retaining walls on both sides of the interstate. Progress is farther along for the westbound side of the highway but work on the eastbound side should catch up by the end of the year. Retaining walls are in place, and beams are now being set into place over I-20.

The project is estimated to be finished in the summer of 2024.