City of Charleston
Department of Traffic and Transportation

Organizational
Structure, Responsibilities, Projects, and Programs

Robert Somerville
Deputy Director
Overview and Mission

The Department of Traffic and Transportation:

• Studies, plans and implements traffic operations, transportation services, and facilities to maintain safe and efficient movement of people and goods throughout the City

• Is responsible for planning, geometric configuration, transportation operations of roads, streets, highways and all City property, their networks, terminals, abutting lands and relationships with other modes of transportation

• Seeks to continually increase the efficiency of all modes of transportation within the City and for devising transportation related improvements in accordance with the City’s broad policy requirements.
Organizational Structure
Traffic and Transportation

- Director
  - Deputy Director
    - Transportation Project Manager
      - Traffic Operations Mgr.
        - Design Specialist
        - Signs/Markings Supervisor
        - Traffic Safety Inspector
        - Vacant Position
      - Parking Meter Technician (2)
        - Signs/Markings Tech. (6)
        - Assist. Design Specialist
    - Parking Enforcement
    - Traffic Signal Tech. (3)
    - Traffic Signal Supervisor
      - Electronic Technician (2)
      - Sr. Traffic Signal Tech. (3)
    - Traffic Safety Inspector
    - Sr. Traffic Signal Tech. (3)
    - Traffic Signal Technician (2)
  - Office Manager
    - Administrative Assistant

Parking Enforcement


**Traffic Signal Operations**

- Ensures all traffic signals, pedestrian signals, and Closed Circuit TV (bridge cameras) are maintained properly (214 signalized intersections maintained)

- Only 6 signalized intersections are owned by the City
  - Seven Farms at Daniel Island Drive
  - Seven Farms at Riverlanding Drive
  - Seven Farms at Island Park Drive
  - Jack Primus at Clements Ferry Road
  - Calhoun at Washington
  - West Ashley Circle at Walmart

- City has a yearly traffic signal maintenance agreement with SCDOT.

- Six on-call engineering firms under a 5-year contract to assist with signal designs, safety reviews, and signal timings.

- Three contractors on call for emergency pole replacement.

- Three contractors on call for intelligent transportation systems contract (technical support)
Traffic Signal Operations

- Traffic Management Center
Fabricates, installs, and maintains all traffic control signs within the City.

Installs and maintains all pavement markings on City streets including crosswalks, parking lines, and stop bars.

Installs and maintains all street name and parking signs on both City and State roads.

Stats for 2016:
- 1,322 signs fabricated
- 1,907 signs installed
- 1,728 signs repaired
- 17,950 sq. feet of pavement markings installed
Traffic Operations and Traffic Safety

- Conducts on site inspections to monitor traffic conditions due to street closures and the placement of storage devices and dumpsters in the public right-of-way.

- Responsible for review and issuance of the following permits:
  - Street Blocking Permit
  - Construction Parking Permit
  - Dumpster/Container Permit
  - Meter Bag Permit
  - Moving Permit

- Conducts field surveys, traffic volume and turning movement analyses, and traffic safety inspections.

- Collects all data for traffic engineering studies.

- Oversees the permitting and inspection process of work performed within the City’s right-of-way by utility companies, construction contractors, private citizens, and other divisions of local government.
On Street Parking Operations

• Performs parking studies and site distance analysis to design and determine all on-street and off-street parking spaces, commercial and passenger loading zones, and other parking situations.

• Reviews engineering drawings for all parking projects in the City including those for City owned parking garages.

• Issues Certificates of Appropriateness and monthly permits for rickshaws operating on downtown City streets.

• Oversees the City’s Valet Parking Program.

• Oversees Ordinance Chapter 19, Stopping, Parking, Standing Ordinance.

• Oversees Chapter 31 Vehicles for Hire Ordinance.
Parking Enforcement

The Department’s Parking Enforcement Division consists of 35 employees that includes the Director, Manager, Auditor, and Parking Enforcement Officers who serve as ambassadors for the City, striving to make parking convenient for all. The goal is to ensure that all citizens are treated with the highest respect and professionalism while operating in accordance with the City’s municipal ordinances.
Parking Enforcement Zone Map
Transportation Project Management

- Reviews roadway construction plans and traffic impact studies submitted by developers and works closely with engineering firms to ensure that all proposals are maintained to City standards.

- Coordinates, performs, and reviews Department related traffic studies with the support of other divisions within the department.

- Manages and coordinates transportation related projects for the Department such as one-way to two-way conversion projects.
Traffic and Transportation Programs

- Residential Parking Program – currently have 10 residential parking districts on the Peninsula.
  - District A – French Quarter
  - District B – Charlestowne
  - District C – Harleston Village
  - District D – Radcliffeborough
  - District E – Ansonborough
  - District F – Garden District
  - District G – Gadsden Green
  - District H – Cannonborough-Elliottborough
  - District I – Eastside
  - District J – Hampton Park Terrace
Residential Parking District Map
Traffic and Transportation Programs

- Traffic Calming – since the program started in 1999, 513 traffic calming speed humps have been installed in 71 neighborhoods throughout the City.
Traffic and Transportation Programs

• Specialty Street Name Sign Program – 62 neighborhoods have been treated with decorative street name signs to outline the boundaries of their district.
Traffic and Transportation
Projects

Charleston Comprehensive Transportation Plan – Partnership with Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments

- 13 projects
- 10 intersections
- 3 corridors, 1 mile in length
- Public input

Charrette October 25th – 27th

Public Workshop October 25th 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Boom Town - 1505 King St. #101, Charleston, SC 29403
Peninsula Parking Study - The City will soon be seeking professional parking consultants to perform a parking study to provide strategic recommendations to best meet the current and future parking demands for residents, businesses, employees, and visitors in the City of Charleston. The study will review an inventory of the City’s existing parking, how it is being utilized, and show the demand for parking. The study will also review and provide recommendations for public transportation, park and ride, remote parking, and other management practices for parking in the City.
Traffic and Transportation

Projects

Parking Meter Technology Improvements

Smart Cards (Present)

Credit Cards (Future)
City of Charleston

Department of

Traffic and Transportation

843-973-7288