

## Port Access Road Project January 2019 Update

When completed, the Port Access Road will connect I-26 to the SC Ports Authority's new Hugh K. Leatherman, Sr. Terminal in North Charleston with two inbound and two outbound lanes for all port-related traffic. The new fully directional interchange will also serve local and commercial vehicles with a Bainbridge Avenue connector road, an extension of Stromboli Avenue, associated improvements to local streets, and improved I-26/Meeting Street access ramps.



### Welcome Sarah Gaffney

Daniel Burton was recently promoted to District 6 Construction Engineer, and now we have a new leader. Sarah Hamrick Gaffney (pictured right) is District 6's new SCDOT Resident Construction Engineer for Major Projects, one of which is the Port Access Road. When she is not reviewing plans and overseeing large construction project contracts, she and her husband are raising their two children and enjoying the Lowcountry's salt air. An avid boater and licensed United States Coast Guard Captain, she even held her wedding on a 61-ft boat in the Charleston harbor. Her other passion is soccer which she played at the University of South Carolina before graduating in 2004 with a B.S. Degree in Civil Engineering. She has worked with SCDOT for 13 years and is registered as a Professional Engineer in the State of South Carolina.



### Look For Nighttime Lane Closures To Return on I-26

Bridge deck construction is proceeding for the new I-26 and Meeting Street ramps. The middle photo does a good job of showing the different phases of construction and how the progression of work will soon cross over I-26. Step one begins with the placement of the steel or concrete girders. Temporary plywood and 4x4 wood framework is added to protect any loose materials or tools from falling. Galvanized Stay-In-Place (SIP) deck forms are then placed between the steel girders; they are silver in the photo on the new ramp from I-26 Eastbound. Steel reinforcing bars are tied into cages on the SIP forms; their dark grey can be seen on the ramp from Meeting Street onto I-26 Westbound. Concrete is placed around the reinforcing bars and rolled out to form the roadway, as seen in white in the middle photo. The bottom close up photo shows the first large 600 cubic yard bridge deck pour for the mainline.



Please note: a series of dual I-26 lane closures in both directions will be necessary to place the framework, SIP forms, and concrete.

**Looking for more information?**

The Port Access Road Project website can be found at [www.SCPortAccessRoad.com](http://www.SCPortAccessRoad.com).

You can also contact the SCDOT Project Office by phone- 843-580-8801

or by email [scportaccessroad@gmail.com](mailto:scportaccessroad@gmail.com).

