



Richland County Public Information Office

Phone: (803) 576-2067

Email: pio@rcgov.us



Supreme Court Denies Mr. Letts' Transportation Penny Sales Tax Appeal

The Supreme Court has issued an Order denying Mr. Michael Letts' appeal of the successful Richland County transportation penny referendum. Mr. Letts originally filed a protest with the Richland County Election Commission which denied his protest. He appealed the decision of the Richland County Board to the State Election Commission. The State Board denied his request for a new hearing and upheld the decision of the Richland County Board. Mr. Letts took his appeal to the South Carolina Supreme Court, filing a Petition for a Writ of Certiorari asking the Supreme Court to take his challenge on appeal. In its Order dated March 21, 2013, the Supreme Court denied Mr. Letts' Petition for a Writ of Certiorari.

The Supreme Court's decision upholds the successful referendum in which voters approved the transportation penny a margin of over 6,000 votes. The Supreme Court's Order should clear the way for the sales tax to be collected beginning May 1, 2013, as originally scheduled.

Richland County and the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority, both of which participated in defending the penny, are looking forward to utilizing the sales tax revenue for enhanced transportation services and to begin the long list of projects including improvements to highways, roads (paved and unpaved), streets, intersections, and bridges including related drainage system improvements, and improvements to pedestrian sidewalks, bike paths, intersections and greenways.