

Media Release



bluffton
HEART OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

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Town of Bluffton Will Demolish Buildings at 184 Bluffton Road In Preparation to Add Public Parking, Sidewalks and Lighting to Historic District

The Town of Bluffton will begin demolishing two buildings located at 184 Bluffton Road in early July. Demolition is estimated to last for about 30 days. The Town acquired this parcel in late September 2017 to add approximately 40 more parking spaces, sidewalks, a pocket park, landscaping and lighting to the northern end of the Historic District.

Town Council discussed the design of this property during the April 17, 2018 Town Council Workshop. During that workshop, Council members expressed preference for a design concept which, in addition to the above mentioned features, provides for sidewalk connectivity between Bluffton Road and Dr. Mellichamp Drive with additional connections to the new sidewalks in the Goethe-Shults neighborhood. This concept design also provides for potential space for an affordable housing initiative.

Mayor Pro Tempore Larry Toomer said the 184 Bluffton Road Parking Improvements Project will be an extension of the Dr. Mellichamp Streetscape project.

“The 184 Bluffton Road Parking Improvements Project is a capstone to multiple projects in the Historic District which are adding new parking, improved walking options and enhancing public safety,” Toomer said. “Town Council approaches nearly every capital improvement project with an eye to enhance Bluffton’s accessibility and walkability while keeping the District charming and aesthetically pleasing.”

The Town bought this .710 acre-property, which was formerly the home of CrossFit 843, from May River Storage, LLC for \$600,000.

The demolition will include removing the buildings and its fixtures, such as slabs, tanks and lighting from the site. This work will occur during the day and there is expected to be little to no disruption to vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

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Town Manager Marc Orlando said this project adds much needed public parking and increases pedestrian connectivity to adjacent businesses, schools, and other public amenities in this section of the Historic District.

“The Old Town Master Plan, which was adopted in 2006, gave Town Council the blueprint to add parking, sidewalks, lighting and accessibility to this area of the Historic District.” Orlando said. “Town leaders are proud each project enhances the other and ultimately adds to the use and enjoyment of the Dr. Mellichamp Drive corridor.”

The 184 Bluffton Road Parking Improvements Project will be the last major project in northern end of the Historic District. The Town recently completed the Dr. Mellichamp Drive Streetscape Project and Goethe-Shults Neighborhood Sidewalk Project.

Construction for the 184 Bluffton Road Parking Improvements Project is scheduled to begin in early 2019.

For more information about the 184 Bluffton Road Parking Improvements Project, visit the Town’s Capital Improvement Projects Story Map: <https://www.townofbluffton.sc.gov/engineering-department/cip-projects/184-bluffton-road> or contact Bryan McIlwee, the Town’s Director of Engineering, at (843) 706-7824 or bmcilwee@townofbluffton.com.