

JOHN C. STEVENSON / Staff

A proposed project would realign the intersection of State 8 and State 183 in downtown Pickens so the two roads meet in a "T" shape rather than at an angle.

# Pickens intersection to get safety upgrade

## Farrs Bridge Road redesign to be open for comment

By Terry Cregar
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PICKENS — One of Pickens busiest intersections is on the state's list for improvements and the public will get its first chance Tuesday to comment on the project.

The drop-in meeting will be 5 to 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Pickens High School.

Jonathan Chasteen, assistant program manager for the state Department of Transportation, said the work would include realignment of Farrs Bridge Road (State 183) so it intersects at a right angle with Jewell Street (State 8), creating what's called a "T" intersection.

Farrs Bridge Road currently intersects with Jewell Street at a 45-degree angle.

Chasteen said the project also calls for the widening of a short section of East Jones Avenue near its intersection with Jewell Street. That work would include a new traffic light at East Jones Avenue and Jewell Street, he said.

Chasteen said the intersection has been identified by the Greenville Pickens Area Transportation Committee as a "top priority" in Pickens County.

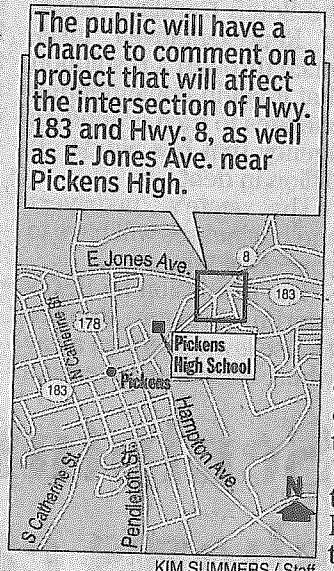
The improvements are designed to make the intersection safer and address what Chasteen called a "capacity issue" especially during peak traffic times.

The intersection is less than a mile from Pickens High School, and traffic tends to back up at the intersection especially around school dismissal times, Chasteen said.

Once the public comment sessions end and final plans are approved, work at the intersection is expected to start in early 2012, he said.

The committee has approved $1.5 million for construction work.

Those attending Tuesday's meeting will have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with state highway officials and submit written comments about the project.




KIM SUMMERS / Staff

**SEE THE PLAN**

Who: State Department of Transportation
What: Meeting on changes at intersection of State 183 and State 8 in Pickens
Where: Pickens High School Cafeteria
When: Feb. 16, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.