



**The Town of Ridgeland announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the construction of the proposed Ridgeland Trails project for public review and comment.** The Ridgeland Trails includes the construction of 928 linear feet (LF) of 6-foot-wide asphalt trail with a 400 LF 6-foot-wide boardwalk branch which ends at a 400 square foot boardwalk overlook. The Ridgeland Trails project will be located at 701 East Wilson Street, Ridgeland, SC. The Town has applied for funding of the project in part by the National Park Service (NPS) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant. This notice for public comment is made pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). The draft EA was prepared in accordance with NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.), 40 CFR 1500-1508.

Comments must be received by mail at the appropriate address or by email on or before February 29, 2024, or 30 days after the publication of this notice. Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period may not be considered by the Town.

The EA is available for download and review at (<https://www.ridgelandsc.gov/news-information>) under the section "Draft EA Document". The draft EA is also available upon written request.

You may submit comments on this document by email to [daverkin@ridgelandsc.gov](mailto:daverkin@ridgelandsc.gov) or by mail to PO Box 1119, Ridgeland, SC 29936 Attn: "Dennis E. Averkin, Town Administator".

Publication of this notice begins the official public comment period for this draft EA. Per NEPA, the purpose of the draft EA is to evaluate the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts caused by the construction of the Ridgeland Trails project on the natural environment. After gathering public comments, all comments received within the timeframe will be reviewed, and substantive comments received and their responses will be included in the final EA to be submitted to NPS.