

# CHARLESTON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

## PRESIDENT AND CEO:

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## ADDRESS OF ALLIANCE OFFICE:

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## HOURS OF OPERATION:

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday - Friday

**FORM OF GOVERNMENT:** Public-Private Non-Profit Partnership

**LENGTH OF TERM:** 3 Years for Board Members

**WEBSITE ADDRESS:** [www.crda.org](http://www.crda.org)

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATE, TIME, PLACE:

The 4th Wednesday in January, March, May, June, September and November at 12 pm. Location Subject to Change

*The CRDA serves as a catalyst for long-term, sustainable economic growth in the three-county Charleston region. Our staff provides local, national and global businesses with in-depth knowledge of the greater Charleston area and its economic assets for expansion or location purposes.*

# CHARLESTON AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

## WHAT IS CHATS?

CHATS, the Charleston Area Transportation Study, is the ongoing process of monitoring and reviewing the Charleston urbanized area's transportation system, and the planning of facilities and services to meet the area's transportation needs for years to come.

The process is based on a plan developed between 1965 and 1968 following a detailed study of the transportation needs of the area. The plan was updated in 1975 and again in the fall of 1983 to carry it forward to the year 2000. Activities have been underway the last several years to evaluate and update the plan for all transportation modes (highway, bicycle, pedestrian and public transit).

## WHAT AREA DOES CHATS COVER?

Presently, CHATS covers about 800 square miles. Generally, the area includes all of the land expected to be urbanized within twenty years. Portions of Dorchester County (Summerville and the surrounding area), Berkeley County (the Goose Creek/Hanahan area and Daniel Island) and Charleston County (from Mt. Pleasant south to Wadmalaw Island) are included.

## HOW IS CHATS ORGANIZED?

In 1977, Governor James B. Edwards (according to joint FHWA-UMTA regulations) designated the CHATS Policy Committee as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester urban area. At the same time, the Governor decided that the technical programming and planning functions of the CHATS MPO would be performed by the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments, in cooperation with the S.C. Department of Transportation. In 1979, Governor Richard W. Riley designated the City of Charleston as the recipient of Federal Transit Administration capital funds for the CHATS MPO.

## WHAT IS THE CHATS POLICY COMMITTEE?

The CHATS Policy Committee is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester urban area and is the forum for local decision making concerning transportation policies and priorities. It is composed principally of elected officials from the governments within the study area. The Policy Committee is responsible for the continuing review of the CHATS program and for insuring that the transportation plan is functionally sound, financially feasible and in conformance with the goals and objectives of the state, region, and local communities. The Policy Committee also provides the direction and leadership necessary to implement the plan.