Residents hope plan improves safety in area

BY JOY BONALA
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Earlier this month the town installed new stop signs on West Carolina Avenue but more traffic calming measures are planned for the busy thoroughfare.

An estimated 6,700 vehicles travel daily along the 1 mile stretch of West Carolina Avenue between South Main Street and West Richardson Avenue.

A proposed plan along the road would have commented that the route is dangerous due to speeding drivers and blind curves.

During a presentation to the town council in Jan. 9, Town Engineer Russ Cornette said he recommended a series of lateral traffic shifts through introducing short center medians and realigned intersections. In addition, he recommended narrowing the lane to 10-foot wide and applying an 8-inch white edge to delineate travel lanes.

“If we narrow the lanes, we’ll naturally slow people down,” Cornette said.

The work can be done with Street Department personnel and by using a roadway pavement marking contractor. Cornette said he anticipates the work take about six months and cost more than $12,000. The Town Council voted unanimously to approve the plan.

The Department of Child Advocacy has received more than 800 complaints, mostly regarding the Department of Social Services. New agency contacted 800 times mostly about DSS

BY MATT BISE
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The South Carolina Department of Child Advocacy (DCA) was established in July 2019 to better serve children who are in the care of the state. It is an independent state agency dedicated to ensuring that children receive protection and services from programs related to the welfare of children. Only six months in and the DCA seems less like a state agency and more like a call center.

The department oversees nine agencies that includes: Department of Social Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs.

“It is an agency that will be able to create a broad vision of reform and make recommendations to the governor and the legislature regarding improvement of services to children by state agencies,” said Amanda Whittle, Director at the Department of Child Advocacy.

Cane Bay parents vocal over school crowding

BY CALEB MCCRAW
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Many parents voiced their concerns during thecitizen comments. They told the board about issues that families in the area must face in light of the attendance cap and rezoning, as well as students who are going enter the school next year.

Linda Caccone raised her concern about the district’s plan to cap attendance at Cane Bay and transporte overflow students to Westview.

Many parents voiced their concerns during the citizen comments. They told the board about issues that families in the area must face in light of the attendance cap and rezoning, as well as students who are going enter the school next year.