The Summerville Town Council authorized the town attorney to negotiate a contract to purchase 1.18 acres of property immediately adjacent to the town-owned land in southwest Summerville.

The properties are zoned for commercial development and are located at the corner of Old Trolley and Maple streets, near the Herbert H. Jessen Boat Landing.

"This is a good faith effort on our part," said Town Councilman Bill McIntosh, who represents District 2. "It’s a gateway to the town. It’s a kind of the gateway into all of our other parks."

McIntosh both mentioned the possibility of using the land for an education center and a kayak or canoe storage facility. He worked to preserve the land by forming the Nexton Interchange and Exit 197 Community Association, which is separate from the Woodlands Village LLC, which owns the land. He added that they have made steps to try and open up as much classroom space as possible to accommodate more students from schools throughout the district.

Superintendent Joe Poch said that the rapid growth in the district means the town is going to have to move middle schools as part of the rezoning.

He explained that the opening of the new Mathes Middle School in 2017 was a way to use up some excess classroom space at the school which was no longer needed.

"This is going to happen, it’s just a matter of when we’re gonna do it," said Poch.

"There is over the capacity for the amount of students right now," said Poch.

"It’s a gateway to the town. It’s a piece of paradise that seems far away but we’re just a stone’s throw away," Jenkins said.

"I think there is a strong feeling of some aspect of park there but I think it makes sense as an option whether that then would be either equal or just some level of advancement to the world of our town," Jenkins said.

"The property will be changed from different sources, according to town officials.

At least some of the money would come from the right of way acquisition budget for the road project, other funds might be drawn from fund balances.

"This is a good faith effort on our part," said Councilman Bob Jackson running for District 2, as the town wants to explore the options for how to use the land, if the purchase goes through. Jenkins and McIntosh both mentioned the possibility of using the land for an education center and a kayak or canoe storage facility.

Jenkins said the 1.18 acres would be more suitable for any buildings, "It’s a gateway to the town. It’s a piece of paradise that seems far away but we’re just a stone’s throw away." Jenkins said.

The proposed project would complete the connection from I-26 to the northwest side of the town of Summerville. Construction of the South Carolina Department of Transportation project will be advantageous to the needs of Group 1, PO Box 191, Columbia, scdot.org, or by standard mail to: At least some of the money would come from the right of way acquisition budget for the road project, other funds might be drawn from fund balances.

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