

James Island (D3) Bus Lot Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

I have pollution concerns about the bus lot. Were any studies completed to learn more about the potential affects?

Air dispersion modeling was completed in March 2017 for the James Island Elementary School proposed site. Modeling was based on a worst case scenario where the highest concentrations of pollutants were recorded for 38 buses at the point of emission. Results indicated that the impact to the surrounding community were significantly below what is allowed by the South Carolina Air Quality Standards.

Were there any studies conducted to determine the potential levels of noise impact from the buses in this lot?

Noise report results from the James Island Elementary School site: The decibel level (the unit of measure for sound) from when the buses are started is comparable to noise levels experienced while having a conversation in a restaurant or office.

Will you also perform an air dispersion and noise study at other sites that are being proposed?

The air dispersion modeling and noise study is not a regulated requirement in order to receive a permit to construct the bus lot. The previous studies conducted for the James Island Elementary School site can be applied to another site on James Island. It is in the opinion of the consultant that the results will not exceed the same standards from which the results were compared.

How were the proposed land selection options chosen by the District?

Selection of land parameters: CCSD and real estate brokers searched all properties on James Island. 24 properties were found. 11 were available and 2 met the requirements of a central location accessible to a main road, size and correct zoning; James Island Elementary and Gresham-Meggett. The board voted to build the lot at Gresham-Meggett.

If the Board voted to build at Gresham-Meggett then why aren't we?

Gresham-Meggett is not an active school campus and will not be granted a special zoning exception from the County to park a bus lot at that site.

How about the water quality?

Jurisdictional authorities approved all permitting for construction on the James Island Elementary School site. Included in the request for permitting was a Storm Water Protection

Plan approved by the county and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and confirms that the water resource protection is adequate.

Was a traffic study completed for both recently proposed sites?

Traffic Impact Analysis completed for the James Island Elementary School site with access through the proposed library; a new driveway at James Island Elementary School and Septima Clark (Gresham Meggett). The traffic analysis indicates no significant impact to the level of service on Grimball Road. No other traffic impact analysis were performed for other sites but may be required by the governing authority.

Will there be additional facilities for bus maintenance on the final site?

There will be no bus maintenance facility located on the selected site. The site will be a parking facility to perform minor maintenance actions such as windshield wiper replacement, bus refueling as required, changing out of radios/gps, etc... The buses will not be lifted to perform maintenance actions like oil changes and engine overhauls.

If the bus lot is placed at the future site of Camp Road Middle School (CRMS), will the green space be reduced?

If the bus lot is placed at CRMS the green space will be reduced and so will the existing track. The 100yd football field will still remain.

Can the bus lot be built at the current Camp Road Middle School site?

The current site is an active campus that will not be vacant until August of 2020. If approved as the new D3 Bus lot, the district would have to present leasing options to the Board and request support funds to negotiate with the property owner and if required, funds to alter the site for bus parking. Everything would need to be approved and in place no later than August 2018 thru August 2021. The year between 2020 and 2021 would be needed to demolish the old JIMS campus and construct a bus lot.

Will the students be safe if a bus lot is constructed on an active campus?

Yes. Bus facilities will be separated from an active campus by a fence.

When do you anticipate the decision on where the bus lot will be constructed?

A recommendation will be presented at the Committee of the Whole on November 13, 2017 to go forward as a Board Action Item on November 27, 2017.