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St. Andrews Public Service District awarded Charleston County Greenbelt Funds to purchase 4.2 acres on Old Parsonage Road, Charleston, South Carolina

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Charleston, S.C. (July 14, 2020)** - Charleston County Council voted in favor of awarding \$2,876,000 Greenbelt funds with a \$250,000 match from the City of Charleston to St. Andrews Public Service District (SAPSD) to purchase 4.2 acres which is a portion of the property formerly known as Church Creek Plaza situated on Old Parsonage Road.

The original application included immediate plans to remove the concrete foundations on the property followed by developing a master plan for a passive park, construction of a new fire station, and demolition of the existing SAPSD station located at 2590 Ashley River Road to be returned to green space.

The amended application includes plans to remove the concrete foundations on the property immediately following completion of the legal documents necessary to transfer funds from Charleston County Greenbelt and title ownership from the current owner to SAPSD. Once these steps are complete, environmental studies will be completed and a master plan will be created for a passive park and a new fire station- all with access off of Old Parsonage Road.

SAPSD is enthusiastic to design and build a new fire station to replace the aging station that has served the citizens of West Ashley since the late 1950's. We are also excited to develop partnerships with other organizations to create a passive park and green space on Old Parsonage Road that will assist in mitigating flooding in the area. The passive park could include a children's playground, picnic shelter, walking trails and a small parking area, while the fire station could include access to public restrooms. These decisions will be discussed and decided at a later date based on the needs of the community.

The exact timeline for the remaining steps to take place are uncertain at this time. Updates will be provided on our social media pages (Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Twitter), as well as our website, as they become available.

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St. Andrews Public Service District was created by Act 443 of the South Carolina General Assembly on July 1, 1949. The territory was made up of five districts in St. Andrews Parish in Charleston County. It is a Special Purpose District originally created to provide refuse removal, wastewater services, fire protection, street lights and street signs.

Currently, St. Andrews Public Service District provides fire protection and rescue, environmental services, and street lighting to approximately 28,000 people in two districts.