

**DRAFT** (June 21, 2018)

# Forward Together

Building a Better  
Spartanburg County



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

2035

SPARTANBURG COUNTY  
SOUTH CAROLINA

# Comprehensive Plan



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## Introduction

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*South Carolina Code of Laws (6-29-510): (A) The local planning commission shall develop and maintain a planning process which will result in the systematic preparation and continual re-evaluation and updating of those elements considered critical, necessary, and desirable to guide the development and redevelopment of its area of jurisdiction. . . . (E) All planning elements must be an expression of the planning commission recommendations to the appropriate governing bodies with regard to the wise and efficient use of public funds, the future growth, development, and redevelopment of its area of jurisdiction, and consideration of the fiscal impact on property owners . . .*

## Comprehensive Planning and the Comprehensive Plan

A community has many qualities that contribute to its success as a place to live, learn, work, play and invest. Individual persons or groups will be aware of, or consider important, some qualities more so than others. Comprehensive planning is a participatory process that determines community goals and aspirations in terms of a community's physical development. The planning process considers all the various assets and shared concerns of the community, then facilitates agreement on common goals and lays out a path to achieve them.

The Comprehensive Plan is the resulting written document that provides the basis for policies and regulations that guide the development of a community. It is a long-range plan—looking 20-30 years into the future—and it addresses a wide range of recommendations relating to land use, economic development, transportation, community facilities, parks, open space, agriculture and rural issues, community character and identity, and housing and neighborhoods, among others.

In essence, the Comprehensive Plan sets the foundation for all decisions relating to land use and closely-related community matters. Its aim is purposeful planning, and it is mandated by the South Carolina Local Government Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act of 1994 for jurisdictions that have land development and zoning regulations. The Plan in itself, however, is not a regulatory document. Its map and policies are intended to shape decisions regarding land use, infrastructure, economic development, housing, and other fundamental decision-making.

The purpose of a Comprehensive Plan is to serve the functions listed below.

- **It is the means by which a community balances competing community interests.** Comprehensive planning seeks to strike a balance among the many competing demands on land by creating development patterns that are orderly and rational, provide the greatest benefits for individuals and the community as a whole, and avoid nuisance conflicts between land uses.
- **The plan provides continuity.** The Plan provides continuity across time, and gives successive public bodies a common framework for addressing land-use issues.
- **It provides justification for decisions.** The Plan provides a factual and objective basis to support land use decisions and will be used to defend decisions if challenged in court.
- **It promotes economic development.** The plan contains valuable information that can help drive the location decisions of prospective firms.
- **It is the means by which a community can protect public investments.** Providing public services to well-planned, orderly and phased development is less expensive for a community than providing those services to low-density, scattered development.

- **It allows communities to plan development in a way that protects valued resources.** The Plan identifies features like wetlands, agricultural lands, woods and steep slopes and suggests strategies for preserving those resources from destruction or degradation by inappropriate development.
- **It provides guidance for shaping the appearance of the community.** The Plan can set forth policies that foster a distinctive sense of place.
- **Through public dialogue, citizens express a collective vision for the future.** Last, but certainly not least, the planning process provides citizens an opportunity to consider and discuss the future of their community. A plan developed through a robust public input process enjoys stronger community support. Subsequent decisions that are consistent with the plan's policies are less likely to become controversial.

## Spartanburg County's Comprehensive Plan

It is no secret that Spartanburg County is recognized globally for working together to accomplish community goals. There has been and continues to be a number of citizen input processes carried out by multiple partnership agencies. In developing the Comprehensive Plan, Spartanburg County will give consideration to the information gathered through these community efforts. Much of the content of the Plan, in regards to opportunities, challenges, and goals comes from citizens and community leaders by way of these efforts. It is significant to note that the many community processes have identified duplicated and overlapping issues and strategies.

More specifically, the identification of assets, opportunities, challenges, and goals, was developed through public comment and stakeholder interviews by County Staff through its on-going Area Performance Planning effort and Comprehensive Plan public meetings, the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce's *One Spartanburg*, the Chapman Cultural Center's *Culture Counts*, as well as other public processes. All other plans taken into account by the Comprehensive Plan have included vigorous citizen/stakeholder interviews and/or public input processes, such as the *SPATS Long Range Transportation Plan*, the *Spartanburg County Impediments to Fair Housing*, the *Spartanburg County Consolidated Housing Plan*, the *Spartanburg County Tourism Action Plan*, etc.

The Plan's elements address the interrelated concerns of land use, economic development, housing, natural resources, cultural resources, community facilities and transportation. The Priority Investment Element identifies public infrastructure and services funding and provides some thoughts about how that funding may be better used to implement the goals herein. The Population Element looks at growth trends in the County and anticipates what that growth will look like over the next 20 years.

Spartanburg County will continue to grow. It has been the trend every decade, with just one exception, since it has existed. The document is a community Plan for guiding that

growth. It is not intended as a rigid and unyielding land use document. The Plan will help Spartanburg County, its citizens and elected officials alike make informed decisions about development issues in the best interests of both property owners and the broader community.

## **Comprehensive Planning Process**

The State Statute that mandates the Comprehensive Plan is certainly a key consideration in how the document is structured and its subject matter. The following is a general summary of what must be included in the nine Comprehensive Plan elements as required by the South Carolina Code of Laws.

### **SECTION 6-29-510. Planning process; elements; comprehensive plan.**

(A) The local planning commission shall develop and maintain a planning process which will result in the systematic preparation and continual re-evaluation and updating of those elements considered critical, necessary, and desirable to guide the development and redevelopment of its area of jurisdiction.

(B) Surveys and studies on which planning elements are based must include consideration of potential conflicts with adjacent jurisdictions and regional plans or issues.

(C) The basic planning process for all planning elements must include, but not be limited to:

(1) inventory of existing conditions;

*The first step in the planning process is an inventory of existing conditions for each element. An important part of the inventory is an assessment of the current situation and the identification of issues associated with that element.*

(2) a statement of needs and goals;

*The second step in the planning process is the identification of needs, goals, and objectives that address the inventory assessment of each of the planning elements. Citizens and officials will participate in this effort through the public participation process over the Internet and at public meetings held in various locations around the county. The statement of needs and goals is a prescriptive element of the comprehensive plan, because it outlines general policies that will guide the future direction of the community.*

(3) and implementation strategies with time frames.

*The third step in the planning process is the development of implementation strategies that address the needs, goals, and objectives for each of the planning elements. The implementation strategies serve as a specific five-year work agenda for the community. A timeline and budget for the accomplishment of the strategy will be established. The strategy will be assigned to a responsible individual, party, organization, political district or authority.*

## Organizational Layout of this Document

The links below will take you to the element indicated. Each element may link to further information associated with each subject area.

- [Population \[Link\]](#)
- [Economic Development \[Link\]](#)
- [Natural Resources \[Link\]](#)
- [Cultural Resources \[Link\]](#)
- [Community Facilities \[Link\]](#)
- [Housing \[Link\]](#)
- [Land Use \[Link\]](#)
- [Transportation \[Link\]](#)
- [Priority Investment \[Link\]](#)

## **Plan Implementation** [\[Link\]](#)

Each element contains goals and objectives with potential time frames for action which will be summarized in the Implementation Plan. The County Council will review these items and include goals, as appropriate, in their Strategic Plan. This Plan should be reviewed and revised, as necessary, in order to ensure that the County is moving toward the identified goals. By statute, the Comprehensive Plan itself must be reviewed at least every five years and revised at least every ten years to make sure that it remains pertinent.

## **Plan Approval, Updates, and Amendments**

The Planning and Development Department, under the supervision of the Spartanburg County Planning and Development Commission, is responsible for collecting and maintaining information and data relative to the nine required planning Elements listed below. This information is as current as possible and is provided for use by County Council, the Planning Commission, all County departments, other public agencies, and the general public in order to help those in the public or private sectors make informed decisions.

The State law requires that once the Comprehensive Plan has been assembled, and there has been opportunity for citizen input, it will be presented to the County Council in the

form of a recommendation from the Planning Commission. The County Council will consider the document for approval and adoption after at least one public hearing and three readings.

It is the responsibility of the Spartanburg County Planning and Development Commission to continually re-evaluate and revise this plan as circumstances change in an ongoing effort to ensure relevancy. As required by State law, the plan must be re-evaluated at least every five years and undergo a comprehensive revision every ten years.

The planning process anticipates a changing environment. From time to time citizens, developers, or even the County Council may request changes to the Plan. Although changes to the Plan should be extraordinary and rare, the County will consider changes to the Plan which:

- Are necessary in order to implement a Community Vision
- Implement the Goals of this Plan
- Recognize changing conditions in our community

Amendments to the Plan require Planning Commission review consistent with State Law, a public hearing either at the Planning Commission or at Council, and formal adoption by Ordinance.

## **Prior Plans**

Although there were prior efforts at Land Use Plans that date back to the 1970's, the Spartanburg County Comprehensive Plan 1998-2015 was the County's first comprehensive planning effort. That Plan contained a vigorous inventory and assessment of the then seven required elements and set some admirable goals. Inside each element, there is a link to some of these historic plans in order to demonstrate accomplishments over the years and to identify goals that remain relevant.

# Population



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## Element

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*South Carolina Code of Laws (6-29-510): (D) A local comprehensive plan must include . . .  
(1) a population element which considers historic trends and projections, household  
numbers and sizes, educational levels, and income characteristics . . .*



## Population Element Introduction

The latest available population estimate from the U.S. Bureau of the Census for Spartanburg County is 306,854 (July 1, 2017). The County has already surpassed the Bureau's 2020 forecast. By 2030, we are expected to add over 25,000 people. At our current growth rate we will probably surpass this number. This Comprehensive Plan is about how we choose to accommodate these people and the schools, shopping, entertainment, and other necessary uses that accompany them.

Population Counts and Projections 2000-2030						
County	April 1, 2000 Census	April 1, 2010 Census	July 1, 2015 Projection	July 1, 2020 Projection	July 1, 2025 Projection	July 1, 2030 Projection
<b>Spartanburg</b>	253,791	284,307	295,100	305,800	318,500	331,200
<i>Source: <a href="#">U.S. Census Bureau</a>, U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 and Census 2010, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control - Vital Records Department. Population projections calculated by South Carolina Department of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs - Health and Demographics Section.</i>						

The latest population number has been updated in this summary since the [Population Element \[Link\]](#) was completed in 2017 by the Appalachian Council of Governments with the latest figures available at that time. This Element provides a comprehensive look at Spartanburg County's population characteristics and expected growth and distribution.

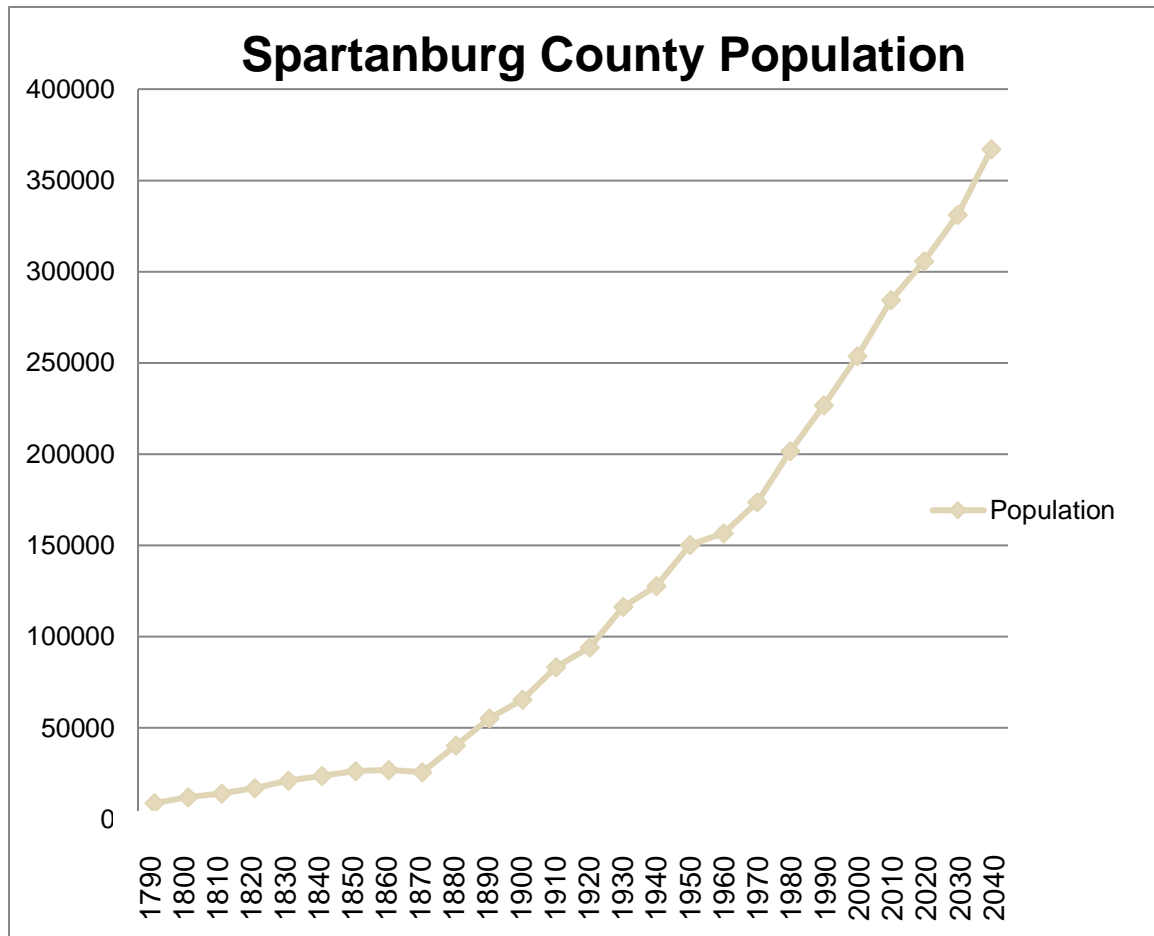
The following table from Census QuickFacts shows that we have surpassed the 300,000 mark and that we added 5,391 people or 1.8 percent in one year (July 1, 2016-July 1, 2017).

In order to be able to access the most up to date Spartanburg County data available through the U.S. Bureau of the Census, this link to Census QuickFacts is provided: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/spartanburgcountysouthcarolina/PST045217>.

ALL TOPICS	Spartanburg County, South Carolina
Population estimates, July 1, 2016, (V2016)	301,463
PEOPLE	
Population	
Population estimates, July 1, 2017, (V2017)	306,854
Population estimates, July 1, 2016, (V2016)	301,463
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010, (V2016)	284,305
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010, (V2017)	284,301
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2017, (V2017)	7.9%
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2016, (V2016)	6.0%
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	284,307

The following chart contains the Spartanburg County population numbers from counts by the United States Census from 1790 to 2010. The forecasts for 2020, 2030, and 2040 are from the Table above.

The graph below depicts the actual growth during each of the decades from 1790 until the 2010 Census count and then projects the population to 2040. Spartanburg County's growth trend has been up since well before the turn of the Twentieth Century. The only decade we lost population was the 1860's.



Please refer to the full Population Element [\[Link\]](#) for detailed information regarding the characteristics of Spartanburg County's population, including population growth, density, income, birthplace, age, racial composition, educational attainment, health, and more. The Implementation Plan [\[Link\]](#) contains goals associated with all Comprehensive Plan elements.

# Population Element

## Purpose

The purpose and intent of this study is to present demographic traits and conditions of Spartanburg County's past and present population. The ensuing population and data analysis is intended to develop a sense of the current character and quality of life in the County. While it is important to examine population growth for the horizon of this Element, it is vital that we consider the characteristics of our population and how they will shape our community in the long term.

Furthermore, the study is meant to serve as a readily accessible reference for use by policy makers, concerned citizens, and others interested in the county's health and prosperity. As such, it should be used as an aid during goal and policy conception, to assist with formulating service provision and development strategies that promote and enhance quality of life for Spartanburg County residents, workers, and consumers.

## Using this Study

All data presented herein was collected from other sources and is subject to the data collection and reporting limitations of the primary sources used. The U.S. Bureau of the Census' decennial (ten year) Census of the Population is the single most comprehensive and exhaustive source of information about the United States' citizenry and is the primary source of information for this report. Another source is the U.S. Bureau of the Census American Community Survey.

In order to provide a frame of reference as to the magnitude of the values presented in this study, data was collected and presented for the seven largest counties in the State of South Carolina (by population count). The seven largest counties, in descending order, are: Greenville, Richland, Charleston, Spartanburg, Horry, Lexington and York.

Some information contained in the tables and figures may not be directly referenced in the accompanying text. For example, data for other cities and/or counties are often not referenced, as their inclusion is for comparison purposes only and usually is not pertinent to the analysis of conditions in Spartanburg County.

And finally, while past and present trends are often an indicator of likely future trends, changes in the economy, market conditions, population traits, or any number of uncontrollable factors can slow or reverse past trends. Therefore, any projections made in this study are based on historic trends and current favorable conditions but could be subject to change as time passes.

## National Trends that May Affect Spartanburg County

The American population is changing, and Spartanburg County is no exception. Significant trends may affect the character of our county. We will need to be prepared for such changes.

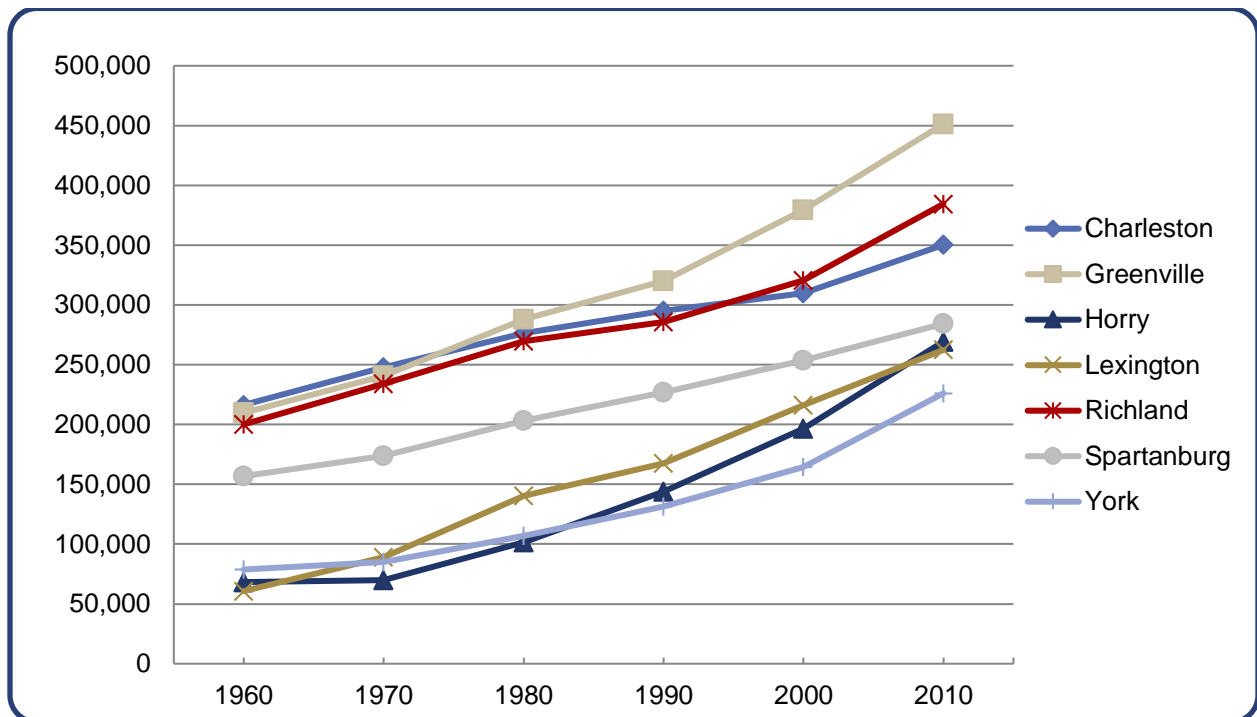
- **The growth rate in America is slowing in general** - The 2000s were the slowest decade of population growth in 70 years according to The Brookings Institution.
- **America is getting older** - According to the Pew Research Center, the nation's elderly population is expected to more than double from 2005 to 2050.
- **Families are having fewer kids** - A study by the Urban Institute shows four decades ago, an American woman typically delivered her first baby at age 21. By 2000, she was 24.9. Today, she is 26.3.
- **Household size is shrinking** - A Pew Research Center survey shows that half of Americans (48%) say two is the ideal number of children for a family to have, reflecting a decades-long preference for a smaller family over a larger one.
- **We are becoming more ethnically diverse** - By 2055, the U.S. will not have a single racial or ethnic majority according to a 2015 Pew Research Center Study.
- **Urban living is becoming more popular** - According to the Nielsen Company, 62% of millennials prefer to live in mixed-use communities found in urban centers, closer to shops, restaurants, and the office.
- **People have less discretionary income** - The share of U.S. adults living in middle-income households fell to 50% in 2015, after more than four decades in which those households served as the nation's economic majority.
- **Major life events (marriage, kids, home purchase, retirement) are being delayed.**

As we examine Spartanburg County's population, we will highlight trends that may affect policy decisions regarding land use, housing, transportation, health and educational facilities, and other trends that may affect local budgets and decisions.

## Population Size and Growth

In terms of population size, Spartanburg is the fourth largest county in the State of South Carolina. Spartanburg County is compared to the 6 other most populous counties of Charleston, Greenville, Horry, Lexington, Richland, and York County in Figure 1. Its population is about two-thirds that of neighboring Greenville County, the most populous county in the State.

**Figure 1**  
**Population Trends for Largest South Carolina Counties**  
**1960 - 2010**



Spartanburg County's population has experienced continued growth during the past half century, with most occurring since 1970. Between 1970 and 1980, Spartanburg County's population increased by 17% (or 29,299 people) which was the fastest decade of growth. Since that time the County has experienced 12% growth each decade between 1980 and 2010. This represents a total growth rate of 40% (81,284 people) since 1980. While this was a healthy growth rate for the County, Charleston County (27% or 73,652) was the only large county to grow slower during this period. Spartanburg County also grew slightly slower than the 48% increase the state experienced since 1980.

The two fastest growing counties were York and Horry County which were spurred by the growth of the Charlotte metropolitan area and development in the Grand Strand area respectively. While Spartanburg County did not experience the same growth rates its neighbor Greenville County (57%) did, collectively the two counties together form the center of a fast developing growth corridor along I-85. These trends should, at a minimum, continue given the positive trend of economic development in the region, and Spartanburg specifically, and it would seem reasonable to expect that Spartanburg County will continue to see consistent growth in the coming years.

**Table 1**  
**Populations of South Carolina's Most Populous Counties, 1960 - 2010**

COUNTY	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Charleston	216,382	247,650	276,556	295,039	309,969	350,208
Greenville	209,776	240,774	287,895	320,167	379,616	451,219
Horry	68,247	69,992	101,419	144,053	196,629	269,291
Lexington	60,726	89,012	140,353	167,611	216,014	262,391
Richland	200,102	233,868	269,600	285,720	320,677	384,507
<b>Spartanburg</b>	<b>156,830</b>	<b>173,724</b>	<b>203,023</b>	<b>226,800</b>	<b>253,791</b>	<b>284,307</b>
York	78,760	85,216	106,720	131,497	164,614	226,073
South Carolina	2,382,594	2,590,516	3,121,820	3,486,703	4,012,012	4,625,384

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, *Census of the Population (1960-2010)*.

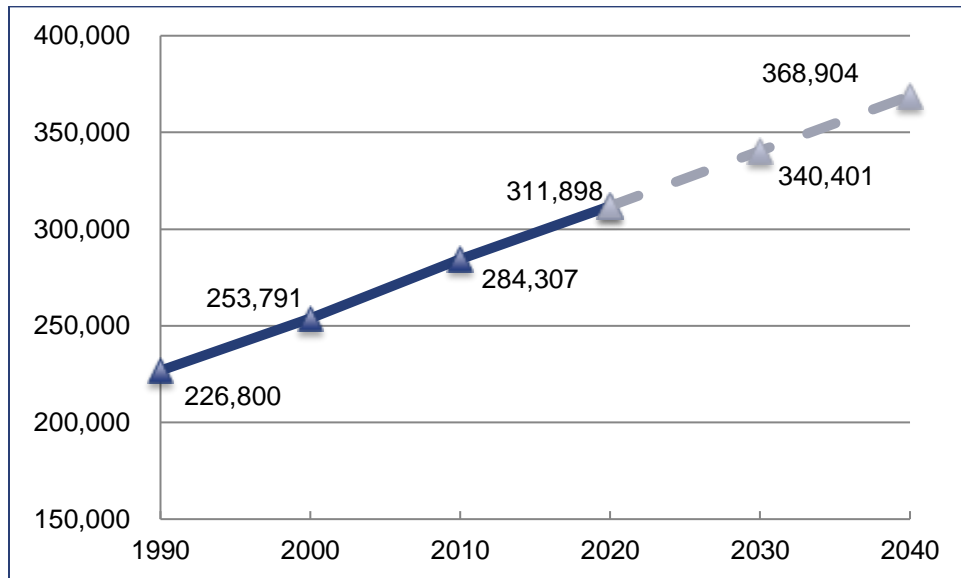
**Table 2**  
**Percentage Change in Population in South Carolina's Most Populous Counties  
1950 - 2010**

COUNTY	% Change 1950-1960	% Change 1960-1970	% Change 1970-1980	% Change 1980-1990	% Change 1990-2000	% Change 2000-2010
Charleston	31%	14%	12%	7%	5%	13%
Greenville	25%	15%	20%	11%	19%	19%
Horry	14%	3%	45%	42%	36%	37%
Lexington	37%	47%	58%	19%	29%	21%
Richland	40%	17%	15%	6%	12%	20%
Spartanburg	6%	11%	17%	12%	12%	12%
York	10%	8%	25%	23%	25%	37%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, *Census of the Population (1960-2010)*.

The Bureau of the Census population projections support the conclusion that population growth is expected in coming years. The projections suggest a 31% increase over the 30 years between 2010 and 2040. Although this is slower than the previous 30 years, it still reflects a stable growth rate. The Bureau of the Census is projecting a slowing of population growth nationwide.

**Figure 2**  
**Spartanburg County Population Projections**  
**1990 – 2040**



The following map shows the projected growth rates by census tract. It is evident that the high growth areas (>2.5%) will be centered mainly on I-85 corridor the western portion of the County along with the area surrounding I-26 north of Boiling Springs and east of Inman. Much of the County is expected grow at an average rate of 1 -2.5% a year. There are several areas that are designated as expecting slow growth. These areas all center on existing municipalities that are predominantly developed already. This suggests that much of the expected growth will be greenfield development within the County if current trends continue.



**Spartanburg County**  
**2040 Projected Growth by Census Tract**



**Legend**

**Roadways**

- Interstate
- US Highways
- SC Highways
- Streets
- Streams
- Lakes
- Planning Areas

**Normalized Growth Rate**

- Slow Growth (< 0.9% Annual)
- Average Growth (1% - 2.5% Annual)
- High Growth (> 2.5% Annual)



## Population Densities

Although the rate of growth is an important factor in planning for future services and infrastructure, looking more closely at the densities of residents throughout the County can provide additional insight into impacts future growth may have on infrastructure and county services. Overall population density will always increase as population increases as shown below. As of 2010, Spartanburg County had 350.6 persons per square mile. Compared with the other more urban counties Spartanburg County has the second lowest population density.

**Table 3**  
**Spartanburg County Land Area & Population Density**  
**2000-2010**

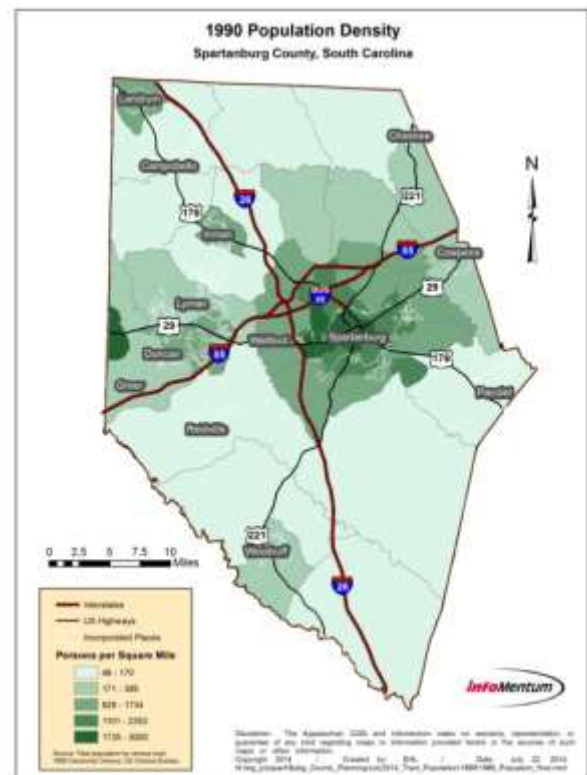
Land Area in Square Miles	Persons per Square Mile		
	1990	2000	2010
810.9	279.9	313.0	350.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, *Census of the Population (1990-2010)*.

While overall population density provides a basic indicator of potential growth pressures, looking a more specific density data through the use of census tract information allows for a better understanding of where the growth pressures will be focused. The following charts provide snapshots of population densities in the County by census tract for 1990, 2000, and 2010.

There is a clear pattern of increasing population density along the I-85 corridor that passes through Spartanburg County. The northern and southern ends of the County have not seen significant shifts in density and remain primarily rural areas with limited development. The biggest increases have occurred in the areas west of I-26 along the I-85 and US 29 corridors. Specifically the areas around the Lyman, Duncan, Wellford, and Reidville communities have experienced the largest increases in density. The area of Boiling Springs, north of the City of Spartanburg, also continues to experience increases in density.

As the County leaders make policy choices in the future this information can help guide the decision making process. Using population density as an indicator of development patterns can inform leaders as they make strategic decisions on where new facilities or services





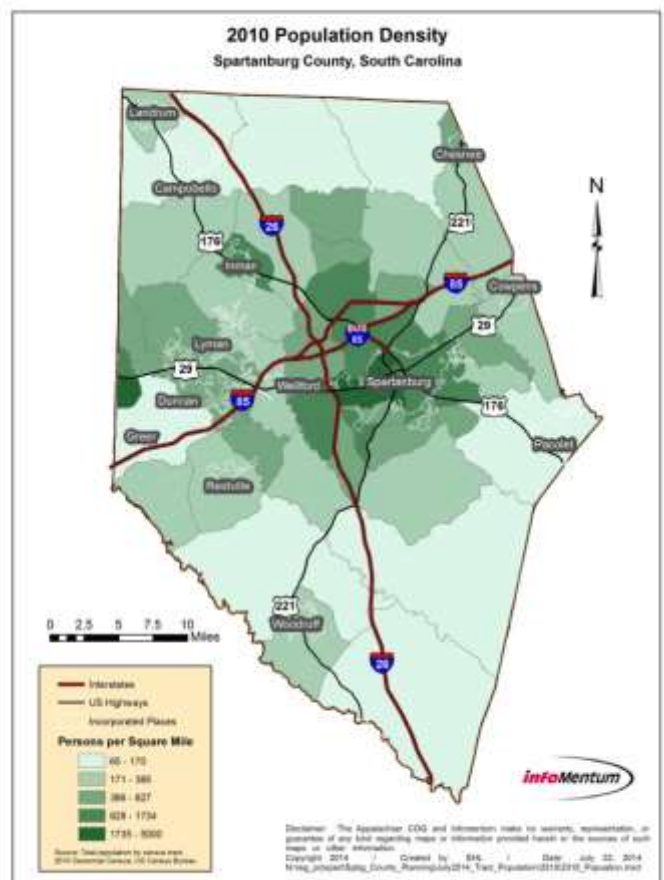
where the Sheriff's Department cannot provide the same presence throughout the County that a city police department might. This can lead to public discussions about what services should and should not be provided and by whom.

In 1980, there were 75,294 persons residing within the municipalities in Spartanburg County. In 2010, that number increased by just over 11,000 to 86,631. The County grew by over 80,000 people in the same period. That demonstrates that 6 of every 7 new residents have located in unincorporated Spartanburg County since 1980. Municipal residents represent roughly 30% of all residents in Spartanburg County in 2010.

We cannot predict whether this pattern will continue over the next 25 years. One indication it could continue is that large percentages of land within the city limits in the County have been built-out since the 1950s and 1960s and room for infill development is somewhat

should be located. With limited resources to provide for community needs, it is important that policy makers have this type of information to understand where they can get the best return on their investments in the community.

Another factor to consider in the decision making process is how to balance County services with those provided by municipalities throughout the County. While all residents of Spartanburg County utilize county facilities on a regular basis the municipalities also provide services to residents living in cities and towns that often takes some burden off of the County to serve parts of their population. However, it also creates challenges when residents develop expectations for services based on what one community is providing that the other is not. This can be illustrated in law enforcement services



limited. In addition, South Carolina's annexation law makes it difficult for municipalities to annex unincorporated land; therefore, they are unable to effectively expand their boundaries.

However, national trends show more people moving into cities and towns as they seek a different environment and more of a sense of community, a trend we have not yet experienced in Spartanburg County. Since a large percentage of future population growth will be in-migration of younger persons this might make the cities and towns more attractive. Another trend is the growth of the baby boomer generation. As this population is rapidly reaching retirement age more and more are making the decision to stay in their homes instead of the more traditional senior living settings. Their need to be close to medical and transportation services may lead to more seniors moving back into cities and towns as they adjust their lifestyle. This often happens as they make conscious decisions to be closer these services as their mobility becomes limited with age. In turn they look to cities and towns where those things are more readily available traditionally.

The challenge for County policy makers will be to balance the provision of infrastructure, services, and development over the next 25 years and developing partnerships with local municipalities who provide similar services. Both will be needed and monitoring these trends will be vital to ensuring that investments and partnerships are made strategically that serve the County and its residents in the most effective manner possible.



## Planning Areas

Spartanburg County is divided into five planning areas for future planning purposes. Total population is similar in the Northwest, Northeast, and Southeast Areas which represent the northern and southern ends of the County and are characterized by a few municipalities and sparsely developed rural areas. Populations in 2014 ranged from 18,682 in the Northwest around the City of Landrum to 19,480 in the Southeast Area that encompasses Woodruff and large rural areas.

The Urban Area is the largest planning area with 209,069 people as of 2016. This area covers the majority of the I-85 and I-26 corridor in the County from the eastern edge to near the SC 290 corridor to the west. It encompasses the City of Spartanburg along with Lyman, Wellford, Duncan, and Inman as well as the Boiling Springs area which, while not incorporated, is a

largely suburban area of the County with a high population. Although its growth rate is similar to the Northeast and Northwest Areas, the sheer number of people in this planning area is a major factor when considering future services and infrastructure needed to support the growth. The fastest growing area is the Southwest Region which between 2000 and 2016 increased by 43%.

**Table 4**  
**Planning Area Population, 2000 - 2016**

Planning Areas	2000	2010	2016	% Change 2000 - 2014
<b>Northwest</b>	16,345	18,472	19,234	18%
<b>Northeast</b>	17,085	18,575	19,565	15%
<b>Urban</b>	178,907	197,341	209,069	17%
<b>Southwest</b>	23,528	31,003	33,540	43%
<b>Southeast</b>	18,221	19,287	20,055	10%

Source: US Census

This Southwest Area includes parts of the City of Greer to the north and the SC 101 and SC 290 corridors south to US 221 just north of the City of Woodruff. Total population grew in 2016 to 33,540. This population growth was concentrated primarily around the City of Greer and the Reidville Road corridor that runs east and west between the City of Spartanburg and City of Simpsonville.

The Northwest, Northeast, and Urban Areas grew between 18% and 15% during the same time frame. The Southeast, which includes a large segment of rural area in the southern part of the County, only saw an increase of 10% during this same time period. The City of Woodruff is the only incorporated community the Area is primarily rural undeveloped land.



**Table 5**  
**Planning Area Household and Family Characteristics, 2014**

	Northwest	Northeast	Urban	Southwest	Southeast
<b>Median Household Income</b>	\$44,216	\$43,312	\$41,198	\$54,835	\$41,446
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	\$23,302	\$21,357	\$22,194	\$26,180	\$20,315
<b>Median Age</b>	43.8	41.1	37.9	38.4	40.5
<b>Average Household Size</b>	2.54	2.6	2.5	2.65	2.58
<b>Average Family Size</b>	3.00	3.04	3.05	3.08	3.08

Table 5 presents several household and family characteristics for each planning area. The 2014 income characteristics for each planning area are relatively similar except for the Southwest Area. It has a significantly higher median household and per capita income compared to the other planning areas. Development in this planning area is characterized by upper middle class subdivisions that would lend it to a more affluent resident.

The Urban and Southwest Areas, the largest and most affluent planning areas, have a lower median age at 37.9 and 38.4 respectively. The growth rate and development types in these Planning Areas would seem to correlate with younger families moving into the area which in turn would lower the median age. The other 3 planning areas that are characterized by more rural populations each have median ages above 40.

## Birthplace and Migration Patterns

The vast majority (64.8%) of Spartanburg County's residents were born in South Carolina. The County's population base is also not very transient. A total of 83.8% of Spartanburg residents live in the same house they lived in five years earlier. An additional 10.8% have moved around within the County but have remained a County resident. That number represents 94.6% of residents that have been retained by the County over the last 5 years. These figures, in conjunction with the large number of residents which are native South Carolinians, suggest that the County has adequate employment opportunities and amenities to offer a quality of life which is sufficient to retain its population.

Table 6 Birthplace Characteristics, 2016		
Spartanburg County	Persons	%
<b>Total Residents</b>	301,463	
<b>Native</b>	281,265	93.3%
<b>Born in state of residence</b>	195,348	64.8%
<b>Born in other state in the United States</b>	83,505	27.7%
<b>Born outside the United States</b>	2,412	0.8%
<b>Foreign born</b>	20,198	6.7%
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, <i>American Community Survey (2017)</i>		

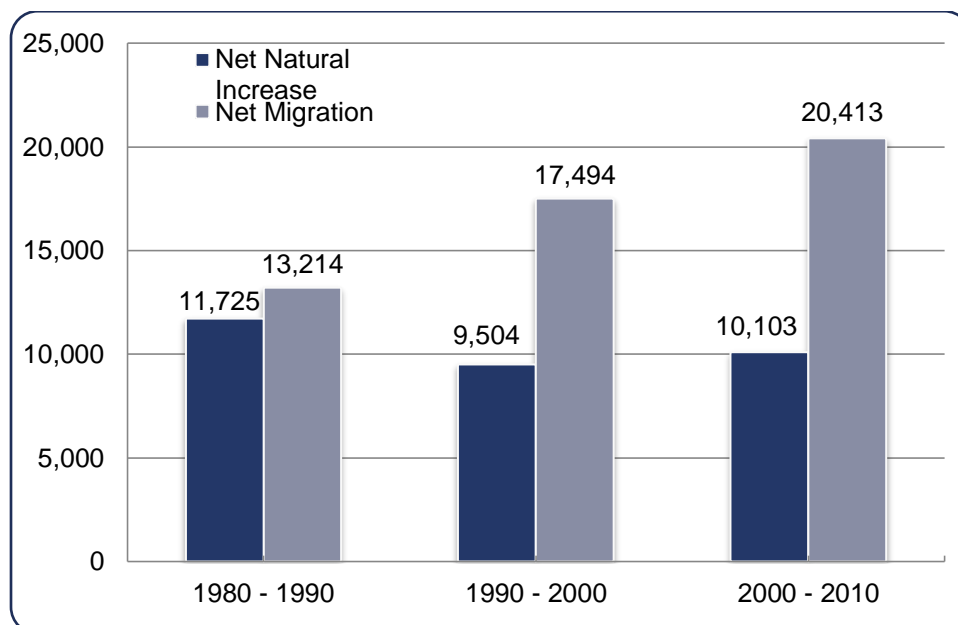
**Table 7**  
**Resident Mobility, 2010 - 2015**

	2010		2016	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
Persons 1 Years and Older	280,414		301,463	
Same House as 5 Years Earlier	240,189	85.7%	252,626	83.8%
Different House, Same County	27,853	9.9%	32,558	10.8%
Different County in SC	6,019	2.1%	9,345	3.1%
Different State	5,743	2.0%	6,029	2.0%
Elsewhere	610	0.2%	904	0.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, *American Community Survey (2016)*.

Another component of population change to consider is where new citizens originate. The table above describes the mobility of existing residents in Spartanburg County in 2010 and 2015 by estimating the number of people who reside in the same residence from year to year. It is clear that the majority of residents in Spartanburg County are established residents that don't move frequently. Between 83% and 85% of residences reside in the same house as the previous year in both years measured. An additional 10% moved within the County but still reside in Spartanburg. In each year roughly 5% of total residents moved into their home from outside Spartanburg County the previous year according to the Census. This represents over 12,000 and 15,000 persons respectively in 2000 and 2015.

**Figure3**  
**Components of Population Change – 1980-2010**  
**Natural Increase v Net Migration**



Another way of looking at growth factors is to examine natural increases and migration as growth factors. Natural increases balance residents born in the County with residents who passed away the same period. Net migration balances persons who moved into the County with those who moved out of the County. Figure 3 shows that from 1980 to 1990 that population increases in the County were pretty evenly split between natural increases and migration into the County. Over the next two decades though there was a significant shift that saw migration of residents into Spartanburg County become the dominant source of new residents. Natural increases decreased slightly from 11,725 in the 80s to 10,103 between 2000 and 2010. At the same time net migration increased from 13,214 to 20,413. Roughly two-thirds of all new residents in Spartanburg moved into the County from somewhere else during the first decade of this century.

Growth of in-migration of residents into the County from other areas can have a significant impact on the community. Residents that move into Spartanburg from other parts of the US and beyond bring their own unique cultural views and expectations for residential choices, quality of life needs, and desired public services. For instance, residents that locate from more urban areas of the country could potentially have different views on development patterns and density that conflict with the traditional development patterns in the County. They also might have different views and expectations regarding shopping, amenities, and public services like transit and education. Changing markets will likely lead residential and commercial developers to accommodate these new desires within the community. Local governments will also have a challenge to identify changing expectations for levels of services that are not met by current efforts.

This changing nature of our population could lead to a change in leadership and policy. As new residents with differing views become more engaged in issues it is possible that conflicts could arise over the need to change the status quo within the community. With such a high rate of in-migration into the County it is likely that new ideas will begin to enter into the discussion. County leaders will need to make sure that they are aware of any changing trends and are able to adapt to the changing needs of the community.

## **Ethnic and Gender Composition**

### **Age**

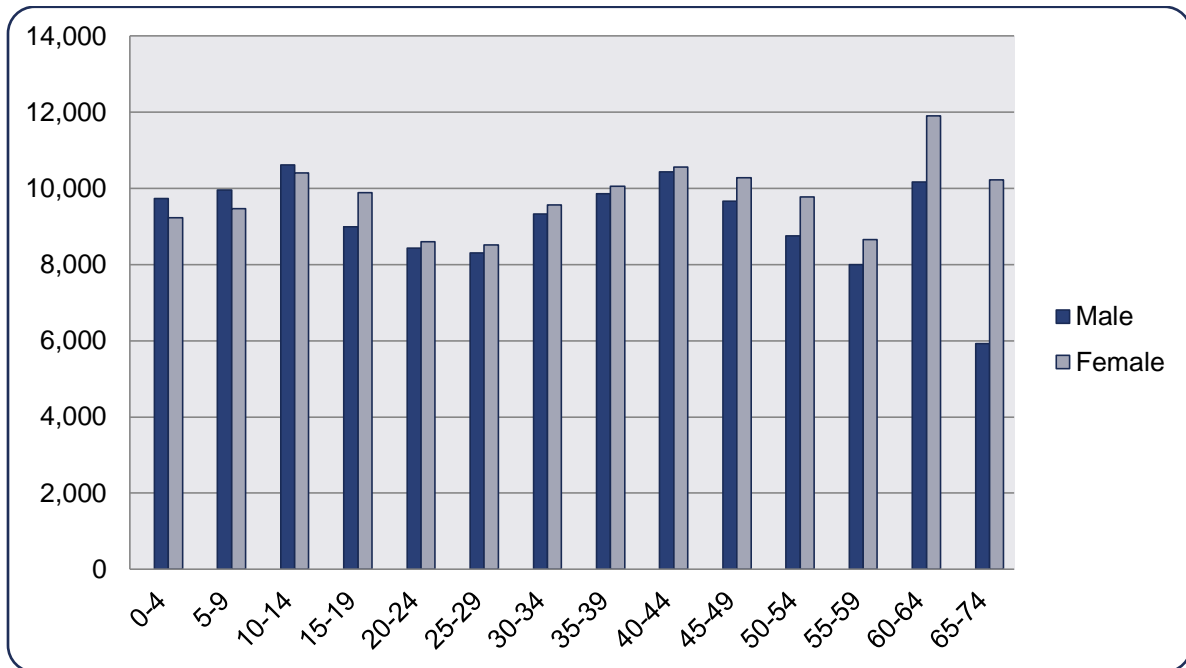
Ultimately all planning is for people. As such it is imperative that we understand who we are planning for. Age distribution is an important factor when considering future demand for County services, housing, schools, parks and recreation facilities, and the provision of social services. This translates into services the county must or should provide as well as benefits the county gains from its residents.

Spartanburg County is relatively young in terms of the age of its population. The median age for the County is 38 years old. The distribution of Spartanburg residents by both age and sex is fairly consistent for most age cohorts. Overall the population is split evenly with 51.5% female and 48.5% male. The largest discrepancy between the sexes is in the over-50 cohorts where females outnumber the men.

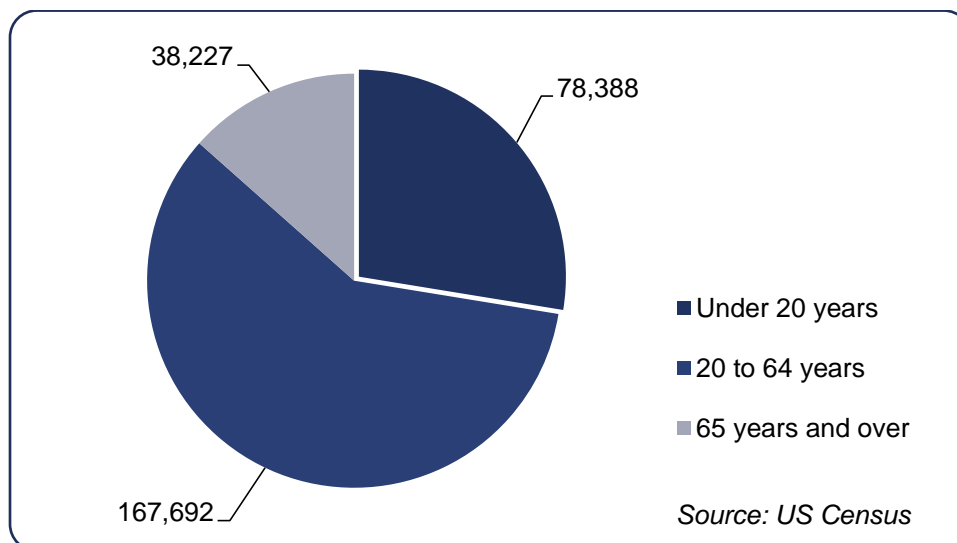


In addition, the total population (male and female together) for each age cohort from 0 to 49 years of age is fairly uniform. Every 5 years in age represents 6-8% of the population. Population cohorts between the ages of 65 to 74 are different as they are significantly lower than all other age cohorts (between 2-4%).

**Figure 4**  
**Population by Age Cohorts (Male & Female) – 2010**



**Figure 5**  
**Population by Age – 2010**



**Table 8**  
**Spartanburg County Population Trends for 65 Years and Older**  
**1990, 2000, 2010**

1990		2000		2010	
Population	% of Total	Population	% of Total	Population	% of Total
28,750	12.7%	31,740	12.5%	38,227	13.4%
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990, 2000 & 2010 Censuses					

The increasing number of elderly (65 years of age and older) in the County is mirroring a national trend of increasing aging populations as baby boomers turn 65 in record numbers and life expectancy increases. In 1990, 12.7% of the population in the City was age 65 or older. It has increased in both number and percentage since 1990 to account for 13.4% of the population and 38,227 of all residents. Life expectancy has increased from 76 during the 90s to almost 79 today and is expected to increase to 82 by 2020. It is expected that one out of every five people in the United States will be over the age of 65 by 2050, so this a trend that is likely to continue and result in policy consequences over the coming years.

This changing demographic will likely have a significant impact on many segments of the community as the needs of the elderly will impact social and medical service needs, housing demands, and potentially development patterns. Elderly residents may choose to age in place or move into the cities because of cheaper housing costs. Others may be attracted by the close proximity of services available in cities such as: buses, taxis, shopping, public and private social activities, health-care facilities and EMS, and the various government and non-profit agencies which provide services for the elderly.

Several key areas will be at the forefront of needs for this age group. One is mobility which becomes a major limiting factor for seniors as they try to maintain an independent lifestyle. Seniors will need transportation services so they can have easy access to goods and services. Seniors are also beginning to seek out housing that supports their lifestyle and is close to shopping and services. Many seniors are also willing or able to maintain larger properties that make up the majority of the housing stock available today. Identifying opportunities to provide housing and land uses that cater more to the needs of older individuals will continue to be a challenge for Spartanburg County.

In addition to the increased and changing demand on housing and transportation, all communities will face a significant increase in the demand for health and senior services. More and more, seniors are looking for ways that they can “age in place” as opposed to entering a traditional nursing home facility. In order for them to be successful they will need both accesses to medical services as well the ability to participate in their community after their mobility becomes more limited. This will include easier access to traditional medical offices through transit as well as other programs and initiatives that will allow elder residents to stay active and engaged. Given

the increasing numbers of seniors this will be a challenge that all local governments and service agencies will need to work on to ensure that this segment of the population is provided.

**Table 9**  
**Population by Age, 2010**

AGE	2010		By Sex			
	No.	Pct.	Male		Female	
			No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.
0-4	18,970	7%	9,588	3.4%	9,382	3.3%
5-9	18,957	7%	9,730	3.4%	9,227	3.2%
10-14	19,429	7%	9,964	3.5%	9,465	3.3%
15-19	21,032	7%	10,621	3.7%	10,411	3.7%
20-24	18,886	7%	8,997	3.2%	9,889	3.5%
25-29	17,041	6%	8,439	3.0%	8,602	3.0%
30-34	16,822	6%	8,300	2.9%	8,522	3.0%
35-39	18,892	7%	9,322	3.3%	9,570	3.4%
40-44	19,918	7%	9,861	3.5%	10,057	3.5%
45-49	20,998	7%	10,435	3.7%	10,563	3.7%
50-54	19,948	7%	9,661	3.4%	10,287	3.6%
55-59	18,535	7%	8,753	3.1%	9,782	3.4%
60-64	16,652	6%	7,999	2.8%	8,653	3.0%
65-74	22,066	8%	10,167	3.6%	11,899	4.2%
75+	16,161	6%	5,932	2.1%	10,229	3.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>284,307</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>137,769</b>	<b>48.5%</b>	<b>146,538</b>	<b>51.5%</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990, 2000 & 2010 Censuses

## Racial Composition

The racial composition of Spartanburg County is in a state of gradual transition. In the County, whites are in the majority, comprising 72.3% of the population--a decrease from the 78.2% of the population that was white in 1990. Blacks comprise almost 21% of the remaining population, a number which has remained almost constant over the last 20 years. The remainder of the population is a mixture of other races. Although this is not a major shift in racial demographics it should be noted that the combined other races listed have climbed to over 5% of the total population. This is compared to 1% in 1990 and 3% in 2000.

One segment of the population that has grown tremendously is people that identify themselves as of Hispanic origin. In 1990 only 1,521 persons identified themselves as Hispanic during the census. In 2010 that number increased to 16,774, almost 6% of the population.

**Table 10**  
**Spartanburg County Racial Composition, 1990 - 2010**

RACE	1990		2000		2010	
	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.
White	177,427	78.20%	190,569	75.10%	205,554	72.3%
Black	46,871	20.70%	52,775	20.80%	58,567	20.6%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	332	0.10%	555	0.20%	853	0.3%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1,710	0.80%	3,738	1.50%	5,686	2.0%
Other Race	460	0.20%	3,437	1.40%	8,814	3.1%
<i>Hispanic Origin</i>	<i>1,521</i>	<i>0.67%</i>	<i>7,081</i>	<i>2.74%</i>	<i>16,774</i>	<i>5.9%</i>
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990, 2000 & 2010 Censuses						

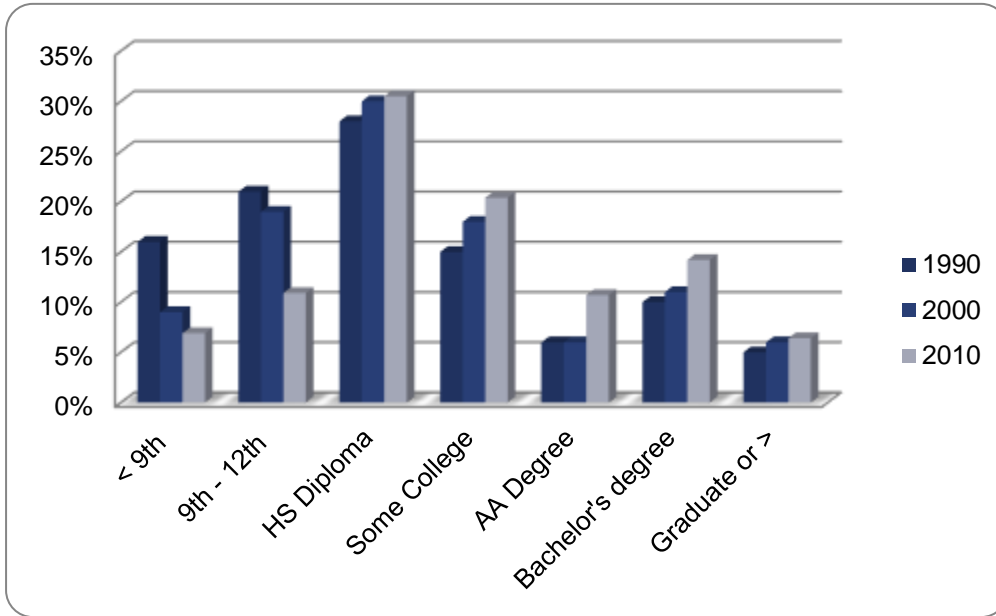
## Socioeconomic Data

### Educational Attainment

A population's education attainment has a direct impact on the quality of family life, community health, and economic growth and stability. Education promotes community growth. Individuals with higher education levels earn higher salaries and thus demand quality housing and services, having a direct impact on land use and development. Furthermore, post-high school education is an indicator of the community's preparation for attracting and supporting economic development and cultural opportunities.

**Table 11** displays the educational attainment of Spartanburg County's population 25 years old and over. Approximately 18 percent of the county population had less than a high school diploma in 2010, which is slightly higher than the state average. In 1990, approximately 37 percent of residents had less than a high school diploma. Conversely, in 1990 63% of residents had a high school diploma (or equivalent) or higher educational status. In 2000, the percentage rose to approximately 72% and rose again in 2010 to 82%. The percentage of persons with a high school diploma or higher also lags behind the state average. The improvements can also be seen in the percentage increases of residents with some college (78%), an associate's degree (129%), and a college degree (90%) since 1990.

**Figure 6**  
**Spartanburg County Educational Attainment, 1990 – 2010**



Between 1999-2000, the County dropout rate was 2.4%, compared with the state's 3.2%. This rate was an improvement from the 1995-1996 dropout rate of 4.6%. In 2009-2010, the County's dropout rate decreased again to 2.2% which is better than the state average of 2.9%.

Both the reduction in dropout rate and the increase in degreed residents are positive trends that the County can promote as they grow and try to attract new residents and businesses.

**Table 11**  
**Spartanburg County Educational Attainment, 1990 – 2010**

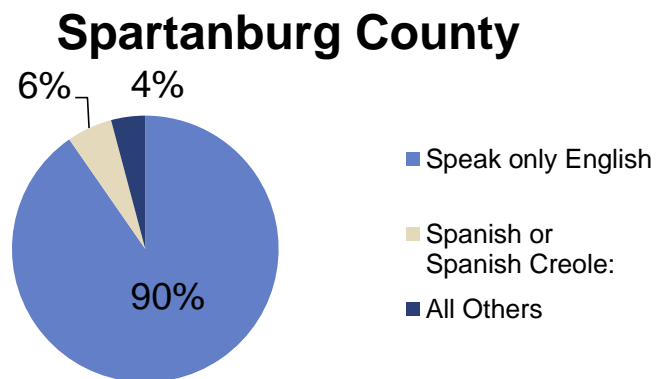
	1990	2000	2010
Persons 25 Years and Over	146,403	167,802	186,783
Less than 9th grade	16%	9%	7%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	21%	19%	11%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	28%	30%	31%
Some college, no degree	15%	18%	20%
Associate's degree	6%	6%	11%
Bachelor's degree	10%	11%	14%
Graduate or professional degree	5%	6%	6%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, *Census of the Population (1990-2000)*.

## English Proficiency

One area of education that is an emerging issue is helping non-English speaking immigrants to become more proficient with the English language. Communities throughout the region, state, and country have growing immigrant populations. Their ability to communicate often has a dramatic impact on their quality of life, economic prosperity, and ability to be productive members of the community. There are numerous avenues for residents to learn English through English as a Second Language (ESL) classes from a myriad of agencies including non-profit literacy groups, churches, local schools, and other service organizations. There seldom is a unified strategy to be able to reach these groups and ensure that everyone has an opportunity to take part in an ESL classes that are available.

The best measure of English proficiency in a community is the measure of what the primary language spoken in the home is as described by the Census. In Spartanburg County 90% of all residents speak only English in their home. That leaves roughly 20,000 residents that speak another language in the home. Of those residents roughly 15,000 speak Spanish and 11,000 speak another language in the home. The caveat to this is that it does not mean no one speaks English in that home. It is simply not the primary language spoken in their home.



Those 20,000 residents represent the persons that might need services to help them learn to speak English proficiently so they can better interact within the community. Although that is a significant portion of the population, developing strategies to serve them is difficult because of the diffuse nature of where they settle in the County. The following maps show where all non-English speaking people are located in the County. Each dot represents 10 people. There is a heavy concentration of Spanish speaking residents in Greer and another less dense concentration of them in the Boiling Springs area of the County, but otherwise they are very diffuse. Non-English speakers other than Spanish speakers are even more spread out.

Developing strategies to provide opportunities for people to have access to classes is a challenge due to this distribution of residents. The ability to establish large programs with dedicated centers that are easily accessible to large segments of the population is limited. Outreach efforts must cover wide areas and provide accessible locations for people to access classes.



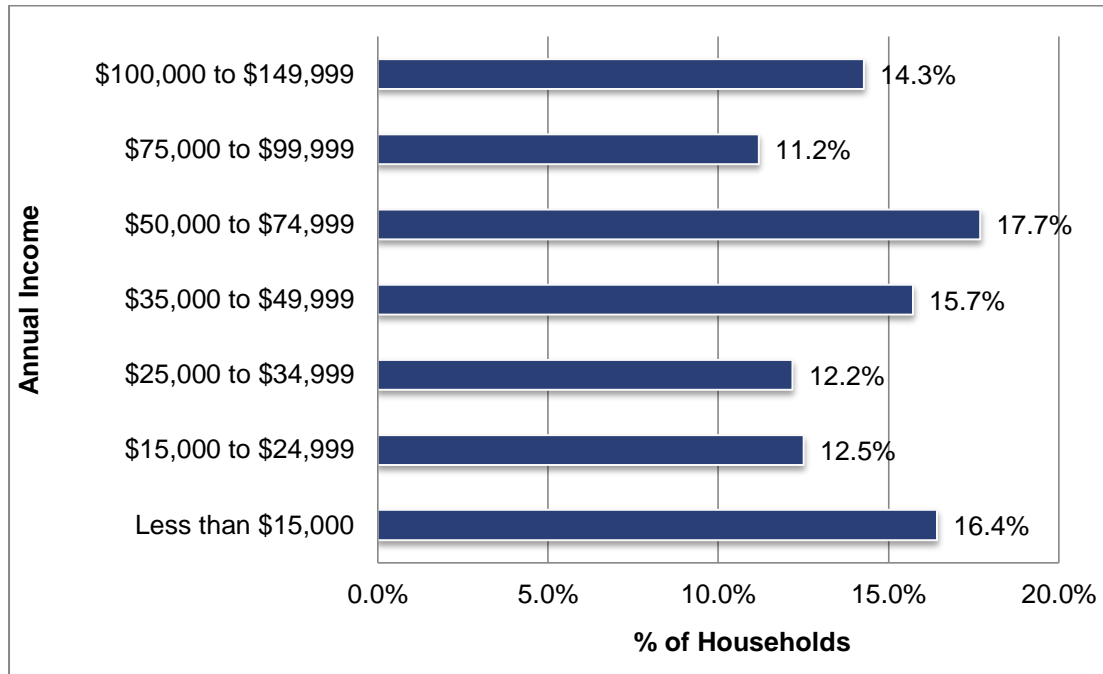


0 1 2 4 Miles

## Income and Poverty

The 2010 census reported that the median household income in Spartanburg County (\$41,888) was 99.5% of the state median household income of \$42,117 and 83% of the national median household income of \$50,046. Figure X shows that over 16% of Spartanburg households earn less than 35% (\$15,000) of the State median income.

**Figure 7**  
**Spartanburg County Annual Household Income, 2010**



**Table 12**  
**Household Income Levels, 2000 - 2010**

	2000		2010	
	Households	%	Households	%
Income Less than \$15,000	17,681	18.1%	17,635	16.4%
Income \$15,000 to \$24,999	14,203	14.5%	13,432	12.5%
Income \$25,000 to \$34,999	13,519	13.8%	13,083	12.2%
Income \$35,000 to \$49,999	17,655	18.1%	16,866	15.7%
Income \$50,000 to \$74,999	18,834	19.3%	18,990	17.7%
Income \$75,000 to \$99,999	8,401	8.6%	12,016	11.2%
Income \$100,000 to \$149,999	7,365	7.5%	15,328	14.3%

Source: US Census 2000, 2010

The median household income increased over the past 10 years. Based on data from 2000 and 2010, households with lower incomes are decreasing in relation to other levels with 2-3% declines in the percentage of households in income categories below \$75,000. In contrast, the



number of households in the \$75,000 to \$99,000 grew from 8.6% to 11.2% while households making over \$100,000 increased from 7.5% to 14.3%. The major gains in the higher household income categories are a positive sign for the economy's health moving forward.

**Table 13**  
**Per Capita Income Levels for Spartanburg County and South Carolina, 1990 - 2010**

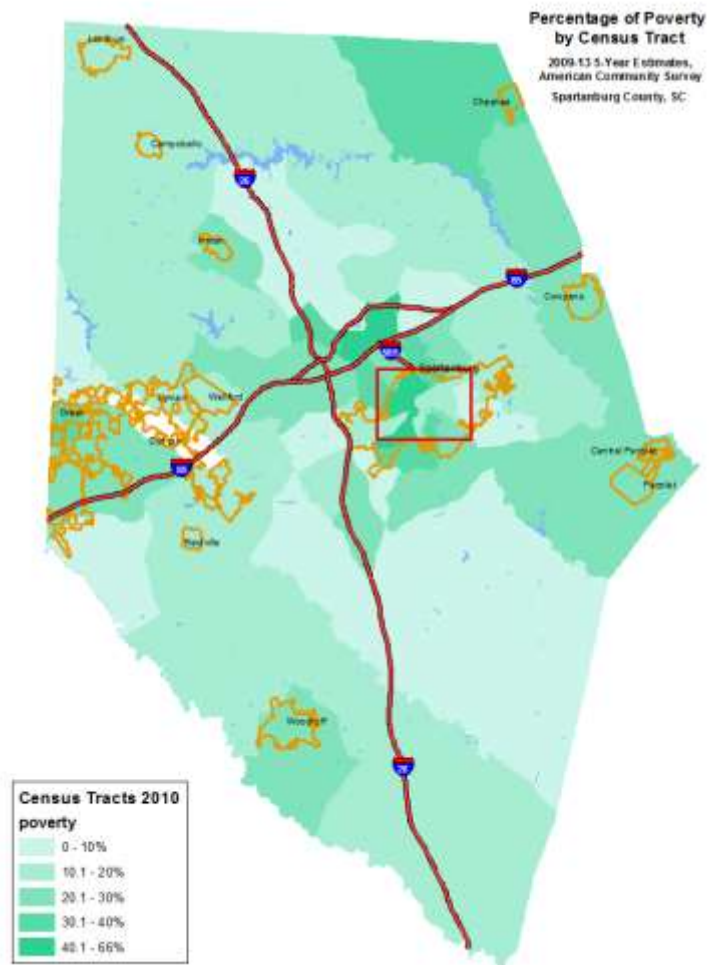
	Spartanburg County	South Carolina	County % of State
1990	\$16,296	\$16,050	101.5%
2000	\$23,165	23,538	98.4%
2010	\$30,242	32,505	93.0%
% Change 1990-2010	85.5%	100.5%	---

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Spartanburg County per capita income levels have seen tremendous growth in the previous two decades. Income increased by 85.5% from 1990 to 2010 from \$16,296 to \$30,242. This lags behind the state whose per capita income grew by 100% during the same time frame. In 1990, Spartanburg County's per capita income was slightly higher than the state's per capita figure. The County lost ground during the last 20 years and now is about 93% of state per capita income levels.

## Poverty

While the County has experienced growth in overall incomes, poverty remains a challenge within the community. According to the federal poverty guidelines, the average poverty threshold for a family of four was \$24,230 in 2014. By definition, the poverty level identifies individuals and families that do not receive an adequate income amount to provide basic living necessities. In 2014, 18.6% of South Carolinians were living below the poverty line. Of the 50 states and the District of Columbia, South Carolina ranks 9th in residents living below the poverty line, meaning that only 8 states have a higher poverty rating than South Carolina. The most recent Census information from 2014 indicates that over 18% of Spartanburg County's population is



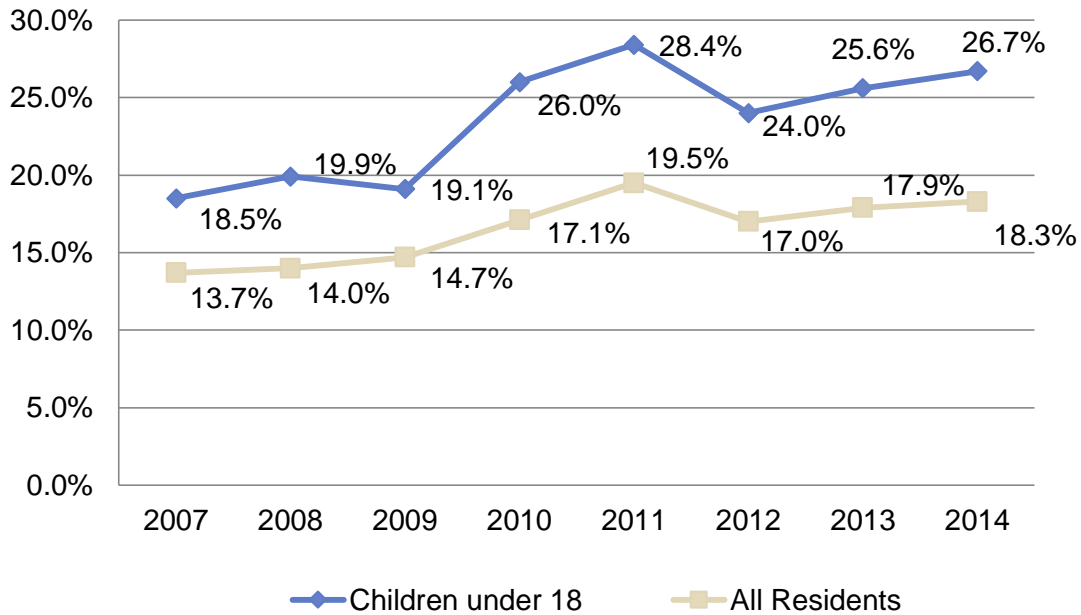
living below the poverty level, a level that is comparable to that of the State.

In looking at the previous map that displays poverty by census tract you can see patterns of poverty. The highest levels of poverty clearly exist in and around the City of Spartanburg and the Boiling Springs area. Several census tracts in this area have greater than 40% poverty and many others have at least 30% - 40% poverty. Areas around Greer and Chesnee also stand out as having higher levels of poverty than their surrounding areas. Poverty is concentrated in the more urban areas of the County with many of the rural areas having very low levels of poverty. This is consistent with trends as many services utilized by low income persons are located in cities and urban areas. In addition, these areas often times have more access to affordable housing which is another major factor in decisions on where low income persons live.

The overall poverty rate for Spartanburg County (2014) is approximately the same as the state average (2014). 18.3% of all residents in Spartanburg County live in poverty. Over a quarter (26.7%) of the children under the age of 18 in the County live in poverty. While these numbers are in line with State averages, they do trail the national average in both cases. Compared to children and working age adults, the County's seniors age 65 and over have a markedly lower poverty rate than the state and the nation.

The overall trend for Spartanburg County is a growing poverty problem. Both the overall poverty rate and the rate for children have steadily increased since 2007. This trend coincides with the economic downturn in 2008 and the slow recovery of the economy since then. It also likely reflects that although the economy is improving in the region and nationwide that salaries have not increased significantly since 2008. Although these trends are in line with state and national trends, it is still a problem that needs to be addressed within the community to ensure that all residents have an ample chance to prosper in Spartanburg County.

**Figure 8**  
Spartanburg County Poverty Trends, 2007 - 2014



The poverty picture becomes more focused as components of the population are isolated for individual analysis. For any community residents living in poverty are associated with several problems. People living in poverty face higher rates of domestic violence, substance abuse, disabilities, discrimination, incarceration, poor health, and other challenges. Child poverty correlates to poor economic, health and educational outcomes throughout life and results in young adults who continue on into the myriad of problems adults that live in poverty face.

Education and employment data show very high correlations with poverty. The more education one has, the less likely one is to live in poverty. Likewise, the more education one has, the less likely one is to be unemployed. As shown in the table below, 30.3% of individuals living in poverty in Spartanburg County have not graduated high school. Conversely, less than 5% of those with a bachelor's degree or higher live in poverty.

**Table 14**  
**Measures for Individuals in Poverty, Spartanburg County, State, and National 2014**

	Spartanburg County		SC	US
All residents below poverty	50,703	18.30%	18.00%	15.50%
<b>AGE</b>				
Children (under 18) below poverty	19,303	26.70%	26.70%	21.70%
Residents age 18 to 64 below poverty	27,457	15.80%	16.90%	14.60%
Residents age 65 + below poverty	3,943	9.10%	9.30%	9.50%
<b>RACE</b>				
White (one race) below poverty	30,839	14.60%	12.90%	12.80%
Black / African American (one race) below poverty	15,897	26.90%	28.80%	27.00%
Hispanic (any race) below poverty	6,377	35.30%	32.50%	24.10%
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAIMENT- population age 25 and older</b>				
Less than high school graduate in poverty	8,896	30.30%	31.30%	27.80%
High school graduate and equivalent in poverty	9,155	16.30%	16.50%	14.70%
Some college, associate's degree in poverty	5,391	8.70%	11.20%	10.60%
Bachelor's degree or higher in poverty	2,151	4.90%	4.40%	4.70%

When considering how poverty correlates to race, it is important to look at the numbers as a whole as well as within each racial group specifically. Whites have by far the largest population in poverty with over 30,000 persons identified as living in poverty. This is roughly twice as many as blacks living in poverty which is just over 15,000. However, when you compare the percentage of each race that lives in poverty it is evident that a much higher percentage of blacks (26.9%) live in poverty than whites (14.6%). In comparison, only 6,377 of those self-identifying as Hispanic or Latino live below the poverty level. However, that constitutes over 35% of all Hispanics in the community. The impacts of poverty are widespread across races in Spartanburg County and all races need assistance. It will be important to examine why blacks and Hispanics are more likely to live in poverty in order to address those challenges.

## Households and Families

A household consists of all persons living in a housing unit and is useful for estimating future land use and service needs. As illustrated on the next page the number of Spartanburg County households grew by 9.8% from 2000 to 2010. Average household size varied between 1990 and

2010 with 2.61 persons per household in 1990, 2.52 in 2000, and 2.55 in 2010 as seen in Figure 9. This is compared to the State household size of 2.53, and the national household size of 2.59. The trend in Spartanburg County between 2000 and 2010 was opposite of the trend both in the state and nation over the past decade which experienced a decline in the number of persons per household. This difference in trends is possibly related to the economic recession of 2008 which in many cases caused children to move in with parents or other combinations of family members to begin sharing housing as they fell on hard economic circumstances.

**Figure 9**  
**Average Household and Family Size, 1990 – 2010**

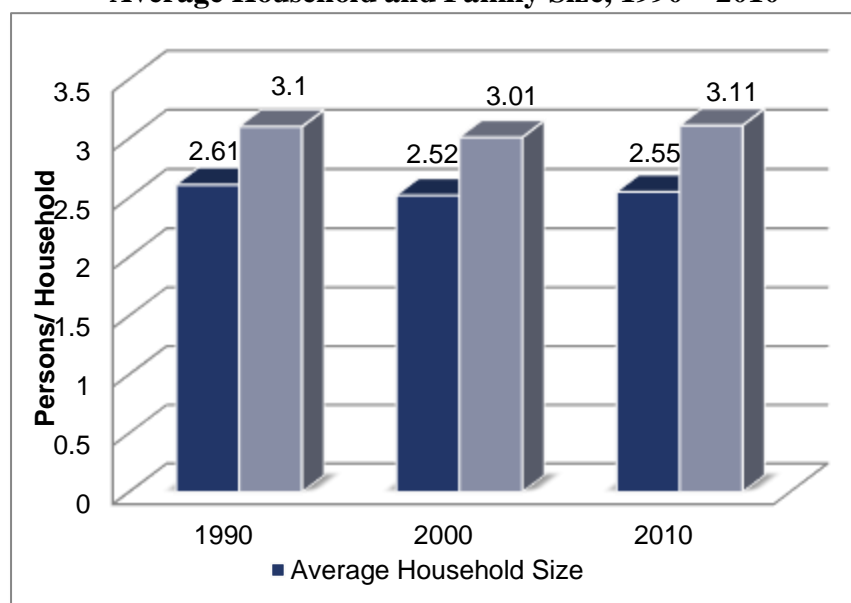


Figure 9 shows that roughly 70% of Spartanburg County households were family households in 2000 and 2010. The percent of non-family households and family headed households, as a total of overall households, remained steady between 2000 and 2010. The number of families headed by married couples declined by 3% during the same period while households with a single female as the head of household increased by almost 2%. Households with individuals over 65 increased by 3.4% and correlates positively with the increase in persons over 65 in the County. It is interesting to note that while the percentage of family and non-family households remained steady even though the County experienced a 9.8% increase in total households during the 10 years.

**Table 15**  
**Spartanburg County Household Composition, 2000 - 2010**

Household Type	Households		As % of Total Households	
	2000	2010	2000	2010
<b>Total households</b>	<b>97,735</b>	<b>107,350</b>		
<b>Family households</b>	69,299	75,250	70.9%	70.1%
<b>Married-couple family</b>	51,638	53,565	52.8%	49.9%
<b>Female householder</b>	13,529	16,685	13.8%	15.5%
<b>Living alone</b>	24,287	27,619	24.8%	25.7%
<b>Householder 65 years and over</b>	9,027	10,371	9.2%	9.7%
<b>Households w/individuals under 18 years</b>	35,569	36,462	36.4%	34.0%
<b>Households w/individuals 65 years and over</b>	22,521	28,343	23.0%	26.4%
<b>Nonfamily households</b>	28,436	32,100	29.1%	29.9%

Source: US Census 2000, 2010

## Community Health

### Infant Birth and Mortality Rates

Infant mortality is defined as death occurring during the first year of life. The infant mortality rate is often used as a measure of the overall health status of a given population because it reflects underlying socioeconomic factors that predict health outcomes. In 2011, the South Carolina infant mortality rate was 7.4 deaths per 1,000 live births. A total of 57,338 births were recorded in the state during 2011 and 423 infants died before their first birthday. The rate did not change from 2010, when there were 58,325 births and 430 infant deaths. There was a generally decreasing trend in infant mortality in South Carolina over the last five years of reporting. In 2012, the Spartanburg County infant mortality rate was 2.0 deaths per 1,000 live births (lower than the state average). Five of the last six years showed a lower infant mortality rate in Spartanburg as compared to the state average. South Carolina's infant mortality rate is consistently above the national rate. In 2010, South Carolina ranked 42<sup>nd</sup> among states for infant mortality (50 is worst).

**Table 16**  
**Infant Mortality (per 1000 live births), 2007– 2012**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Spartanburg	7.9	7	9.6	7.1	5.9	2
South Carolina	8.5	8	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.6
United States	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.1	na	Na

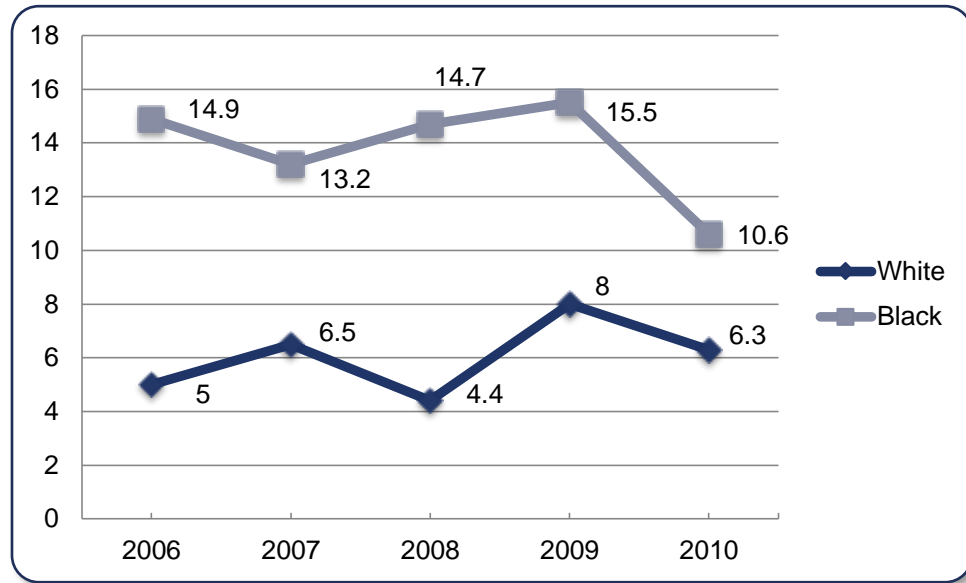
Spartanburg's infant mortality rate is consistently above those of peer counties (with the exception of Charleston County in 2006-2008). Note that in the table below, combined year counts are used. Because infant mortality by county yields small single year numbers, a combined year count yields more reliable data. Using the single year count for 2011, Spartanburg has the lowest infant mortality rate among peer counties. Richland is the one peer county that is above the 7.4 state average on this measure.

**Table 17**  
**Infant Mortality, Peer Counties, Combined Year Averages**

	2009-2011		2006-2008	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Spartanburg	85	7.6	86	7.4
Charleston	90	6.2	165	10.7
Greenville	123	6.6	129	6.6
Richland	99	6.7	93	6.1
South Carolina	1283	7.3	1562	8.3

Infant mortality rates differ significantly by race. Nationally, black infants are nearly two and a half times as likely as white infants to die in their first year of life. The South Carolina infant mortality rate for white babies improved from 5.5 in 2010 to 5.0 in 2011; however, black and other minority infants died at 2.4 times the rate as white infants in 2011. The previous year, the rate was 2.0 times that of whites. Data from Spartanburg County clearly bear out this racial disparity.

Figure 10  
**Infant Mortality (per 1000 births), by Race, 2006-2010**  
**Spartanburg County**



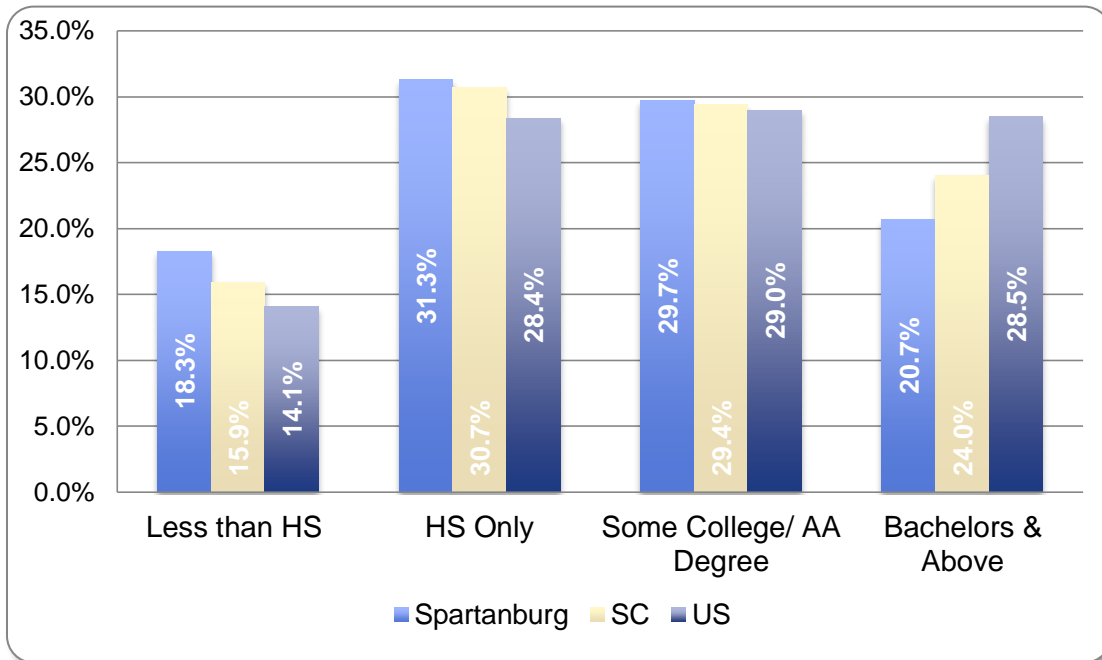
## Education and Health

One of the strongest and most consistent predictors of morbidity and mortality is socioeconomic status (SES). Results of a 1992 study (Winkelby, Jatulis, Frank, & Fortmann) found that socioeconomic predictors of health persist across all diseases with few exceptions, continue through the lifespan, and extend across numerous risk factors for disease. SES includes financial, occupational and educational influences. Of these influences, education is the strongest and most consistent predictor of health. Studies reported in the related literature confirm that, when the relative impact of each dimension of socioeconomic status is quantified, it is education rather than income, occupation or a composite of dimensions that is the strongest predictor of health. Hypotheses suggest that education facilitates the acquisition of positive social, psychological and economic skills and assets that have health impacts beyond those realized through income alone. These assets include positive attitudes about health, access to preventive health services, membership in peer groups that promote positive health behaviors, and higher self-esteem and self-efficacy.

Spartanburg County's low educational attainment suggests that its population is at greater risk for poor health outcomes. The graph below demonstrates that a greater percentage of adult residents of Spartanburg (age 25+), as compared to the South Carolina and national averages, have not completed high school. Further, Spartanburg has a lower educational attainment rate at the bachelor's level as compared to the state and national averages.



Figure 11  
Educational Attainment for Adult Residents (Age 25+), 2011



## Overweight and Obesity

Overweight and obesity-related conditions affect an estimated 97 million Americans and are the second leading cause of preventable death in the United States. Being overweight or obese leads to serious chronic health conditions that significantly increase health care costs and decrease quality of life. In 2008, medical costs associated with obesity were estimated at \$147 billion; the medical costs for people who are obese were \$1,429 higher than those of normal weight people.

The United States has the highest obesity rates in the developed world (behind four tiny Pacific island nations). In 2014, SC ranked 10th in the nation for obese adults; 31.7% have a Body Mass Index (BMI)<sup>1</sup> of 30 or greater (Trust for America's Health and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation). South Carolina ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation for overall (all ages) obesity and Spartanburg County ranked 19<sup>th</sup> highest in obesity among SC counties (Eat Smart Move More SC - ESMMS). Obesity disproportionately affects certain racial and ethnic minorities, residents of rural areas and those with low socioeconomic status. Risk factors for obesity include physical inactivity and improper nutrition. Obesity is a risk factor for many chronic diseases.

Obesity is associated with more than 30 major diseases. Obesity can lead to such health risks as elevated cholesterol, diabetes, high blood pressure, sleep apnea, orthopedic complications, mental health problems, coronary heart disease, stroke, and certain types of cancer (such as endometrial, breast, prostate, and colon) and arthritis (Surgeon General). According to the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) data, compared to those of normal

weight, obese individuals have 90% higher risk of having coronary heart disease and 40% higher risk of having a heart attack.

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) estimates that by 2018, the state will spend an extra \$5.3 billion dollars attributable to obesity, or about \$1,505 dollars per adult in South Carolina. If South Carolina were to halt the increase in prevalence of obesity at today's levels, a resulting savings of \$858 per adult would be realized in 2018, a total of \$3 billion.

Data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) showed that, in 2009-2010, 35.7% of US adults were obese and 16.9% of US children and adolescents were obese. The latest Centers for Disease Control (CDC) data are from 2011. However, a new baseline was used for state estimates of obesity prevalence. Because of these changes, estimates of obesity prevalence from 2011 forward cannot be compared to estimates from previous years since changes in the data could be attributable to methodological changes, rather than true changes in prevalence.

The 2011 data show that:

- State prevalence of obesity remained high across the country in 2011.
- Obesity prevalence in South Carolina was 30.8%, rendering it tied with Indiana for the seventh most obese state.
- By state, obesity prevalence ranged from 20.7% in Colorado to 34.9% in Mississippi in 2011. No state had a prevalence of obesity less than 20%. Thirty-nine states had a prevalence of 25% or more; 12 of these states had a prevalence of 30% or more: Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, and West Virginia.
- The South had the highest prevalence of obesity (29.5%), followed by the Midwest (29.0%), the Northeast (25.3%) and the West (24.3%).

According to 2010 Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data, 57.7% of Spartanburg County adults were overweight or obese. This is an improvement over 2008 BRFSS findings of 65% and lower than the state average of 67.4%. Of peer counties, Charleston has the lowest rate of overweight and obesity, followed by Spartanburg, Richland, and Greenville. All peer counties fall below the state average. The graphic below demonstrates the range of this statistic across the state's 46 counties.

Whereas Spartanburg County's rate of overweight and obesity decreased from 2008 to 2010 and Greenville's rate was stable, rates increased in Richland, Charleston, and the state overall. However, Spartanburg ranked 5<sup>th</sup> highest in obesity among South Carolina Counties in 2010.

Table 18  
**2010 Obesity and Healthy Living Figures**

	Spartanburg County	SC	US
<b>Obese</b>	35.7	30.3	27.7
<b>Not meeting recommended physical activity</b>	57.1	54.6	49.4
<b>Not eating recommended fruits and vegetables</b>	86.8	82.6	76.6

Source: SCDHEC

The 2011 South Carolina Obesity Burden Report (ESMMSC) records a disparity in the burden of obesity and the severity of related health conditions among different population groups.

**Table 19**  
**2011 Overweight and Obesity Rates for Adults**  
**in South Carolina by Race/Ethnicity**

Location	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	American Indian/Alaska Native	Other
<b>South Carolina</b>	63.7%	73.3%	66.3%	NSD	NSD	62.4%

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation

Whereas obesity is of national health concern in the general population, research has shown that persons within certain population sectors are more susceptible than others to this health problem:

- Ethnic and racial minorities
- Mentally and physically disabled persons
- Residents of rural areas
- Low socioeconomic status

Spartanburg County sees this disparity in obesity rates for whites versus blacks. From 2007 to 2009 DHEC observed obesity rates in Spartanburg were 31.9% for white residents as compared to 44.9% for black residents. There was also a gap of 10% between whites who met the recommended levels for physical activity in a day versus blacks in Spartanburg County. This only illustrates the need for special focus on determining the unique factors lead to obesity within the population as whole as well as specific ethnic and racial groups.

Table 20  
**Obesity and Healthy Living Figures by Race, 2007 – 2009**

Spartanburg County	White	Black
<b>Obese</b>	31.9	44.9
<b>Not meeting recommended physical activity</b>	54.6	64.1
<b>Not eating recommended fruits and vegetables</b>	80.9	81.5

Source: SCDHEC

## Childhood Obesity

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that childhood obesity has more than doubled in children and tripled in adolescents in the past 30 years. The percentage of children age 6 to 11 who were obese increased from 7% in 1980 to nearly 18% in 2010 and the percentage of adolescent's age 12 to 19 that were obese increased from 5% to 18% over the same period. In 2010, more than one third of US children and adolescents were overweight or obese. For children ages 10-17, South Carolina ranked 22nd most obese state in 2010, with 15.3% of children in this age group being obese.

Children who are obese have immediate risk factors for cardiovascular disease and are more likely to have high blood glucose levels, indicating a high risk for developing diabetes. They are also more likely to have bone and joint problems, sleep apnea, and social and psychological problems. Long term health effects of childhood obesity include increased risk for many types of cancer, osteoarthritis and stroke.

Spartanburg County subject matter experts have identified pediatric obesity as the number one pediatric medical problem in South Carolina. The following data were collected on younger children in all seven school districts and private schools by the Spartanburg Childhood Obesity Task Force and the Spartanburg County Public Health Department during successive school years. In 2011, Body Mass Index was obtained on 9,390 children and in 2012, Body Mass Index was obtained on 10,426 children. These data reflect the fact that overweight and obesity are positively correlated with age. That is, as age increases, so does Body Mass Index.

**Table 21**  
**Percent Overweight or Obese,**  
**Spartanburg County First, Third, and Fifth Graders**

	Percent Overweight or Obese	
	2011	2012
<b>First Grade</b>	33.4	27.6
<b>Third Grade</b>	38.0	33.8
<b>Fifth Grade</b>	39.1	41.3
<b>Combined</b>	36.9	34.0

In addition *Good for You Spartanburg Body Mass index Report 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades Students 2013-2014* has three years of comparative data of Spartanburg County grade school children's BMI. The study reports that over 1/3 of school children are overweight or obese. The study also noted significant differences that exist between low socioeconomic (eligible for free or reduced lunch) and higher socioeconomic households – 34.6% v 31.4% and racial/ethnic children – 38.0% African American, 41.4% Hispanic, and 32.4% White. A 2009 US Department of Agriculture (USDA) study reported the obesity rate of low-income preschool (ages 3-5) children in Spartanburg County at 11.5% and SC at 11.4 %. Even at a very early age, childhood obesity may be a precursor to a lifetime of poor health.

According to the report, “Research shows that an obese teenager has up to an 80 percent chance of becoming an obese adult. Overweight and obese children are at higher risk than their healthy-weight peers for a host of serious illnesses, including heart disease, stroke, asthma and certain types of cancer. Obese children are being diagnosed with health problems previously considered adult illnesses, such as Type-2 diabetes and high blood pressure.” These studies point to a persistent problem with children throughout the County across a broad range racial and ethnic groups and no one group is without risk. The high risk of chronic diseases due to not having healthy diets and lack of engaging in physical activity is a challenge that will need to be addressed by the community to avoid negative health impacts in the future.

## **Index Crimes**

The SC Law Enforcement Division (SLED) maintains crime statistics for South Carolina. SLED statistics show a general decrease in incidences of all crimes in Spartanburg County. Between 2003 and 2012, Spartanburg saw the greatest decreases in murders (47%) followed by robbery (39%), aggravated assault (37%) and motor vehicle theft (36%).

**Table 23**  
**Index Crimes Occurring in Spartanburg County, 2003 - 2012**

	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Agg Assault	Burglary	Larceny	MVT
2003	19	111	375	1,414	2,630	7,394	984
2004	16	103	324	1,412	1,597	7,943	1,095
2005	28	81	296	1,303	2,731	8,080	922
2006	21	80	427	1,291	3,225	8,693	960
2007	24	90	453	1,339	3,034	7,772	994
2008	19	123	417	1,270	3,025	7,665	1,036
2009	16	105	350	1,271	2,714	7,202	791
2010	13	102	269	1,061	2,550	6,844	727
2011	14	85	261	1,054	2,763	6,610	809
2012	10	100	229	884	2,406	6,411	625

Source: S.C. Law Enforcement Division, *Crime in South Carolina (2003-2012)*.

Spartanburg County compares favorably to the other 6 largest counties when it comes to crime rates. In all categories, except murders, the County has the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest crime rates of the seven largest counties. The two counties with lower rates are York and Lexington Counties. Each of those counties has less population and as such would be expected to have lower crime rates.

**Table 24**  
**Index Crimes Occurring in Counties, 2010**

	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Agg. Assault	Property Crime	Larceny	MVT
Charleston	34	110	575	1,367	14,444	10,742	1,082
Greenville	23	164	523	1,912	16,164	11,184	1,134
Horry	9	123	425	1,233	15,507	10,449	1,410
Lexington	10	81	182	708	1,057	5,038	539
Richland	27	180	685	2,931	18,996	12,408	1,749
<b>Spartanburg</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>10,121</b>	<b>6,844</b>	<b>727</b>
York	10	85	159	1,005	6,384	4,615	383

Source: S.C. Law Enforcement Division, *Crime in South Carolina (2010)*.



## Population Goals and Objectives

Spartanburg County, in 2017, had surpassed the 2020 population forecast published by the Census Bureau. It is population growth, along with economic development, that drives this Plan.

Because of the importance of the Decennial Census count in determining federal and state funding returned to local jurisdictions, the following Goal with its Objectives must be a continuous part of the County Work Program.

**1. Given the concern for shortcomings in any U. S. Census Bureau count, implement all measures possible to ensure an accurate count for every census count.**

- a. Continue to provide the Census Bureau with the best mapping and address data base for Spartanburg County.
- b. Coordinate preparations with all municipalities in the County.
- c. Work cooperatively with the entire region on preparations.
- d. Explore the possibility of our own publicity campaign to assist in maximizing the count response from the public.

*Schedule: This goal should be implemented immediately and be conducted on an ongoing basis.*

**2. Monitor the growth and location of population and businesses in the County in order to understand the impacts on roads and infrastructure.**

- a. Track, through mapping tools, the location of growth through building permits for residential and business development.
- b. Consider a business registration so that businesses may be known to the County and tracked for, at least, growth monitoring purposes.

*Schedule: This goal should be implemented immediately and be conducted on an ongoing basis.*

**3. Continue to work with Metropolitan Studies Institute to gather data on health, education, and other characteristics of our population that need consideration in planning and policy matters.**

- a. Continue working with our community partners to ensure that pertinent, quality information continues to be collected and assembled that will serve to inform the County's goals and objectives.
- b. Make collected data available digitally to partners.

*Schedule: This goal should be implemented immediately and be conducted on an ongoing basis.*

# Economic Development



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## Element

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South Carolina Code of Laws (6-29-510): (D) A local comprehensive plan must include . . .  
(2) an economic development element which considers labor force and labor force characteristics, employment by place of work and residence, and analysis of the economic base . . .

## Economic Development Summary

Spartanburg County is undoubtedly prospering. The Spartanburg County Government partners with the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce for business recruitment and economic development, and the County Council is ever working to ensure an atmosphere that supports and welcomes economic development in an effort to ensure that all citizens benefit from the prosperity. The Council has worked lockstep with the Chamber of Commerce with a great deal of success to ensure that the County has a modern, diversified, thriving manufacturing sector. Statistics show, however, that the percentage of our citizens falling below the poverty rate (now at almost 16%) continues to increase. The Chamber of Commerce has a plan for that . . . and a lot of community partners who have signed on to help.

ALL TOPICS	Q	Spartanburg County, South Carolina
Population estimates, July 1, 2017, (V2017)		306,854
Income & Poverty		
Median household income (in 2016 dollars), 2012-2016		\$45,219
Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2016 dollars), 2012-2016		\$23,277
Persons in poverty, percent		15.6%

U.S. Census Bureau, QuickFacts, [census.gov](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/)

Spartanburg County is rich in assets that support the manufacturing and distribution sectors of the local economy. Many of the County's economic development and quality of life challenges have been recognized for many years and many agencies have attempted to deal with the problems from their own perspectives with some successes. However, community leaders in Spartanburg County have come to understand that bold actions and strong partnerships are required to make the County a more successful and prosperous place and to improve the quality of life for all of its citizens. One Spartanburg is the most organized, most comprehensive, and broad-based effort thus far formed to tackle these issues. They have embarked on a holistic and comprehensive community and economic development strategy that addresses the full range of factors that influence a region's prosperity – from its talent and economic structure to its quality of life and place. It must be recognized that the One Spartanburg project, especially the Implementation Plan, crosses heavily into most of the Elements of the County's Comprehensive Plan, including this element, Land Use, and Cultural Resources. One Spartanburg is also consistent with the Spartanburg County Council's Strategic Plan Goal 1 which is to "Create sustainable economic development that benefits the businesses and citizens of Spartanburg County." [Link to Strategic Plan]

Spartanburg County Government has participated in and supported the One Spartanburg effort, so it follows that it be adopted as the County's Economic Development Element. It has the framework required in the State Statute for elements of a comprehensive plan: in-depth community and stakeholder input, a community assessment of the subject area, and an implementation plan identifying partners and timeframes. One Spartanburg maintains a very detailed website with excellent tools and data, which also mirrors information found referenced in a comprehensive plan document. The following is the link to that website:

<http://www.onespartanburg.com/project-details-documents/>.

The One Spartanburg process steps are repeated here in order to give a summary of what it is all about. Links are provided to each of the project documents: *Spartanburg County Community Assessment*, *Spartanburg Target Business Analysis and Marketing Review*, and *Spartanburg Community and Economic Development Strategy*.

## **One Spartanburg - A Vision for a Greater Spartanburg County**

The six-phase research and strategic planning process lasted approximately nine months, concluding in October 2016. Current work is focused on implementation, funding, and timeframes.

### **Phase I: Stakeholder Input**

The Spartanburg Chamber's consultant, Market Street Services, worked with the Chamber and its partners to identify stakeholders from all corners of the community to participate in public input opportunities. Stakeholder input techniques included one-on-one interviews, focus groups, and an online community survey. In order to further facilitate community engagement, a project website was developed to provide access to key deliverables and other important materials developed during the process, as well as easy access to the online survey. Collectively, these input techniques reached thousands of community members. The findings are incorporated into the Community Assessment in order to form a holistic view of how community preferences align with the community and economic development opportunities of Spartanburg County.

### **Phase II: Community Assessment [\[Link\]](#)**

The second phase of the process provided a detailed examination of Spartanburg County's competitiveness as a place to live, work, visit, and conduct business. The Community Assessment leveraged extensive quantitative data, stakeholder input, and existing community initiatives underway in order to tell the "Spartanburg County story." The research and analysis was holistic in nature, and answers key questions about Spartanburg County's people, the community as a place, and economic structure issues that affect the community's ability to create lasting prosperity.

### **Phase III: Target Business Analysis**

### **Phase IV: Marketing Review [\[Link\]](#)**

The Target Business Analysis built on the findings of the Community Assessment, and involved reviewing and defining the business sectors that most strongly align with Spartanburg County's competitive strengths. The Target Business Analysis identified those sectors of economic activity within Spartanburg County that can drive future growth and wealth creation. Special consideration was given to those sectors that have the highest potential for diversification and can lead to high-wage opportunities for workers in the Spartanburg County area. The main goal of this phase was to identify the best opportunities for Spartanburg County to diversify and strengthen its economic base through existing business expansion, recruitment, and entrepreneurship.

The Target Business Analysis was complemented by a Marketing Review that analyzed the viability of existing economic development marketing programs and identified potential enhancements to future efforts. Using best-practices examples and *Market Street*'s institutional knowledge, the Marketing Review will review existing marketing efforts being led by the Spartanburg Area Chamber and its partners to market the county as an attractive place for private investment. Recommendations will be made as necessary to ensure that marketing efforts are efficient, effective, and align with the opportunities for investment identified in the Target Business Analysis.

## **Phase V: Community & Economic Development Strategy [\[Link\]](#)**

Using the findings from research phases as the initial framework, Market Street will facilitate a series of discussions with the Steering Committee to determine what overarching goals and potential action steps should be included in the Community and Economic Development Strategy. The Strategy will be holistic and inclusive of the many components that affect the county's ability to be a prosperous community. The Strategy will serve as a tool unifying constituencies behind a consensus blueprint for its activities and associated strategies that position Spartanburg County for continued success in economic development.

## **Phase VI: Implementation Plan**

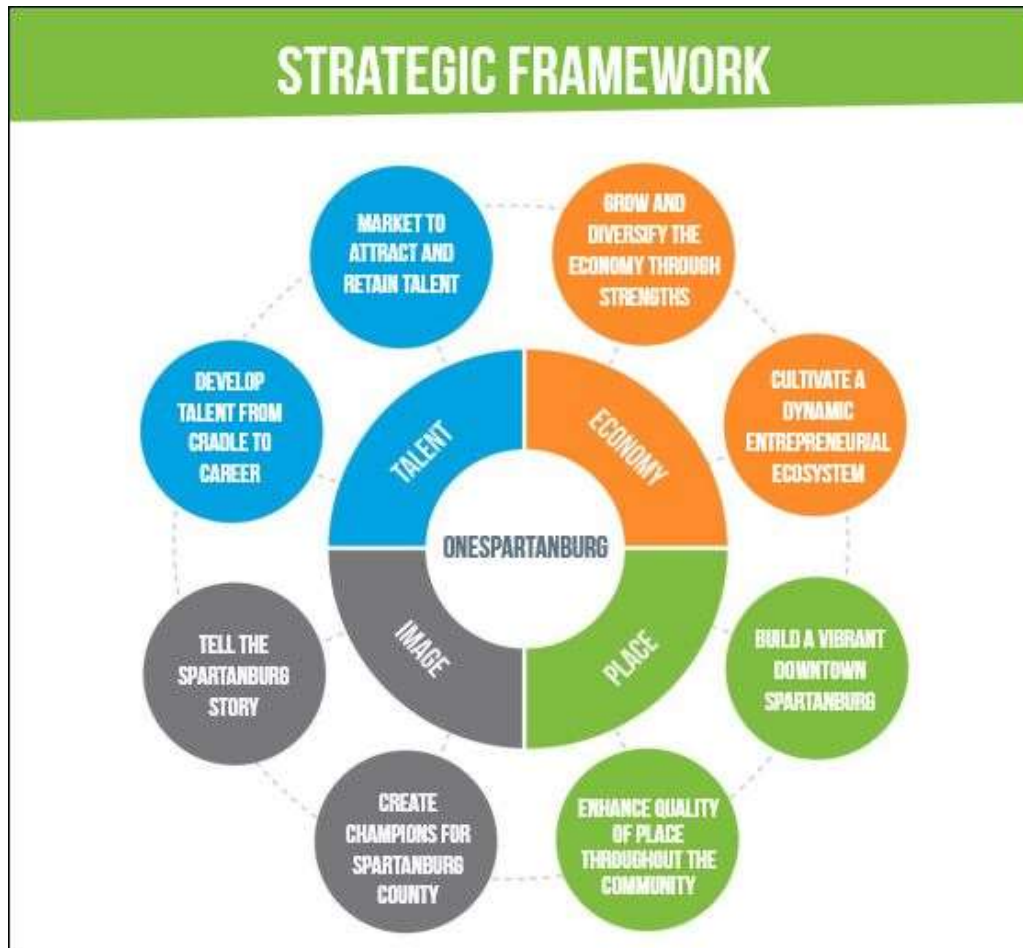
While the Spartanburg County Community and Economic Development Strategy outlines what Spartanburg County must do to be a more prosperous community, the Implementation Plan outlines how this will be accomplished. The Implementation Plan will put the Strategy's recommendations into action until the strategic goals are achieved. *Market Street* will develop both activity measures and performance benchmarks to provide a clear process for evaluating progress over the course of the Strategy's implementation. The Steering Committee will receive guidance in all aspects of implementation efforts, including the prioritization of specific actions, development of a realistic time frame for implementation, identification of "lead" and "support" organizations, and a review of capacity and funding concerns.

## **One Spartanburg Action Teams**

Action Teams have been formed to tackle issues found in the analysis of Spartanburg County. These Teams pull together partners who are already working towards the goals of One Spartanburg. They fit into the Strategic Framework as depicted in the graphic below.

**Talent** – This Action Team is focusing its efforts on developing Spartanburg's talent from cradle-to-career. Its objective is to produce and retain "homegrown" talent in Spartanburg County at every level of education and training. Here in Spartanburg, we are fortunate to have a national leader in this capacity, the Spartanburg Academic Movement (SAM), dedicated to addressing these issues. The Talent Development Action Team and SAM will work together closely to build upon and advance the good work that has already begun.

**Entrepreneurship** – This Action Team is focusing its efforts on promoting an “ecosystem” that is conducive to business startups and growth. Here in Spartanburg, we are fortunate to have several partner organizations already working in this capacity including the SBDC, SCORE, college and university incubator programs, and more. The Entrepreneurial Action Team is working together closely with these organizations to build upon and advance the good work that has already begun.



**Downtown Spartanburg** – This Action Team is focusing its efforts on ensuring downtown Spartanburg maximizes its potential as a significant quality of place asset for the community. This work engages public, private, and non-profit organizations and resources to create a more vibrant live-work-play district.

**Quality of Place** – This Action Team is focusing its efforts on supporting and developing strong communities and cool places throughout Spartanburg County. We are fortunate to have in Spartanburg many ongoing public, private, and non-profit initiatives aimed at improving quality of life and place for local residents. The Quality of Place Action Team is working together closely with these initiatives to build upon and advance the good work that has already begun.



**Image and Marketing** – This Action Team is focusing its efforts on marketing Spartanburg to talented outsiders who may be inclined to relocate to Spartanburg County, cultivate local residents and business leaders to be “champions” or advocates of Spartanburg to the outside world, and communicate the “Spartanburg story” and its successes.

## Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of One Spartanburg are many, and to be successful, every partner organization must plug in where they are called upon. Spartanburg County Government will be able to have a direct impact in key areas. Key Strategies and Action Items can be found in the *Phase 5: Community and Economic Strategies* document. [\[Link\]](#) Some of the goals and objectives best undertaken by Spartanburg County appear below and in the **Implementation Plan**. [\[Link\]](#)

## Economic Development Goals and Objectives

Spartanburg County will continue to be an integral part of a strong, diverse and growing State economy, providing economic opportunities for its citizens and fostering fiscal health for County government services and facilities.

For decades many communities have exclusively associated “economic development” with “business recruitment.” Holistic economic development must also focus on developing the asset base that supports the competitiveness of the local economy. Strategies that focus on developing the community’s asset base also contribute to long-term viability of the community as a location for a more diverse array of sectors, including sectors that the community is not currently competitive for in today’s climate but which it hopes to develop in future decades. One Spartanburg has examined the County’s asset base and what it will take for Spartanburg County to remain competitive in landing industries while developing the assets required to attract and retain talent, to develop knowledge industries, and to attract white collar jobs.

The Goals and Objectives of One Spartanburg are many, but there are a number that are in Spartanburg County Government’s area of influence.

1. The One Spartanburg public process revealed that County residents generally love where they live, but they see numerous opportunities for quality of life and quality of place improvements. Places in which residents are attached to their community are more economically successful than those that are not. The County will be a leader in the following quality of life and quality of place improvements identified by One Spartanburg:
  - Identify opportunities to link existing outdoor assets to one another and to downtown Spartanburg through greenways and trails.
  - Support the City of Spartanburg in the development of their Downtown Cultural District.
  - Attract more and better quality of businesses throughout the County.
  - Develop more public spaces where people can gather.



- Include in local ordinances items that will improve the aesthetics and appearance of community.
  - Support the Planning and Development department with resources to improve the quality of planning, development, and land use efforts.
  - Continue improvements to gateways since they play an important role in the first impressions for travelers and tourists (who could be potential residents, employers, or investors).
  - Identify opportunities to link neighborhoods to destinations so that citizens may access shops, restaurants, and services without using a car.
  - Encourage the development of neighborhoods that follow the live, work, play model by allowing it in land development ordinances.
  - Encourage the development of more multi-family housing in mixed use context by allowing them in land development ordinances.
2. The County, in partnership with the Economic Futures Group, will work to affect the type and quality of businesses to be attracted here. The focus will be on:
- Recruitment of primary employers (manufacturers, research and development operations, corporate headquarters, large distribution facilities, information technology companies).
  - Retention and expansion of primary employers.
  - Safeguarding and improvement of the local business climate.
  - Continued growth of the Spartanburg County Tourism sector, anchored by natural, cultural, and historic resources, as well as outdoor recreation.
  - Economic diversification.
  - Promote the preservation and creation of high quality, affordable housing to attract and retain business
  - Encourage agri-tourism and other employment opportunities in the rural areas of the County.
3. Even though the acreage in farms in Spartanburg County has decreased over the years, there has been an upward trend in the number of farms. Even though not a direct One Spartanburg goal, Spartanburg County will work to preserve and strengthen agriculture sector jobs and production by:
- Supporting Clemson University Extension, SC Agriculture Commission and USDA Service programs to educate landowners and provide innovations in agricultural production and agri-business.
  - Promoting the development and expansion of local farmers markets, mobile vendors, and other related agri-business markets that benefit local producers.
  - Looking into the development of food processing and distribution nodes and/or hubs that would support local food-producing farms.
  - Supporting small local farms through promoting Community Assisted Agriculture

programs, food coops, local markets, produce stands; and farm to table and farm to school programs.

- Minimizing conflicts between new residential, commercial, and industrial development and longstanding farming interests.

# Natural Resources



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## Element

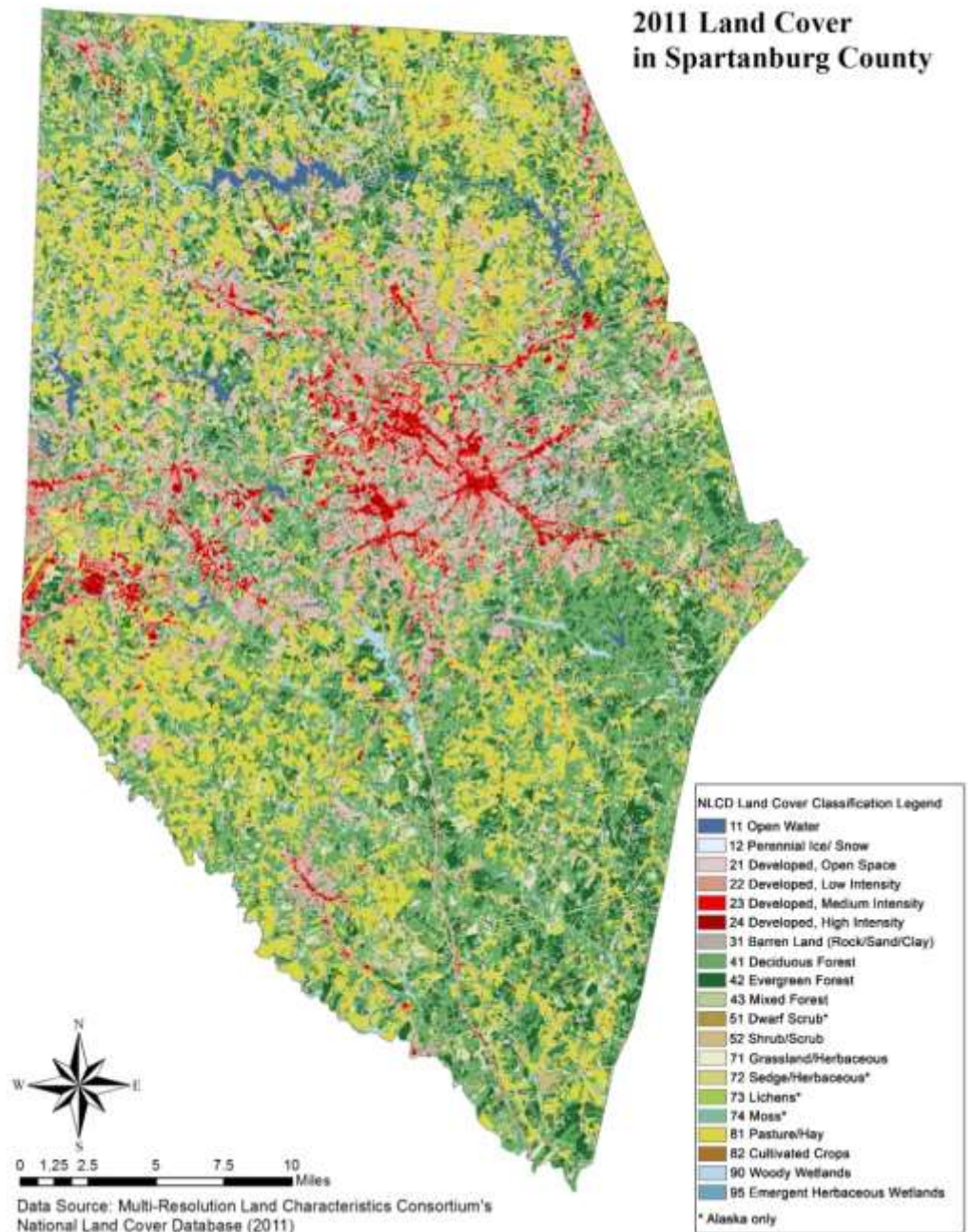
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*South Carolina Code of Laws (6-29-510): (D) A local comprehensive plan must include . . . (3) a natural resources element which considers . . . slope characteristics, prime agricultural and forest land, plant and animal habitats, parks and recreation areas, scenic views and sites, wetlands, and soil types.*

## Natural Resources Introduction

The temperate climate, rivers and lakes, rolling hills, and forest and farm-filled vistas of Spartanburg County could not provide a better backdrop for a great place to live, work, play, learn, and visit. Natural resources have great inherent value and are necessary for the health and well-being of people, communities, and the economy. The abundance of natural resources in the county creates advantages on several levels for its citizens.

The Natural Resources Element includes an inventory of the current state of the County's resources to be used for the consideration of their role in future development. Natural resources have great inherent value and are necessary for the health and well-being of people, communities, and the economy. With advances in technology and the sophistication of knowledge and programs over the years, we are gaining a better understanding of how to monitor and maintain our natural resources. There is now a publicly accessible GIS application on the County website that includes information for soils, flood plains, and slope (in the form of contours).



In Spartanburg County, natural resources have an annual impact of nearly \$30 billion, not including agriculture (Green Means Green. 30 Billion Reasons Why Life's Better Outdoors: The Economic Impact of South Carolina's Natural Resources, 2009). Spartanburg County's Assets and recreation options are many and include hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, trails, parks, blueways, and agritourism.

For detailed information on natural resources in Spartanburg County, please see the full **Natural Resources Element**. [\[Link\]](#)

The **Implementation Plan** [\[Link\]](#) addresses the goals of Spartanburg County as it relates to Natural Resources, as well as other Elements.

## Natural Resources Element

### Geography

Spartanburg County is located in the northwestern, Upstate region of South Carolina, southeast of the Blue Ridge Mountain region of the Appalachian Mountains. It is bordered to the northwest by Polk County, NC, to the northeast by Rutherford County, NC, as well as, Cherokee County, Union County, Laurens County, and Greenville County, SC. Geographic advantages of the County include a temperate climate and short commutes to both mountains and beaches. Spartanburg County also houses the intersection of Interstates I-85 and I-26, providing easy access to major cities, including Charlotte, NC and Atlanta, GA.

### Climate

Spartanburg County has a temperate climate due to several factors. The first is its latitude, which is approximately 34 degrees north of the equator. The second is its elevation between approximately 600 and 1400 feet. Other major factors include proximity to the Atlantic Ocean and the Appalachian Mountains. Average annual rainfall is around 48 inches and average temperature is approximately 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Temperatures are warmest starting in April through October. Changes in climate have the potential to impact habitat, wildlife, water supply, agriculture, tourism, and recreation.

As seen in the linear trendline in Figure 2, the station at Greenville-Spartanburg shows the average mean temperature has increased 0.0067 degrees per year from 1889 to 1969 and 0.0285 degrees per year from 1970 to 2014, which is a significant increase in the rate of change. Overall, from 1970 to 2014 the trendline shows an increase of 1.254 degrees.

#### **Temperature Summary (1948-2016)**

Highest Maximum: 107 F, July 1, 2012; Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport  
Lowest Minimum: -9 F, December 31, 1917; Landrum

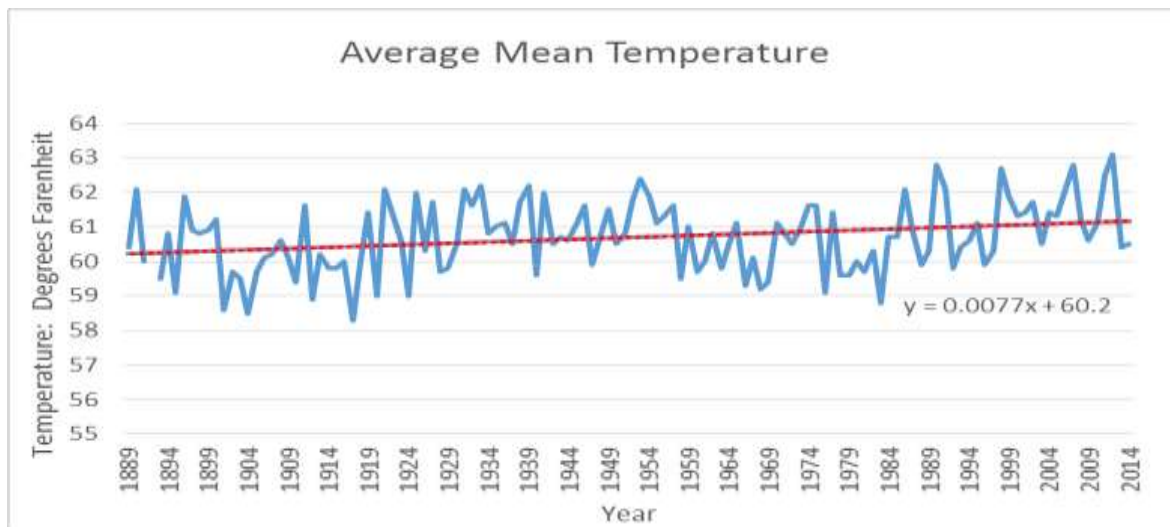
#### **Precipitation Summary (1948-2016)**

Highest Daily Rainfall: 9.32 Inches, August 26, 1995; Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport  
Annual Average Rainfall: 49.29 Inches; Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport  
Wettest Year: 88.22 Inches, 1929; Crescent 1 S  
Driest Year: 18.36 Inches, 1954; Crescent 1 S  
Highest Daily Snowfall: 15.1 Inches, March 2, 1942; Chesnee 7 WSW

**Figure 1. Temperature and Precipitation Summaries for Spartanburg County 1948-2016**

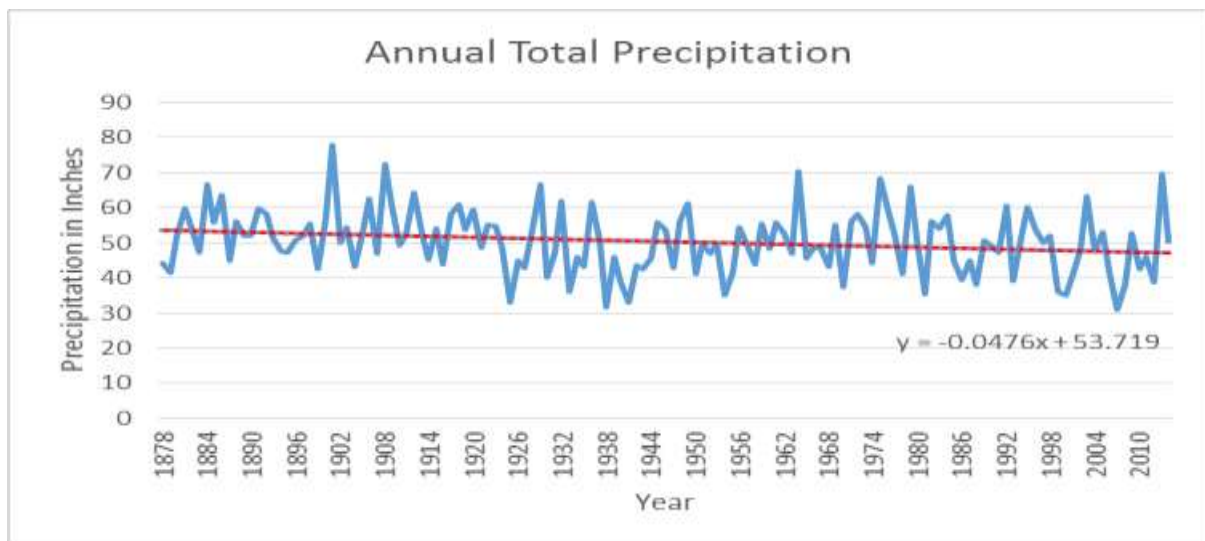
(Source: DNR's SC State Climatology Office)





**Figure 2. Average Mean Temperature at Greenville-Spartanburg 1889-2014** (Data Source: US Historical Climatology Network, Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center)

Figure 3's trendline shows a decrease in annual precipitation at a rate of -0.0476 inches per year between 1878 and 2014. From 1878 to 1969, precipitation decreases at a rate of about -0.0762 inches a year and from 1970 to 2014 it decreases at a rate of about -0.1439 inches per year, resulting in an overall decrease of about 6.3 inches of rain annually.



**Figure 3. Average Total Precipitation at Greenville-Spartanburg 1878-2014** (Data Source: US Historical Climatology Network, Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center)



The greatest severe weather threats in Spartanburg County are primarily from drought, severe storms that cause flooding, wind, tornadoes, and hail, and winter storms. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) monitors the drought status throughout the state. Spartanburg County has experienced multiple stages of drought since May 2007 and has shown at least “Incipient” to “Moderate” drought conditions during periods each year through 2017. Restrictions on water use have been voluntary.

Severe Weather Events	
<b>Tornado</b>	246 Tornadoes (1950-2016) Tornado damage: \$10.1472 million 102 tornado related injuries 4 tornado related fatalities
<b>Thunderstorm Winds</b>	349 Wind events (winds exceeding 50 knots or 58 miles per hour, 1955-2016)
<b>Hail (&gt;1.0 inch)</b>	169 Hail events (1955-2016)
<b>Lightning</b>	32 Lightning events (1993-2016) Lightning damage: \$1.587 million 2 Lightning related fatalities
<b>Flood</b>	60 Flood Events (1993-2013)
<b>Snow and Ice</b>	47 Winter frozen precipitation events (1993-2016)
<b>Snow and Ice</b>	69 Winter frozen precipitation events (1993-2014)

**Figure 4. Severe Weather Events in Spartanburg County 1950-2016 (Source: SC State Climatology Office)**

## Air

Currently, Spartanburg County meets all National Ambient Air Quality Standards. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that ozone standards would be strengthened to 0.070 parts per million (ppm) from the 0.075 ppm standard set in 2008. Using the Design Value, Spartanburg County currently meets the proposed standard. The Upstate Air Quality Advisory Committee coordinates efforts to lower NOx and VOCs. You can learn more at: <http://www.ourupstatesc.info/clean-air-upstate.php>.

The potential consequences of nonattainment according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are as follows:

- **Loss of Federal Highway and Transit Funding** - One year from the date of a non-attainment designation, federally funded highway and transit projects will not be allowed to proceed unless the state demonstrates there will be no increase in emissions associated with the projects.
- **Boutique Fuels** - Non-attainment areas are subjected to the Clean Air Act's reformulated gasoline program, which significantly raises the price of motor vehicle fuels for consumers.
- **Enhanced Regulatory Oversight** - Once an area is designated as being in non-attainment, EPA has the authority to intervene and revise permitting decisions throughout the state.
- **Restrictive Permitting Requirements** - New and upgraded facilities in, or near, non-attainment areas are required to install the most effective emissions reduction controls

without consideration of cost. Operators of existing facilities may also be required to install more restrictive control technologies than are otherwise required for similar units in areas that are in attainment.

- **Mandatory Emission Offsetting** – Prior to permitting the construction of new facilities, a state must offset any emissions increases by achieving reductions at existing facilities.
- **Loss of Economic Development Opportunities** – The added regulatory and paperwork burdens, as well as expenses associated with constructing new facilities, or expanding existing ones, limit the amount of economic investment in non-attainment communities.”

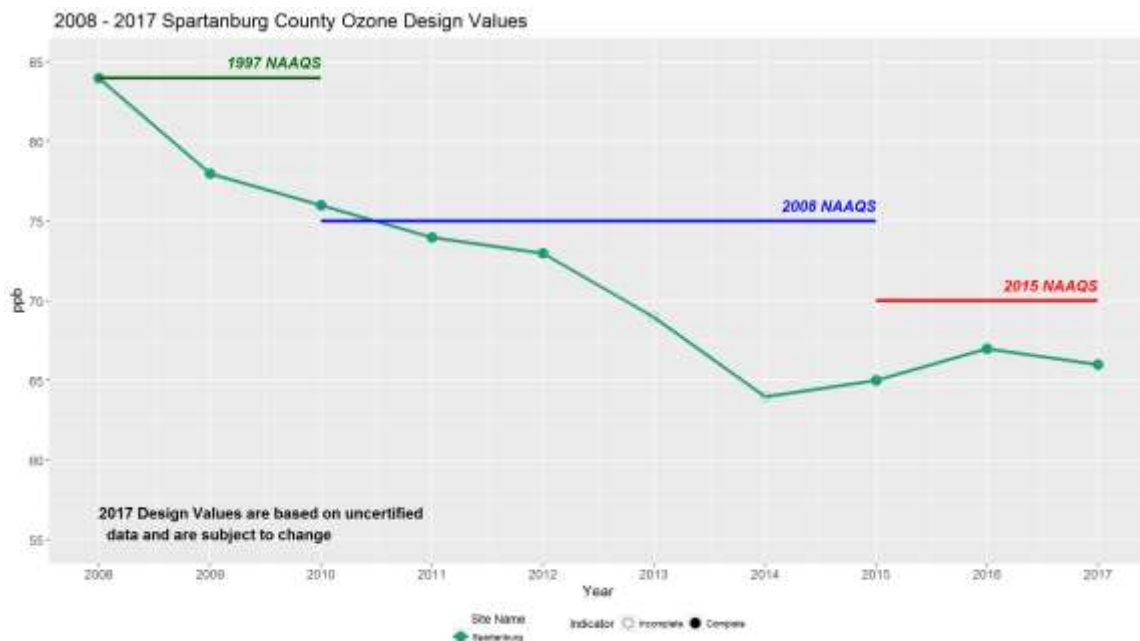


Figure 5. 2008-2017 Spartanburg County Ozone Design Values (Data from DHEC)

## Water

Development depends on an ample supply of clean water. Water comes from two sources in the county: surface water, which is made up of lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams, and groundwater, which is in underground spaces in soil and rocks. In 2013, the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) permitted over 135.9 billion gallons to be drawn, but only around 11.6 billion or 8.5% of the total amount permitted was drawn. Currently there are about 17.141 billion usable gallons of water in the county.

## Water Quality

DHEC’s *Impaired Waters* report for 2014 is shown in Table 1 **Error! Reference source not found.** and contains 17 entries in Spartanburg County, four less than in 2012. “USE” refers to “Use support impairment for aquatic life and/or recreational uses.” “AL” means aquatic life use is impaired by water quality at that station. The cause is the “pollutant(s) that resulted in impaired classified use.” In this case, the causes are “BIO” which means “biological impairment” and something is affecting macroinvertebrates; “BIO” is removed when the specific

cause of the impairment is identified, “CHLA” which is chlorophyll A, “CU” which is copper, “DO” which is dissolved oxygen, “NI” which is nickel, “PH” which is hydrogen ion concentration, and “TP” which is total phosphorus.

Five waters in the county were removed from the 303(d) list in 2012 because they met the water quality standard. They were all impaired for not supporting aquatic life; four were caused by copper and one by hydrogen ion concentration.

TMDL TARGET DATE(S)++	STATION	LOCATION	COUNTY	USE	CAUSE
2017	RS-04376	LITTLE THICKETTY CREEK AT S-42-307 1.2 MI NE OF COWPENS	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	RS-03514	OBED CREEK AT UNNUMBERED CHRISTOPHER ROAD OFF SC 11	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	B-790	MOTLOW CRK. AT SR 888	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	B-221	LAWSONS FK CK AT S-42-40 BL INMAN MILL EFF	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	B-531	MEADOW CRK. AT SR 56	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	BL-001	LAWSONS FORK CK AT S-42-108	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2019	RL-04461	LAKE BLALOCK AT US 221	SPARTANBURG	AL	CU
2017	B-191	POTTER BR ON RD 30 BL OUTFALL FROM HOUSING PROJ COWPENS	SPARTANBURG	AL	DO
2017	B-784	BEAVERDAM CRK. AT SC 357	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	B-219	N TYGER RVR AT US 29 7.2 MI W OF SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	B-829	UNNAMED TRIB TO TIMMS CREEK FIRST TRIB ENTERING TIMM CREEK DOWNSTREAM OF MONTGOMERY POND.	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	B-830	TIMM CREEK 100 METERS UPSTREAM OF FELT RD.	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	B-005A	SOUTH TYGER RIVER AT 293	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017	B-833	UNNAMED TRIB TO SOUTH TYGER RIVER ROGERS MILL SUBDIVISION, DOWNSTREAM OF THE 2ND STORMWATER DISCHARGE.	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2017, 2017	B-321	TRIB TO FAIRFOREST CK 200 FT BL S-42-65	SPARTANBURG	AL	NI, PH
2017	B-021	FAIRFOREST CK AT SC 56	SPARTANBURG	AL	BIO
2018	CL-035	LAKE JOHNSON AT SPILLWAY AT S-42-359	SPARTANBURG	AL	CHLA, DO, PH, TP

Table 1. Spartanburg County Impaired Waters or 303(d) List for 2014 (Source: DHEC)

National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits are issued every five years to businesses and organizations discharging pollution at particular points into water bodies. Spartanburg County received a new NPDES permit in January of 2013 requiring updates to their Storm Water Management Ordinance and Storm Water Design Manual that help to minimize pollutants into waterways in the county. The permit will expire on December 31, 2017. When a plan is made to improve an impaired water, the impaired water is moved to the “TMDL” projects. “TMDL” stands for “total maximum daily load” and refers to the amount of pollutants allowed to enter a waterbody and the water body still attain water quality standards. Once the water quality standard is achieved, the water will be taken off of the impaired waters list and the TMDL projects.

There are 37 impaired waters in the TMDL projects. Sometimes a site can be listed more than once because it may be impaired for different uses or by different causes, but in Spartanburg County the sites on the TMDL list are all impaired for recreation by fecal coliform.

DHEC currently implements a 35’ buffer from streams for construction.

DESCRIPTION	STATION	COUNTY	USE	CAUSE	USE SUPPORT	APPROVAL DATE
BRUSHY CREEK AT BUSHY CREEK RD10.7 MI SW OF SPARTANBURG	RS-05578	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
FAIRFOREST CK AT S-42-651 3.5 MISSE OF SPARTANBURG	B-164	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
FAIRFOREST CK AT SC 56	B-021	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
FAIRFOREST CK AT US 221 S OFSPARTANBURG	B-020	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
JIMMIES CK AT S-42-201 2 MI E OFWOODRUFF	B-019	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
KELSEY CK AT S-42-321	B-235	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
LAKE BLALOCK 0.1 MI SE BUCK CREEKCHURCH/S-42-189	RL-03345	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
LAWSONS FK CK AT S-42-40 BL INMANMILL EFF	B-221	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
LAWSONS FORK CK AT S-42-108	BL-001	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
LAWSONS FORK CK AT S-42-218 2.7 MI SSE OF INMAN	B-277	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
LAWSONS FORK CK AT S-42-79 AT VALLEY FALLS	BL-005	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
LAWSONS FORK CK AT UN# RD BL MILLIKEN CHEM	B-278	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
LICK CK AT S-42-118 1 1/4 MI SW WOODRUFF	B-038	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
LITTLE BUCK CK AT UN# CO RD 2.3 MISW OF CHESNEE	B-259	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
LITTLE THICKETTY CREEK AT S-42-3071.2 MI NE OF COWPENS	RS-04376	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
MEADOW CK AT S-42-822	RS-02320	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
MIDDLE TYGER RVR AT S-42-63	B-012	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
MIDDLE TYGER RVR AT S-42-64	B-014	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
N PACOLET RVR AT S-42-956 6.5 MI E LANDRUM	B-026	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
N PACOLET RVR AT S-42-978, 1 MI SEOF FINGERVILLE	B-126	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
N TYGER RVR AT US 29 7.2 MI W OFSPARTANBURG	B-219	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Fully Supported	9/30/2004
NORTH TYGER RVR AT S-42-231, 11 MIS OF SPARTANBURG	B-018A	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
OBED CREEK AT UNNUMBEREDCHRISTOPHER ROAD OFF SC 11	RS-03514	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
PACOLET RVR AB DAM AT PACOLETMILLS	BP-001	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
PACOLET RVR AT S-42-55 BL JCT OF N& S PACOLET R	B-028	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
PACOLET RVR AT S-42-59, BEACONLIGHT ROAD IN CLIFTON	B-331	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Fully Supported	9/30/2004
PAGE CK AT S-42-1258 1.7 MI SELANDRUM	B-301	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
POTTER BR ON RD 30 BL OUTFALLFROM HOUSING PROJ COWPENS	B-191	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
S PACOLET RVR AT S-42-866 1 MI SE CAMPOBELLO	B-302	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
S TYGER RVR AT S-42-86, 5 MI NE OFWOODRUFF	B-332	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Fully Supported	9/30/2004
S TYGER RVR AT SC 290 3.7 MI E OFGREER	B-263	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Fully Supported	9/30/2004
SOUTH TYGER RVR AT S-42-63	B-005	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Fully Supported	9/30/2004
SPIVEY CK AT S-42-208 2.5 MI SSE OFLANDRUM	B-103	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
TRIB TO FAIRFOREST CK 200 FT BL S- 42-65	B-321	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
TRIB TO N TYGER RVR AT UN# RD BLJACKSON #2 EFF	B-315	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
TYGER RIVER AT S-42-113, 8.3 MI E OFWOODRUFF	RS-11034	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004
TYGER RVR AT S-42-50 E. WOODRUFF	B-008	SPARTANBURG	REC	FC	Not Supported	9/30/2004

Table 2. Spartanburg County 2014 TMDLs (Data Source: DHEC)

Impervious surface is a contributor to degradation of water quality and it increases with new development and especially with traditional development. Low impact development is development that seeks to maintain or improve water quality through various measures such as pervious driveways, rain gardens, green roofs, and rainwater capture. Demonstration rain gardens in Spartanburg County include one at the Spartanburg County Administration building along North Church Street and one at SJWD's Lyman Lake Lodge. Research and resources on

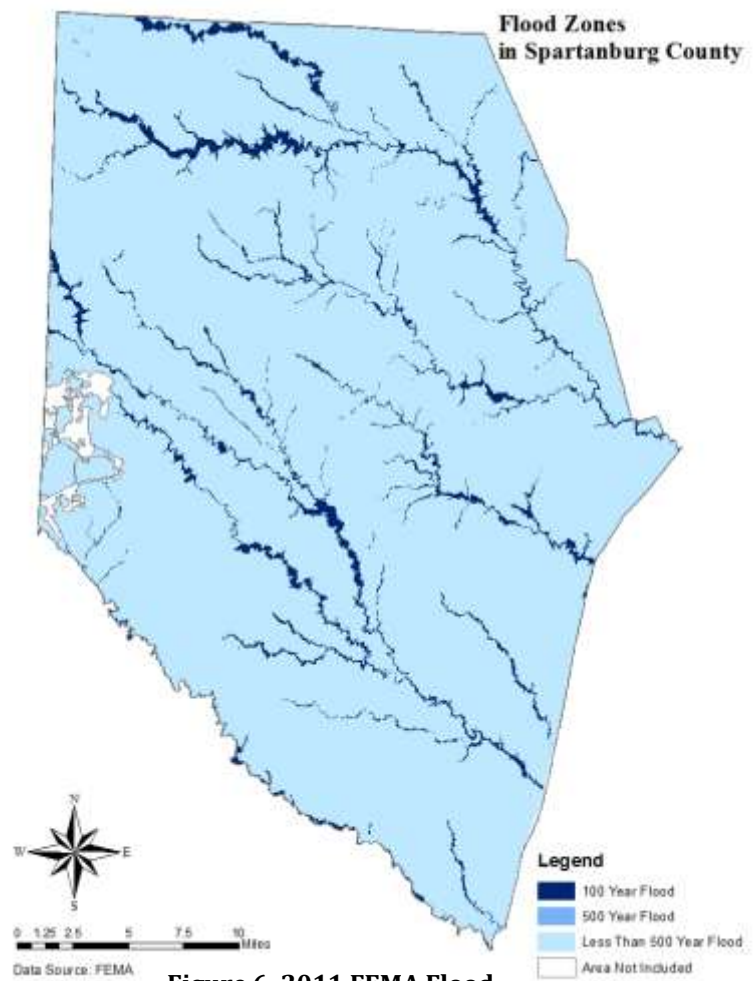
LID in the Upstate can be found on Upstate Forever's website at <http://www.upstateforever.org/low-impact-development/>.

Spartanburg County has recently received about \$800,000 in 319 grants for Boggy Creek which feeds into the Enoree River, and two projects on the Pacolet. These grants have been carried out in partnership with several other organizations and have been used to help repair 300 failing septic systems and to keep livestock out of creeks on 15 farms.

There are several other organizations in Spartanburg County implementing their own programs to improve water quality. Spartanburg Soil and Water Conservation District helps with flood control, erosion control, and homeowner education, the Watershed Ecology Center at USC Upstate educates children and adults through various programs, water providers participate in various outreach and education programs, Upstate Forever works on multiple water-related projects and provides research and resources, Wofford College's Environmental Studies Department does outreach. These groups as well as outdoor recreation providers such as GOLFS and Spartanburg County Parks Department, the Tyger River Foundation, and SPACE put on educational events and coordinate on various water quality-related projects.

## Floodplains

Locations of the different types of floodplains can be seen in Figure 6. According to the 2011 Spartanburg County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, 65 floods from 1950-2011 totaling about \$24.9 million in property damages have affected the county. Flooding has long been a problem in Spartanburg County. The increase in impervious surfaces due to development adds to this issue.



**Figure 6. 2011 FEMA Flood Zones in Spartanburg County in 2011**

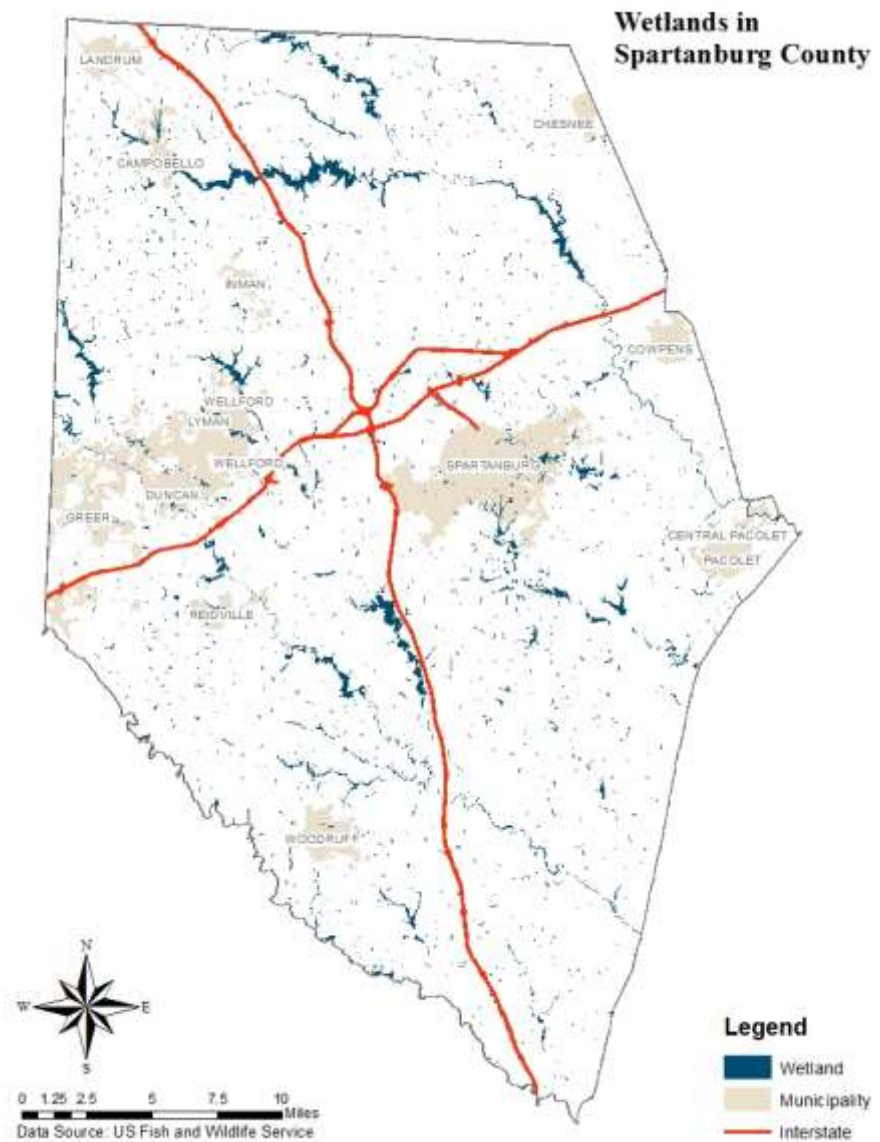


## Wetlands

The Wetlands in Spartanburg County are shown in **Error!**

**Reference source not found..** In 1995, the EPA released guidance on wetland banking to be used as a framework for organizations that were making substantial changes to the landscape to mitigate damage to wetlands. The proposed Two Rivers Wetland and Stream Mitigation Bank Prospectus was submitted for approval to restore, preserve, and enhance the North Tyger River and its tributaries in April of 2017.

Wetland loss had declined greatly from previous studies. This may be due to the EPA and Army Corp's policy of "no overall net loss of values and functions" of wetlands. Before development can proceed, the Engineering Department requires proof that the Corps has approved any construction involving wetlands.

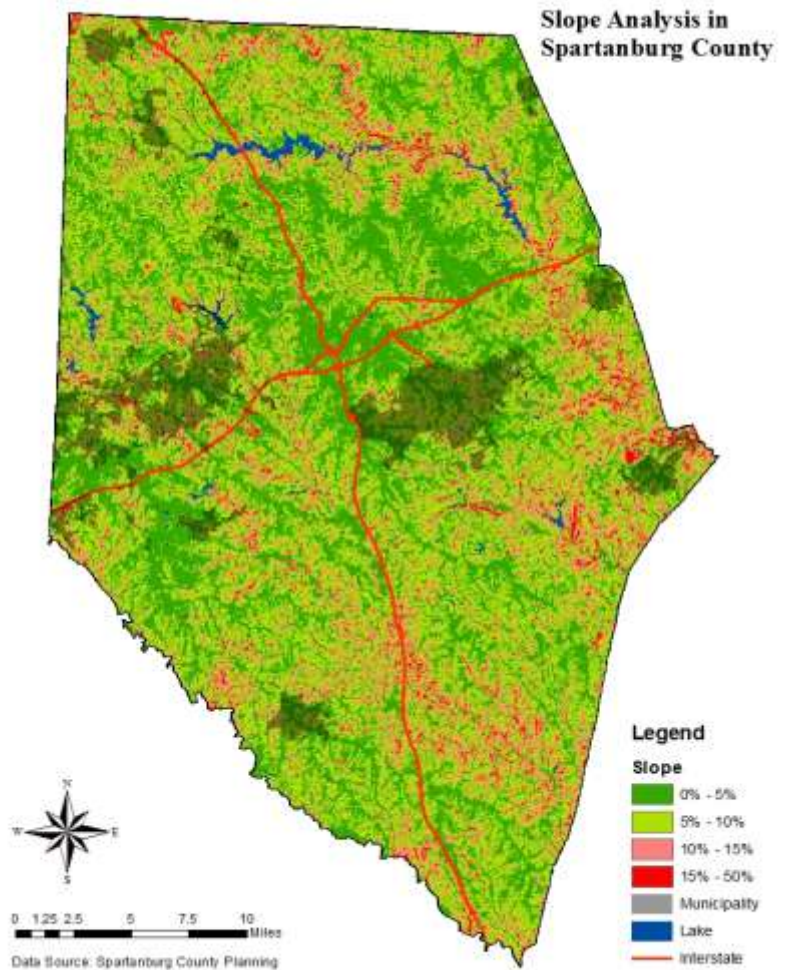
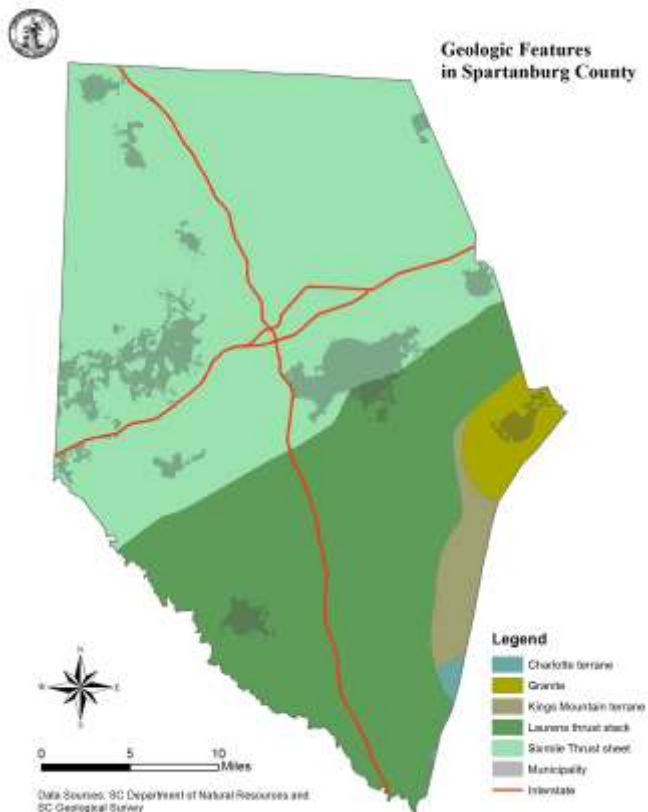


**Figure 7. 2014 Wetlands in Spartanburg County**

## Geology

The county's elevation ranges between 600 and 1,500 feet. The highest point is located northwest on Bird Mountain at approximately 1,480 feet and the lowest point in the southeast region, on the Enoree River, near the Union County line. The majority of the county is between 0-10% slope or angled at 0-6 degrees. Steeper slopes occur adjacent to rivers and streams. Slope can contribute to erosion and landslides and impacts water drainage.

**Figure 9. Geologic Features in Spartanburg County**



**Figure 8. Slope Analysis in Spartanburg County**

Bedrock is found underneath much of the county's surface. The non-porous surface of bedrock creates challenges with water filtering and building development.



## Soils

Types of soils can be seen in Table 2. The largest percentage of soil in the county is Cecil Sandy Loam and the next largest is Cecil-Bethlehem Complex. More information on constraints and properties of the soils in the county can be found at <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>.

Map symbol	Map unit name	Acres	Percent
ApC	Appling sandy loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes	330	*
BaC	Bethlehem-Saw complex, 6 to 10 percent slopes	454	*
BbB	Brewback fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	579	0.1
CcB	Cecil sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	92,408	17.6
CcC	Cecil sandy loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes	51,525	9.8
CcB2	Cecil sandy clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	31,868	6.1
CcC2	Cecil sandy clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, moderately eroded	28,401	5.4
CcD2	Cecil sandy clay loam, 10 to 15 percent slopes, moderately eroded	2,930	0.6
CFB3	Cecil clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, severely eroded	5,869	1.1
CFC3	Cecil clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded	26,378	5.0
CmC2	Cecil-Bethlehem complex, 6 to 10 percent slopes, moderately eroded	9,829	1.9
CmD2	Cecil-Bethlehem complex, 10 to 15 percent slopes, moderately eroded	40,514	7.7
CmE2	Cecil-Bethlehem complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	65,955	12.6
CmF2	Cecil-Bethlehem complex, 25 to 45 percent slopes, moderately eroded	3,329	0.6
CuE2	Cecil-Urban Land complex, 10 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	8,849	1.7
CwA	Chewacha loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	14,237	2.7
CyA	Chewacha loam, ponded, 0 to 2 percent slopes	962	0.2
DdC3	Davidson clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded	288	*
HaB	Hard Labor sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	959	0.2
M-W	M-W Miscellaneous water	38	*
MaC2	Madison sandy clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, moderately eroded	1,190	0.2
MaD2	Madison sandy clay loam, 10 to 15 percent slopes, moderately eroded	278	*
MaE2	Madison sandy clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	249	*
McB3	Madison clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, severely eroded	307	*
MeB2	Mecklenburg sandy clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	703	0.1
PaE	Pacolet sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	3,642	0.7
PcD2	Pacolet sandy clay loam, 10 to 15 percent slopes, moderately eroded	14,630	2.8
PcE2	Pacolet sandy clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	10,079	1.9
PdD3	Pacolet clay loam, 10 to 15 percent slopes, severely eroded	3,724	0.7
PdE3	Pacolet clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded	7,223	1.4
PeE2	Pacolet-Bethlehem complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	380	*
PeF2	Pacolet-Bethlehem complex, 25 to 45 percent slopes, moderately eroded	230	*
PhD	Pacolet-Hard Labor complex, 10 to 15 percent slopes	790	0.2
PaD	Pacolet-Saw complex, 10 to 15 percent slopes	446	*
Pt	Pits, quarry	543	0.1
ToA	Toccoa fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	24,737	4.7
UaE	Udarthena loamy, 6 to 20 percent slopes	1,880	0.4
UcC	Urban Land-Cecil complex, 2 to 10 percent slopes	48,174	9.2
W	Water	9,521	1.8
WhB	Whitestop sandy loam, 0 to 4 percent slopes, rarely flooded	1,134	0.2
WnC2	Wynott sandy clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, moderately eroded	390	*
WnB2	Wynott-Brewback complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	962	0.2
WnC2	Wynott-Brewback complex, 6 to 10 percent slopes, moderately eroded	2,393	0.5
WwB2	Wynott-Wilkes complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	231	*
WwE2	Wynott-Wilkes complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	4,162	0.8
Total		523,700	100.0

\* Less than 0.1 percent.

**Table 3. Acreage and Percentages of Soils in Spartanburg County in 2012 (Source: USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey, Emory Holsonback, Resource Soil Scientist)**

The county requires preventative measures to be taken on sites being developed so that the least amount of soil is displaced. Septic systems can only be placed in soils where the wastewater can

move and filter properly. The least suitable places in the county for septic systems are near water bodies where the soil is already saturated with water.

Symbol	Soil	Percent of this Type of Soil	Soil as Percent of Total Land Area	Total # Acres of Total Soil	# Acres of Land Area that are Very Limited	Constraints			
						Dwellings without Basements	Dwellings with Basements	Small Commercial Buildings	Septic Tank Absorption Fields
ApC	Appling	87	*	330	287			Very limited, slope	
BaC	Bethlehem	50	*	454	227			Very limited, slope	Very limited, depth to bedrock
BaC	Saw	40			181.6		Very limited, depth to hard bedrock	Very limited, slope, depth to hard bedrock	Very limited, depth to bedrock
BbB	Brewback	86	0.1	579	497.94	Very limited, depth to saturated zone, shrink-swell	Very limited, depth to saturated zone, shrink-swell,	Very limited, depth to saturated zone, shrink-swell	Very limited, depth to saturated zone, slow water movement, depth to bedrock
CcC	Cecil	88	9.8	51,525	45,342.00			Very limited, slope	
CeC2	Cecil, moderately eroded	93	5.4	28,401	26,412.93			Very limited, slope	
CeD2	Cecil, moderately eroded	90	0.6	2,930	2,637.00			Very limited, slope	
CfC3	Cecil, severely eroded	88	5	26,378	23,212.64			Very limited, slope	
CmC2	Cecil, moderately eroded	65	1.9	9,829	6,388.85			Very limited, slope	
CmC2	Bethlehem, moderately eroded	25			2,457.25			Very limited, slope	
CmD2	Cecil moderately eroded	65	7.7	40,514	26,334.10			Very limited, slope	
CmD2	Bethlehem, moderately eroded	25			10,128.50			Very limited, slope	
CmE2	Cecil, moderately eroded	70	12.6	65,955	46,168.50	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope
CmE2	Bethlehem, moderately eroded	30			19,786.50	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope, depth to bedrock
CmF2	Cecil, moderately eroded	60	0.6	3,329	1,997.40	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope
CmF2	Bethlehem, moderately eroded	40			1,331.60	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope, depth to bedrock
CuE2	Cecil, moderately eroded	55	1.7	8,849	4,866.95	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope

CwA	Chewcala, frequently flooded	80	2.7	14,237	11,389.60	Very limited, flooding, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, flooding, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, flooding, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, flooding, depth to saturated zone
CwA	Wehadkee, ponded	5	2.7		711.85				Very limited, flooding, ponding, depth to saturated zone, seepage, bottom layer
CyA	Chewcala, ponded	90	0.2	962	865.80	Very limited, ponding, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, ponding, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, ponding, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, ponding, depth to saturated zone, seepage, bottom layer
CyA	Wehadkee, ponded	10			96.20				Very limited, ponding, depth to saturated zone, seepage, bottom layer
DdC3	Davidson, severely eroded	100 *		288	288.00			Very limited, slope	
HaB	Hard Labor	81	0.2	959	776.79				Very limited, depth to saturated zone, slow water movement
MaC2	Madison, moderately eroded	97	0.2	1,190	1,154.30			Very limited, slope	
MaD2	Madison, moderately eroded	96 *		278	266.88			Very limited, slope	
MaE2	Madison, moderately eroded	93 *		249	231.57	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope
MeB2	Mecklenberg	88	0.1	703	618.64				Very limited, slow water movement
PaE	Pacolet	90	0.7	3,642	3,277.80	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope
PcD2	Pacolet, moderately eroded	93	2.8	14,630	13,605.90			Very limited, slope	
PcE2	Pacolet, moderately eroded	87	1.9	10,079	8,768.73	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope

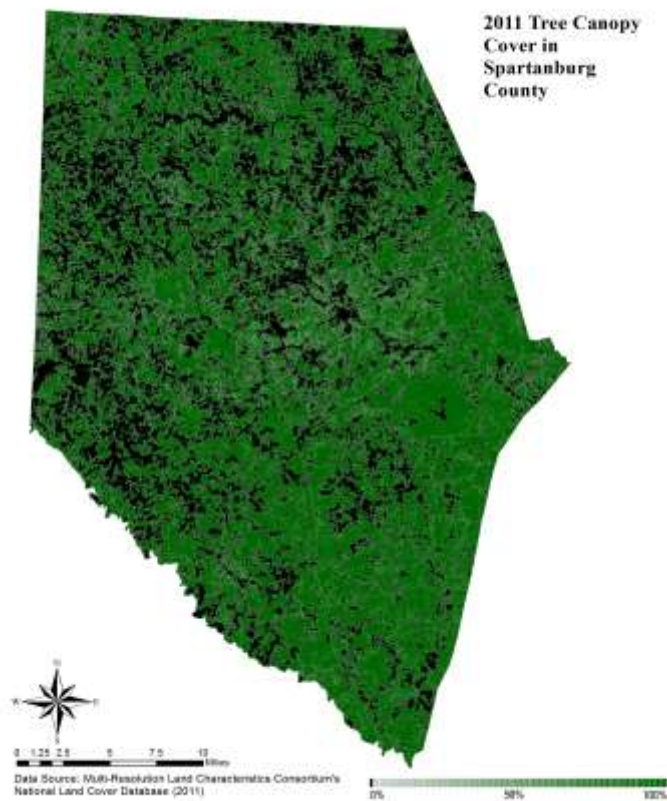
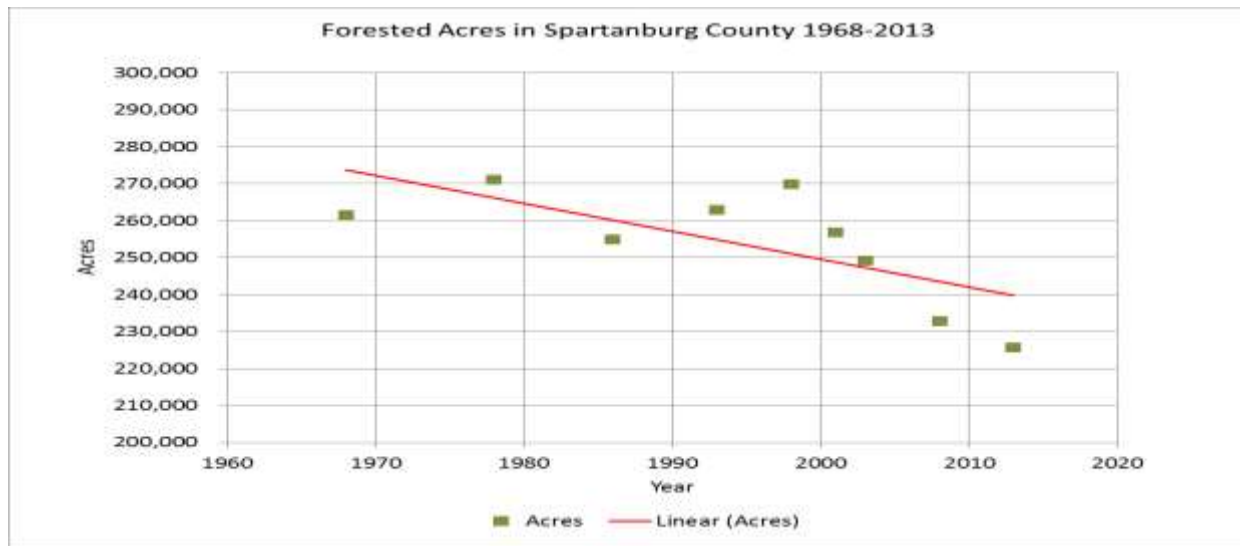
PdD3	Pacolet, severely eroded	85	0.7	3,724	3,165.40			Very limited, slope	
PdE3	Pacolet, severely eroded	91	1.4	7,223	6,572.93	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope
PeE2	Pacolet, moderately eroded	60 *		380	228.00	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope
PeE2	Bethlehem, moderately eroded	30			114.00	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope, depth to bedrock
PeF2	Pacolet, moderately eroded	60 *		230	138.00	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope
PeF2	Bethlehem, moderately eroded	35			80.50	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope, depth to bedrock
PhD	Pacolet	45 *		790	355.50			Very limited, slope	
PhD	Hard Labor	40			316.00			Very limited, slope	
PsD	Pacolet	53 *		446	236.38			Very limited, slope	
PsD	Saw	33			147.18		Very limited, depth to hard bedrock, slope	Very limited, slope, depth to hard bedrock	
ToA	Toccoa, frequently flooded	86	4.7	24,737	21,273.82	Very limited, flooding	Very limited, flooding, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, flooding	Very limited, flooding, depth to saturated zone, seepage bottom layer
UaE	Udorthents	100	0.4	1,880	1,880.00			Very limited, slope	Very limited, slow water movement, slope
UcC	Cecil	45	9.2	47,174	21,228.30			Very limited, slope	
WhB	Whistlestop, rarely flooded	92	0.2	1,134	1,043.28	Very limited, flooding	Very limited, flooding, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, flooding	Very limited, depth to saturated zone, slow water movement
WnC2	Wynott, moderately eroded	87 *		390	339.30			Very limited, slope	Very limited, slow water movement, depth to bedrock

WrB2	Wynott, moderately eroded	55	0.2	962	529.10				Very limited, slow water movement, depth to bedrock
WrB2	Brewback, moderately eroded	40			384.80	Very limited, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, depth to saturated zone, slow water movement, depth to bedrock
WrC2	Wynott, moderately eroded	55	0.5	2,393	1,316.15			Very limited, slope	Very limited, slow water movement, depth to bedrock
WrC2	Brewback, moderately eroded	45			1,076.85	Very limited, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, depth to saturated zone	Very limited, depth to saturated zone, slope	Very limited, depth to saturated zone, slow water movement, depth to bedrock
WwB2	Wynott, moderately eroded	60 *		231	138.60				Very limited, slow water movement, depth to bedrock
WwB2	Wilkes, moderately eroded	40			92.40		Very limited, depth to soft bedrock, depth to hard bedrock		Very limited, depth to bedrock
WwE2	Wynott, moderately eroded	55	0.8	4,162	2,289.10	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slow water movement, slope, depth to bedrock
WwE2	Wilkes, moderately eroded	45			1,872.90	Very limited, slope	Very limited, slope, depth to hard bedrock	Very limited, slope, depth to hard bedrock	Very limited, depth to bedrock, slope
				<b>Total Acres Very Limited</b>	<b>325,128.41</b>				
				<b>Total Acres in County*</b>	<b>523,700.00</b>				
				<b>% Acres Very Limited by One or More Constraints</b>	<b>62.08%</b>				

**Table 4: Soils Building and Development Constraints Calculations Table**

## Forest

Figure 10. Forested Acres in Spartanburg County 1968-2013



The SC Forestry Commission estimated that 225,640 acres or 43.5% of land in Spartanburg County was forest in 2013. In 1978, it was estimated at about 271,113 acres or 52.2%. The result is an 8.7% loss of overall acreage in 35 years, and a 16.7% change in acreage for forested land.

Figure 11. Tree Canopy Cover in Spartanburg in 2011



## Wildlife

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) maintains a list of rare, threatened, and endangered species in Spartanburg County (see Table 4.)

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species and Communities Known to Occur in Spartanburg County  
June 11, 2014

Scientific Name	Common Name	USESA Designation	State Protection	Global Rank	State Rank
<b>Vertebrate Animals</b>					
<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus</i>	Meadow Vole			G5	SNR
<b>Vascular Plants</b>					
<i>Aconitum uncinatum</i>	Blue Monkshood			G4	S2
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i> ssp. <i>canadensis</i>	Enchanter's Nightshade			G5T5	S3
<i>Cypripedium pubescens</i>	Large Yellow Lady's-slipper			G5	S3
<i>Fothergilla major</i>	Mountain Witch-alder			G3	S2
<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>	Tesberry			G5	S3
<i>Hackelia virginiana</i>	Virginia Stickseed			G5	S1
<i>Helianthus laevis</i>	Smooth Sunflower			G4	S2
<i>Helianthus porteri</i>	Porter's Goldeneye			G4	S1
<i>Hexastylis naniflora</i>	Dwarf-flowered Heartleaf	LT: Threatened		G3	S3
<i>Isoetes piedmontana</i>	Piedmont Quillwort			G4	S2
<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Butternut			G4	S3
<i>Juncus georgianus</i>	Georgia Rush			G4	S2
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Ground Juniper			G5	SNR
<i>Lonicera flava</i>	Yellow Honeysuckle			G5?	S2
<i>Lygodium palmatum</i>	Climbing Fern			G4	S3
<i>Melanthium virginicum</i>	Virginia Bunchflower			G5	S2
<i>Minuartia uniflora</i>	One-flower Stitchwort			G4	S3
<i>Monotropa odorata</i>	Sweet Pinesap			G3	S2
<i>Nestronia umbellula</i>	Nestronia			G4	S3
<i>Rhododendron eastmanii</i>	May White			G2	S2
<i>Solidago bicolor</i>	White Goldenrod			G5	S2
<b>Communities</b>					
Chestnut oak forest				G5	S4S5
Cove forest				G5	S4
Mesic mixed hardwood forest				G5	S4
Oak - hickory forest				G5	S5
Piedmont seepage forest				G2	S1
<b>Geological</b>					
Granitic flatrock				G3	S2
Monadnock				GNR	SNR
Outcrop				GNR	SNR

**Table 5. Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species and Communities Known to Occur in Spartanburg County as of June 11, 2014 (Source: [dnr.sc.gov](http://dnr.sc.gov))**

\*\*\***GRANK** - the Nature Conservancy rating of degree of endangerment world-wide:

**G2** - Imperiled globally because of rarity or factor(s) making it vulnerable

**G3** - Either very rare throughout its range or found locally in a restricted range, or having factors making it vulnerable

**G4** - Apparently secure globally, though it may be rare in parts of its range

**G5** - Demonstrably secure globally, though it may be rare in parts of its range

**G?** - Status unknown

**T# - Intraspecific Taxon** (trinomial)-The status of infraspecific taxa (subspecies or varieties) are indicated by a "T-rank" following the species' global rank. Rules for assigning T-ranks follow the same principles outlined above for global conservation status ranks. For example, the global rank of a critically imperiled subspecies of an otherwise widespread and common species would be G5T1. A T-rank cannot imply the subspecies or variety is more abundant than the species as a whole-for example, a G1T2 cannot occur. A vertebrate animal population, such as those listed as distinct population segments under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, may be considered an infraspecific taxon and assigned a T-rank; in such cases a Q is used after the T-rank to denote the taxon's informal taxonomic status.

**?- Inexact Numeric Rank**- Denotes inexact numeric rank (e.g., G2?)

\*\***SRANK** - the Nature Conservancy rating of degree of endangerment in South Carolina:

**S1** - Critically imperiled state-wide because of extreme rarity or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extirpation

**S2** - Imperiled state-wide because of rarity or factor(s) making it vulnerable

**S3** - Rare or uncommon in state

**S4** - Apparently secure in state

**S5** - Demonstrably secure in state

**S?** - Status unknown

**SNR - Unranked**-Nation or state/province conservation status not yet assessed.

### US Endangered Species Act (USES) Designation:

**LE** Endangered- A species "in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range."

**LT** Threatened- A species "likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range."

**C** Candidate- A species under consideration for official listing for which there is sufficient information to support listing

**SC** Species of Concern – Species that have not been petitioned or been given E, T, or C status but have been identified as important to monitor

DNR creates and enforces hunting and fishing regulations, keeps an inventory of rare, threatened, and endangered species, implements conservation plans, tracks data, and provides educational resources on a variety of topics related to wildlife. Current information regarding hunting and fishing regulations can be found at <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/regulations.html>.

Dispersed or sprawling land patterns can cause problems for habitats. Acquiring large parcels of land in Spartanburg County is difficult and is therefore, breaking up habitat. According to DNR, "Habitat loss not only affects the area in which the species can live, it also affects food availability and availability of suitable nesting and breeding areas...Species at the edge of their range or in marginal habitats need to be able to migrate or disperse to adjust to changing habitat conditions."

In 2010, Upstate Forever created the "Special Places Inventory" that used layers of data on the presence of habitat and wildlife, which revealed six areas in the county that should be prioritized for protection.

## Protected Space

Protected space can be in the form of conservation easements, public parks, and trails. These spaces provide scenic views, air and water filtration, habitat, and recreational space. Figure 12 shows the protected space in Spartanburg County. It is estimated that about 14,763.6 acres or 2.86% of land is protected space.



Figure 12. Protected Space in Spartanburg County in 2014

The purpose of a conservation easement is to conserve land that benefits the public. Conservation easements are held by organizations known as land trusts and are voluntary agreements between landowners and the easement holder that the land will not be developed. Common restrictions include keeping trees greater than a certain size, and not building structures on the land.

There are three land trusts that hold conservation easements in Spartanburg County and are accredited by the Land Trust Alliance; Spartanburg Area Conservancy (SPACE), Upstate Forever (UF), and Pacolet Area Conservancy (PAC). Together they have conserved over 5,710.6 acres in Spartanburg County.

Type	Acres	Percent Total Land Area
Land Trusts*	5,710.6	1.10%
Croft State Park**	7,053.0	1.36%
Municipal Parks & Trails***	1,000.0	0.19%
Utility Easements***	1,000.0	0.19%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>14,763.60</b>	<b>2.86%</b>

\*Source: Land trusts

\*\*Source: southcarolinaparks.com

\*\*\*Estimated

**Table 6. Total Estimated Amount of Protected Space in Spartanburg County**

Public parks may be owned by towns, cities, counties, states, or the federal government. The Spartanburg County Parks Department has identified 100 parks in the county. These can be found on their website, <http://spartanburgparks.org/parks/>, along with several parks-related programs, plans, and reports. Croft State Park is the largest park and protected space in the county at 7,053 acres.

Scenic views may include historic or cultural landmarks or other parts of the built environment. Spartanburg County has beautiful views of mountains, farms, forests, lakes, creeks, rivers, and rolling hills, which are threatened by a loss of forested land. Interstates I-26 and I-85 are where many views are appreciated; local highways and waterbodies are other places from which scenic views are enjoyed. The mountains can be seen from many places in the northern part of the county including Interstate 26. The Cherokee Foothills National Scenic Highway 11 through the northern part of the county provides views of farms and rolling hills and is a popular route for cyclists. Other scenic corridors include SC Highway 9, SC Highway 56, SC Highway 110 (Battleground Road), and SC Highway 80 (J Verne Smith Parkway). *The Spartanburg County Tourism Action Plan and Feasibility Study* (TAP) contains an inventory of historic and cultural sites.

## Nature-Based Recreation and Tourism

The Spartanburg County Council has made it a goal to “capitalize on natural resources and tourism opportunities.” Some of the physical components of nature-based recreation and tourism in Spartanburg County are parks, preserves, easements, trails, lakes, rivers, creeks, viewsheds, farms, and ball fields. Additionally, the county offers five arboreta, two ropes courses, an outdoor skate park, a BMX track, a pump track, equestrian trails and facilities, camping, tennis, golf, outdoor basketball, swimming pools, and several disc golf courses.

*The Spartanburg County Tourism Action Plan and Feasibility Study* estimated that Spartanburg County could receive \$625 million from travelers by 2020. There are two trail plans currently being implemented- the Spartanburg County *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan* and the *Spartanburg Trails & Greenways Plan*. Existing trails in the county total over 100 miles. One of the most recent amenities to be developed in Spartanburg County is blueways, otherwise known

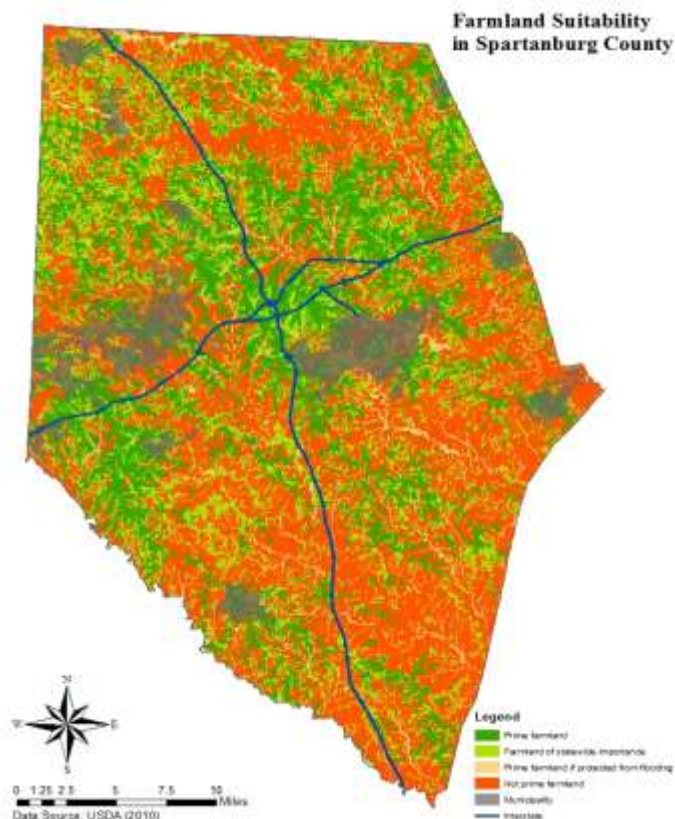
as water trails, which provide opportunities for activities like paddling, fishing, and swimming. The focus has been on creating access to several points for put-ins and take-outs along the Pacolet River, Tyger Rivers, and Lawson's Fork Creek as well as mapping access points. There are several partners in this area, some of which include the Palmetto Conservation Foundation (PCF), Tyger River Foundation, Spartanburg County Parks and Recreation Department, Spartanburg Area Conservancy (SPACE), Upstate Forever, Town of Pacolet, and Pacolet-Milliken.

Partners for Active Living (PAL) coordinates multiple recreationally-focused events and programs. One of their largest is the annual Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System Criterium, an annual bike race in downtown Spartanburg that brings in about \$25,000 to local businesses. They were also a leader in the creation of the Mary Black Foundation Rail Trail, and the Bike-Friendly Community and Playful City USA designations.

With expenses in FY 2014 totaling \$7,182,422 and revenues in FY 2014 totaling \$7,747,627, Spartanburg County Parks and Recreation Department is a key player in nature-based recreation and tourism in the county and is working to provide recreation opportunities for all users in their parks by including multiple strategies and goals to this point in its 2014-2018 Strategic Plan. For example, one of their goals is to “promote nature-based tourism and appreciation for Spartanburg County’s natural resources by working together with public and private organizations to develop nature parks, walking/ biking trails, and improved access to rivers and lakes.” They have been partnering with multiple organizations within the county to implement this goal. The department’s Tyger River Park hosted outdoor baseball and softball tournaments in 2012 that had an estimated impact of \$17,615,055 in the county.

The Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB) partners with other organizations to promote nature-based recreation and tourism in the county. On their website and in their visitors guide, there are sections on recreation, sports, and agritourism. The SCVB has promoted trails, cycling, and paddling.

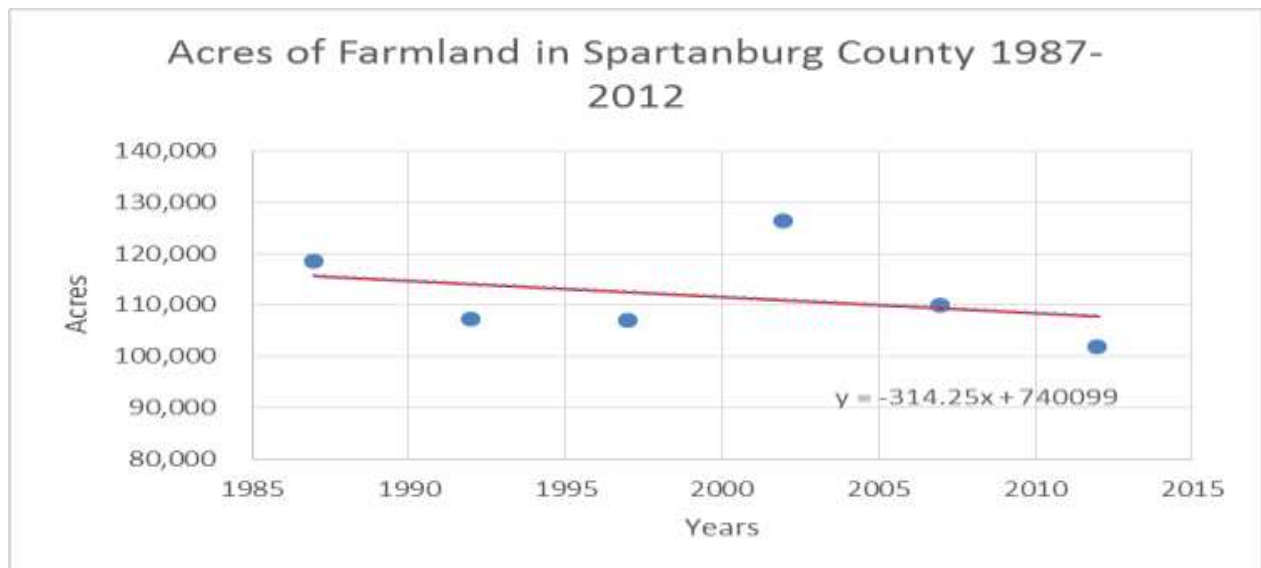
**See the Community Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan for more details.**



## Agriculture

Prime farmland is one of several kinds of important farmland defined by the USDA as soils that are best suited to producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. Prime farmland soils have properties that are favorable for the production of sustained high yield of crops with minimal input of energy and economic resources.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) data from 2014 show that adequate farmland decreased 8.9% from 2012. About 101,849 acres or 19.7% of Spartanburg County's land was farmland in 2012. This is down from 109,917 acres or 21.3% in 2007. Overall, farmland has been lost at a rate of about 314.25 acres per year in Spartanburg County since 1987.

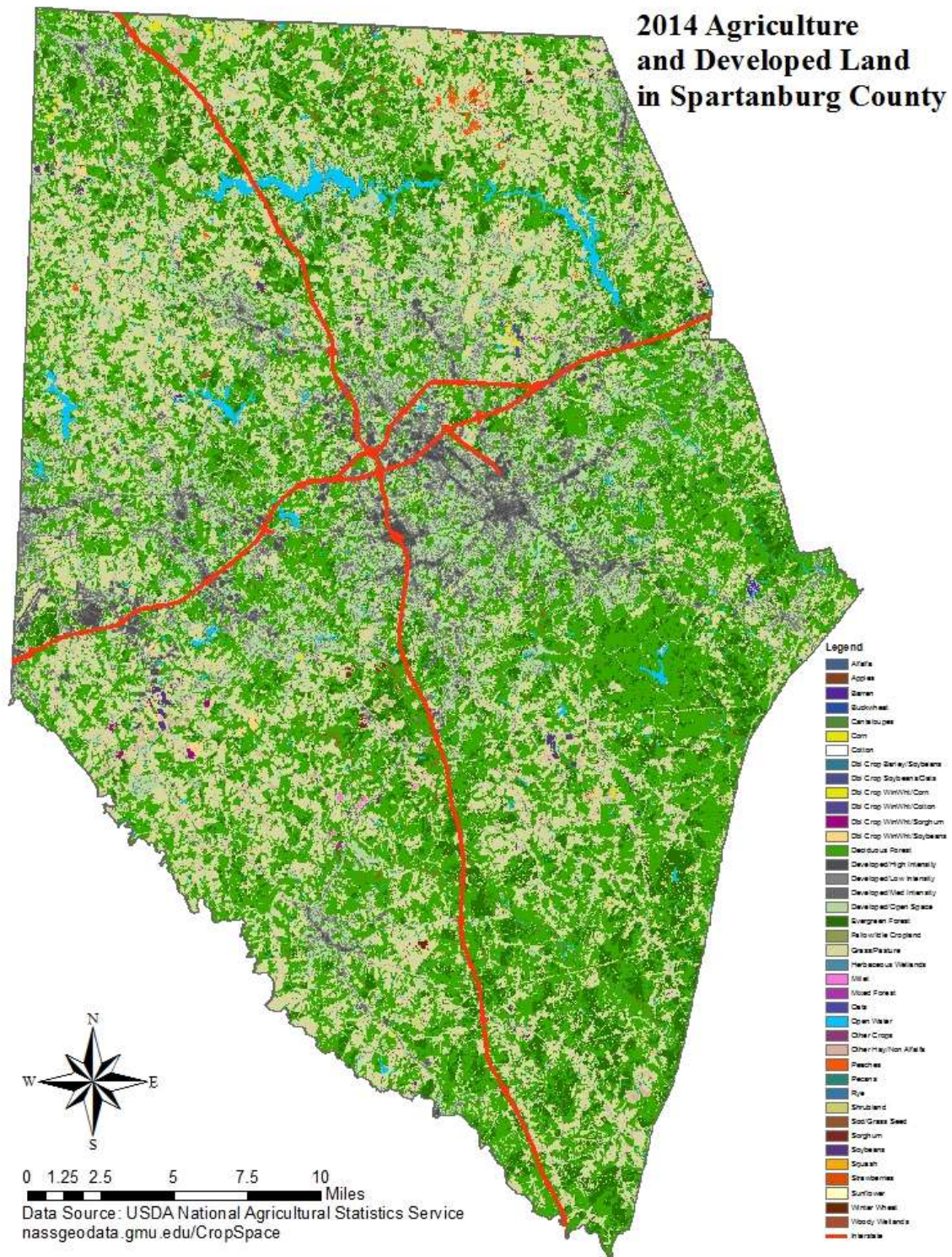


**Figure 14. Acres of Farmland in Spartanburg County 1987-2012** (Data Source: USDA Census of Agriculture)

The Natural Resource Conservation Service along with Spartanburg Soil and Water Conservation District and Clemson Extension help farmers and landowners manage their soils through various programs, minimizing erosion and nutrient loss, and helping to keep soil healthy and productive.

A large portion of the County with soils most suitable for farming, are not currently subject to heavy development pressures.





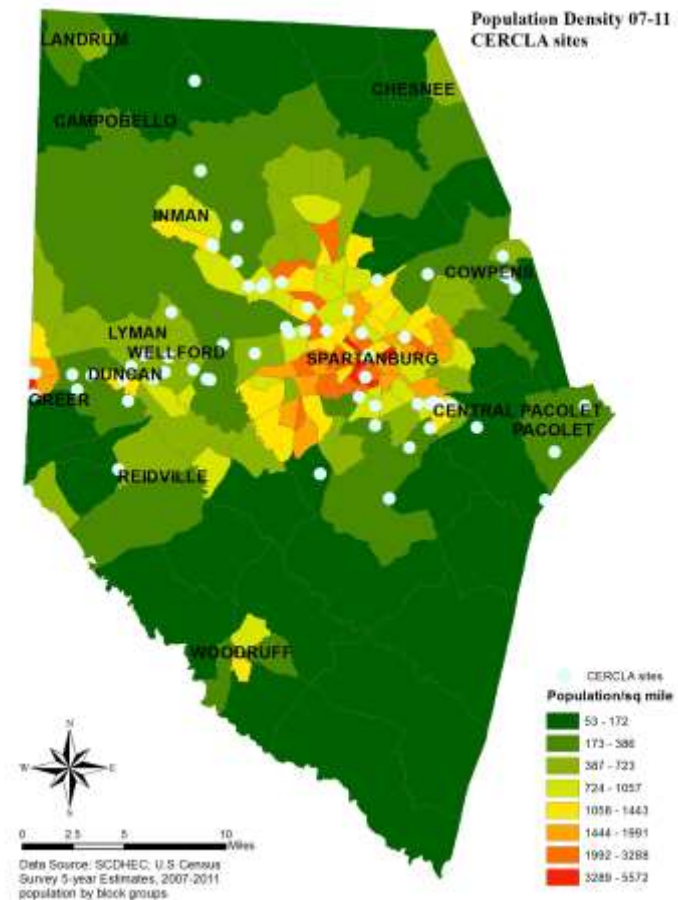
**Figure 15. Agriculture and Developed Land in Spartanburg County in 2014**

## Environmental Hazards

Superfund sites, also known as CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act) sites, are hazardous waste sites that have been abandoned and are in the process of being assessed and cleaned up by the EPA and other partners. In Spartanburg County, there are 28 of these sites. Sites in the Superfund process in Spartanburg County in 2014 are shown in Table 7. “NPL” means that the site is on the National Priorities List and remedial actions are needed. In the NPL status column, “F” means it is on the final NPL and “N” means it is not on the NPL, but is somewhere else in the Superfund process. The “Non-NPL” column shows where the site is in the Superfund process:

- RO Removal Only Site (No Site Assessment Work Needed)
- NF Site does not qualify for the NPL based on existing information
- RW Referred to Removal
- Further Assessment Needed
- OS Other Cleanup Activity: State-Lead Cleanup
- SA Remedial Activities under EPA Enforcement

The two Spartanburg County sites on the final NPL are Aqua-Tech Environmental, Inc. (Groce Labs) in Greer from groundwater and soil contamination from metals, PCBs, and VOCs; and Elmore Waste Disposal in Greer from groundwater and soil contamination from metals and VOCs. Aqua-Tech has completed cleanup and is being monitored until its goals are met, and Elmore continues to be cleaned up.



**Figure 16. CERCLA Sites and Population Density in Spartanburg County**



Site Name	City	County	State	Non-NPL Status Code	Non-NPL Status Date	NPL Status Code
AQUA-TECH ENVIRONMENTAL INC (GROCE LABS)	GREER	SPARTANBURG	SC	[Blank Code]	[Blank Date]	F
ARKWRIGHT DUMP	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	OS	7/2/2008	N
BABB DRUMS	LITTLE CHICAGO	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	8/6/1992	N
BABB ROAD MERCURY RELEASE	INMAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	RO	5/25/2011	N
BUFF ( C D ) SITE	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	1/1/1985	N
CUSTOM WORKS PLATING- HIGH STREET	DUNCAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	RW	10/2/2008	N
CUSTOM WORKS PLATING- INMAN ROAD	LYMAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	RW	9/30/2008	N
DUNCAN DRUM BURIAL SITE	DUNCAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	11/2/2001	N
ELMORE WASTE DISPOSAL	GREER	SPARTANBURG	SC	[Blank Code]	[Blank Date]	F
FOURMILE BRANCH WATERSHED	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	8/20/2013	N
FREE RADIATOR SHOP	LYMAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	RO	6/23/2003	N
GAO 148 - PALMETTO WOODRUFF	WOODRUFF	SPARTANBURG	SC	RO	5/11/2009	N
GAO 219 - RIVER FARM	WOODRUFF	SPARTANBURG	SC	RO	5/11/2009	N
I-85 DISTRIBUTION CENTER	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	10/13/2000	N
INA BEARING CO., INC.	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	9/11/1995	N
INTERNATIONAL MINERALS AND CHEMICALS (IMC)	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	SA	4/11/2003	N
JACKSON ROAD AREA WELLS SITE	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	8/10/2000	N
LYMAN DYEING AND FINISHING	LYMAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	SA	4/11/2003	N
LYMAN PLATING DUMP	LYMAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	RO	8/7/2013	N
LYMAN W ASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT	LYMAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	5/8/2001	N
MARSHALL MOORE DRUM FACILITY	DUNCAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	9/26/1996	N
PRICE HOUSE ROAD VERMICULITE SITE	WOODRUFF	SPARTANBURG	SC	RO	5/7/2012	N
SPARTANBURG TRANSFORMERS	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	9/17/2002	N
STATEWIDE WASTE OIL & CHEMICAL CO	WELLFORD	SPARTANBURG	SC	SO	8/17/1995	N
TEXACO TERMINAL	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	8/30/2000	N
THREE-MILE CREEK CONTAMINATION	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	9/25/2009	N
TURPIN ROAD LANDFILL	INMAN	SPARTANBURG	SC	NF	10/15/2007	N
WHITNEY MILL ASBESTOS	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG	SC	RO	10/19/2009	N

Table 7. Superfund Sites in Spartanburg County in 2014 (Source: EPA, Kathleen Brady, Ph.D, Metropolitan Studies Institute)

According to DHEC, all mines in Spartanburg County are surface mines. They pose potential threats to air and water quality and their walls, steep slopes, and explosions pose safety hazards. There are 66 mines in Spartanburg County. The Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act require local governments to have emergency response plans prepared in the event of the release of hazardous substances. Spartanburg County does have a committee organized to address these needs as well as a Hazards Plan and a HAZMAT plan.

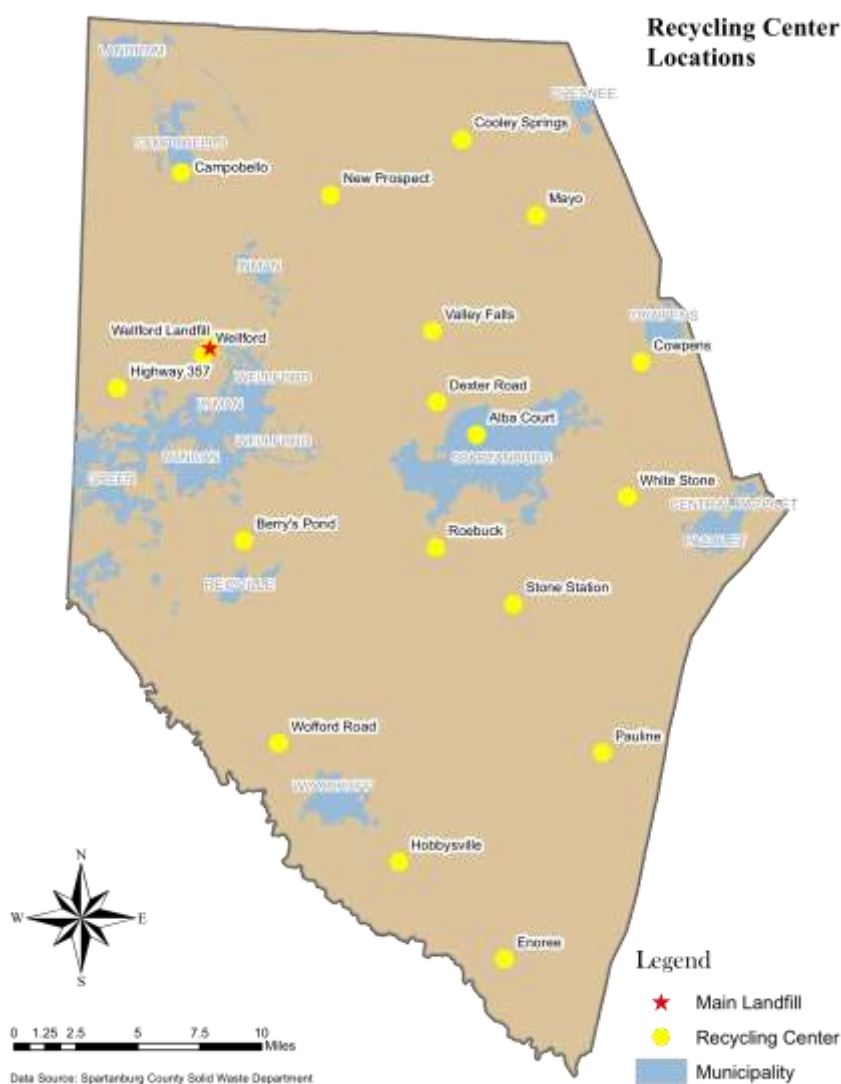
Solid waste is a highly regulated industry and DHEC closely tracks environmental aspects of the solid waste in the county including air quality and water quality. New Class 3 landfills require liners which are intended to prevent liquids generated from the waste from seeping into water sources. Spartanburg County hosted and coordinated the 7th Annual Household Hazardous Waste event for residents of Spartanburg County in 2015. The event has been very successful at keeping tons of hazardous waste out of the landfill. Spartanburg County has solid waste management ordinances and a Solid Waste Management Plan that was updated in 2011.

DHEC and Spartanburg County are focusing on increasing recycling rates in order to divert waste from landfills and increase solid waste revenues. As stated in DHEC's 2013 Solid Waste Management Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2013, "While all solid waste management options have a cost, recycling is the only choice that offers the opportunity to save money (reduced disposal costs) and earn revenue (from the sale of recyclables)." In 2014, the County Solid Waste Department started the Community Clean-Up events as well as outreach and education including public events, school programs, newsletters, and social media informing residents about recycling, composting, and ways to keep solid waste from polluting the environment.

## Goals and Objectives

**Creation by the county of a resource information repository** utilizing GIS Technology to help property owners and developers identify site specific resources and development limitations, to include:

- Wetlands



**Figure 1. Recycling Center Locations in Spartanburg County**

- Soil conditions and limitations
- Flood plains
- Forest resources
- Rare and endangered plants and wildlife habitats
- River utilization classification
- Historical and cultural resources
- Slope

**Preparation and distribution of educational materials** and information relating to the need for and value of incorporating site present natural resources into proposed projects and developments.

**Retention and periodic updating of floodway and flood plain programs regulations.**

**Protection of wetlands**, unique to many parts of the county, by:

- Defining and identifying the location of such lands,
- Alerting developers of need to consult the U.S. Corps of Engineers for a wetlands determination should local data indicate the presence of such lands,
- Establish a **wetlands bank** as a means of compensating for loss of bottomlands caused by development and subsequently expediting the development process.

**Investigate the use of incentives** for developers and landowners who contribute to resource conservation.

## Implementation Strategies

Some resources to begin with are The American Planning Association [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org), [www.planetizen.com](http://www.planetizen.com), publications by Randall Arendt, the US Green Building Council <http://www.usgbc.org> and the National Association of Homebuilders <http://www.nahb.org/>. Spartanburg County must adhere to floodplain regulations set by FEMA and the EPA. In addition, the County has adopted local management guidelines that include floodplains: *Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (2010)*, *Spartanburg County Storm Water Management Ordinance (2009- in the process of being updated)* and *Spartanburg County Storm Water Management Design Manual (2009- in the process of being updated)*. Additional information on floodplains is available to the public on the County's website under "Public Works", then "Engineering". The most accurate floodplain maps are available for public viewing at the Engineering office.

Most wetlands are located in the floodplain and so can be found on the floodplain maps, but not all. Wetlands not on the map will be found when developers start a new project because the County reminds developers and engineers that a submittal of the project to the local district of the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) is required. Once the process with ACE is complete, the County requires a copy of the ACE permit and, if impacts are significant also a DHEC permit, before a stormwater/ grading permit will be issued.

# Cultural Resources



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## Element

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*South Carolina Code of Laws (6-29-510): (D) A local comprehensive plan must include . . .  
(4) a cultural resources element which considers historic buildings and structures,  
commercial districts, residential districts, unique, natural, or scenic resources,  
archaeological, and other cultural resources.*

## Cultural Resources Introduction

Culture can be defined in many ways, but cultural issues in the context of this Comprehensive Plan are economic development and quality of life issues. For the purposes of this Element, we will look at those resources in our community that define its livability, that make it a more attractive and interesting place to live, that attract visitors and new residents to come here, and that bring us together as a community. We will examine the importance of the resources to the community and opportunities to protect and enhance them in order for the community to gain economic, aesthetic, recreation, and tourism advantages.

A healthy community fosters a wide variety of opportunities for its citizens to gain knowledge and appreciation of history and the arts and to enjoy public buildings, spaces, and events. These communities sponsor and promote activities to enrich the lives of their citizens and support a built environment that is beautiful and lively. Vibrant cultural activities coupled with preservation of historically significant sites and the making of great public "spaces" and vistas is vital to attracting those who will invest in the local economy.

In order to discuss the County's historical and cultural resources, we must consider the richness of the assets found all across the County, including those within the municipalities. The City of Spartanburg, the County Seat and the largest municipality in the County, is home to the largest concentration of cultural resources and protected historic resources. The County's thirteen other municipalities are certainly rich in history, participate in the arts, and hold their own cultural events. Some even have their own museums and historical associations. Vibrant, active cities are critical to a healthy county.

In the years since the adoption of the 1998 Spartanburg County Comprehensive Plan and the first Cultural Plan for Spartanburg County in 1992, much progress has been made. From the building of the Chapman Cultural Center to the strides in arts accessibility and education, cultural offerings in Spartanburg County have moved light years ahead. However, there is still room to grow and more to achieve. The County has continued to focus on tourism and economic development through plans like the Spartanburg County Tourism Action Plan and the Spartanburg County Strategic Plan. This element will seek to promote these goals and expand upon them with specific action steps for promoting the historical and cultural resources in a way that will continue to allow Spartanburg County to position itself for economic success.

In an effort to assist the County positioning itself to take full advantage of the opportunities afforded by our rich cultural offerings, the Chapman Cultural Center and Spartanburg County undertook a project to identify and classify cultural assets throughout the County. These assets include public and private venues, art, historical and educational sites, and parks, as well as creative industries and individual artists of all kinds. The County and its municipalities can take advantage, on two fronts, of the economic benefits that can be reaped from these resources:

- 1) to identify clusters of creative industries and implement ways to attract additional such industries to the area and
- 2) to identify and connect clusters of creative people and cultural assets in order to establish cultural districts that will increase tourism dollars.

Read more about our area’s culture and history offerings and their economic impact on the County at the following links.

### **Cultural Arts** (LINK)

Spartanburg County has vast assets that provide not only the opportunity for an enriching cultural experience for its citizens, but also the prospect for economic development. From theatrical productions at the Chapman Cultural Center to the annual International Festival to the fine arts programs at our local public and private institutions, there are many ways for Spartanburg County residents to experience its diverse resources.

### **History** (LINK)

Nationally, history and heritage tourism are on the rise because travelers are seeking distinct experiences in unique places. The key to attracting tourists is the preservation and protection the priceless historical assets that remain in Spartanburg. It is important to continue to recognize and leverage our music, art, military, railroad, and textile histories and celebrate the historical events that have taken place in Spartanburg County.

### **Economic Impact** (LINK)

The economic impact of arts and cultural related events in Spartanburg are big business for the community. In addition to the multi-million dollar economic impacts, the arts and culture industry also significantly boosts tourism. The Arts and Economic Prosperity 5: *The Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts and Cultural Organizations and Their Audiences in the Greater Spartanburg Area (AEP5)*, (conducted by Americans for the Arts) demonstrates that a vibrant arts and cultural community attracts residents to continue to spend their discretionary income close to home and entices nonresidents to visit Spartanburg and help local businesses to thrive. The benefit to a prosperous art and cultural scene is that community leaders can choose to fund the arts as well as support economic development simultaneously. Spartanburg County has great support for the Arts from the private sector through individuals, businesses, and non-profits who have been outstanding partners.

Goals and objectives associated with the Cultural Element are discussed in the **Implementation Plan**. (LINK)



## Cultural Resources Element

### Cultural Arts

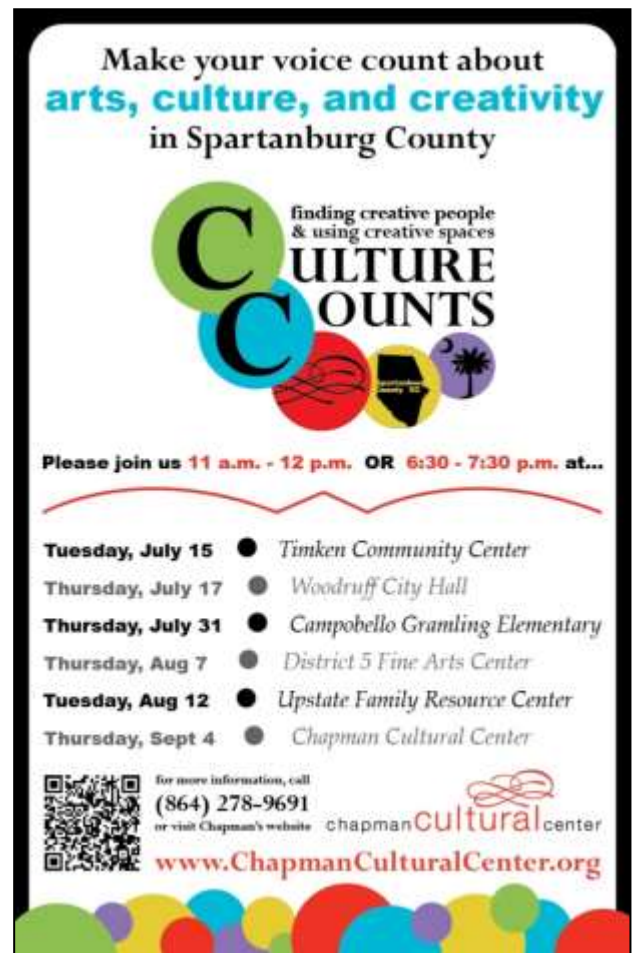
Spartanburg County has vast assets that provide not only the opportunity for an enriching cultural experience for its citizens, but also the prospect for economic development. From theatrical productions at the Chapman Cultural Center to the annual International Festival to the fine arts programs at our local public and private institutional assets, there are many ways for Spartanburg County residents to experience its diverse resources.

### Cultural Planning in Spartanburg County

Through partnership between the Chapman Cultural Center and Spartanburg County an innovative initiative was launched to collect data on the historical and cultural resources in Spartanburg County and within the 14 municipalities therein. What started as a way to map all of these resources within half a mile of the Center quickly became a countywide effort to capture these essential assets. This collaborative, known as Culture Counts, had one main goal; to find creative people and the creative spaces in which they function and to identify the assets within Spartanburg County and its cities that have made or have the potential to make an impact on its citizens.

To start this effort, the staffs at the Chapman Cultural Center and Spartanburg County Planning and Development Department met to map the assets of which they were aware. It was quickly realized that the best way to find resources within Spartanburg County was to ask the community. They believed a comprehensive identification of the assets in Spartanburg was the best way to begin a process for planning for the future.

A series of meetings were held in strategic locations across the county to attract citizens with knowledge of historical and cultural assets to assist in this effort. Beginning the process with a specific list of nationally recognized categories of assets, including performance venues, gallery and exhibit spaces, studios and workshops, public sculptures, public fountains, public murals, museums, green spaces and arboretums, historic sites, as well as public events and festivals, a comprehensive census was conducted of cultural assets and creative industries and people throughout Spartanburg County. A comprehensive list and map were prepared for known assets and creative industries and many were added during the process.

A poster for the 'Culture Counts' initiative. At the top, it says 'Make your voice count about arts, culture, and creativity in Spartanburg County'. Below this is a logo with two large overlapping circles, one green and one blue, containing the letters 'C' and 'C' respectively. To the right of the circles, it says 'finding creative people & using creative spaces' and 'CULTURE COUNTS'. Below the logo, it says 'Please join us 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. OR 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at...'. A list of dates and locations follows: Tuesday, July 15 at Timken Community Center; Thursday, July 17 at Woodruff City Hall; Thursday, July 31 at Campobello Gramling Elementary; Thursday, Aug 7 at District 5 Fine Arts Center; Tuesday, Aug 12 at Upstate Family Resource Center; and Thursday, Sept 4 at Chapman Cultural Center. At the bottom, there is a QR code, contact information (864) 278-9691, and the website www.ChapmanCulturalCenter.org. The bottom of the poster is decorated with a row of colorful circles in green, blue, red, and yellow.

Make your voice count about  
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**Thursday, Sept 4** ● Chapman Cultural Center

for more information, call  
(864) 278-9691  
or visit Chapman's website [www.ChapmanCulturalCenter.org](http://www.ChapmanCulturalCenter.org)



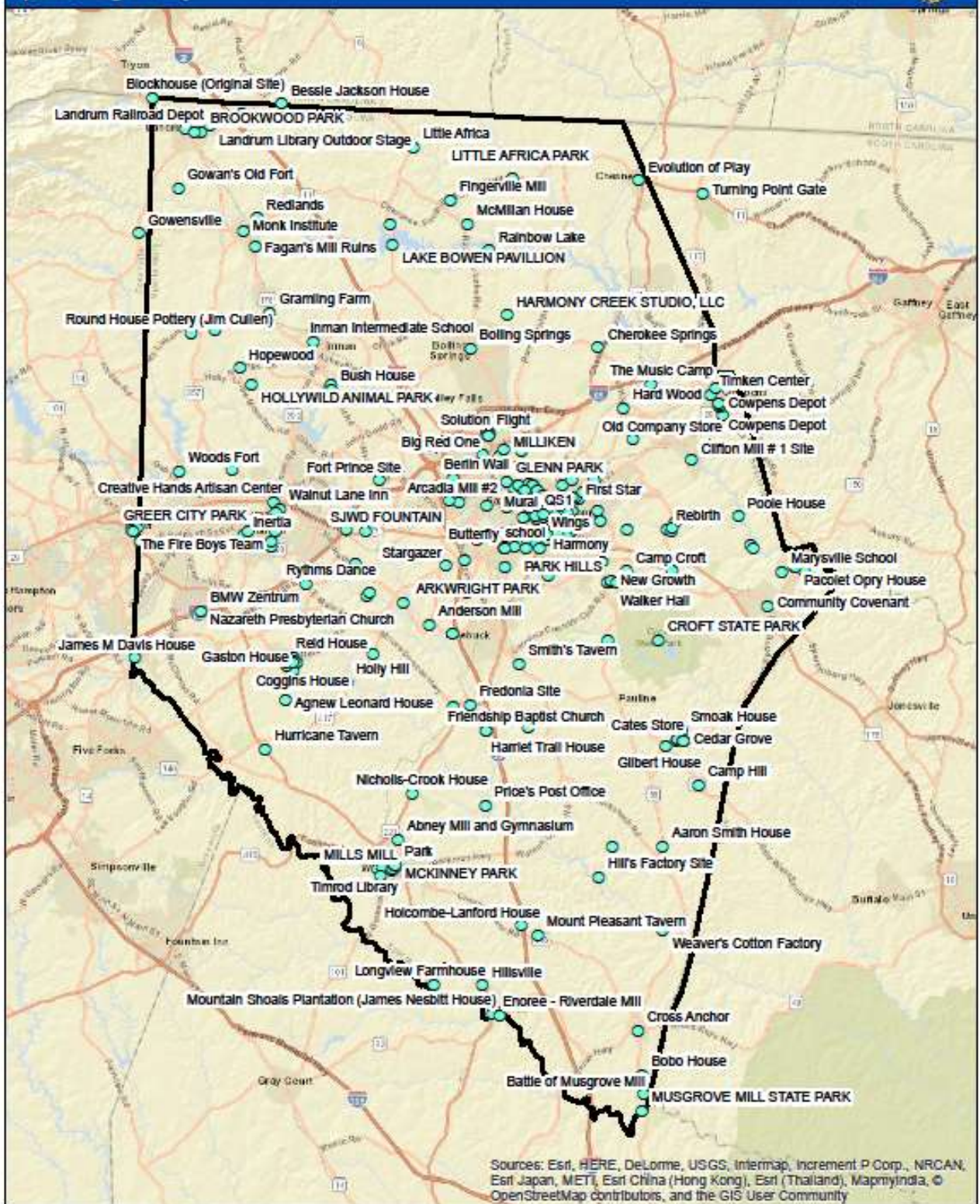
## **Cultural Assets and Inventory**

What came out of the Culture Counts initiative was a comprehensive list of the cultural assets within Spartanburg County. Through a comprehensive identification and analysis of the information gathered, it quickly became apparent that the County does indeed have clusters of historical and cultural resources. The data collected can help tourism partners develop new strategies for attracting visitors to the County and our small towns.

This information can also position the arts as a promoter for economic development by strengthening existing organizations through new partner identification. In addition, it creates an opportunity for entrepreneurs in the cultural sector to build a community of like-minded individuals who can cultivate this important sector of the local economy. This effort can also aid in creative “place making.” By seeking to recognize a variety of assets in a specific geographic area, the Culture Counts endeavor can also help the County or a municipality to capitalize on a unique aspect of their area and become a destination for that specific niche.

## Cultural Assets

### Spartanburg County



## The Arts Partnership of Greater Spartanburg

Created in 1994 as a product of a Cultural Plan for Spartanburg County (1992), The Arts Partnership (TAP) is the officially-designated local arts agency for Spartanburg County. TAP functions as an umbrella agency for most of our organized cultural groups. The mission of this 25-member board is to provide "cultural leadership for Greater Spartanburg by developing, strengthening and promoting the excellence, scope and educational role of the arts, humanities and sciences and furthering their financial strength as well as their significance in the life of our community and the lives of its citizens."

The 1992 Cultural Plan took a comprehensive look at cultural needs and issues facing the County recommending, among other things, that improved cultural facilities be developed in downtown Spartanburg. Much of the Plan, including the \$44.5 million, mostly privately-funded Chapman Cultural Center, has been realized. TAP had boasted the tripling of the size and impact of the cultural community in terms of budget, programs, and services prior to the opening of the Center. The community now anticipates much greater impacts.

TAP, in conjunction with the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce, has developed an online Community Calendar which may be updated by any group who is granted access. The site informs the community of activities at venues throughout the County, including the colleges, the Arts Center, local schools, the Little Theater, etc. One can even set up an e-mail reminder of an event they would like to attend. This link will take you to the online Community Calendar.

[\[https://www.chapmanculturalcenter.org/pages/calendar/landing.aspx\]](https://www.chapmanculturalcenter.org/pages/calendar/landing.aspx)

TAP helps fund through matching grants many activities throughout the County, including a number of annual festivals--Spring Fling and Dickens of a Christmas in Spartanburg, the Mighty Moo Festival in Cowpens, and the Harvest Festival in Inman among them. Individual artists receive grants for professional development. School children are given the opportunity to visit some of the County's historic sites on field trips, as well as participate in after school programs in science, drama, art, and dance. Scholarships in the visual and performing arts are granted annually.

Click on the link for more information on The Arts Partnership - <http://theartspartnership.net/>

## The Arts Partners

The United Arts Fund seeks to consolidate cultural fundraising efforts into one organization for partners of TAP. The United Arts Fund provides over \$700,000 in financial support and services for the following partners:

**Spartanburg Music Foundation** - <http://www.spartanburgphilharmonic.org/>

The Spartanburg Music Foundation, the oldest in the State, was formed over 100 years ago to promote music in the area, to offer opportunities for music education for area youth, and to support the School of Music at Converse College and other colleges. It





sponsors concerts, supports and presents the Spartanburg Symphony Orchestra, the Symphony Chorus, and the Converse College Opera Workshop, and awards music scholarships.

**Spartanburg Little Theatre and Spartanburg Youth Theatre -**

<http://www.spartanburglittletheatre.com/> <http://www.spartanburgyouththeatre.com/>

The Spartanburg Little Theatre was founded in 1946 to stimulate interest in art, music, literature and dramatics. It provides opportunities for trained supervision and direction in amateur dramatics through its presentation of five major productions each year. In addition, it founded the Spartanburg Youth Theatre in 1972, designed to provide young people with exposure to all aspects of live theatrical production. In addition to productions, it offers classes in acting, stage make-up, and other areas to children of all ages. Productions are performed at the Chapman Cultural Center.



imagination never gets old.

**Spartanburg County Historical Association -** <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/>

The Spartanburg County Historical Association was founded in 1957 to preserve and promote the historic legacy of the County. It has played an active role in saving and restoring the Walnut Grove Plantation, the Thomas Price House, and the Jammie Seay House, and is responsible for their management and operation. In addition, the Historical Association established and operates the Regional Museum located at the Chapman Cultural Center. The Spartanburg County Historical Association will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017.



**Artists' Guild of Spartanburg -** <http://artistsguildofspartanburg.com/>

The Artists' Guild of Spartanburg, the oldest in the State, was founded in 1957 and incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1960. The mission of the Guild is an organization of active visual artists designed to encourage the creative growth of its members and to promote an appreciation of art in the community. It sponsors exhibitions of the work of its members and others and runs a gallery in the Arts Center building. The gallery opened in the Chapman Cultural Center in 2007. The Guild will be celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017.



**Ballet Spartanburg -** <http://www.balletspartanburg.com/>

Ballet Spartanburg was formed in 1966 to promote community interest in the art of dance. It has presented a wide range of national and international dance companies in Spartanburg, and in 1976 established the Dance Center to provide training in classical ballet and jazz dance. Today Ballet Spartanburg is recognized as a regional dance company with a

ballet  
spartanburg

fifty  
years  
of  
excellence

commitment to education and outreach activities in the Upstate, with hundreds of dancers at The Dance Center. In addition, they offer lecture/ demonstrations, in-school residencies, after school programs, in-school performances, summer programs for at-risk youth at inner city housing projects, and at the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Spartanburg, and performances at nursing homes, hospitals and community events.

**Spartanburg Science Center** - <http://www.spartanburgsciencecenter.org/>

The Spartanburg Science Center, established in 1977 to foster an appreciation of and respect for the environment and the world of science, provides programs in all major fields of science to many different groups of young people including schools, scouts, parks and recreation programs, summer camps, and others. The Science Center serves thousands of people each year, providing a wide range of participatory programs. The Spartanburg Science Center, located in the Chapman Cultural Center, celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017.



**Spartanburg Art Museum (SAM)** - <http://www.spartanburgartmuseum.org/>

The Spartanburg Art Museum (SAM), housed in the Chapman Cultural Center, provides exhibits, programs, educational trips, workshops, and classes. Among its major activities are the Museum's Art School and Summer Art Camp, which offer a wide range of classes for children and adults; the Sidewalk Art Exhibit and Festival, an annual spring event; the Exhibit Series and Docent Program where visiting artists present gallery talks or lectures; the Gallery, which provides monthly exhibitions of local artists, as well as their permanent collection; and COLORs, which is an after-school outreach program for youth to express their imagination.



Each of the above agencies has its own governing arrangement with volunteer Boards of Directors, but funding and allocations flow from TAP.



## Cultural Grants

**Community Grant Program** - <https://www.chapmanculturalcenter.org/art-grant-applications/#CommunityGrants>

The Community Grant Program, which is open to individual artists and nonprofits / government agencies, awards up to \$5,000 per application on a quarterly basis. Performing, visual, literary, crafts, and folk art are among the various mediums supported. The grants are funded partially by the South Carolina Arts Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the John and Susan Bennett Memorial Arts Fund of the Coastal Community Foundation of South Carolina.

**ArtsXcelerator Grant** – <https://www.chapmanculturalcenter.org/art-grant-applications/#ArtsXcelerator>

ArtsXcelerator Grants are awarded annually to individual artists living in Spartanburg County who work with all creative mediums. The purpose or goal of the proposed project must tie into at least one of the Spartanburg Community Indicators Project areas. This grant awards up to \$10,000 for a project whose objective is to make Spartanburg a more inclusive, stronger, prouder, healthier, and more culturally vibrant community.

**ArtsGrow Grants** – <http://www.southcarolinaarts.com/grants/artists/artsgrowcsavings.shtml>

ArtsGrow, a collaboration between South Carolina Arts Commission and CommunityWorks, is a pilot program that will offer resources for qualifying artists, including a savings program, micro-loans, business venture loans, matching grants, personalized coaching, and workshops.

## The Chapman Cultural Center

Among the goals for facilities and projects identified in the 1998 Comprehensive Plan were increasing the seating capacity of the Little Theatre and relocating it in the proposed Renaissance Project, establishing a new regional museum, renovating the existing Arts Center, and adding space for the Science Center. TAP and the community have come together to bring to fruition a facility far beyond expectations.

The Center strives to “provide cultural leadership for Greater Spartanburg by developing, strengthening, and promoting the scope, excellence and education rolls of the arts, humanities and sciences, and to further their significance in the life of our community and all of its citizens”.



The Center houses most of the organizations associated with TAP in the 80,000 square-foot complex. Three buildings house the 500-seat Community Theater, home of the Spartanburg Little Theater (including the Youth Theater), Spartanburg Museum of Art and Art School, Spartanburg Regional History Museum, Ballet Spartanburg Dance Education Center, Spartanburg Science Center, Spartanburg Artists' Guild Gallery, Music Foundation of Spartanburg, and the offices of The Arts Partnership of Greater Spartanburg.

Today over 358,000 visitors come to the Center to experience, celebrate and discover each year. In the past 10 years the Center has welcomed over 2.6 million people and held more than 390 yearly events thanks to almost 200 volunteers. The Chapman Cultural Center will be celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October 2017. For more information on the Cultural Center click the link - <https://www.chapmanculturalcenter.org/home/>

## **The Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium**

The Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium remains one of South Carolina's largest theaters with 3,406 seats. It opened 1951 and was touted as the "Showplace of the South" and remains today as one of the community's more significant cultural resources. The Auditorium showcases Broadway and musical entertainment. The facility completed a ten million dollar renovation in 2001. New sound, lighting equipment, a spiral orchestra pit, new dressing rooms, an expanded lobby, and one of the largest stages in the southeast. The 15,000 square-foot Arena is suitable for corporate events, consumer shows, banquets, wedding receptions and other special events. In 2016 the Auditorium was voted Best Concert Venue by readers of the Spartanburg Herald Journal.

The original financing of the Auditorium was shared equally by the City of Spartanburg and Spartanburg County, but the General Assembly made provision for Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium Commission in their 1945-1946 session. Today, the Auditorium operates under the direction of an eleven-member Board, nine of whom are appointed by City and County Councils. Two are ex-officio members.



The Comprehensive Plan prepared in 1998 identified three main areas needing improvement if the building was to be adequate for the coming 25 years: 1) ADA compliance in the Auditorium, 2) building improvements, and 3) expansion of exhibit space. Plans were in the process that included major auditorium and exhibition space improvements--expanding the stage, expanding the lobby, automating the orchestra pit, and expanding exhibition space, with a separate lobby. These improvements have been made, and the Auditorium Board is working on plans to make further improvements. The importance of maintaining a first class facility in the County can be measured both in cultural and economic terms.

For more information on the Auditorium click this link - <http://www.crowdpleaser.com/>



## Hub Culture



The award-winning **Hub City Writers Project**, modeled after FDR's National Writers Project, is focused on the local literature. Founded in 1955 by a trio of writers, it's a non-profit, independent press and literary arts organization that publishes place-based books and sponsors readings, writing seminars and contests. The members of Hub City have chronicled many aspects of Spartanburg County in their works, including the textile industry era, the World War II period featuring Camp Croft, and the African-American neighborhood south of Main Street leveled by urban development in the late 1960's and early 1970's.

As of 2014 the organization has published more than 500 writers in 66 books, renovated two historic downtown buildings, given away more than \$20,000 in scholarships to emerging writers, and has sold approximately 150,000 Hub City Press books. Hub City has also commissioned public art, hosted a four-day environmental arts festival, produced concerts and is the driving force behind the Spartanburg Music Trail, which was installed in downtown Spartanburg in January 2011.

For more information click this link - <https://www.hubcity.org/>



**HUB-BUB.com**, began as an online local arts initiative that sought to support and promote local artists, musicians, actors, activists, dancers, and performers. Grown out of the Hub City Writers Project in 2005, their stated mission is: to promote and propel the arts in and around Spartanburg; to emphasize the importance of a healthy, diverse and vibrant arts community to a growing city; to expose the community to non-traditional and progressive art and artists; to support local musicians, songwriters, writers, performers and artists; and to provide a central hub where creative minds come together to meet, share, work, watch, and collaborate. HUB-BUB has an artist-in-residence (AIR) program where artists can live in Spartanburg and work on their art for a year in exchange for community involvement.

From 2006-2015 HUB-BUB had a physical location for the organization at The Showroom Gallery & Performance Hall that featured art exhibits, discussion of community issues, live music, films, and literary events on over 100 nights throughout the year. In summer 2017 HUB-BUB became a division of the Chapman Cultural Center and relocated their offices to E. St. John Street. For more information on the Showroom click this link - <http://hub-bub.com/>

## Public Art and Public Spaces

In addition to the Chapman Cultural Center, the Spartanburg County Library Headquarters, the Wofford College campus, the Converse College campus, the Visitor's Center and an up and-coming-downtown, there are many enjoyable public spaces and artworks in the City of Spartanburg.

### Morgan Square

Morgan Square has existed in one form or another since 1789. Over the years the City has transformed the space to accommodate public art, events such as Spring Fling and Skating on the Square, and outdoor performances such as Music on Main and Jazz on the Square. The historic statue of Revolutionary War General Daniel Morgan, originally erected on the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens, is located in the Square.



### A City of Fountains and Sculptures

The City of Spartanburg, along with private enterprise, has made Spartanburg a "City of Fountains." There are numerous fountains and public works of art located all around the City of Spartanburg.

### Barnet Park

A goal identified in the 1998 Comprehensive Plan was to construct an amphitheater in the proposed Renaissance Project area. The Zimmerli Amphitheater was constructed in Barnet Park in 1999 and has approximately 1,100 fixed seats and 4,900 terraced lawn seating. It is used for many public outdoor programs such as Red, White and Boom and the International Festival. Other amenities of the Park are its interactive splash pad for kids and beautiful public art. It is alive with activity for most of the year.



## Northside Artlets

<https://www.chapmanculturalcenter.org/northside-artlets/>

These Artlets, designed by Eli Blasko, provide front porch meeting places where neighbors could gather and showcase their talent. The Artlets were funded through NEA and dozens of local partners. In conjunction with Spartanburg Community College four Northside residents received on-site workforce training and earned an NCCER certificate which now makes them eligible for a variety of construction jobs.



## Lighten Up Spartanburg

When Lighten Up Spartanburg, an innovative idea by the Spartanburg Art Museum (SAM), began in 2016 the main goals were to continue to build cultural vitality in Spartanburg, expand local economy through tourism, foster connections between local business and the arts and support regional artists. SAM commissioned 28 six-foot fiberglass lightbulbs and gave them to 36 local and regional artists, architects and designers to paint, sculpt, and decorate. The newly designed lightbulbs were installed in outdoor spaces throughout Spartanburg, but particularly in the Spartanburg Downtown Cultural District.





## Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light - <http://seeingspartanburg.com/>

Lighten Up Spartanburg spearheaded by SAM complements Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light which is public art project funded by a \$1 million grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies. The City of Spartanburg was selected as one of four cities to participate in a new program to support temporary public art projects that celebrate creativity, enhance urban identity, encourage public-private partnerships, and drive economic development. The project brought 9 temporary art installations to public spaces in 10 neighborhoods in the city. Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light was built on National Night Out which is an annual event that promotes crime prevention efforts, police-community partnership, and neighborhood camaraderie. This project was a partnership between the City of Spartanburg Police and Community Relations Departments, renowned light and digital media artist Erwin Redl, the Chapman Cultural Center, and neighborhood associations in the city.

For a map of the sites, click this link: <http://seeingspartanburg.com/sites/>



## Spartanburg Downtown Cultural District

In November 2016, with the help of the Chapman Cultural Center's Culture Counts initiative, the Spartanburg Downtown Cultural District was launched. The District, one of the first in the State designated by the SC Arts Commission, was formed under the new legislation (Act 232 of 2014) passed by the SC General Assembly in June of 2014. (See below.) The District hosts over 1,000 event opportunities for the public annually. Located within the District are:

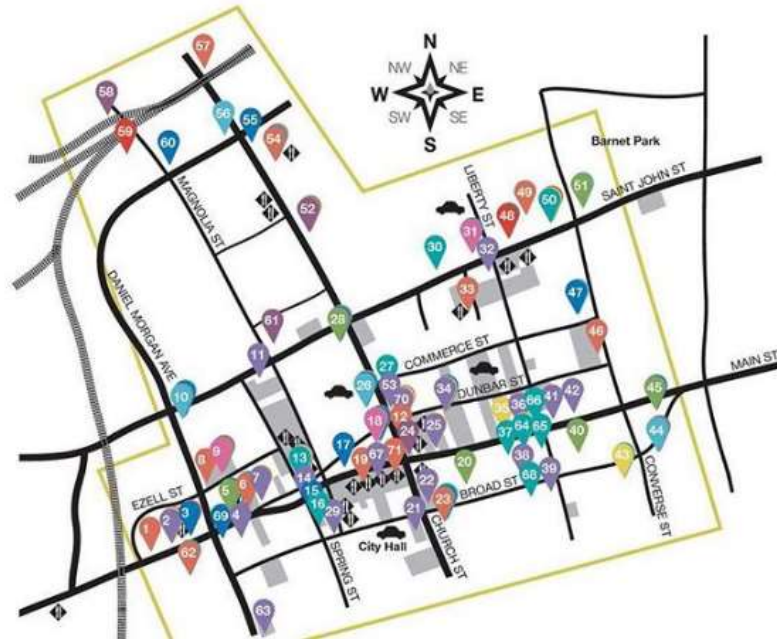
- 2 hotels and conference centers
- 5 museums
- 20+ restaurants
- 30 indoor and outdoor performance venues
- 38 public art sculptures and murals
- 43 galleries and exhibits spaces



## SPARTANBURG DOWNTOWN CULTURAL DISTRICT

The goals of the project are to:

- Increase pedestrian and visitor activity
- Increase residency and occupancy
- Attract new creative enterprises
- Foster art and performances in public places
- Celebrate Spartanburg's evolving cultural identity



**State Designated Cultural Districts** - <http://www.southcarolinaarts.com/culturaldistricts/>

A cultural district is a geographic area that has a concentration of cultural facilities, activities and assets. It is an area that is easily identifiable to visitors and residents and serves as a center of cultural, artistic and economic activity. A cultural district may contain galleries, live performance venues, theaters, artist studios, museums, arts centers, arts schools, and public art pieces. A cultural district may also contain businesses like restaurants, banks or parks whose primary purpose is not arts, but that regularly make their spaces available to artists or create opportunities for the public to encounter the arts. As of 2017 there are 7 state designated cultural districts in South Carolina.

Legislation ratified by the South Carolina General Assembly and signed by Governor Nikki Haley authorizes the S.C. Arts Commission to grant official state designation to cultural districts in the Palmetto State. The legislation specifies the goals of this program: attract artists, creative entrepreneurs and cultural enterprises to communities; encourage economic development; foster local cultural development; and provide a focal point for celebrating and strengthening local cultural identity. Additionally, cultural districts: attract tourists, help preserve and reuse historic

buildings, enhance the image and visibility of a place, and foster a supportive environment for arts and culture.

For more information on who is eligible to apply, requirements, application deadlines, and reporting requirements, visit the South Carolina Arts website.

## **Greer Cultural Arts Council**

The Greer Cultural Arts Council (GCAC), under the operation of the City of Greer, was established in November 1997. GCAC's mission is to serve the Greater Greer Community by providing affordable cultural arts opportunities. Through art, music, dance, drama, they strive to enrich the lives of the citizens of Greater Greer and surrounding communities. They are governed by a 14-member board of directors and 9-member student board of directors. Throughout the year GCAC provides various classes in the arts, dance, drama, literature, and music. One program through GCAC is Camp ARK (Arts Reaching Kids). This program caters to beginners ages 5 – 16 and advance artists ages 8 – 16.



For more information, click this link: <http://www.greerculturalarts.com/index.html>

## **Culinary Arts and Farmers' Markets**

While not as prevalent as some other Fine Arts degrees, there are a few Culinary Arts programs and degrees offered around the county. Spartanburg Community College offers a degree program in Culinary Arts. For more information on cultural degrees see the Institutional Assets pages.

**Monarch Café and Food Store** - <http://www.butterfly-sc.com/>

Monarch Café and Food Store, organized by The Butterfly Foundation, strives to empower, transform, and transition economically challenged individuals and families into self-sufficient and self-confident citizens. Monarch Café offers a 15 week culinary job training program that prepares unemployed, underemployed, previously incarcerated individuals, and homeless adults for careers in the food service industry. For more information on the culinary job training program, click this link: <http://www.butterfly-sc.com/culinary-job-training-program.html>



**Farm 2 School** – [http://www.spartanburg6.k12.sc.us/news.aspx?article\\_id=5025](http://www.spartanburg6.k12.sc.us/news.aspx?article_id=5025)

Spartanburg School District 6 launched their Farm 2 School program in the fall of 2016 when they partnered with Spartanburg County Foundation, Upstate Forever, and Cragmoor Farms. District 6 acquired 49 acres of land with the intention of growing their own certified organic fruits and vegetables to serve to students in the cafeteria.

## Farmers' Markets

Farmers' markets offer more than just access to fresh, local agriculture. Many times local and regional artists and musicians will attend these markets to sell their goods and entertain market-goers.

**Hub City Farmers' Market (HCFM)** – [www.hubcityfm.org](http://www.hubcityfm.org)

HCFM, opened in 2006, offers fresh, affordable and local produce, proteins, and artisan goods as well as a destination for cyclists and pedestrians. Over the past 14 successful seasons HCFM has expanded from simply a Wednesday and Saturday market to running a Mobile Market, maintaining an Urban Farm, and assisting with various Community Gardens. HCFM also holds an annual Farm to Table dinner.



*-Northside Harvest Park:* Saturdays from May – December  
Northside Harvest Park is home to The Butterfly Foundation's Monarch Café & Food Store, the Saturday Market, and the Urban Farm. Grown from the idea of fighting food disparities in Spartanburg, the Monarch Café and Food Store offers produce,

freshly prepared meals, culinary training, and a rental kitchen. Harvest Park serves as a model to show that through collaboration and determination “farm to fork” is possible even in a food desert.

*-Morgan Square Downtown Lunch Market:* Wednesdays from June – October

*-Mobile Market* - <http://hubcityfm.org/mobile-market/>

The Mobile Market, launched in 2010, has the ability to take locally grown produce, cheese, jam, and coffee to locations, especially corporate, commercial, and industrial sites, all over Spartanburg. The Mobile Market completed roughly 400 market stops in 2015 and has over 20 weekly stops already scheduled for the 2017 summer season.

*-Urban Farm* - <http://hubcityfm.org/urban-farm/>

The mission of the Urban Farm is to educate people to the potential of small-scale, sustainable farming while growing produce for the Mobile Market and select retail and restaurant outlets. The Urban Farm sits on ½ an acre behind Harvest Park and uses year-round sustainable, organic, and innovative farming methods. Tours for schools, clubs or





individuals are available as well as occasional gardening and farming classes. In 2014 volunteers gave more than 500 hours of service on the farm, planting, weeding, tilling, and tending. The Urban Farm has turned a barren old mill site into a useful, food-bearing location.

*-Spartanburg County Foundation Church St Community Garden*

HCFM in partnership with Spartanburg County Foundation and Leadership Spartanburg has opened the 1<sup>st</sup> community garden in downtown Spartanburg. The garden is located across from City Hall and Spartanburg County Library's downtown campus and features 12 rentable plots.

*-Community Garden Program - <http://hubcityfm.org/gardening/community-gardens/>*

The Community Garden Program assists organizations in developing, enhancing, or maintain communal vegetable gardens.

The program can assist with:

- consulting and design
- organizing and understanding labor needs for the garden's life cycle
- a day of free on-site assistance for planting
- low-cost, high quality soil, mulch, and compost
- low-cost construction of raised beds and other infrastructure
- low-cost support for harvesting and seasonal transitions

Some of the community gardens include:

- Arcadia Elementary
- Iman Elementary& Intermediate
- Campobello Grambling Elementary
- Holly Springs Elementary
- Middle Tyger Elementary
- New Prospect Elementary
- Butterfly Culinary at Northwest Community Center
- Downtown Library
- Montessori School



**Inman Fresh Farmers' Market –**

<http://www.cityofinman.org/freshmarket/>

The Inman Fresh Farmers' Market is held every Saturday from the end of June to the beginning of October. They provide local produce, artisan crafts, food vendors, and musicians from around the Upstate.

**Landrum Farmers' Market –**

<https://www.facebook.com/LandrumFarmersMarket/>

The Landrum Farmers Market is held every Saturday from June through November. At each market you can find various artisan crafts, local produce, and musicians.



**Cowpens Farmers' Market** – <https://www.facebook.com/CowpensFarmersMarket/>

The Cowpens Farmers' Market is an indoor facility open most Saturdays year-round. The market offers local produce, artisan crafts, and musicians. They also have an annual Christmas market that offers specialty items perfect for gift-giving.



**Woodruff Farmers' Market** –

[http://www.cityofwoodruff.com/woodruff\\_farmers\\_market](http://www.cityofwoodruff.com/woodruff_farmers_market)

The Woodruff Farmers' Market, located on the sidewalks on Main Street, operates every Friday afternoon from 2pm – 6pm from mid-June through mid-September. They have a variety of local artisan crafts and produce.

**Greer Farmers' Market** - <http://www.greerfarmersmarket.org/>

The Greer Farmers' Market, offering local produce and artisan crafts, runs seasonally every Thursday afternoon from 4pm – 7pm from the beginning of April through the end of October.



## Museums and Galleries

**Pacolet Museum** - <http://pacoletmemories.com/museum.html>

The Pacolet Museum, located in the lower level of Town Hall, reveals the rich history of Pacolet. After the closing of Pacolet Mills, the building was given to the town and officially became Town Hall in 1986. Work began on the museum in 2001 thanks to efforts from Friends of the Pacolet Museum and former Mayor Elaine Harris. The museum currently has exhibits on the natural resources in the area such as the Pacolet River and the granite quarries. It also highlights the abundant cultural heritage of the Cherokee, Catawba Indian presence, the early settlers, the American Revolution, the textile industry and the Pacolet Historic District.



**Greer Heritage Museum** -

[http://www.cityofgreer.org/visit/heritage\\_museum.php](http://www.cityofgreer.org/visit/heritage_museum.php)

The Greer Heritage Museum is now located in the former City Hall building which was originally built in 1935 as the Greer Post Office. There are numerous interesting features from the original post office that have been meticulously preserved. The museum, staffed by volunteers,

features history of the Greater Greer Area, a library for historical and genealogical research and a classroom/theater for short documentaries on local history.

**Spartanburg Regional History Museum -**  
<http://www.spartanburghistory.org/aboutmuseum/>

Housed in the Chapman Cultural Center, the Spartanburg Regional History Museum, features exhibits on the region's first Native American settlements, Spartanburg's rich military and textile history, and the importance of the cultural hub we have become in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. The museum also features locally crafted furniture and other decorative arts. Downtown Historic Walking Tours are available by request.



**Hub City Railroad Museum -** <https://hubcityrrmuseum.org/>

The Hub City Railroad Museum, located in the former Southern Railways Depot on Magnolia St, showcases the significance the railroads played in making Spartanburg the Hub City we know today. See how the Southern Railway, Clinchfield, C&WC, Piedmont & Northern, Glenn Springs, Pacolet Mill railroad and streetcars served the Hub City. The various exhibits weave together the importance that the textile mills, peach orchards and railroads played in the creation of Hub City. Opened in 2012, the museum is a project of the Greenville Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society.

**Spartanburg Art Museum (SAM)**

Information on the Spartanburg Art Museum, located in the Chapman Cultural Center, can be found under information on The Arts Partnership page.

**Cowpens Depot Museum and Civic Center -**  
<https://www.townofcowpens.com/visitors/>

The Cowpens railroad depot was built in 1874 for the Air Line Railroad Company. In 1980 the depot was slated for destruction, but local citizens saved the depot, moved it to its current location and in 1997 had it placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The museum houses items donated by crewman and citizens highlighting the role Cowpens played in WWII naval history. Items displayed include clothing, photos, medals, and personal letters of former USS Cowpens crewman.



**American Legion Post 28 Military Museum -**  
<http://www.visitspartanburg.com/spartanburg-business-directory/american-legion-post-28-military-museum>

This military museum boasts various collections of military artifacts from WWI, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam to present day. The collection includes weapons, uniforms from local units and residents, captured enemy equipment, military awards and decorations, scale model military

aircraft, and over 25 military aviation and history prints and paintings by renowned artist Robert W. Wilson.

**Galleries** - <http://www.spartanburgartwalk.org/>

There are vast assortment of galleries located in Spartanburg. Throughout the county local artists come together in many ways to enrich our community. ArtWalk, a self-guided tour, occurs every third Thursday of the month. Nearly a dozen galleries open their doors, free to the public, to visitors who wish to explore their displays. Visit the CVB website for the most up-to-date listing of galleries.

**West Main Artists Co-op** -

<http://www.westmainartists.org/>

-Established in 2009, West Main Artists Co-op's (WMAC) mission is to provide affordable studio, display, and performance space established and emerging artists living in and around Spartanburg. They also strive to provide the public with opportunities to view original art and to interact with the artists. WMAC revitalized the former West Main Baptist Church, a nearly forgotten landmark, into a 20,000 square foot artistic showcase. Spartanburg's only studio art co-op houses more than 50 local artists and 32 studios. WMAC participates in Spartanburg's Art walk every Thursday as well as many artists hosting public workshops, ever-changing art exhibits, and a gallery shop that is open Tuesday – Saturday.





## **Institutional Assets**

Within the framework of cultural resources, it would be remiss to omit a discussion of the institutional assets in Spartanburg County that are also cultural or historical in nature. These include libraries, colleges and universities, public and private elementary and secondary education, and faith based organizations. Many of these organizations have numerous historical buildings on their campuses and produce high quality arts events throughout the year.

More details regarding school facilities are found in the Community Facilities Element, but the vast array of educational opportunities in our public and private schools must be discussed in relationship to culture.

## **The Arts Partnership’s Advantage: Arts and Science Program**

The goals and objectives of TAP’s “Advantage: Arts and Science” program are: 1.) to expose students to a broad range of arts experiences and trained teaching artists working at the highest level of their craft, 2.) to provide teachers with the knowledge that they need to make the arts an important part of their teaching toolkit, and to support them in their efforts to evaluate art activities on student learning, and 3.) to ensure that the arts remain an essential aspect of the learning experience for students throughout Spartanburg County. This program reaches nearly 46,000 K-12 students enrolled in public schools in Spartanburg and hundreds of others enrolled in private schools and special programs. TAP provides comprehensive services to schools, teachers, and students of Spartanburg County. The program includes both broad-based exposure to a wide variety of art forms, as well as in-depth residencies that directly connect students with working artists and provide hands-on experiences in art making. Through grants, TAP offers significant subsidies for its programming, with a goal of minimizing costs for schools and ensuring access to its programs from schools with limited resources or those serving low-income populations.

TAP programs regularly rely on artists who are listed on the SC Arts Commission Approved Artists List, indicating that they have received training in arts integration techniques and have logged significant time in the classroom. Both Muse Machine and Artist Residencies feature a variety of arts forms, allowing students to explore their own interests and strengths as audience members and artists. TAP helps to train teachers in arts integration techniques, and provides guidance for connecting arts activities to state learning standards. All TAP programs involve multiple levels of evaluation to assess both project success and impact on student learning.

### **Muse Machine**

Through the Muse Machine Program, schools receive 3 professional performances onsite during the year, one each of music, theater, and dance. These informal performances familiarize students with a particular genre or art form by professional artists who also discuss not only the art form and presentation, but also what it is like to be a practicing professional artist. The Muse Machine program serves 29 schools in all 7 Spartanburg school districts (including 25 Title I schools), as well as one Title I elementary school in Cherokee County.

In addition to in-school performances, the Muse Machine Program also provides teachers with professional development opportunities through an annual Summer Institute for Teachers that offers graduate credit in the latest STEAM and arts integration techniques. The program is open to teachers from Muse Machine schools as well as other teachers in the area. TAP's Summer Institute invites recognized national leaders in the field of arts integration as a means of introducing local teachers to best practices for their own classrooms. Since its founding in 1997, the Summer Institute has served more than 450 teachers. STEAM is a national movement advocating for arts integration into science-related curricula. It stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art/Design, and Mathematics.

## **Artist Residences**

With partial support from the South Carolina Arts Commission, TAP sponsors one-week professional artist residencies that provide in-depth learning opportunities for students that are directly tied to South Carolina state learning standards in either arts or academic subjects. The program teaches artists and classroom teachers to work together to develop a lesson plan that involves students in hands-on activities, as well as post-residency assessments of impact on student learning. Residencies primarily serve K-6 students at all achievement levels; some residencies are developed specifically for at-risk and under-achieving youth, others for gifted students. The goal for both groups is the same: to provide experiential learning opportunities that support statewide learning priorities. Residencies involve a range of art forms—including performing arts, visual arts, and creative writing—and provide students of all backgrounds with an empowering opportunity to harness their creativity.

## **Initiatives and Projects**

Beyond these core activities, TAP's Arts Education Program sponsors special performances for young audiences at the Chapman Cultural Center. Both local arts groups and touring companies participate in this programming.

## **Public Elementary and Secondary Education**

Spartanburg County has over 90 public elementary and secondary education schools in the County that are broken down into seven school districts. Each of these schools has a cultural arts program with opportunities for classroom and extracurricular enrichment in a variety of disciplines at a range of levels.

**District 1** - <http://www.spartanburg1.k12.sc.us/>

**District 2** - <http://www.spartanburg2.k12.sc.us/>

**District 3** - <http://www.spartanburg3.org/>





**District Three Community Auditorium-**

[http://www.spartanburg3.org/about\\_us/district\\_three\\_community\\_auditorium](http://www.spartanburg3.org/about_us/district_three_community_auditorium)

The District Three Community Auditorium holds choral and dance performances, drama presentations, and lectures in its 600 seat theatre. The venue is utilized by all grade levels in the district while also providing a rentable space for community performances.

**District 4 -** <http://www.spartanburg4.org/>

**District 5 -** <http://www.spart5.net/>

**District Five Fine Arts Center -**

<http://www.spart5.net/domain/83>

The District Five Fine Arts Center has quickly become a focal point for the students, faculty and community in the District 5 area. The auditorium holds 1,000 guests for various concerts, productions, meetings, and receptions hosted by the district or the community.



**District 6 -** <http://www.spartanburg6.k12.sc.us/>

**District Six College, Career and Fine Arts Center**

In 2014 the District Six Fine Arts Center held its first performance in its state-of-the-art auditorium. Since then the 1,500 seat auditorium has hosted various productions, performances, and presentations by the students of District 6.



**RD Anderson Applied Technology Center -** <http://www.rdanderson.org/>

**District 7 -** <http://spartanburg7.org/>

**McCarthy Teszler -** <http://mtz.spartanburg7.org/>

**Vocational Schools**

**Daniel Morgan Technology Center -** <http://www.dmtconline.org/>

-Serves Districts 3 & 7

**RD Anderson Applied Technology Center -** <http://www.rdanderson.org/>

-Serves Districts 4, 5 & 6

**Swofford Career Center** - <http://www.swoffordcareercenter.org/>  
-Serves Districts 1 & 2

**SC School for the Deaf and the Blind** -  
<https://www.scsdb.org/Page/324>



SC School for the Deaf and the Blind offers all students fine arts classes in visual art or music. In high school dance, music, and visual art are all offered for credit. SC School for the Deaf and the Blind, an Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) site, also offers arts integrations which use arts disciplines (visual arts, music, dance, theatre, creative writing) to teach the general curriculum subjects (math, language, science, social studies, etc.). In addition to regular arts classes the school also offers an After-School Enrichment Program for all middle and high school students. All students are required to attend at least one of the following classes per week: drumming, guitar, choral music, tap dancing, swing dancing, flag line, drama, 3D and recyclable art, painting and drawing, service art, National Art Honor Society, Fine Arts Newsletter and Literary Magazine. In the spring students present “Masterpiece Night” to their school, families, and community to demonstrate what they’ve learned in their Enrichment Classes throughout the year.

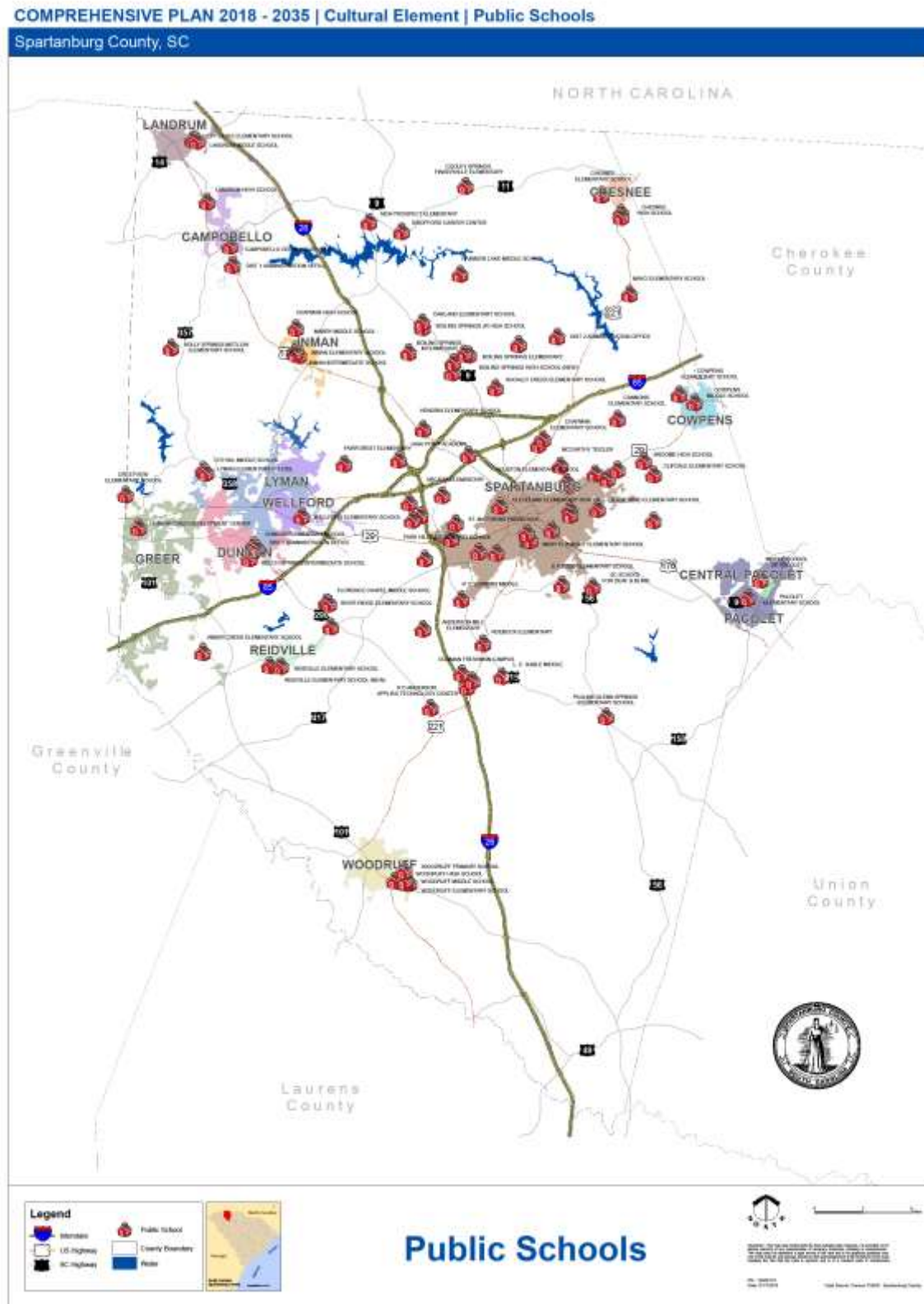
### **Charter Schools**

There are only two physical charter schools located in Spartanburg County, however virtual/online charter schools are becoming an increasingly more popular alternative to the traditional public school system.

**Spartanburg Preparatory School** - <http://www.spartanburgprep.org/>

**High Point Academy** - <https://www.hpaspartanburg.com/>

## Public Elementary and Secondary Education



## Private Elementary and Secondary Education

There are almost 10 private elementary and secondary education opportunities in Spartanburg County. Similarly to the public sector, the private schools in Spartanburg have a wide assortment of cultural arts programs geared toward students of all grade levels and interests.

**Eddlemon Adventist Junior Academy -**

<http://www.TAGnet.org/spartanburg/html/eddelemon.html>

**Meeting Street Academy -** <https://meetingstreetschools.org/schools/>

**Montessori Academy -** <http://www.montessorispartanburg.com/>

**Mountain View Christian Academy -** <http://www.mountainviewcowpens.com/about-mountain-view/mountain-view-christian-academy/>

**Oakbrook Preparatory School -** <http://www.Oakbrookprep.org>

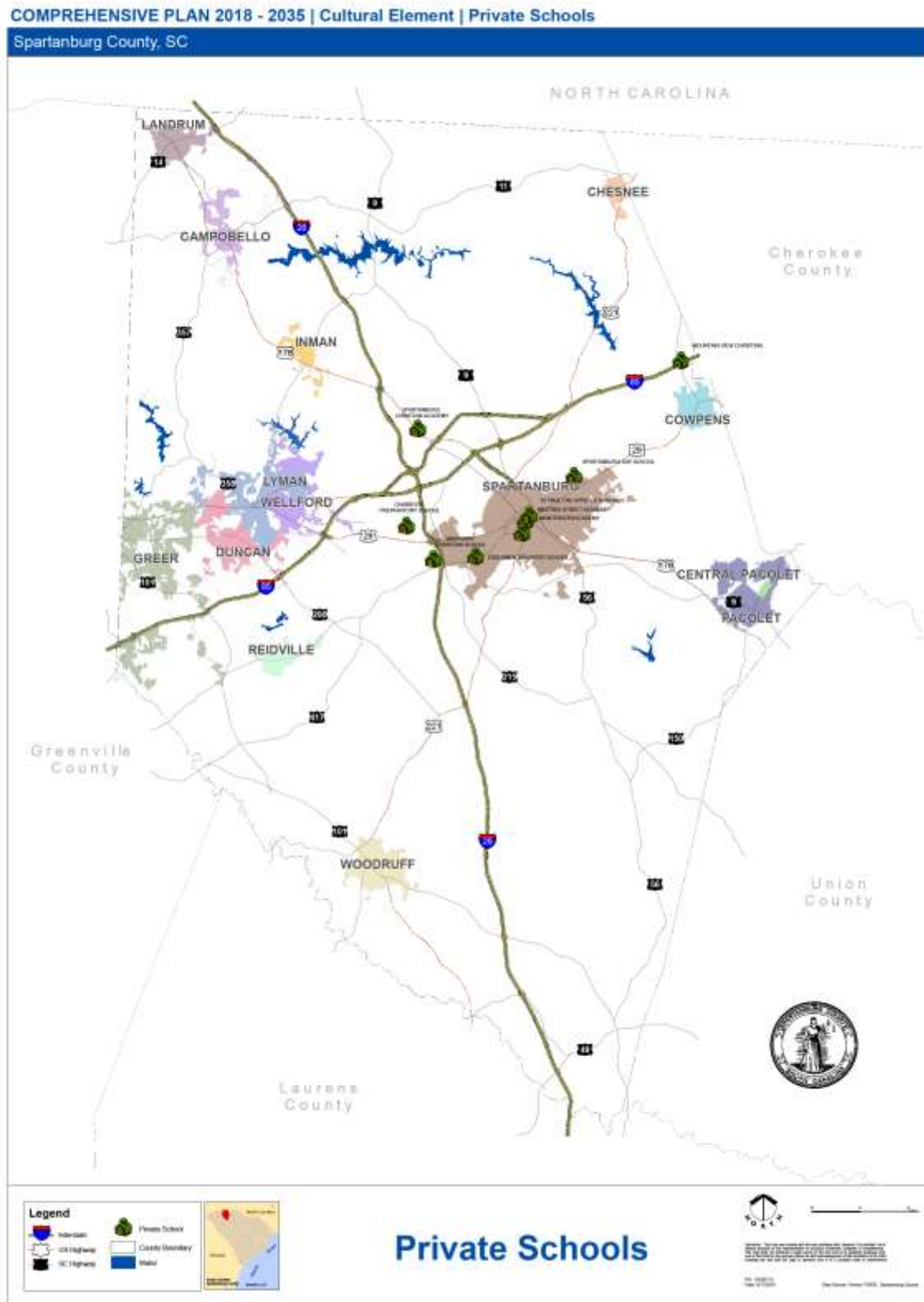
**Spartanburg Christian Academy -** <http://www.fbnsnline.org>

**Spartanburg Day School -** <http://www.sdsgriffin.org/>

**St. Paul the Apostle Catholic School -** <http://www.stpaulschoolsc.com/>

**Westgate Christian -** <http://www.westgatechristianschool.com/>

## Private Elementary and Secondary Education





## Colleges and Universities

Spartanburg County is home to seven colleges and universities. While a mixture of public and private, each school focuses on student achievement and being a part of the Spartanburg community. As such, cultural offerings are an important part of many of the institutions as well as preservation of the historic structures on campus.

**Converse College** - <http://www.converse.edu/>

The **School of the Arts** at Converse College features degree programs through the following departments: Art and Design, the Petrie School of Music, Theatre and Dance, Creative and Professional Writing, History, and a variety of graduate degree programs in the arts. Their Lawson Academy of the Arts is designed for young people in Spartanburg to take classes and experience the arts in a variety of ways and intensities.

**Twichell Auditorium** - <http://www.converse.edu/about/campus-map/twichell-auditorium/>

Converse College's Twichell Auditorium, built in 1899, seats 1,500 guests and houses a 57-rank Casavant Freres organ with 2,600+ pipes. The auditorium has hosted several famous artists such as Duke Ellington, YoYo Ma, and Tony Bennett. Twichell hosts numerous Converse College performances as well as various community productions including Ballet Spartanburg and the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra. It is named an historic John Philip Sousa site to commemorate the many performances given in the early twentieth century by Sousa and his band.



**Mickel Library** - <http://www.converse.edu/about/campus-map/mickel-library/>

### **Milliken Art Gallery**

Through most of the year the Milliken Art Gallery features professional art exhibits, juried art shows as well as workshops and lectures by visiting artists. In April and May the gallery is filled with exhibits from Converse students.

**Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM)** – <http://www.vcom.edu/carolinas>



VCOM offers a **Doctorate in Osteopathic Medicine**. VCOM's mission is to “prepare globally-minded, community-focused physicians to meet the needs of rural and medically underserved populations and promote research to improve human health”. One of the five strategic goals that VCOM has includes “providing education in the art and science of osteopathic medicine”.



**Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic -**  
<https://www.sherman.edu/>

Sherman's **Doctor of Chiropractic Program** is all about serving others to improve their health. The chiropractic profession allows you to share a philosophy of life and health that is of great value to the people in your community.



**Tom and Mae Bahan Library -** <https://www.sherman.edu/library/>

**Spartanburg Community College (SCC) -** <http://www.sccsc.edu/>



Spartanburg Community College features a degree program in **Culinary Arts** and also strives to connect its students with cultural and community events occurring in the greater Spartanburg area.

**SCC Downtown Campus**

Located downtown in the historic Evans Academic Center, the SCC Downtown Campus serves as an academic hub.

The campus offers short-term job training, and select

associates degrees.

**SCC Tyger River Campus -** <https://www.sccsc.edu/trc/>

The SCC Tyger River Campus, located in Duncan, offers training and development opportunities for area residents, businesses, and industry.

**Spartanburg Methodist College (SMC) -** <http://www.smcsc.edu/>

SMC offers an **Associate in Fine Arts degree**, which is transferrable to a four year school. Some of the areas of study available include Studio Art & Graphic Design, History, Music and Theatre. Through activities like the SMC Players drama troupe, the SMC Singers choral group, and the SMC Troubadours touring choral group, students can participate in a variety of extracurricular activities while a student.



**Burgess Library**

**Gibbs Auditorium**

Gibbs Auditorium, located in the Ellis Hall, seats 275 people. The auditorium hosts numerous academic, artistic and professional events annually.

**The University of South Carolina – Upstate - <http://www.uscupstate.edu/>**



USC Upstate has several degree programs in fine arts and history including Art Education, Art Studio and Graphic Design, Commercial Music, History, and Theatre. USC Upstate also boasts a theatrical production company, The Shoestring Players, and an after school drama program for children.

**Humanities and Performing Arts Center**

Opened in 1990, this 450 seat theatre houses some of the Fine Arts Department, classrooms, a recital hall, art studios, practice rooms, digital design lab and the Curtis R. Harley Art gallery.

**Kathryn Hicks Visual Arts Center**

Nestled in the Susan Jacobs Arboretum, the arts center provides studio space for drawing, painting, graphic design, digital imaging, and three-dimensional design.

**USC Upstate Library**

**George Dean Johnson, Jr College of Business and Economics -**

<http://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/johnsoncollege/default.aspx?id=16408>

Located in downtown Spartanburg, “The George” boasts state-of-the-art facilities including a stock trading lab and interactive classrooms. The George also features rotating art exhibits from The Johnson Collection, comprised of more than 600 pieces ranging from the 1700s to the present.

**Virginia College - <https://www.vc.edu/>**

Virginia College offers several degrees and certificates in various fields including culinary and pastry arts and cosmetology and therapeutic massage.



**Wofford College - <http://www.wofford.edu/>**



With academic majors and minors in numerous art and history fields, Wofford College offers many choices for students pursuing degrees in these fields. Wofford offers everything from a “major track in theatre to offerings in instrumental and vocal performance, art studio, and creative writing”. They also regularly host a film series, plays, concerts, lectures and readings.

### **Sandor Teszler Library**

### **Tony White Theater**

The Tony White Theater is a black box theatre currently housed in the Campus Life Building.

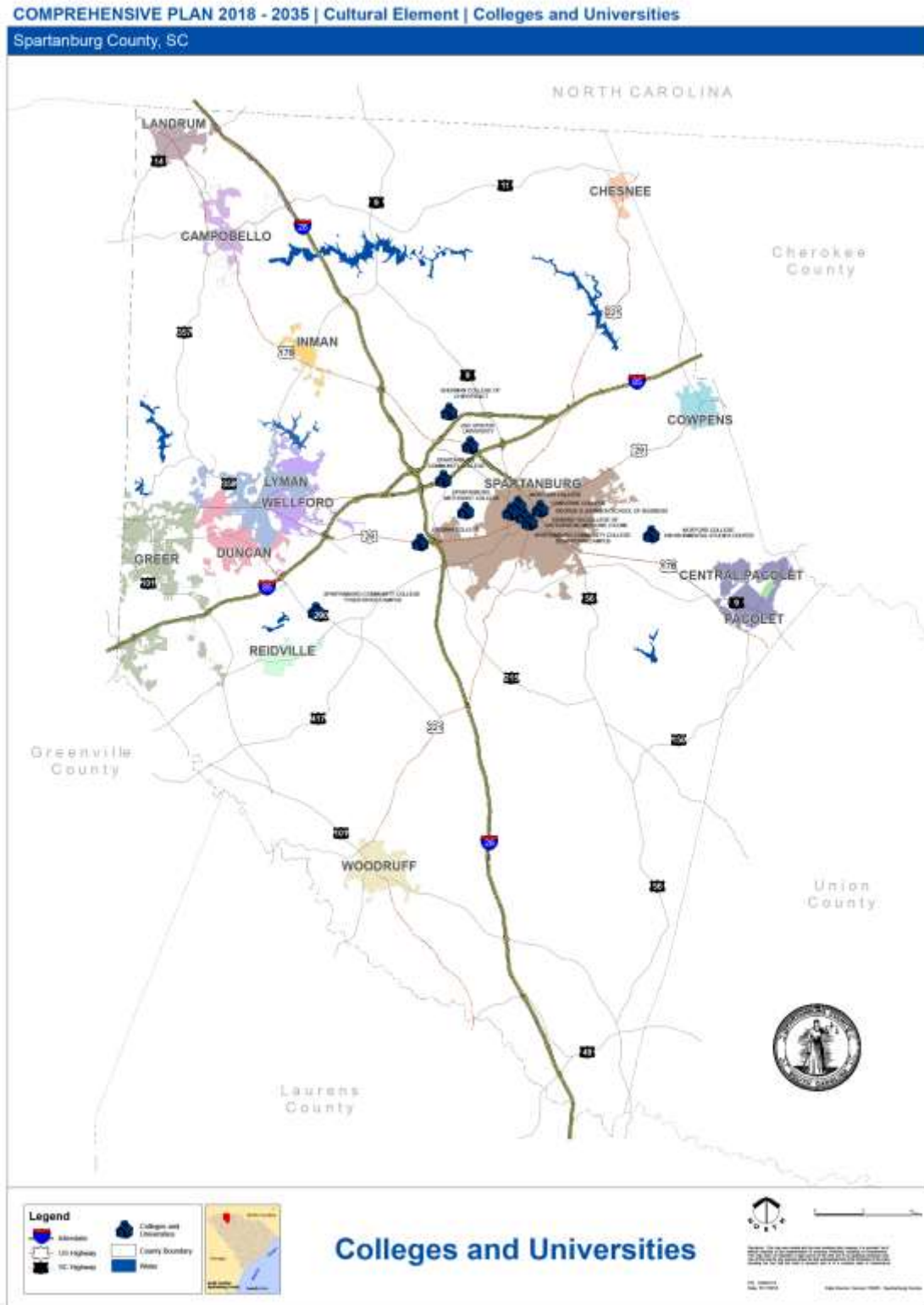
### **Planetarium**

The small planetarium was a gift from the Spartanburg County Foundation in 1953 and for many years it was the only public planetarium in South Carolina. Around the 1970s it fell into disrepair and has not been revived since.

### **Rosalind S. Richardson Center for the Arts**

Opened in 2017, the Rosalind S. Richardson Center for the Arts houses a 300 seat performance venue, a museum for Wofford's collection, a black box theatre, art gallery, a variety of studios for various disciplines, and faculty offices. In addition to many programs, including The Novel Experience, the World Film Series, and various student musical and theatre groups, this new facility allows Wofford to take their cultural offerings to a new level.

## Colleges and Universities



## The County Library System

Spartanburg County has a large public library system with a main branch in the City of Spartanburg and nine smaller branches throughout the County. The libraries are tremendous resources for historical and genealogical research as well as places to gather, experience a variety of events, and participate in numerous classes. There are also excellent library facilities at each college and university in Spartanburg County accessible not only to students, but also to the public wishing to use the facilities. A map of the County Library System can be found in the Community Facilities Element.



Headquarters Library - <http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Headquarters>

Boiling Springs Library - <http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Boiling-Springs>

Chesnee Library - <http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Chesnee>

Cowpens Library - <http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Cowpens>

Cyrill-Westside Library - <http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Cyrill-Westside>

Inman Library -  
<http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Inman>

Landrum Library -  
<http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Landrum>

Middle Tyger Library -  
<http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Middle-Tyger>

Pacolet Library -  
<http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Pacolet>



Woodruff Library - <http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Woodruff>

Pages on Pine Book Store - <http://www.infodepot.org/Locations/Pages-on-Pine>



## Faith-based Organizations

Spartanburg County has always been a place with a robust faith-based community. With abundant faith based organizations in the area, there are beautiful examples of historic architecture ranging from enduring houses of worship to remarkable cemeteries. These organizations represent a variety of denominations and religions, each with their own cultural opportunities. Many organizations have choirs, performing arts groups, and offer activities throughout the week and year. Many groups hold festivals, sponsor international trips, and seek to share the history and culture of their faith with the Spartanburg community.

## Festivals, Special Events and Celebrations

There are numerous, unique annual festivals, special events, and celebrations held throughout Spartanburg County. While all of these events are culturally enjoyable for the whole family, some have a more historical focus; those events are denoted by an asterisk.

For more information on the latest events in Spartanburg:

City of Spartanburg - <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/events>

Spartanburg Convention & Visitors Bureau -  
[http://www.visitspartanburg.com/events/scvb-main-calendar.html#/spartanburg2/events?\\_k=0g896j](http://www.visitspartanburg.com/events/scvb-main-calendar.html#/spartanburg2/events?_k=0g896j)

International Festival – City of Spartanburg - <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/international-festival>

Battle of Cowpens Anniversary Celebration - <https://www.nps.gov/cowp/specialevents.htm>

Dickens of a Christmas – City of Spartanburg - <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/dickens-of-a-christmas>

Village at Christmas – Town of Pacolet - <http://www.townofpacolet.com/Attractions.aspx>

The Assaults on Mt Mitchell & Marion (begins) – City of Spartanburg - <http://theassaults.com/>

Harvest Day Festival – Inman - <http://inmanscchamber.org/harvestday/>

Indian Summer Festival – Town of Pacolet - <http://www.townofpacolet.com/Attractions.aspx>

Mighty Moo Festival – Town of Cowpens - <http://cowpensmightymoo.com/>

Jazz on the Square – City of Spartanburg - <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/jazz-on-the-square>

Music on Main – City of Spartanburg - <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/music-on-main>

Red, White and Boom – City of Spartanburg - <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/red-white-and-boom>

Spring Fling – City of Spartanburg - <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/spring-fling>

Stone Soup Storytelling Festival – Woodruff - <https://www.stonesoup.com/>

Taste of the Backcountry - Historic Price House - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/historic-price-house/>

Daniel Morgan’s March - <http://pacoletmemories.com/morgansmarch.html>

Carolina Panthers Training Camp - Wofford College - <http://www.panthers.com/schedule/training-camp.html>

Festifall - Walnut Grove Plantation - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/walnut-grove-plantation/>

Childhood on the Plantation - Walnut Grove Plantation - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/walnut-grove-plantation/>

Candlelight Supper – Walnut Grove Plantation - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/walnut-grove-plantation/>

Downtown Criterium Bike Race – City of Spartanburg - <http://www.active-living.org/criterium>

Music on the Mill – Downton Inman

Antique Bikes on Main – City of Chesnee - <http://www.antiquebikesonmain.com/>

Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas – Wofford College - <http://shrine-bowl.com/>

Music at the Tracks – Downtown Landrum

Landrum Quilt Show –Landrum - <http://www.landrumquilters.com/>

Spartanburg Greek Festival – City of Spartanburg - <https://spartanburggreekfestival.com/>

Plum Hollow Alternative Bluegrass Festival – New Prospect -

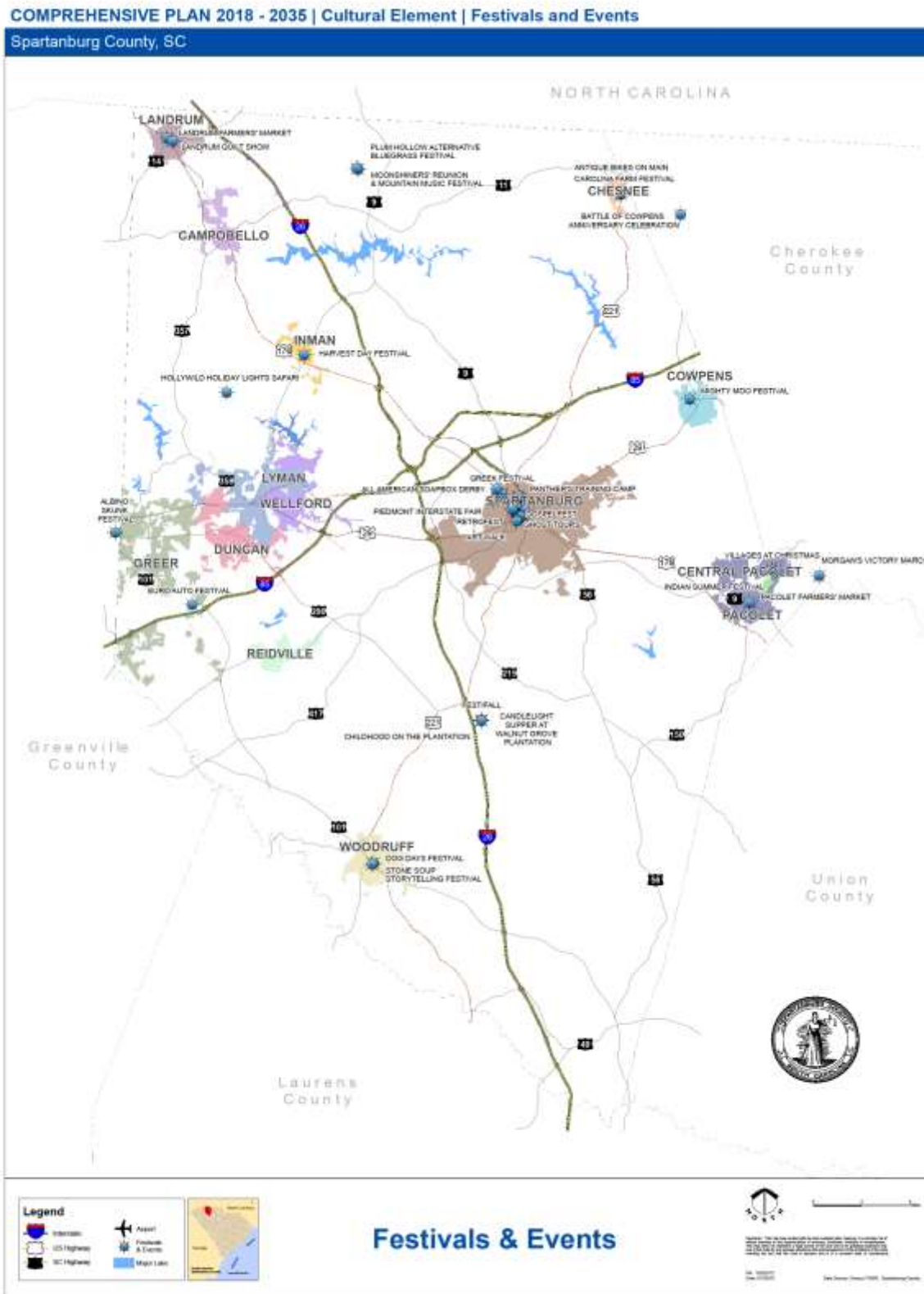
<http://www.moonshiners.com/newsitedev/festivals/plum-hollow-festival>

Moonshiners Reunion – New Prospect - <http://www.moonshiners.com/newsitedev/festivals/moonshiners-reunion>

Albino Skunk Music Festival & Spring Skunk Music Fest – Greer - <http://albinoskunk.com/>

Piedmont Interstate Fair – City of Spartanburg - <http://piedmontinterstatefair.com/>

## Festivals, Special Events and Celebrations



## Historical Resources

Nationally, history and heritage tourism is on the rise because travelers are seeking distinct experiences in unique places. The key to attracting tourists is the preservation and protection the priceless historical assets that remain in Spartanburg County. It is important to continue to recognize and leverage our music, art, military, railroad, and textile history and celebrate the many historical events that have taken place in and around Spartanburg County.

### Brief History

Spartanburg County, formed in 1785, has a lengthy and rich history. Prior to European colonization Native Americans, mainly Cherokee, inhabited the lands in the Backcountry. A treaty allowed Europeans, mostly Scots-Irish, to move to the cheap, fertile, and bountiful farming lands in and around Spartanburg. The name was taken from a militia regiment who called themselves the Spartans during the early years of the American Revolution. By 1789 settlers had moved into the area in sufficient numbers to warrant the construction of a jail and a courthouse. A plat map of the area in 1809 shows the courthouse, jail, and several commercial and residential buildings clustered around a public open space which would later become known as Morgan Square. Life was still largely rural at the time, but the newly formed settlement began to grow.

Spartanburg grew slowly in the early nineteenth century and by the 1830s contained a population of only 300 which grew to 1,170 by 1850. The public square served as the trading center for farmers of the region. Expansion began when a railroad was completed between Spartanburg and Columbia heralding a new era for local commerce. A new brick Greek Revival courthouse was constructed on Main Street facing the public square. Although the Civil War temporarily halted the community's growth, Spartanburg emerged after the war as an important commercial center of the Piedmont region.

Beginning in 1870, Spartanburg entered into several decades of rapid growth. Its population tripled to 3,200 and trees along the public square were cut down to make way for the growing city. In 1888 John Montgomery organized the first cotton mill in the city, The Spartan Mill. Spartan Mill began operation in 1890 when they merged with Whitfield Mills of Newburyport, Massachusetts. This was followed by other mills and by 1909 there were nine mills in and around the city. Becoming well known for its textile products, Spartanburg became a major center of the industry in the Southeast.

By the turn of the century Spartanburg continued to thrive. The population rose to 11,395 in 1900 and the downtown area was substantially rebuilt with new brick commercial structures. It became prominent as a railroad town with five major lines intersecting by 1900. The railroads brought new industry and stimulated area mercantile production. In addition, the city's textile industry began to thrive.

As World War I approached it brought even more changes to Spartanburg. Camp Wadsworth, located on the outskirts of the City, trained over 100,000 men as one of America's premier army mobilization centers. In 1912 Spartanburg built its first high rise building, later known as the Andrews Building, followed by the six-story Cleveland Hotel. Though both of these historic buildings has since been destroyed, the nine-story Montgomery Building, built in 1923 continues to grace the skyline of the City of Spartanburg. Morgan Square was still the city's center and its

street were lined with stores, banks, professional offices, and hotels. However, with the depression, growth in the community slowed considerably.

During World War II over 200,000 soldiers moved through Camp Croft for training before deploying for war. Thankfully the end of World War II brought prosperity again to Spartanburg. A boom in local peach growing and distribution aided the area, and textile production became prominent again. The popularity of the automobile brought so much congestion to Morgan Square that in the early 1950s it was reorganized with new roads, parking areas, and sidewalks. During the 1960s and 1970s downtown Spartanburg, the historical center of the county, was substantially altered by urban renewal projects, resulting in the loss of many of its historical buildings including the Andrews Building. Neglect and change over time also have impacted the county's historical resources.

However, with the growth of colleges like Wofford and Converse, an influx of textile money, and easy transportation, Spartanburg quickly gained a cosmopolitan air. Thankfully much of the county's magnificent heritage remains with us today in the physical presence of buildings, structures, and sites.

## **National Register of Historic Places**

Historical buildings and sites are found throughout much of the County with concentrations on the City of Spartanburg, the Reidville area, and the Glen Springs area.

A listed property is recognized by the federal government as a valuable resource with historical or archeological significance. This recognition alerts individuals and the community to the value of their historic and archaeological resources and reinforces preservation efforts. A listed property is eligible for federal and state historic preservation grants, and an income producing property is eligible for federal rehabilitation tax credits. Listing does not require owners to preserve or maintain their properties unless they apply for and accept federal funding, a federal license, a federal preservation tax credit, or a state funded preservation grant. The National Register program places no restrictions on properties that are listed. But local governments can, and the City of Spartanburg has, through the adoption of historical preservation requirements included in the City's Zoning Ordinance. However, there are no protective regulations or preservation assurances for the other documented historical places outside the City of Spartanburg and not on the Historical Register. For these places to survive, it is up to the owners' sense of history and appreciation of the structure. Fortunately, there is a growing public awareness and appreciation for local history.

During the 1960s and 1970s downtown Spartanburg, the historical center of the County, was substantially altered by urban renewal project which resulted in the loss of many of its historical buildings, including the Andrews Building. Neglect and change over time also have impacted the County's historical resources. Still, much of the County's heritage remains with us today in the physical presence of buildings, structures and sites.



## Inventory of National Register of Historic Places in Spartanburg County

There are currently 55 properties, including 9 historic districts, on the National Register of Historic Places within Spartanburg County. For more information on each property use the following links:

<https://www.nps.gov/nr/>

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/spartanburg/nrspartanburg.htm>

Alexander House	*Hurricane Tavern Historic District
American Legion Building	*James M. Davis House Historic District
Anderson's Mill	Jammie Seay House
Arcadia Mill #2	Mary H. Wright Elementary School
Bishop William Wallace Duncan House (Dupre House)	Marysville School
Bivings – Converse House	McMakin's Tavern (Morgan Steward House)
Bon Haven (Cleveland House)	Montgomery Building
Bush Homeplace	Mountain Shoals Plantation (James Nesbitt House)
Camp Hill	New Hope Farm (Snooddy Farm)
Central Methodist Church	Nicholls-Crook House
Church of the Advent	Pacolet Mill Office
Cleveland Law Range	Pacolet Mills Cloth Room and Warehouse
*Converse College Historic District	*Pacolet Mills Historic District
*Converse Heights Historic District	Pacolet Soapstone Quarries (Archeological Site)
Cowpens Depot	Palmetto Theater
Daniel Morgan Monument	Price's Post Office
Drayton Mill	Reidville Academy Faculty House
Evans-Russell House	Shiloh Methodist Church & Cemetery
Evins-Bivings House	Smith's Tavern
First Presbyterian Church of Woodruff	*Spartanburg Historic District
Foster's Tavern	Walker Hall
Frank Evans High School	Walnut Grove Plantation
Fremont School	Walter Scott Montgomery House
*Glenn Springs Historic District	William Dixon Fowler House
Golightly-Dean House	Williams Place (Creek Plantation 1765)
*Hampton Heights Historic District	*Wofford College Historic District
Hotel Oregon	Woodruff High School (City Hall)

Properties with an (\*) are also designated as historic districts

## Map of National Register of Historic Places in Spartanburg County

The following map shows the location of the sites on the National Register of Historic Places. A listed property is recognized by the federal government as a valuable resource with historical or archaeological significance. This recognition alerts individuals and the community to the value of their historic and archaeological resources and reinforces preservation efforts.

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2018 - 2035 | Cultural Element | Historic Sites National Register



## Historic Districts

### Converse College Historic Districts

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/spartanburg/S10817742013/index.htm>

In 1889 a group of citizens including Dexter E. Converse were concerned with the lack of educational opportunity for young women in the Spartanburg community. Although located in an urban area and within a modern campus complex, the district preserves the character of the original campus.

### Converse Heights Historic District – [www.converseheights.org](http://www.converseheights.org)

Located near downtown Spartanburg, Converse Heights was one of Spartanburg's first suburbs. Most of the homes were built between 1905 and 1950. The area includes Craftsman, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival Architecture. A central pocket park, Happy Hollow, makes Converse Heights not only a gorgeous place to live, but an active one as well.

### Pacolet Mill Historic District –

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/spartanburg/S10817742062/index.htm>

Pacolet's history varies from the prehistoric soapstone quarries near the river to their early textile mill community. Pacolet has the largest concentration of arts and crafts style homes in South Carolina at over 250 with this particular style architecture.

### Glenn Springs Historic District-

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/spartanburg/S10817742033/index.htm>

During the 1800s Glenn Springs was renowned throughout South Carolina as a flourishing resort destination. The large hotel was destroyed by fire years ago, but you can still see the Glenn Springs Academy, Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches, and many historic homes.

### Hampton Heights Historic District-

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/spartanburg/S10817742035/index.htm>

The extensive collection of 340 stunning homes in this district were built between 1890 and 1930. Many note-worthy Spartanburg citizens and two South Carolina governors have called Hampton Heights home over the years. You will find many architectural styles in this neighborhood including Neo-Classical, Bungalow, Queen Anne, Four-Square, and Craftsman.

### Spartanburg Historic District-

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/spartanburg/S10817742036/index.htm>

Morgan Square dates back to 1781 when this location was designated as the seat of the Spartan District, which would later become Spartanburg County. Once the original jail and courthouse were built, other businesses began to fill in. The original town clock and the 1881 Daniel Morgan monument can still be seen today.

**Wofford College Historic District-**

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/spartanburg/S10817742012/index.htm>

Wofford College was opened in 1854 through the \$100,000 bequest of local minister Reverend Benjamin Wofford. The historic district consists of the main building and six Georgian derived houses.

**James M. Davis House-**

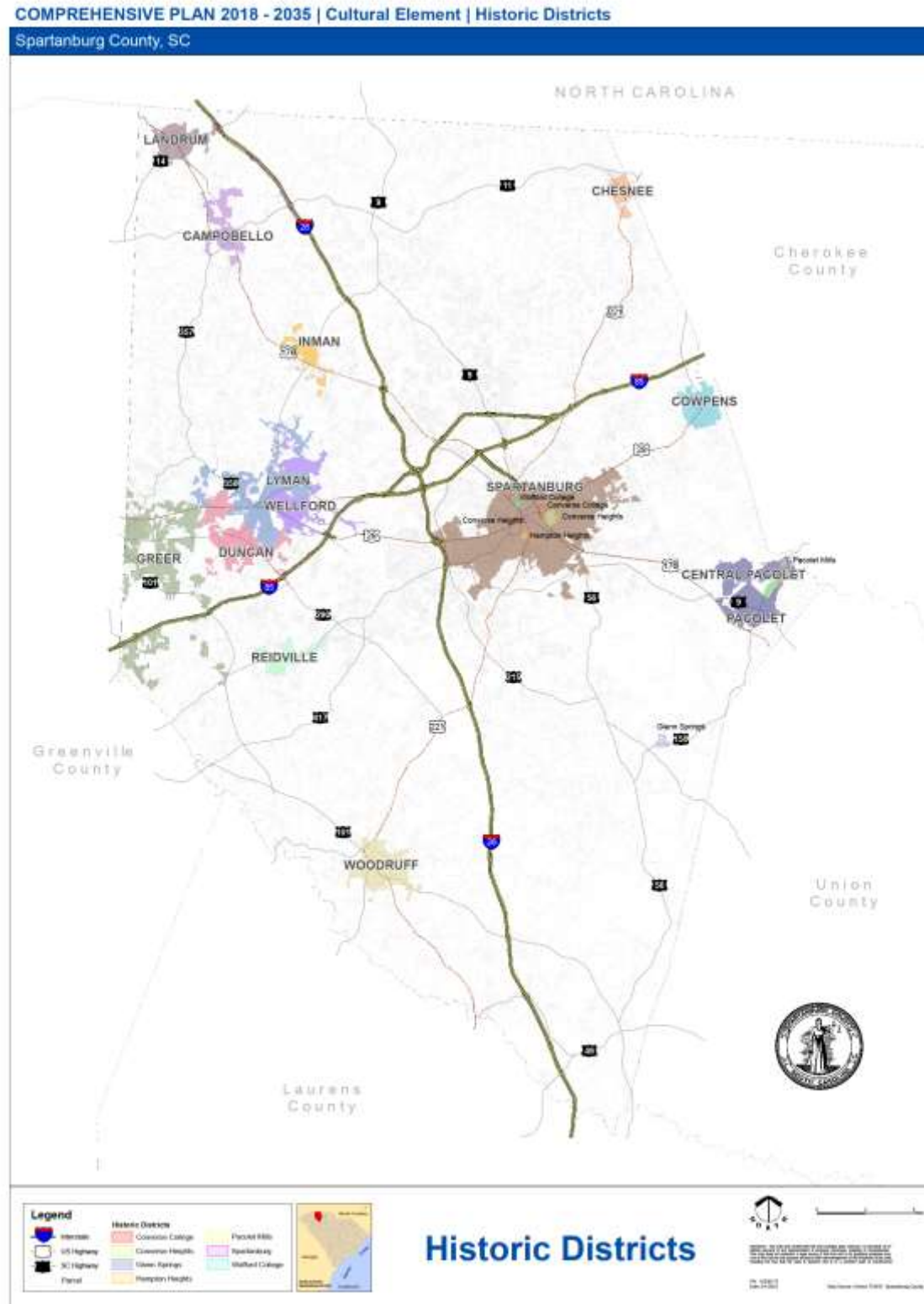
<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/spartanburg/S10817742063/index.htm>

James M. Davis House was built in 1915 by local merchant, community leader and Pelham native, James Marvin Davis. The house is a large two-story, wood-frame, central hall modified American Foursquare dwelling.

**Hurricane Tavern - <http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/spartanburg/S10817742047/index.htm>**

Hurricane Tavern, or Workman Farm located in the Woodruff area, is a rural farmstead containing a brick farmhouse built in 1811 with major alterations and additions in 1850 and 1920, an 1885 frame farmhouse, a 1924 country store, a collection of 27 intact late nineteenth and early twentieth century agricultural outbuildings, a 1948 ten-acre agriculturally-related lake, and approximately 250 acres of historically terraced agricultural fields.

## Historic Districts





## Significant Historic Sites

Besides the sites that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Spartanburg County has at least 145 other Significant Historic Sites. These points include places that might not be on the Register, yet still attract visitors, such as museums, parks, and churches. Local efforts and programs designed to preserve and promote the County's historical resources are headed primarily by the Spartanburg County Historical Association. However, this is not the only agency or group involved. Many of the municipalities within Spartanburg County are also focusing on preserving their histories as a source of local pride, as well as for tourism. While these points may not necessarily be eligible for federal tax credits the way Register sites are, there is a growing public awareness and appreciation for history which may be enough to sustain some of these locations for future generations.

The following are just a few of the historical sites in Spartanburg County. Some of these sites are on the National Register and others, while not on the Register, are equally as important to the history of our County.

**Camp Croft State Park** - <http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/croft/introduction.aspx>

**Camp Wadsworth**

**Cowpens National Battlefield**- <https://www.nps.gov/cowp/index.htm>

### **Spartanburg Cemeteries**

There are dozens of cemeteries throughout Spartanburg County that hold great significance to historians and genealogists alike. A few of those include Calvary Episcopal Cemetery, Old City Cemetery, and Magnolia Cemetery.

**Morgan Square in Downtown Spartanburg**

**Musgrove Mill State Historic Site**

**Nazareth Presbyterian Church** - <http://nazarethpresbyterian.org/nazareth-presbyterian-church-history/>

**Pacolet Town Hall** – [www.townofpacolet.com/](http://www.townofpacolet.com/)

**Historic Price House** - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/historic-price-house/>

### **Reidville Academy Faculty House**

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, Reidville Academy Faculty House has served many uses over the years since it housed teachers. It has been a private residence and a museum and is currently owned by the Reidville Historical Society.

**Seay House** - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/seay-house/>

**Timrod Library in Woodruff**

**Walnut Grove Plantation** – <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/walnut-grove-plantation/>

### **Museums and Historic Resources**

- American Legion Post 28 Military Museum
- Hub City Railroad Museum
- Pacolet Area Museum
- Spartanburg Regional History Museum

**Cowpens Veterans Memorial Park** -<https://spartanburgparks.org/parks/cowpens-veterans-park/>  
Cowpens Veterans Memorial Park includes a war memorial, reflection benches and pathway, a refurbished 1896 Cowpens train depot, and covered stage.

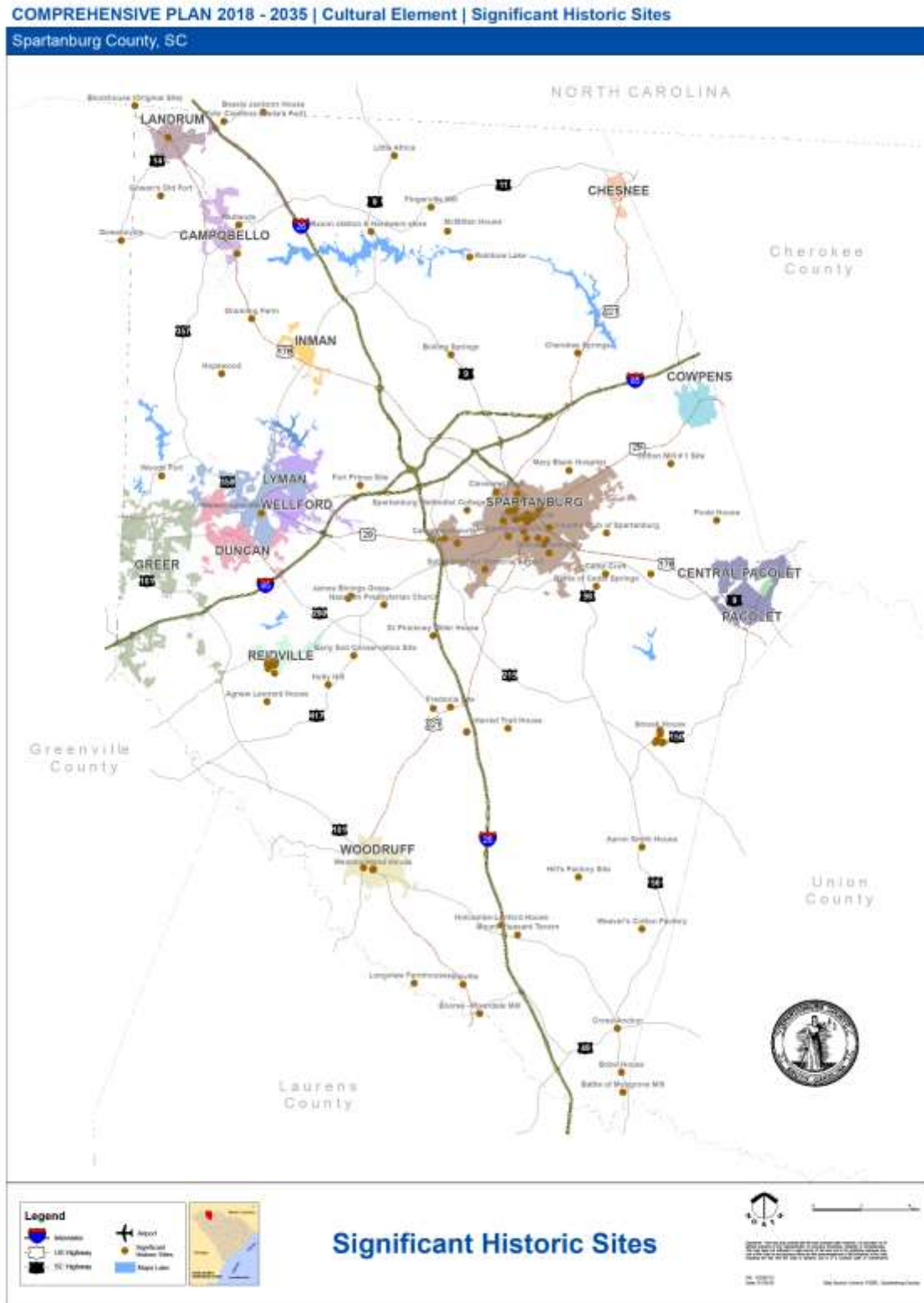
**Pacolet River Flood Sculpture** -<http://www.pacoletmemories.com/flood.html>

Dedicated in November 2011, this small park remembers the nearly 100 people who died when floodwaters swept through the Pacolet River valley the morning of June 6, 1903. The flood wiped out 65 homes, destroyed 4 textile mills and heavily damaged 2 other mills.

### **Duncan Park Memorial**

The Duncan Park Memorial lists the names of more than 600 young men from Spartanburg County who died while in service to their country. In addition to the granite tablets of names, the memorial includes the American flag, a POW flag, and service flags from the 5 branches of military. An annual memorial service is held onsite on Memorial Day Sunday.

# Significant Historic Sites



## Growing Interest in Preservation

In recognition of its role and responsibility in preserving the past for the future, the Spartanburg County Historical Association has adopted the following mission statement: “to promote and encourage interest in all aspects of the history of the region; to bring about a closer relationship among persons in the region who are interested in its history; and to encourage the preservation of historical sites, materials and records of the area.” The Association has adopted goals for promoting and encouraging interest in all aspects of the history of the county and bringing about a closer relationship among persons in the region who are interested in its history. The association is committed to preserving and maintaining historically accurate properties and increasing public awareness.

Local efforts and programs designed to preserve and promote the County’s historical resources are headed primarily by the Spartanburg County Historical Association. However, this is not the only agency or group involved. The Reidville community, with its inventory of historical structures, has organized a local Historical Association. The Town of Cowpens also has a Historical Museum and Civic Center to showcase its memorabilia. Pacolet has joined other municipalities in the County in capitalizing on the benefits of historical sites to their local economy. Since 1998 the City of Spartanburg has had the National Park Service designation of being a Certified Local Government (CLG) which promotes “Preservation through Partnership”. The goal of the CLG Program is for local, state, and federal governments to work together to help communities save the irreplaceable historic character of places. Through the certification process, communities make a local commitment to historic preservation. By being a CLG, City of Spartanburg has access to benefits such as preservation funding, technical assistance and sustainability. For more information on the CLG Program and how to get a community certified, click this link: <https://www.nps.gov/clg/>

With history and heritage tourism on the rise, it’s important to remember that when irreplaceable structures are destroyed or damaged, instead of preserved and protected, they can no longer effectively tell their own unique story. Travelers are seeking distinct experiences in extraordinary places that are only made possible when local traditions are perpetuated and conserved.

## Historical Downtown Walking Tour- <https://hubcitytour.com/>

The Historical Downtown Walking Tour, an accomplishment of the Tourism Action Plan, is a self-guided tour that takes approximately 1 hour to complete with options for side trips to some of the oldest cemeteries and colleges in Spartanburg. The tour begins and ends at Morgan Square and has 14 stops along the way that touch on different chapters of the development of the urban space from the Revolutionary War era to present day. Along the tour you can discover the original town center, wagon factory (now a wine shop), and a Masonic Lodge that houses a bookstore, coffee bar, and bakery.



Walking tour stops:

- Morgan Monument
- Bell Tower
- Masonic Temple
- West Main Street
- Ezell Street
- Magnolia Street
- Across from the Courthouse
- Montgomery Building
- Chapman Cultural Center
- Converse Street
- Up-Town
- Mid-Town
- Palmetto Corner
- Wall Street



## Music History

**Spartanburg Music Trail-** <https://spartanburgmusictrail.com/>



The Spartanburg Music Trail honors local musicians from Spartanburg County who made a national or international influence in the world of music. There are currently 9 stops along the trail that highlight 18 musical artists from various genres such as country, gospel, soul, and rock 'n' roll. Music and narration at each stop can be heard using your smartphone. The trail, that takes approximately 20 minutes, begins in the Grain District near Hub City Bookshop and ends at the Chapman Cultural Center. With new musicians being

added every 2 years the trail will eventually circle all the way around downtown Spartanburg. Hub City Writers Project along with Spartanburg County Historical Association, Spartanburg



Philharmonic, Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium, and HUB-BUB were instrumental in the trail concept and implementation.

Local musicians highlighted in the trail include:

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| -Ira Tucker           | -Champ Hood         |
| -Arthur Prysock       | -Don Reno           |
| -Singin' Billy Walker | -Blue Ridge Quartet |
| -Clara Smith          | -Sparkletones       |
| -Marshall Tucker Band | -Marshall Chapman   |
| -Pink Anderson        | -David Ball         |
| -Johnny Blowers       | -Buck Trent         |
| -Hank Garland         | -David Daniels      |
| -Walter Hyatt         | -Carlos Moseley     |



## Art History

**Foothills Quilt Trail** - <https://www.foothillsquilttrail.com/>

A Quilt Trail is comprised of quilt block designs painted on weather-resistant boards installed outside at various locations along a designed route. These trails, recognized

as popular tourist destinations, started in Ohio in 2003 and quickly spread because of their colorful and nostalgic appeal. In 2012 the City of Landrum initiated their own quilt trail which was the 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state, but was part of a growing quilt trail movement now found in 48 states. Around the City of Landrum you can now find 38 quilt blocks that represent a combination of local history, visual arts, and heritage crafts. The blocks, ranging in size from 1 foot to 8 foot square, add charming touches to exteriors in the City's traditional store fronts. On this self-guided tour each block is linked to the history of its site, the type of business, or the pattern in a treasured family quilt. All types of quilts are represented: pieced, appliqued, landscape, and contemporary. In 2014 students at O.P. Earle Elementary School included a geocaching project, Treasures on the Foothills Quilt Trail, to the self-guided tour.



## Military History

Spartanburg County has a rich, lengthy military history ranging from its inception as an initial settlement to World War II. Prior to the American Revolution settlers in the Backcountry had to protect themselves against Cherokee raiding parties. Then, the Patriot cause gained support and local militia, like the Spartan Regiment, rallied to fight the British. During the course of the Revolution several notable battles and skirmishes occurred in Spartanburg County. In World War I Camp Wadsworth trained over 100,000 men and in World War II over 200,000 soldiers received training at Camp Croft.

### **Camp Wadsworth – World War I** - <http://schistory.net/campwadsworth/>

Camp Wadsworth, established in 1917, served as one of America's premier army mobilization centers. Spartanburg was chosen as one of the 32 newly commissioned training cantonments in the country. Named after the Union Brigadier General James S. Wadsworth, the newly constructed camp was built to house the New York National Guard. After two years providing training for over 100,000 men, Camp Wadsworth closed in 1919. The original Camp Wadsworth site is now the location of Westgate Mall.

### **Camp Croft – World War II** - <http://www.schistory.net/campcroft/index.html>

Camp Croft, established in 1940, was named after Greenville native Major General Edward Croft, US Army Chief of Infantry. To construct the infantry replacement training center (IRTC) the US Army relocated 263 families and turned tobacco and cotton fields into a cantonment area. The construction of the camp proved to be the largest building project of its kind in the history of the area. Between 1940 and 1947 over 200,000 soldiers moved through Croft IRTC for training before the war. In 1950 the Army sold the land by pieces to organizations and businesses and transferred 7,088 acres to the SC Commission of Forestry for the creation of the Croft State Park.



### **Spartanburg Memorial Airport – World War II**

Spartanburg Memorial Airport, opened in 1927, was South Carolina's first commercial airport. Over the years the airport saw its share of celebrities and special events including Charles Lindbergh at the grand opening, then in 1931 Amelia Earhart gave an impromptu lecture, and in 1932 the first recorded aerial wedding took place between Robert Turner and Doris Bell at 5,000 feet. Spartanburg Memorial Airport also played a significant role in World War II as a training facility for the US Army Air Corps and a refueling stop for naval aviation.

### **Revolutionary War Trail** – [www.revwartour.com](http://www.revwartour.com)

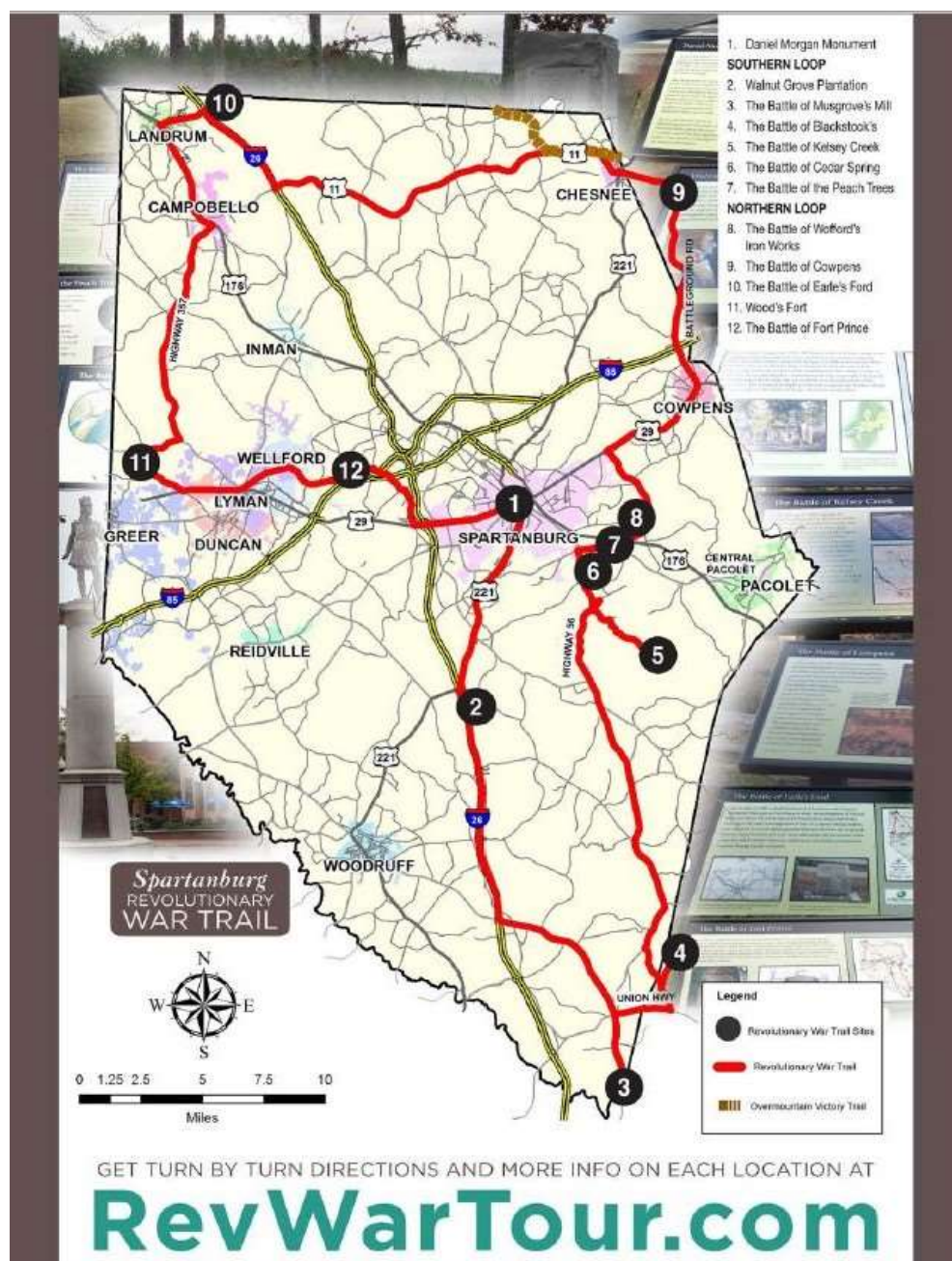
Since 2014 residents and visitors have explored the self-guided Revolutionary War Trail which highlights significant sites of the American Revolution around the county. Select the full tour or choose just the Northern Loop or Southern Loop. Some of the 12 stops include Daniel Morgan monument, Walnut Grove Plantation, the Battle of



Musgrove's Mill and the Battle of Earle's Ford. This trail, spearheaded by the Spartanburg CVB and Spartanburg County Historical Association and an accomplishment of the Tourism Action Plan, gives all users an indication of the importance the Revolutionary War played in Spartanburg.

#### Revolutionary War stops:

- Daniel Morgan Monument
- Walnut Grove Plantation
- The Battle of Musgrove's Mill
- The Battle of Blackstock's
- The Battle of Kelsey Creek
- The Battle of Cedar Spring
- The Battle of the Peach Trees
- The Battle of Wofford's Iron Works
- The Battle of Cowpens
- The Battle of Earl's Ford
- Wood's Fort
- The Battle of Fort Prince





**Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail (OVNHT) Historical Driving Route -**  
<https://www.nps.gov/ovvi/index.htm>



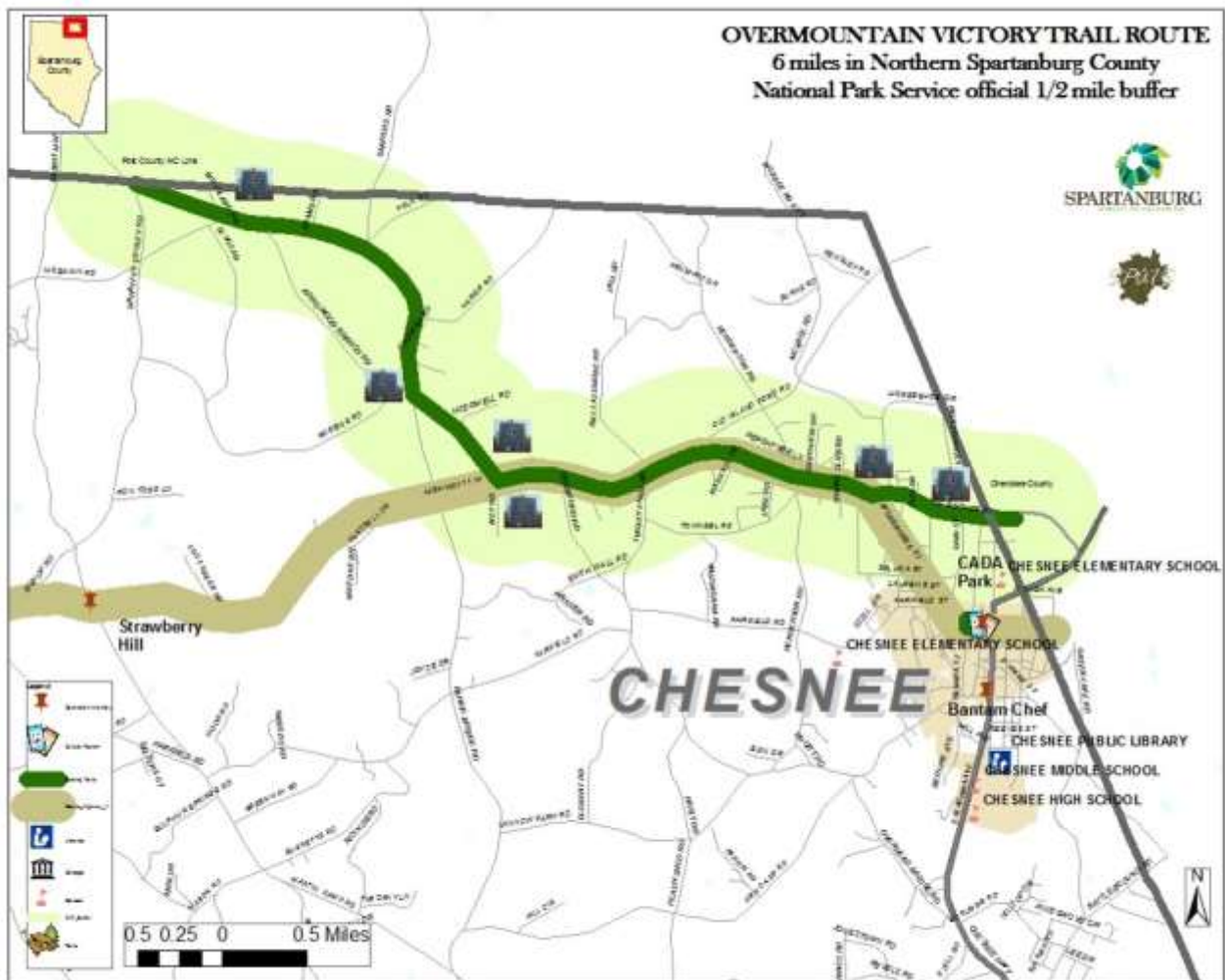
The Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail (OVNHT) traverses 330 miles from Abingdon, Virginia to Kings Mountain National Military Park. Six miles of this historic trail route pass through northeastern Spartanburg County from Polk County, North Carolina line via Parris Bridge Road and SC Scenic Highway 11 to the Cherokee County line. OVNHT roadway signs currently mark the commemorative motor route.

[→link to PDF of plan](#)

In 2015 Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS) completed a comprehensive Master Plan for the six miles of historic trail that pass through Spartanburg County. For more information and to download the plan, click this link:

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/overmountain-trail-master-plan/>

For a full map of the driving route, click this link: <http://npplan.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Map-of-Commemorative-Motor-Route-OVNHT.pdf>



## Revolutionary War Battle Sites

Throughout the American Revolution South Carolina and Spartanburg County, in general, witnessed numerous battles and skirmishes. South Carolina saw more Revolutionary War engagements than any other colony except New Jersey.

### The Battle of Earle's Ford

In July 1780 a small detachment of Loyalists under Captain Dunlap left their post at Fort Prince to attack Patriots on the north side of the Pacolet River near O.P. Earle's Ford. Arriving in the early morning hours of July 15, Dunlap and his men crossed the lightly guarded ford and surprised the Patriots nearest the river. The remainder of the camp soon formed for battle and Dunlap retreated upon realizing he was badly outnumbered. There is a granite marker, erected by the Daughters of the Revolution, near the battle site.



### The Battle of Cowpens - <https://www.nps.gov/cowp/index.htm>



In December 1780 General Daniel Morgan moved a veteran force of American Continentals and militia into the area west of the Broad River in modern-day Spartanburg and Cherokee counties. To counter this threat British Commander Lord Cornwallis sent Lieutenant Colonel Tarleton. On the morning of January 17, 1781 Morgan stood against Tarleton at Cowpens. The resulting battle was a complete victory for the Patriots and stands today as one of the most significant events in American History. The Battle of Cowpens became known as the turning point of the war in the South leading to the final Patriot victory at Yorktown. Cowpens National Battlefield has a visitor center, interpretive trails, and an auto tour.

### The Battle of Gowen's Old Fort

In July 1780 Captain John Jones was leading a force of Patriot militia to join Colonel Charles McDowell in North Carolina. On the way the Patriot militia surrounded and attacked a Loyalist camp at Gowen's Old Fort where the Loyalist surrendered without any major resistance. This group of Loyalist militia had been pursuing Colonel John Thomas' 1<sup>st</sup> Spartan Regiment of Militia.

### Wood's Fort

The American Revolution provided an opportunity for pre-war conflicts and disputes to come to the surface in sometimes brutal ways. One of these incidents occurred in July 1776 when a party of Loyalists and Cherokees raided the Hampton home near the Middle Tyger River, killing several of family members before the survivors fled to Wood's Fort, a pre-Revolutionary War fort in the area. The fort was built to protect colonial families in the area during the warfare in 1775 and 1776 with the Cherokee Nation that allied with the British. It was refortified in 1780.





### **The Battle of Fort Prince**

Following the British attack at Earle's Ford a small group of Patriots under Captain Edward Hampton pursued Captain James Dunlap. Hampton caught Dunlap and began driving him and his men toward the British-held post at Fort Prince. Upon reaching the outskirts of the fort and its 300 British soldier, Hampton and his men withdrew. Fearing an attack by a larger Patriot force, the British son abandoned Fort Prince. The fort was one of several pre-Revolutionary War forts built near the Indian Boundary Line (Spartanburg-Greenville County line) that were used during the Revolution.



### **The Battle of Cedar Spring**



In early July 1780 a small force of Patriot militia under Colonel John Thomas Jr mustered near Cedar Spring. The British planned to attack the camp in a night raid, but Thomas' mother, Jane, overheard the plan while visiting her husband, Colonel John Thomas, who was imprisoned by the British and alerted her son. Thomas and his men waited in ambush near their camp and opened fire on the British, killing and wounding many and scattering the survivors. The spring is on land owned by the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind near the Palmetto Trail.

### **The Battle of the Peach Trees**

Continuing their attempts to control this region, British forces under Major Patrick Ferguson were in pursuit of several hundred Patriots under Colonel Elijah Clarke, known as one of the fiercest fighters on the Southern frontier, and Colonel Isaac Shelby. In August 1780 Ferguson detached a small group to attack the Patriots who occupied a peach orchard near Cedar Spring. The British were repulsed after savage, close combat fighting. Clarke and Shelby feared a follow-up attack and retreated north towards Lawson's Fork Creek.



### **The Battle of Blackstock's**

In November 1780 General Thomas Sumter and several hundred militia under his command stopped on the hills overlooking the Tyger River at Blackstock's Plantation to face Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton. Using their superior numbers, the dominating heights of the hill they occupied, and the protected cover of Blackstock's outbuildings, Sumter defeated Tarleton in what is arguably Sumter's greatest victory. The battlefield, protected public property, has an information kiosk, small parking area,

battle monument and a spur of the Palmetto Trail along the Tyger River on site.

### **The Battle of Kelsey Creek** - <http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/croft/introduction.aspx>

In the spring of 1780 a group of Loyalists advanced on the home of the Thomas family near Kelsey Creek which was storing Patriot gun powder guarded by Captain John Thomas Jr and about two dozen men. Learning of the Loyalists' approach Thomas removed the powder and left a few family members behind to create a diversion. Their steady fire from the house forced the Loyalists to withdraw without the gun powder. The Thomas home site is located near the junction of Fairforest Creek and Kelsey Creek inside Croft State Park.

### **Walnut Grove Plantation** - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/walnut-grove-plantation/>



Walnut Grove Plantation, operated by the Spartanburg County Historical Association, recounts how free and enslaved people settled the SC Backcountry, fought for independence, and built a new nation. The plantation was established in 1767 by Charles and Mary Moore. Over the course of 40 years the Moore family raised their 10 children, opened their plantation as a muster site for local militia prior to the Battle of Cowpens, and survived a raid by Loyalist William "Bloody Bill" Cunningham in 1781. The plantation was home to daughter Kate Moore Barry who aided General Daniel Morgan prior to the Battle of Cowpens and her younger brother, Thomas Moore, who fought in the battle. Walnut Grove Plantation is open to the public seasonally as well as tours by staff members are available. 2017 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> annual

FestiFall, a Revolutionary War reenactment, which is held every October.

### **The Battle of Wofford's Iron Works**

After the Battle of the Peach Trees, Colonel Clarke and Colonel Shelby retreated north to avoid another confrontation with Major Ferguson. He caught them at Wofford's Iron Works on Lawson's Fork Creek, but could not successfully engage because all of the Patriots were mounted. The Patriots continued to retreat and the British returned to their camp at Cedar Spring. This running battle is referred to by several names, including "2<sup>nd</sup> Cedar Spring", "The Battle of the Peach Trees", and "The Battle of Wofford's Iron Works". The precise sites are not known since Wofford's Iron Works was destroyed by Loyalist "Bloody Bill" Cunningham in 1781.

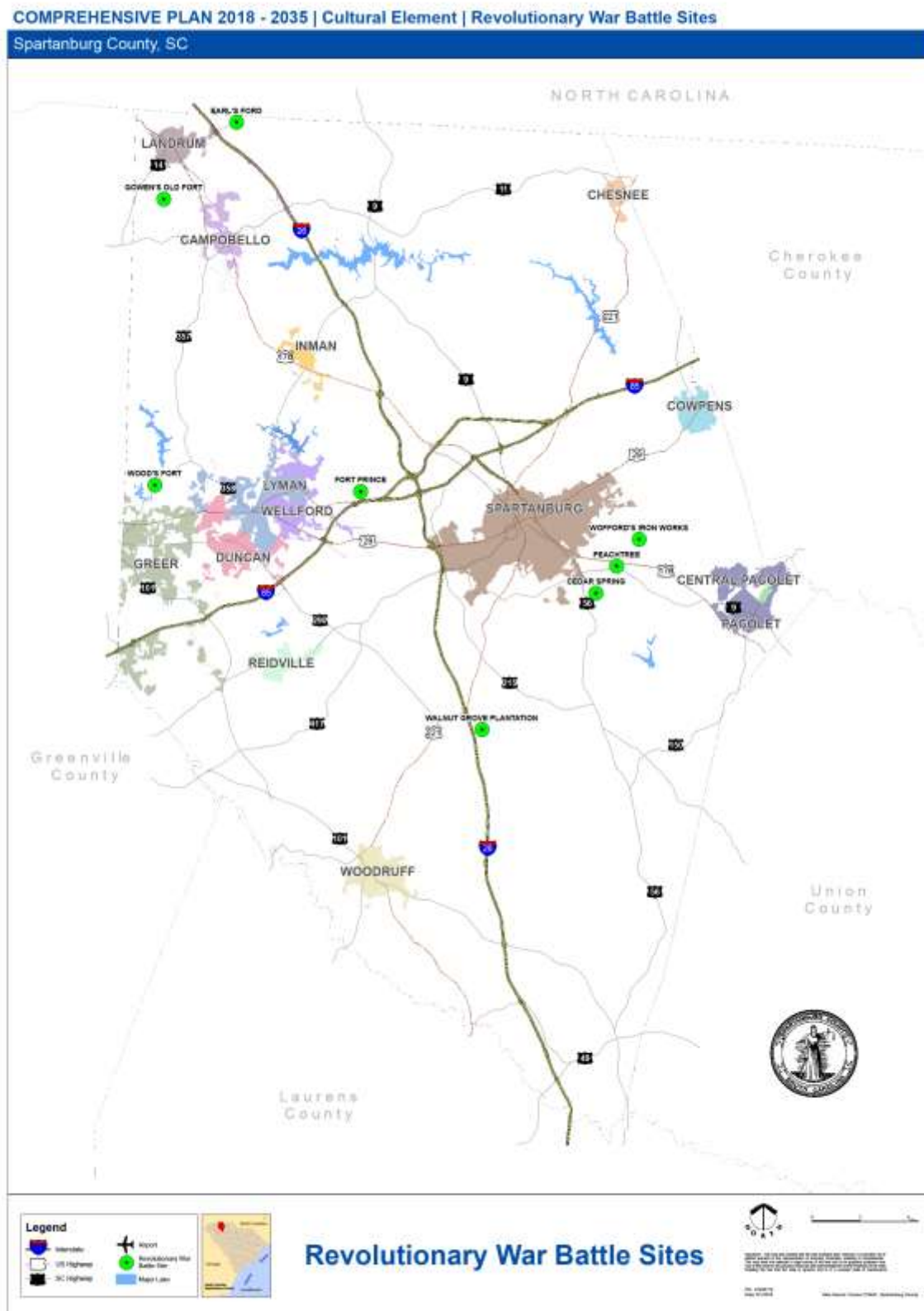


### **The Battle of Musgrove's Mill** - <http://southcarolinaparks.com/musgrovemill/introduction.aspx>



In August 1780, 200 Patriot militia left their camp on the Broad River and rode under the cover of darkness to surprise a large group of Loyalist militia camped at Musgrove's Mill on the south bank of the Enoree River. The Patriots lured the British into an ambush resulting in a significant Patriot victory and setting the stage for the Battle of Kings Mountain in October. The battle site is a state park with interpretive trails, a visitor center and full-time staff.

## Revolutionary War Battle Sites





## Hub City History

Spartanburg County received its nickname, Hub City, due to the multiple railroad lines that radiated from the city forming the shape of a wheel hub. There are two main historical railroad references in Spartanburg County – the Hub City Railroad Museum and the Cowpens Depot Museum.

### Trains on the Trail - <http://www.active-living.org/trains-on-the-trail>

Trains on the Trail, an initiative of Partners for Active Living in partnership with Women Giving for Spartanburg, Spartanburg County Historical Association, Spartanburg School District 7, City of Spartanburg, and Spartanburg Little Theatre, is a permanent children's scavenger hunt located on the Mary Black Foundation Rail Trail. Local artist, Richard Conn, created the 5 bronze sculptures of trains that were seen in Spartanburg County years past. The



scavenger hunt begins at the Henry St trail head kiosk where brochures with clue and historical information are available. To download the brochure, click this link: [http://www.active-living.org/files/files/Trains\\_Trail\\_Brochure\\_Web.pdf](http://www.active-living.org/files/files/Trains_Trail_Brochure_Web.pdf)

## Textile and Industry History

Spartanburg County's extensive textile history began back in 1816 and over the course of two centuries more than 100,000 men, women, and children labored in Spartanburg textile mills. The Spartanburg textile community grew to one of the nation's mightiest textile centers and became renowned as "the Lowell of the South". Textile mills brought booming economic prosperity to the County, but over the course of two centuries many of the once mighty mills closed their doors. Thankfully that wasn't the end of the story for many of the various mill sites around the County. A new movement to revitalize, restore, and preserve many of the mills into luxury condos and retail space has begun to take place. The life and vitality that is present in these revitalized mills are bringing a new wave of economic prosperity with them. The story of these abandoned and forgotten textile mills have finally come full circle.

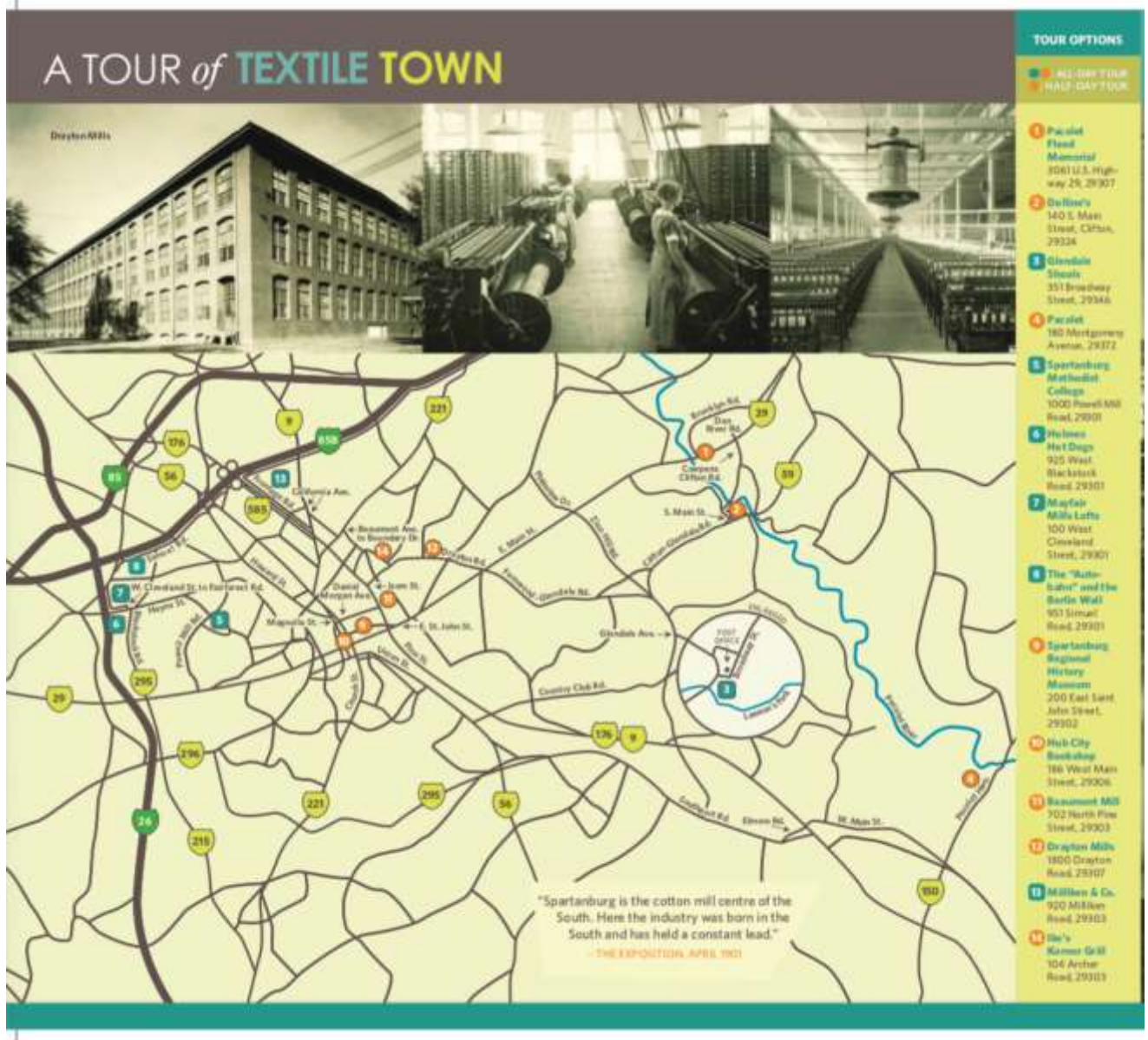
### A Tour of Textile Town - <http://www.textiletowntour.com/>

Discover why Spartanburg County was known around the country as a booming textile town. While on this self-guided tour you can get a glimpse into the lives of the men, women, and children who worked in the textile mills. Some of the stops along the tour include Glendale Shoals, Beaumont Mill, Pacolet, and Drayton Mills. Half-day tours offer an overview of textile town with a breakfast and lunch option. Full-day tours offer an in-depth adventure with a breakfast, lunch, and dinner option. Both tours are available on your smartphone. To download the map, click this link: <http://www.textiletowntour.com/downloads/textile-town-guide.pdf>



## Textile tour stops:

- Pacolet Flood Memorial
- Dollines
- Glendale Shoals
- Pacolet
- Spartanburg Methodist College
- Holmes Hot Dogs
- Mayfair Mills Lofts
- The “Autobahn” at the Berlin Wall
- Spartanburg Regional History Museum
- Hub City Bookshop
- Beaumont Mill
- Drayton Mills
- Milliken & Co.
- Ike’s Korner Grill





## Historical Celebrations

There are numerous festivals and events that take place annually in Spartanburg County. Some of these events are historically important to Spartanburg.

- Dickens of a Christmas - City of Spartanburg- <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/dickens-of-a-christmas>
- Battle of Cowpens Anniversary Celebration - <https://www.nps.gov/cowp/specialevents.htm>
- Mighty Moo Festival - Town of Cowpens - <http://cowpensmightymoo.com/>
- Daniel Morgan's March - <http://pacoletmemories.com/morgansmarch.html>
- Red, White and Boom - City of Spartanburg - <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/red-white-and-boom>
- Taste of the Backcountry - Historic Price House - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/historic-price-house/>
- Festifall - Walnut Grove Plantation- <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/walnut-grove-plantation/>
- Childhood on the Plantation - Walnut Grove Plantation - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/walnut-grove-plantation/>
- Candlelight Supper – Walnut Grove Plantation - <http://www.spartanburghistory.org/walnut-grove-plantation/>

## Economic Impact

The economic impact of arts and cultural related events in Spartanburg County mean big business for the community. In addition to the multi-million dollar economic impacts, the arts and culture industry also significantly boosts tourism. A study recently conducted in partnership with Americans for the Arts. The Arts and Economic Prosperity 5: *The Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts and Cultural Organizations and Their Audiences in the Greater Spartanburg Area (AEP5)*, [\[link\]](#) demonstrates that a vibrant arts and cultural community attracts residents to continue to spend their discretionary income close to home and entices nonresidents to visit Spartanburg and help support local businesses thrive. The benefit to a prosperous art and cultural scene is that community leaders can choose to fund the arts as well as support economic development simultaneously.

The arts and cultural community can only continue to develop and flourish in Spartanburg County if the creative people and industries continue to grow as well. Many times these creative people also work in one of various creative industries found in the County. A creative industry has been defined as a range of industry whose core value-creating activity lies in the making of meaning or value of emotion. This is done by telling stories, making pictures, designing objects, staging events – *cultural* activities. Add technology and management and you get film, broadcasting, the music industry, computer games, fashion, and so on. Creative industries tend to cluster and Spartanburg County has the ingredients to position itself to grow this sector of its economy. The Chapman Cultural Center, in conjunction with Spartanburg County, set about identifying these creative people and industries and cultural assets in order to provide a catalyst for attracting these industries to the County in an effort called Culture Counts.

To learn more about the importance of creative industries to the South Carolina economy, please refer to the *South Carolina Creative Industries Profile*. [\[link\]](#)

## Creative People and Industries

### Creative People

There are many cultural resources in Spartanburg that cannot be defined by a map or building. These are the creative people who not only staff and support the organizations, but also add to the wealth of resources in the county. Culture Counts, a creative census conducted largely by the Chapman Cultural Center, was undertaken in order to find the creative people in Spartanburg. This census sought to locate employees, volunteers, hobbyists, and professional artists of every genre and medium.

Industries of the twenty-first century will depend increasingly on the generation of knowledge through creativity and innovation. Human creativity might even be called the ultimate economic resource.

### Creative Industries

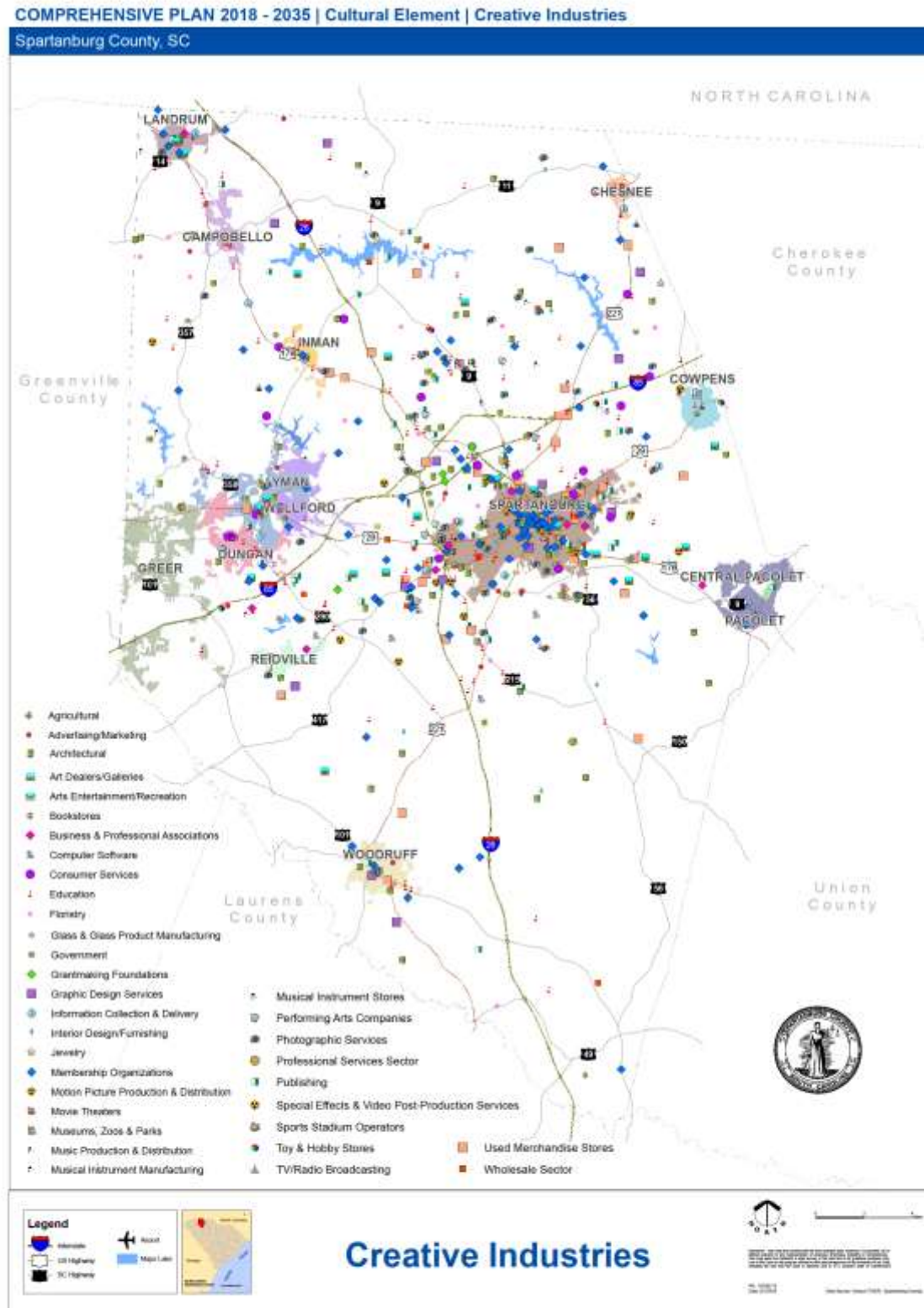
When thinking about industry in Spartanburg County, one naturally thinks of the manufacturing industry or of the many historic mills. While both are certainly important as part of our past and our future, the purpose of discussing industry within this element is to highlight a sector that is alive and well in Spartanburg. This sector is Creative Industries. With numerous companies that fall into the Creative Industries sector according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) (a standard system used by the Federal government for the purposes of classifying data) Spartanburg certainly has a creative cluster.

At the beginning of the Culture Counts process, all of the Creative Industries in Spartanburg were identified through NAICS and mapped. Additional data points were added by taking the maps into the communities and asking citizens about what was missing. This process resulted in the comprehensive map below.

Creative industries have become increasingly important to economic well-being. A ‘creative industry cluster’ refers to a type of urban quarter that has a high concentration of cultural activities and creative industry companies with on-site networks that create added value. It is often used as a development strategy that promotes cultural industries and individual creativities through the provision of conducive cultural surrounding and agglomerative effects.

There are several important reasons to map and acknowledge this cluster of the economy in Spartanburg County. First and foremost, the companies that have invested here deserve recognition and support. By creating awareness of these creative companies and businesses, the Culture Counts effort hopes to foster an awareness and collaboration among them. Secondly, by identifying a creative economy in Spartanburg, others who are part of this sector are more likely to locate in an area where this type of business is already happening. Recruitment can be enhanced as Spartanburg grows and continues to support its creative industrial hub. To view the South Carolina Creative Industries Profile click this [\[link\]](#).

# Creative Industries



## Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 in the Greater Spartanburg Area

Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 (AEP5) is Americans for the Arts' fifth economic impact study of the nation's nonprofit arts and cultural organizations and their audiences. Nationally the nonprofit arts industry generated \$166.3 billion in economic activity in 2015 - \$63.8 billion in spending by arts and cultural organizations and an additional \$102.5 billion in event-related expenditures by their audiences. All of this activity supported 4.6 million jobs and generated \$27.5 billion in revenue for local, state, and federal governments.

Americans for the Arts economic impact study has grown from only 33 local communities in the first study in 1994 to the most comprehensive study of its kind that includes 341 study regions representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The study regions include 113 cities, 115 counties, 81 multi-city or multi-county regions, 20 states, 12 arts districts that range in population from 1,500 to 4 million. For the purposes of this study spending by individual artists and the for-profit arts and culture sector have been excluded.

If you go beyond the nonprofit sector into all commercial for-profit arts, education, and individual artists you're looking at a \$730 billion industry (4.2 percent of the nation's GDP which is a larger share of the economy than transportation, tourism, agriculture, and construction). For the purposes of this study, however, spending by individual artists and for-profit arts have been excluded.

Nationally in 2015 data was gathered from 14,439 organizations and 212,691 arts event attendees. The typical attendee spends \$31.47 per person per event in addition to admission costs. The study also shows one-third of attendees (34 percent) traveled from outside the county in which the event took place. On average, non-resident attendees (\$47.57) spend more than twice what resident attendees (\$23.44) do. This data proves that a vibrant arts community not only keeps residents and their discretionary spending close to home, it also attracts visitors who spend money and help local businesses thrive. Community leaders no longer have to struggle to choose between arts funding and economic development because now they can choose both.

The arts can mean major business for the community.

### Greater Spartanburg Area

Using localized research, the AEP5 study data proves that the nonprofit arts and culture sector are a significant industry. In Spartanburg County arts & culture generate **\$32 million** in total economic activity - \$21.4 million by nonprofit arts & cultural organizations and \$10.7 million in event-related sending by audiences. They also support **1,130 full-time** equivalent jobs, generate **\$22.4 million** in household income to local residences and delivers **\$2.7 million** in local and state government revenue.

Through a 2016 survey by the Americans for the Arts', 82 percent of Americans believe the arts and culture are important to local businesses and the economy and 87 percent of Americans believe the arts and culture are important to quality of life. It's evident through this research that when we support the arts we also enhance the quality of life and invest in Spartanburg's economic well-being.



## Organizations

Nonprofit arts and cultural organizations are good business partners in the community. They employ people locally, purchase goods and services from other local businesses, and attract tourists to the community. They are members of the Chamber of Commerce and key partners in the marketing and promotion of their cities, region, and state. Data collected from 29 eligible local nonprofit arts and cultural organizations showed that they spent a total of \$21.4 million in 2015. They provide rewarding employment for more than just administrators, artists, curators, choreographers, and musicians. Arts and culture help to employ financial staff, facility managers, and salespeople. They also directly support other occupations like accounting, construction, event planning, legal, logistics, printing, and technology when they spend money in the local community.

## Volunteerism

While volunteerism is not a direct economic impact in this study, it still is enormously important in creating a significant contribution to the viable arts industry. In 2015, 2,151 volunteers donated a total of 100,533 hours which has an estimated aggregated value of \$2.3 million. (Independent Sector estimates the dollar value of the average 2015 volunteer hour to be \$23.56.) Volunteers include any unpaid professional staff, artistic volunteers, clerical volunteers, and service volunteers. The 29 participating local organizations in the study reported an average of 74.2 volunteers with an average of 46.7 hours during 2015 for a total of 3,466.7 hours per organization.

## In-Kind Contributions

In-kind contributions are defined as non-cash donations such as materials, facilities, and services. The 29 participating local organizations reported they received in-kind contributions with an aggregated value of \$210,680 during 2015. Sources of these in-kind contributions can include corporations, individuals, local and state arts agencies, and government agencies.

## Audiences

Nonprofit arts and cultural organizations leverage a significant amount of event-related spending by its audiences. Audience members almost always have extra expenses outside of the initial admission cost. They may pay to park the car, buy gas, purchase dinner, shop in a nearby store, eat dessert after the show, pay a babysitter, and non-residents might also spend money on a hotel. All of this spending generates related commerce for local businesses. A 2016 survey that collected information from 427 event attendees in Spartanburg County shows each attendee spends an average of **\$15.63 per person**, per event in addition to admission. The data shows an aggregated attendance to the 29 participant events was 682,459 with event related spending totaling **\$10.7 million** excluding cost of admission in 2015.

## Cultural Tourists Spend More

The data from the AEP5 study shows cultural tourists spend on average \$15.63 per attendee, per event. Using ZIP code data from the study, 84.8 percent of attendees were residents of Spartanburg County and 15.2 percent were nonresidents who spend an average of 80% more than local attendees.

Residents	Nonresidents
-total attendance – 578,725	-total attendance – 103,734
-percent of attendees - 84.8%	-percent of attendees – 15.2%
-average spent per attendee - \$13.94	-average spent per attendee - \$25.09
-total event-related expenditures - \$8M	-total event-related expenditures - \$2.6M

### **Arts Drive Tourism**

The data received from the study really shows the power the arts has to attract visitors to the community. 56.9 percent of nonresident attendees indicated that the primary purpose of their visit was “specifically to attend this arts/cultural event.” 58.1 percent of nonresidents answered that they would have “traveled to a different community to attend a similar cultural event.” This statistic proves how vital it is to citizens have arts and culture in their community and that they are willing to spend their discretionary income elsewhere if it’s not available. Of the 15.2 nonresidents, 4.6 percent reported an overnight stay when they came to enjoy the arts event. Nonresidents with an overnight stay (\$218.50) spend considerably more money per person than a nonresident with no overnight stay (\$15.73).

### **Arts Retain Local Dollars**

Retaining local arts spending is vital to the economic impact that nonprofit arts and cultural organizations make on their community. 43.2 local residents indicate they would have “traveled to a different community to attend a similar cultural event.” This statistic demonstrates the economic impact arts and culture have. If a community fails to provide a variety of artistic and cultural experiences, it will fail to attract new dollars from cultural tourists and lose the discretionary spending of its own residents who will travel elsewhere for a similar experience.

### **Conclusion**

With nonprofit arts and culture being a \$32 million industry in Spartanburg, it shows that communities that support the arts and culture are investing in an industry that supports jobs, generates government revenue and is the cornerstone of tourism. Arts and culture are proven to be a good return on investment, makes communities a more desirable place to live, work, and play, and provide inspiration and joy to residents, beautify public spaces, and strengthen the social fabric of our communities.

## Cultural Recommendations and Goals

The following cultural recommendations and goals are derived from a variety of resources, one of which being the 2009 Spartanburg Tourism Action Plan. Approved by Spartanburg County Council in 2010, the Tourism Action Plan's mission was "To enhance the economic social, and cultural progress of Spartanburg County and to enrich its quality of life through implementing sustainable tourism; to encourage excellence in collaborations and partnerships; to facilitate greater access to Spartanburg's history, agriculture, recreation, and manufacturing; and to preserve our natural and cultural heritage."

## Cultural Resources

- Increase vibrancy in the County with a focus on the City and other culturally dense areas by using our cultural assets strategically to improve our quality of life and place to attract new jobs, companies, and new residents to our county.
- Encourage regional communication and coordination on cultural issues through partnerships with the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Chapman Cultural Center, and other cultural partners.
- Develop an Arts and Artisans Trail throughout the County that would profile local artists, galleries, and public art while allowing residents throughout Spartanburg County to experience the numerous cultural assets the County has to offer. This could be accomplished through a partnership between local artists, gallery owners, the Chapman Cultural Center, and the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau.
- Continue to expose public and private K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students to events taking place at venues throughout the County and begin to cultivate an appreciation for the cultural aspects in and around Spartanburg.
- Continue to strengthen the relationship with the South Carolina Arts Commission since they are a valuable partner and source of support for arts and cultural programs across the state.
- Host an Annual Spartanburg Venue Forum that would allow the cultural attractions and meeting facility managers to share information about facilities and offerings in the County. It would also nurture the opportunity to develop partnerships between the arts and cultural facilities and the meeting and conference market. Ultimately this could lead to a meeting and venue guide to the County to be used to attract groups.
- Create a Multi-Day National Literary Festival that could be held in a variety of locations throughout the County with partnerships between public and private schools, Spartanburg Public Libraries, and the Hub City Writers Project. Any existing events, like Woodruff's Stone Soup Storytelling Festival, could be easily expanded to include nationally and locally known storytellers, poets, and authors.
- Develop Arts and Culture Packages that could be an effective attraction tool by including clustered arts and cultural amenities, local restaurants, and hotels. These packages might also be deployed as cross-industry packages to appeal to groups with varied interest like arts/culture and sports/recreation. Such a package might also include a "Cultural Passport" for arts and cultural amenities in the County that can be redeemed for a special gift after attending six or more event with a calendar year. This could serve to attract more regional audiences to the cultural events in Spartanburg.
- Continue to support the abundant cultural efforts taking place in the City of Spartanburg such as the Spartanburg Downtown Cultural District designated in 2016 and the various public art initiatives like Seeing Spartanburg in a Different Light and Lighten Up Spartanburg.

- Encourage the growing interest in healthy eating lifestyles by promoting the culinary arts, objectives such as Farm 2 School in District 6, community gardens, and the numerous farmers' markets located all around the County.
- Support the cultural activities taking place in the abundant public and private elementary and secondary schools as well as the colleges and universities within the County. With partnerships between the schools, the Chapman Cultural Center, and the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau, community members can become more aware of the outstanding choral, band, and orchestra concerts, the brilliant drama and dance performances, and the exceptional art exhibits that frequently take place.

## History

- Encourage the preservation of historic structures and sites around Spartanburg County through policy and incentive opportunities in partnership with Spartanburg County Historical Association, and the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program contact at the City of Spartanburg. Use conservation easements and comparable preservation programs while working with local and regional conservation organizations to educate local governments on cultural resource preservation opportunities and policies. Continuing to educate citizens on the importance of preserving historic sites is of the utmost importance.
- Continue the process of nominating historic properties for listing on the National Register of Historic Places with assistance from Spartanburg County and the Spartanburg County Historical Association.
- Continue to maintain a current comprehensive list of historic structures and sites in the County in partnership with Spartanburg County, the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program contact at the City of Spartanburg, and Spartanburg County Historical Association.
- Continue to assess the County's infrastructure to determine the quantity and quality of attractions for history and heritage visitors. This could be accomplished with assistance from the Spartanburg County Historical Association, Spartanburg County, and the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau.
- Continue to develop and implement a Spartanburg County specific history curriculum for K-6th and 7-12th grade levels in conjunction with the Chapman Cultural Center, Spartanburg County Historical Association, and public and private schools. The idea of a "Historical Passport" could be developed for history students to visit certain sites or attend various events. This would encourage parents to visit the sites with their children.
- Continue to develop "living history" venues such as reenactments, storytelling, and live exhibits. The Spartanburg Historical Society is already doing an excellent job of deploying living history interpretation and reenactments. These efforts should be promoted by the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau and provided with additional support.
- Maintain and add to the current list of historical themes in Spartanburg County:
 

-Pre-historic	-Music History
-Native American History	-Revolutionary War History
-Indian trails	-Textile Industry
-Colonial Roads	-“Firsts” in Spartanburg
-Great Wagon Road	-Church history and architecture
-“Piedmont Gateway”	-History of the streetcar system
-Railroad history – “Hub City”	-NASCAR History
-“The Crossroads of the New South”	

## **Economic Impact**

- Grow Spartanburg County's economy by capitalizing on the existing creative industry sector to attract new creative industry as well as those industries that need creative enterprise and creative workforce to be successful.
- Increase tourism and hospitality revenues by using our cultural and historical assets to strategically attract visitors and conventions to the County by capitalizing on the uniqueness and vibrancy of our county.
- Continue to market and brand Spartanburg County as cultural hub of the Southeast through tourism related initiatives and activities. This can be accomplished through continued partnerships with the City of Spartanburg, Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Spartanburg County.
- Continue to support the essential initiatives that the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau uses to leverage the abundant cultural and historical assets throughout Spartanburg County.



# Community Facilities



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## Element

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*South Carolina Code of Laws (6-29-510): (D) A local comprehensive plan must include . . . (5) a community facilities element which considers water supply, treatment, and distribution; sewage system and wastewater treatment; solid waste collection and disposal, fire protection, emergency medical services, and general government facilities; education facilities; and libraries and other cultural facilities . . .*

## **Why is this element important to the county?**

The Community Facilities in our county, as well as in any other jurisdiction, is fundamental to growth.... How do we want our community to look? To interact? To function?

How do we want it to prosper? To lead the industry? What kind of jobs do we want to attract? What kind of dwelling options do we want to offer?

All these questions lead to a collaboration of Community Facilities. When we talk about growth, and how we would like to see our communities grow, we have to talk about infrastructure, the main ingredient of a good mix of Community. It is the necessary item that leads the way for settlement of populations, which in turn opens the door for the business and industrial markets to plant roots in the area. With jobs, we prosper, and with prosperity we put money back into the community to make a better environment for all. We build parks and open spaces and trails and blueways for people to gather and enjoy a better quality of life. Through businesses we offer more services and goods, which attract a diversity of people.

In today's complex environment, no one sector or entity can work without the support of others. We will seek, establish and leverage cross-sector partnerships with community-based organizations, educational institutions, businesses, and other governmental entities to collectively build a better Spartanburg County."

A good majority of the community facilities relate to infrastructure, which are essential to proper growth of the communities in the county by being necessary to support development, redevelopment and infill and serve the public health, safety and welfare. By strategically planning and collaborating with key partners we can create an effective and efficient infrastructure plan; one which will guide and sustain future growth in the proper way... the way our county wants to guide and shape the appearance of our future heritage to others.

The infrastructure systems include transportation (now listed as a separate element), utilities such as water supply, distribution and treatment, sewer systems and wastewater treatment, solid waste management, storm water management, public safety as in fire protection and law enforcement, public health care as in medical and emergency services, parks, open space and recreation, public and higher education, libraries and general government facilities.

## Community Facilities Element

The Community Facilities Element is focused on looking at the numerous facilities the County has in its 819 square mile area with a population of over 306,000 and to evaluate the services provided to the citizens for whom they are intended. Through evaluation we can determine the level of public services made available to citizens in the realm of current and projected needs of the county. In general, most of the community facilities relate to infrastructure and are essential to proper growth of the communities in the county by being necessary to support development and redevelopment and serve the public health, safety and welfare. By strategically planning and collaborating with key partners, we can create an effective and efficient infrastructure plan; one which will guide and sustain future growth.

Not all community facilities are provided by or under the direct control of the county governing authority (County Council). As a result, inter-agency cooperation and coordination are essential to the orderly extension and development of such facilities. The various facility and service providers must share the same goals and objectives, and move in the same direction in a timely manner if there is to be an orderly development process.

The range of community facilities infrastructure systems include public safety as in fire protection and law enforcement, public health care as in communications/9-1-1, medical and emergency services, general government facilities, public and higher education, libraries, utilities such as water supply, distribution and treatment, sewer systems and wastewater treatment, solid waste management, electric, natural gas, parks and outdoor recreation and transportation (a separate element which includes different levels of roadways, public transit, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, airports and railways).

The community facilities element has acquired the pedestrian and bicycle or ‘active transportation’ facilities because it contributes to the community facilities and has an important impact on the function of how they relate to each other and are managed for future growth.

### Public Safety

#### Fire Service/Protection

Today, Spartanburg County fire protection is provided through 38 separate fire departments operating out of 63 fire stations. These departments are organized as 22 Special Purpose Fire Districts, 9 County Council created Fire Service Areas, 5 Municipal Fire Departments which contract with Spartanburg County to provide fire protection outside their corporate limits in County Council created Fire Service Areas, and 2 Municipal Fire Departments that provide coverage only in their corporate limits.



#### Special Purpose Districts (SPD)

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) Boiling Springs  | 12) Landrum           |
| 2) Cherokee Springs | 13) Mayo              |
| 3) Converse         | 14) New Prospect      |
| 4) Croft            | 15) North Spartanburg |
| 5) Drayton          | 16) Pacolet           |

- |                                   |                         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 6) Glendale                       | 17) Pelham-Batesville   |
| 7) Glen Springs-Pauline           | 18) Reidville           |
| 8) Gowensville                    | 19) Roebuck             |
| 9) Greenville-Spartanburg Airport | 20) Startex             |
| 10) Hilltop                       | 21) Westview-Fairforest |
| 11) Holly Springs                 | 22) Whitney             |

#### Fire Service Tax Areas (FSA) w/ Advisory Boards

- |                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1) Chesnee Community          | 6) Inman Community |
| 2) Cooley Springs-Fingerville | 7) Poplar Springs  |
| 3) Cross Anchor               | 8) Tyger River     |
| 4) Enoree                     | 9) Una             |
| 5) Hobbysville                |                    |

#### Fire Service Tax Areas

- |               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1) Campobello | 4) Greer    |
| 2) Cowpens    | 5) Woodruff |
| 3) Duncan     |             |

#### Municipal Fire Departments

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1) City of Inman | 2) City of Spartanburg |
|------------------|------------------------|

Prior to the mid-1950's most of the fire protection in Spartanburg County was provided by municipal fire departments (Spartanburg, Woodruff, Cowpens, Inman, Landrum, etc.) or mill village fire departments if the mill had formed one. If these fire departments did not respond, then the property was destroyed. A push was made during the late 50's and early 60's by several communities for fire protection, and at that time Special Purpose Districts to provide fire protection were formed by Acts of the State Legislature. Special Purpose Districts (SPD) are governed by a Board of Commissioners who are recommended by the Spartanburg County Delegation and appointed by the Governor. Funding for SPD's is provided through taxes which are set by voter referendums held in each separate fire district.

This method of forming fire districts continued into the early to mid 70's when the State Legislature passed what is known as the Home Rule Act. This Act gave local government (County Councils), the authority to form Fire Service Areas in which fire protection could be provided. In Spartanburg, County Council sets the tax millage in the fire service areas based on budgets submitted by Commissioners of the fire service area, who are appointed by County Council.

Prior to 1990, although there were forty six (46) fire departments in the county, still approximately one fifth of the county was outside of the service boundaries of a fire department. That year, County Council adjusted fire district and fire service area boundary lines which placed all land parcels in the coverage area of a fire department.

Almost all of the fire departments operate on an automatic mutual aid system, where multiple departments respond with fire apparatus and firefighters to emergency calls to ensure that adequate manpower is available to handle the situation.

In 1992 the county created the Spartanburg County Fire Prevention and Protection Advisory Committee. They were charged with completing a Plan for improving fire defenses and suppression throughout the county. The Plan established one basic goal... to provide the most effective and efficient countywide fire protection and prevention service, with minimum Class 6 ISO rating for all areas of the county, where practical.

The committee, still in existence, has the following duties and responsibilities in addition to other functions as may, from time to time, be assigned to it by the county council:

- (1) The committee shall advise county council on issues that occasionally come before council which relate to the delivery of fire protection services within the county.
- (2) The committee shall help coordinate the efforts of all concerned agencies, organizations and officials in the implementation of the county fire protection master plan.
- (3) The committee, through the adoption of a county fire protection master plan, shall assist in the development of a set of minimum standards to be adopted by county council, including, but not limited to, those related to personnel, equipment and training, under which the county's fire departments would operate.
- (4) The committee shall develop written procedures and guidelines which shall provide for a fair and equitable method of distributing supplemental funding that would help to ensure that each fire department in the county could comply with the established set of minimum standards contained in the county fire protection master plan.
- (5) The committee shall analyze the need for training, equipment, services and facilities which could be provided by the county for common use by the various fire departments and develop a prioritization schedule for such shared use.
- (6) The committee shall review the fire protection master plan on an annual basis and recommend any amendments to the county council.

Some of the Fire Marshal's Office key responsibilities are:

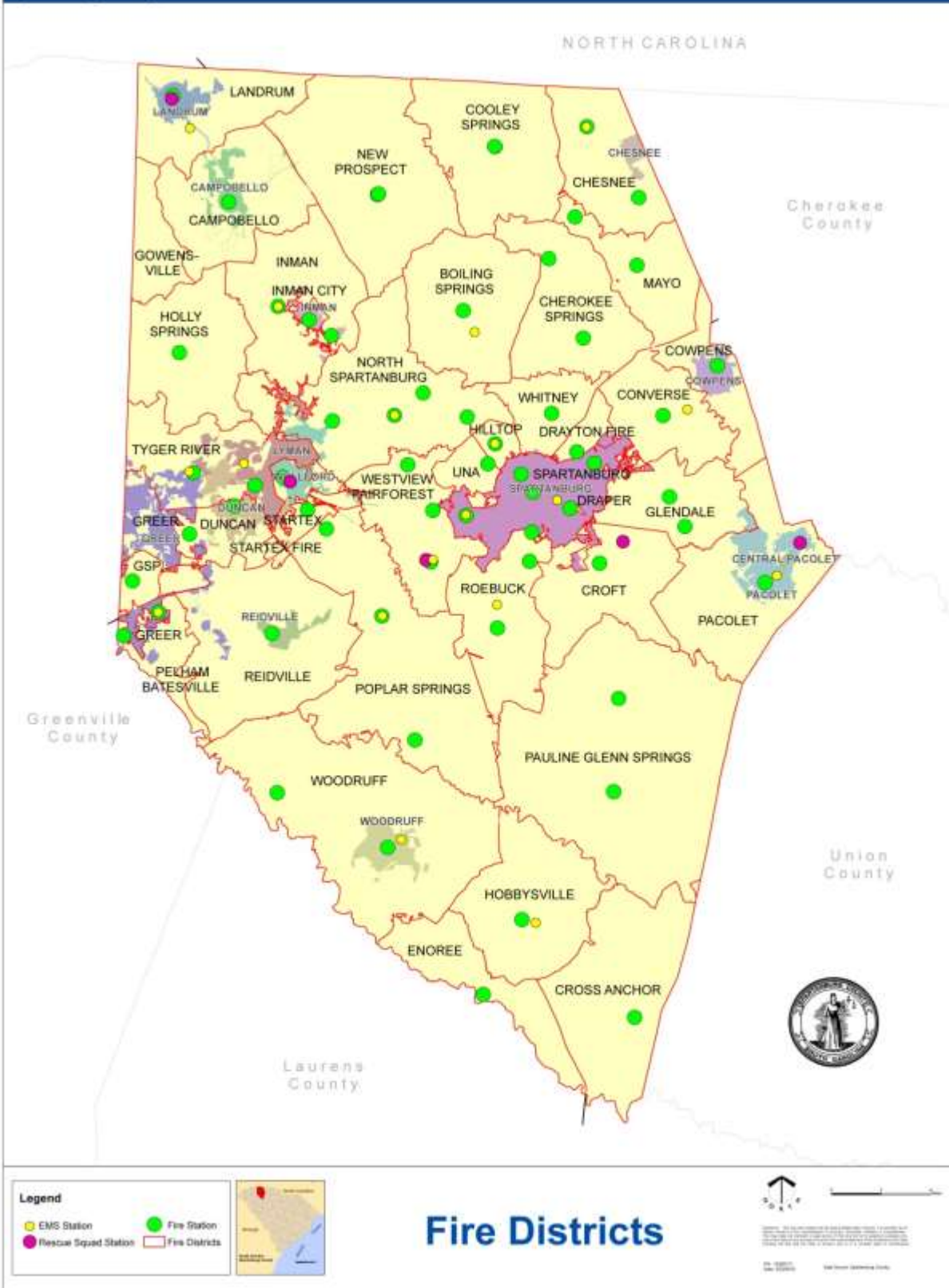
- Provides Spartanburg Community with Specialized Emergency Response Teams/Functions
- Manages county-wide outdoor warning system
- Conducts training and exercise programs for their respective teams
- Manages and trains the County's Fire Investigation Team, Hazardous Materials Response Team & Unified Command Center Team
- Assumes OEM on-call responsibilities at certain designated times



The Priorities & Budget Consideration portion of the Spartanburg County Strategic Plan 2018-2019 calls for the Fire Service areas of Hobbysville, Cross Anchor and Enoree to proceed with a consolidation of services for those communities. Website:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/191/Fire-Marshall>





## **Law Enforcement / Sheriff's Office**

By an act of the legislature of South Carolina in 1785 Spartanburg County was formed out of the Ninety-six District. On the third Monday in June of that year Court was held at Nichols' Mill which stood on the banks of the North Tyger River, now known as the site of the old Anderson Mill. A vote was held and Mr. William Young was duly appointed as the first Sheriff of Spartanburg County. The next Court session was held on the third Monday in September of 1785 at the plantation of Thomas Williamson where present day Spartanburg is located. At this time Sheriff Young began his commission under the hand of his Excellency, the Governor and was sworn in. Since then there have been forty different men who have held the office of Sheriff of Spartanburg County. Currently the Sheriff is Chuck Wright who has served the county since 2005.

The Administrative Division consists of the Chaplains, Information Technologies, Supply, Civil, Records, and Administrative Support. The primary responsibility of the section is to provide support functions, including those necessary to facilitate operations of the Special Services Section, the Criminal Investigation Section, and the Patrol Section.

The Sheriff's Office has multiple divisions. The Supply Section is responsible for all logistical support for the Sheriff's Office, the maintenance of current inventories of equipment, all records associated with the supply function and the purchase of equipment for the Sheriff's Office.

The Civil Division is responsible for tracking the service of all civil papers and the maintenance of records associated with those papers and the Records Division is responsible for the maintenance and control of all police reports and records within the Sheriff's Office.

The Chaplain's Section consists of volunteer, ordained clergy from the Spartanburg community. The Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office Chaplains are responsible for serving the needs of employees of the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office, their families and members of the greater community as necessary.

The purpose of the Office of Professional Standards is to ensure that the integrity of the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office is maintained through an internal system where objectivity, fairness, and justice are assured through intensive and impartial investigation, inspection, and review.

The Office of Crime Prevention for Spartanburg County's goal is to provide each citizen with the knowledge to use common sense and the environment to proactively guard themselves from becoming a victim of crime.

**Criminal Investigators/Detectives** are responsible for the comprehensive, follow-up investigation of criminal offenses occurring within Spartanburg County and identifying, apprehending and assisting in the prosecution of criminal offenders.

The Fraud Unit deals with identity theft, credit card fraud, embezzlement, fraud, financial exploitation of the elderly, internet based financial crimes, breach of trust and counterfeit goods.

Special Victims Unit is responsible for investigating all sex related crimes and all abuse cases. The Unit consists of one Sergeant and three Investigators. The personnel in this Unit are trained in advanced investigative techniques relating to the unique and complex nature of the crimes. They are also responsible for investigating juvenile and elder abuse cases. The Unit works closely with the Department of Social Services and the Spartanburg Children's Advocacy Center.

The Crime Scene Unit is responsible for responding to all crime scenes to document, collect and preserve evidence to assist Investigators, Uniform Patrol and the Solicitors Office in the apprehension and conviction of a suspect. This unit is also responsible for Missing/Runaway cases, maintaining the Sex Offender Registry as well as the A.F.I.S. (Automated Fingerprint Identification System) section.

The Forensic Lab's primary focus at the Sheriff's Office is the testing of suspected controlled substances, or drugs. The Forensic Lab also performs analysis on fire debris collected at fire scenes where foul play is suspected.

The Victim Assistance Division assists victims of crime and performs highly interactive and assistance duties directly working with victims. Victim Assistance also serves as a court liaison between victims and prosecution to aid victims in understanding their rights. Upon the discretion of a supervisor or investigator, there is also a Victim Advocate on call for violent crimes such as Homicides to aid victims and families with their trauma, and also to advise them of available resources such as counseling.

As a branch of the Sheriff's Office, the mission of the Spartanburg County Detention Center is to protect the public by securely detaining individuals who have been arrested and accused of committing various offenses. The goal of the detention center is to ethically and legally provide a secure, sanitary and safe place of pre-trial incarceration in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible, while ensuring inmates receive humane, respectful and professional treatment from detention personnel. Detention administration assures continued oversight and compliance with standards set forth by the State and Local Jail Standards, while providing realistic career development, strategic planning, training and safety for management and staff personnel.

The intended use of the current Inmate Population, Inmates Booked and Released pages is to provide the citizens, of Spartanburg County, the opportunity to identify current jail inmates and determine their bail amount and associated booking information. Every effort is made to ensure the posted information is accurate but it may contain factual or other errors. Inmate information changes quickly and the posted data may not reflect the current information. *This information does not reflect the criminal history or criminal status of any inmate currently or previously charged.*

The Special Services Division includes the Sheriff's Office Aviation Unit Division which operates a Hughes 500 OH-6a helicopter. The helicopter has an infrared sensing devise and a search light. The Aviation Division is utilized primarily to alleviate and control crime in Spartanburg County. The aircraft is used to aid in the apprehension and surveillance of criminal suspects, and assists the Patrol and Investigative Divisions and is also utilized in certain Search and Rescue missions. The Aviation Unit will also assist other law enforcement agencies.

The Training Division at the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office is dedicated to providing professional training for our officers to maintain certification standards through the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy. The training unit is also dedicated to assisting officers to

find professional training from outside vendors to provide each officer with elective training in any number of job related, career development areas.

The mission of the Traffic Enforcement Unit is to enforce traffic laws, detect and arrest individuals involved in Criminal activity along county roads, secondary roads, primary roads and interstate highways, and to detect and arrest alcohol and drug impaired drivers, investigate traffic accidents and handle traffic complaints in Spartanburg County.

The Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer Division is one of the largest in the state of South Carolina with 33 Deputies. The division services a total of 7 School Districts, and the South Carolina School for the Deaf & Blind. There is an officer assigned to every High School in Spartanburg County and a majority of the Middle Schools. The School Resource Officer program (SRO) is a national program that places a law enforcement officer within the educational environment.

The Uniform Patrol Division performs the most visible and recognizable functions of the Sheriff's Office. They respond to calls for assistance, patrol the neighborhoods, search for a lost child, comfort the victim of a crime, and are, most times, the agency's first line of defense in the county's largest law enforcement agency. The Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office Uniform Patrol Division consist of 104 deputies and is divided into 4 platoons. Furthermore, to operate more efficiently, the Sheriff's Office has divided Spartanburg County into four policing regions. For quicker response those regions have been divided into zones. While each region and zone has enforcement challenges unique to itself, all of Spartanburg County continues to experience rapid growth that requires the agency to continually re-evaluate its policies, procedures, and the way it does business. The Sheriff's Office currently maintains a Reserve Officer program which supplements the full-time force.

The Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office trains and maintains a Canine Division. The Canines have been trained principally for law enforcement functions, for instance, tracking criminals for capture, evidence and drug detection, detecting arson, bombs or explosives and promoting favorable public relations. The Handlers are Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office representatives who are trained in the care, handling, and training of a dog for law enforcement use. There is also a Canine Support Team of deputies specially trained to work in conjunction with the Canine Unit.

In addition to the efforts in the County by the Sheriff's office, the City of Spartanburg is also making efforts for its citizens' safety through a program called Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (C.P.T.E.D.), which offers free studies to residents and businesses inside the city limits. A certified officer will assess the property and suggest ways to achieve a better crime preventative design, such as improving lighting or reorganizing landscaping on the property.



Another effort being done in Spartanburg County is the Spartanburg Community Indicators Project (SCIP) which is focused on impacting Spartanburg County's quality of life. One of the ways they are doing that is by targeting crime beginning at the juvenile level.



“Our community will reduce crime through education, enforcement and community involvement to improve our overall quality of life.”

The Indicators they have identified are: Violent Crime, Property Crime, Juvenile Crime and Criminal Domestic Violence. They have made Crime Prevention a Priority Area and to reduce violent crime by 3% and increase neighborhood watch groups by 5%. For statistics and updates go to the website: <http://www.strategicspartanburg.org/>

## **Communications/9-1-1**

The Communications/9-1-1 mission is *“To serve as the communications link between the citizen and public safety agencies; accurate identification of the citizen’s location and public safety response needs; quick and accurate activation of public safety services; to provide communication support and coordination for all city / county public safety and applicable support agencies.*

*In carrying out our mission, we recognize that service is our one and only product and that we share a common, ongoing goal to provide it at the most superior level possible. We also recognize that our strength and success are tied directly to the individual and unique contributions of each of us working in a spirit of cooperation and teamwork with our public safety associates both within and outside the Communications / 9-1-1 Department.”*

Spartanburg County Communications / 9-1-1 is the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA)’s Accredited Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for law enforcement, fire, rescue, emergency medical, and emergency management services within all of Spartanburg County. The Department provides emergency communication services to all citizens and to more than eighty (80) public safety agencies throughout Spartanburg County. The primary goal is to provide the most effective emergency communications possible for the citizens, visitors, and public safety agencies of Spartanburg County.



The Operations Division is responsible for the day-to-day 9-1-1 operations and activities. The personnel answer and process thousands of 9-1-1 calls that are made every year in Spartanburg County.

The Technical Services Division is responsible for the various radio systems that are used in the Communications/9-1-1 Center and by the various public safety agencies throughout the County. Staff maintain and repair base, mobile and portable radios and related equipment. They also perform mobile radio installation in vehicles as well as maintenance of towers, antennas, coaxial cable, etc. at the various communication tower sites in and around Spartanburg County. In the 2018-2022 Adopted Capital Improvement Plan, there is a proposed VHF Tower to be constructed that will benefit the Fire Departments under part of the Communications/911 project. This project helps Council address its goal of identifying and implementing service improvements by addressing a current radio coverage issue. As of April 1, 2017, evaluation of suitable sites for a new VHF tower is currently underway. Also, the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System and GIS Systems are operated in this division.



Spartanburg County Communications/9-1-1 is dedicated to educating the public about the purpose and proper use of the emergency phone number 9-1-1, as well as the technical differences with various telephones (wireline, wireless, VoIP, etc). Employees volunteer their time to attend educational events, job fairs, community action group meetings, schools, churches and more, in order to get their message out. To educate children, the 9-1-1 mascot 'Red E. Fox' is used a great deal.

Their goals are to:

1. Provide the most effective emergency communications possible for the citizens and visitors of Spartanburg County.
2. Provide City / County public safety field personnel with professional communication services with emphasis on safety, accuracy, and cooperation.
3. Provide good jobs to competent people.
4. Provide a relevant and effective training program.
5. Maintain professional standards.
6. Assist other City and County departments and outside agencies whenever possible.
7. Be innovative!

## Medical Facilities

Spartanburg County has two major healthcare providers that have been long established in the county, and one that has extended services from Greenville County.

- **Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System**

Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System is an integrated healthcare delivery system that provides care from one's birth through the senior years. They've been a partner with the community for more than 90 years and have earned a reputation for technological excellence.

Spartanburg Regional Health Services District, Inc. is a self-funded, political subdivision of the state of South Carolina and does not receive tax dollars from the community.

Its mission is to provide excellence in health and its vision is to become a national leader in health quality.



Some Fast Facts:

Number of Employees: >6,000

Number of Physicians on Staff: >500

Number of Emergency Center Visits per Year: >130,000

Surgical Procedures per Year: >28,000

Babies Delivered per Year: >2,700



SRHS's service Area includes Spartanburg, Cherokee, Greenville and Union counties in South Carolina and Polk and Rutherford counties in North Carolina

### **Spartanburg Medical Center**

Spartanburg Medical Center is a research and teaching hospital licensed for 540 beds with more than 500 physicians on staff offering state-of-the-art diagnosis and treatment for residents of a five-county area in North and South Carolina.

As a Level I Trauma Center, Spartanburg Medical Center has committed trauma specialists and dedicated facilities to provide all levels of trauma care, for those with internal injuries, head injuries and spinal cord injuries, for example. They work closely with area paramedics, emergency medical transporters (EMTs) and Regional One emergency helicopter ambulance.

Their nationally accredited Chest Pain Center and certified Primary Stroke Center are staffed by teams trained to quickly evaluate and treat heart attack and stroke. Both are based in the Emergency Center of Spartanburg Medical Center.

### **Pelham Medical Center**

Since its opening in 2008, Pelham Medical Center has been a multifaceted facility for expert medical care. The facility offers emergency care services with low wait times, primary physician care, full diagnostic capabilities, medical and surgical specialties, surgery and a world-class cancer center.

As a part of Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, Pelham Medical Center consists of 48 inpatient rooms and is continuously expanding services to meet the needs of patients.

Conveniently located at Westmoreland Road and Highway 14 in Greer, the state-of-the-art facility is a national award winner for its design. The hospital design focuses on both comfort and convenience for patients and visitors. This focus carries over into each patient room with several room features designed to maximize functional efficiency and effectiveness for the patient care team without disturbing the patient.

Website: <https://www.spartanburgregional.com/about-us/>

- **Mary Black Health System LLC**



Serving the Upstate since 1925, Mary Black Health System LLC is a health care delivery system comprised of Mary Black Health System – Spartanburg, Mary Black Health System - Gaffney, Mary Black Physicians Group, and Mary Black Health Network, Inc.



Some Combined Organization Facts:

Number of Employees: >1,400

Number of Physicians on Staff: >400

Number of Licensed Beds: 332

Providing health care services to Upstate residents for more than 90 years, Mary Black Health System, Spartanburg's acute care hospital, is accredited by The Joint Commission, The Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (Chest Pain Accreditation), and is a Certified Stroke Center.

Their facility features surgical suites, a warm and inviting Family Birthing Center, nationally credentialed Inpatient Rehabilitation, a 24-bed Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, Geriatric Psychiatric Services, a Joint Care Program, Cardiology and a Sleep Center. Outpatient services include Radiology, Endoscopy Center, a Wound Care and Hyperbaric Center, Rehabilitation Services and Women's Breast Health Center featuring same-day digital mammography and bone density testing. They are a patient-centered, professional, highly-skilled health care system that provides a continuum of care through the dedicated work of nurses, staff and volunteers.

The staff's mission at Mary Black Health System is to be dedicated to providing compassionate, high quality health services to the community. Their vision, as a leading integrated health system, is their commitment to be a major force in the reshaping of health care in the community. Their values promote community wellness with the "personal touch." They are a patient-centered, professional, highly skilled, cost conscious health care system, which provides a continuum of care through the dedicated work of nurses, staff, volunteers and physicians.

An interesting fact is that the original founders of the Mary Black hospital sold it and with the proceeds started the Mary Black Foundation which donates hundreds of thousands of dollars to organizations for the work in projects in Spartanburg County that provide many health benefits. Their dedication to health and wellness is evidenced in the fact that they have donated a substantial amount to trail systems and parks, such as the Mary Black Rail Trail, for the benefit of the community and visitors alike.

Website: <http://www.maryblackhealthsystem.com/mary-black-spartanburg/aboutus.aspx>

- **Greenville Health System**



The Greenville Health System provides outpatient and specialty locations throughout Spartanburg County including Primary Care, Specialty Medicine, Orthopedics and Pediatric Specialties services at 8 different sites.

In March 2017 the GHS opened a new Medical Center in Spartanburg County. The 20,000-square-foot office is on

Highway 9 in Boiling Springs. This facility houses their MD360® Convenient Care, Family and Internal Medicine, Physical Therapy and Pain Management, Behavioral Health services, Pediatric Health Clinic and Gastroenterology and Liver Center. Other locales offer many other services.

The Children's Hospital Outpatient Center is housed in the North Grove Medical Park off I-85 and Highway 9. Although the Children's Hospital is centered at the Memorial Hospital in Greenville, outpatient services are available at the Children's Hospital Outpatient Centers, with locations in Greenville and Spartanburg. These centers house most of the Children's Hospital specialties such as cardiology, developmental behavioral pediatrics, endocrinology, gastroenterology, infectious disease, nephrology & hypertension, neurology, ophthalmology, pulmonology, sleep medicine and urology.

Across the hall is the GHS Outpatient Center, which includes pediatric outpatient surgery and radiology along with laboratory services, so families can schedule medical related visits in one location. The GHS Outpatient Center is the first such center in the state designed specifically for children. The family-centered environment features a staff trained and credentialed in the care of children, age-appropriate waiting playrooms, and child-friendly protocols.

GHS is also proud to partner with the Middle Tyger YMCA to support exercise and health education in Spartanburg County.

Website: <https://www.ghs.org/>

### **Emergency Medical Services (EMS) / Rescue**

Spartanburg EMS is a division of Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System and provides 24 hour emergency paramedic response to calls across Spartanburg. They staff 19 ambulances and 4 QRV (Quick Response Vehicles) which respond to 9-1-1 calls for service. In addition, Landrum Rescue 11 provides secondary basic level response to 9-1-1 calls for service in the Landrum area and is supplemented with the closest paramedic response unit.

Along with emergency ambulance response, Spartanburg County EMS provides specialized rescue response for water and high-angle emergencies, Community Relations services for demo's, community events, health fairs and special event coverage, SWAT Paramedics assigned to support Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office, and a disaster response team (Regional Medical Assistance Team) funded by SLED/ Department of Homeland Security to provide regional and state wide response to mass casualty events.



The mission of Spartanburg Emergency Medical Service is to provide cost efficient, high quality Advanced Life Support emergency medical care and ambulance transportation for the citizens of Spartanburg County South Carolina. Spartanburg EMS will accomplish this through caring, research and development, continuous education and technology.

The Spartanburg EMS's Vision Statement is that Emergency Medical Services will be recognized as the team that provides the highest quality and most cost effective emergency health care to the community, while providing the highest employee satisfaction, equipment and employee/management relations.

In addition to Spartanburg EMS' daily operations, they house several specialized response teams. These include Water Rescue, Rope Rescue, Regional Medical Assistance, Tactical Medic, and Bike Teams. These teams have been developed and refined over several years to define functional and effective teams that allow EMS to function in all types of environments, terrains, and conditions.

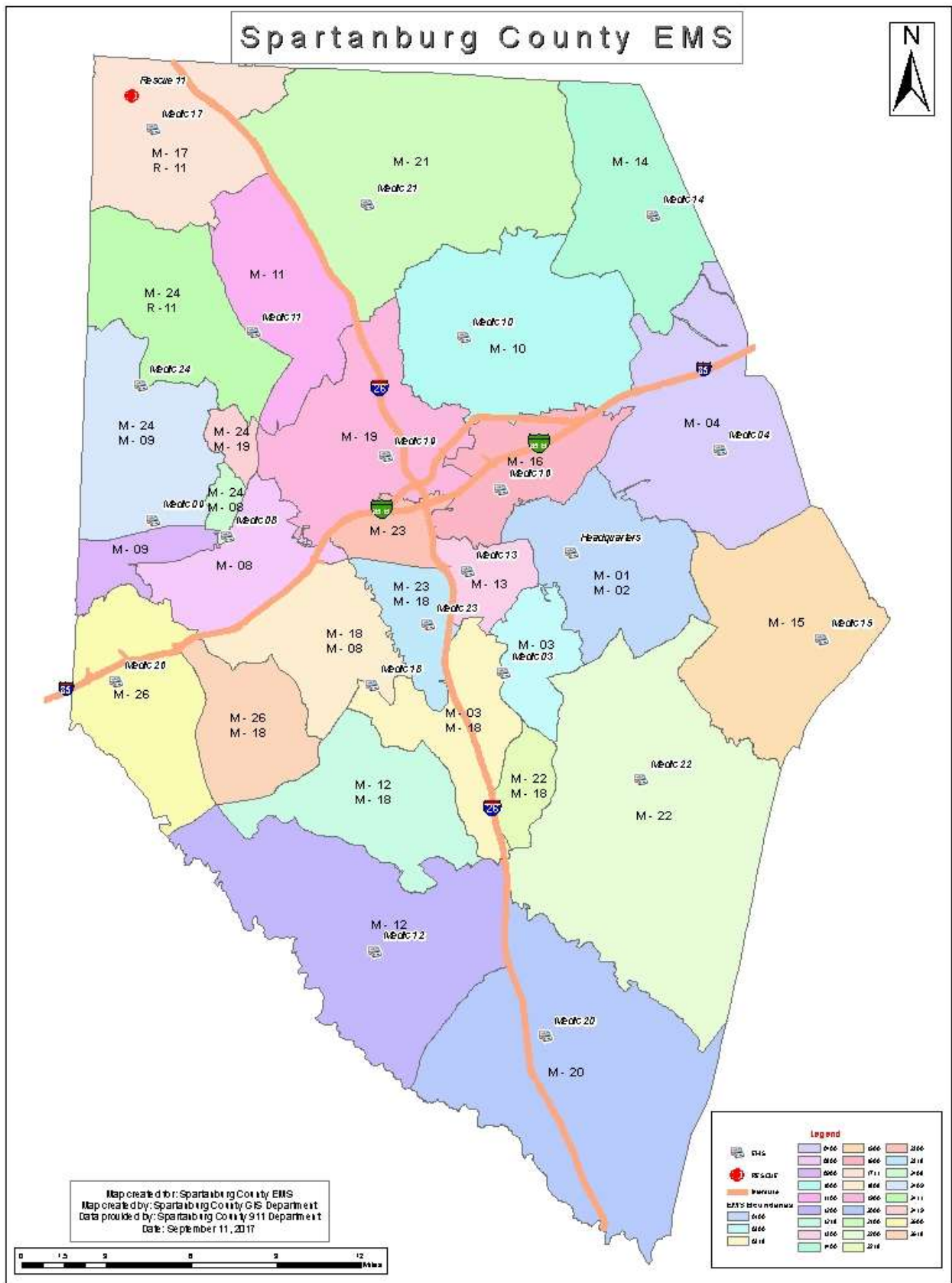
Website: <http://www.spartanburgems.org/links/>

#### Current Needs/Plans:

- **Hobbysville Project:**  
The Hobbysville/ SEMS Station 20 is currently under renovation project located in Hobbysville FD. Staffing was only at partial service for EMS in this area for several years. This staffing schedule was due, in part, to the lack of sleeping accommodations at this building. Under a partnership with Hobbysville FD, they are renovating part of this building to include a separate crew-quarters area that will include sleeping quarters. They expect the renovation to be completed soon and are planning for full 24hr staffing beginning July 1, 2018. It is a much needed change in order to improve coverage and response time to the Hobbysville, Enoree, Cross-Anchor area.
- **Reidville Project:**  
For a number of years SEMS has been in the process of a service expansion in the Reidville area. In 2010, Spartanburg County purchased 0.5 acres of property on Hwy 101 near Hwy 417 with the intention of erecting an EMS substation. The possibility of a joint venture between Reidville Fire Department and Spartanburg County EMS exists, and is waiting on project funding from Reidville FD sources. The Fire Department applied for funding assistance from the US Dept. of Agriculture and is awaiting approval. Currently, they are researching entering into a joint project with Reidville FD, whereby the Fire Department and EMS would inhabit a single station in the proximity of the previously purchased property. If this goal is achieved, Spartanburg County EMS will expand the current service to provide 24hour daily EMS coverage in the Reidville area, improving the coverage area and response times. This comes in a time when the Reidville area has been seeing more and more residential growth, most likely in part due to the new Tyger River Park location.
- **EMS HQ Parking Expansion:**  
Since their 1999 EMS HQ expansion on Union St, Spartanburg, they have experienced significant growth, both in staff and apparatus. The fleet size is currently 43 vehicles, including front-line ambulances, spare ambulances, supervisory, administrative and special purpose vehicles. Additionally, they have seven trailers that support special rescue and disaster response. In addition, daily there are 10 administrative staff and up to 10 field staff that utilize the employee parking area. They are currently tentatively approved for July 1 2018 funding from Spartanburg County to complete the EMS HQ Parking Expansion.

In an attempt to address this parking congestion, Spartanburg County purchased 0.78 acres behind the current Union Street location to prepare a parking expansion to relocate much of the current spare and special purpose apparatus and offer more staff parking in proximity to the building.





The list of EMS Stations are below, with a link to the website.

SPARTANBURG COUNTY RESCUE EMS  
RESCUE 11 LANDRUM RESCUE STATION

SPARTANBURG COUNTY EMS UNITS

Regional One Helicopter Base SRMC  
MEDIC 1. CITY UNIT  
MEDIC 2. CITY UNIT  
MEDIC 3. ROEBUCK SC  
MEDIC 4. COWPENS SC  
MEDIC 5. CITY ALS  
MEDIC 6 CITY ALS  
MEDIC 7. City Als supv.  
MEDIC 8. LYMAN SC  
MEDIC 9. ZOAR SC  
MEDIC10.BOILINGS SPRINGS FD SPTBG SC  
MEDIC11.INMAN SC  
MEDIC12.WOODRUFF  
MEDIC13.CITY UNIT  
MEDIC14.CHESNEE SC  
MEDIC15.PACOLET SC  
MEDIC16.Hilltop  
MEDIC17.LANDRUM SC  
MEDIC18.PELHEM BATESVILLE SC  
MEDIC19.N.Spartanburg  
MEDIC20 Hobby Ville FD  
MEDIC21 New Prospect FD  
MEDIC22 Glendale  
MEDIC23 West view Fire Forest FD Sta 2  
MEDIC24 Holly Springs FD  
MEDIC25 SPARE  
MEDIC26 Wellford/reidville area  
MEDIC 27 SPARE  
MEDIC 28 Spare



<http://www.emergency51.net/cms/index.php/spartanburg-station-numbers>

The Priorities & Budget Consideration portion of the Spartanburg County Strategic Plan 2018-2019 calls for the implementation of the EMS staffing in the Hobbysville and Reidville stations, which is currently being worked out.

## Governmental Buildings and Facilities

As with most counties, governmental operations and services have increased throughout the years and therefore have expanded into several buildings and sites. County governmental operations are spread out, but still concentrated principally in downtown Spartanburg.

Growth of government is directly related to growth of population, housing, business and economic activity. More people, more housing, and more businesses require more governmental

services, and added governmental services require more operational space and governmental facilities.

Currently, Spartanburg County government operates out of or is over the maintenance of more than 80 facilities including buildings, parks, collection stations, camps and towers. The Facilities Maintenance Department is responsible for managing, repairing and maintaining more than 25 county-owned buildings encompassing more than 630,000 square feet. These facilities accommodate everything from core County services to State agencies required to be housed by the County as per state statute. They include Administration, Communications/9-1-1, Emergency Management Services, Community Services, Courthouse, Department of Juvenile Justice, Detention, Probation, Parole and Pardons, Sheriff, Public Works, Nurse and Health Departments, EMS Academy, Parks & Recreation, Environmental Enforcement, Fleet Services, Traffic Division and Sign Shop, Wellford Landfill, Solid Waste Buildings and Collection Centers and Radio Towers. The complete inventory list can be found [here](#). *(link the list)*

The adequacy of the County's current facilities varies depending on age, function, degree of use and capacity and therefore the needs vary accordingly. Following are some examples.

The Administration Building, renovated in 1988, is structurally sound however the building is undersized for the many departmental and agency functions conducted therein. Increased economic activities, resulting in population growth has augmented workloads and has created space needs beyond what is currently allocated to most departments. It is full with no room for expansion. One goal that was accomplished is that in 2010 the Sheriff's Department moved out of the inadequate quarters of the basement of the Admin building and located to a separate Law Enforcement Complex, which afforded some leeway to provide other departments with needed space.



The Judicial Center, renovated in 1993, is not suitably conditioned to meet the needs of the county judicial system. It is full, with no room for expansion. The center is augmented by the Library Street Office Building which houses the probation and parole and pre-trial offices and functions. This building will require major improvements.

The Emergency Services Academy is a complex of nine buildings on an 18-acre site in Duncan. Most of the buildings are about 60 years old, constructed originally for use as a prison camp. Most buildings have problems of some sort relative to their intended function and use.

The County's Detention facilities include the Main Jail on California Avenue, opened in 1994, Annex I, behind the Judicial Center, and Annex II, across the street from Annex I in the Old Sullivan Building. The new jail is in good condition, but already at capacity, necessitating continued use of Annexes I and II, both of which are not in good condition and were to be replaced by the new jail. As a consequence, the original objective has not been reached, nor is it likely to be reached unless the Main Jail is substantially enlarged.

The Public Works Complex located on Broadcast Drive houses the Roads and Bridges Department, the Environmental Enforcement Department (Animal Control, Litter Control and Property Maintenance) and the Traffic Division (Sign Shop). These agencies share space in an assortment of buildings and trailers on the site. Two vehicle maintenance buildings are located on site. The main building includes a 16-bay repair shop, parts area, and office area. Built in 1976, this building is structurally sound and should last well into the future. A second building, constructed in the 50's is currently used for tire repair and storage. A maintenance building (Section 5) is also located in the complex.

The Environmental Enforcement Division also runs an Adopt-a-Road program which is designed to help keep our county roadways litter free. The program promotes and establishes stewardship of public lands by citizens, and is an excellent example of the public and private sector working together to solve a mutual problem. Volunteers are made up of Individuals, families, youth organizations, businesses, civic and non-profit organizations, religious groups, fraternities, sororities, and schools taking part. This program always has room for growth.



Summary of the program: A group adopts a two-mile section of county maintained road right-of-way either in or near their local community. The agreement is for a minimum of two years to pick up litter along the adopted road way. There are four set dates each year. Spartanburg County Environmental Enforcement Department provides safety vests and bags as needed. The Department also ensures "Adopt a Road signs" are erected at each end of the adopted stretch of roadway.

Overall, while the maintenance needs of the county government facilities vary, most do not serve adequately the functions for which they are intended. Most are operating at or near capacity, with no built in room for expansion. Like the population of Spartanburg County, government is expanding in order to keep pace with growth and development and the resulting service demands.

The needs of the Governmental facilities are determined generally by administrative observation and evaluation of:

- working conditions,
- present and projected workloads (created by growth and technology), and
- how better to serve the public, as they are the customers and consumers of governmental services.

The fact that all governmental facilities are operating at capacity and the corrections facility in excess of capacity suggests the need, at some point in time, for additional space for sufficient governmental operations. Space needs during the next 10 years (2017-2027) include the need:

- to add and consolidate space at the new jail facility,
- for a new consolidated 25,000 to 30,000 square foot public works building, and
- for a new city-county consolidated administrative complex.

With these facilities in place, it will be possible to adjust and expand operational space for other agencies and also could make it possible to discontinue use of the old Sullivan Warehouse.



Since the last publishing of the Comprehensive Plan the Facilities Maintenance has accomplished the following:

- 9-1-1/Communications Department: was relocated to 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the AT&T Building on E Main St.
- Library Street Building (Probate & Parole): removed cooling tower and replaced the chiller and boiler.
- Old Sullivan Building (Jail Annex II): replaced a few A/C units.
- Public Defender's Office is now the County Health Clinic
- Emergency Services Academy: money to renovate fire training structure has been approved. Work has recently been finished on the burn building.
- Administration Bldg: parking lot has been resurfaced and landscaped, roof has been redone, water pumps have been replaced.
- Public Works Complex: expanded the Sign Shop
- Law Enforcement Complex: although we did not build a new 30,000 sq. ft center, the Sheriff's office relocated in 2010 from the basement of the Administration Building to the previous QS1 Building on Howard St. This facility is in need of a new roof which is slated in the CIP.
- Evans Bldg sold. Became SCC Downtown Campus.
- Solid Waste: removed Admin/Maint. Shop, built new Admin Bldg and new Maint. bldgs, Scale House was renovated, new Collection Station.
- Also noted was that they had four maintenance crews and consolidated into one.

It is the goal of the county to provide governmental operations in an environment conducive to the efficient and effective delivery of various services to the community. Based on the goals and objectives in the Spartanburg County FY 2018-22 Adopted Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), the county has established a budget and allocated resources for replacements, repairs, upgrades and renovations to some of the facilities in the county that will fulfill proper functionality and further improve assistance to the public.

The CIP gives a summary, overview and further details of the projects that represent the planned capital improvements at these facilities. The Plan can be found at this link <http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/8108>

## **Outdoor Recreation and Facilities**

The South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism (SCPRT) is the designated agency responsible for outdoor recreation planning in the State which includes the update of the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) every five years. It is South Carolina's official outdoor recreation planning document which identifies issues of statewide significance and evaluates the supply of and the demand for outdoor recreation resources and facilities in South Carolina. It serves as a guide to various Federal, State and local governmental agencies and the private sector entities involved in recreation and natural resources planning and



development. It provides unified guidance to state and municipal officials as they develop and expand outdoor recreation opportunities for their respective constituents. A priority issue of SCORP is to provide a diverse mix of facilities for traditional (hunting, fishing, etc.) activities as well as emerging activities (disc golf, kayaking, climbing, etc.).

The purpose of the Plan is to consider outdoor recreation matters relating to the needs of both residents and visitors to South Carolina, examine the state's recreational resources, analyze demand for recreational opportunities, develop an implementation program to address the identified needs and issues, identify funding opportunities, and identify issues of national importance.

In addition to its value as a planning document, the completion of a SCORP also satisfies a requirement of the federally administered Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which then makes South Carolina eligible to receive its annual apportionment from the LWCF State Municipal Assistance Program. Apportionments from the LWCF can be used by the state and its municipalities to acquire new land for outdoor recreation and conservation, and to construct new outdoor recreational facilities.

As stated in the 2014 update, South Carolina has experienced steady population growth over the past four decades and is currently the 12<sup>th</sup> fastest growing state in the nation. The state's population has become increasingly urbanized, with 66.3% of the state now classified as urban. Projections for population and economic growth over the next decade point to continued double digit increases in many areas of the state.

There have been significant changes in recreation patterns and trends over the last several years due principally to societal changes, such as increased average income, more women in the work force, increased commuting time, increased average age, early retirement, greater health consciousness, more indoor recreation opportunities, higher education levels, delayed marriage and child bearing, change from an industrial to a high technology service and communications society, etc.

Active recreation has become more popular than passive recreation. Trends of interest to the Spartanburg County Parks Department showed increasing demand for athletic facilities, such as baseball, softball, basketball, football, soccer and volleyball. Also walking for health and pleasure is the number one recreation activity in the state, according to the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

View the latest SCORP: <https://www.scpri.com/recreation/statewide-comprehensive-outdoor-recreation-plan>

Parks are not only vital for the health and well-being of the local community, the economic impacts are tremendous, as well. According to research commissioned by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), findings of the Center for Regional Analysis on the economic impact of local and regional public park systems' spending in the United States adds to the evidence that the benefits of parks extend well beyond their role as a public amenity and an enhancement to quality of life in their communities.

Key findings from the National Study showed that operations and capital spending by local and regional public park agencies generated nearly \$140 billion in economic activity and supported almost 1 million jobs in 2013.



### iii | The Economic Impact of Local Parks

The publication also shows the findings of the state-level analysis for South Carolina in 2013 as given below:

<b>Economic Impacts of Local and Regional Park Spending by State — 2013</b>			
State	Economic Activity (Transactions)	Labor Income	Employment (Jobs)
South Carolina	\$1,194,136,298	\$398,101,667	11,124

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, PRORAGIS, IMPLAN (RIMS), Center for Regional Analysis

[http://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Publications\\_and\\_Research/Research/Papers/Economic-Impact-Study-Full-Report.pdf](http://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Publications_and_Research/Research/Papers/Economic-Impact-Study-Full-Report.pdf)

According to a survey by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism (PRT), most activities and facilities identified such as swimming facilities, activities for youth, athletic fields, basketball, playgrounds, tennis are commonly included in parks, indicated as the number one need.

Most facilities and programs in the system are geared to active participation, which is in line with recreation preferences statewide. Athletic facilities and active participation programs dominate the list of local recreational resources, including playground equipment for young children at most park sites.



Spartanburg County is working hard to continuously improve the quality of life for citizens and visitors alike. The many programs and facilities provided by the County are a great asset in so many ways.

The Parks Department staff, with the guidance of elected leaders and using input from community partners and stakeholders, began re-envisioning the role that the Spartanburg County Parks Department should play within a growing and changing Spartanburg community. Successful communities believe that parks and recreation facilities and services are vitally important in promoting the emotional and physical wellness of citizens as well as the financial well-being of the community.

The vision of the Spartanburg County Parks Department summarizes the department's role in the ongoing improvement of Spartanburg County.

***It is the department's vision that 'its facilities and programs will be fun, safe, legally compliant, and family friendly - offering both active and passive recreation opportunities to promote an active, healthy lifestyle for people of all ages and abilities'***

In 2012, the Spartanburg County Council adopted, in principle, the *Spartanburg County Parks Department Parks Enhancement Plan*. The purpose of the plan was to present policy recommendations for priority park investments and to provide guidance for preparation of the Parks Department's future operating and capital budget requests. It also was to provide priorities for fund-raising, including sponsorships, corporate naming/support opportunities and grant applications. The focus of the *Parks Enhancement Plan* is to maximize public park resources to benefit more citizens, in furtherance of the Parks Department's Mission.

View the plan here: [Parks Enhancement Plan](#)

The first five years were to primarily address maintenance and operations issues and functional improvements at all parks owned or managed by Spartanburg County, while also adding several enhancements through partnerships with other organizations.

The *Parks Enhancement Plan* also recommends development of a Park Standards Manual, intended to start the process of standardizing certain park elements, to provide a unified look and feel to all parks. Standardizing elements, such as restrooms, picnic shelters, etc, will also lead to lower costs and an expedited procurement process. A Park Landscaping Plan is also recommended. Staff can use such a plan to involve private organizations in the appearance improvement of Spartanburg Parks' properties.

The *Parks Enhancement Plan* includes a section on the principal funding sources for Parks' operations, maintenance and capital expenditures. The use of Hospitality Tax funds has a significant role to play in the improvement of existing and planned park investments that have been deemed to have tourism impact. It also defines and expands the use of Hospitality Taxes for outdoor recreation investments that is believed to be Hospitality Tax-eligible.

The *Parks Enhancement Plan* recommended several improvements to what the staff has termed the County's "Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure," including "Outposts," developed in cooperation with partner agencies, from which outdoor recreation programming can be delivered. Many have been implemented since the plan was published.

The Parks Department's Outdoor Recreation Program includes a number of fun and challenging fitness activities that helps develop appreciation for Spartanburg County's impressive natural resources. The Program helps advance the Nature-Based Tourism goal, outlined in the *Tourism*

*Action Plan*, which states, “Outdoor recreation is a key component of the growing tourism industry in Spartanburg,” and goes on to conclude that “outdoor recreation holds the key to a healthier local population who will no doubt take advantage of available recreational activities.” The *Tourism Action Plan* may be found under the “Reports” section under the “About Us” tab or at this link <http://spartanburgparks.org/plans/>

Offered countywide through the Recreation Department is a variety of programs and facilities to meet the needs of all ages. The Outdoor Recreation Plan offers a number of fun-filled group educational and recreational programs, including:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nature Seminars</li><li>• Hiking</li><li>• Mountain Biking</li><li>• Paddling</li><li>• Rock Climbing</li><li>• Stand Up Paddle Boarding (SUP)</li><li>• Fishing &amp; Fly fishing</li><li>• Disc Golf</li><li>• Discover Scuba Diving</li><li>• River Access/Blueways</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geocaching:</li><li>• Pacolet Geotrail</li><li>• Cowpens Geotrail</li><li>• Hitting The Books Geotrail</li><li>• Greater Inman GeoTrail</li><li>• Hub Love GeoTrail</li></ul> |
|--|---|

Spartanburg County has an abundance of not-for-profit organizations interested in promoting parks, recreation programs, healthy lifestyles, beautification and natural resources education & stewardship. Spartanburg County, by virtue of its planning, public relations and parks development capabilities, can play a crucial role in promoting coordination, resource development, resource sharing and public information. Partnerships benefit the public and community visitors.

The popularity of outdoor recreation is trending upward across the nation, as community leaders realize the potential of these facilities to provide economic benefits, quality of life improvements and health benefits resulting from a more active lifestyle. Spartanburg County is blessed with a bounty of outstanding natural resources suitable for outdoor recreation adventures.

Essential Investments, implemented in FY 13 – FY 17, addressed maintenance and operations issues, as well as park functional improvements proposed for several parks. New facilities were/will be developed through different partnerships. Recreational trails were developed to create internal enhancements to existing parks and to connect neighborhoods to parks. Spartanburg County has also partnered with Partners for Active Living and the City of Spartanburg for implementing a *Trails Master Plan* which provides guidance for future trail investments.

The *Spartanburg Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan* and the *Spartanburg County Tourism Action Plan*, both of which have been adopted by County Council, call for development of a comprehensive outdoor recreation infrastructure and programming to enable active lifestyles among residents and to encourage recreation tourism and ecotourism from visitors.

Prioritization of specific projects funded by the County should correlate with priority issues identified in SCORP and begin with a focus on “low-hanging fruit” opportunities unique to Spartanburg County.



The County Parks Department operates programs and/or maintains facilities at numerous sites in five areas of the county: City of Spartanburg, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest. The entire list of park facilities can be found in the following chart and are also located on the map after the chart.

To locate a public park, a detailed ‘Park Finder’ can be viewed at [www.spartanburgparks.org](http://www.spartanburgparks.org)

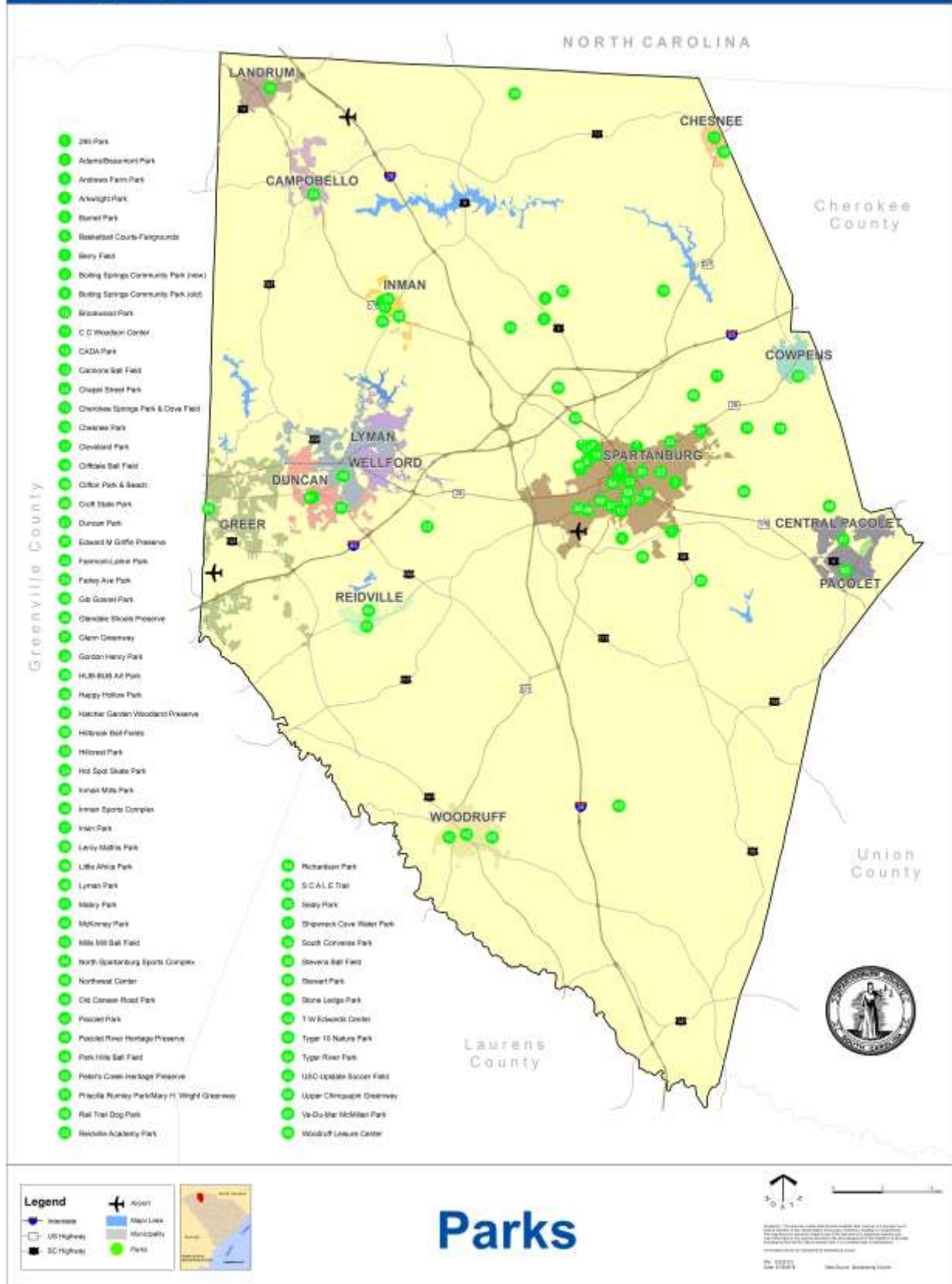
## Spartanburg County Parks and Recreation Facilities Inventory

City of Spartanburg		
<a href="#">Adams Park</a>	<a href="#">Fairgrounds Basketball Courts</a>	<a href="#">Milliken Arboretum at Wofford College</a>
<a href="#">Andrews Farm Park</a>	<a href="#">Glenn Greenway</a>	<a href="#">Northwest Community Center</a>
<a href="#">Barnet Park</a>	<a href="#">Happy Hollow Park</a>	<a href="#">Priscilla Rumley Park/Mary H. Wright Greenway</a>
<a href="#">Berry Field</a>	<a href="#">Hatcher Garden and Woodland Preserve</a>	<a href="#">Rail Trail Dog Park</a>
<a href="#">C.C. Woodson Community Center</a>	<a href="#">Hillcrest Park</a>	<a href="#">Richardson Park</a>
<a href="#">Chapel St. Park</a>	<a href="#">Hot Spot Skate Park</a>	<a href="#">South Converse Street Park</a>
<a href="#">Cleveland Park</a>	<a href="#">Hub City Art Park</a>	<a href="#">Stewart Park</a>
<a href="#">Downtown Library Park</a>	<a href="#">Irwin Park</a>	<a href="#">Summer Hill Park</a>
<a href="#">Downtown Pocket Park</a>	<a href="#">Magnolia Street Train Depot</a>	<a href="#">Willow Oaks Park</a>
<a href="#">Duncan Park</a>	<a href="#">Mary Black Rail Trail</a>	
<a href="#">Edwin Griffin Nature Preserve</a>		
North East Spartanburg County		
<a href="#">Anchor Park</a>	<a href="#">Chesnee Park</a>	<a href="#">North Spartanburg Park</a>
<a href="#">Boiling Springs Community Park (new)</a>	<a href="#">Clifton Park &amp; Beach</a>	<a href="#">Rainbow Lake Pavilion</a>
<a href="#">Boiling Springs Community Park (old)</a>	<a href="#">Cooley Springs-Fingerville Elementary School</a>	<a href="#">Susan Jacobs Arboretum at USC Upstate</a>
<a href="#">CADA Park</a>	<a href="#">Glendale Outdoor Leadership School (GOLS)</a>	<a href="#">Upstate Family Resource Center</a>
<a href="#">Carlisle-Foster's Grove Elementary School</a>	<a href="#">Lake Blalock Park</a>	<a href="#">USC Upstate Soccer Complex</a>
<a href="#">Cherokee Springs Regional Park</a>	<a href="#">Little Africa Park</a>	<a href="#">Va-Du-Mar McMillan Park</a>
<a href="#">Chesnee Community Center (A VSP Center)</a>		
North West Spartanburg County		
<a href="#">Beech Springs Tennis Center</a>	<a href="#">Holston Creek Park</a>	<a href="#">Middle Tyger Community Center</a>
<a href="#">BP Edwards Park</a>	<a href="#">Inman Intermediate School</a>	<a href="#">New Prospect Elementary School</a>
<a href="#">Brookwood Park</a>	<a href="#">Inman Mills Park</a>	<a href="#">Sealy Park</a>
<a href="#">Chestnut Ridge Heritage Preserve</a>	<a href="#">Inman Recreation Center</a>	<a href="#">Shipwreck Cove Water Park</a>
<a href="#">Duncan Elementary School</a>	<a href="#">Lake Cooley Park</a>	<a href="#">Stevens Ball Field</a>
<a href="#">Gib Gosnell Park</a>	<a href="#">Lake Lyman Lodge</a>	<a href="#">Stone Ledge Park</a>
<a href="#">Greentown Park</a>	<a href="#">Leroy Mathis Park</a>	<a href="#">Victor Heights Neighborhood Park</a>
<a href="#">Greer Veterans Park</a>	<a href="#">Lyman Park</a>	<a href="#">Wards Creek Park</a>
<a href="#">Holly Springs-Motlow Elementary School</a>	<a href="#">Mabry Park</a>	
South East Spartanburg County		
<a href="#">295 Park</a>	<a href="#">Glendale Shoals Preserve</a>	<a href="#">Pacolet Park</a>
<a href="#">Arkwright Park</a>	<a href="#">Gordon Henry Park</a>	<a href="#">Peters Creek Preserve</a>
<a href="#">Cannon's Ball Field</a>	<a href="#">James O. Thomason Firing Range</a>	<a href="#">T.W. Edwards Center</a>
<a href="#">Cliffdale Ballfield</a>	<a href="#">Linville Hills Park</a>	<a href="#">Timken Community Center (A VSP Center)</a>
<a href="#">Cowpens National Battlefield</a>	<a href="#">Milliken Campus and Arboretum</a>	<a href="#">Upper Chiquapiin Greenway</a>
<a href="#">Cowpens Veterans Memorial Park</a>	<a href="#">Old Canaan Park</a>	<a href="#">Wadsworth Trail</a>
<a href="#">Croft State Park</a>		
South West Spartanburg County		
<a href="#">Fairmont-Larkin Park</a>	<a href="#">Tyger 10 Nature Park</a>	<a href="#">W.R. McKinney Park</a>
<a href="#">Reidville/Academy Park</a>	<a href="#">Tyger River Park</a>	<a href="#">Woodruff Leisure Center</a>

In addition to all of the county local parks, Spartanburg County has two state parks. Camp Croft, the third largest State Park in South Carolina with 7,088 acres, is located about five miles south of the City of Spartanburg. Originally, the Army created a camp and training site there for



troops in WW II, which was influenced by Senator Byrnes. Today it is a multi-purpose park with 50 campsites, equestrian facilities, tennis courts, picnic areas and shelters, playground equipment, swimming pool, trails, two lakes, fishing and boating. The state also owns a 365-acre park site (Musgrove Mills) in the southern end of the county. The park extends over parts of three counties. It is an historical site of a Revolutionary Battle and contains an old mill. Full development of this site is tentative, depending on availability of funding.



Following the *Enhancement Plan*, the Parks Department contracted with Clemson University to conduct a Spartanburg County parks and recreation needs assessment, resulting in the *Spartanburg County Parks Department Strategic & Master Plan 2018-2023*. This needs assessment along with an updated strategic plan, level of service standards, trends analysis and community inventory, create a master plan that will guide the Spartanburg County Parks Department as it provides recommendations to the Spartanburg County Council for the provision of parks and recreation services over the next five years.



It states that Spartanburg County’s vision is to be a preferred destination for individuals, families, and businesses to live, learn, play, work, and invest. Spartanburg County’s mission is to provide a foundation for a superior quality of life for residents, unlimited opportunities for business, and an exceptional learning environment for education through purposeful planning, investment, and use of resources. The Spartanburg County Parks Department strives to advance this mission and vision by serving as a partner in community wellness initiatives and facilities.

The outcome of this process is this report that details the results of the needs assessment survey which will position the Spartanburg County Parks Department to create data-driven strategic recommendations for the development and improvement of recreation programs, facilities, and services in Spartanburg County.

## Needs Assessment Recommendations

### General Recommendations

1. Execute existing Capital Improvement Plan
2. Evaluate cost recovery philosophy and complete a cost-recovery study to set pricing structure. This study should be updated every 3-5 years and/or as new facilities and programs are added.

### Facility Recommendations

1. While need for aquatics facilities was determined to be a priority, data indicated that residents living in the City of Spartanburg had a significant effect on that type of facility rising to the top of the list. Currently, the City of Spartanburg is in the planning stage of an aquatics facility. The County could look for partnership opportunities with the City on programming for the facility.
2. Trails and Greenways are highly desired amenities that the county is actively working to address. It is recommended that the *Spartanburg County Trails and Greenways Master Plan* continue to be utilized to guide decision making about future projects.
3. Availability of neighborhood parks and passive areas/open space were virtually tied. Projects in the current *Capital Improvement Plan* address these needs in the near term.
4. Availability of indoor recreation centers was also a priority. Not unlike aquatics facilities, indoor facilities should be carefully studied and partnerships with other public, private and non-profit agencies should be negotiated as appropriate to fulfill this need before considering the development of new facilities.

5. Cultural/arts facilities were desired. However, given the extent and quality of cultural and arts facilities and programming in Spartanburg County, it appears that this need can be addressed through better marketing and promotions of current offerings.

### **Program Recommendations**

1. Fitness and Wellness programming rose to the top and is consistent with recreation participation trends. While the private sector provides many opportunities in this area, it is important for the public and non-profit sectors to provide low-cost options given the poor state of health and wellness in the U.S. and South Carolina. Spartanburg County should study options to create unique programming and partnerships to deliver fitness and wellness programming throughout the county and across the lifespan.
2. Outdoor recreation and adventure programming was also a high priority program area desired by residents. This is also consistent with recreation participation trends. Spartanburg County has a wide variety of opportunities and, again, this need should be addressed through creating and/or expanding existing partnerships and programs.
3. While there was no clear third priority, cultural arts programs were a high priority in the forced choice exercise and dance/music/arts programs was in the top-5 priorities in the importance-satisfaction gap analysis. Like the facility recommendation, this appears to be more of a marketing and promotions issue than an availability of programming.

For the complete assessment report click on this link: [Spartanburg Parks 2018 Master Strategic Plan](#)

As a way to supplement the funding available for parks and recreation services to begin working towards the priorities in the needs assessment, the Parks Department should look to use the following available grant funds:

- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Park and Recreation Development Fund (PARF)
- Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

### **Strategic Plan**

The Spartanburg County Parks Department strategic plan provides goals and objectives based on critical success factors outlined in Spartanburg County Council's strategic plan. Specifically, critical success factor #11 states that "we will create operational plans, at the department level, for the seamless communication and execution of this strategic plan." Below is the updated Park's Department strategic plan.

### **Spartanburg County Council - Goal 1: Create Sustainable Economic Development that Benefits the Businesses and Citizens of Spartanburg County**

- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 1.1: Strengthen business retention, recruitment, and expansion
  - Parks Department Goal - Support County Council and Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce

- Provide recreational amenities and programs to assist in economic development as parks and recreation facilities and services are vitally important in the financial well-being of the community
- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 1.3: Support education and training efforts that improve workforce readiness
  - Parks Department Goal - Provide high-quality youth development programs
    - Parks Department Objective - Encourage character-building and healthy lifestyles through youth development programs, including After Class Enrichment (ACE), Summer Camp and Adventure Camp programs
  - Parks Department Goal - Provide family oriented recreation programs and special events
    - Parks Department Objective - Utilize staff and contractors to provide educational programs and resources at parks and community centers owned or operated by Spartanburg County
- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 1.5: Develop an effective and efficient infrastructure plan
  - Parks Department Goal - Improve existing parks
    - Parks Department Objective - Complete park improvement projects at Berry Field, Leroy Mathis Park, Arkwright Park, Linville Hills Park and Clifton Park
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue a five year program to replace aging playground equipment
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue a five year program to repair aging parking lots
    - Parks Department Objective - Make improvements to parks based on the needs of youth athletic associations and other program partners
  - Parks Department Goal - Improve the quality and efficiency of park maintenance
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue implementation of the Department's safety program to include inspections on all Departmental facilities
    - Parks Department Objective - Manage the Department's vehicle and equipment inventory; maintain a rolling five-year program to replace, or acquire new equipment
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue a five year program to replace aging HVAC equipment
  - Parks Department Goal - Expand the number of parks and recreation facilities available to the public
    - Parks Department Objective - Partner with school districts, municipalities and other public and private organizations to expand availability of facilities for public recreation

## **Spartanburg County Council - Goal 2: Capitalize on Natural Resources and Tourism Opportunities**

- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 2.1: Strengthen policies related to accessing natural resources and promoting tourism



- Parks Department Goal - Work with the Convention and Visitors Bureau and other community partners to develop policy that promotes increased access to natural resources and the promotion of tourism
- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 2.2: Collaborate with partners to implement strategic steps to take advantage of natural resource assets as a key component of tourism related activities
  - Parks Department Goal - Promote nature-based tourism and appreciation for Spartanburg County's natural resources by working together with public and private organizations to develop nature parks, walking/biking trails and improved access to rivers and lakes
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue to work with Partners for Active Living and other organizations to develop a network of recreational trails, guided by the Trails Master Plan
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue implementation of the "Find-A-Park" wayfinding signage project
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue expansion of outdoor recreation programming (kayaking, paddle boarding, etc) at Lake Cooley Park and other satellite sites
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue to work with key stakeholders to finalize plans to add blueway access points along the Tyger, Pacolet and Enoree Rivers
- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 2.3: Clearly define and promote the current and projected economic impact of natural resources and tourism
  - Parks Department Goal - Work with the Convention and Visitors Bureau to recruit sports tournaments to Spartanburg County
    - Parks Department Objective - Expand the type and number of tournaments and events attracted to Spartanburg County
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue to collect data showing the economic impact of tournaments and events in Spartanburg County

### **Spartanburg County Council - Goal 3: Remain Prudent Stewards of Financial Resources in the Provision of Quality Public Services**

- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 3.1: Budget and allocate resources in the public's best interest
  - Parks Department Goal - Provide recommendations to maximize funding available for parks and recreation services
    - Utilize County Council's strategic plan, trends analysis, needs assessment, community inventory, partnerships and feedback from citizen's as a foundation for funding recommendations
- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 3.2: Reduce and eliminate the inefficient use of financial and other resources without compromising quality of services
  - Parks Department Goal - Improve the quality and efficiency of park maintenance
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue implementation of security upgrades to protect the public's investment in recreation facilities

- Parks Department Objective - Continue the practice of environmentally-sound park resource management, guided by the Audubon Cooperative Program
- Parks Department Goal - Provide family-oriented recreation programs and special events
  - Parks Department Objective - Continue to provide quality meeting, event and picnic venues for individuals, organizations and corporations
  - Parks Department Objective - Continue to manage popular special events such as Daddy Daughter Dance, Take a Kid Fishing Day and Easter Egg Scramble
  - Parks Department Objective - Continue management of Spartanburg Council on Aging sites along with 50+ Wellness activities
- Parks Department Goal - Develop a department culture of professionalism, public service and continuous improvement
  - Parks Department Objective - Continue support of the Spartanburg County employee wellness program
  - Parks Department Objective - Complete the agency accreditation process through the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies
  - Parks Department Objective - Promote attainment of the Certified Parks and Recreation Professional designation, for qualifying staff members
  - Parks Department Objective - Continue the staff training schedule as determined by the staff training matrix
- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 3.3: Identify and leverage opportunities to diversify funding
  - Parks Department Goal - Seek alternative funding for capital projects; partner with public and private organizations to make their facilities available for public recreation
    - Parks Department Objective - Apply for governmental and private grants as they become available
    - Parks Department Objective - Develop a sponsorship catalog to promote private sponsorship of park amenities and improvements
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue partnerships with Spartanburg Council on Aging, school districts, and municipalities
- Spartanburg County Council - Objective 3.4: Identify, prioritize and address needs for service improvement
  - Parks Department Goal - Utilize volunteers to augment paid staff in service delivery
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue to work with Partners for Active Living and Blueways Coalition to coordinate volunteer maintenance of trails and river passages
    - Parks Department Objective - Continue to develop Volunteers in Parks (VIP) program
  - Parks Department Goal - Educate Spartanburg County residents about the many public and private parks and recreation assets available in Spartanburg County
    - Parks Department Objective - Complete cutover of website to CivicPlus while maintaining up-to-date park finder page

- Parks Department Objective - Continue implementation of Parks Department Marketing Plan
- Parks Department Objective - Hold routine information-sharing sessions among volunteer recreation groups to promote cooperation and compliance with regulations
- Parks Department Goal - Continue to evaluate existing programs and operations to maximize funding and efficiency with a focus on continuous improvement

Parks Department Objectives: Issue surveys after the completion of recreation programs for the purpose of soliciting user feedback to determine public value.

#### **Significant agency awards and/or recognitions:**

- National Softball Association “Outstanding Park for 2012” for Tyger River Park
- National Softball Association “Outstanding Park for 2012” for North Spartanburg Park
- James Farrell 2013 “Award of Excellence” by the Amateur Softball Association
- Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce 2013 “Tourism Ambassador Award” (co-winner with City of Spartanburg Special Events Office)
- South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association 2013 “Park of Excellence Award” for Tyger River Park
- “Outstanding Sports Tourism Award,” 2014, with Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Amateur Softball Association “2015 Complex of the Year,” for Tyger River Park
- James Ferrell 2015 “Award of Excellence,” by the Amateur Softball Association
- SC Association of Counties 2015 Barrett Lawrimore Regional Cooperation Award, for VSP 50+Wellness Program
- South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association 2015 “Programming Excellence Award” for VSP 50+ Wellness Program
- South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association 2016 “Park Excellence Award” for Cleveland Park
- National Softball Association “Outstanding Park for 2016” for 295 Park
- National Softball Association “Outstanding Park for 2016” for North Spartanburg Park
- South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association 2017 “Parks Excellence Award” for Holston Creek Park
- National Softball Association’s “Outstanding Park for 2017” for North Spartanburg Park

Part of the Mission statement in the *Spartanburg County Strategic Plan 2018-2019* says “We strive to provide businesses, individuals, and families the opportunity to grow and prosper thru the purposeful investment in education, **infrastructure, and recreation.**”

In the Goals & Objectives portion of the *Spartanburg County Strategic Plan 2018-2019*, Goal 2 calls for strengthening policies that relate to natural resource access and that which promotes tourism and for collaborating with partners to implement strategic steps that will take advantage of our natural resource assets as a key component of tourism related activities.

## Trails

Trails have become a mainstream commodity nationwide as well as in other countries. As indicated from the participation survey conducted by PRT, walking was identified as the number one recreational activity for over 80 percent of the population. As of the 1999 Comprehensive Plan Spartanburg County had only five such walking trails that totaled less than four miles.

Today there are numerous trails available throughout Spartanburg County for all levels of users, from natural trails to paved multi-modal trails to waterways (blueways). Many locations are strewn with scenic walks, wildlife and unique plant vegetation and even outdoor physical fitness stations. They can be located near your home, within a city or within a short driving distance in the country.

In 2008 the Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS) published their Long Range Transportation Plan, which included a robust bicycle and pedestrian element, but then quickly created the 2009 Spartanburg Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, later added to the document as an addendum. This plan recommended almost 750 miles of on-road bicycle facilities but it was realized that in order to broaden the walking and bicycling culture in Spartanburg, a focus on separated facilities was needed. Through the 2009 planning process, a total of 123 miles of multi-use and natural surface trails and 14 miles of neighborhood greenways were recommended.

As a continuation and update to the 2009 planning process, a study was done in 2013 to assess the needs of Spartanburg County beyond previous efforts and the existing parks, which resulted in the *Spartanburg Trails & Greenways Plan*. The Spartanburg County Parks Department, SPATS, City of Spartanburg and Partners for Active Living (PAL) collaborated to develop the plan as a Healthy South Initiative of the SCDHEC to advance the Spartanburg Trail System master plan throughout the city and county, which would provide guidance for future trail initiatives through PAL and the many partnering groups. The plan provides a framework for the development of a connected network of off-street trails and on-street facilities to create an integration of continuous infrastructure to encourage walking and bicycling as a viable transportation choice and recreation opportunity throughout the urban area of Spartanburg.

The *Trails & Greenways Plan* expanded upon previous plans such as the Bike-Ped Plan and Long-Range plans to create this inclusive *Proposed Trail Network* map. There is also a *Trail Feasibility Assessment* in the document that shows ranking of trails and greenways. The plan recommended that future development focus on a system of proposed types of trails (multi-use path or shared path, natural surface and neighborhood greenway), primary routes and trailheads. It is meant to serve as a dynamic map as time evolves and updates are made by way of the county and city successfully adding more trails, sidewalks and bicycle routes.





Currently there are many pieces of the trail system being implemented. One of the priority projects is to connect the north terminus of the Mary Black Foundation Rail Trail to Barnet Park and to other community places by extending the trail to the north. Click here to view PAL's map: [MBF Rail Trail to Barnet Park](#) and for the existing Mary Black Foundation Rail Trail [Mary Black Foundation Rail Trail](#).

Another area is from the south terminus of the Mary Black Foundation Rail Trail at Country Club Road to the Historic Glendale Bridge and then continuing up near and alongside the Lawson's Fork Creek eventually to tie in to the Cottonwood Trail. This portion would create a continuous loop and consist of approximately 13 miles of trail. The existing Cottonwood Trail is part of the Edwin M. Griffin Nature Preserve and is owned by Spartanburg Area Conservancy (SPACE). To view a brochure, click on this link: [Cottonwood Trail](#)

The Country Club Road project is currently underway and is slated to be constructed by 2020. It will consist of a redesigned roadway with a shared path and sidewalk, crosswalks, cycle track, new bridge with pedestrian and bicycling area, and safe connection to Glendale Shoals via path under the Clifton Glendale Road bridge. Safety for all modes of travel is the priority of this project. It can be viewed on the SCDOT website at this link: [SCDOT Country Club Road Project](#).

Another area being worked on is the Drayton Trail northeast of the city. The network for this starts at the Mary Black Hospital and heads on past the recently renovated Drayton Mill Loft Apartments and on to the Chinquapin Creek. A new infrastructure piece that unfolded was the addition of a pedestrian bridge put in place over the Lawson's Fork Creek in conjunction and partnership with the Spartanburg Water System's new sewer pipe. Click here to view PAL's map: [the Upper & Lower in one map](#)

To the west is the existing Wadsworth Trail off Highway 29, created in partnership with the Westside Neighborhood Association and the County. Click here to view PAL's map: [Wadsworth Trail](#). One last section is still to be completed to Oak Grove Rd and will need to be done in cooperation with the school district. Afterwards, a connection will be made southward on Anderson Mill Road to the old Mill, and eventually east to the Downtown Memorial Airport Park and back north to Highway 29, Vanderbilt and Wofford to Downtown Spartanburg.

There are many other specialty trails that the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau has on their website. Maps include Historic Downtown Walking Tour, A Tour of Textile Town, Revolutionary War Tour, Spartanburg Music Trail, Public Art Guide, Croft State Park, Cottonwood Trail, many bicycling route maps. Follow this link to view them all: [More Maps](#) Existing (green) and future (orange) conceptual trails can also be found on PAL's website, as well as the Palmetto Trail (light blue) proposed route below.

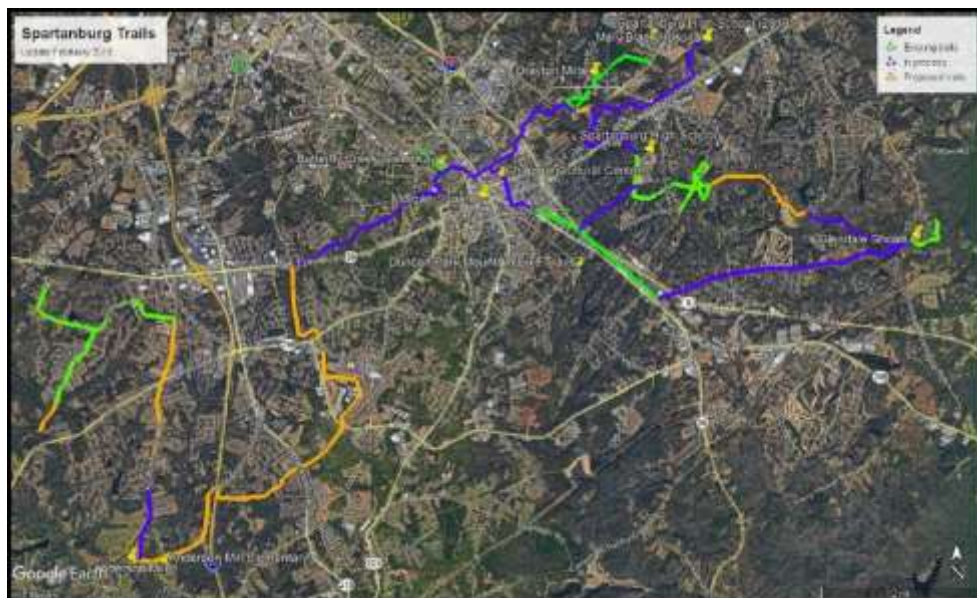
## Spartanburg Trails: Conceptual plan, updated June 6, 2016



- Green = existing trails (MBF Rail Trail, Cottonwood Trail, Duncan Park Trail, Mary H. Wright Greenway, Drayton Mills Trail, Wadsworth Trail)
  - Orange = conceptual trail connections
  - Blue = Palmetto Trail proposed route

<https://www.active-living.org/greenways-and-trail-plans>

Many exciting trail activities are taking place in and around Spartanburg City and County. This trails map shows, (by PAL - April 2018), Existing(green), In Process(blue) and Proposed(orange).



In aggregate, the SPATS staff maintains a “living” list of trails and updates it each time a new or extended portion of a trail is constructed. We are very excited that we have nearly 250 total miles of shared use paths, walking, hiking and biking trails, on-road bike lanes and blueway trails. It, along with other information, is made available to the public and is distributed to others who request it in digital format.

Spartanburg County Public Trails and Bike Facilities			
Name (Bold indicates trail is in Spartanburg city limits)	Length	Type	
<b>Shared Use</b>			
C.C. Woodson Leadership Spartanburg	0.28	walking, hiking, bicycling	
Cottonwood Trail Preserve	5	walking, running, hiking, bicycling	
Duncan Park Trail	9	walking, running, hiking, bicycling	
Inman Fitness Trail	0.6	walking, running, bicycling	
Lynnan Trail Trail (Phase 1)	0.38	walking, running, bicycling	
Mary Wright Greenway	1.3	walking, running, bicycling	
Pride Trail (adjacent to Pine Street)	2	walking, running, bicycling	
Salvation Army trail	1	walking, running, bicycling	
Wadeville Trail	3	walking, running, bicycling	
Wadeville Elementary School Trail Loop	0.4	walking, running, bicycling	
<b>Walking, Hiking, Bicycling</b>			
Airport Park Path (Spdyg Drtn Memorial Airport)	0.48	walking, running	
Barnet Park Path	2	walking	
Berry Field	0.38	walking, running	
Boiling Springs Community Park Trail	0.27	walking, running	
Boiling Springs Trail Rainbow Li Rd fire station	0.5	walking	
Brookwood Park Trail in Lindrum	0.5	walking	
Butterfly Creek Greenway	0.5	walking, running	
CADA Park Path in Downtown Cheesee	0.28	walking	
Canner Middle Walking Track	0.28	walking, running	
Cleveland Park trails (1.7 playground area (32))	2.03	walking, running	
Coldale Elementary Walking Loop	0.34	walking, running	
Clifton Park Trail & Kayak put-in	0.34	walking, paddling/kayaking	
Dayton Mill Trail (N side 1 mi / S side 1 mile)	2	walking, running	
E.P. Todd School Nature Trail and Track	1.12	walking, hiking	
Glendale Shoals	1	walking, hiking	
Glenn Park Natural Trail	0.8	walking, hiking	
Hatcher Garden	1.3	walking, hiking, educational	
Holston Creek Park	0.88	walking, running, disc golf	
Horse Craig Trail at Croft State Park	1	walking, hiking	
Hub City Art Park	0.18	walking	
Inman Historic Walking Loop	2.75	walking, running	
Lindale Hills Park	0.45	walking, running	
Mary Black Hospital Walking Trail (50)	0.52	walking, running	
McKinney Park Path	0.25	walking	
Mean Green Trail at Pine St. Elementary	0.05	walking	
Music Trail Walking Tour (downtown Spartanburg)	0.8	walking	
N. Spg. Complex Fitness Trail	1	walking, running	
Nature Trail at Croft State Park	1.5	walking, hiking	
Old Canaan Road Fitness Trail	0.62	walking, running, disc golf	
Old Furnace Road - Under construction, Begin Spring 2017	3.1	walking, running	
Pacelle River Preserve Trail	1.5	walking, hiking	
Peters Creek	3.6	walking, hiking	
Pine House Nature Trail	0.6	walking, hiking	
River Birch Trail	0.6	walking, running, hiking	
River Place Trail and Pedestrian Bridge	0.25	walking	
SC 9	4.4	walking, running	
SCALE Trail in Duncan	2	walking, running, hiking, educational	
Spartan High Walking Track	0.25	walking, running	
Stone Lodge Park Path	0.51	walking	
Town of Pacelle Nature Trail and Loop	8	walking, running, hiking, educational	
Tyler 10 Nature Trail	0.75	hiking	
Tyler River Park sidewalk path	1.3	walking, running, disc golf	
USC Upstate Campus Path	2.7	walking, running, disc golf	
Va-Du-Mar Park Trail	2	walking, running, disc golf	
VOOM Trail	0.7	walking, running	
Veterans Park Path (Green on Spg. Co. side)	0.28	walking	
Walnut Grove Nature Trail	0.5	walking, hiking	
Woodruff Fitness Trail	0.65	walking, running, hiking	
Woodruff High School Gold & Maroon Sidewalk Paths	1.84	walking, running	
<b>Statewide Palmetto Trail Passages in Spartanburg County (hiking and biking)</b>			
Blue Wall Passage	14	hiking/biking	
Chocoma Creek Trail at Hospice House	1.5	hiking	
Croft Passage (Spring 2018)	12.6	hiking/biking	
Glendale Greenway	2.2	hiking/biking	
Glenn Springs	7	hiking/biking	
Inman Peach County Passage	14	hiking/biking	
Liberty Trail	0.73	hiking/biking	
Mary Black Rail-Trail	2	hiking/biking	
SC School for Deaf and Blind "Braille Trail"	1	hiking/biking	
USC Upstate Passage	5	hiking/biking	
<b>Bike Lanes</b>			
Broad St.	0.5	bike lane	
Candler Ave.	0.6	bike lane	
Drine and Cummings Street	0.6	bike lane	
Highway 11 (Northern Crescent Bike Route)	23	2 ft paved shoulder	
Hollywood Dr./Dyers Dr.	1.2	bike lane	
Hudson-Barkdale Bike Lane	1	bike lane	
Liberty St. Connector at the Marriott	0.5	bike lane	
Magnolia St./College St./Forest St.	2.7	bike lane	
Redville Road (SC 295) Bike Lane	5	bike lane	
SC 101	13	wide outside lane for shared use	
SC 360	5	wide outside lane for shared use	
SC 290	5	shared-use path	
SC 62 (Main Street Redville)	0.125	bike lane	
SC 8	4.8	bike lane	
Serpentine Dr.	0.3	shared	
Spring St./Marion St.	1.2	bike lane	
Union St./Dean St. Extension	0.3	bike lane	
US 221 near downtown Cheesee	0.25	bike lane	
W. Main	0.2	bike lane	
<b>Mountain Bike Trails</b>			
BMX track at N. Spg. Complex	0.25	mtb biking/BMX	
Croft State Park Mountain Bike Trails	14.1	mtb biking	
Duncan Park Trails	7	mtb biking	
Glenn Springs Passage of Palmetto Trail	7	mtb biking	
Holston Creek Park	2.75	mtb biking	
Pump Trail at GOLS	0.2	mtb biking	
USC Upstate Passage of Palmetto Trail (also listed above)	5	mtb biking	
<b>Blueway Trails</b>			
Pacelle/Lindley's Fort Blueway	4.3	paddling/kayaking	
Tyler River Blueway	7.5	paddling/kayaking	
Source: Spartanburg Area Transportation Study - Updated 0418		249.66 total miles	

Final updated list will go into the final plan

For more detailed trail information Go To these websites:  
[www.spartanburg.org/2017/04/04/transportation-study/](http://www.spartanburg.org/2017/04/04/transportation-study/)  
[www.spartanburgga.com/transportation](http://www.spartanburgga.com/transportation)  
[www.spartanburgga.com/transportation](http://www.spartanburgga.com/transportation)



A very important trail to our State of South Carolina is the Palmetto Trail, which has and continues to connect our communities with an alternative route of travel. The state-wide trail passes through parts of many counties in South Carolina, but we are fortunate that the Trail runs through Spartanburg County. Of the 350 miles on the ground, comprised of 26 passages throughout the state, Spartanburg County contributes over 60 miles of designated Palmetto Trail. The different trails offer an assortment of experiences through different landscapes, both urban and rural.

From the Web: Imagine 500 miles of cross-state hiking and bicycling paths beside lakes, across mountain ridges, through forests, into towns big and small, and across swamps:

- Showcasing conservation and preservation from mountains to sea
- Providing free public access to active, healthy outdoor recreation
- Fostering tourism, business, and economic development

#### Fast Facts

- Established 1994
- Access to the outdoors from Walhalla in the Blue Ridge Mountains to Awendaw on the Intracoastal Waterway
- About two hours away from any part of the state
- South Carolina's longest pedestrian and bicycle Trail and largest Trail construction project—500 continuous miles when finished
- 350 Trail miles completed
- 26 passages ranging from 1.3 to 47 miles
- Backcountry. Rails-to-Trail. Greenways. City sidewalks. Urban bikeways. Steps of the State Capitol. Bridle. Nothing motorized.
- Connects state and county parks, national forests, nature preserves, wildlife management areas, Revolutionary War battlefields, Native American paths, urban to rural, swamps to mountains, maritime to sandhills to piedmont, and much more
- Easy, moderate, and strenuous levels of difficulty
- Accessible for day trips, weekend jaunts, and longer treks, including through-hikes from mountains to sea (or sea to mountains)
- One of 16 cross-state trails in the United States
- Designated a federal Millennium Legacy Trail
- 'Finish the Trail'—150 miles to go in the Midlands and Upstate

The entire Palmetto Trail is open to hiking and backpacking. Designated passages and sites are available for mountain biking, horseback riding, and camping. Motorized vehicles are not allowed on the trail.

Residents and visitors of all ages, abilities, and socioeconomic situations use the Palmetto Trail to enjoy nature, practice conservation, and learn history—all while being physically active. Traveled individually or together, the passages reveal the rich diversity and fascinating history, culture, and geography of the Palmetto State.

Website: <https://palmettoconservation.org>

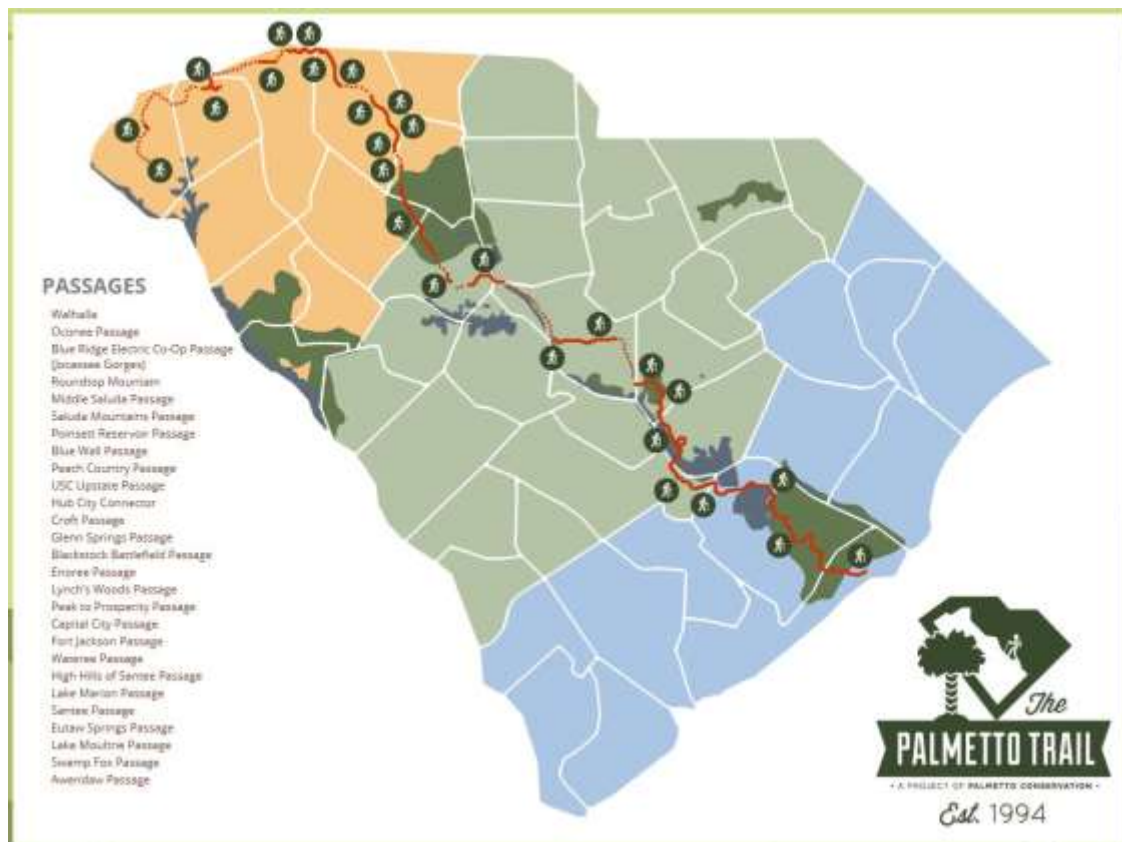


The Palmetto Conservation Foundation (PCF) was commissioned to create the Palmetto Trail Statewide Master Plan, which identifies strategies for closing gaps along the trail's 425-mile spine and developing spur trails to connect the trail to nearby communities. The final plan was completed in April 2016 and can be found at this link:

<http://www.finishthepalmettotrail.org/documents.html>

Palmetto Trail sections in Spartanburg County include:

- Blue Wall Passage
- Peach Country Passage
- USC Upstate Passage
- Hub City Connector
- Croft State Park Passage
- Glenn Springs Passage
- Blackstock Battlefield Passage
- Chinquapin Trail
- Liberty Trail
- Mary Black Foundation Rail-Trail
- SC School for the Deaf and the Blind Trail “Braille Trail”

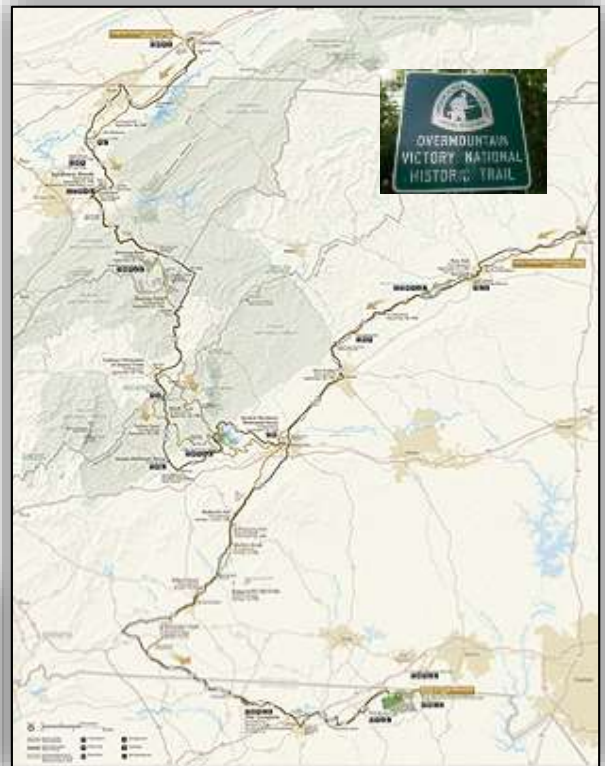


Website: <https://palmettoconservation.org/palmetto-trail/passages/>



Another important trail in Spartanburg County is the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail (OVNHT), which is part of the U. S. National Trails System and is managed by the National Park Service. It stretches some 330 miles throughout the four states of Virginia, Tennessee and North and South Carolina.

The trail commemorates the American Revolutionary War Overmountain Men and Patriots who fought for freedom against the British. Two major battles in South Carolina were at Cowpens and King's Mountain. Both sites demonstrate reenactments.



For the most comprehensive story click on the link: <http://npplan.com/national-historic-trails/overmountain-victory-national-historic-trail/>



In the Priorities & Budget Consideration portion of the *Spartanburg County Strategic Plan 2018-2019*, a One Spartanburg request calls for continuing to collaborate efforts in the areas of (planning and implementing) trails, greenways and blueways.

## **Bicycle and Pedestrian / Multi-Modal / Active Transportation**

Although roadways are the main focus of a transportation plan, it is recommended that roadway improvements can be, and should be, coupled with other mobility means, such as sidewalks, multi-use paths or on-road bicycle lanes.

Trending throughout the country and in South Carolina, especially in the urban areas, there has been a growing interest and transition to incorporating transportation infrastructure to support biking and walking. The infrastructure, having numerous titles, describes in one form or another an “alternative” mode of transportation.

The national legislation and federal guidance for MPOs has changed over the course of several years. In 2005, our Federal legislation passed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). This act mandated that local MPOs produce Long-Range Transportation Plans (LRTP) that are intermodal in nature. The SAFETEA-LU outlined specific issues that must be considered in the transportation planning process. One of these factors was to “increase the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.”

Since then, the Federal Highway Administration has enacted Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21) in 2012. It established a new program to provide for a variety of alternative transportation projects that were previously eligible activities under separately funded programs. Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) projects located within the Spartanburg area participated in a statewide competitive application process. The program included Transportation Alternatives, Safe Routes to School Projects, and Recreational Trails.

In 2016, Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST Act) was passed. It ended the MAP-21 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and replaced it with a set-aside of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program funding for transportation alternatives (TA). These set-aside funds include all projects and activities that were previously eligible under TAP, encompassing a variety of smaller-scale transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity. Governments, transit agencies, school districts and their partners wishing to apply for the federal program for bike/pedestrian networks, trails, safe routes to school or streetscape projects in the Spartanburg area will now apply to SCDOT directly. (*FHWA & SPATS Websites*) Both acts continued to outline allowances and requirements for bicycle and pedestrian guidelines, funding and eligibilities.

The Federal Highway Administration recommends raised medians and pedestrian crossing islands, often at mid-block, because they reduce pedestrian crashes by 50%, as per SC Livable Communities Alliance states on their website. Website: <http://sclivablecommunities.org/brief/>.

Per SCDOT’s online statements, it is committed to meeting the on-going challenge of providing better and safer accommodations for people who choose to walk or cycle. This effort is coordinated by the agency's Pedestrian and Bicycle Program.

Every day, many people choose biking or walking, instead of using motor vehicles. Why? For some, their destination is close. Some choose biking or walking for healthy exercise. Some are committed to reducing air pollution and saving natural resources. Some are either too young or too old to drive, or they don't have access to a motor vehicle. Increasingly, these modes are being viewed as one response to sky-rocketing fuel costs.

Whatever the reason for their choices, walkers and cyclists deserve to have the safest and most inviting facilities possible. Non-motorized transportation infrastructure should be interconnected, accessible to persons with disabilities, and integrated into the rest of the state's transportation network.

Safety is SCDOT's number one priority, in both motorized and non-motorized transportation. Too many cyclists and pedestrians are being killed or injured in our state, and SCDOT is committed to doing everything possible to improve those statistics.

The Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is a transportation policy-making organization comprised of representatives from local government and transportation authorities. MPOs were created to ensure that expenditures for transportation programs and projects were based on a 'comprehensive, cooperative and continuing (3-C) planning process'. It is tasked with identifying transportation needs and evaluating transportation alternatives, including walking and biking, within the Spartanburg urban area and to program projects to address those identified needs.

The SPATS MPO has had an evolution of plans over the years to correlate with the various Federal and State programs and its staff coordinates with several organizations to connect cyclists and pedestrians to destinations and facilities and works to complete identified infrastructure projects. Following is a brief review of the history of SPATS's plans as well as others that influence and guide the development of bike-ped facilities.



The SPATS 2004 *Long-Range Enhancement Master Plan* provides recommendations for alternate mobility solutions as well as beautification opportunities. SPATS initiated the Master Plan as a tool to coordinate alternative mobility and enhancement projects on the basis of anticipated Federal funds. Spartanburg County, through SPATS, receives an annual allocation of “enhancement” funds from the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). Enhancement funding was first provided to the states by the U.S. Department of Transportation under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, commonly referred to as “TEA-21.” Historically, SPATS has allocated these funds to County projects through a matching grant process, and to a variety of

community organizations that, in turn, use them to make enhancements. These projects are either alternative mobility or beautification based. Click here to view an historic list of projects: <http://spatsmpo.org/projects/enhancement-projects/completed-enhancement-projects/>

The purpose of the *2004 Long-Range Enhancement Master Plan* was to identify and prioritize alternative mobility opportunities using natural resources, overland connectors and abandoned rail-lines, and landscape enhancement projects within primary gateways, roadways, corridors, landmarks, and open spaces throughout the County. The intent of the *Master Plan* study focused on, among other things, the following objectives:

1. Serve as an aid to Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS) and the Spartanburg County citizens for prioritization of enhancement opportunities.
2. Provide basic recommendations for the planning of enhancement opportunities and alternate mobility.
3. Enhance the existing SPATS area character and streetscape to encourage greater pedestrian activity, offer recreation alternatives, and improve overall quality of life.
4. Utilize natural resources and utility easements where possible.
5. Create connections to cultural amenities, residential area, shopping areas, and incorporate opportunities for future development.
6. Offer management and funding alternatives for implementation.

SPATS, Spartanburg County, and the City of Spartanburg have addressed some bicycle and pedestrian issues in the *2004 Enhancement Master Plan* and the *Active Living Assessment* (2005). The Plan seeks to build upon what has already been accomplished and to create action towards implementation, project, program, and policy development. The plan addresses the entire county, including incorporated areas and unincorporated areas.

In January 2009, SPATS, Spartanburg County and the City of Spartanburg began developing a countywide comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian plan. The planning effort was funded by the Mary Black Foundation, SPATS, Spartanburg County, and the City of Spartanburg. This *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan* represents a continuation of the bicycle and pedestrian planning, programming, and development efforts that had occurred over the previous five years which were outlined in the *Enhancement Plan*.



Nationally, such issues as rising gas prices, environmental concerns, and a growing interest in health and wellness are demonstrating the need for bicycle and pedestrian-friendly communities. On a local level, this Plan aims to take on such issues, translating them into affordable personal mobility, carbon-free transportation, and healthy, active lifestyles for Spartanburg County residents.

- For the Bike and Pedestrian Plan, click here [SPATS Bike-Ped Planning](#)
- For examples of Bike and Ped projects, click here [SPATS Bike-Ped Projects](#)

The 2035 SPATS Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) addresses all aspects of transportation, including traditional transportation, transit, bicycle and pedestrian planning and enhancements.



The 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan also makes recommendations for access management and streetscape improvement projects, which include provisions for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The plans are an impetus for creating partnerships with various public, private and non-profit organizations in which to creatively coordinate an active progression toward a safer environment for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The task of creating more capacity on existing streets is balanced by the needs of travelers, adjacent property owners, and the expense of creating more travel ways. Expanded streets should automatically include expanded travel choices and safety as well. Designs should cross-reference streetscaping, CPTED (see Law Enforcement section), and access management principles outlined in other recommendations in the Transportation element of this Plan.

Spartanburg County is blessed to have a vast amount of individuals and organizations who would like to see alternative routes become more readily available to the public, and SPATS works with various organizations to connect destinations with infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians, especially for access to food destinations, jobs, recreation and neighborhoods. It takes working together with a diverse group of entities to make sure all aspects are covered.

As outlined in the SPATS LRTP, many of the access management projects are centered around the urban areas of Spartanburg, while the streetscape/Complete Streets improvement projects are focused on the smaller towns and communities within the Region. Complete Streets and streetscape improvements will typically include enhancements for bicycle and pedestrian provisions such as paths or sidewalks, as well as street trees, crosswalks and lighting. Sometimes a road diet is recommended whereby an automobile traffic lane is converted into a bicycle lane or shared path to allow for others who chose to or need to use alternative mobility means.

The City of Spartanburg endorsed their support for Complete Streets by creating a Resolution in 2006 and in 2007 the Spartanburg County Council did so as well, which makes way for the two jurisdictions to plan adjacent areas together with the same goals in mind and so both would have tools in place when the time came to implement.

Some projects are funded through the Transportation Alternative Program, previously the Enhancement Program, while others are the result of combined efforts and resources from various groups. Projects focus on accessibility and connectivity. [The Spartanburg Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, 2009](#), identified many projects needed to make these connections, and this plan has helped to prioritize bicycle and pedestrian projects throughout Spartanburg.

The SPATS 2040 LRTP recommends that when any intersection improvement projects are constructed that a priority is made to implement active transportation, which should include appropriate signalization, crossing, turning radii, ADA, and signage to allow pedestrians and cyclists to safely traverse each intersection.

In the long-term, SPATS should direct its resources to providing quality active transportation throughout the County. Currently, the strongest active transportation linkages have developed within or adjacent to the City of Spartanburg. The City has been a tremendous partner in



advancing multi-modal travel but it is important to provide opportunities for those residents to walk and bike in comfort and safety in all areas of the county. Many of the county’s parks and recreation amenities are in the more rural areas and so it would be beneficial to link these facilities to residents through multi-modal transportation trails and pathways. Further, as a regional connectivity is explored, plans to connect to larger trail networks such as the Palmetto Trail and the Overmountain Victory National Historical Trail and Carolina Thread trail should be considered.

Following are the recommended bicycle and pedestrian projects, as per in the LRTP 2040. To view them and the recommendations in more detail, click here [LRTP 2040](#) and then open the LRTP Full Report – Part 2.

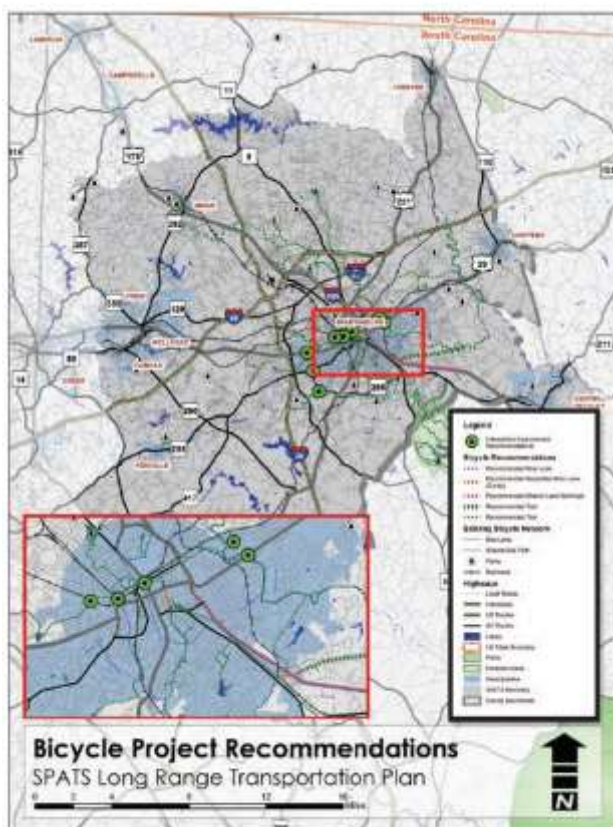


Figure 33: Bicycle Project Recommendations

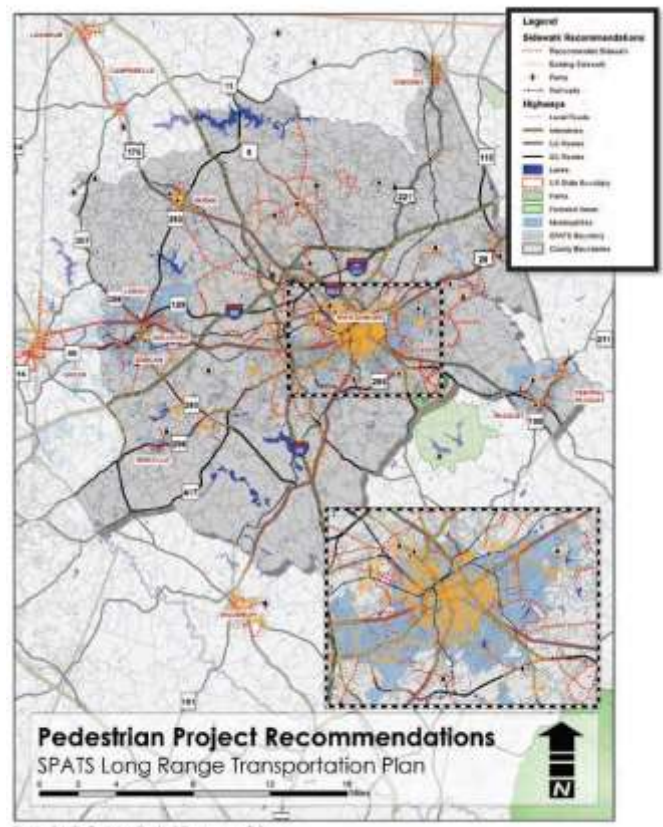
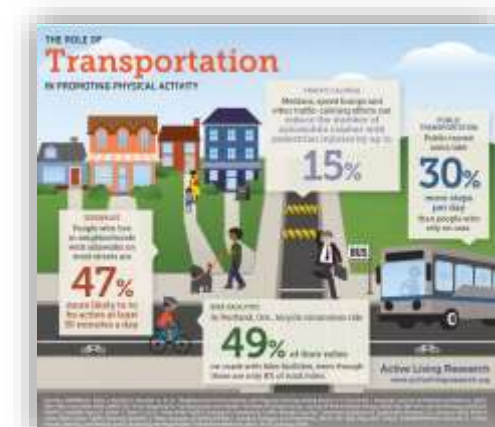


Figure 34: Pedestrian Project Recommendations



“Pedestrians, Bicycles, & Non-Motorized Facilities  
Pedestrian-friendly cities have a logical system of interconnected facilities that allow for safe travel between origins and destinations. Such facilities do not occur by accident; rather, they are the result of careful planning.....”

Active Transportation focuses on improving the environment for bicyclists and pedestrians by planning healthier and enjoyable travel options to get to work, school, and other destinations. The SPATS website displays this infographic on Active Transportation from the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) which illustrates perfectly “The Role of Transportation in Promoting Physical Activity.”

Census Data shows that 47,168 residents of the SPATS area live and work in the study area, and 49,168 workers commute to the area from outside the study area.

- 3% Take public transportation to work
- 1.6% walk to work
- 0.1 percent bike to work
- 0.5% take a taxi, motorcycle, or other means of travel

## Existing Bicycle Facilities

The City of Spartanburg leaders have made creating bicycle infrastructure, increased bicycle facilities and education investments a priority. Bicycle lane mileage has quadrupled and the number of bicycle racks has increased fivefold since the Bike Town Initiative. The City also is the host for the Assaults on Mount Mitchell and Marion, and the annual Spartanburg Classic Criterium, held in downtown every May.

Spartanburg BCycle was the first bicycle sharing program launched in the Southern region and has allowed for just over 18,000 trips and 109,000 miles taken since 2011. With 5 docking stations and 40 bikes Spartanburg BCycle makes it easy for locals and visitors to get around Spartanburg by bike. The next 'thing' in bicycle sharing is called smart bikes, which BCycle has dubbed Dash BCycle. This smart bicycle can be tracked in existing BCycle software but does not require a dock. It can be checked out and returned via smart phone anywhere within the defined geographic area (the system will allow us to set boundaries so that the bicycle beeps if it is outside of a specific area like downtown). Partners for Active Living plans to purchase 11 or 12 when they are available later in 2018.



## Bike Racks

According to Partners for Active Living, Bike racks have one main purpose: “to safely guard your bicycle while you are out and about. However, some of these racks may be shaped strangely, even appearing to be decorative objects”.



Beginning in 2006, PAL has compiled a list of bike rack locations, which SPATS maintains in a GIS table. The count is nearly 200 racks with varying amounts of bike slots. For businesses located within the City of Spartanburg, PAL will assist a business in selecting and installing a rack. For more information click here: <https://www.active-living.org/bicycle-racks>

## Bike Town

The Bike Town initiative is a community-wide collaboration dedicated to making the Spartanburg community the bicycling hub of the Southeast and to improving Spartanburg’s national designation as a ‘Bicycle Friendly Community’ by the [League of American Bicyclists](#). The purpose of the Bike Town coalition is to ensure communication and collaboration between organizations and businesses so that bicycling in SpartanburgCounty is as easy, safe, and accessible as possible. The group is staffed by Partners for Active Living and supported by [Spartanburg Revolutionary!](#)



The Mary Black Foundation, Partners for Active Living, the Biketown Coalition, Freewheelers and others have participated in and advanced numerous efforts to see bicycling infrastructure implemented, citizens educated, which lead to a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community designation for the City of Spartanburg in 2013, 2015 and 2017.



## Other Plans

The *Tourism Action Plan* (2011), recommended continuing to link biking/hiking trails throughout the county. Spartanburg County has recently completed a Bike/Pedestrian Master plan that outlines many improvements and connections for multi-modal transportation. This plan provides a comprehensive look at the future needs for biking and walking throughout the county. The existing trails should be marketed to visitors in partnership with the Convention and Visitors Corporation.

The Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce completed a five-year community and economic development strategy called *One Spartanburg*. It was a nine-month research and strategic planning process aimed at identifying how to raise levels of prosperity and improve quality of life for all Spartanburg County residents. Included were ‘quality of life and place enhancements’, such as trails, sidewalk connectivity and





neighborhood amenities, as being a major part of the economic vitality for attracting and retaining citizens.

A recent plan focused on walkability and bikeability was the *Middle Tyger Pedestrian Master Plan*. Through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) lead an endeavor to increase pedestrian planning in South Carolina. The effort was part of the DHEC SC Prevention and Health Across Systems and Environments (PHASE) Pedestrian Planning Project. SC PHASE Pedestrian Planning was a 3 year project in which a consultant was to develop a pedestrian-focused master plan, neighborhood/area plan, or implementation plan for 16 communities in specific counties in the state. Beyond the basic tenets of walkability and pedestrian safety, key elements of the program initiative were: 1) equity-based planning 2) community engagement and 3) safe pedestrian access to healthy foods. Partnering with the consultant, DHEC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity and regional staff chose the Middle Tyger Area in the SPATS jurisdiction as one of the 16 communities with the opportunity to receive pedestrian planning services.

The *Middle Tyger Pedestrian Planning Project* provided a *Conceptual Master Plan* for Holly Springs Road from DR Hill Middle School to SC 129 (approximately 2.7 mi) and Pine Ridge Road from Holly Springs Road to US 29 (approximately 0.6 mi). The *Master Plan* assesses the context for each corridor, summarizes opportunities and constraints, and provides typical cross-sections, planning-level cost estimates, and photo visualizations of up to four critical roadway segments.

#### Timeline of Various Plans

- 1995 SPATS Long Range Transportation Plan
- 2004 Long Range Enhancement Master Plan  
This plan states recommendations for alternate mobility solutions as well as beautification opportunities. SPATS initiated the Master Plan as a tool to coordinate alternative mobility and enhancement projects on the basis of anticipated Federal funds.
- 2004 SPATS 2005-2025 Long-Range Transportation Plan (Spartanburg County Planning and Development Department)  
The SPATS Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is a summary of all of the proposed Transportation improvements for the Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS), the area's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). This is a federally mandated process that fiscally constrains the number and types of projects during a twenty year period. Projects typically do not receive funding unless they first appear in the LRTP.
- 2004 SPATS 2005-2025 Long-Range Transportation Plan - Intermodal Addendum (Spartanburg County Planning and Development Department) The Intermodal Addendum is a supplement to the Long-Range transportation Plan as required by Federal law. The plan covers improvements for aesthetics, transit, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities. It also includes the recommended extension of the Palmetto Trail through the downtown towards the Wofford campus.
- 2005 Spartanburg Area Active Living Assessment (The Lawrence Group for Upstate Forever) SPATS, Spartanburg County and the City of Spartanburg have addressed some bicycle and pedestrian issues.

- 2006 Spartanburg County Rapid Parks Assessment (The Conservation Fund and Upstate Forever) “The rapid assessment facilitates identification and prioritization of parkland, greenway, and greenbelt protection opportunities that advance the goals of local park and active living advocates as well as published recreation needs assessments, greenway plans, and active living assessments.” The plan recommends the creation of an active living zone to promote higher density development within appropriate areas of Spartanburg, including Downtown. In addition, it recommends density bonuses for residential development in this zone where land donation or park dedication is included.
- 2006 City of Spartanburg Complete Streets Policy
- 2007 County of Spartanburg Complete Streets Resolution  
In 2006-2007, both the City and County of Spartanburg passed Complete Streets resolutions, but these policies have not been fully implemented.
- 2007 Spartanburg Downtown: Weaving the Tapestry of the City (The Lawrence Group, Kimley-Horn, Rose & Assoc, Cole Jenest & Stone – Draft 06.14.2007)
- 2008 SPATS 2008-2035 Long-Range Transportation Plan
- 2009 Spartanburg Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan (SPATS, Spartanburg Co, City of Spartanburg, Mary Black Foundation) – A countywide comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian plan. This Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, hereafter called the Plan, represents a continuation of the bicycle and pedestrian planning, programming, and development efforts that have occurred over the past five years. This Plan seeks to build upon what has already been accomplished and create action towards implementation, project, program, and policy development. The plan addresses the entire county, including incorporated areas and non-incorporated areas.
- 2011 Spartanburg County Tourism Action Plan & Feasibility Study  
Recognizes and enhances the economic, social, and cultural assets of the county to enrich its quality of life. It lists hundreds of destinations which can be incorporated into walkable and bikeable infrastructure for citizens and visitors.
- 2012 Spartanburg (Urban Area) Trails & Greenways Plan (Alta - April 2013) (City of Spartanburg, SPATS, Spartanburg County Parks Department, PAL, Healthy South Carolina Initiative by SCDHEC)  
This plan is an extension of the Bike and Pedestrian Plan and outlines a master plan for recommended projects in the Spartanburg area.
- 2015 SPATS 2015-2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan (Stantec and SPATS)
- 2015 Long-Range Transportation Plan. The Plan addresses local transportation needs, but is federally required to address every type of transportation and every type of traveler. Freight, auto, biking, walking, public transportation and aviation are all part of our daily lives, and collectively describe how we live, work, and play.



## Blueways

Spartanburg County Parks and Recreation has been, and will be more so in the future, involved in forward thinking when it comes to positioning the county to develop river access properties for the rapidly growing sport of paddling. The county has invested in access points and parks along the Pacolet River Paddling Trail, the Tyger rivers and the Lawson's Fork Creek and could very well see paddle-in campsites in the near future as well. There exists several towns and organizations who have partnered with the county to see some of our goals come to fruition. (Pacolet, Clifton, GOLs, SJWD & WRWD, SPACE, UF, TRF, TRC, etc.)

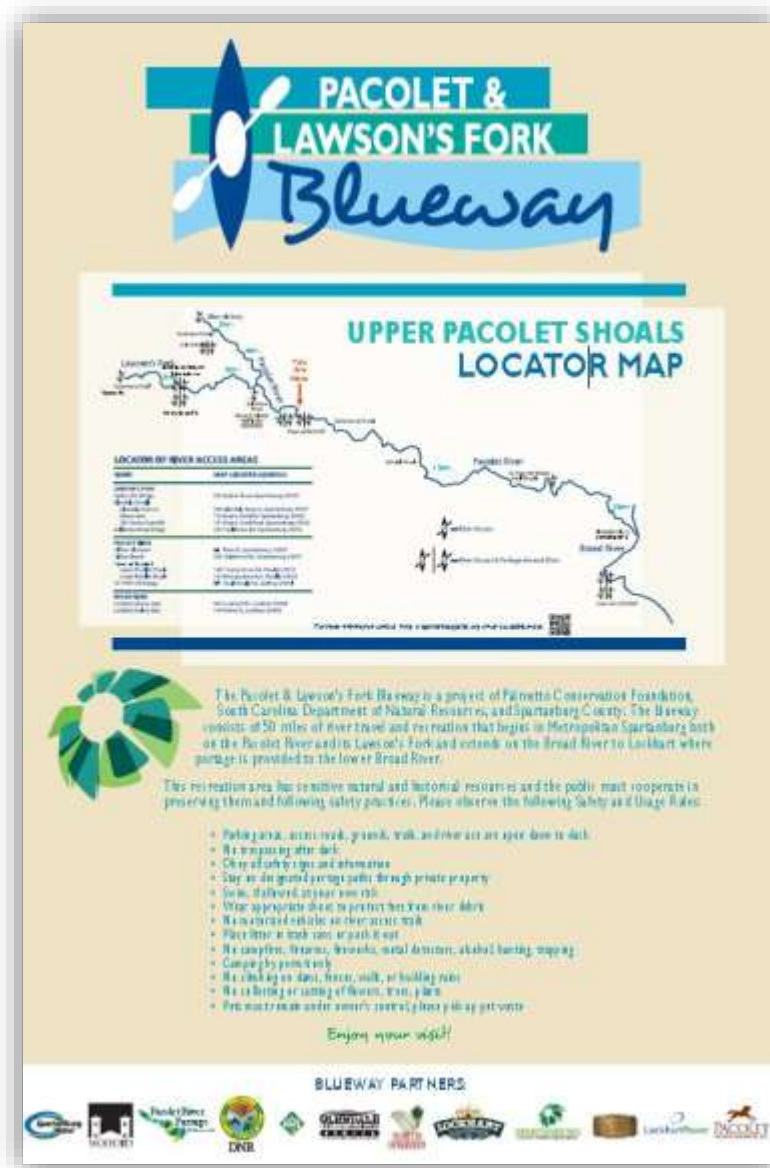
Lakes and rivers also add to the inventory of recreation facilities. Lake Bowen, in the northern part of the county, is available for boating and fishing, with a public fishing pier and boat ramps. These facilities also are available at Lake Blalock, both of which are operated by Spartanburg County Waterworks. Lake Cooley, just north of Wellford is available to the public by way of boat ramp facilities. It is operated by the Startex-Jackson-Wellford-Duncan Water District. Spartanburg County Parks and SJWD Water District recently formed a partnership whereby the Lake Cooley Outdoor Recreation Center will accommodate the Outdoor program of the County Parks department which will provide citizens to more recreation activities.

The Spartanburg County Blueways Coalition is a volunteer group of over thirty different nonprofit organizations, government agencies, community groups, neighborhood groups, and individuals who are stakeholders in Blueways development. A "blueway" is a water path or trail that is developed with launch points, vehicle access, and points of interest for canoeists, paddle boarders, kayakers, and other forms of passive riparian recreation.

For the past few years the coalition has been meeting regularly to craft the [Spartanburg County Blueways Master Plan \(Draft\)](#), a planning document that inventories existing Blueways resources in Spartanburg and makes recommendations for enhancing our Blueways System. With three major rivers, associated tributaries, over seven reservoirs with paddling and fishing access, and a state park offering water-based recreation, Spartanburg County is rich in riparian and water resources. These same water resources that once drove our economy, and its history of textiles and other hydro-powered industry, can today be used to generate recreational benefits and economic opportunities for our residents, visitors, and communities. Nationwide, the development of paddling and fishing resources as a tool for outdoor recreation, economic opportunity, and public health is growing.

The Spartanburg Blueways Plan Document divides Blueways development in Spartanburg County into broad categories such as 1) Current Conditions, 2) Infrastructure Needs, 3) Promotion & Communication, and 4) Maintenance. Within these categories are planning recommendations for Blueways development, as stated in a *Mary Black Foundation Blog January 12, 2016 in Community Health Fund*.

Here is one example of the many illustrative signs that are located in strategic areas around the county, with more to be added as blueway implementation progresses.



For more detailed mapping information about Blueways click on the following links.

Blueways Map online at Upstate Forever:

<https://www.upstateforever.org/blueway-mapping>

Parks &amp; Recreation information.... River access points map

<http://spartanburgparks.org/parks-facilities/tyger-river/>

## School Facilities

### Public: Elementary – High School – Vocational

Spartanburg County is served by the Spartanburg County School System, which is divided into seven districts. As of the writing of this Plan the schools listed below were either operational or under construction. Each district has its own school board which governs the decisions made for the numerous schools within their jurisdiction.

Schools are also listed in the Cultural Resources element as they relate to the cultural programs within the schools.



**DISTRICT ONE** serves 11 schools in all which includes 6 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 2 high schools, and 1 career center.

**1** includes Campobello-Gramling, Chapman High School, Holly Springs-Motlow Elementary, Inman Elementary, Inman Intermediate, Landrum High, Landrum Middle, Mabry Middle, New Prospect Elementary, and O.P. Earle Elementary. District One students can also attend Swofford Career Center.

Website: <http://www.spartanburg1.k12.sc.us/>



**DISTRICT TWO** serves 16 schools in all which includes 8 elementary schools, 1 intermediate school, 3 middle schools, 1 9<sup>th</sup> grade campus, 2 high schools, and 1 career center.

**2** includes Boiling Springs Elementary, Cooley Springs-Fingerville Elementary, Chesnee Elementary, Hendrix Elementary, Carlisle-Foster's Grove Elementary, Mayo Elementary, Oakland Elementary, Boiling Springs Intermediate, Boling Springs Junior High, Rainbow Lake Middle School, Chesnee Middle School, Boiling Springs High 9th grade, Boiling Springs High School, and Chesnee High School. District Two students can also attend Swofford Career Center.

Website: <http://www.spart2.org/>



**DISTRICT THREE** serves 8 schools in all which includes 4 elementary schools, one intermediate school, 2 middle schools, 1 high school, and 1 career center.

**3** includes Cannons Elementary, Clifdale Elementary, Cowpens Elementary School, Pacolet Elementary School, Cowpens Middle School, Middle School of Pacolet, and Broome High School. District Three students can attend the Daniel Morgan Technology Center.

Website: <http://www.spartanburg3.org/>



DISTRICT FOUR serves 6 schools in all which includes eight elementary schools, one intermediate school, three middle schools, one 9<sup>th</sup> grade campus, two high schools, and one career center.

**4** includes Woodruff Primary, Woodruff Elementary, Woodruff Middle and Woodruff High School. High school students also can attend R.D. Anderson Applied Technology Center to learn vocational skills.

Website: <http://www.spartanburg4.org/>



DISTRICT FIVE serves 14 schools in all which includes 6 elementary schools, 2 intermediate schools, 2 middle schools, 1 freshman campus, 1 high school, and 2 career centers.

**5** includes Abner Creek Academy (formerly Abner Creek Elementary), Duncan Elementary, Lyman Elementary, Reidville Elementary, River Ridge Elementary, Wellford Academy of Science and Technology (formerly Wellford Elementary), Beech Springs Intermediate, Berry Shoals Intermediate, D. R. Hill Middle, Florence Chapel Middle, James F. Byrnes Freshman Academy, and James F. Byrnes High School. Vocational school students can attend R. D. Anderson Applied Technology Center.

Website: <https://www.spart5.net/>



DISTRICT SIX serves 15 schools in all which includes 9 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, 1 freshman grade campus, 1 high school and 1 career center.

**6** includes Anderson Mill Elementary, Arcadia Elementary, Fairforest Elementary, Jesse S. Bobo Elementary, Lone Oak Elementary, Pauline-Glenn Springs Elementary, Roebuck Elementary, West View Elementary, Woodland Heights Elementary, Fairforest Middle, Gable Middle, R. P. Dawkins Middle, Dorman Freshman Campus and Paul M. Dorman High School. District Six students can attend R. D. Anderson Applied Technology Center.

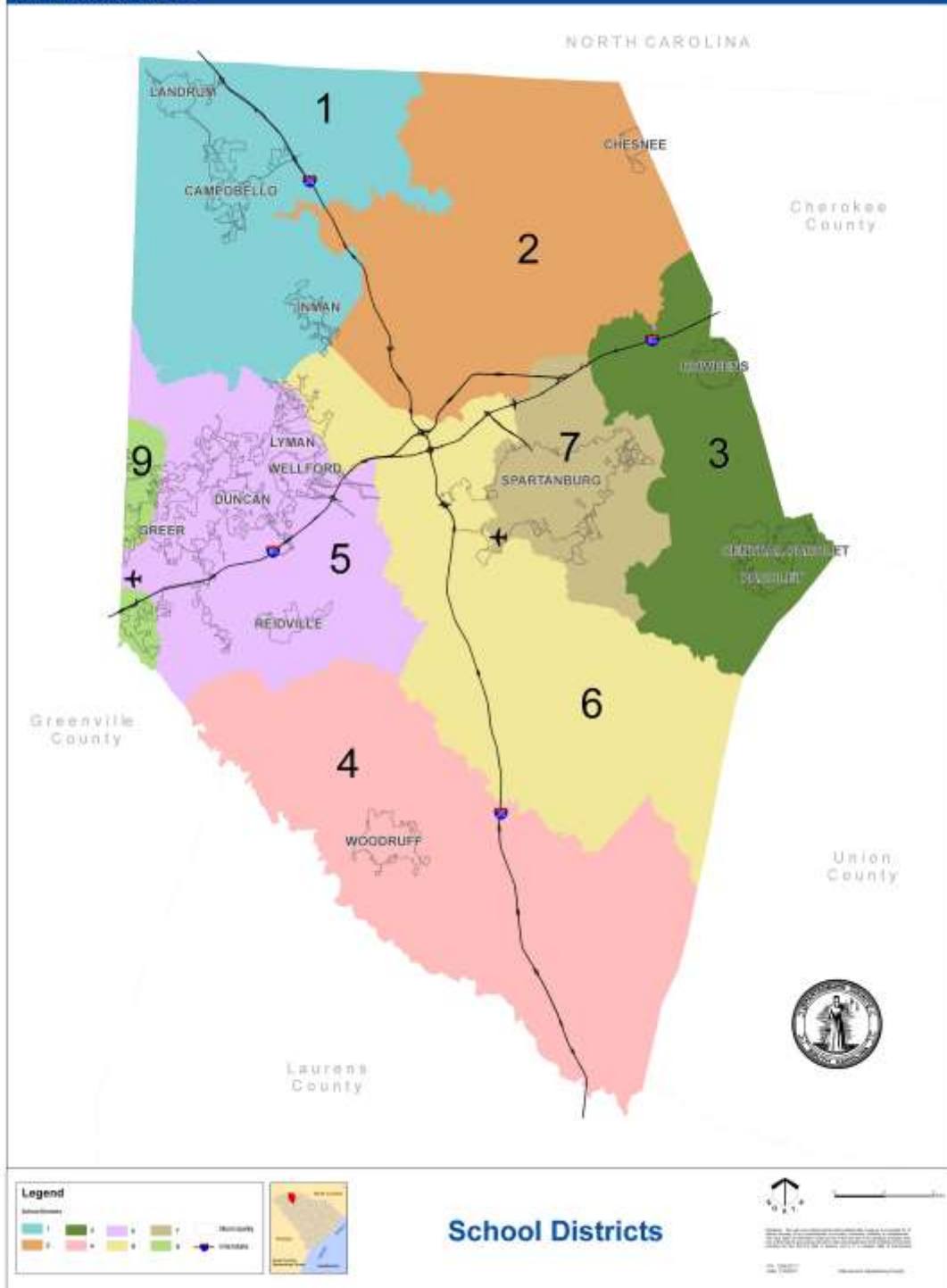
Website: <https://www.spart6.org/>



DISTRICT SEVEN serves 16 schools in all which includes 8 elementary schools, 1 elementary/middle school, 3 middle schools, 1 high school and 4 learning centers.

**7** includes Jesse Boyd Elementary, Chapman Elementary, Cleveland Academy of Leadership, Drayton Mills Elementary, Houston Elementary, Pine Street Elementary, Mary H. Wright Elementary, Meeting Street Academy, Edwin P. Todd School, Carver Middle, McCracken Middle, Spartanburg High School Freshman Academy, and Spartanburg High School. Early Learning Center at Park Hills, Myles W. Whitlock Flexible Learning Center, McCarthy Teszler School and Daniel Morgan Technology Center also serve District Seven.

Website: <http://spartanburg7.org/>



The District 9 area, shown on the map, is part of the Greenville County School System.



## Colleges and Universities



### [University of South Carolina Upstate](#)

Bachelor's degrees and master's degrees are offered. Steep tuition fees. Affordable on-campus housing. About 6,000 students. Known for nursing, education, and management programs. ROTC programs are offered.



### [Spartanburg Community College](#)

Associate's degrees are available. Affordable tuition fees. Roughly 5,000 students. Concentration on general studies, industrial technologies, and medical assistant programs.



### [Wofford College](#)

Bachelor's degrees are offered. Great retention rate. Very expensive tuition costs. Reasonably priced on-campus housing. Over 1,700 students enrolled. Has strong presence in accounting and finance, biology, and foreign languages degree programs.



### [Converse College](#)

Bachelor's degrees and master's degrees. Above average tuition prices. On-campus housing option. Around 1,200 students are enrolled. Has strong presence in education, psychology, and English and literature degree programs. ROTC programs are available.



### [Spartanburg Methodist College](#)

Associate's degrees are available. Above average tuition. On-campus housing option. About 800 students. Best known for offering general studies, management, and business degree programs. ROTC programs are available.



### [Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic](#)

Doctoral degrees are available. More than 400 students are enrolled.



### [Virginia College Spartanburg](#)

Associate's degrees are available. Average tuition prices. Roughly 300 students attend this school. Emphasis on medical assistant and cosmetology degree programs.



### [Kenneth Shuler School of Cosmetology Spartanburg](#)

Great student retention rate. Over 200 students attend this school. Safe campus.



### [Palmetto Beauty School](#)

Approximately 100 students are enrolled. Safe campus.

### [Regency](#)



### [Beauty Institute Spartanburg](#)

Approximately 100 students are enrolled.

## Library Facilities

### Operation

The Spartanburg County Public Libraries began in 1885 on Morgan Square in downtown Spartanburg. The Library was a gift from Helen Fayssoux Stevens Kennedy in memory of her husband Dr. Lionel Chalmers Kennedy. Dr. Kennedy was a well-loved physician, and after his death, Mrs. Kennedy donated Dr. Kennedy's medical office and his collection of literature to open the first library in Spartanburg. In 1905, steel magnate Andrew Carnegie entered into an agreement with the Spartanburg Women's Auxiliary to open a free public library provided the City of

Spartanburg funded a percentage of the library's operation. The Kennedy Free Library was constructed adjacent to the current courthouse located on Magnolia Street. In 1961, the Pine Street Library opened, and in 1997 the Headquarters Library opened on South Church Street, less than one block from the location of Spartanburg's first library. The Headquarters Library was built with an \$11 million bond issue and \$3.6 million in private funds.



By Act of the General Assembly in 1947, the current library system was established and a tax levy was set. The Spartanburg County Public Libraries is tax-supported and relies primarily on county generated tax revenue. The Library system utilizes private, state, and federal funding to enhance existing funding.

The Library system is governed by an 11-member Board of Trustees, appointed by County Council. The Board's responsibility is to approve policy and set an annual budget based on the levy allocated by Council. The Board is responsible for hiring a county librarian to manage the Library system and implement Board approved policies and programs.

### Economic Impact

Based on studies from the University of South Carolina and the University of Texas, public libraries offer, on average, a return of \$4.50 for each \$1 invested in public library services. Using these models, ***the economic impact of the Spartanburg County Public Libraries is nearly \$60 million a year.*** This impact is realized through the delivery of service to the public through an updated collection (print and electronic), skill-based training, hobby and leisure activities, and programs including legal aid, tax preparation, and social service assistance. Programs include health and wellness with yoga, arthritis exercise classes, and Parkinson's support groups. While new programming has emerged, traditional programming of author visits, story times, book talks, and film discussion remain a core service.

### Strategic Vision and Goals

The Board of Trustees completed a strategic visioning process in 2012. An annual work plan is developed to meet Board identified goals. The plan includes staff and community input and is adjusted to meet community needs and emerging technologies.

**Library Vision:** The Spartanburg County Public Libraries envisions creating a culture of lifelong learning by connecting people, ideas, and information resulting in a community pursuing positive change.

**Library Mission:** Create. Connect. Change.

**Library Goals:**

Programs: To address community needs and interests through programs that engage, educate and entertain.

Staff: Select and develop competent staff whose goal is quality public service

Collections: Create and deliver dynamic collections that connect people, ideas, information and preserve the historical record.

Environment: Provide an accessible, welcoming, and secure environment

**Facilities:**

The Library system is county-wide with 10 permanent facilities, bookmobile, and home delivery services. Over 90% of Spartanburg County's population lives within 5 miles of a public library.

<b>Building Facilities</b>	<b>Year Built</b>	<b>Square Footage</b>
Spartanburg Headquarters	1997	105,000
Boiling Springs Library	1994 (expanded 2008)	18,400
Chesnee Library	2000	7,773
Cowpens Library	2002	8,800
Inman Library	1991	7,765
Landrum Library	2002	12,500
Middle Tyger Library (Lyman)	1996	13,000
Pacolet Library	1994	5,400
Cyrill-Westside Library	2002	20,120
Woodruff Library	2002	11,500

**Outputs: All Locations with Percent Change from FY 2013 to FY2017**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>% Chg.</b>
<b>Checkouts</b>						
<b>Circulation</b>	1,813,164	1,863,613	1,883,455	1,852,737	1,839,944	4.7%
<b>Program Attendance</b>	94,591	112,464	134,417	160,362	171,093	81%
<b>Technology Access (1)</b>	2,324,897	2,385,799	2,665,205	2,762,534	2,715,264	17%

(1) Technology Access is a combination of public Internet use, remote use of Library website, digital collections, catalog of holdings, and wireless connectivity. This number includes use of Library mobile app.

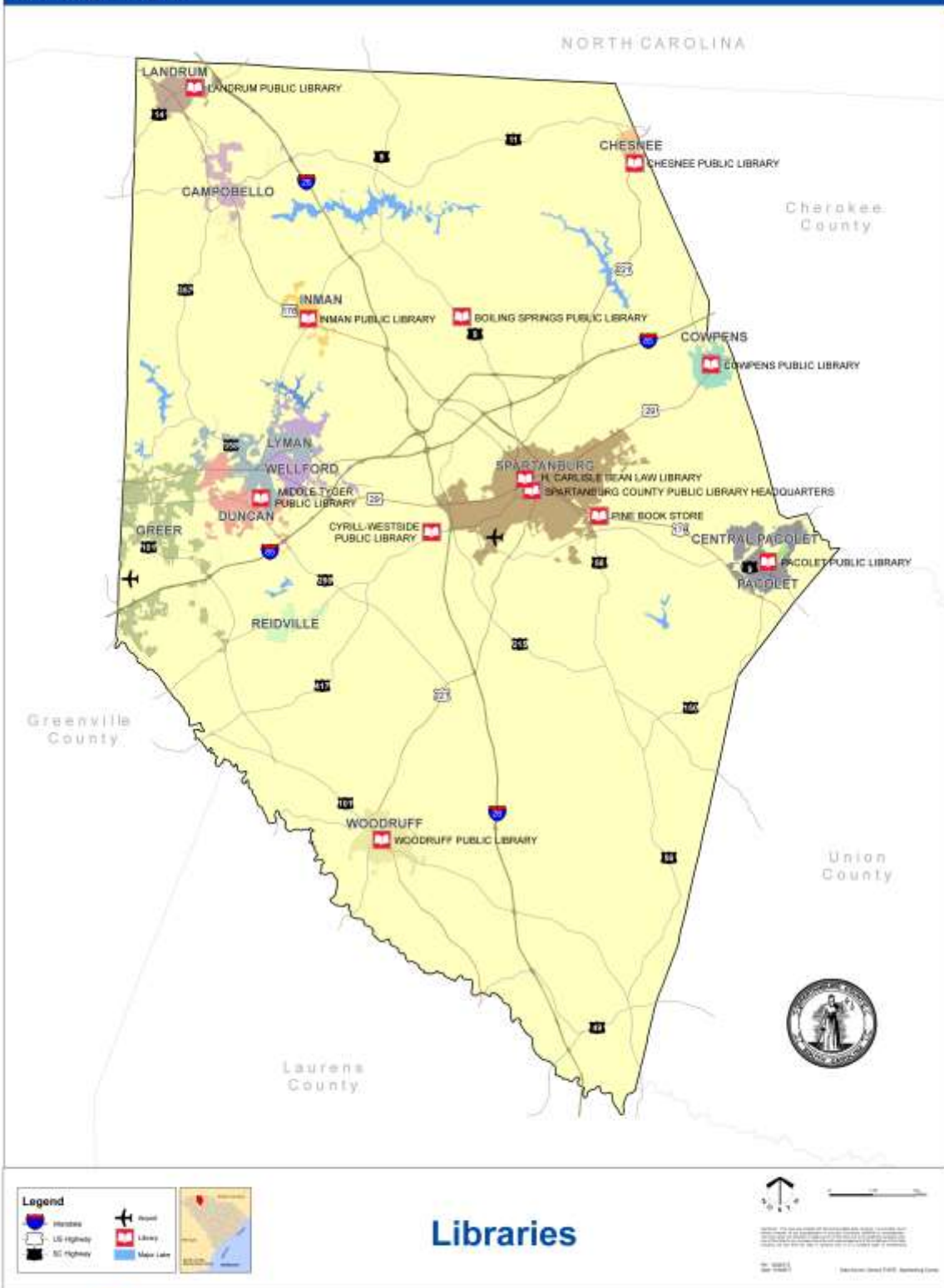
**Future Plans/Needs**

The Library Board of Trustees anticipates two construction projects by 2021. The Inman Library is in need of expansion or new construction. Built in 1991, the Inman Library (7,765 square feet) is undersized and is unable to meet growing demand and changing service models. The Inman Library property has been evaluated to determine the capacity for expansion. The current lot is small and may be unable to support expansion and required parking. Library administration is conducting a construction feasibility study.

Library administration is conducting a Headquarters Library space use study. Constructed in 1997, the Headquarters Library has been able to adjust to new service models including computer labs, programming space, and maker activities. A limited expansion and reconfiguration of space will allow for additional services to early childhood development and community collaboration/meeting space. The Library has acquired large and important historical collections reflecting Spartanburg County's history. These collections need environmentally controlled storage and processing space.

In each case, the Library Board of Trustees will present proposed plans and suggestions for funding to County Council for Council's approval.

Website: [Spartanburg County Public Libraries Website](#)





## Water Facilities/Providers

Spartanburg County currently has 8 water service providers which are all special purpose districts, created by Act No.1105 of the Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina in 1956. Each company provides a Water Quality Report, which is accessible on their individual websites. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) is required by the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 to perform a delineation and assessment of each watershed in South Carolina which is used as a drinking water source. For more information see the website: [www.scdhec.gov](http://www.scdhec.gov).

- Greer Commission of Public Works (CPW)
- Inman Campobello Water District (ICWD)
- Liberty Chesnee Fingerville Water District (LCF)
- Meansville Riley Water Company (MRWC)
- Spartanburg Metropolitan Subdistrict B Water District (METRO B)
- Spartanburg Water System (SWS)
- Startex Jackson Wellford Duncan Water District (SJWD)
- Woodruff Roebuck Water District (WRWD)

### Greer Commission of Public Works

The Commission of Public Works (CPW) reported that it has been producing fresh drinking water for over 100 years (established in 1914) for the City of Greer and the surrounding communities in both Spartanburg and Greenville Counties. The company is the drinking water supplier for the City of Greer and also sells water to the Blue Ridge Rural Water Company. They manage more than 18,000 water meters in their service area.

CPW maintains and draws water from Lake Cunningham and is supplemented by Lake Robinson, which are fed by the South Tyger River. Lake Robinson is a pristine recreational area just northwest of the City of Greer. The lake is approximately 800 acres, and is excellent for boating and kayaking and has an abundance of fishing. Lake Robinson has a boat ramp, two fishing piers and event sites that can be rented. In the spring of 2016, CPW renovated the fishing piers, benches at shelter #1 and the boat house. They continue to make improvements on a yearly basis.

Lake Cunningham is CPW's smaller, but equally beautiful, lake. The impoundment is approximately 200 acres, and it also serves as part of CPW's drinking water resources. The lake is a great recreational spot for fishing and boating. In the Spring of 2016, CPW put in new decking boards on the fishing pier at Lake Cunningham. More improvements are on the horizon. As innovative production methods have been developed throughout the industry, Greer CPW has improved its facilities and operations ahead of national standards. Their constant mission is to supply Greer and their customers each day with a safe, high quality abundant supply of drinking water.

There are no industries located above these two reservoirs. Both lakes offer stunning views of the beautiful landscape.

Website: <https://www.greercpw.com/>  
**Inman Campobello Water District**

The ICWD in SC was created in 1954 to serve Inman, Campobello and the surrounding areas in the northwest area of Spartanburg County, as well as reaching into Polk County, North Carolina. Since that time, the ICWD has expanded to provide water services to many more customers from one mile north of Business I-85 to North Carolina. While their service area continues to expand, their commitment to their customers remains the same.

Besides being in the water treatment and distribution business, ICWD also sells bottled water as a means of revenue to help supplement and offset the rising costs associated with providing clean drinking water to their customers.

Website: <http://www.icwd.org/>

### **Liberty Chesnee Fingerville Water District**

The Liberty-Chesnee-Fingerville Water District was established in 1960 to provide water to the northeast portion of Spartanburg County and presently serves over 6,000 customers. We have the capabilities of serving any size service, whether it is commercial, industrial or residential.

Liberty-Chesnee-Fingerville Water District purchases water from the Spartanburg Water System (SWS) for distribution to residential, commercial and industrial customers. Spartanburg Water System uses surface water from three lakes within Spartanburg County: Lake Bowen, Municipal Reservoir #1, and Lake Blalock.

Lake Bowen is a man-made lake formed by the waters of the South Pacolet River and its tributaries. Water flows from Lake Bowen into Municipal Reservoir #1, another man-made lake. The entire watershed for these lakes lies within the state of South Carolina, in Spartanburg and eastern Greenville Counties.

Lake Blalock is also a man-made lake formed by the combining of surplus water from the Bowen/Reservoir #1 system with the North Pacolet River and its tributaries. Part of the Blalock watershed is in South Carolina and part is in North Carolina.

### **Meansville Riley Water Company**

The company's mission states that it acquires, constructs, maintains, operates and provides water distribution and supply facilities to individuals, farms, and businesses within its geographical area and purchases the water from the City of Union, SC, the City of Spartanburg, SC and Woodruff-Roebuck Water District. Meansville Riley services western Union County and parts of Enoree, Clinton and Roebuck.

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/meansvillerileywatercompany/?rf=125135654728833>

### **Spartanburg Metropolitan Subdistrict B Water District**

The Metro B Water District services a 20 square mile area in the northern part of Spartanburg County. They have around 1000 water customers comprised of industrial, commercial and residential consumers, of which they also service approximately 85% of them with sewer. (see Wastewater Facilities/Providers).

The company purchases water from the Spartanburg Water System to distribute to their customers. They use surface water from three different lakes: Lake Bowen, Lake Blalock and Municipal Reservoir #1. Water from these lakes is treated at two different Water Treatment Plants. Metro B posts the Water Quality Report on the website as well as an explanation of treatment process. They have an interesting timeline of events on their website, beginning with year 1929 and ending with 2005. Click here for the history:

<http://www.metrobwater.com/history.html>

Website: <http://www.metrobwater.com/home.html>

### **Spartanburg Water System**

SWS is on a 'journey to excellence and success' via their compass, which is their new way of expressing previous guiding principles, with an added twist. The points of the compass represent Purpose, Protection, Promise and People.

Spartanburg Water has been an active member for over 20 years of the Partnership for Safe Water, a national volunteer initiative developed by the EPA and other water organizations representing water suppliers striving to provide their communities with drinking water quality that surpasses the required federal standards.

In 2016 they received the 15 Year Directors Award for the R. B. Simms Water Treatment Facility, which recognizes systems that have completed a successful review in the Partnership's Self-Assessment and Peer Review Phase, a phase in which utilities examine the capabilities of their treatment plant operation and administration and then create a plan for implementing improvements. Spartanburg Water has maintained the Directors Award for 15 years, an honor achieved by only 165 water utilities across the country. This year, their Landrum Water Treatment Facility was awarded the 10 Year Directors Award.

The City of Landrum used to have its own system, including the water plant, water system and distribution system but was acquired by the Spartanburg Water System in 2004.

Website: <https://www.spartanburgwater.org/>

### **Startex Jackson Wellford Duncan Water District**

SJWD, located in Wellford, SC, was established in 1956 and is committed to providing exceptional customer service as well as the highest quality water to consumers while improving cost effectiveness. They take pride in lasting relationships with customers and believe it is important to keep them informed on recreation and conservation opportunities in addition to the regular business items.

Growth in the SJWD District has caused the demand for a separate, or supplemental, water supply. In addition to their own treatment and distribution facilities, SJWD also purchases treated water for distribution from the Spartanburg Water System, supplemented by Greer CPW and Springs Industries.

According to SJWD, their primary function is to ensure the availability of adequate water supply to their service area. The facility's service district encompasses six different water bodies: Lake Cooley, Lake Lyman, Apalache Lake, North Tyger Reservoir, Berry's Mill Pond and Berry's Pond. The district is fortunate to have lakes that residents can enjoy for recreation as well.

In order to protect the reservoirs as a reliable source of drinking water, policies and procedures have been enacted. These limited restrictions help guard both the reservoirs and the buffer zone around the lakes owned by SJWD. Compliance with these policies and procedures is vital for the safeguarding of this fundamental water resource.

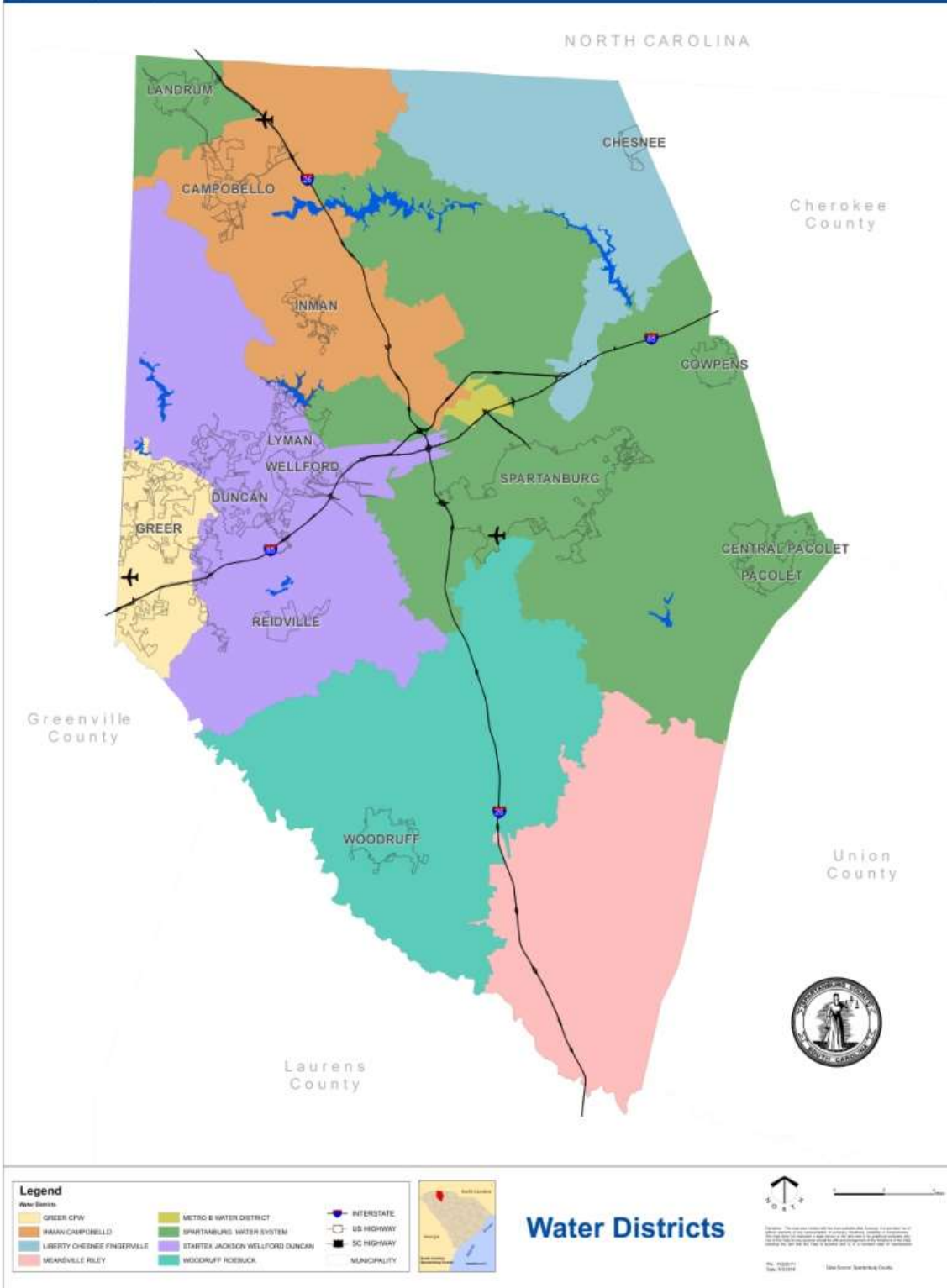
SJWD is a long-time sponsor of the Discover Your Watershed, a program that is fun and informs people about many aspects of water quality, inhabitants, maintenance and recreation. The public can attend to paddle, play and learn about the Tyger River Watershed. This family event is designed to raise awareness about the importance of safeguarding our water resources for future generations by viewing and participating in recreational opportunities, educational exhibits and fun activities.

### **Woodruff Roebuck Water District**

Formed in 1956, the water district today provides water and sewer service for nearly 10,000 customers and more than 27,000 people. By designing, operating and maintaining the infrastructure needed to provide safe and reliable water service, WRWD helps to protect the health and environment for its citizens and community.

Straddling two of the state's strongest school districts and located in one of the region's most desirable places for families, WRWD remains committed to maintaining the highest level of service while planning for anticipated future demand.

**GOALS:** Meet the short and long range needs of the county for potable water supply to accommodate future growth and development in a timely manner.





## **Wastewater Facilities/Providers**

Wastewater facilities and services are territorial, defined principally by drainage basins, political boundaries, and service area agreements by and between competing providers. In 1992 County Council established the Spartanburg County Water and Sewer Advisory Committee. The role and responsibility of the Committee is to serve as a policy advisor to County Council on matters concerning water and sewer, service area boundary disputes, and service coordination. The Committee reviews and recommends a course of action on all water and sewer issues within County Council's jurisdiction.

Spartanburg County has 5 public sewer service providers, which are all special purpose districts that fall under Act No. 1105 of the Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina in 1956.

- City of Inman Wastewater Treatment Department
- Greer Commission of Public Works (CPW)
- Lyman Public Works, Town of Lyman
- Renewable Water Resources (ReWa)
- Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District (SSSD)

### **Greer Commission of Public Works (CPW)**

General wastewater treatment began in Greer around 1906, when a 30,000 gallon septic tank began collecting and treating wastewater for the area. The sewer service area has 244 miles of gravity sewer lines and 17 pump stations. CPW also entered into a cooperative intergovernmental agreement with (ReWa) to treat some of Greer's sewer. These cooperative agreements help accommodate additional growth by transporting sewer to additional treatment facilities.

In the 1940s, the Maple Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility was built. To handle growth and business use, a facility on the South Tyger River was built in 1966. Eventually, the South Tyger facility was taken offline and replaced with a lift station. At that time, the Maple Creek Facility was upgraded to a capacity of 5 million gallons per day (MGD).

Today, the Maple Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility still serves more than 12,000 accounts in the Greer area. The facility is now capable of treating 5 MGD of sewer per day, with plans to expand to 10 MGD to handle any growth. Maple Creek averages just over 2 MGD in treatment currently.

### **Service Area**

The City of Greer, with boundaries extending north to Apalache, Highway 14 North at Country Club Road, continuing on Highways 290 and 101 to Mt. Vernon Estates; south down Highway 14 South to Maple Creek along Poplar Drive Extension to Textube and along Highway 101 South to I-85; east to the South Tyger Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Maple Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant west to King Acres, then south along Princess Creek to South Suber

Road. Sewer is also available south of I-85 in the area between Brockman-McClimon Road and Highway 14 South to East Phillips Road. For a map of the service area, click [here](#).

Greer Commission of Public Works adopted, by resolution, a revision of its Sewer Use and Pretreatment Ordinance on November 10, 2015.

### **Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District (SWS/SSSD)**

Spartanburg Water owns and operates a network of wastewater treatment facilities throughout Spartanburg County, strategically located to provide service and growth opportunities for the community, ranging in locality from Pacolet, Landrum, Reidville and Boiling Springs to the City of Spartanburg.

Wastewater from homes and businesses travels through 940 miles of sewer lines to get to our treatment plants. Our Wastewater Collection Department is responsible for operating and maintaining the sewer system, including cleaning manholes, conducting smoke and dye testing to reduce infiltration and inflow, and other corrective and preventative maintenance activities.

The Reclaimed Water Treatment Department is an important part of Spartanburg Water's mission to provide the Spartanburg area with safe, clean water. The primary function of the Reclaimed Water Treatment Department is to ensure the protection of the waterways and streams for the enjoyment and use of Spartanburg's citizens. Approximately 14.3 million gallons of wastewater is treated daily from this department. A dedicated team works in the areas of Operations, Industrial Pretreatment, and Solids Management that create the Reclaimed Water Treatment Department.

A core area of the Reclaimed Water Treatment Department is Operations. The function of Operations is to receive raw wastewater from our customers through the collection system, clean it, and return it back to the environment. The operation of these facilities is a 24/7/365 job and requires constant oversight, attention and dedication. Both groups of operators spend many hours per day traveling to and from and operating these facilities to ensure compliance and efficient treatment.

The Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District service area is defined by the Spartanburg city limits and an adjacent service area covering approximately 196 square miles. The non-adjacent service areas consist of eight different geographical locations, serving approximately 22 square miles.

Website: <https://www.spartanburgwater.org/sssd-commission>

### **Lyman Public Works**

The Town of Lyman Wastewater Treatment Department operates a collection and treatment system for wastewater generated within and adjacent to the City limits. Their customer base includes the following users:

- 1,973 residential
- 171 commercial
- 10 institutional
- 4 industrial

### **Renewable Water Resources**

ReWa is a regional wastewater treatment provider collection system that treats wastewater from homes and businesses for reclamation of water and other beneficial products through a network of gravity lines and pump stations.

The gravity lines in the network range from 8-72" in diameter and the system is designed to follow the landscape which utilizes gravity to pull the wastewater through the system.



When it is necessary to lift flow to higher elevation, their pump stations and pressurized force mains ensure continual progression of wastewater. To reduce odors and corrosion in the system, they pretreat water with magnesium hydroxide, a non-hazardous compound, at several of the stations.

The main by-product of ReWa's water resource recovery facilities (WRRF) is clean, reusable water that is safe to reintroduce back into the environment. ReWa is also responsible for removing contaminants in wastewater that is discharged from houses, industries, and commercial businesses.

Website: [Renewable Water Resources](#)

### **Woodruff Public Works**

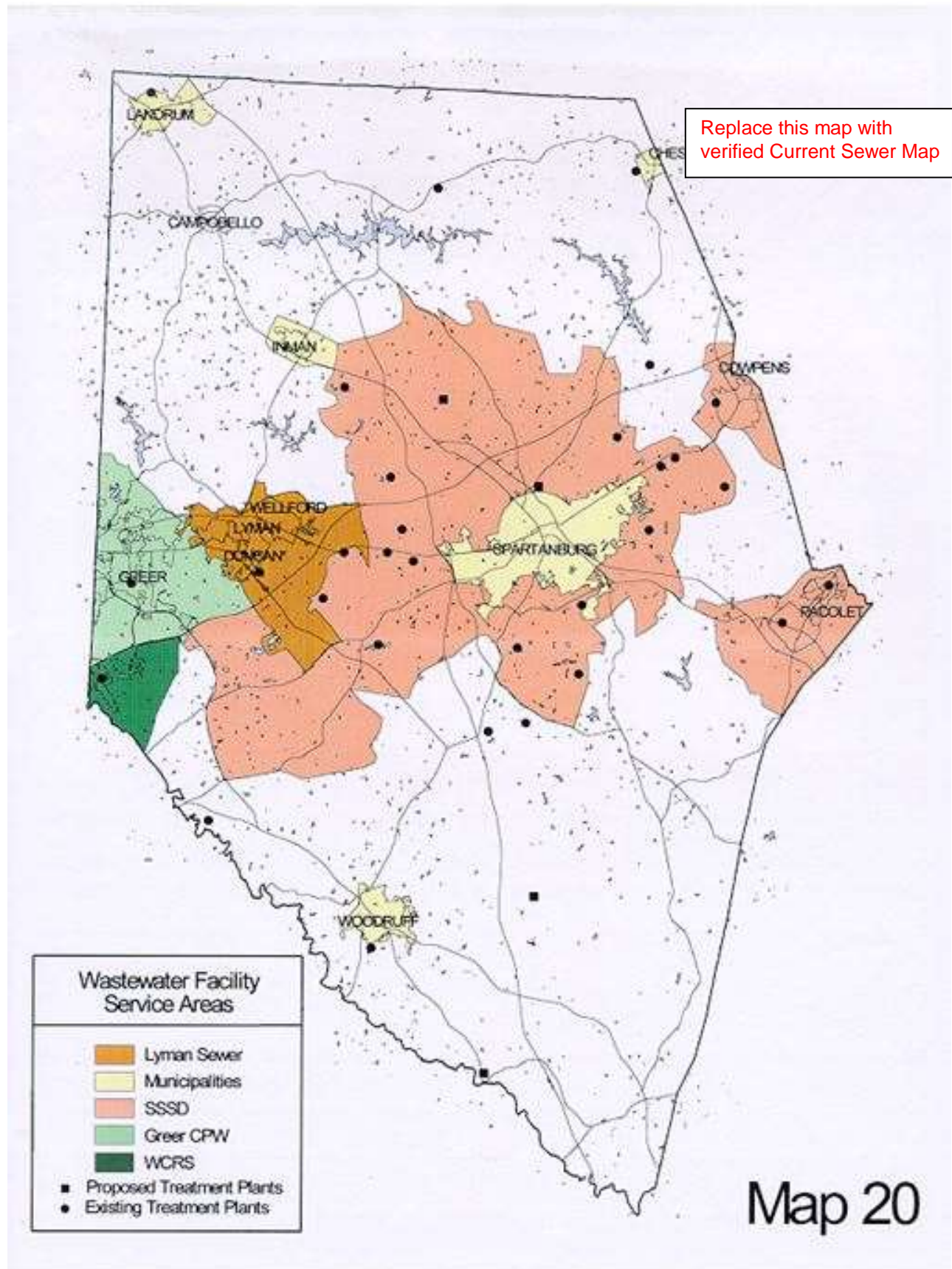
The City of Woodruff Sewer Department maintains over 34 miles of underground sewer collection pipe. The City treats an average of 250,000 gallons of wastewater per day. A South Carolina Class B Biological Waste Water License is required of City employees to operate the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

The City of Woodruff is focused on enhancing the vitality of the community by capitalizing on growth surrounding the area and creating a vibrant environment for residents and visitors to enjoy. We strive to ease the process for developers and new businesses who are interested in expanding to our town. In order to prepare for future growth along the Highway 101 corridor, the City has received funds from the USDA to contribute to infrastructure upgrades. Other recent projects include a new water treatment facility in 2013 and the downtown McKinney Park

revitalization in 2015-16. Developers and businesses interested in investing in Woodruff can work with City staff to get information on development facilitation, financial assistance, networking opportunities, and community resources.

Website: <https://www.cityofwoodruff.com/>

The overarching goal for the County would be to meet the short and long range needs for wastewater facilities to accommodate future growth and development in a timely manner. There are some locations throughout the county which lack adequate sewer services in developing areas. It is essential that the county coordinate land use and economic development activities with the different the county's planning proposals and with service providers' infrastructure, as indicated in the Executive Summary Comprehensive Plan 2015.





## Solid Waste and Recycling Facilities

According to the South Carolina Department of Commerce, recycling is a green growth industry in South Carolina, home to over 500 recycling companies including collectors, processors, recycled product manufacturers and equipment makers. The economic impact of recycling now exceeds \$13 billion. In addition, the recycling industry has the ability to scale up employment at a higher rate than the average South Carolina industry. For every 10 jobs in recycling, there are 14 others created in the SC economy. In the last 5 years, Commerce helped facilitate the recycling industry recruitment of 2477 jobs, \$1,129 million in capital investment, and 42 new or existing companies investing in South Carolina.

Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce, reported in March 2018 that recycling is a robust industry in South Carolina. In the previous year alone, recycling firms announced more than \$500 million in capital investment, bringing 200 new jobs to the state.

To better serve this growing sector, S.C. Commerce's Recycling Market Development team restructured and relaunched its website – [www.recyclinginsc.com](http://www.recyclinginsc.com). Featuring a customizable experience platform, the new site serves as a resource for industrial and residential users alike.

In addition to housing a free [recycling business directory](#) complete with keyword search functionality, the site also includes easy-to-locate recycling videos, commodity maps and more. [Toolkits for important initiatives](#), such as Your Bottle Means Jobs and Don't Waste Food S.C., are also housed on the new site.

With more than 500 recycling firms operating within our borders, it's clear that South Carolina's sustainable industry has become a major pillar of the state's economy. This new site will allow Team South Carolina to better serve that growing industrial footprint, while also providing important information to citizens in all corners of the state.

Stated in a report in the OurUpstateSC.Info, the state of South Carolina's goal is to have 40% of all waste be recycled by 2020. In 2013, according to the [Solid Waste Management annual report](#), the state overall recycled just over 31% of its waste, which was up from 29% the previous year, so at that rate, it's an achievable goal. And, two out of every three items that are thrown in the garbage can be recycled."

Recycling is an environmental issue, but it's also an issue of economics, at both the state level and the individual level. Landfills are expensive to build and maintain; since the 1990s, they have been required to be lined to protect the watershed, which adds to the cost.

In Spartanburg County, the recycling program is housed in the Public Works department. we have made strides to provide numerous recycling facilities made available to the public, which are listed in the Government Facilities portion of this element.

Spartanburg County's Solid Waste / Recycling Mission Statement is to promote the environmental and economic benefits of recycling by providing convenient access to centers and to offer free recycling education for Spartanburg County residents. They encourage all residents to recycle. Recycling is great for the environment, conserving natural resources, preserving valuable landfill space, reducing litter, and lessening soil and water pollution.

## Solid Waste Summary

	FY 2017/18	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2018-22 Total
<b>Expenditures by Project</b>						
Collection Center Construction	-	-	1,350,806	-	-	\$ 1,350,806
Collection Container Upgrade	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	\$ 150,000
Collection Convenience Center Rehabilitation	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	\$ 170,000
Gas Collection System Expansion	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	\$ 1,250,000
Wellford Landfill Phase VII Construction	3,650,000	-	75,000	2,675,000	-	\$ 6,400,000
Wellford Landfill Wood Chipping /Mulch Reloc.	-	275,000	275,000	-	-	\$ 550,000
<b>Expenditures Total</b>	<b>\$3,964,000</b>	<b>\$ 589,000</b>	<b>\$2,014,806</b>	<b>\$2,989,000</b>	<b>\$ 314,000</b>	<b>\$9,870,806</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>						
Methane Fund	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	\$ 750,000
Solid Waste Fund	3,964,000	589,000	1,764,806	2,739,000	64,000	\$9,120,806
<b>Funding Source Total</b>	<b>\$3,964,000</b>	<b>\$ 589,000</b>	<b>\$2,014,806</b>	<b>\$2,989,000</b>	<b>\$ 314,000</b>	<b>\$9,870,806</b>

### Solid Waste Overview

Spartanburg County operates seventeen collection convenience/recycling centers, one drop-off recycling center, and the Wellford Solid Waste Management Facility (Wellford Landfill). This facility houses a Class II landfill, which contains construction and demolition debris (C&D) and land clearing debris, a wood chipping and grinding facility, and a Class III/Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfill. The facility is also home to a landfill gas to energy project whereby methane gas is collected from the landfill, compressed, filtered, and piped to two customers. County waste collection and disposal activities cater primarily to residential waste streams. The County also owns the Croft Landfill which no longer accepts waste but is monitored by the County due to post-closure care responsibilities. During the most recently completed fiscal year, the County received over 144,000 tons of MSW waste, over 70,000 tons of C&D waste, nearly 6,030 tons of recyclables, over 980 tons of tires, and over 520 tons of electronics. For a list of Recycling Center Locations and to learn What and Where to recycle, please go to the [What and Where Can I Recycle](#) page! The County also offers an annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event each spring, and semi-annual Community Clean-Up Events in the spring and fall.

### Goals & Objectives

**Goal 1: Create Sustainable Economic Development that Benefits the Businesses and Citizens of Spartanburg County**

1.5 Develop an effective and efficient infrastructure plan.

- Phase VI of the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfill, which contains household waste, is nearing the end of its life. Engineering and construction of the Phase VII MSW Landfill will provide for the disposal of household waste for an estimated 30 years.

-The Collection Convenience Center Rehabilitation project plans for the maintenance of our solid waste infrastructure by improving conditions at these facilities, preserving our existing assets, and ensuring that these facilities remain accessible by citizens and maintainable by staff.

## Goal 2: Create Sustainable Economic Development that Benefits the Businesses and Citizens of Spartanburg County

### 1.5 Develop an effective and efficient infrastructure plan.

- The continued expansion and optimization of the Gas Collection System is a fundamental component of improving solid waste collection and disposal infrastructure and prevents adverse impacts from methane migration.
- Relocation of the wood chipping & mulching areas of the landfill from the footprint of the Phase VII MSW landfill ensures that these operations can continue to operate, thus giving citizens an appropriate place to dispose of this waste and allowing the County to ultimately divert this waste from permanent landfilling at the facility.

## Goal 3: Remain Prudent Stewards of Financial Resources in the Provision of Quality Public Services

### 3.1 Budget and allocate resources in the public's best interest.

- Routine, planned replacement of collection containers, which are part and parcel to a solid waste system, ensures the lowest possible total cost of ownership is attained.

### 3.2 Identify and leverage opportunities to diversify funding.

- Continued expansion of the gas collection system, while needed for control of methane migration, supports the landfill gas to energy project whereby methane is sold to two end users.
- The relocation of wood chipping & mulching areas creates opportunities for new revenue streams that could serve to minimize the long-term financial expense of the solid waste system.

### 3.3 Identify, prioritize, and address needs for service improvement.

- The Collection Center Construction project recognizes and addressed needed service improvements at the 4th Street Collection Center. This center is the County's highest volume center and will be expanded to improve capacity, service, and to work cooperatively with another project to realign 4<sup>th</sup> Street to improve safety and traffic patterns.

Website: <http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/8108>

The Priorities & Budget Consideration portion of the Spartanburg County Strategic Plan 2018-2019 calls for the Solid Waste department to continue with the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Convenience Center relocation and to develop a “mega” Convenience Station design (which should be considered for the southern portion of the county).

## Electric Utilities/Providers

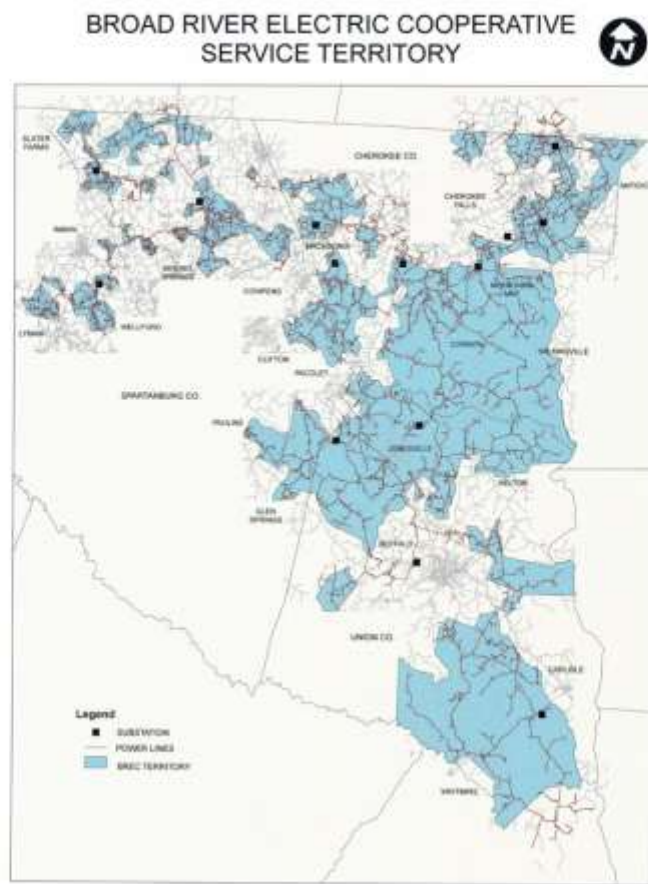
### Broad River Electric Cooperative

On March 25, 1940, a group of farmers and merchants from Cherokee, Union and Spartanburg counties gathered at the Cherokee County Courthouse to hear from county agents and representatives from the Rural Electrification Administration about how they finally could have access to electricity by forming a member-owned electric cooperative.

By June 10, 1940 Broad River Electric Cooperative was incorporated and by October of the next year new co-op lines were being energized by a new substation on Pacolet Highway in Cherokee County. The cooperative's service expanded into rural areas of Union and Spartanburg Counties, as well.

## Service Area

Broad River's service area is primarily in Cherokee, Spartanburg and Union Counties. However some of our members reside in Polk, Rutherford, and Cleveland Counties in North Carolina and Newberry County in South Carolina.



**Mission:** Our purpose is to power communities and empower members to improve the quality of their lives

## Duke Energy

One of the largest electric power holding companies in the United States, supplying and delivering electricity to approximately 7.4 million U.S. customers. We have approximately 52,700 megawatts of electric generating capacity in the Carolinas, the Midwest and Florida – and natural gas distribution services serving more than 1.5 million customers in Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee and the Carolinas. Our commercial business owns and operates diverse power generation assets in North America, including a portfolio of renewable energy assets.

Website: <https://www.duke-energy.com/home>

## Greer Commission of Public Works Electric

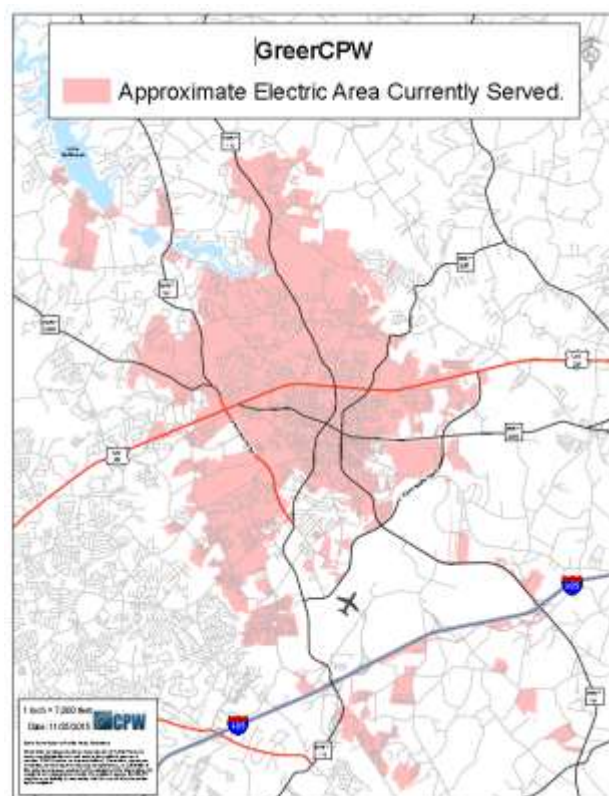
## History

Greer CPW began providing electricity in 1914, using power generated by The Commission's coal fired power plant. The first system generated 2,300 volts of electricity.

In the 1930's, CPW began buying power from the Southern Utility Company. By the 1970s, CPW joined with other municipal power companies to create the Piedmont Municipal Power Agency (PMPA). PMPA purchased 25 percent of a nuclear generator at the Catawba Nuclear Power Plant in York, SC. Nuclear energy from the plant is CPW's currently primary power supply, meaning that over 90% of the power generated is carbon free.

### Service Area

Our electric service is primarily within the city of Greer; however, we have several customers in unincorporated areas nearby. For a more detailed service area map, please click [here](#). Greer CPW manages approximately 17,000 electric customers within its service area.



Website: <https://www.greercpw.com/>

### Laurens Electric Cooperative



The company's first lineman, L.J. Castles, was hired in 1939.



The Story of Our Past is an Understanding of Our Future. Although things have changed quite a bit since 1939, our purpose has not. We are still owned by the people we serve. All margins are still returned to the membership, making our intentions just as pure today as they were in 1939; to serve in the best interests of our membership and our community.

Mission Statement: To meet or exceed the expectations of our customers by:

- Being proactive in our approach to business
- Providing excellent service through quality products, competitive pricing, effective work practices, and skilled, motivated and effective employees
- Assuring an organizational culture that reflects our core values
- Partnering with our communities to improve the quality of life
- Laurens Electric Cooperative is a member-owned rural electric cooperative in Upstate South Carolina. It was organized in May of 1939 by a group of citizens who were concerned that rural families were not receiving electricity because the power companies could not operate with a profit serving sparsely populated areas.
- They sought to solve this problem by organizing their own non-profit institute with a goal of service to all people, regardless of class or creed. It was out of this effort that Laurens Electric Cooperative was born.
- Laurens Electric Cooperative operates today with the same goals in mind. As a member of this cooperative, you belong to a unique organization. By being a member, you are part owner and you share in all profits above operating cost. These profits are returned each year in the form of capital credits.
- Take pride in your membership and exercise your right of participation by attending your annual membership meeting which is held the first Saturday in June. This meeting is held to provide you with information on the operation and condition of your business, and to elect trustees.
- Laurens Electric Cooperative serves more than 47,000 consumers in Laurens, Greenville, Spartanburg, Anderson, Abbeville, Newberry, and Union counties.

Website: <https://www.laurenselectric.com/home/save-money-energy/#resources>

## **Natural Gas Utilities/Providers**

### **Piedmont Natural Gas**

#### **Energy and Our Future**

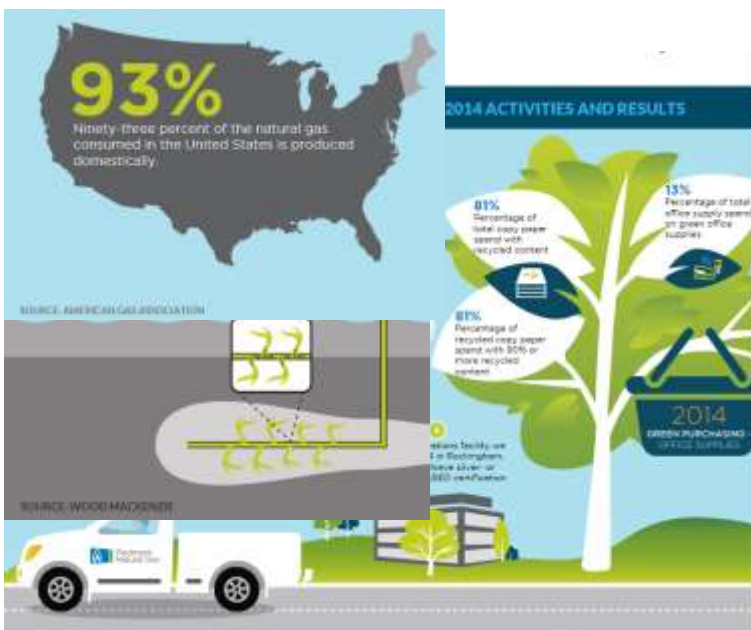
Natural gas is playing a major role in both energy production and direct use in manufacturing, businesses and homes. Natural gas is the cleanest fossil fuel, with a smaller carbon footprint than many energy sources. It is domestically abundant, and the natural gas pipeline delivery system is an efficient, environmentally responsible and safe means of transporting energy.

Compressed natural gas (CNG) continues to be a cost-competitive energy choice for fleets, with many customers choosing it for the environmental benefits as well. Between Piedmont and customer-owned CNG stations, we sold or transported more than 250,000 dekatherms of CNG to commercial customers for the year ended Oct. 31, 2014, (equivalent to approximately 4,350 homes) and used more than 17,000 dekatherms of CNG in our own fleets. Between our

customers and our own fleet, this CNG usage displaced more than 2.1 million gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel, resulting in a reduction of nearly 19,000 metric tons of ozone emissions.



Website: <http://sustainability.piedmontng.com/theme/economic>



### Natural Gas is Clean and Efficient

SOURCE: U.S. ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION



## Piedmont Natural Gas

Piedmont Natural Gas operates in the United States and is the trusted natural gas provider for more than 1 million residential and business customers in North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. We've been in operation for more than 50 years, and we believe our success is due to the high-quality service of our more than 1,900 employees and to the relationships we've formed in our communities.



In addition to providing natural gas to homes and businesses of all sizes, Piedmont Natural Gas also:

- Sells, installs and repairs natural gas appliances and equipment for homes and businesses
- Offers appliance repair plans through a third party

Piedmont's Sustainability Reports are the visual representation of our continued growth and success in environmental, economic and social stewardship. Employees and community partners from across our three-state service territory collaborate on a biennial basis to provide the content of each report. The report's data and stories are based on the Company's fiscal year (Nov. 1 – Oct. 31) and are verified in order to provide an accurate and impactful picture of our sustainability efforts.

Economic stewardship requires working diligently as a safe and reliable energy provider, a partner for local communities and a stable investment for our shareholders. Our results speak for themselves, with positive shareholder return, continued customer growth and increasing investments in infrastructure.

The health of local commerce is essential to the well-being of any community. Piedmont Natural Gas is consistently contributing to the success and economic growth of communities we serve by

reducing energy costs, providing safe and reliable energy, and promoting local economic growth. When families and business owners save on energy costs, they spend more on other products and services that further fuel the economy.

# Housing



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## Element

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*South Carolina Code of Laws (6-29-510): (D) A local comprehensive plan must include . . . (6) a housing element which considers location, types, age, and condition of housing, owner and renter occupancy, and affordability of housing. This element includes an analysis to ascertain nonessential housing regulatory requirements, as defined in this chapter, that add to the cost of developing affordable housing but are not necessary to protect the public health, safety, or welfare and an analysis of market-based incentives that may be made available to encourage development of affordable housing, which incentives may include density bonuses, design flexibility, and streamlined permitting processes . . .*



## Housing Element Summary

A community's range of housing stock will, by necessity, change over time. Numerous factors influence an area's housing market - changing demographics, consumer demand, economic conditions, environmental factors, infrastructure capacity, transportation and, more recently, technological influences. Ensuring that people of all ages, income levels and abilities have access to safe, affordable and desirable housing options is critical to ensuring that Spartanburg will remain a preferred destination for families to live, learn, work, and play.

Communities in and around Spartanburg County are experiencing varying levels of development, both in terms of population influx (spurring residential development) and economic/industrial development (which can spur population influx and/or demand for differing levels of housing and urban services). The US Census has identified the neighboring City of Greenville as the fourth fastest growing city in the nation from 2015 – 2016 (5.8% growth in population and the only city in the growth “top five” located outside the state of Texas), but Greenville's growth is not contained to the City of Greenville. Greenville's rapid growth has spurred growth in neighboring communities such as Mauldin, Simpsonville, Greer, and Traveler's Rest in Greenville County, as well as incorporated and unincorporated areas in Spartanburg and Anderson Counties

While growth is by no means uniform, many of the areas where the most growth is occurring are experiencing typical “growing pains” – enhanced economic opportunity coupled with increased congestion on existing roads (most of which were not designed to handle the level of traffic being generated), pressure to provide more “urban” services, need for expanded/upgraded infrastructure and, increasingly, a demand for more transportation and housing options. Land is a finite resource, and providing urban-style services strains governmental budgets that are already painfully thin; how can we best plan to provide housing that will reflect and promote both enhanced economic opportunity while preserving the quality of life that makes Spartanburg County so attractive to residents and businesses alike?

As Spartanburg County continues its transition from a primarily agrarian, textile-based economy toward a more diverse economy, its housing stock must also evolve to meet the needs of a more diverse population. While data suggests that there is currently adequate housing stock available in the County, it is primarily single family detached housing scattered throughout the county. There are relatively few options at the upper and lower ends of the economic scale. How can Spartanburg County encourage the orderly and efficient development and maintenance of a more diverse housing inventory that will better meet the evolving needs and preferences of the County's current and future population?

As outlined in the Population Element of this Plan, Spartanburg County's population is changing; not only is our population aging, there is more ethnic and cultural diversity. Fewer traditional families are having fewer children and are doing so at later stages in life. Increased employment and household mobility is resulting in enhanced demand for a broader range of housing options, especially in the rental arena. The prior generation's American Dream of owning a house on an acre in the suburbs with two cars in the garage is certainly not the millennial's dream – they are looking for more diverse, ecologically friendly, hip, walkable

communities that are planned around people and their needs rather than around the needs of people in cars. While our aging seniors may not be as interested as the millennials are in walkability and being hip, they also need to have a broader range of options that better meet their changing housing and transportation needs.

How can Spartanburg County and its municipalities position themselves to sustainably meet both current and future demands for housing? How do we best integrate new housing with existing infrastructure and preserve the integrity of existing housing stock? How can we ensure that safe, desirable and affordable housing choices are readily available for all of our residents? The Housing Element looks at questions such as these and offers some realistic goals and recommendations.

## **Housing Element**

### **Introduction**

A community's range of housing stock will, by necessity, change over time. Numerous factors influence an area's housing market - changing demographics, consumer demand, economic conditions, environmental factors, infrastructure capacity, transportation, and, more recently, technological influences. Ensuring that people of all ages, income levels and abilities have access to safe, affordable and desirable housing options is critical to ensuring that Spartanburg will remain a preferred destination for families to live, learn, work, and play.

As Spartanburg County continues its transition from a primarily agrarian, textile-based economy toward a more diverse economy, its housing stock must also evolve to meet the needs of a more diverse population. In addition to cultural and financial diversity, people at different stages of life will have different housing needs and preferences. Amenities that are attractive to millennials will likely differ from those that are attractive to young families, or to empty nesters, or to senior adults. How can Spartanburg County ensure the availability of a variety of housing options that are both attractive and affordable to individuals throughout their lifespans? How can we anticipate and mitigate some of the more troubling housing-related issues, particularly those related to affordability, that are currently trending across the nation?

### **Where we are today...**

#### **Regional Growth and Development**

Based on American Community Survey (ACS) data, the City of Greenville (our neighbor to the west) is the fourth fastest growing city in the nation; as such, land costs in all of Greenville County have continued to rise. The City of Greer, which is bisected by the Greenville/Spartanburg County line, has experienced rapid residential and industrial development, with BMW, associated manufacturing industries and the Inland Port providing even further impetus for residential and industrial development.

Much of Spartanburg County is now posting stronger industrial, commercial and residential development numbers as well, with continued major manufacturing/industrial investment and new housing construction meeting pre-recession levels, especially in the areas closest to Greer

and Greenville County as well as along Highway 9 in the Boiling Springs area. Despite this trend, Spartanburg County remains an attractive and relatively affordable option for both residential and industrial development.

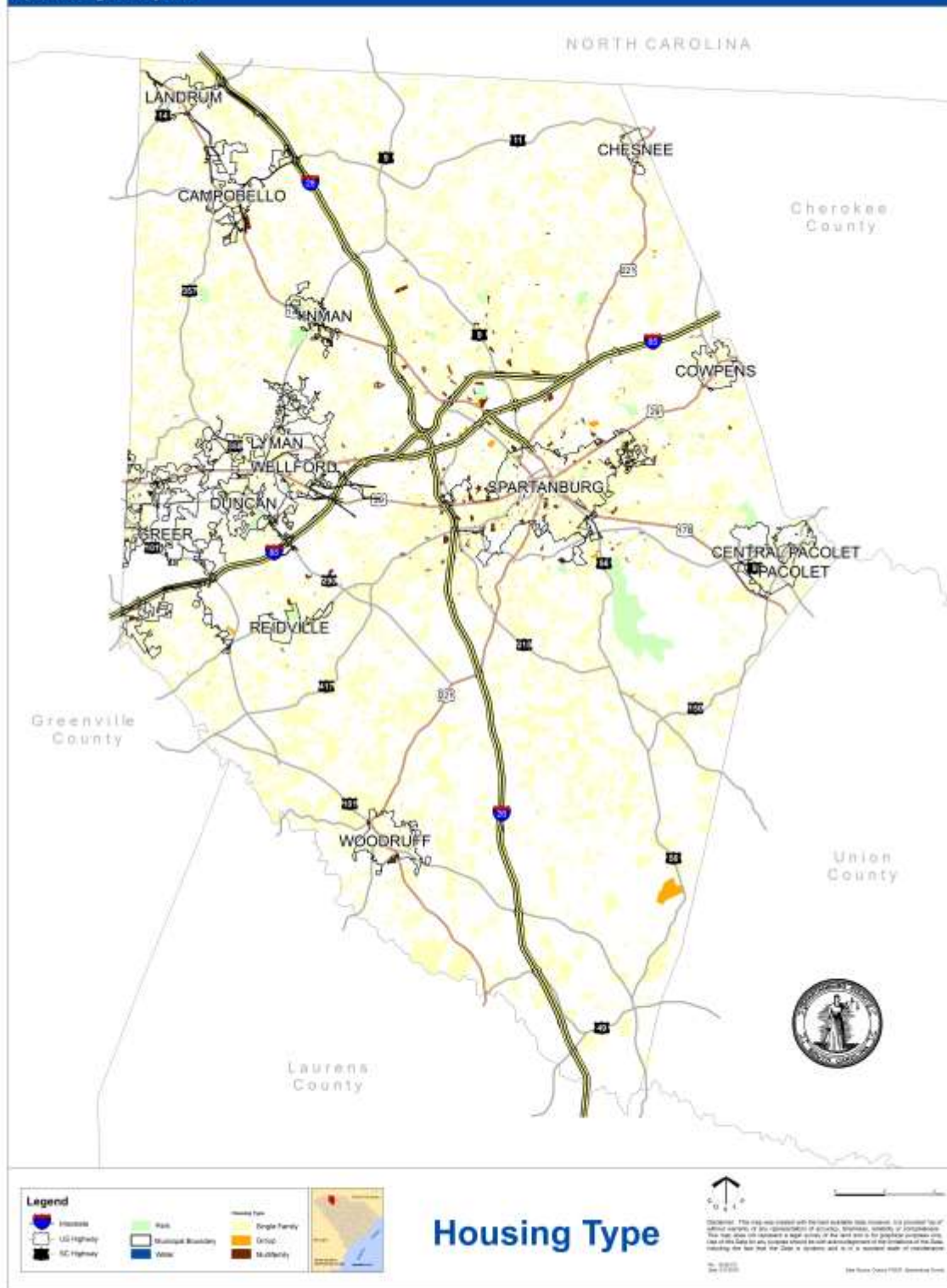
While the value of newly developed housing tends to be substantially greater than the average cost of existing housing stock, it is still primarily mid- to upper-range single family owner-occupied development. We are expanding the number of homes available, but these new developments are still primarily single family homes, which typically require residents to have access to at least one automobile, so we are not actually expanding the range of housing choices to meet the needs and preferences of current and future residents.

So how can Spartanburg County ensure that its housing stock will meet the evolving needs and preferences of the County's growing and aging population? Is there a way for the County to plan for and/or guide growth and development so that the quality of life for existing residents and businesses is preserved or enhanced to the greatest extent practicable? Before we can answer these questions, we need to have a clear understanding of where we are today.

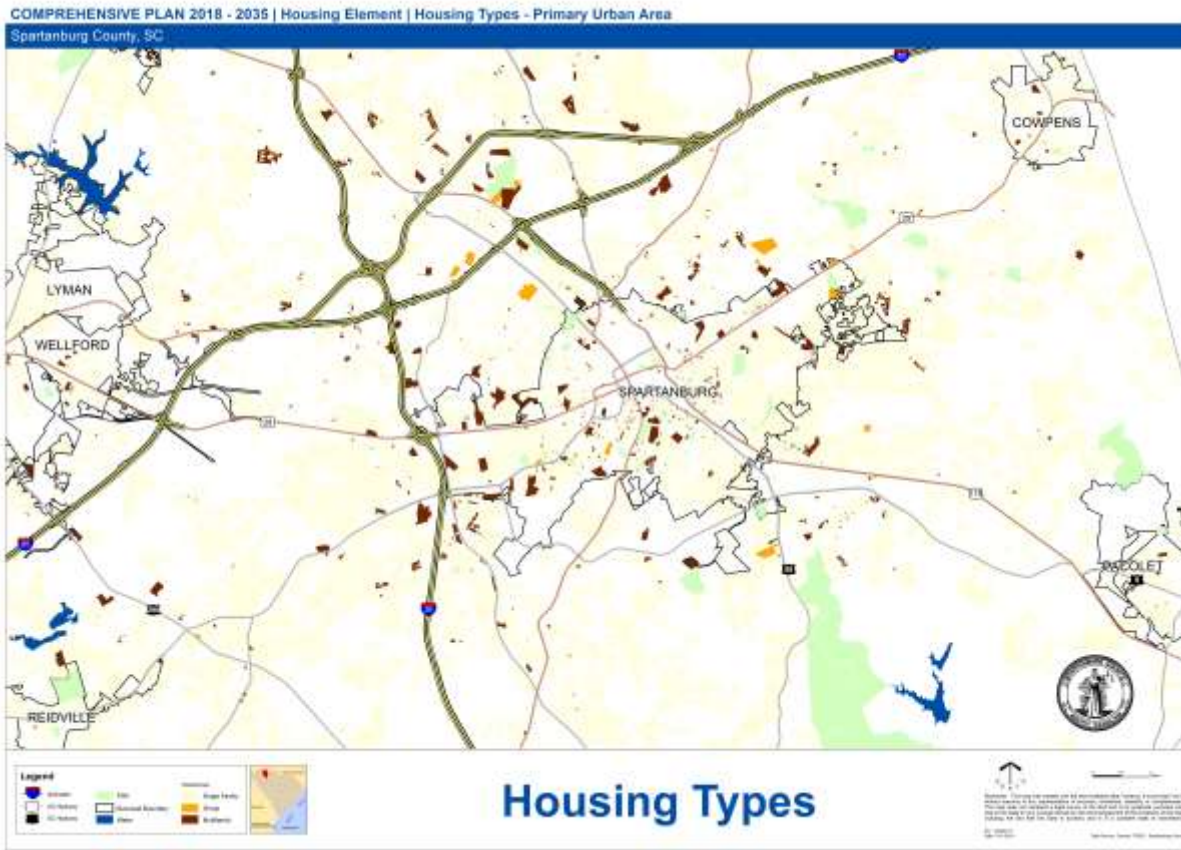
The following data is based on five year estimates from the American Community Survey (ACS); the periods of comparison are based on 2006-2010 ACS and 2011-2015 ACS.

### **Number and Type of Housing Units**

Total number of housing units in Spartanburg County increased during the period by 2.3%, from 121,137 to 123,931 units. This includes not only single-unit detached housing (which comprises roughly 69% of the County's housing stock), but also mobile homes (the second most common housing choice at 14.6%), single-unit attached, duplex, multifamily (including triplex and quadraplex) as well as other, non-traditional housing units (boats, RVs, etc). The map "Housing Type" on the next page illustrates the predominance of single family housing in Spartanburg County. There is a greater mix of housing types in the urban area; the map "Housing Type Primary Urban Area" provides a snapshot of the existing housing options by category (single family (including mobile homes), multi-family and institutional).







### Value of Housing

Despite lingering effects from the housing “bubble” at the beginning of the millennium, Spartanburg County’s median home value for owner-occupied housing has increased a modest 6.4% from 2010 estimates. While there are fewer owner-occupied homes reported at both the lower and the upper price points (under \$150,000 and over \$1,000,000 respectively), the number of units with values in each of the “mid-range” categories has increased, as has the overall

Table 1 - Value Comparison of Owner Occupied Units, 2010 to 2015

	2010 Estimate	2010 %	2015 Estimate	2015 %	Change
Number of Owner Occupied Units	75,765	100%	75,378	100%	-387
Less than \$50,000	10,158	13.4%	9,421	12.5%	-737
\$50,000 to \$99,000	20,942	27.6%	18,791	24.9%	-2,151
\$100,000 to \$149,999	19,169	25.3%	18,645	24.7%	-524
\$150,000 to \$199,999	10,900	14.4%	12,524	16.6%	1,624
\$200,000 to \$299,000	8,204	10.8%	8,985	11.9%	781
\$300,000 to \$499,000	4,417	5.8%	5,035	6.7%	618
\$500,000 to \$999,999	1,550	2.0%	1,665	2.2%	115
\$1,000,000 or more	425	0.6%	312	0.4%	-113
Median (dollars)	\$116,300		\$123,800		\$7,500

Source – American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2006 – 2010 and 2011 - 2015



average home value (see Table 1 – Value Comparison of Owner Occupied Units, 2010 to 2015 – previous page). It is expected that this trend will continue over time. What impacts can we expect the rising cost of housing to have on Spartanburg County’s residents, especially as wages rise at a slower pace or remain stagnant? What will the likely impacts be for home owners, renters and the County’s economy as a whole? How can Spartanburg County plan to capitalize on positive impacts from increasing home values while minimizing negative ones?

### **Number and Tenancy of Occupied/Vacant Units**

The number of occupied housing units in Spartanburg County is estimated to have increased 3.3% (from 106,397 to 109,892) due primarily to increase (12.7%) in rental occupancy. Owner-occupied housing was estimated to have experienced a slight decrease (0.5%), from 75,765 to 75,378 during this same time frame.

Just over fourteen thousand housing units in Spartanburg County (14,039 or 11.3%) are estimated to have been vacant in 2015; the total number of vacant units is down 4.8% from the 2010 vacancy estimate of 14,740 units (a 12.2% vacancy rate based on housing units available for occupancy during that period). Vacancy rates are down for both for owner occupied units (from 2.9% to 2.5%) as well as for rental units (from 13.1% to 7.8%).

### **Demographics of Occupancy**

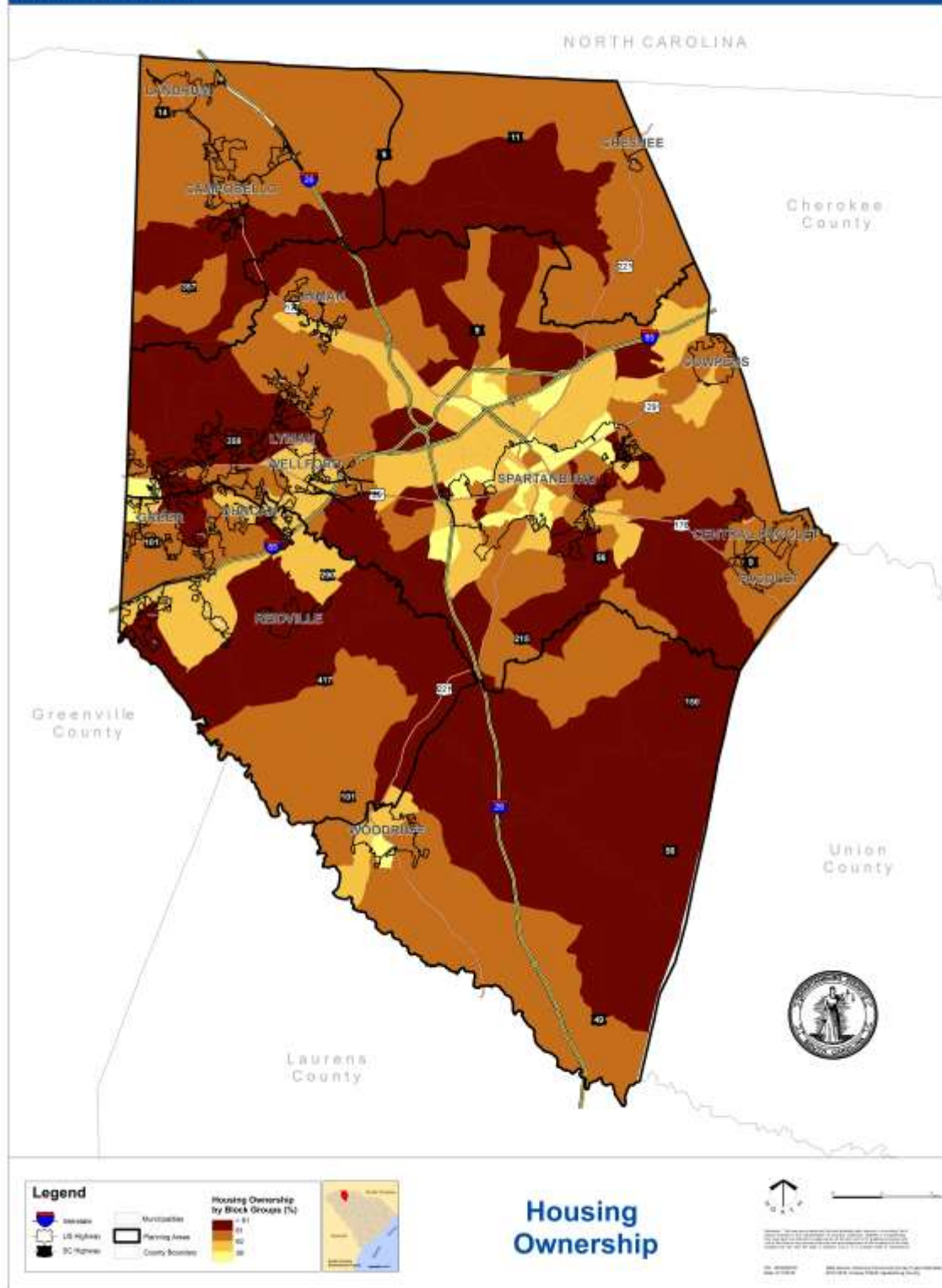
While families continue to comprise the majority of households in the County (69.6%), there was actually a slight increase (0.7%) in non-family households during the period. Roughly three quarters of owner-occupied residences (74.5%) provide housing for families; just under sixty percent of rental units (58.8%) are occupied by families as well. Two thirds (66.6%) of households in Spartanburg County are estimated to have no related children under the age of eighteen living in the home.

In addition to the growing number of households without related children under the age of 18 in the home, another trend is an increase in the rate of owner-occupied housing occupied by families or individuals where the householder was aged 65 or older. This shift in demographics presents some unique planning challenges as many older residents become less able to navigate the community or maintain a residence without assistance.

The “Housing Ownership” map on the following pages illustrates the preponderance of owner-occupied homes in particular Census tracts; the darker colors represent Census tracts where the majority of homes are owner-occupied (dark brown is more than 81% owner occupied; medium brown between 62% and 81% owner occupied). Most of the County’s rental units are contained in the lighter shaded areas (in Census tracts shaded light brown between 38% and 62% of housing units are rental; more than 62% of the residences in the yellow shaded areas are rental).

### **Access to Transportation**

Most households in Spartanburg County (93%) are estimated to have access to at least one vehicle; this is a slight decrease from 2010 estimates of 93.5% of households having access to at least one vehicle. While having access to one vehicle is important, one vehicle is often not sufficient to meet a household’s competing needs. In addition to the seven percent of households



with no access to a vehicle, an additional 33,337 households in Spartanburg County (30.3%) have access to only one vehicle. These data suggest additional transportation options may be needed, either occasionally or regularly, for just over one third of the County's households. As our population continues to age and become less physically able to drive or to afford the costs associated with driving, the number of households requiring transportation assistance is likely to increase. Additionally, as population increases, continued reliance on privately owned vehicles will result in increased traffic congestion and demands for improvements in our transportation network.

### **Age, Condition and Affordability of Existing Housing Units**

There has been an overall decrease in the number of existing housing units greater than 25 years old (constructed prior to 1990 - down 7.3%, from 79,549 to 73,818 units), yet almost sixty percent of the County's housing stock still dates to the 1980s or before. Half of those (37,196 or roughly 30% of the County's housing stock) were built prior to 1970. As properties age, systems become outdated or fail, maintenance costs typically increase, thus placing additional financial burdens on the owner of the residence. While most of the households in Spartanburg County (91%) heat their homes with either electricity (64.6%) or natural gas (26.4%), there are still some households that use propane (4.2%), fuel oil/kerosene (2.7%), wood (1.2%) or other methods (including solar). Four hundred fifty one units (0.4%) are estimated to use no heating fuel at all.

While heating source can tell us something about the quality and variety of the county's housing stock, there are four criteria that the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) considers problematic when evaluating housing stock – lack of complete plumbing facilities, lack of complete kitchen facilities, more than one person per room and excessive cost burden, which they define as either gross rent (rent plus utilities) or monthly ownership costs (mortgage, utilities, insurance, taxes and association fees) greater than 30% of the household's monthly income. Housing cost burden is considered severe when the previously referenced costs exceed 50% of the household's monthly income.

Of Spartanburg County's occupied housing units in 2015, 465 (0.42%) lacked complete plumbing facilities; this is an increase from the 2010 estimate of 305 units (0.29%). Likewise, estimates of housing units lacking complete kitchen facilities in 2015 increased from 517 (0.49% - 2010) to 899 (0.82%) units. In 2010, estimates are that 104,639 units (98.3%) of housing units in Spartanburg County met the standard of one person or less per room in the household. Estimates from 2015, however, show that this rate has fallen to 97.9%. The area of greatest concern is in the rate of increase of units having 1.51 or more persons per room; while still less than one percent (0.6%) of the County's overall housing has this problem, this statistic has more than doubled from 2010 (283 units) to 2015 (655 units) estimates. What could be driving this trend – does it reflect consumer's desires, changing economics, a lack of adequate and affordable living space, or a combination of influences?

In its Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS), HUD looks at these issues not only in relation to a household's income, but also in relation to where that household stands relative to the average monthly family income in the area (HAMFI) (see Table 2 next page) as well as providing information on tenancy (owner-occupied or rental). Are the housing problems dependent on income, tenancy, or a combination of these criteria? The data referenced in this section was created in August of 2017, but is based on the most recent analysis of ACS data, which covers the five year period from 2011 to 2014.

Table 2 - Overview of Income Distribution in Spartanburg County

	Owner Occupied	Owner Occupied %	Renters	Renters %	Total
Household Income less than or = 30% area average (HAMFI)	4,745	6.4%	7,915	23.3%	12,660
30 – 50% HAMFI	5,510	7.4%	6,985	20.5%	12,495
50.01 – 80% HAMFI	10,665	14.3%	6,995	20.6%	17,660
80.01 – 100% HAMFI	7,345	9.9%	3,440	10.1%	10,785
Greater than 100% HAMFI	46,115	62.0%	8,670	25.5%	54,785
Total	74,380	100.0%	34,005	100.0%	108,385

Source: HUD CHAS data, based on 2010 – 2014 ACS

Based on data seen in Table 3 (Overview of Housing Problems by Income and Tenancy), it is apparent that residents in owner-occupied housing tend to have higher incomes and experience the HUD-identified housing problems at a lower rate (21.2%) than in rental properties (46.8% of which are identified as having at least one of the HUD housing problems). As would be expected, the incidence of housing problems is more evident when the household income is

Table 3 – Overview of Housing Problems by Income and Tenancy

	At least 1 of 4 HUD Housing Problems Present (lack of complete kitchen, plumbing, over-crowding, and/or cost burden)		Cost Burden not Available and/or No Identified Housing Problems		Total Units
	Owner Occupied	Rental	Owner Occupied	Rental	
Household Income less than or = 30% area average (HAMFI)	3,050	5,450	1,695	2,465	12,665
30 – 50% HAMFI	2,805	5,150	2,705	1,835	12,495
50.01 – 80% HAMFI	4,800	3,950	5,865	3,045	17,660
80.01 – 100% HAMFI	1,845	645	5,500	2,795	10,785
Greater than 100% HAMFI	3,240	710	42,875	7,960	54,785
Total	15,740	15,905	58,640	18,100	108,385

Source: HUD CHAS data, based on 2010 – 2014 ACS

significantly below the area's average income (HAMFI).

While CHAS data does not enumerate physical housing problems, ACS data for Spartanburg County demonstrates that the majority of the housing problems for both owners and renters would fall in the realm of cost burden (see Table 4 – Overall Housing Cost Burden by Tenancy below). Less than one percent of the county's housing units have one or more of the HUD-identified physical housing problems (incomplete kitchen facilities, incomplete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room). Roughly 21% of owners and 46.7% of renters experience housing costs that exceed 30% of their monthly income. As a whole, renters experience greater cost burdens relative to their income than home owners do, with almost 22% of renters having housing costs in excess of 50% of their monthly income; just over seven percent (7.3%) of homeowners have a similar cost burden.

Table 4 – Overall Housing Cost Burden by Tenancy

	Owner Occupied	Owner Occupied %	Renters	Renter %	Total	Total %
Cost burden less than or = 30%	58,980	79.3%	18,130	53.3%	77,110	71.1%
Cost burden 30 – 50%	9,310	12.5%	7,390	21.7%	16,700	15.4%
Cost burden greater than 50%	5,425	7.3%	7,455	21.9%	12,880	11.9%
Cost burden not available	670	0.9%	1,030	3.1%	1,700	1.6%
Total	74,380	100.0%	34,005	100.0%	108,385	100.0%

*Source: HUD CHAS data, based on 2010 – 2014 ACS*

Selected housing costs (mortgage, taxes, insurance, utilities and association fees) owner-occupied housing with existing mortgages ranges from \$500 to \$1,499 per month for almost two thirds (74.9%) of owners with mortgages (see Table 5 – Selected Monthly Owner Costs by Mortgage Status – next page). A select few (3.0%) pay less than \$500 per month, while roughly thirteen percent pay between \$1,500 and \$1,999 per month. Just over five percent pay between \$2,000 and \$2,499 per month; roughly four percent of households with mortgages have monthly housing costs greater than \$2,500. For houses where there is no mortgage, all but eight percent have less than \$600 in monthly housing costs. The median housing cost for owner occupied units was \$1,078 for those with mortgages and \$309 for those without.



Table 5 – Selected Monthly Owner Costs by Mortgage Status

	2015 Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Margin of Error %
<b>MORTGAGE STATUS</b>				
Owner-occupied units	75,378	+/-1,056		
Housing units with a mortgage	46,574	+/-1,058	61.8%	+/-1.0
Housing units without a mortgage	28,804	+/-755	38.2%	+/-1.0
<b>SELECTED MONTHLY OWNER COSTS (SMOC) (mortgage, utilities, taxes, insurance and association fees)</b>				
Housing units with a mortgage	46,574	+/-1,058		
Less than \$500	1,413	+/-225	3.0%	+/-0.5
\$500 to \$999	18,715	+/-787	40.2%	+/-1.5
\$1,000 to \$1,499	16,178	+/-850	34.7%	+/-1.6
\$1,500 to \$1,999	5,988	+/-531	12.9%	+/-1.1
\$2,000 to \$2,499	2,460	+/-330	5.3%	+/-0.7
\$2,500 to \$2,999	962	+/-216	2.1%	+/-0.5
\$3,000 or more	858	+/-215	1.8%	+/-0.5
Median (dollars)	1,078	+/-15	(X)	(X)
Housing units without a mortgage	28,804	+/-755		
Less than \$250	9,491	+/-593	33.0%	+/-1.9
\$250 to \$399	11,677	+/-609	40.5%	+/-1.9
\$400 to \$599	5,377	+/-455	18.7%	+/-1.5
\$600 to \$799	1,513	+/-247	5.3%	+/-0.8
\$800 to \$999	436	+/-149	1.5%	+/-0.5
\$1,000 or more	310	+/-99	1.1%	+/-0.3
Median (dollars)	309	+/-6	(X)	(X)

*Source: ACS Selected Housing Characteristics Spartanburg County 2015*

While roughly half (49.6%) of existing mortgage holders spend less than twenty percent of their monthly income on housing costs, twenty six percent would be considered to be moderately (6.6%) or severely (19.4%) burdened by housing costs as a percent of household income. For homes without mortgages, 81.4% pay twenty percent or less of their income for monthly housing costs. Even without an existing mortgage, some homeowners (9.2%) are burdened either moderately (1.7%) or severely (7.5%) with monthly housing costs (see Table 6 – Selected Monthly Owner Costs as Percentage of Household Income - next page)

Table 6 – Selected Monthly Owner Costs as Percentage of Household Income

	2015 Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Margin of Error %
<b>SELECTED MONTHLY OWNER COSTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME (SMOCAPI)</b>				
Housing units with a mortgage (excluding units where SMOCAPI cannot be computed)	46,323	+/-1,060		
Less than 20.0 percent	22,996	+/-843	49.6%	+/-1.6
20.0 to 24.9 percent	6,689	+/-589	14.4%	+/-1.2
25.0 to 29.9 percent	4,594	+/-540	9.9%	+/-1.1
30.0 to 34.9 percent	3,074	+/-405	6.6%	+/-0.9
35.0 percent or more	8,970	+/-684	19.4%	+/-1.4
Not computed	251	+/-97	(X)	(X)
Housing unit without a mortgage (excluding units where SMOCAPI cannot be computed)	28,381	+/-744	28,381	(X)
Less than 10.0 percent	14,707	+/-696	51.8%	+/-2.0
10.0 to 14.9 percent	5,475	+/-442	19.3%	+/-1.6
15.0 to 19.9 percent	2,910	+/-339	10.3%	+/-1.2
20.0 to 24.9 percent	1,625	+/-231	5.7%	+/-0.8
25.0 to 29.9 percent	1,043	+/-208	3.7%	+/-0.7
30.0 to 34.9 percent	486	+/-143	1.7%	+/-0.5
35.0 percent or more	2,135	+/-354	7.5%	+/-1.2
Not computed	423	+/-125	(X)	(X)

*Source: ACS Selected Housing Characteristics Spartanburg County 2015*

Table 7 (Gross Rent by Amount and as Percentage of Household Income) on the following page tells the story for renters. While the median monthly housing expense for renters is \$707, almost twenty percent of renters pay \$500 or less per month for rent and utilities – this is a far greater percentage than mortgage-holding homeowners, for whom 97% pay more than \$500 per month. Almost two thirds (66.4%) of renters pay between \$500 and \$999 per month for rent and utilities; an additional 12.9% pay between \$1,000 and \$1,499. Two percent of renters pay between \$1,500 and \$2,999 per month and a few (86, or 0.3%) pay \$3,000 or more per month. So how do these costs relate to renter’s incomes?

Table 7 – Gross Rent by Amount and as Percentage of Household Income

	2015 Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Margin of Error %
<b>GROSS RENT (rent plus utilities)</b>				
Occupied units paying rent	31,259	+/-1,234		
Less than \$500	5,782	+/-567	18.5%	+/-1.6
\$500 to \$999	20,745	+/-991	66.4%	+/-1.9
\$1,000 to \$1,499	4,019	+/-427	12.9%	+/-1.3
\$1,500 to \$1,999	482	+/-158	1.5%	+/-0.5
\$2,000 to \$2,499	83	+/-57	0.3%	+/-0.2
\$2,500 to \$2,999	62	+/-44	0.2%	+/-0.1
\$3,000 or more	86	+/-59	0.3%	+/-0.2
Median (dollars)	707	+/-13	(X)	(X)
No rent paid	3,255	+/-425	(X)	(X)
<b>GROSS RENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME (GRAPI)</b>				
Occupied units paying rent (excluding units where GRAPI cannot be computed)	30,539	+/-1,257		
Less than 15.0 percent	3,622	+/-450	11.9%	+/-1.4
15.0 to 19.9 percent	4,092	+/-467	13.4%	+/-1.5
20.0 to 24.9 percent	3,957	+/-606	13.0%	+/-1.8
25.0 to 29.9 percent	3,478	+/-440	11.4%	+/-1.4
30.0 to 34.9 percent	2,639	+/-317	8.6%	+/-1.1
35.0 percent or more	12,751	+/-861	41.8%	+/-2.1
Not computed	3,975	+/-473	(X)	(X)

*Source: ACS Selected Housing Characteristics Spartanburg County 2015*

Just over half (50.4%) of renters are estimated to spend thirty percent or more of their monthly income on rent and utilities; 41.8% of all renters in Spartanburg County are severely burdened, spending 35% or more of their monthly income on housing costs. Due to escalating housing costs, the relative burden of housing costs is expected to increase, especially in the rental market. Spartanburg County, in conjunction with HUD, has analyzed this situation, identified resources and proposed solutions in its Five Year Consolidated Plan 2013-2017 (<http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/276>). While we are at the end of that plan's horizon, the resources and strategies contained in the plan are still useful today.

Reliance on manufactured housing as an affordable housing option is still a trend in Spartanburg County. While the base cost of a new manufactured home may no longer fit the definition of

“affordable” for many individuals (new from around \$30,000 to more than \$100,000 plus land costs), it is still an option that allows many individuals to move from rental to ownership status, especially if they are purchasing a previously-owned home from an individual rather than a new home from a dealer. Unlike most traditional site built housing, however, mobile homes tend to depreciate over time. Mobile homes may be sited on individual parcels of land or located within a mobile home park. Mobile home parks are an option that can bridge the rental/owner gap (some homes are rented while others own their homes and merely rent the “space” in the park). In Spartanburg County, mobile home parks are subject to annual licensing and inspection to ensure that basic sanitation, lighting and safety amenities are in place for park residents.

### **National and Local Trends**

The nation as a whole saw a marked shift in housing values and ownership with the sub-prime lending debacle. Spartanburg County was not immune – despite the recent resurgence in new construction, some of our citizens, neighborhoods and institutions are still recovering from instability brought on by the 2008 Recession.

Much of the population nationwide is choosing denser, more walkable communities and/or flexible living arrangements. Individuals are postponing both families and home ownership, whether due to personal preference or economic realities. In Spartanburg County, there have been several successful conversions of former manufacturing or educational spaces into desirable housing units. There has been an increased focus on residential recreational and social amenities such as community trails, outdoor performance venues and gathering spaces as well as an interest in developing “tiny home” communities in the Upstate area.

Land is a finite resource, and providing urban-style services strains governmental budgets that are already painfully thin; how can we best develop Spartanburg County to provide both enhanced economic opportunity while preserving the quality of life that makes our community so attractive? The areas where the growth is occurring are experiencing the typical “growing pains” – increased congestion on existing roads (most of which were not designed to handle the level of traffic being generated), pressure to provide more “urban” services, need for expanded/upgraded infrastructure and, increasingly, a demand for more transportation and housing options.

### **Stability and Sustainability**

As housing ages and tenancy shifts from owner occupied to rental tenancy, neighborhoods may lose some of their former attractiveness, which affects not only the value and desirability of the individual housing unit but also the stability of the neighborhood as a whole. This reality was painfully obvious during the foreclosure crisis in 2008 and the years following as neighborhoods tried to recover from the disruption. Home values in heavily-impacted neighborhoods took a hit, leaving many homeowners “upside down” on their mortgages and further lowering the tax base in struggling neighborhoods.

While there has been some interest in mill conversion and infill development, most development in the County involves conversion of former farmland to single family residential homes. These former farms are generally located on rural roads that were not developed to handle the amount

of traffic that continued development will bring. With limited public transportation options, each new home built means at least one more car on the road. Current residents bemoan the loss of the rural lifestyle they chose when moving to the country; new and old residents alike complain of increasing traffic congestion.

What are some strategies that Spartanburg County could use to preserve and promote the vibrancy of its existing neighborhoods? What strategies can the County use to promote more attractive, safe and sustainable neighborhoods, and lessen our dependence on private automobiles?

### **Goals for Spartanburg County Housing:**

How can Spartanburg County and its municipalities position themselves to sustainably meet both current and future demands for housing that is safe, attractive and affordable? How do we best integrate new housing with existing infrastructure and preserve the integrity of existing housing stock? To what degree do existing regulations promote or hinder sustainable residential and commercial development that meets our population's needs in terms of affordability, desirability and safety? How do our regulations and practice allow for compatible uses that will evolve over time, both as technology and our population's needs change?

In order to promote and preserve the quality of life that makes Spartanburg County a desirable place to live, learn, work and play, the County should examine and implement the tools (policies) it needs to:

- Encourage development of a variety of housing options so that every resident of Spartanburg County will be able to obtain housing that is safe, affordable and meets their current needs.
- Encourage more compact development to reduce residential sprawl, thus lessening the impact on both the County's infrastructure and its environment.
- Preserve, maintain, rehabilitate and/or improve existing neighborhoods and housing stock.
- Explore opportunities that will allow individuals to age in place, yet still remain involved in their communities (especially difficult as older individuals lose their ability to drive safely).
- Promote multi-modal connectivity (walk, bike, ride, drive) between housing and destinations (services, retail, employment, education, culture and recreation).
- Allow mixed-use development that will provide opportunities for residents to live, work, shop and enjoy nearby amenities without having to use an automobile to do so.
- Coordinate with other agencies (utilities, school districts, Parks and Rec, fire districts, etc) to ensure that each is aware of and can accommodate or coordinate planned developments and/or maintenance schedules – in other words, to plan and execute plans strategically.

Continued engagement with partners from the private and non-profit sectors as well as with other relevant governmental entities will be crucial to achieving Spartanburg County's housing goals.



# Land Use



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## Element

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*South Carolina Code of Laws (6-29-510): (D) A local comprehensive plan must include . . . (7) a land use element which considers existing and future land use by categories, including residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, forestry, mining, public and quasi-public, recreation, parks, open space, and vacant or undeveloped . . .*

## Land Use Element Introduction

Between 2010 and 2017, Spartanburg County’s population increased by more than 22,000 people for a total population of 306,854, a number that we were not forecasted to reach until 2020. That number of people is more than those who lived in the municipalities of Lyman, Duncan, Wellford, Inman, Campobello, Landrum, Chesnee, Cowpens, Pacolet, Central Pacolet, and Reidville combined. The Land Use Element is about how we accommodate and support all those people in our County—their homes, places to work, places to play, places to shop, schools, etc. The remaining elements are about keeping them safe, ensuring safe housing and a safe environment, delivering services and utilities, providing safety and capacity on our roadways, and ensuring a prosperous economic environment. All of these activities consume land, so the Land Use Element gives the county’s leaders and citizens an opportunity to purposefully plan for the accommodation of Spartanburg County’s anticipated growth and everything that comes with it.

Spartanburg County Government is hearing increasingly from citizens expressing their frustration with the effects of development on our local quality of life. Roads, landscapes, utilities, and services are being impacted by growth. While economic prosperity is sought by the majority of citizens, many believe that these impacts can be managed more effectively.

As a result, the Spartanburg County Council set into motion a process that has been called Area Performance Planning, an effort to consider alternative land use policies that would be best-suited for Spartanburg County. The Council is seeking a balanced approach to land use issues. Area Performance Planning includes this Comprehensive Plan along with well-considered policies and ordinances that will help achieve the goals that they outlined in their Strategic Plan (2014 and updated 2018). The number one goal in the Strategic Plan is to “Create Sustainable Economic Development that Benefits the Businesses and Citizens of Spartanburg County.” Under Goal 1 is Objective 1.2 which calls for “the establishment and implementation of a land use planning process and policy framework,” a purposeful policy alignment has not been done in the past in Spartanburg County.

The Land Use Element will consider this balanced approach and identify a land use planning process and policy framework that will usher the County into the future. This state-mandated comprehensive plan is a useful tool for the County on several levels and will be more effective when aligned with a full array of land use policies including performance zoning, storm water, subdivision and land development regulations, among others.

The Area Performance Planning Process (for the Southwest Planning Area), which is running parallel to the Comprehensive Planning Process, began with stakeholder input in order to identify land use-related issues in the community and to inform the Comprehensive Plan and the draft APP ordinance. These stakeholders consisted of citizens, fire departments, libraries, home builders, realtors, bankers, home owners associations, businesses, school districts, large agricultural land owners, transportation professionals, and many others. The project team was able to boil down the list to the following key themes:

## 1. **Roads and Transportation System**

- a) Traffic and Congestion
  - i) Access Management (“No more Woodruff Roads”)
  - ii) Connectivity of Streets
  - iii) Blueways, trails, and sidewalk connections
  - iv) Traffic Calming
- b) Maintenance and Road Standards
  - i) Right of Way Dedication
  - ii) Standards for Construction (pavement, etc)
  - iii) Ensure Road Classification System is accurate

## 2. **Development/Ordinance Flexibility**

- a) Respect property rights
- b) Difficult to develop mixed use communities (Planned Developments, lifestyle centers, etc.)
- c) No more one size fits all (ex: commercial vs. residential subdivisions, urban vs. rural, etc.)
- d) Redevelopment needs to be different from new development
- e) Examine subdivision regulations for relevance, flexibility, etc. in today’s development environment
- f) Ensure development ordinances have flexibility, clarity, and more certainty for end users. Ensure regulatory process provides continued strong economic growth vs. large subdivision requirements and standards

## 3. **Land Use Compatibility**

- a) Important to achieve this between contrasting land uses/Reduce land use conflict
- b) Appropriate infill development will be important where infrastructure currently exists
- c) Promote economic growth in highly suitable areas

## 4. **Subdivision of Property**

- a) Parcel access issues (urban vs. rural and size context)
- b) Access Management (residential and commercial)
- c) Consider road dedication issues (percentage of build out prior to acceptance)
- d) Review of Right of Way Dedication policy
- e) Road design (traffic calming, cul-de-sac, etc.) and construction standards
- f) Turn Lanes for developments of a certain size
- g) Small subdivision vs. large subdivision requirements and standards

## 5. Appearance

- a) Gateway improvements
- b) No more hodgepodge development
- c) Development along some corridors is not appealing

### **The Need for a New Land Use Policy Framework**

There has been a consensus that any new land use policy framework must be tailored to address the very broad needs of Spartanburg County and be as balanced as possible in attempting to do so. The South Carolina Local Government Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act (SC Code of Laws, 6-29) allows for a number of types of zoning and land development regulation. It is County Council's desire to find a model that will strike a balance among the competing interests for land by attracting more intense uses to arterials and the less intense uses such as residential and smaller retail and office to Collectors and Local Roads. Mixing of uses along our roadways will require carefully considered compatibility standards.

Countywide parcel-by-parcel (Euclidean) zoning of the county's more than 140,000 non-municipal parcels would be expensive to administer and complicated to manage. Having uses mandated on land by a Euclidean ordinance do not make those uses happen. Development is still market-driven and this model of zoning makes it difficult to make changes. Locking in a use designation on that many parcels would take a great deal of time and would present challenges for those citizens and developers seeking rezoning in order to use their property. This model would likely be an unwieldy burden on County Council and planning staff in a large county already experiencing growth pressures.

While surveying other communities' land use policies and ordinances to find a framework appropriate for our community, the idea of performance zoning using road classifications rose to the top. Since Spartanburg County already has a version of performance zoning, the ease of implementation was taken into account. The more important issue is that it provides better tools and more flexibility than our current Unified Land Management Ordinance (ULMO) without putting specific use limitations on property. This framework allows the market to operate freely as long as the proposed use can be made compatible with its neighbors. This type of zoning can be done in a way that will address many of the stakeholder concerns indicated above.

Spartanburg County's current land use ordinance, the Unified Land Management Ordinance, while employing performance zoning as its foundation, addresses every parcel in the same manner. This one-size-fits-all ordinance, adopted in 1999, has served its purpose, but is fast becoming obsolete. With our growing population and packing more people and supporting land uses into our county, some of the 1999 requirements no longer fit the County's needs. The ULMO does not allow for mixed use. The buffer requirements are cumbersome. There are uses that were not anticipated or addressed by the Ordinance in 1999, such as agritourism, adaptive re-use of old buildings such as textile mills, infill development, and internet-only businesses, for example. The size and intensity of particular land uses (a large 5000-member church with a school vs. a small neighborhood church, for example) are largely left unconsidered in applying

the ULMO requirements. Even though the ULMO was written with the protection of residential uses as its major purpose, any use is currently able to locate inside a residential subdivision or a built out neighborhood as long as it can meet the buffers, setbacks, and parking requirements found in the ordinance.

Weighing parcel-by-parcel zoning against the current ULMO, it follows that the properly balanced approach for Spartanburg County lies somewhere in between. Performance zoning tied to road classifications gives our community more control of how growth happens without dictating specific parcel uses. More intense land uses can be guided to arterial roads and residential and agricultural uses to the less-traveled, local roads. Ideally, a well-blended mix of less intense uses will locate on the mid-level roads (collectors) following measures that will make them compatible. Most uses would be allowed on most roads, but they must take measures to be good neighbors. To be successful, this effort will require identifying and classifying all types of land uses, deciding the uses that can locate on each road classification, and determining the measures required to make land uses compatible. Additional language can be added to this type of ordinance to further address the key themes (above) that were identified at the outset of the Area Performance Planning effort.

The **Implementation Plan** [\[Link\]](#) addresses the goals of Spartanburg County as it relates to Land Use, as well as other Elements.

**Former Land Use Element** [\[Link\]](#)

## Land Use Element

The overarching goal of the Land Use Element is to develop a new set of land use policies and ordinances that will accommodate quality growth that supports Spartanburg County's unique position as an economic engine in the Upstate, is coordinated with the provision of public infrastructure, protects cultural and natural resources, and respects private property rights.

The Spartanburg County Comprehensive Plan is an expression of the County's intent for how future growth and development should occur. The plan identifies parts of the County that may or may not be appropriate for certain types of growth given the County's economic growth, as well as abundant natural resources and agriculture that are a part of its local economy. The Plan has been created through a public planning process where input on land use issues and how growth should occur was gathered. The resulting Plan will be used as a tool in evaluating future proposals and policy changes to ensure consistent decisions are made. The Plan will also provide guidance to land owners and developers on what is appropriate in the County.

## Existing Land Use

Spartanburg County began developing in the 1700's. In the following century and a half, towns sprang up all across its 819 square miles. There are fourteen towns and cities that call Spartanburg County home (with Greer being divided by the Spartanburg-Greenville County line). Over those same decades, growth continued to be scattered with some 30 mill villages



locating here, many of which were on rivers well outside the municipalities. Spartanburg County then became crisscrossed by South Carolina primary routes, U.S. Highways, and two Interstates that pulled development away from towns over the years. Before Home Rule in South Carolina, many Special Purpose Districts were formed by the State Legislature that offered city-type services, allowing for convenient living outside of the municipalities. And for many decades, Spartanburg and Greenville have been growing towards each other, and it is safe to say that gap has virtually closed.

The table below represents total acreage of land uses not including those parcels that are part of an incorporated city or town limits and; therefore, are not a part of Spartanburg County's jurisdiction. The map afterward shows the distribution of those existing land uses throughout Spartanburg County with the Area Performance Planning boundaries overlaid.

<b>Land Use by Parcel in Spartanburg County, SC</b>				
<b>Land Use</b>	<b>Parcel Count</b>	<b>Parcel Count %</b>	<b>Area (ac)</b>	<b>Area %</b>
Agriculture	5983	5%	147316	32.6%
Commercial	2118	2%	7679	1.7%
Forestry	1489	1%	65742	14.5%
Industrial	1623	1%	9672	2.1%
Mining	20	0%	834	0.2%
Public/Recreation	1458	1%	20765	4.6%
Residential	93044	83%	162119	35.8%
Vacant Land	9628	9%	38335	8.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>112363</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>452462</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<i>Source: Spartanburg County Assessor Office, 2018. This data excludes those parcels contained within municipalities.</i>				

The Existing Land Use Map reveals that Spartanburg County still has a great deal of vacant land; however, the large, available parcels with close access to major roads, rail, and the airport are being taken down fairly quickly. The majority of the county's largest commercial and industrial uses are located along Interstate 85.

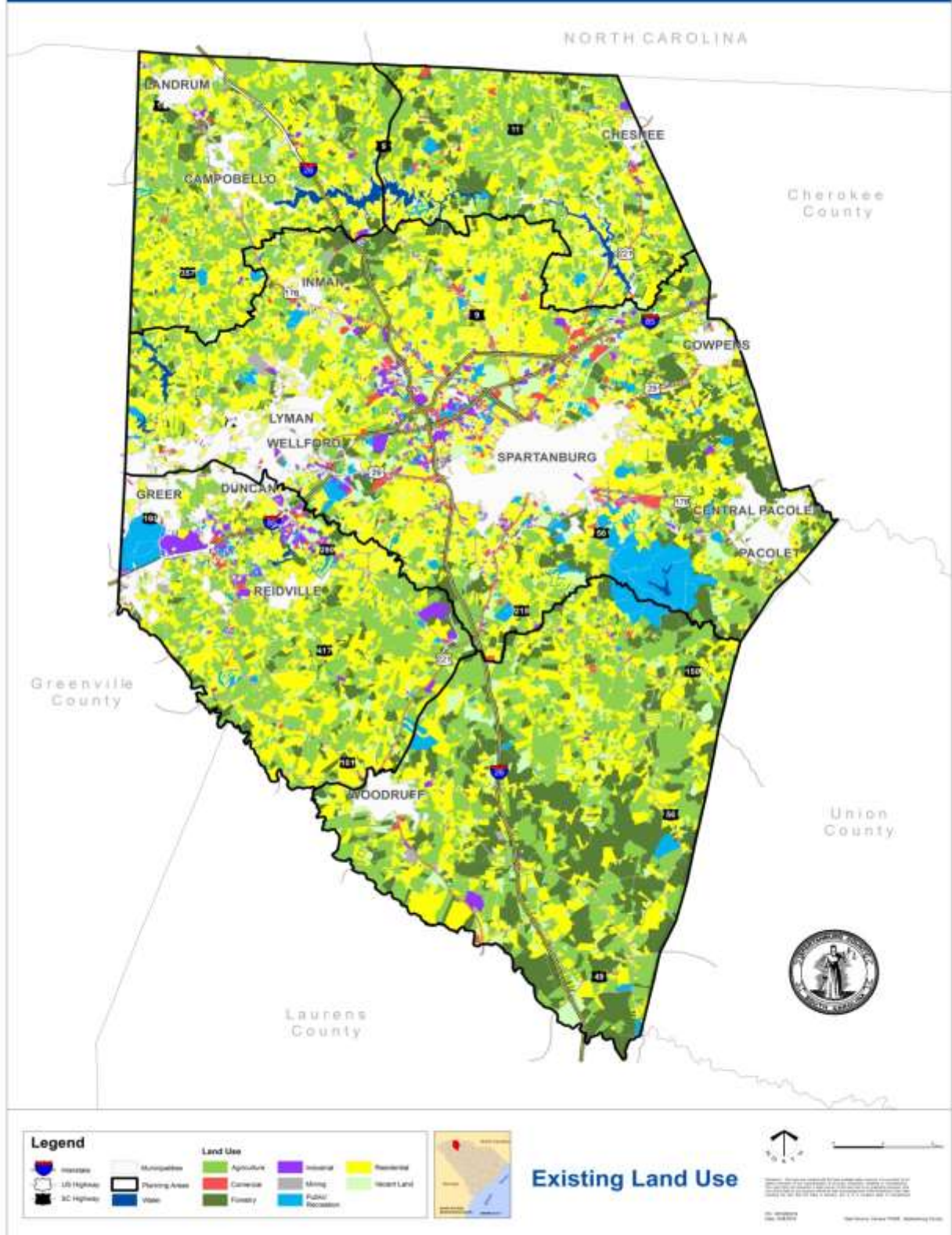
Newer, large industrial and commercial uses are locating on the more recently widened, four-lane highways (like SC 101 and SC 290) mostly in the Southwest Planning Area. The location of the South Carolina Inland Port and the general availability of infrastructure has aided in the location of major businesses and jobs further from Interstate 85. Spartanburg County has carved out a niche for itself in distribution centers due largely to the location of the Inland Port and the rail that transports goods directly to and from the Port of Charleston. If sewer further expands into these areas, so will the industry.

Many of the County’s long-established companies continue to expand and add employees at their current locations closer to the Interstate. The Urban Planning Area contains a great deal of the older, established industrial base. It is these companies, along with small businesses, that add the most jobs to our economy on an annual basis. New development strategies and policies must take this fact into account and ensure that both large and small companies are able to expand in place.

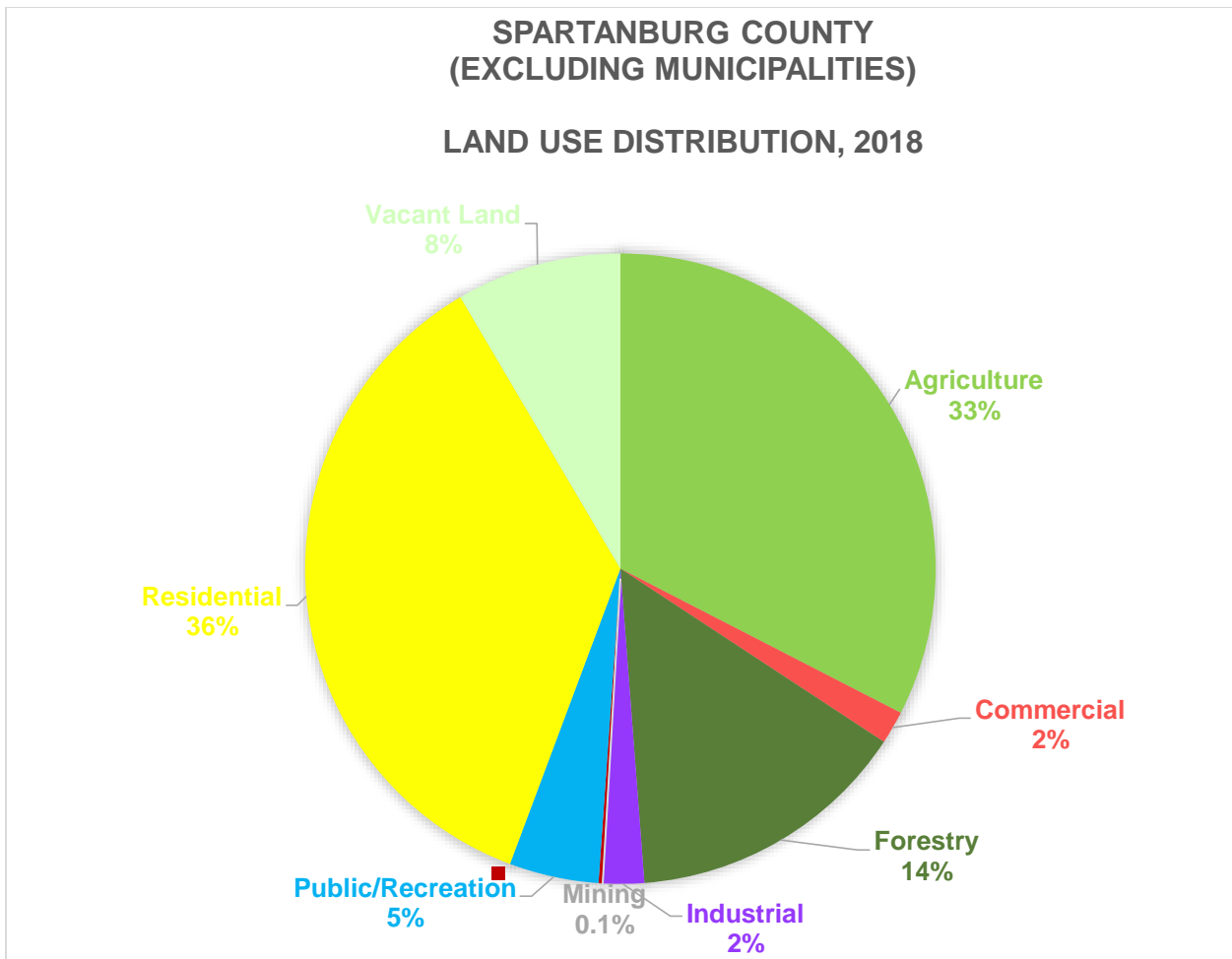
Housing is spread across the County as indicated in yellow on the Existing Land Use Map. The Urban Planning Area contains the denser residential uses. For more information on the distribution of residential uses, please refer to the **Housing Element**. [\[Link\]](#)

# COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2018 - 2035 | Land Use Element | Existing Land Use

Spartanburg County, SC



As shown in the pie chart, the largest land use category currently in the county is residential at 35.8%, followed by agriculture at 32.6% and forestry at 14.5%. Public/Recreation includes uses such as parks, utilities, governmental services, transportation, and public assembly. Keep in mind that these figures only include land in the jurisdiction of Spartanburg County.



**Future Land Use**

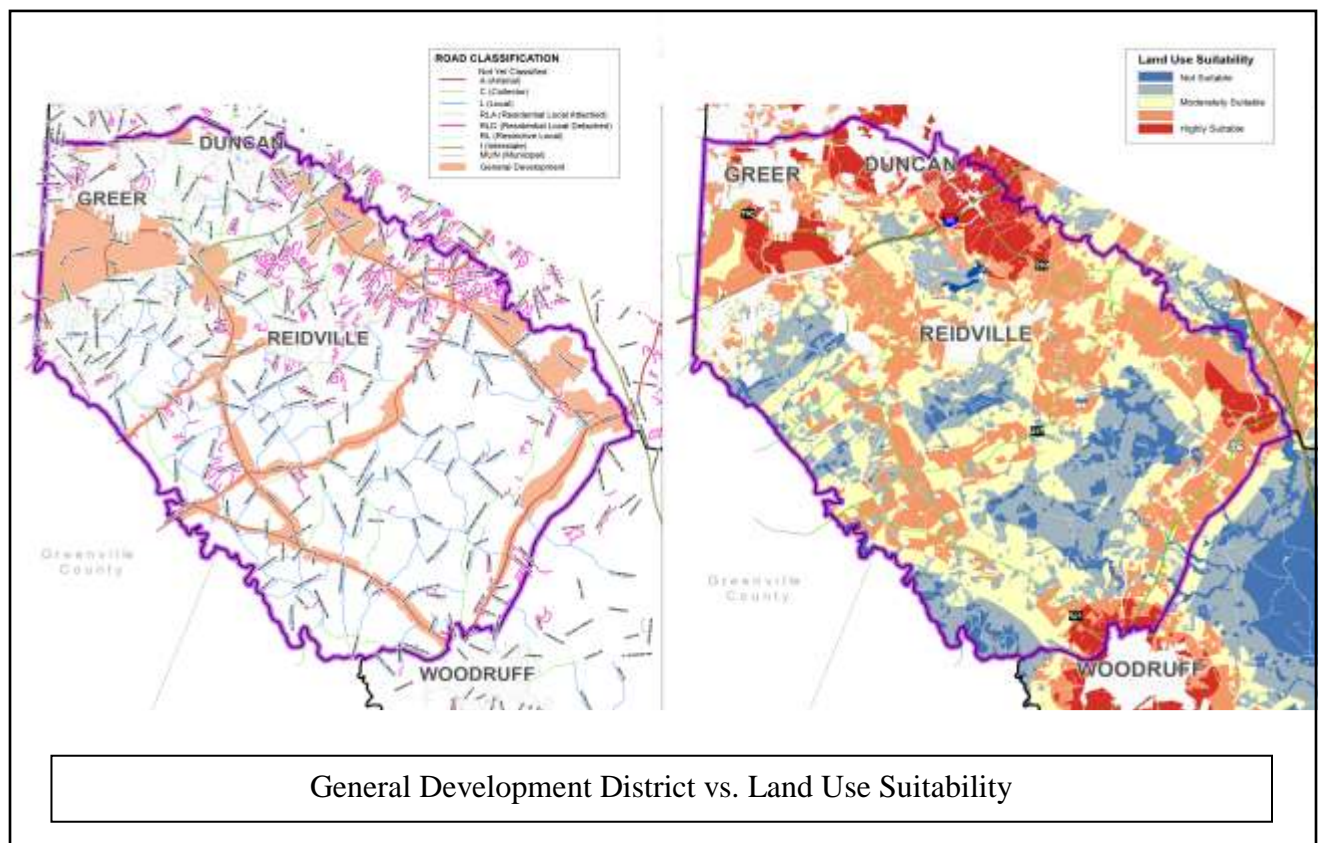
While containing sprawl in Spartanburg County is a formidable challenge, intense uses are attracted to major arterials where the infrastructure to handle them is more likely to exist. There are land use tools that can aid in attracting more intense uses to locate on arterials. Less intense uses are more suited for the local and collector roads that connect them to the arterials. The market closely follows this model in Spartanburg County as it does elsewhere. Industries need proximity to transportation, and commercial businesses need to be located where they will get the traffic to make their businesses feasible. Most residential uses prefer to be located so as to be shielded from the more intense uses whether by distance or by buffers and screening.

Once the County Council has adopted the draft Performance Zoning Ordinance in the Southwest Planning Area, and continues the process through the four remaining planning areas, it is



expected that Future Land Use will closely follow the Land Use Suitability Map shown below since performance zoning allows the market to determine uses as long as compatibility measures can be met. The General Development District in the first map below tracks the industrial/commercial suitability depicted in the Land Use Suitability map. The suitability map takes into account a number of variables that would make property attractive to industrial and business development, including access to water and sewer, adequate roads, the Interstate system, the Inland Port, rail, and the airport. All development will likely avoid steep slopes and floodplains. The red areas are well-suited for industrial and business uses, but as the colors turn pink, then yellow, blue and dark blue, this suitability drops. As the suitability goes down for the more intense uses, it will go up for the less intense uses such as residential and agricultural uses (dark blue and light blue areas), along with some less intense, neighborhood-type business uses.

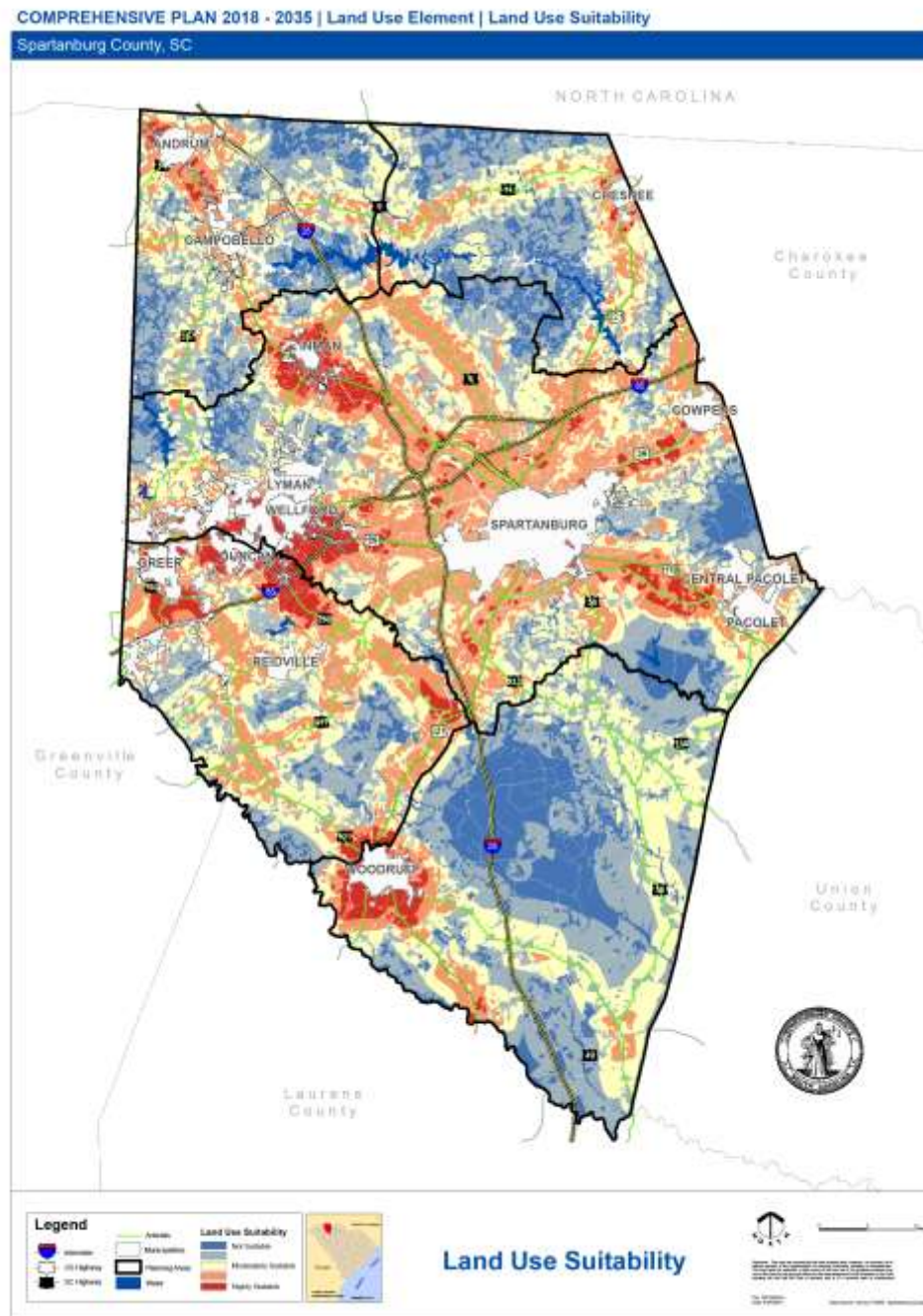
Even though most any use would be allowed on Arterials and Collectors, and to a lesser extent on Local Roads, uses will locate over an extended time period according to what the market will bear and the availability of the land to be utilized. It is important to understand that Spartanburg County's arterials will not develop with wall-to-wall industrial uses just because those uses are allowed. The Upstate area does not have the employee base to support it. There will remain a good mixture of uses on the Arterials and Collectors.



The below countywide Land Use Suitability map shows the market suitability of land across Spartanburg County. It gives us some idea of how the remaining Planning Areas might look

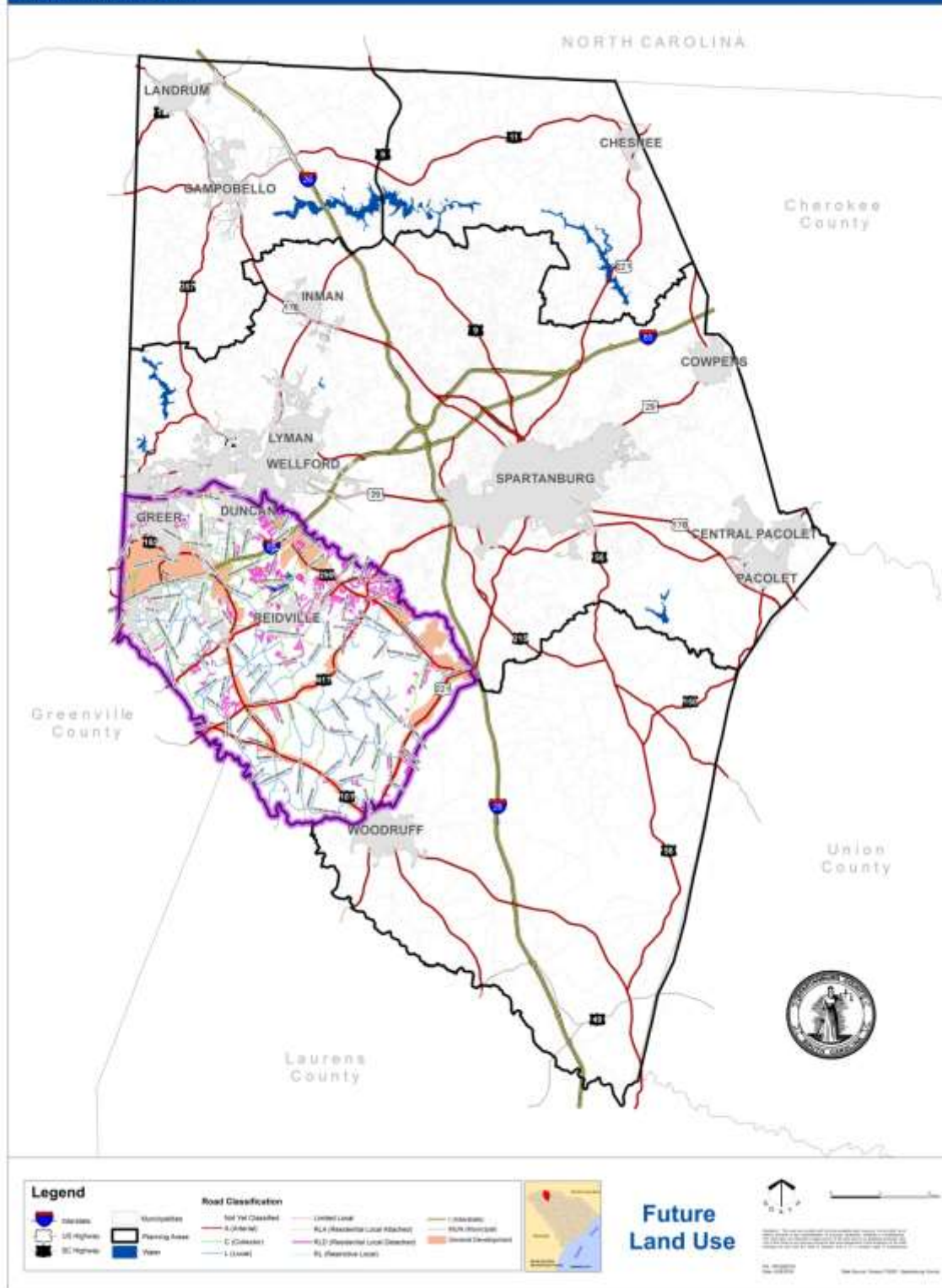


after applying the Area Performance Planning process throughout the County. Further, the Future Land Use Map that follows depicts the General Development District on Arterials in the Southwest Planning Area. Also depicted are the Arterials in the remainder of the County where one would expect the General Development District, and thus the more intense uses, to be located. The Planning and Development Department will update the Future Land Use Map should County Council choose to move forward with Area Performance Planning across the county.



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2018 - 2035 | Land Use Element | Future Land Use

Spartanburg County, SC



## **The Need for New Land Use Policies**

County Council has recognized the need for new land use policies for the County. It has been explained that a strict Euclidean Zoning System that assigns parcel-by-parcel zoning would not be a good fit for Spartanburg County. The assignment of a parcel to a specific use is unrealistic given the size and the growth rate of the County.

The current Unified Land Management Ordinance (ULMO) is outdated and is very difficult to administer given that it is a one-size-fits-all set of requirements that apply evenly across our over 800-square-mile county. Some of the shortcomings identified in the Unified Land Management Ordinance will need to be addressed in new land use policies.

- The ordinance does not allow for mixed use or planned developments which are highly desirable in the market place. State statute is generally interpreted to require a geographically specific zoning ordinance in order to allow for planned developments.
- The ordinance allows for development to occur in areas without adequate infrastructure (roads, water, sewer and storm water management) being in place. This results in the cost of needed infrastructure upgrades (generally roads) being passed on to citizens through property taxes.
- The ordinance does not provide sufficient neighborhood protection for existing property owners, either internally or externally. If covenants expire, residential subdivisions are subject to any land use that will fit on the lot and meet the requirements of the ordinance. Buffers are often varied or are not adequate to protect the neighborhood from noise, light, odors, etc. Even if restrictive covenants are in place in a community, homeowners sometimes do not have the resources to hire an attorney to ensure enforcement.
- Similarly, those wishing to expand industrial properties often encounter issues of insufficient protection for businesses. We find that proposed industrial expansions often cannot meet the setback, parking and bufferyard requirements due to residential encroachment, and thus a variance request is made or the project is abandoned.
- Our current regulations may be discouraging desirable investment from developers considering our market for the first time. People wishing to make investments in the county often do not understand why the county does not have zoning or a typical form of land use regulation, and thus question whether their investment in this County will be protected.
- The ordinance does not promote infill development or redevelopment of existing commercial/industrial sites which would reduce our long term infrastructure costs.
- The ordinance does not provide a method for the protection of historic properties, natural resources, or environmentally sensitive areas other than flood plains. There is no thought given to overlay districts that would help protect what makes Spartanburg County special for tourism, as well as for quality of life for residents.

- The ordinance has “one size fits all” requirements. Many times it is not logical to enforce the same requirements in rural settings that would appropriately be required in an urban area.

New land use policies will need to find a balance somewhere between parcel-by-parcel zoning and our current ordinance. The County Council has given instructions for a process that will instead use a Road Classification system and has been referred to as the “Good Neighbor Ordinance” which will first be introduced in the Southwest Planning Area of the County. There is a plan in process that would also establish new Subdivision Regulations, Road Design Specifications, and amendments to the existing Unified Land Management Ordinance that will continue to apply in the remaining planning areas in the County.

The County Council has opted to use compatibility measures along with a road classification plan which will categorize all roads in the proposed Planning Area of Spartanburg County as an Arterial Road, a Collector Road, or a Local Road. These classifications are based upon a long range look at the ultimate role of that roadway based on its location, design criteria and connectivity.

By using the Road Classification system, development can be flexible to current and future demands. It is important that the location of any activities be done with great attention to compatibility with the surrounding properties in such a way that all parcels remain desirable.

Arterial Roads are roads of regional importance or a main road of the community. They carry traffic from region to region and make up the major road network of the County. These streets/roads are intended to provide for high speed travel between or within communities. The concept of service to abutting land should be subordinate to the provision of travel service and major traffic movement. As we continue to grow, more and more traffic will use these roads as the only way to get from one part of the County to another making access management a vital part of the new land use policy. Some of these roads are also used for travel beginning in other parts of the State and eventually traversing Spartanburg County. A large portion of the traffic on these roadways will come from vehicles travelling through and not due to the activities located on those roads. Although portions of some Arterials may seem residential, in the future these roads will become busier, making the property along these roads less desirable for homes. For that reason, available properties with access along Arterial Roads will be more attractive for non-residential uses.

Collector Roads are major travel routes that connect Local Roads to the highway system and high speed Arterials and provide both land access service and traffic service within residential neighborhoods, commercial and industrial areas. They are generally shorter than Arterials, but are designed for higher speeds and traffic volumes than Local Roads. Therefore, development of land along Collectors should be compatible with high traffic volumes even though that traffic should be lower than that found on Arterials.

Local Roads serve traffic to and from residences and possibly a small amount of low intensity commercial development, and they quite often connect residential streets to Arterials and Collectors.



## **One Spartanburg**

As mentioned, the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce along with some of its partners, have undertaken an economic development element that is far reaching. The end goal is to make Spartanburg County more desirable for economic development and lead to a better quality of life for its citizens. Some issues in common with One Spartanburg are improving, expanding, and preserving trails, gateways, and scenic corridors and ensuring the appearance of our County is appealing. Social offerings, aesthetics, and openness are the three factors that contribute to community attachment as described in the report by the John S. James L. Knight Foundation and Gallup, “Knight Soul of the Community 2010”. The One Spartanburg effort seeks to retain college graduates and skilled workers.

In the Spartanburg County Community Assessment of 2016, One Spartanburg found that manufacturing, transportation and warehousing, and wholesale trade are the most concentrated local business sectors. Public input revealed that Spartanburg County needs to improve “aesthetics and appearance of the community” and “quality of development, planning, and land use.” Blighted properties, underutilized or outdated commercial projects, and key transportation corridors that lack visual appeal were just a few of the issues brought to the forefront of the community conversation.

In particular, One Spartanburg determined that the public desired more multi-family housing options and mixed-use developments that are organized for connectivity from residential to businesses and entertainment.

## **Land Use Goals and Objectives**

1. As the new ordinances are developed for countywide use, promote the compatibility of different land uses as an alternative to completely segregating residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, and other uses from one another.
  - a. Use measurable criteria to limit the impact of adjacent land uses on one another. Some of the major causes of incompatibility are traffic, noise, light, intensity of use, visual impact, and environmental impact.
  - b. Protect existing residential uses (existing prior to the enactment of zoning restrictions in an area) located in areas designated for more intensive nonresidential development.
  - c. Provide the potential for residential development in areas designated for more restrictive development.
  - d. Prohibit nonresidential development from location on roads where the majority of the activities are residential.
  - e. Provide the potential for neighborhood commercial activities to locate within the proximity of residential developments.



- f. Enhance the criteria for visual impact referenced in “a” above through the use of more vegetative solutions. Make available other alternatives such as fencing, walls, and berms as needed.
- g. Explore the use of architectural controls as a mechanism to achieve more mixed-use development with improved visual impact of the new nonresidential development.

*Schedule: It is expected that the Performance Zoning Ordinance will be adopted in all Planning Areas over the next five years and the Unified Land Management Ordinance will be phased out. It is important to add to this list, if needed, as the County moves into other areas.*

2. Adopt Area Performance Planning for the Southwest Planning Area and begin to move into other planning areas with these new ordinances and policies, considering the following:

- a. Make it more attractive to do infill development and redevelopment projects.
- b. Develop overlay districts in appropriate areas such as areas of a specific character, historic areas, natural areas, special access management corridors, etc.
- c. Implement design character that enhances the quality of development along our commercial corridors leading into our county and its municipalities.
- d. Continue to work with residents and stakeholders for input.

*Schedule: It is expected that the Performance Zoning Ordinance will be adopted in all Planning Areas over the next five years and the Unified Land Management Ordinance will be phased out.*

3. Develop GIS layers needed to administer new land-related ordinances. The Planning and Development Department has developed and currently uses a number of GIS shapefiles required for the administration of ordinances. These layers need to be constantly updated and a number of new layers need to be added.

- zoning districts
- road classifications
- consent agreements
- variances
- off-premises signs
- a number of uses (such as cell towers, landfills, junkyards, etc.) that require extended setbacks or spacing per certain ordinance requirements

*Schedule: The Planning and Development Department has begun compiling the necessary information and will continue to update on an ongoing basis.*

4. Acquire software that will provide a common foundation on which the development review and approvals will be handled across all related departments. A county the size of Spartanburg must build a healthy digital infrastructure with all departments on the same page. Some of the key features of the software are: updated development project tracking software, including review, permitting, enforcement and inspections integrated GIS; digital plan submission/review for subdivisions, site plans, building plans, road plans, and storm water plans in a paperless environment where the developer/surveyor can submit drawings from anywhere digitally and receive back comments/marked up drawings from County staff digitally and inspectors can access approved plans in the field; and a citizen/developer portal allowing payments for permits/invoices, entering land use complaints, requesting inspections, checking on the progress of a project (or status of a complaint) online at any time 24/7/365.

*Schedule: Updated development software has been submitted as a Capital Improvement Project for a number of years, but due to budget constraint, the software has not yet been implemented. In order to help make the implementation of new development ordinances successful, it will be necessary for this software to accompany this effort. If it is implemented within the next fiscal year, it will be a vital tool for the employees administering the ordinance as well as the developers trying to keep up with their projects.*

5. Review and amend new ordinances as required in order to keep them relevant.

*Schedule: This will be an ongoing responsibility of the departments who administer the ordinances.*

# Transportation



## Element

*South Carolina Code of Laws (6-29-510): (D) A local comprehensive plan must include . . . (8) a transportation element that considers transportation facilities, including major road improvements, new road construction, transit projects, pedestrian and bicycle projects, and other elements of a transportation network. This element must be developed in coordination with the land use element, to ensure transportation efficiency for existing and planned development . . .*

## Transportation Element Summary

The SC Priority Investment Act of 2007 now requires a stand-alone Transportation Element, separate from the Community Facilities Element, for a community's comprehensive plan.

The Transportation Element, developed in large part from the *2040 SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan* <http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/> and the 2020 priorities of the Spartanburg County Transportation Committee, provide a guide to the vision for what our community's mobility will look like for all transportation modes for the next ten years, over the life of the *Spartanburg County Comprehensive Plan*. This Element is also in concert with the Land Use Element of the *Comprehensive Plan* to ensure transportation efficiency for existing and planned land use development. This guide will help us anticipate and plan for future multi-modal transportation needs, with wise use of finite resources.

### This element includes:

- **An inventory of transportation facilities provided as a base line for land use and transportation planning,**
- **Identification of transportation issues, and**
- **Recommended goals towards addressing those issues, and**
- **The transportation planning process and partnering roles towards addressing those issues.**

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**The Spartanburg metropolitan area needs to be accessible by walking, bicycling, public transportation, and automobile. Mobility is important, but so are safety, commerce, and creating a well-connected transportation network that improves living and working environments – for us and for the people who will inherit the results of our decisions.**

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## Purpose of Transportation Element Subelements

The **Roadways SubElement** focuses on the mobility needs for users of roadway facilities including vehicle traffic, bicyclists, pedestrians, and persons using other non-motorized travel. The Roadways Element also addresses the priorities of Spartanburg County for the county roadway network and other infrastructure as part of the road, such as sidewalks, crosswalks, and bike lanes integral for safety.

The **Active Transportation SubElement** focuses on improving the environment for bicyclists and pedestrians by planning healthier and enjoyable travel options to get to work, school, and other destinations.

The **Transit SubElement** focuses on public transportation and addressing multi-modal connections to this important mobility option to capture potential riders.

The **Freight, Rail, and Aviation SubElement** focuses on issues confronting state, private, rail and inland port freight as well as air travel.

The Transportation Element also addresses regional transportation issues such as maintenance, connectivity and safety, gateway beautification, and air quality/environmental constraints.

### **Federally Required 3-C Approach**

In addition to the 3-C (continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated) approach for planning transportation programs, the FAST Act federal transportation legislation outlines several planning factors that must be considered during the planning process. The following eleven planning factors are used to guide development of the plan: Economic Vitality, Safety, Security, Accessibility/Mobility, Environment, Connectivity, Efficiency, System Preservation, System Resiliency/Reliability, Stormwater Impacts on Surface Transportation, and Travel/Tourism, with the latter three being newly added from the FAST Act legislation. Also passed along from MAP-21 legislation, the FAST Act focuses on transportation planning decision making that is performance based. This means agencies involved in transportation will invest resources in projects that are tied to targets that make progress toward these national goals for a “performance-driven, outcome-based approach to planning.”

Development of the best possible transportation plan for the Spartanburg urban area requires more than addressing problems of an engineering nature. In addition to transportation engineering problems, there are economic, social, and environmental issues that must by law be addressed. The SPATS Policy Committee and the SPATS Study (or “technical”) Team were organized to create a balanced response to these concerns. *The last section of the Transportation Element gives more detail on our local transportation planning process.*

### **Diverse transportation networks help meet safety, mobility, livability, environmental, and economic vitality goals.**

For example, intersection safety is a very important national, state and local goal. We want to redesign them to make them safer for all users and more efficient, especially when user volumes are high causing delay. Roundabouts have statistically been proven to be much more safe than conventional intersections, and if there is enough right-of-way, the preferred design in many cases. A combination of strategies is key to the best design. SPATS has programmed multiple intersection improvement projects as we cannot afford a major widening project at this time, achieving the “best bang for the buck” across the County.

### **The Overall Vision for Transportation**

*“The Spartanburg metropolitan area needs to be accessible by walking, bicycling, public transportation, and automobile. Mobility is important, but so are safety, commerce, and creating a well-connected transportation network that improves living and working environments – for us and for the people who will inherit the results of our decisions.”*



Congestion issues either now or in the future are not driving many of the desired changes to the streetscape in our area. Public comment focus is mostly on the need to better maintain our current infrastructure, reduce crashes, manage access, improve aesthetics, and generally create roadway corridors that are supportive of economic revitalization. Resiliency also is important so our roadway network can handle damage from storms, as we have learned first-hand recently.

**A balanced land use-transportation planning approach will help us facilitate the movement of people and goods in a manner that will allow our community to be:**

- **Safely connected,**
- **Efficiently mobile,**
- **Economically accountable, and**
- **Environmentally conscious.**

**Safely Connected: (Directly addressing “SAFETY” and “WELL-CONNECTED” from the VISION)**

Addressing safety is crucial to providing a balance in transportation. A highway may provide key connections for vehicle travel, but could be challenging to pedestrians or bicyclists crossing corridors. To plan for this, we continue to support active living and mass transit to expand transportation options for our citizens.

Vital connections to economic activity centers and destinations have been facilitated by widened highways that have proactively provided good access to Interstates 26 and 85, the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport, and the Inland Port. However, traffic congestion on major highways can be a barrier to access, causing drivers to be forced to choose different travel routes. More access management (designing the roadway for safe, efficient traffic flow) will be crucial to land use development and transportation planning for the future. Applying access management strategies to corridors prone to development (especially corridors with multiple lanes, high crash rate, strip development, etc.), will improve safety and mobility for all drivers and users of our transportation infrastructure.

### **Complete Streets and Active Transportation Connectivity**

Legitimate transportation conduits are created by connecting existing trails or side paths with on-road facilities such as bike lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks and pedestrian refuges. When intertwined, they work together to give residents a safe mobility choice, allowing trips without a vehicle. With a commitment to completing a network of multi-modal transportation linkages, our community can support a variety of land uses and allow an unprecedented balance of growth and quality of life.

The recent *One Spartanburg* effort identified that quality of life improvements and place enhancements such as trails, bike paths and sidewalk connections are vital to better talent attraction and recruitment. Therefore, a focus on Complete Streets/Streetscape improvements to

connect urban/suburban activity nodes will encourage a network of safe mobility for a better quality of life. Providing beautification/streetscape improvements to permit a more active, mixed-use “life-style center” environment will add to the attractiveness of our area and encourage those who choose a great town first and then a job. Amenities such as trails and a great downtown with lots of things to do and be entertained with is what young people are looking for now, as well as baby boomers. Continuing to market active transportation through recreational and cultural/heritage tourism will also bring lasting economic vitality to our area. Phillip Langdon’s new book *Within Walking Distance* reflects on Jane Jacobs’ quote on the importance of sidewalks. This book highlights towns that have sidewalk ordinances and maintenance plans that have helped them, in Langdon’s terms, over time create extensive connected streets” and made it a priority to build on the basis of “relating to the human eye, human size, and human gait.” This reminds us of Jacobs’ statement that “sidewalks are more than just the facility, they are places where people feel comfortable spending time – gathering spots, not just thoroughfares.” Having more time and opportunities to interact with family and friends is the basis of livability. These communities chose to design with this in mind.

Learning from the housing/economic crash of 2007/2008 which practically stopped development in its tracks, these towns took action after seeing that the walkable communities Americans were most interested in were not suburban traditional neighborhood development as much as they were downtowns. The trend was “building up” instead of “building out” such as developing infill hotels or apartments in downtown, redeveloped industrial sites (“greyfields” or former textile mills and first-ring suburbs revivals. We have seen it is not just the millenials who are coming back to live in the places they can eat, drink a beverage, visit and be entertained within walking distance of their homes, but the baby boomers also. We want to be ready.

### **Efficiently Mobile: (Directly addressing “MOBILITY” and “ACCESSIBLE” from the VISION)**

In addition to “doing more with less” and addressing an acceptable level of service for all modes, the following three themes have emerged: **Cost-Effective Roadway Improvements, Complete Streets and Active Transportation Connectivity, and Strategic Corridor Capacity.**

We can build upon the current list of priority intersection improvements developed by SPATS, in close coordination with SCDOT and the CTC. We can continue to pool our funding to build intersections, interchange and roadway re-design treatments which improve safety and operation. With a strategic corridor approach, we can focus roadway widening to those facilities that are truly underperforming (volume-to-capacity ratio higher than 1) and minimize right-of-way takings by applying design exceptions to corridor retrofits.

We can continue to make Complete Streets and Transit an important part of moving people from one place to another whether they are visitors or residents. The lower densities and relatively congestion-free conditions make traditional, fixed-route public transportation a harder sell in most parts of the planning region. The needs still exists to plan ahead to prepare for more congestion as the population grows. Continuing to invest in infrastructure that makes connections between existing trails and paths will allow us to complete networks that give us mobility options. Park and ride lots provide for more efficient and economical travel and ride-sharing options are growing rapidly, such as Uber and Lyft. Self-driving cars and trucks are

where technology meets mobility. Mobile apps make choosing the mode of travel on a day-to-day basis, perhaps even multiple times a day, very convenient, but there is so much more potential as we build better on-time travel information.

SPATS continues to work on a regional plan with GPATS (Greenville-Pickens Area Transportation Study) <http://gpats.org/> and other partners to create an express service to the GSP Airport/BMW area, including one stop at a future park-and-ride location in the vicinity of Greer and work to increase the frequency of bus service on existing routes within Spartanburg. The hope is to build a regional, high-quality transit service connecting the two main cities, the City of Greer, GSP International Airport, and the rapidly growing agglomeration of supporting industries and spinoff companies.

The picture of Freight/Rail/Aviation is changing rapidly in Spartanburg County. A continued partnership with the Inland Port will provide for rapidly growing activity and improved transportation logistics, including reductions in “turn times.” The Panama Canal expansion will change our transportation and distribution industry. Goods delivery is becoming more efficient and innovative. Increased population and employment that is continuing, and although beneficial economically, are creating localized and general traffic congestion, especially truck traffic. We need to balance the mobility needs for all and plan ahead.

The Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport continues to pursue an Automated Transportation Network or “people mover” project to help link different parts of the airport campus and surrounding properties. This type of service could integrate favorably as a shuttle system to a regional transit service.

The future possibility of Southeast High Speed Rail continues to move forward in the Charlotte to Atlanta. SPATS and Spartanburg County is working more closely with state representatives from S.C., N.C., VA., GA., and FL to forward Regional Rail Planning for the Southeast.

We have a challenge to be mindful of our traditional methods of mobility, but be open to the future and the new innovations and challenges it brings. Striking mobility balance now for the good of the next generation will be our best bet.

### **Economically Accountable: (Directly addressing “COMMERCE” from the VISION)**

Funding is always a challenge in addressing transportation needs, and sustaining the amount of funding needed to properly maintain the investments we have will always be key.

Major highway projects are currently few and far between due to financial constraints. Federal funding is generally decreasing with respect to inflation-adjusted costs. State motor vehicle user fee at the current level cannot fund large projects. Although a statewide motor vehicle user fee has been passed recently, we will not see the benefits right away. The Spartanburg County Roads and Bridges Department currently has only a third of the funding levels needed to maintain the roadway’s asphalt surface. SC has been a net donor state to the National Highway Trust Fund, which receives funds from the federal motor vehicle revenue. Therefore, as some states bring in more federal motor vehicle revenue than others, SC receives less in federal motor vehicle revenue reimbursements than it takes in.

We simply cannot afford major widening projects at this time to be fiscally responsible. However, smaller, more cost-effective projects have been successful to address transportation improvements throughout a region, such as intersection and operational improvements. Our challenge is also to make transportation **affordable** to more people. This is a day to day struggle for many residents, and as we continue to grow, we need more transportation choices.

**Environmentally Conscious: (Directly addressing “IMPROVE LIVING AND WORK ENVIRONMENTS” from the VISION)**

Even as transportation projects improve mobility, safety and accessibility, they can have the potential to negatively impact environmental features or sensitive populations. Each federally funded project is required to go through a streamlined environmental assessment. By considering sensitive environmental features and populations, impacts resulting from transportation projects can be addressed early, leading to solutions that are widely accepted by the public and minimize negative impacts as much as possible. Transportation improvement projects can, if built correctly, mitigate flooding issues.

A regional working group comprised of stakeholders from across the Upstate 10-county region has been working for many years to educate residents, businesses, local governments, and organizations on emissions sources across the region.

Through the Early Action Compact (EAC) process, the region has successfully set the foundation, along with increased industrial regulations and improved vehicle emissions standards, for the decline in ozone emissions. The focus is on specific emission-reducing initiatives to help lower the emission levels in the region. Multiple coalitions throughout the state now bring air quality to the forefront, with DHEC coordinating at the state level.

I-85 Congestion Management Project has allowed the partnership between SCDOT and DHEC electrified truck parking so that the trucks do not have to run their engines during their naps. The development of the Inland Port and intermodal connections to rail have been quite an economic boost for our area. Rail is an environmentally friendly way to move freight for long distances at a higher capacity. Noise pollution, harmful effects on air quality and other environmental impacts are reduced.

More detail can be found in the full Transportation Element.

**GOALS** and Objectives for Transportation can be found in the **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN** section.

## Transportation Element

### Roadways

Historically, the Spartanburg region was characterized by a mix of farmland, agricultural land, and textile mills. Many of the highways in the county were originally intended to be two-lane, farm-to-market roads. New development over the past few decades has transformed many of these once-country roads to major transportation corridors, and with this comes access and safety concerns for all users. Planning for a balanced transportation network now will serve the transportation needs of residents and visitors without compromising the rural heritage and small-town atmosphere valued in this region.

### The System

The SPATS region is served by two interstate highways, I-85 and I-26, and three major US Routes –US 29, US 221, and US 176, maintained on the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) system.

I-85 provides regional connections to Atlanta and Charlotte and to the northeastern US and runs northeast/southwest through upstate South Carolina.

I-26 provides regional connections to Johnson City, TN, and Asheville, NC. The corridor runs northwest/southeast through the state, terminating in Charleston, SC.

US 29 parallels I-85 and SC 85 (formerly Business 85) and serves many of the functions as I-85, as well as linking the cities of Greer, Lyman, Duncan, Wellford, Spartanburg, and Cowpens. US 176 generally runs parallel to I-26 north of I-85. This route links Asheville and Tryon in NC to the Spartanburg County towns and cities of Landrum, Inman, Spartanburg, and Pacolet. US 221 parallels I-26 to the south of I-26, and connects Rutherfordton, NC to Spartanburg and Woodruff.

SC 85 (formerly Business 85) and I-585 provide access through the Spartanburg urban area.



The SCDOT maintains approximately 3280 lane miles total in Spartanburg County, including:

- 394 miles of US routes
- 392 miles of interstate
- 760 miles of SC routes, and
- 1743 miles of secondary routes

Spartanburg County government is responsible for approximately 1720 miles of roads, and the municipalities combined maintain approximately 268 miles of roads, with the City of Spartanburg maintaining 60% of roads compared to the other municipalities in the County.



The County Road System also consists of approximately 155 bridges, and over 80,000 traffic/street signs and multiple drainage structures.

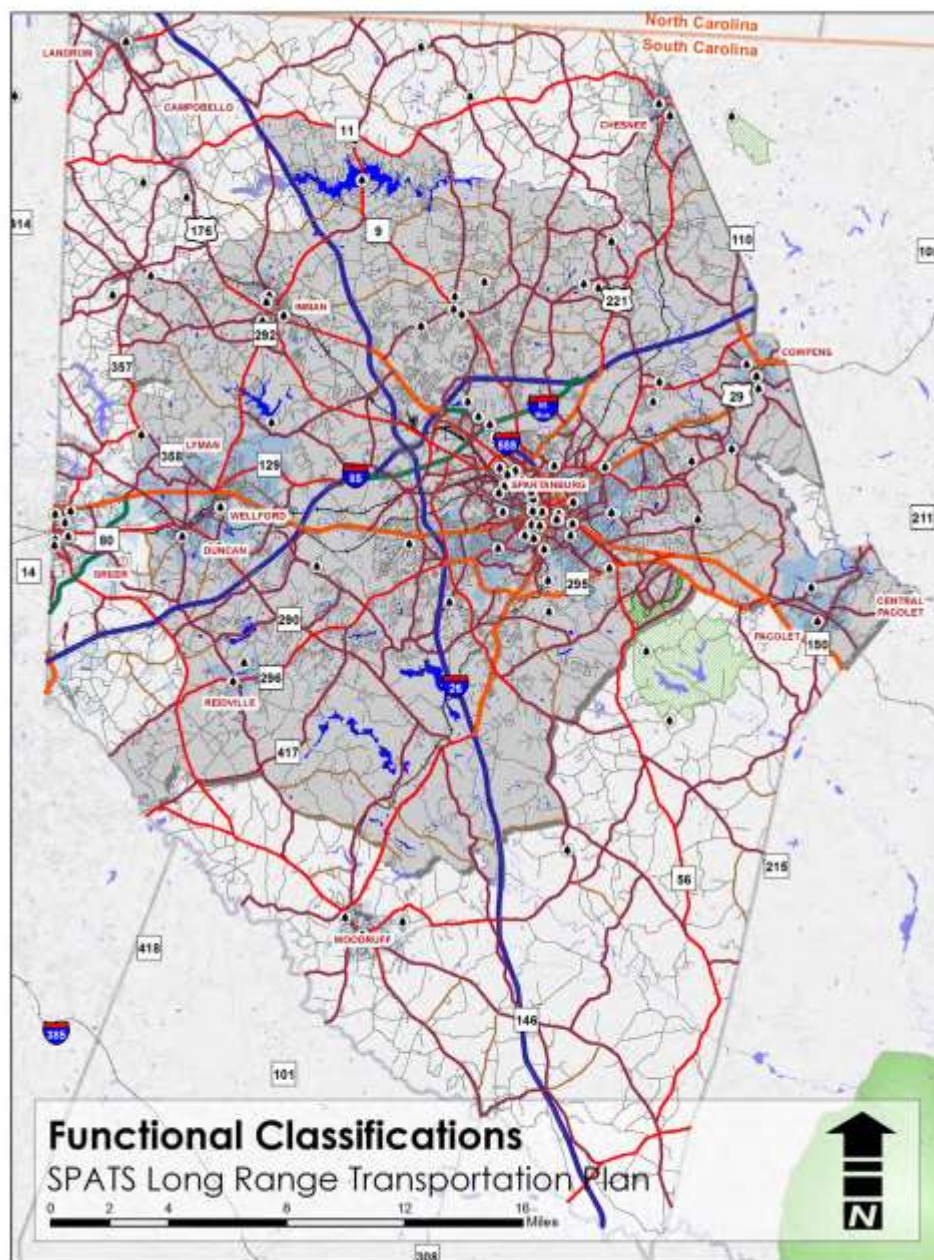
### Functional Classifications

Functional Classification is our guide to the use of the transportation system and planning for responsible future land use development.

The following map depicts the current Functional Classifications in Spartanburg County.

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/>

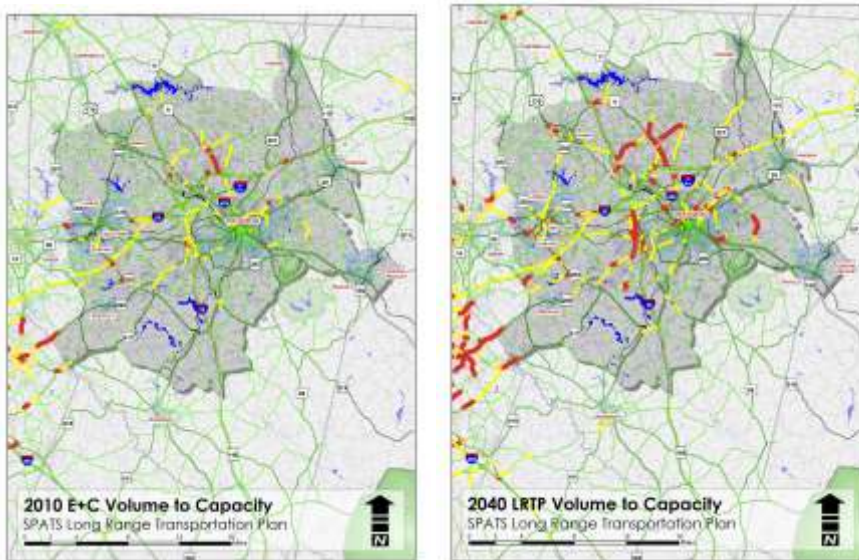
Part 1, page 31



## Congestion

A 92% increase in regional congested corridors from 2010 to 2040 is anticipated, climbing from 5.4 miles to 27.7 miles, illustrated in the following maps. If no other road projects are implemented, this represents a 41% increase in delay in 2040 compared to 2010. Most congestion issues have been addressed through the roadway projects recommended by the Long-Range Transportation Plan link below. More detail on the performance of the roadway system is also located in this section.

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/>  
page 33-37



## Traffic counts

SPATS uses traffic counts conducted by SCDOT required for the continued validation of the computerized travel demand model network and apportionment of funds for our area. Annual average daily traffic (AADT) counts are a useful and simple way to measure the amount of traffic on a particular road, calculated as the total volume of vehicle traffic of a road for one year divided by 365 days. They are organized by traffic count stations, which are the specific location points along a road where these counts are recorded.

The most up-to-date traffic counts are available on the SCDOT website at:

<http://www.scdot.org/getting/trafficcounts.aspx>

## Commuting Patterns

During the Long-Range Transportation Plan process survey, over 42% of professional drivers in the area said they were either “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with their travel times.

2010 Census Data reveals 47,168 residents of the SPATS area live and work in the study area, 49,168 workers commute to the area from outside the study area, and 39,702 leave the study area for work.

- 102,194 (85% of) residents drive to work
- 11,902 (9.9% of) residents carpool

- 3,126 (2.6% of) residents work from home
- 1,924 (1.6% of) residents walk to work
- 601 (.5% of) residents take a taxi, motorcycle, or other means of travel
- 361 (.3%) residents take public transportation to work
- 120 (.1 % of) residents bike to work

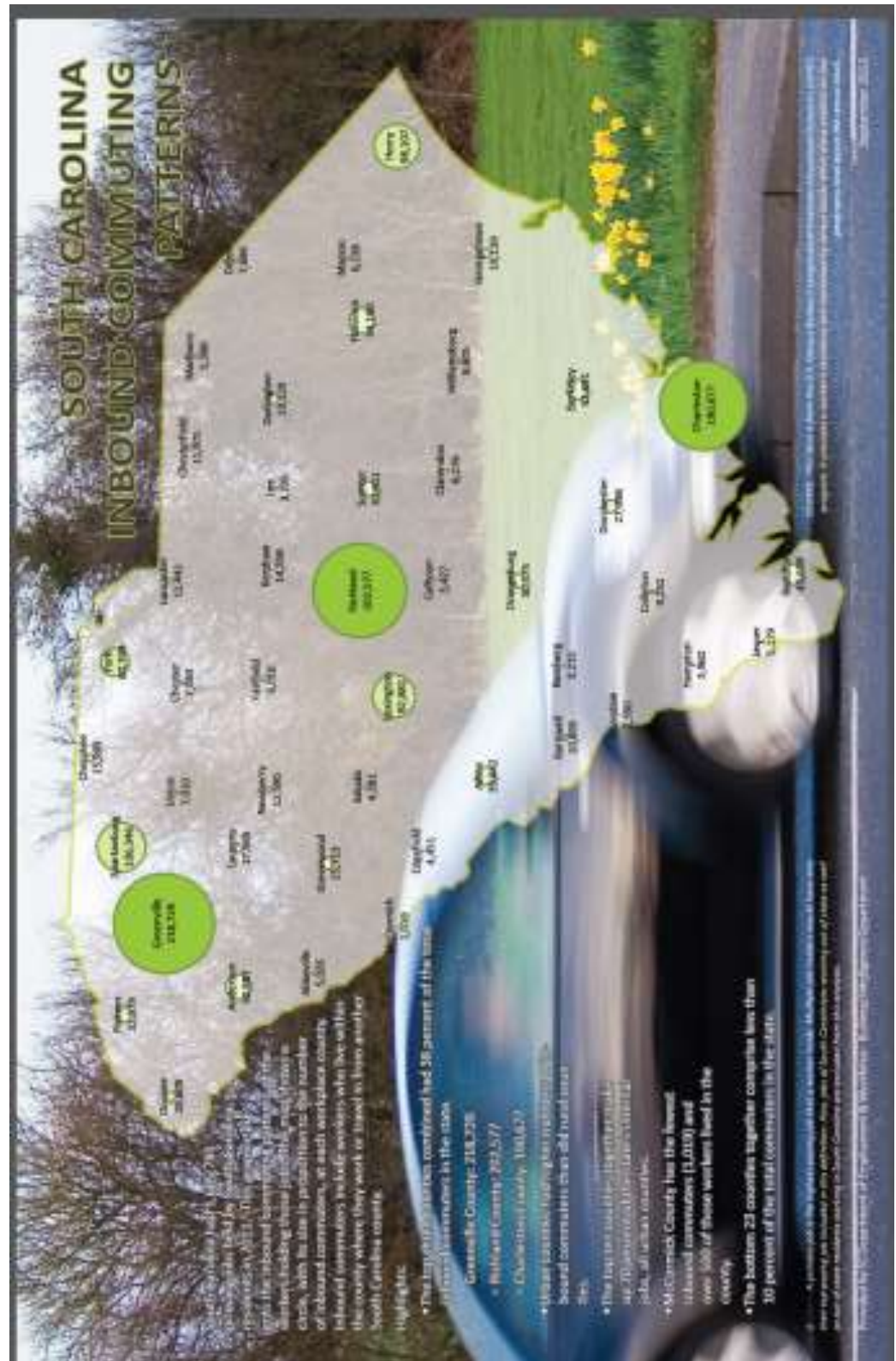


Commuting Inflow and Outflow Patterns (2010 Census)

### Statewide Inbound Commuting Patterns

Spartanburg 4<sup>th</sup> largest number of inbound commuters in the state.



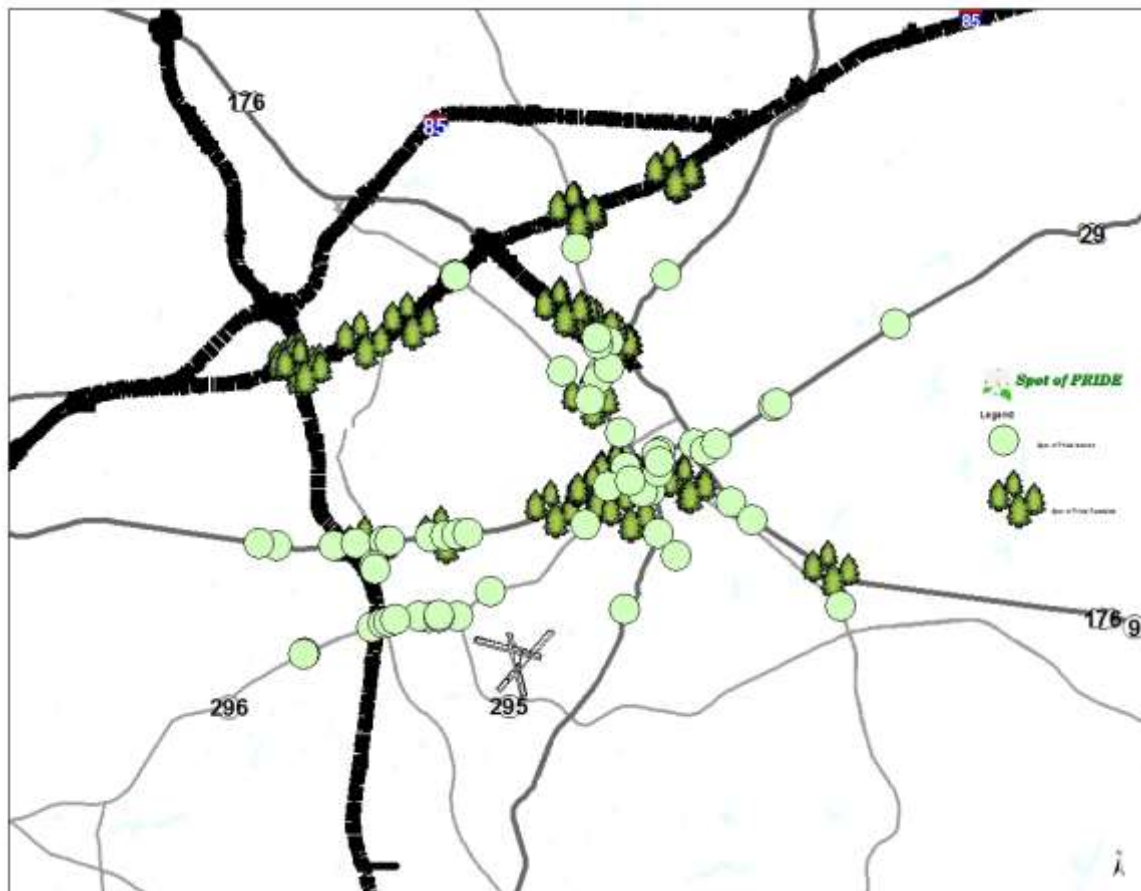


## Gateway Beautification

### Spots of Pride

Public-private partnerships which share the goal of community beautification continue to bring pride and economic vitality to the area. The most recognizable program, the local “Spot of Pride” program, is coordinated by the City of Spartanburg and the Spot of Pride Board and has expanded to approximately 88 beautified median or roadside “spots” throughout the area. Other groups which have made beautification a priority include, but are certainly not limited to – the Noble Tree Foundation, Men’s Garden Club, Trees Coalition, Group of 100, Boiling Springs Beautification Council, Eyes on 85, and the Graffiti Foundation.

Significant community beautification projects have continued despite this area’s loss of federal funding allocation, formerly called “enhancement” funding. Stand-alone landscaping projects are no longer eligible for these monies and must be implemented through the SCDOT encroachment permit process. The enduring commitment from citizens, civic groups, business and industry, educational institutions, and government for these changes reflects a positive statement about our collective community image.







Other public-private partnerships have created more extensive landscape beautification to the point they are truly “GATEWAYS” in areas where you enter Spartanburg County or in areas easily seen by the traveling public. The attractive landscaping at I-85 and SC 14 includes a prominent Spartanburg County seal sign and announces the traveler’s entrance into Spartanburg County from Greenville County. The California Avenue bridge along I-585 featuring landscaping, signage as well as keystone and added color to the bridge announces the entrance to the City

limits of Spartanburg. Many of the municipalities in Spartanburg County have invested in wayfinding and gateway signs with attractive landscaping. Additional landscapes are planned at other entrances to our County from adjacent counties.

These improvements make a positive impact on the transportation network and are simply “good business.” They also impress visitors, encouraging a return trip to our area.

#### National and State Scenic Byways Program and State Bike Route **Cherokee Foothills National Scenic Byway**

The longest and best known scenic byway in South Carolina, the Cherokee Foothills National Scenic Byway (SC 11) offers a slow-paced 118-mile long detour off I-85 from Exit 92 in Gaffney to Exit 1 at the SC-GA border. Featured often in many publications and shows, the route runs from the City of Gaffney in Cherokee County to the Town of West Union in Oconee County. [http://www.scdot.org/getting/scenic\\_byways/index.aspx](http://www.scdot.org/getting/scenic_byways/index.aspx)



Views of the Blue Ridge Mountains can be seen in four counties along the route, named for the ancestral home of the Cherokee. In addition to mountain views, there are multiple opportunities to enjoy orchards and farms, multiple parks and unique towns. Bring back the “Sunday Drive” and search for a special handmade craft, hike a trail to a waterfall, or explore history – there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Our Upstate SC has a link to the attractions you will find along the route: <http://www.ourupstatesc.info/cherokee-foothills-highway-offers-scenic.php>

#### **Northern Crescent Statewide Bike Route**

The Cherokee Foothills National Scenic Byway (SC 11) is also the **Northern Crescent Statewide Bike Route**. The Northern Crescent features 364 miles of mountain views, scenic valleys, small towns and countryside from Cherry Grove Beach, SC to Oakway, SC and connects to the other five SC regional bike routes. The link to the SC Bicycle Touring Guide features maps and information on all SC Bike Routes including the Northern Crescent.

<https://jimstrailresources.wordpress.com/south-carolina-bicycle-touring-guide/>



Bike tours and special events are becoming a more and more popular way to enjoy our state and our beautiful weather. Many state parks, campgrounds, and nature areas are popular overnight stays important to our ecotourism.

SC 11 is also the driving route of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail, which is another form of protection for the corridor. (see the Cultural Resources Element for more detail).

### **Cowpens Battlefield State Scenic Byway**

[http://www.scdot.org/getting/scenic\\_byways/index.aspx](http://www.scdot.org/getting/scenic_byways/index.aspx)

The Cowpens Battlefield State Scenic Byway runs 9 miles from the Town of Cowpens in Spartanburg County to SC 11 at the Cowpens Battlefield in Cherokee County. The route is also known as SC 110 or “Battleground Road.”

Maps and link to the SCDOT Scenic Byways program, application, and statewide committee:

[http://www.scdot.org/getting/scenic\\_byways/index.aspx](http://www.scdot.org/getting/scenic_byways/index.aspx)

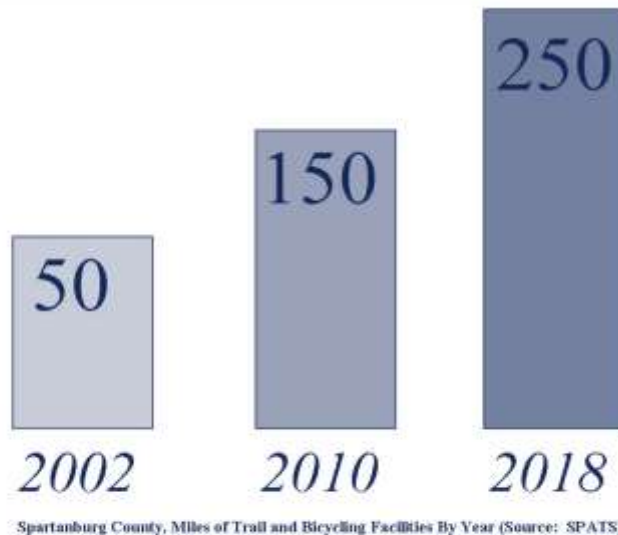
## **Active Transportation**

Active Transportation is needed for a diverse transportation network to meet safety, mobility, livability, environmental, and economic goals. Providing travel options brings added benefits of enhancing citizens’ health and creating enjoyable options for commuting to jobs, services, and entertainment. Active transportation is an inexpensive travel option compared to the cost it takes to maintain a car. Trails and paths are a very desired amenity vital to the health of a community.

Infographic on Active Transportation:

<http://spatsmpo.org/information/news/infographic-on-active-transportation/>

The SPATS study area currently has almost 250 miles of trails and bike paths in the form of both on-road facilities such as bike lanes, off-road greenway trails and blueways (kayak trails).



SPATS maintains an interactive outdoor transportation list that include amenities.

<http://spatsmpo.org/transportation-list/>

A full review of our active transportation facilities is included in the 2016 *SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan*, Active Transportation Section, at the following link. The SPATS LRTP also includes detail on the progress of Active Transportation, including planning, programming, and projects since the last Comprehensive Plan.

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/>, Part 2

Existing Trails in the Spartanburg *urban area* are also mapped as part of the 2013 *Spartanburg Urban Trails and Greenway Plan* at the following link on the Partners for Active Living website, represented by the green line:

<http://www.active-living.org/greenways-and-trail-plans>

The **Palmetto Trail** has and continues to connect our communities with an alternative route of travel. The state-wide trail passes through parts of many counties in South Carolina, but we are fortunate that the Trail traverses Spartanburg County.

<http://palmettoconservation.org/palmetto-trail/map/>

Please find an full overview of the Existing Greenway Trails and Blueways in the Community Facilities Element, Recreation section.

**Downloadable Trail Maps on the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau site:**

Historic Downtown Walking Tour

A Tour of Textile Town

Revolutionary War Tour

Farm Tour

Spartanburg Music Trail

Croft State Park Trail Map  
Cottonwood Trail Map  
Bicycle Maps  
Holston Creek Park Maps  
Geocache Trail Maps (Historic Cowpens, Greater Inman and the Countywide Library System)  
<http://www.visitspartanburg.com/about/downloads.html>

## **Bicycle Infrastructure**

Bike parking and bike stations:

BCycle<https://spartanburg.bcycle.com/> has 5 bike rental stations in Spartanburg County and almost 200 bike racks are available for bike parking at destinations throughout Spartanburg County. Please find a full overview of Bicycle Infrastructure in the Community Facilities Element, Recreation section.



## **Data Collection**

SPATS continues its work to collect Bicycle and Pedestrian User Counts throughout the SPATS area through the Trail Counter Program. Monitoring of the counters as well as management of the data is coordinated by Partners for Active Living. See a full overview of Data Collection for Pedestrian and Bicycling facilities in the Community Facilities Element, Recreation section.

## **Transit**

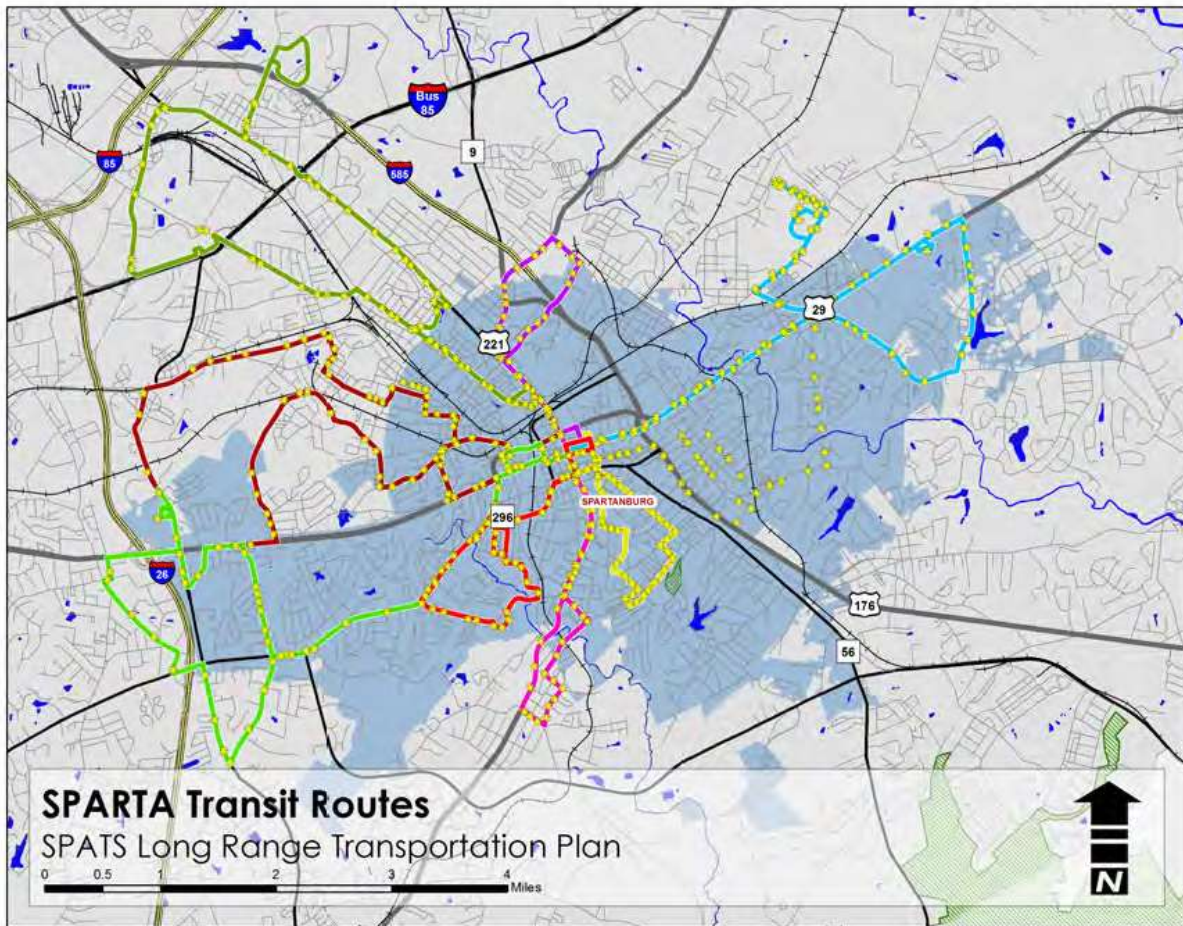
Public transportation is crucial for access to employment, services, and health care destinations, especially for those with lower incomes and special needs. Two transit systems which utilize public funds are provided in Spartanburg County -a fixed-route bus service, Spartanburg Regional Transit Agency (SPARTA), and a county-wide demand-response service, Spartanburg County Transportation Service Bureau, operated by Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System. SPARTA (Fixed Route System)

SPARTA plays a necessary role in providing daily transportation for people to get to work, shop and seek medical services or recreation.

SPARTA operates out of the Downtown Passenger Center on N. Liberty Street with a thirty to sixty minute frequency and provides approximately 458,000 passenger trips per year on eight fixed routes. This facility serves as an indoor transfer point for passengers to travel between different routes covering different areas of the city. The combination of the local and express services is beneficial to the transit passengers that utilize the system.

More detail on routes, fare structure, as well as trend data including passenger miles, funding levels, expenses are at the following link: <http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/> , page 92.





All SPARTA buses are equipped with bicycle racks. Also, a low-cost, door-to-door Paratransit van service is available to help meet the needs of mobility impaired residents in our area. For more information, please see the SPARTA webpage at <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/sparta>. The SPARTA administrative and maintenance facility is located near the downtown airport. It serves as a facility to provide vehicle maintenance and overnight storage for the operations fleet. It also serves as the facility for the administrative staff to provide support services.

### **TSB (Demand Response System)**

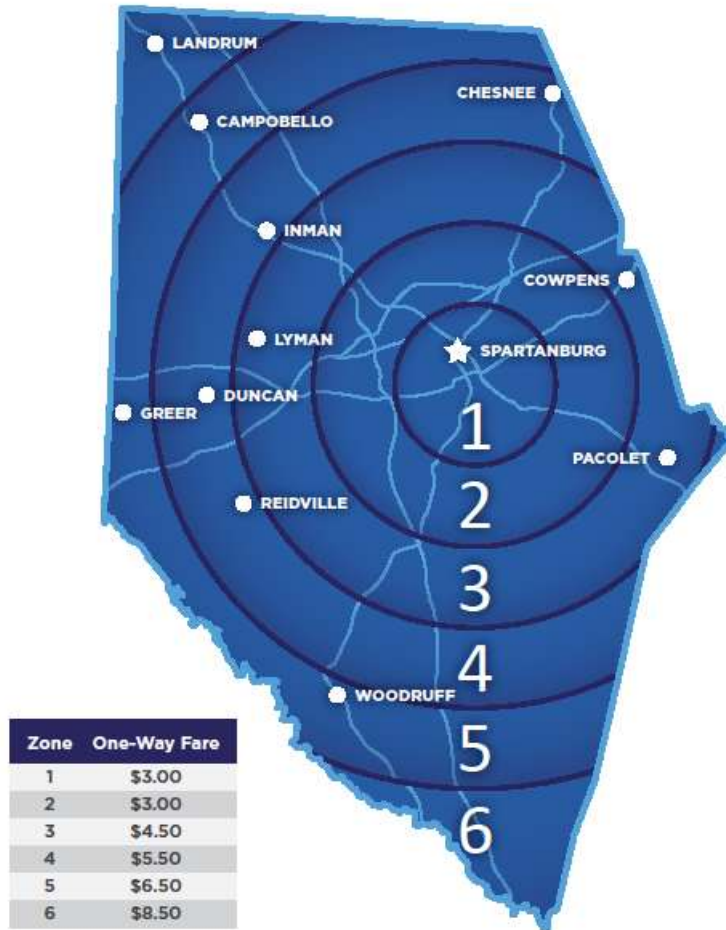
The Transportation Service Bureau at Spartanburg Regional Health System, Inc. <https://www.spartanburgregional.com/community/transportation-services/> has operated a Consolidated Transportation Service since 1990. This service consolidated the transit services of approximately half of the 15 health and human service agencies, which had provided such services, to provide a more cost efficient system. Service is provided county-wide and fares range from \$3.00 to \$8.50 depending on the user's proximity to the center of the County. Users should call for service 24 hours in advance. Efforts at consolidation are continuing through purchase of service contracts and through expanded dial-a-ride service. More detail is found on the SPATS website at <http://spatsmpo.org/programs/transit-programs/>



# DIAL-A-RIDE

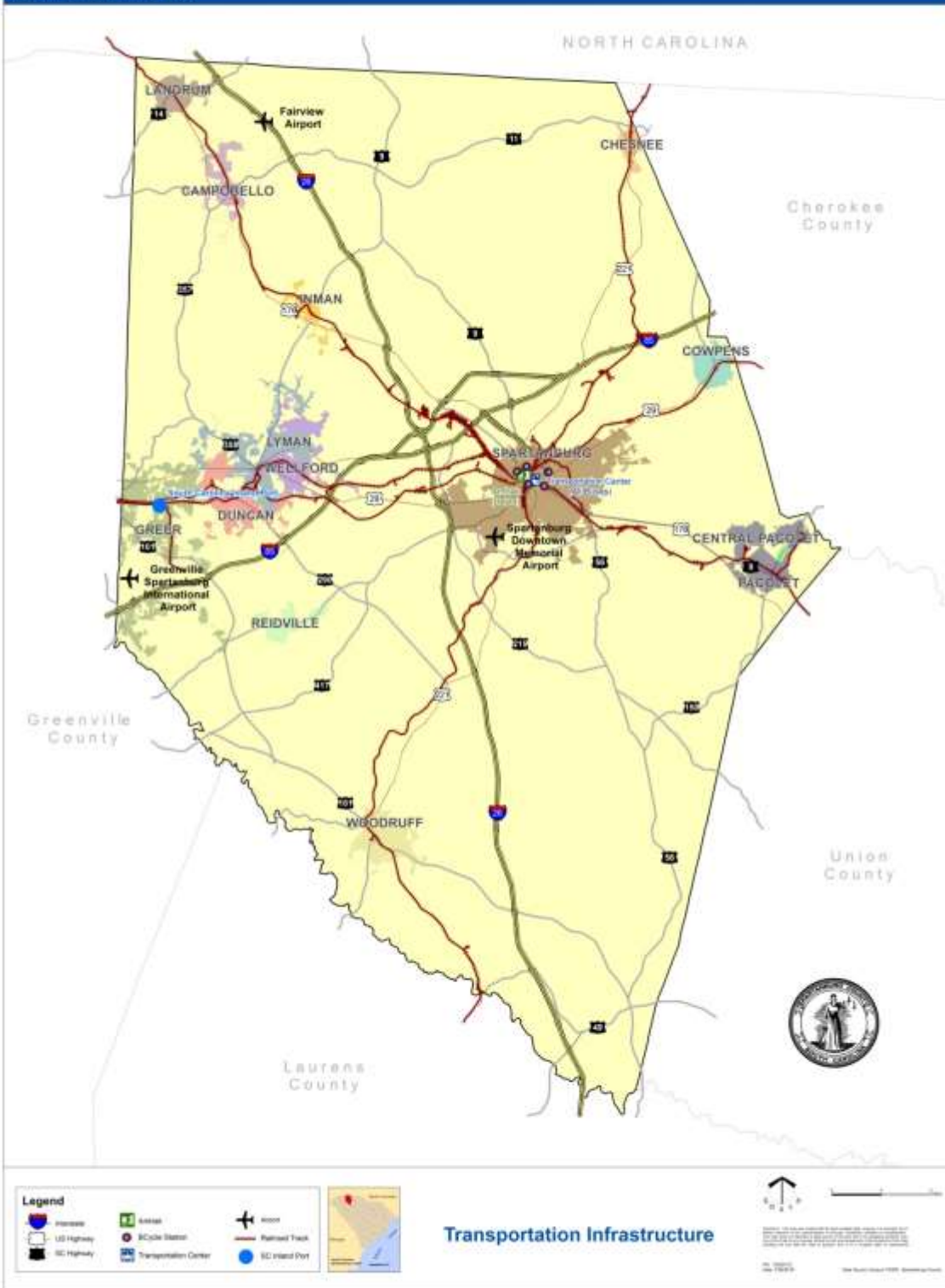
## SPARTANBURG TRANSPORTATION SERVICE BUREAU FARE STRUCTURE

Zone borders are approximate and do not extend beyond Spartanburg County. Fares are charged according to the zone in which the furthest destination of a trip is located.



## Freight, Rail and Aviation

Spartanburg County has experienced economic growth recently due to the availability of highways, rail lines, and airports in the area. Intermodal connections have made the area very attractive to industry. The Southwestern area of the County is experiencing unsurpassed growth and related spin-off development from the new Inland Port, BMW expansion, the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport, and industrial growth will bring increased traffic issues within the SC 101 and SC 290 corridors.



## Freight/Rail

The Inland Port (Greer) opened in October 2013 to provide a new, cost-effective means of transporting containers via rail between the Port of Charleston and the Upstate. In 2016, just in its third year of operation, the port handled 103,000 containers, lowering the carbon footprint for clients while saving them time and money. This success is not only making existing businesses more competitive, it is also driving tremendous interest in new port-dependent development. International businesses in Spartanburg County have the advantage of efficient rail and truck access to the Port of Charleston as well as easy connectivity to the major population centers of the fast-growing Southeast.



Class 1 railroads in South Carolina include Norfolk Southern Railway (NS) and CSX Transportation (CSX). Norfolk Southern Corporation operates the Norfolk Southern Railway 679 route miles in South Carolina and has trackage rights from Newberry to Spartanburg. CSX Corporation operates 1,269 route miles in South Carolina with trackage rights over NS between Columbia and Charleston.

<http://www.dot.state.sc.us/Multimodal/default.aspx>

**Amtrak intercity Passenger Rail** service runs on freight lines with service from Charlotte to Atlanta. The station is located at the Spartanburg Train Depot on Magnolia Street. More detail on fares and scheduling can be found on page 95 of the LRTP.

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/>



## Aviation

**City of Spartanburg- The Spartanburg Downtown Memorial Airport** is the City's largest owned asset and is located in the southwest section of the city off Ammons Road. First opened in 1927 as the first airport in South Carolina, the airport is now staffed by eight full-time and one part-time employee. The airport serves over 100 local aircraft and 5,000 general aviation airports throughout the US, as well as corporate jets representing many of Spartanburg's largest companies.

Airport staff are responsible for the safe and efficient operations of the airport. Collectively, they provide oversight to all limited fixed-based operators engaged in flight instruction, aircraft rental, sales, and aircraft charter.

Renovations were completed in 2011 and also in 2014.

**Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport** - The GSP International Airport started operations in 1962, and now boasts an 11,001-foot runway that can accommodate any aircraft in operation today. Serving more than 1.9 million passengers per year through 5 major airlines, the terminal offers 226,000 square feet of space, third level jet bridge boarding, and thirteen departure gates. There are 49 non-stop daily departures to 18 airports in 14 U.S. cities, with one of those cities offering international access. The 120,000 square foot FedEx facility sorts approximately 3,000 packages per hour. Please see:

<http://gspairport.com/Pages/faq/default.aspx>

The “Getting Around” Section in the Spartanburg County Convention and Visitors Bureau Guide <http://www.visitspartanburg.com/plan-your-trip/getting-around.html> gives a comprehensive look at multiple mobility options in the County, including:

- Airport Travel
- BCycle rental bike stations at Wofford College, Converse College, and Harvest Park  
Also <https://spartanburg.bcycle.com/>
- Bus Service
- Train Services
- Taxi Services
- Car Rental Companies
- Charter Services
- Main Street Trolley
- Valet Services

Other services may include Intercity bus such as GotoBus or Express Bus and Uber or Lyft around town.

**Electric Vehicle Charging:** Electric car charging stations are available across Spartanburg County, mostly within the urban area.

<http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/downtown-parking/ev-stations>



## Needs Analysis

### Need: Funding is Always a Need

Funding is always a challenge in addressing transportation needs. We simply cannot afford major widening projects at this time.

An assessment of fiscal constraint is outlined in the LRTP Horizon Year Project Tables. Specific Project Recommendations for each horizon year 2020, 2030, and 2040 are outlined on the LRTP Executive Summary. Identified projects utilize the current year funding until depleted, and then the leftover funds were disbursed to the next horizon year. (page 111)

### Maintenance Needs

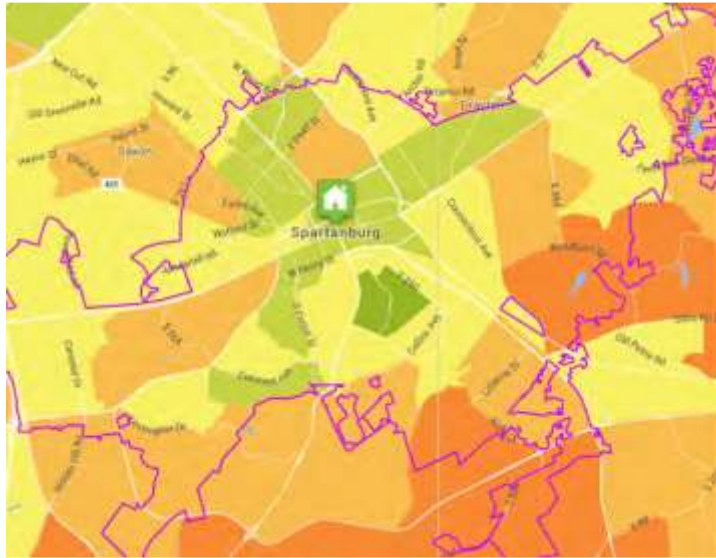
Over 61% of respondents from the Long-Range Transportation Plan process said they were “very unsatisfied” with the condition of the roadways in Spartanburg County. Spartanburg County Public Works only has a third of the funding needed to maintain asphalt surface (i.e. repave). They currently receive approximately \$5 million per year and need approximately \$15 million per year just to maintain the current system. There currently is no funding for safety improvements (i.e. horizontal/vertical, widening, and intersection improvements, and therefore, not for proactive Access Management or connectivity (safe road connectivity nor connectivity of sidewalks).

### Affordable Transportation

Our challenge is also to make transportation affordable to more people. This is a day to day struggle for many residents and as we continue to grow we need more transportation choices. With the average size household at 2.6 and the average income at \$41,800, the Spartanburg



Region spends nearly 25% of their household income (\$10,400) on transportation costs annually.



INFOGRAPHIC-Some areas in Spartanburg County spend a third of their income on transportation. LRTP, page 29, Total Annual Driving Costs

Total Annual Driving Costs

■ < \$7,920 ■ \$7,920-8,880 ■ \$8,880-9,840 ■ \$9,840-10,800 ■ \$10,800-11,760 ■ \$11,760-12,720 ■ \$12,720-13,680 ■ \$13,680+

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/> , page 29

### **Need: Balanced Plan Needing for Rapid Changes**

Adopting improved land use development regulations while infrastructure is being installed is key. In the late 80s, Spartanburg County took advantage of the SCDOT's bonding ability to borrow approximately \$46 million to accelerate the completion of a number of projects brought forward from the Long-Range Transportation Plan of the time. This "Project Acceleration Program" was completed in 2008, and the borrowed funds will continue to be incrementally repaid until the year 2023 using future guideshare. Officials are thankful for this previous investment, for more recently, the transportation landscape has changed quite extensively and quickly for Spartanburg County.

The widened highways have proactively provided good access to Interstates 26 and 85, the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport, and the Inland Port. These transportation facilities create important connections to economic activity centers and destinations, but traffic congestion on major highways can be a barrier to access, causing drivers to be forced to choose different travel routes. More access management will be crucial to land use development and transportation planning for the future.

### **Spartanburg County Area Performance Planning Process**

In the context of transportation, the Spartanburg County Department of Planning and Development focuses on proper road design and alignments on county roads, as many are in new subdivisions.



The County Planning staff is undergoing a classification process for county roads based on the following: capacity, Level of Service (LOS), need for access management, potential for interconnectivity, and multi-modal transportation facility needs.

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*Example of Access Management and Safety Improvements-  
Intersection of US 29 and SC 129 in Lyman*

Staff will be assisting in creating a plan for specific growth areas, and developing new regulations addressing access management, signage, design and other standards. Staff conducts demographic and economic research on a regular basis to analyze land use and development patterns. Growth patterns focused on as the basis of this evaluation include population growth, population density, and traffic congestion. The goal of this study is to draft an ordinance for the citizens of Spartanburg County that will draw more intense land uses to roads classified as arterials (the roads which carry the largest volumes of traffic). Collector roads carry traffic from the local roads, and distribute the traffic to the arterials. Drivers “connect” to an arterial road with more activity from their local road and therefore, are most likely using a collector to get to and from somewhere near where they live. Local roads carry the lowest volumes of traffic and some may be unpaved.

This balanced approach to land use and transportation planning helps the SPATS Policy Committee, Spartanburg County Planning Commission, and Spartanburg County Council make the best decisions possible on how we grow and develop over the next decade, working together to anticipate growth before congestion becomes a problem.

Land Use Connections statement/Land Use Element Reference

For more info see

<http://spartanburgcountyapp.org/>

## Need: Connectivity and Safety for All Modes

Addressing safety is also crucial to providing a balance in transportation. A highway may provide key connections for vehicle travel, but could be challenging to pedestrians or bicyclists crossing corridors. To plan for this, we continue to support active living and mass transit to expand transportation options for our citizens. Legitimate transportation conduits are created by connecting existing trails, on-road facilities and adjacent to the road facilities such as bike lanes, sidewalks, and side paths and they will work together as a network and safe mobility choice. And with an approach to multi-modal transportation linkages, our community can support a variety of land uses.

This land use-transportation planning approach will address transportation needs and outline transportation improvements for facilitating the movement of people and goods in a manner that will allow our community to be:

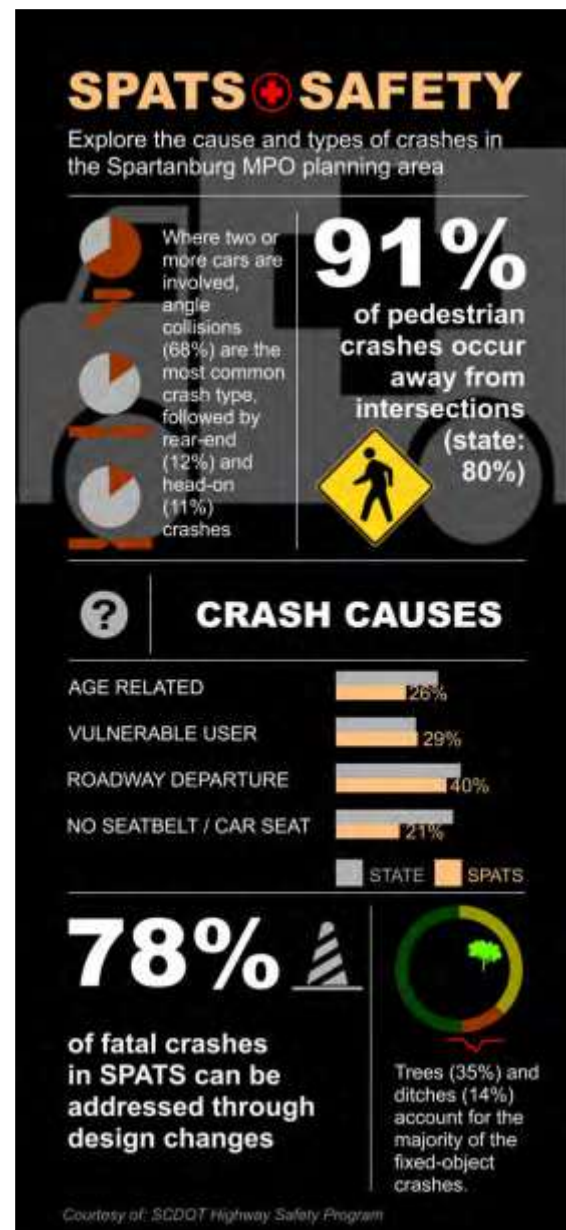
- Safely connected,
- Efficiently mobile,
- Environmentally conscious, and
- Economically accountable.

## Safety

Safety needs are outlined in the SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan by identifying high-crash locations, addressing ways to improve access management, and making design-related countermeasure recommendations at multiple intersections.

The SCDOT Safety Office has explored the cause and types of crashes in the Spartanburg MPO planning area, outlined below from the LRTP:

As presented by SCDOT at the SPATS Policy Committee meeting in 2016:



2011-2015 statistics:

- Total Fatal and Severe Injury Leading Crash Factors were:  
Roadway Departure, Speed Related and Young Drivers (age 15-24)
- Total Number of Fatal and Severe Injury Crashes: 591
- Urban Road Departure Crashes: 172

The following statistics were presented for intersection crashes:

- Number of Intersections in Spartanburg County: 9,265
- Number of Signalized Intersections in Spartanburg County: 385
- % Signalized: 4%
- Total Fatal and Severe Injury Crashes: 144.

The top six corridors where most crashes occurred (48% of all intersection Fatal and Severe Injury crashes) were on SC 296, US 176, US 221, US 29, SC 292 and SC 290.

Countermeasures to improve safety at intersections include:

- Roundabouts because they reduce conflict points (have reduced fatal crashes 100% !)
- Access management
- Design alternatives
- Improved sight distance
- Traffic signals
- Backplates with retroreflective borders, and design alternatives such as road diets.

**Vulnerable Roadway Users:** Motorcyclists: 16%, Pedestrians: 7%, Mopeds 7%, and Bicyclists 1%. Most all pedestrian crashes are at non-intersections (91%) and 80% in MPOs statewide. 42% of these crashes involved the pedestrian either illegally in the roadway or lying in the roadway.

## SCDOT “Target Zero” Program

SCDOT has adopted a policy and program toward reducing automobile fatalities to zero across the state. This program funds countermeasures such as positive traffic control and geometric changes like rumble strips, roundabouts, paved shoulders, adequate clear zones, access management practices, turning lanes, road diets, and horizontal curve improvements.

<http://www.sctargetzeroplan.org/>



## Air Quality/Environmental Constraints

Even as transportation projects improve mobility, safety, and accessibility, they can have the potential to negatively impact environmental features or sensitive populations. Each federally funded project is required to go through a rigorous environmental assessment. By considering sensitive environmental features and populations, impacts resulting from transportation projects can be addressed early, leading to solutions that are widely accepted by the public and minimize negative impacts as much as possible.



SPATS and Spartanburg County representatives have been participating since 2002 in the Upstate Air Quality Advisory Committee, currently coordinated by the Ten at the Top regional coordination group, for many years.

<http://www.ourupstatesc.info/clean-air-upstate.php>

This working group is comprised of stakeholders from across the Upstate 10-county region and has been working to educate residents, businesses, local governments, and organizations on emissions sources across the region. In addition, the committee has focused on specific emission-reducing initiatives to help lower the emission levels in the region.

Through the Early Action Compact (EAC) process the region has successfully set the foundation, along with increased industrial regulations and improved vehicle emissions standards, for the decline in ozone emissions.

Multiple coalitions throughout the state now bring air quality to the forefront, with DHEC coordinating at the state level.

### **SC Transportation Conformity Memorandum of Agreement**

This agreement was undertaken to implement the South Carolina Air Quality Implementation Plan or State Implementation Plan (SIP) pursuant to the Clean Air Act (CAA). This agreement shows interagency coordination for the conformity of transportation plans, programs, and projects that are developed, funded or approved by USDOT, SCDOT, and MPOs or other fund recipients. This agreement sets forth policy, criteria, and procedures for demonstrating and assuring conformity of such activities to applicable implementation plans developed according to federal regulation.

<https://www.scdhec.gov/HomeAndEnvironment/Docs/TC%20MOA%2020150915.pdf>

### **See Natural Resources Element of the Comprehensive Plan for more details on air quality.**

For more information on Spartanburg County demographic profiles, natural environmental assessment, and environmental justice guidelines for the transportation planning process, please see the LRTP pages 23-26. <http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/>

For more information on the protection of our Cultural and Historical Resources, please see these Elements.

### **Roadway Needs**

Major highway projects are currently few and far between due to financial constraints. Federal funding is generally decreasing with respect to inflation-adjusted costs. State motor vehicle user fee at the current level cannot fund large projects. However, smaller, more cost-effective projects have been successful to address transportation improvements throughout a region. Congestion issues either now or in the future are not driving many of the desired changes to the streetscape in our area. Public comment focus is mostly on the need to better manage access, improve aesthetics, and generally create roadway corridors that are supportive of economic

revitalization and that reduce crashes. Resiliency is also important so our roadway network can handle damage from storms.

**In addition to “doing more with less” and addressing an acceptable level of service for all modes, the following three themes have emerged for roadway needs:**

**Cost-Effective Roadway Improvements**

- Build upon the current list of priority intersection improvements developed by SPATS
- Focus on intersections, interchange and roadway re-design treatments to improve safety and operation
- Apply access management strategies to corridors (five-lane, high crash rate, strip development, etc.) prone to development, ultimately, to improve safety and mobility





## Complete Streets and Active Transportation Connectivity



- Focus Complete Streets/Streetscape improvements on urban/suburban activity nodes to encourage walkability
- Provide beautification/streetscape improvements to permit a more active, mixed-use environment

## Strategic Corridor Capacity

- Focus roadway widening to those facilities that are truly underperforming (volume-to-capacity ratio higher than 1)
- Minimize right-of-way takings by applying design exceptions to corridor retrofits

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/> , page 28

Current Transportation Improvement Plan Projects (Guideshare funding)

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/> page 44

TIP process and descriptions of the current projects are located on the SPATS website at:

<http://spatsmpo.org/programs/tip-transportation-improvement-program/>

Please see the document named “SPATS Transportation Improvement Program Update 2016”

## South Carolina Transportation Improvement Program

[http://www.dot.state.sc.us/inside/pdfs/STIP/STIP\\_DDR\\_2017.pdf](http://www.dot.state.sc.us/inside/pdfs/STIP/STIP_DDR_2017.pdf)

The “STIP” is the State’s six-year improvement plan for transportation projects that receive federal funding. The STIP represents projects that have federally approved dollars and are expected to be completed within the six-year timeframe. Some of the projects identified in the Roadway Recommendations Map are in fact already funded as part of the SPATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), including:

- Nonguideshare
- Interstate
- Safety



- State bridge replacement
- Basic state repaving
- Transportation Alternatives

### **SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan Update Unfunded Needs**

The SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan Update, adopted in February 2016, guides transportation investment in Spartanburg County for the next 25 years.

The Plan Update has recommendations that are incorporated as part of the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/>

Projects identified in the LRTP have to either meet a test of fiscal constraint where costs are balanced against projected revenues, or be described as illustrative projects that may be moved to the TIP upon amendment or in the next update when funding for the project becomes available. Intersections that did not make the “Top 10” are identified as future needs and stay in the plan until funded.

Recommendations for arterials are grouped into three categories:

- Existing Road Widenings,
- Access Management, and
- Streetscape/Complete Streets projects.

On roadways where capacity improvements are warranted, widening may not always be the solution; in many cases, roadways with capacity issues are recommended to be improved through the use of landscaped medians and better access management design. Design improvements may include driveway consolidation, cross access, left turn prohibition, and collector street connections.

These types of strategies help improve safety, provide easier and safer ingress and egress to neighboring land uses, and create better corridor aesthetics in addition to improving capacity. Many of these access management and streetscape improvement projects include provisions for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Please see more detail in the Executive Summary of LRTP <http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/> Page ES 1

### **Spartanburg County Roadway Priorities**

Spartanburg County prioritizes road improvements based on condition, traffic volume, and need. Rankings are based on the following criteria:

1. 3 Year Accident History
2. Traffic Volume
3. Road Classification
4. Overall Condition Index
5. Cost of Project Divided by Average Daily Traffic

6. Structure Deficiency
7. Economic Development Potential

<http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/5384>

Spartanburg County Road Infrastructure Priorities page 45

Spartanburg County Roadway Priorities 2017-2021 identified projects

- Belcher Road Bridge Replacement
- Brine Production System
- Countywide Asphalt Resurfacing
- Countywide Bridge & Culvert Repair & Maint
- Four Mile Branch Bridge Replacement
- Hampton Road Bridge Replacement
- Motlow Creek Bridge Replacement
- Municipal Road Projects
- Pavement Preservation Program
- Sign Reflectivity Mandate
- Steve G. Belue Infrastructure Fund
- Waspnest Road Bridge Replacement

## **Gateway and Scenic Byway Beautification – a Spartanburg Priority for Economic Vitality and Good Business**

### **Gateways**

Gateway Beautification needs focus on the continued implementation of key SPOTS of PRIDE and gateway corridor landscape concepts. Concepts for Asheville Highway and Country Club Road will be more developed. Concepts for New Cut Road, Union St. (SC 56) and other corridors will be developed. Gateways in the form of bridge investments and anchor infrastructure destinations are also an investment in our community and the pride we bestow on the quality of life we enjoy in this special place. For example, fully developing special areas near our waterways such as the Glendale Bridge and Anderson Mill at the North Tyger River Bridge, as well as improving road corridors for safer multi-modal transportation leading to those special places will support connections to downtown Spartanburg for economic vitality and tourism of the area.



### **Scenic Byways**

Protection of National Scenic Highway 11, a goal from the last comprehensive plan, has moved forward in multiple forms and is now outlined in detail in the Heritage Corridor Cherokee Foothills National Scenic Byway Design Guidelines of 2014, a subset of the National Scenic Byway Plan (<http://www.scgreatoutdoors.org/portfolio/national-scenic-byway-plan>). The plan

provides a blueprint for protecting the unique character of the corridor while moving forward with responsible future design and development.

<http://www.scgreatoutdoors.org/portfolio/cherokee-foothills-national-scenic-byway-design-guidelines>

### **Active Transportation Needs**

Walkable and bikeable neighborhoods are increasingly preferred, although the car has been the dominant travel mode since World War II. Many of the places we get to each day are fairly close together, and our communities enjoy relatively flat land and warm weather. However, we walk and bike much less than we would like unless safe facilities are available.

Now, people do not generally follow a job as in the past, they choose a great town first and then a job. Amenities such as trails and a great downtown with lot so things to do and be entertained with is what young people as well as baby boomers are looking for now. A community that provides diverse transportation networks helps meet safety, mobility, livability, environmental, and economic vitality goals for all populations.

One Spartanburg, the City of Spartanburg's Chamber-based strategic plan, identified that quality of life and place enhancements such as trails and bike paths are vital to better talent attraction and recruitment. Spartanburg County and partners are happy to report this metric, as it reveals what many in bicycle and pedestrian planning have been seeking as another basis for investment in active transportation improvements. <http://www.onespartanburg.com/>

**Active Transportation Needs** focus on continued partnerships, specific projects to provide increased connectivity, and regional connections in the active transportation network. <http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/> , page 79.

***Incremental closing of Sidewalk gaps and trail gaps =  
NETWORK OF SAFE PEDESTRIAN AMENITIES FOR QUALITY OF LIFE***

Details on the top bike facility, sidewalk recommendations, and active transportation intersection projects are found in the Community Facilities Element, Recreation section. Future projects in Spartanburg Urban Trails and Greenways Plan (focus is connections in urban area) <http://www.active-living.org/greenways-and-trail-plans> can also be found in the Community Facilities Element, Recreation section.

Municipality Active Transportation Needs:

Each town has a trail plan (2009 Spartanburg Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, an addendum to the SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan) and projects from this plan continue to be implemented. The focus is the need to continue to close the gaps in the walking and bicycling network, especially in each urban area of the county. Criteria for the prioritization of projects is based on design feasibility, large tract property owner and community support, connections to existing trail facilities, and proximity to key destinations.

Multi-state or multi-county plans/identified needs:

Future projects from the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail Plan, the Palmetto Trail Plan, and the Carolina Thread Trail Master Plan can be found in the Community Facilities Element, Recreation section and the Cultural Resources Element, Historical section.)

### **Opportunities to Market Active Transportation through Tourism**

The objective developed for the Spartanburg County Tourism Action Plan was to develop branding and signage /wayfinding initiatives throughout Spartanburg County, linking our attractions and our municipalities. These attractions are places of “CHARM” – cultural, historical, agritourism, recreational, and manufacturing that make Spartanburg a vibrant, exciting place to enjoy.

Continuing to market active transportation through tourism will bring lasting economic vitality to our area. “Eco-tourism” events such as the Criterium, Assault on Mt. Mitchell, Preservation Ride, the Daniel Morgan March and numerous trail events are visitor attractions that not only showcase Spartanburg to others, but also show that active transportation is very important to Spartanburg. Frequent story-telling and way-finding signage of historic trails and roads, Spartanburg’s “Hub City” railroad history, and history of the streetcar system and trolley will remind us all what makes transportation in this area special. (More detail on these events is found in the Cultural Element, Historical section.)

Furthermore, continued improvements to “visitor infrastructure” such as airport upgrades, better road and intersection design for the safety of all, and connecting destinations through sidewalk and trail facility linkages will give all better access to tourist attractions. Enhancing the visitor experience such as providing information on available active living paths or creating more bike parking (whether you are in Spartanburg to explore for just a day or live here) will create a safer and more enjoyable active environment for all.





## Transit Needs

Transit plays an important role in moving people from one place to another whether they are visitors or residents. The lower densities and relatively congestion-free conditions make traditional, fixed-route public transportation a harder sell in most parts of the planning region. The need still exists to plan ahead to prepare for more congestion as the population grows. Through the SPATS Study Team and the SCDOT Multi-Modal Plan process, <http://www.dot.state.sc.us/Multimodal/default.aspx> as well as through regional efforts such as the Upstate Transportation Coalition and the Ten at the Top Connecting Our Future initiative, groups providing transit and partners continue to evaluate:

- current and future routes,
- potential regional connections,
- dependent and non-dependent ridership,
- current and potential funding sources,
- intermodal connections, and
- other issues identified by transit stakeholders during the transportation planning process.

L RTP page 96 – some general public transportation trends

### **General Public Transportation needs, Upstate Transportation Coalition:**

#### **Public Transportation and Employment**

- As jobs move outside of city centers, those without access to cars—including low-income workers and people with disabilities—lose out on employment opportunities.<sup>1</sup>
- According to the Brookings Institution, by 2006, 45 percent of jobs in the nation's 98 largest metro areas were located more than 10 miles from the urban core.<sup>2</sup>
- Households with incomes below \$25,000 comprise 65 percent of households without vehicles.<sup>3</sup>
- Recent national survey data indicate that 59 percent of trips are work-related, 11 percent are school-related, nine percent are shopping and dining-related, and seven percent are socially-related.<sup>4</sup>

## Public Transportation and Senior Citizens

- A 2004 study found that seniors age 65 and older who no longer drive make 15 percent fewer trips to the doctor, 59 percent fewer trips to shop or eat out, and 65 percent fewer trips to visit friends and family, than drivers of the same age.<sup>5</sup>
- A 2002 study in the American Journal of Public Health found that men in their early 70s who stop driving will need access to transportation alternatives, such as public transportation, for an average of six years; women in the same age group will, on average, need transportation alternatives for ten years.<sup>6</sup>
- After age 55, the vast majority of Americans stay put: Only about 5 percent change residences, and fewer than 2 percent move between states each year.<sup>7</sup>



## Public Transportation and Residential Development

- Buyers paid 4.1 to 14.9 percent more for housing neighborhoods that are walkable, have a higher density, and have a mix of uses as well as access to jobs and amenities such as transit.<sup>8</sup>
- A 2014 study by the Rockefeller Foundation and Transportation for America reported that four in five millennials in 10 major U.S. cities say they want to live in places where they have a variety of options to get to jobs, school or daily need

<sup>1</sup> “Getting to Work: Transportation Policy and Access to Job Opportunities.” The Leadership Conference Education Fund (2011). Web. 24 Feb. 2016

<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth Kneebone, Job Sprawl Revisited: The Changing Geography of Metropolitan Employment. Brookings Institution, April 2009, [http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/0406\\_job\\_sprawl\\_kneebone/20090406\\_jobsprawl\\_kneebone.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/0406_job_sprawl_kneebone/20090406_jobsprawl_kneebone.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> Federal Highway Administration, “Our Nation’s Travel: 1995 NPTS Early Results Report” (1995). Cited in The Long Journey to Work.

<sup>4</sup> A Profile of Public Transportation Passenger Demographics and Travel Characteristics Reported in On-Board Surveys. American Public Transportation Association, 2007.

<sup>5</sup> Bailey, Linda (2004), “Aging Americans: Stranded without Options” Surface Transportation Policy Project, Washington, D.C.

<sup>6</sup> Foley, Daniel, Heimovitz, Harley, Guralnik, Jack and Dwight Brock “Driving Life Expectancy of Persons Aged 70 Years and Older in the United States” American Journal of Public Health, August 2002, Vol 92, No. 8

<sup>7</sup> Frey, William H. (2007), “Mapping the Growth of Older America: Seniors and Boomers in the Early 21st Century” The Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C.

### **The need for having THE CHOICE available to take Transit:**

In order to work toward meeting this need, SPATS staff coordinates a future multi-modal transportation planning prospectus and vision that would serve both transit-dependent and "choice ridership" in the future transit system of Spartanburg.

- 1) Plan for and coordinate with the different transit agencies within the city and county. Coordinate opportunities to improve walking and bicycling facilities for safer access to transit with Active Transportation representatives through the SPATS Study Team.
  - a. Provide technical and planning assistance to SPARTA and the County Transportation Service Bureau.
  - b. Communicate with and provide outreach to public transit providers.
  - c. Utilize information collected on subdivisions and track county demographic and population data (income, age, vehicle accessibility) in order to identify population sectors of transit-dependent families.
  - d. Continue to participate in the implementation of the Statewide Multi-Modal Plan.
  - e. Work closely with FHWA, SCDOT, and GPATS to develop a plan of implementation for the I-85 Corridor Study congestion mitigation projects.
  - f. Serve as a resource in the continued study of the US 29 Corridor as an alternative transportation route to I-85, a vision for a future transit-oriented multi-modal corridor serving those who live between Spartanburg and Greenville.
  - g. Research ways to incorporate transit into potential bicycle/pedestrian projects such as the US 29 "alternative to I-85" vision plan and the Middle Tyger Pedestrian Plan, with special attention to "first and last mile" access to stations.
- 2) Plan for future growth trends involving multi-modal connections to transit, including active transportation, express routes and high-speed rail. Use socioeconomic databases and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to forecast future ridership in order to enable transit providers to plan for these important trends.
  - a. Plan for the future of area transit provision through participation in the continued implementation of the SC Multi-Modal Transportation Plan and Performance Planning.
  - b. Assist SPARTA with an Operational Assessment to identify and study transit generators and critical destinations and what steps are needed for enhanced transit service.
  - c. Emphasize the benefits of transit and intermodal connections as a viable strategy for ozone reduction and support incorporation of this strategy into the Upstate Air Quality Plan.
  - d. Continue to research creative ways to offer a more reliable, larger range of service to the transit-dependent as well as attracting choice riders.

- e. Utilize information collected by SPATS to track local development/land use trends that would affect the use of transit in order to identify potential intermodal links to the current road system.
- f. Working with GPATS (Greenville-Pickens Area Transportation Study) <http://gpats.org/> to create an express service to the GSP Airport/BMW/Greer area and work to increase the frequency of bus service on existing routes within Spartanburg.

**Transit Needs identified through the LRTP process and how we are approaching those needs include:**

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/> , page 99

**Short-term actions:**

- Improve route mapping and signage for bus service
- Collect detailed ridership data on a regular basis.
- Employ marketing strategies to increase ridership.

**Mid-term actions:**

- Centralize services to achieve administrative efficiencies.
- Identify a source of funding for long-term.
- Collaborate with other governments to create express routes.

**Long-term actions:**

- Join the Google Transit Partner Program.
- Partner with third party private, personal transportation providers to provide greater management in existing services and expand current policy options for riders.
- Continue discussion of the Southeast High Speed Rail initiative with special attention to the “last mile” considerations.

**Freight Needs**

The advance of “Hub City’s” freight position also makes understanding the obstacles and solutions for moving freight to and through our region more important at this time.

**Strategic Corridors**

Worked with SCDOT and COG and GPATS on identifying freight corridors

Coordinated freight planning in the Upstate and the efficiency of the movement of freight is key to our economic prosperity. In general, we have benefitted from tremendous growth in jobs over the last even few months. But there must be planning and therefore, we want to identify the corridors that we believe should be eligible for federal freight funding and freight generators.



Jobs created at distribution centers will lead to increase in vehicle and truck trips. We are working to integrate land use and development standards in the area to help align roadway capacity with traffic demand that we know will be coming.

With respect to the federal requirements for MPO planning, SPATS is focusing on providing improved coordination, mobility, and accessibility that benefit freight movements.

We support the benefits realized from the Inland Port and rail service to move freight. The Inland Port, open for business in October of 2013, is a game-changer in the way freight impacts the Spartanburg County area as well as the whole region. We will now experience improved transportation logistics, reducing both “deadhead” miles of empty shipping containers and easier transfers of freight between carriers and modes.

Other benefits will be potential reductions in fees and better management of trucker service hour restrictions improving just-in-time service and decreasing costs in delivery time lost to congestion. The inland port and the proximity to the airport allows for a perfect storm of conditions for attracting all types of supporting industries for new distribution, assembly, and manufacturing.

However, limited resources keep us from being able to adequately handle the multimodal challenges presented by freight transport. We must look regionally to identify major through routes and connecting corridors. Must be prioritized for future road improvements that will allow for safer, more efficient movement of trucks and trains that cross these road corridors.

### **Spartanburg Downtown Airport**

Plans are underway now to extend the runway to approximately 1,700 feet, bringing the total runway length to approximately 6,000 feet. Other improvements planned include an aviation-themed playground and community trail. Future plans include a restaurant and office complex. For more information, please see the Memorial Airport website at:<http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/airport>

Spartanburg County supports the downtown airport’s trail plan as part of the Spartanburg Urban Trail and Greenways Plan Proposed Trail System.

<http://www.active-living.org/greenways-and-trail-plans>

### **Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport**

Continued partnership with the Inland Port will provide for rapidly growing activity and improved transportation logistics. The airport continues to move forward with a “people mover” project to help link different parts of the airport campus and surrounding properties. This type of service could integrate favorably as a shuttle system to a regional transit service.

Continued improvements, such as I-85 interchange updates and pavement reconditioning and sidewalk installation will continue to improve the property. The airport is managed by the Greenville-Spartanburg Airport District created by the State and led by members appointed by Spartanburg and Greenville counties.



GSP board is moving forward with a “people mover” project that could help link different parts of the airport and even surrounding properties including the inland port and BMW. Such a service could integrate as a shuttle system to a regional transit service.

There is also potential in the future for a Southeast High-Speed Rail station at the airport.

Freight/Rail, EMS and Aviation Representatives expressed concern most for increased population and employment that is continuing, and **although beneficial economically**, are creating localized and general traffic congestion. This congestion, in turn, creates slower response times for EMS providers, longer truck routes to the airport and other freight distribution centers as well as to the airports, and an increasing number of vehicle crashes.

Finding a balance in growth and economic prosperity is key

Summarize but reference: Chapter 7 of the LRTP recommends the following actions for addressing Freight/Rail Needs in Spartanburg County outlined on pages 102-104:

- Conduct a regional Freight planning effort (Currently underway led by the ACOG with partnership from SPATS, GPATS and SCDOT)

### **Building on the State Multi-Modal Plan**

Regional Freight Plan proposed, led by ACOG with participation from SPATS, GPATS and possibly Greer

- Complete additional studies on Interstate Access and Capacity
- Implement an At-Grade Rail Crossing Consolidation, Closure, and Grade Separation Program.

Emergency Medical Service providers were included in the focus groups for the LRTP. They identified the following issues as important to ensure the continued safety of citizens and EMS personnel while providing this vital service to the public.

EMS recommendations to address the needs outlined were identified as:

- Create a quarterly forum of EMS, SCDOT, and Local Planning Officials
- Coordinated and consistent response to development proposals

Aviation recommendations to address the needs outlined for this mode included: Cross-MPO coordination to provide transit service to GSP International Airport. And Collaboration on a new airport master plan.

## The Transportation Planning Process in Spartanburg County

The Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS) [www.spatsmpo.org](http://www.spatsmpo.org) receives approximately \$7 million per year which by law must be used for large-scale federally funded transportation projects based on the federal gas tax allocation and programmed by the SPATS Policy Committee. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) provides oversight and management of the program in conjunction with SPATS staff in the Spartanburg County Planning and Development Department.

The County Transportation Committee (CTC) <http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/150/Legislative-Delegation> is a close partner with SPATS in conducting the Spartanburg County transportation planning process for more efficient planning of the transportation system. The Spartanburg County Public Works Department coordinates the activities of the CTC, providing management for local projects funded by the county gas tax allocation, with a focus on the maintenance and design of county roads. The Spartanburg County Planning Director or designee is one of the voting members of the CTC Advisory Committee.

The CTC also manages projects funded by the county vehicle road fee and legislative delegation set-aside C-funds. The SCDOT C-fund Administrator provides oversight for the C-fund monies.

SC has been a net donor state to the National Highway Trust Fund, which receives funds from the federal motor vehicle revenue. Therefore, as some states bring in more federal motor vehicle revenue than others, SC receives less in federal motor vehicle revenue reimbursements than it takes in. Lose 16 cents out of every dollar



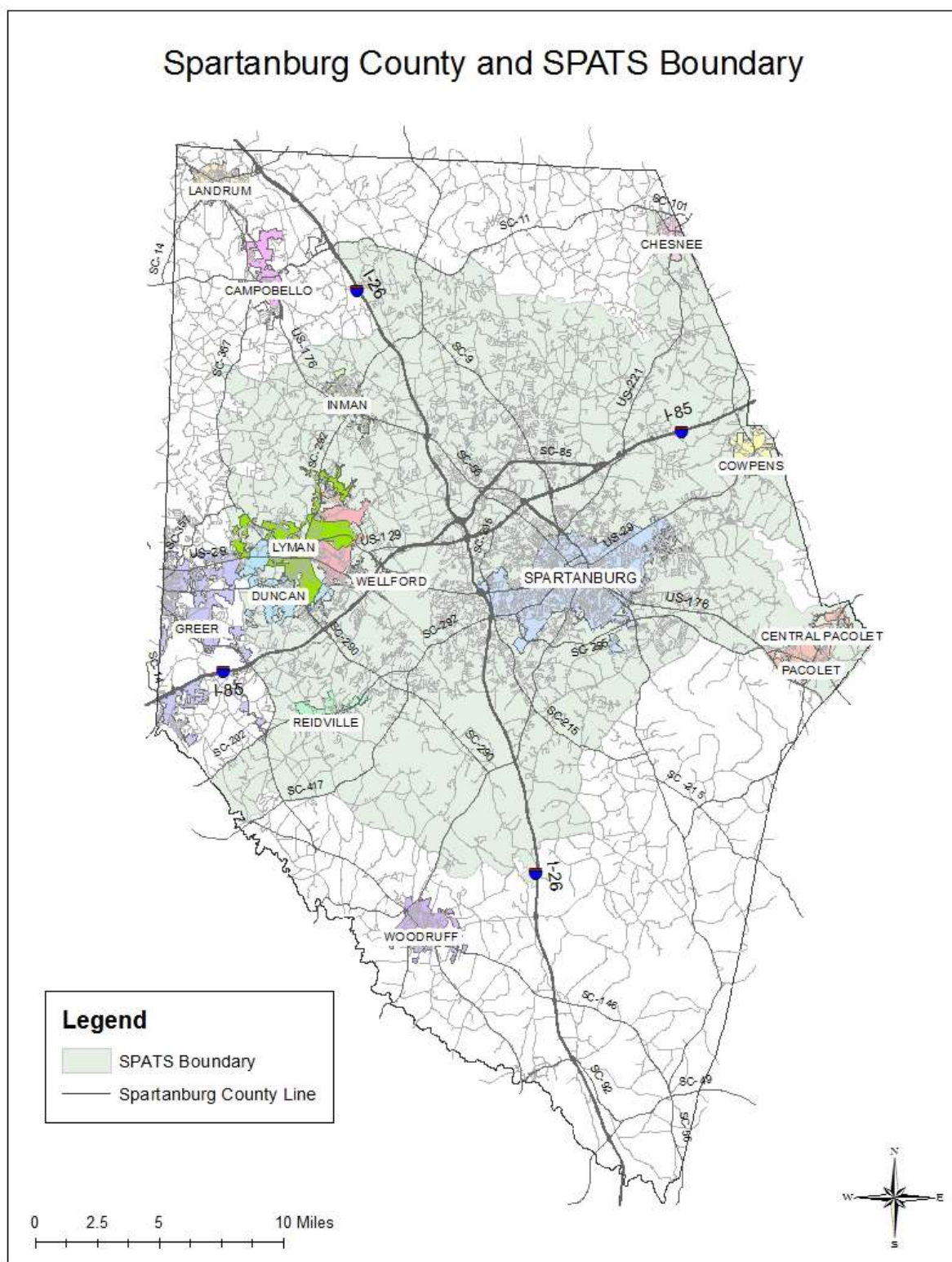
**Spartanburg Area Transportation Study Metropolitan Planning Organization (SPATS MPO)** <http://spatsmpo.org/about/>

### Transportation Planning Process and Planning Area

The Spartanburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (SPATS) serves as the Spartanburg metropolitan area's long-range transportation planning body. Partnering with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Federal Railroad Administration, the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), the Transportation Service Bureau (TSB), the Spartanburg Transit Authority (SPARTA) and many other cooperating agencies, the members of the SPATS seek to provide an efficient and equitable surface transportation system for the Spartanburg metropolitan area. In accordance with Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 450 (23 CFR 450), SPATS provides continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive (3-C) transportation planning services.

Currently, the SPATS planning area, approximately 450 square miles, has been expanded west to the common border with the Greenville-Pickens Area Transportation Study (GPATS) and the

Greenville County line. The planning area has also been expanded north to Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock.



Also in LRTP Full Report, Part 1, page 4

<http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/>

### **SPATS Policy Committee**

The SPATS MPO includes ten member cities and towns: Spartanburg, Duncan, Lyman, Wellford, Inman, Pacolet, Chesnee, and Cowpens. Reidville and Central Pacolet joined in 2017. The planning area also includes the unincorporated communities of Roebuck, Moore, Valley Falls, Boiling Springs, Glendale, and Clifton-Converse.

In addition to Mayors of Municipalities within Spartanburg County, the SPATS membership consists of representatives from Spartanburg County Legislative Delegation, Spartanburg County Council, Spartanburg County Planning Commission, Spartanburg City Council, Spartanburg City Planning Commission, Spartanburg County Transportation Committee (CTC), Spartanburg Chamber, SCDOT, and the Private Sector.

[www.spatsmpo.org](http://www.spatsmpo.org)

The SPATS Policy Committee members are responsible for the review and approval of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Additionally, the Policy Committee is responsible for initiating steps to involve citizens of the Spartanburg area in the transportation planning process.

### **SPATS Study Team**

The SPATS Study Team is responsible for the daily technical and administrative functions of SPATS. The Study Team is comprised of professional staff from the City of Spartanburg and Spartanburg County Planning and Engineering staff, engineering and planning personnel of the SCDOT, and multi-modal representatives. An FHWA community planning representative also participates as part of the Study Team.

Meetings of the Study Team are held upon request of the Policy Committee or as administrative and technical functions of SPATS warrant.

[www.spatsmpo.org](http://www.spatsmpo.org)

**Passenger Rail Consortium for the Upstate**, of which SPATS and Spartanburg County is a part, is working more closely with state representatives from S.C., N.C., VA., GA., and FL to discuss Regional Rail Planning for the Southeast.

### **SPATS Public Participation Program**

SPATS uses multiple avenues of engagement to ensure that the varied concerns of stakeholders are heard, documented, and addressed. The SPATS Public Participation Program outlines these efforts. Public meetings are conducted throughout the transportation planning process to afford the opportunity for dissemination of project information to the public and the receipt of feedback.

<http://spatsmpo.org/information/public-participation-and-notice/>

(Public Participation Plan, June 8, 2015)



SPATS staff provide information and liaise with the public and local governments to perform the various responsibilities of the Citizen Participation process. The Spartanburg County Planning and SCDOT provide citizens and local governments with current information on the development of highways, public transportation, rail, aviation, port facilities, freight, airports, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, and greenway/blueway trail systems.

A Public Participation Plan Update was approved in June 2015. A consultant continues to host the SPATS web site. Staff will continue to maintain the site, whose address is [www.spatsmpo.org](http://www.spatsmpo.org) and new elements to the site are continually added. We continue to identify and develop unique ways to involve the public.



Open public meetings, information drop-ins, staff participation at various local organizational meetings, and access through the website and social media will continue to be provided to enable full citizen participation in the process of reviewing ongoing transportation plans. In addition, staff will publish the TIP on the website and continue to ask for comment. Notification and comment opportunities on TIP amendments and projects will be provided so as to inform the public about project status and plans, and to record their responses for the Policy Committee. Information is also shared through Facebook. Staff maintain contact lists, including mailing and email distribution lists.



SPATS staff continue to provide assistance to various elements of the community, as well as other governmental groups and sections within the SCDOT on such items as current traffic counts, estimated future travel demands, current construction projects, evaluation of possible designs, and the maintenance of a functional classification of existing roads.

SPATS staff regularly speak to citizen groups and engage in public broadcasts of information concerning the transportation plan and specific projects. Staff participates in project-oriented public meetings for roads and bridge projects on an ongoing basis and provide information about the update of implementation of the Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Staff continue to participate in regional collaboration with other Upstate entities and organizations through Ten at the Top regional planning organization to address regional topics such as air quality, land use and transportation, and sustainability.

### **FAST Act - New provisions in the current transportation bill**

Development of the best possible transportation plan for the Spartanburg urban area requires more than addressing problems of an engineering nature. In addition to transportation engineering problems, there are economic, social, and environmental issues that must by law be



addressed. The SPATS Policy Committee and the SPATS Study Team were organized to respond to these concerns.

Therefore, in addition to the 3-C approach for planning transportation programs, the FAST Act federal legislation outlines several planning factors that must be considered during the planning process. The following eleven planning factors are used to guide development of the plan: Economic Vitality, Safety, Security, Accessibility/Mobility, Environment, Connectivity, Efficiency, System Preservation, System Resiliency/Reliability, Stormwater Impacts on Surface Transportation, and Travel/Tourism, with the latter three being newly added from the FAST Act legislation.

### **Performance-based Planning and Programming**

In support of the national goals of safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, freight movement as well as economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and reduced project delivery delays, and in close coordination with SCDOT, SPATS is transitioning to integrating a performance-based approach to transportation planning in Spartanburg County.

We are participating in all SCDOT hosted events to develop statewide performance targets that address performance measures and assistance for establishing targets for our region, specifically for safety, infrastructure, freight, congestion reduction, system reliability, and transit. We will continue to work with SCDOT on statewide targets for the remaining goals. Targets will be coordinated with stakeholders in the respective areas such as transit providers when applicable. Data gathered will be used to measure the overall performance of the transportation system and evaluate how well we are meeting our goals and making progress. This allows for the specific targets to be based on data and objective information to help decision makers, stakeholders and the public to understand the value of their investment in the transportation system.

### **SPATS Products**

The SPATS MPO develops three products - The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

#### **Unified Planning Work Program**

The **SPATS Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** is a description of all transportation related planning activities and associated task budgets anticipated within the Spartanburg metropolitan area during a two-year planning window. The current UPWP represents the work program for the 24-month period from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017. As required by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the UPWP is multi-modal in scope and includes, as applicable, consideration of transit, aviation, railroads, highways, port facilities, bike and pedestrian infrastructure, greenway and blueway trail systems. The UPWP, updated every two years, is principally a report of the SPATS Policy Committee to inform public officials and community leaders as to the expenditure of funds and staff work on the proposed transportation planning activities.

An annual self-certification process, verifying the SPATS transportation planning process complies with federal requirements, is included in the UPWP.

### **Long-Range Transportation Plan**

The **SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)** is updated every five years. The LRTP consists of projects that would be programmed over the next 25 years assuming continued levels of federal funding. The

“candidates” for inclusion within the SPATS 25 Year Transportation Plan are transportation projects that future projections show will become congested by the year 2040. LRTP projects are based upon socioeconomic projections and growth forecasts, and are validated by computer traffic models that simulate the transportation network 25 years into the future. Public comment

is an essential element of this process. However, the cost of projects within the 25-year plan cannot exceed the amount of federal and state funding that the SPATS Urban Area expects to receive during the 25-year period.



Long-Range Plan Projects are listed in the LRTP report <http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/>

### **Transportation Improvement Program**

Once a transportation project is approved by the SPATS Policy Committee and adopted into the 25-year transportation plan, it becomes eligible for inclusion within the 5 year **SPATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**. At this point, the project can receive funding leading to construction. The TIP is the annually updated list of federal fund eligible transportation projects in the SPATS Planning Area. The TIP covers a six-year period, including the previous year for review of previously programmed projects, the current year and five years out for future planning and programming.

Current TIP projects are found on the SPATS website at the following link <http://spatsmpo.org/programs/tip-transportation-improvement-program/>

A link reference is also in the Inventory section of the Transportation Element.

## Spartanburg County Public Works

Spartanburg County Roads and Bridges Department constructs and develops roads, bridges and other public works improvements. This department also performs road maintenance activities, such as patching potholes, correcting drainage problems, ditching and cutting off high shoulders, scraping and graveling dirt roads, mowing grass and weeds, cutting trees and limbs on the county right of way and preparing roads for paving. In addition, the Department provides maintenance and installation of all road and bridge signs, utility permit inspections, asphalt resurfacing inspections, rights-of-way research and road data collection, which are vital operations of this department. For several years, the County has utilized a computerized road system data base.

## How to Tell If a Road is maintained by the State or the County

A road is County maintained only if the road sign has the Cardinal Red Bird logo. A State maintained road will have the round State Seal logo and additional black sign S-42-#. S stands for State, 42 for Spartanburg County and the following for the State road number.



The Road Maintenance Fee is enabling Spartanburg County to address County road maintenance and County road improvements on its inventory through the Annual Resurfacing Program and 5-Year Capital Improvement Program.

**Annual Resurfacing Program:** The County spends approximately \$3 million of road fee revenues each year on the asphalt pavement program for County maintained roadways. The program includes asphalt pavement preservation (preventative maintenance), roadway reconstruction, and asphalt pavement installation. A list of roadways that were repaved/rebuilt with road fee revenues are illustrated in the below “Road Maintenance Fee” reports.

Link to documents

<http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/506/Road-Fee-Project-Information>

**Capital Improvement Program:** The County also has a multi-million dollar Capital Improvement Program that includes safety improvements, road widening, intersection improvements, right-of-way maintenance, roadway stripping, bridge replacements, and drainage system repairs. These are major, non-recurring projects and are illustrated in the “Road Maintenance Fee Fund – Summary Since Inception”.

Link to documents

<http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/506/Road-Fee-Project-Information>

## C-fund Program

The SCDOT C-Fund Program is also a source of funding for the Spartanburg County CTC. Allocations are passed along to the municipalities in the County.

The Spartanburg County Transportation Committee is responsible for the financial management, along with the County of Spartanburg's Financial/Administrative Assistance, and Administration

of the program as defined within the statutes governing the "C" Fund program and the existing federal, state and local planning processes through the Legislative Delegation and the SCDOT.

## **Regional Coordination**

### **Travel Demand Model**

MPOs, COGs, SCDOT and the federal transportation partners work together on an ongoing basis to identify transportation priorities.

SPATS is the first MPO in the state to utilize the SCDOT Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG) computerized traffic demand model to forecast future traffic needs for the region. Looking at a travel demand model regionally helps us understand the effect of regional transportation and land use development on the overall transportation system.

SCDOT, ACOG and SPATS and other Upstate MPOs are working to create a process for a more streamlined data collection for a sustainable travel demand model. As they share boundaries, SPATS and GPATS regularly work together on topics of regional interest, particularly shared roadway corridors and transit operations.

SPATS coordinates with the Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG) for projects outside of the designated MPO. The ACOG staff provides towns with regional planning assistance. Page 7 of the SCDOT STIP document outlines the boundaries of the statewide Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Council of Governments.

[http://www.dot.state.sc.us/inside/pdfs/STIP/STIP\\_DDR\\_2017.pdf](http://www.dot.state.sc.us/inside/pdfs/STIP/STIP_DDR_2017.pdf)

### **SPATS and the Ten at the Top Regional Coordination Group**

This group hosts planning discussions on a variety of transportation related issues, such as Air Quality, Regional Data Collection “Shaping Our Future,” bringing the whole region together to identify regional solutions to land use and transportation challenges.

# Transportation Acronyms

**3-C** – Continuing, Cooperative and Comprehensive  
**AADTT** – Average Annual Daily Truck Traffic  
**AADT** – Average Annual Daily Traffic  
**AASHTO** – American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials  
**ADA** – Americans with Disabilities Act  
**ADT** – Average Daily Traffic  
**AVL** – Automatic Vehicle Locator  
**BMW** – Bavarian Motor Works  
**CTC** – County Transportation Committee (C-fund Committee)  
**DPS** – Department of Public Safety  
**EAC** – Early Action Compact  
**EOP** – Emergency Operations Plan  
**EPA** – Environmental Protection Agency  
**ESF** – Emergency Support Function  
**FAA** – Federal Aviation Administration  
**FAST Act** – Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act  
**FHWA** – Federal Highway Administration  
**FTA** – Federal Transit Administration  
**GM** – General Manager  
**GSP** – Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport  
**HOV** – High Occupancy Vehicle  
**ITS** – Intelligent Transportation System  
**JARC** – Job Access Reverse Commute  
**JTC** – Joint Transportation Committee  
**LRTP** – Long Range Transportation Plan  
**MDC** – Mobile Data Consoles  
**MPO** – Metropolitan Planning Organization  
**NHTSA** – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
**OHS** – Office of Highway Safety  
**PDO** – Property Damage Only  
**SCDHEC** – South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control  
**SCDOT** – South Carolina Department of Transportation  
**SCP** – Safety Conscious Planning  
**SCTA** – South Carolina Trucking Association  
**SHSP** – Strategic Highway Safety Plans  
**SMS** – Safety Management Systems  
**SPARTA** – Spartanburg Area Regional Transit Authority  
**SPATS** – Spartanburg Area Transportation Study  
**SRHS** – Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System  
**STP** – Surface Transportation Program  
**STBG** – Surface Transportation Block Grant Program  
**TAC** – Technical Advisory Committee  
**TIP** – Transportation Improvement Program  
**TSA** – Transportation Security Administration  
**TSB** – Spartanburg County Transportation Service Board  
**UPWP** – Unified Planning Work Program  
**VPD** – Vehicles per Day  
**VTE** – Virtual Transit Enterprise  
**V/C** – Volume to Capacity Ratio

Other transportation related terms specific to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program defined here on Page 18:

[http://www.dot.state.sc.us/inside/pdfs/STIP/STIP\\_DDR\\_2017.pdf](http://www.dot.state.sc.us/inside/pdfs/STIP/STIP_DDR_2017.pdf)



# Priority Investment



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## Element

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We are accountable to the citizens of Spartanburg County. As stewards of the public's resources, we acknowledge the public is counting on us – we must set and exceed expectations that ensure our intentions, words, and deeds are beyond reproach.

-Quote from *Spartanburg County 2017/2018 Adopted Operating Budget*:  
(ACCOUNTABILITY Value adopted by County Council as part of the County's mission, vision and values)  
<http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/8106> (page 6)

## Priority Investment Summary

The 2007 South Carolina Priority Investment Act, (“The Act”) an amendment to the South Carolina Local Government Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act, required two additional elements for Comprehensive Plans:

- The Transportation Element is a comprehensive snapshot at all transportation facilities and 20 years ahead for the future of moving people and goods.
- The Priority Investment Element will analyze available federal, state, and local (public) funding for infrastructure and facilities over the next 10 years and recommend how this funding will be spent on public facilities such as roads, water/sewer systems, schools, and quality of life public facilities (parks, active transportation facilities such as trails, sidewalks and cultural/historical related facilities).

The Priority Investment Element is developed in close conjunction with the Capital Improvement Planning Process as it is an established method of identifying capital needs to guide growth and development in Spartanburg County in a fiscally responsible manner, created through the South Carolina Code of Laws.

The Element is also closely coordinated with the:

- Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan,
- Spartanburg County Revenue Manual, and the
- SPATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

## This Element Relates to the Other Comprehensive Plan Elements

The Comprehensive Plan is directly related to how our land use patterns develop, so this plan works in concert with public capital investments such as roads, water/sewer lines, and community facilities, to guide our leaders to make the best land use decisions for our community growth.

The Priority Investment Element makes reference to critical funding sources; however, the “behind-the-scenes” coordination of the provision of public services is quite comprehensive, as shown by each of the other Elements in the Comprehensive Plan. They all work in concert with each other.

The Land Use Element guides growth for more resourceful provision of services appropriate to the character of the community. We want to strike a balance of road improvements within the context of our urban as well as rural communities. 10-year projects mentioned in this element will be critical in order to manage growth in the County, especially in the unincorporated areas as shown in the Future Land Use Map.

The Population Element helps us understand what demographic trends dictate the current and future public service needs of our residents.

The Economic Development Element helps develop a balance of business and industrial employment appropriate to our population growth.

The Natural Resources and Cultural Resources Elements identify and plan for special and preserved areas that contribute to our unique quality of life.

The Community Facilities Element balances land use planning with public services and facility planning.

The Housing Element makes recommendations to provide a balance of various types of housing that is safe and affordable.

The Transportation Element takes the federally required Long-Range Transportation Plan, completed in 2016, and outlines transportation needs for an extended amount of time for the whole region (20 years) but around 10 years for Spartanburg County transportation needs.

### **Intergovernmental Coordination of Land Use and the Provision of Public Services**

The Priority Investment Element serves as Spartanburg County's plan to cooperate with our many partners in the provision of public services. We acknowledge that we could never cover all the funding needs, but **FORWARDTOGETHER** we can work to strike a balance between growth and development in a cost-effective manner. The Coordination section of this Element reviews the multiple entities we work with which have available funding to leverage and are affected by the decisions of the Spartanburg County Council.

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In today's complex environment, no one sector or entity can work without the support of others. We will seek, establish, and leverage cross-sector partnerships with community-based organizations, educational institutions, businesses, and other governmental entities to collectively build a better Spartanburg County.

Quote from Spartanburg County 2017/2018 Adopted Operating Budget:  
(COLLABORATION Value adopted by County Council as part of  
the County's mission, vision and values)  
<http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/8106> (page 6)

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### **Revenue Sources**

This section reviews the multiple federal, state, and local funds likely to be available to the County for the next ten years toward infrastructure and facilities. Each funding source purpose, legal authority, reliability, timing, availability, and flexibility is examined.

### **Supplemental Potential Sources of Funds**

This section reviews the sources of funds the County may be pursuing at this time or in the near future, given the varying conditions in the County over the next ten years.

## **Funded Projects**

This section reviews the projects linked directly to the adopted 2018-2022 Capital Improvements Plan including:

- County Buildings and Facilities projects,
- Road Infrastructure projects,
- Bridge projects,
- Solid Waste projects,
- Public Safety projects,
- Technology projects,
- Community Development projects, and
- Parks and Recreation projects.

CIP Project lists with descriptions, justification, link to County Council Goals and Objectives, status, funding sources, and expenditures are located at the following link:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management>

Projects currently funded in the **SPATS 2018-2023 Transportation Improvement Program or “TIP” and the overall State Transportation Improvement Program or “STIP”** are also provided through a link in this section. Funding categories include Guideshare projects as well as Non-guideshare projects from the Interstate, Safety, Bridges, Recreational Trails and Transportation Alternatives Programs. Transit program projects are also included in the TIP and STIP.

**TIP link:** <http://spatsmpo.org/programs/tip-transportation-improvement-program/>

**STIP link:** <http://www.scdot.org/inside/planning-stip.aspx>

## **Unfunded Projects**

Unfunded projects under road infrastructure or public facilities are included in this Element. These projects have been identified as important through the CIP process but do not have funding attached to them at the time of the CIP adoption.

SPATS also identifies unfunded transportation needs over a long-term through the SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan process. Projects are chosen over a 25-year horizon and are chosen from this list and programmed to become part of the TIP as funding becomes available. Suggestions to reduce the funding gap for the many needs of the County are discussed in this Element also.

Recommended Plans, Programs, and Studies are reviewed as they further refine the County’s goals and coordinated efforts across organizations and jurisdictions, including:

- SPARTANBURG COUNTY TOURISM ACTION PLAN,  
<https://spartanburgparks.org/plans/>
- SPARTANBURG COUNTY PARKS ENHANCEMENT PLAN,  
<https://spartanburgparks.org/plans/>

- SPARTANBURG COUNTY BLUEWAYS PLAN,  
<https://spartanburgparks.org/river-accessblueways/>
- SPARTANBURG URBAN TRAILS AND GREENWAYS MASTER PLAN,  
<https://spartanburgparks.org/plans/>
- SPARTANBURG COUNTY SOLID WASTE MASTER PLAN,  
<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/158/Solid-Waste>

And other guiding documents and plans of the following committees:

- SPARTANBURG COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE,  
<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/155/Public-Works>
- SPARTANBURG AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY,  
<http://spatsmpo.org/>
- SPARTANBURG COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/152/Planning-and-Development>

and the

AREA PERFORMANCE PLANNING PROJECT:

<http://spartanburgcountyapp.org/>

More detail can be found in the full Priority Investment Element and in other Elements of the Spartanburg County Comprehensive Plan.

**GOALS** and Objectives are based on the County Council Strategic Plan Goals, revised November 2017, and can be found in the **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN** section.



## Priority Investment Element

### Intergovernmental Coordination

Intergovernmental coordination of land use and the provision of public services is key to ensure growth and development is consistent across county and municipality boundaries. Assets and concerns for Spartanburg County do not stay within the county boundary, and there are many stakeholders in Spartanburg County involved in the provision of public services. Therefore, these recommendations are made in coordination with communities, jurisdictions and agencies that are affected by the decisions of the Spartanburg County Planning Commission, which is granted planning authority over public projects by the State of South Carolina. To that end, we acknowledge our multiple public-private partnerships with community-based organizations help us reach County goals. This type of land use and transportation coordination will also aid in economic vitality and resourcefulness for our community health, safety, and welfare.

These bodies involved in the provision of public services may include:

- **Municipalities** (list on ACOG site) <http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/Spartanburg.aspx>

Campobello	<a href="http://www.townofcampobello.com/">http://www.townofcampobello.com/</a> <a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/campobello.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/campobello.aspx</a>
Central Pacolet	<a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/centralpacolet.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/centralpacolet.aspx</a>
Chesnee	<a href="http://www.cityofchesnee.org/default.asp?sec_id=180007731">http://www.cityofchesnee.org/default.asp?sec_id=180007731</a> <a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/chesnee.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/chesnee.aspx</a>
Cowpens	<a href="https://www.townofcowpens.com/">https://www.townofcowpens.com/</a> <a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/cowpens.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/cowpens.aspx</a>
Duncan	<a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/duncan.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/duncan.aspx</a>
Greer	<a href="http://www.cityofgreer.org/">http://www.cityofgreer.org/</a>
Inman	<a href="https://www.cityofinman.org/">https://www.cityofinman.org/</a> <a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/inman.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/inman.aspx</a>
Landrum	<a href="http://cityoflandrumsc.com/">http://cityoflandrumsc.com/</a> <a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/landrum.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/landrum.aspx</a>
Lyman	<a href="http://www.lymansc.gov/">http://www.lymansc.gov/</a> <a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/lyman.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/lyman.aspx</a>
Pacolet	<a href="https://www.townofpacolet.com/">https://www.townofpacolet.com/</a> <a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/pacolet.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/pacolet.aspx</a>
Reidville	<a href="http://www.townofreidville.org/">http://www.townofreidville.org/</a> <a href="http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/reidville.aspx">http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/reidville.aspx</a>

Spartanburg <http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/>  
<http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/cSpartanburg.aspx>

Wellford <http://www.cityofwellford.com/>  
<http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/wellford.aspx>

Woodruff <https://www.cityofwoodruff.com/>  
<http://regionaldirectory.scacog.org/woodruff.aspx>

- **Adjacent counties**

Greenville <https://www.greenvillecounty.org/>  
Cherokee <https://cherokeecountysc.gov/>  
Laurens <https://laurenscounty.us/>  
Union [https://www.countyofunion.org/default.asp?sec\\_id=180003405](https://www.countyofunion.org/default.asp?sec_id=180003405)  
Polk County, NC <http://www.polknc.org/>  
Rutherford County, NC <https://www.rutherfordcountync.gov/>

- **Public services** (see Community Facilities Element)
- **School districts 2-7** (see Community Facilities Element)
- **Utility Providers** (see Community Facilities Element)

- **Local Agencies and Transportation Providers**

SPARTA (Spartanburg Regional Transportation Association)  
<http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/sparta/routes>

Spartanburg Regional Transportation Service Bureau (TSB)  
<https://www.spartanburgregional.com/community/transportation-services/>

City of Spartanburg Downtown Airport  
<http://www.cityofspartanburg.org/airport>

- **Regional Agencies and Transportation Providers** (not an exhaustive list)

Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS)  
<http://www.spatsmpo.org>

Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG)  
<http://www.scacog.org/>

Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport  
<https://www.gspairport.com/>

- **State Agencies** (not an exhaustive list)

SC Dept. of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)  
<http://www.scdhec.gov/>

SC Dept. of Transportation (SCDOT)  
<http://www.dot.state.sc.us/>

SC Ports Authority  
<http://www.scspace.com/>

## **Understanding the Revenue Sources**

Spartanburg County federal, state, and local funds likely to be available for the next ten years toward infrastructure and facilities, include, but are not limited to the following. Each funding source purpose, legal authority, reliability, timing, availability, and flexibility is examined.

**General Fund**-The General Fund includes all funding sources for Spartanburg County not otherwise allocated to other activities. Funding sources could include: ad valorem (based on value) such as real estate and property taxes, licenses, permits, fees for services, fines, intergovernmental revenue, and miscellaneous revenue. General government services, public safety, infrastructure projects, and services are usually paid for through the general fund. General fund expenditures usually include salaries, operating costs, fuel costs, as well as building and equipment renovations. The status of the General Fund varies from year to year through the adoption of the annual budget.

Other funds which go directly towards the implementation of infrastructure projects include:

**General Obligations Bonds**- (funds go towards County Buildings and Facilities and Public Safety projects) are backed by the full faith and credit of the County. The principal and interest on GO bonds are paid through a dedicated debt service property tax levy.

**Road Maintenance Fee Fund**- (funds County Roads Infrastructure) is collected \$25 annually per registered vehicle as part of the vehicle property tax bill. The state grants the County the authority to make appropriations for county operations and functions such as roads. The fund is utilized for maintenance, repair, and upgrade of County roads and overseen by the County. A portion of the fund is set aside for municipalities depending on their number of road miles as compared to the County road miles. For more detail, please see:

<http://www.spartanburgcounty.org/506/Road-Fee-Project-Information>

**State C-Funds** – State motor vehicle user fee allocated to Spartanburg County every Spring to fund Roads Infrastructure (roads and bridges projects) as approved by the County Transportation Committee. At least 25% of these funds and/or all of the proceeds from the recently enacted Act 40 (whichever is greater) must be spent on transportation improvements to the state road system. The majority of these funds go toward Countywide Asphalt Resurfacing. See more about the C-fund program in the Transportation Element, Process and Partnering Roles section.

**Stormwater Management Fund** – funds Infrastructure, specifically for the replacement and repair of bridges and large culverts on County-owned roads. These proactive improvements prevent unexpected road closures, ensure roadway network viability, and keeps the traveling public safe.

**Solid Waste Fund** – funds landfill operations and other solid waste collection and disposal expenses. The recent increases in the household solid waste fee, the primary revenue source of the fund, has increased the annual fee to \$57 per household. These changes have been made in order to fund the construction of the Phase VII MSW landfill and ensure continued disposal capacity for the next 25 years.

**Methane Sales Fund** – funds operations as it pertains to the landfill gas collection system at the Wellford Landfill. The funds come from proceeds of the landfill gas-to-energy project set up by the County in 2011 with two partners. The amount of revenue coming in is dictated by methane production, partner consumption needs, and the fluctuating price of natural gas.

**Parks Fund** – funds Community Park and Playground improvements, and resources for the maintenance and operations of County-owned parks, centers, and events from the 5.0 mil Parks Levy. Also funds Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure to ensure connectivity of existing facilities toward the goal of completing a safe walking and bicycling network for residents and visitors.

**Hospitality Tax** - funds tourist-related expenses from the collection of the County’s 2% tax on prepared meals and beverages. This tax is collected by business owners and remitted directly to Spartanburg County. Proceeds from the collection of Hospitality tax funds:

- debt service obligations related to tourism focused parks,
- the promotion of Spartanburg County for tourism purposes, and
- capital projects and operational expenditures incurred for tourism.

**Accommodations Tax** - funds tourism promotion and tourism related expenditures. This 2% tax on lodging is imposed on all accommodations in the State of South Carolina. These funds are collected by the State and then distributed to all counties and municipalities. Tourism projects and promotions are reviewed by the County Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee and a funding recommendation is presented to County Council for review and consideration.

Another source of funding for major CIP projects and the program which receives the revenue is the **911 Phone Fund** for Public Safety and Technology at County Buildings and Facilities.

**State and Federal Funding Sources Anticipated to Spartanburg County for the CIP-**

- Federal Housing and Urban Development HOME Program
- Federal CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Program for Affordable Housing/Housing Rehabilitation and Community Improvements

**Spartanburg County Revenue Manual**

More detail on CIP project funding sources is found on the Spartanburg County Budget Management “Other Resources” webpage in the 2016 Spartanburg County Revenue Manual:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management>

### **FY 2018-22 Adopted Capital Improvement Plan**

A comprehensive list of Approved Funding Sources with Applicable CIP Projects can be found on the Spartanburg County Budget Management “Current Year Budgets” webpage in the FY 2018-22 Adopted Capital Improvement Plan, page 23-25:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management>

### **SUPPLEMENTAL POTENTIAL SOURCES OF FUNDS**

(or ones County is pursuing or recommends to pursue in the near future)

Projected revenues are predicted to change given varying conditions in the County over the next 10 years.

#### **Local Government Fund** (with legislation)

The Local Government Fund provides resources to the County to help defray the costs of delivering mandated state services such as administration of the Judicial system, housing of state agencies, etc. State statute specifies a funding formula of 4.5% of the State’s General Fund from the prior year. In recent years, the state has taken action to suspend the formula as part of its budget adoption process and to underfund the LGF. As a result, the County has heavily subsidized mandated state functions. While allocations have been increasing in recent years, they remain significantly below the statutory formula levels. Funding levels are not expected to change for FY 19.

#### **State and Federal Grants**

Multiple grant funding is available through state, federal, and local grant programs with an application. Spartanburg County has utilized multiple grant funding sources in the past and will continue to pursue them for major CIP projects. Most require a local match-again, another reason why our public-private partnerships with community-based organizations is so vital to achieving our goals. Some examples include funds from the SC Dept. of Natural Resources, SC Dept. of Commerce, SC Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, US Department of the Interior, and SCDOT/FHWA/FTA.

**State Infrastructure Bank (SIB)** provides loans and other financial assistance for major transportation projects such as bridge replacements, rehabilitation projects, and expansion and improvement projects for existing interstates.

### **Funded Projects**

The most recent 2017-2018 Annual Capital Improvements Budget is linked to the 5-Year Capital Improvements Plan in order to reach goals and objectives for infrastructure.

#### **Projects funded by the CIP**

“The CIP is a five-year planning tool used to identify needed capital projects and to coordinate financing and timing of the projects.”



The projects planned for the next 10 years, as coordinated with other service providers, give us a good picture of managing the development in the County as shown on the Future Land Use Map.

Spartanburg County FY 2018-2022 Adopted Capital Improvement Plan  
<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management>

Funding Source and Expenditure Overview by CIP category is located on page 14.

Some of these projects by CIP category are outlined below:

### **County Buildings and Facilities Projects**

Spartanburg County operates and maintains more than 25 county-owned buildings representing a wide variety of public services. These buildings and special use facilities such as parks or waste collection centers all have a useful life. Maintenance of these is vital to providing efficient public service. Projects include the renovation and maintenance program, equipment repairs, a call system, paving, and roof replacements, with funding sources from the General Fund and the General Obligations Bond.

CIP Project lists with description, justification, link to County Council Goals and Objectives, status, funding sources, and expenditures are located at the following link:  
<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management>, page 29-42

### **Road Infrastructure Projects**

Spartanburg County is comprised of 814 square miles with approximately 1720 centerline miles of county maintained roads. Roads are routinely evaluated and ranked based on their Overall Condition Index (OCI) for roughness, surface distress, skid resistance, and deflection. The higher the OCI rating, the better the condition. As roads deteriorate, the cost per mile to resurface them increases significantly. Roads with OCI ratings of 60 and higher are considered to be good roads while roads rated lower than OCI 60 are in need of repair. The FY 2016 OCI report shows that 12% of the roads in the county are in need of repair.

As roads truly shape land patterns, it is important that road infrastructure projects and corridors are closely coordinated with the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan, Capital Improvements, and the SPATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). With the passing of Act 40, the CTC is currently reevaluating project prioritization and has made the commitment that the bulk of funding (at least in the near future) will be going towards asphalt resurfacing.

### **Roads Infrastructure link from CIP Annual Budget to CIP Plan**

In 2017/2018, approximately \$7.1 million is allocated to road infrastructure. In addition, approximately \$427,770 is allocated to equipment replacements needed to maintain the roads and complete construction projects.

Over the next five years, \$36.4 million is allocated for road infrastructure, with \$5 million allocated for equipment replacement.

Funding sources include the General Fund, the Road Maintenance Fee, State C-Funds, and the Storm Water Management Fund.

### **Bridge Projects**

Spartanburg County owns and maintains 156 bridges (152 considered “good” and 4 load restricted at this time). All bridge inspections are completed by SCDOT every two years.

Based on evaluation, projects include county-wide asphalt resurfacing as well as bridge and culvert repair and maintenance, pavement preservation, 2 bridge replacements, municipal road repair, evaluation program, sign program, a major road reconstruction and an overview of the Belue Infrastructure Fund projects. Funding sources include the General Fund, the Road Maintenance Fee, State C-Funds, and the Storm Water Management Fund.

CIP Project lists with description, justification, link to County Council Goals and Objectives, status, funding sources, and expenditures are located at the following link:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management> , page 45-54

SCDOT bridge projects are listed on the SCDOT website in Project Viewer at this link:

<https://scdot.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=ca1cd69fc88945f4bb465e16765d761c>

### **Solid Waste Projects**

In 2017/2018, approximately \$3.9 million is allocated for solid waste infrastructure, with over \$9.8 million allocated over the next 5 years. Specifically, \$3.65 million has been budgeted in FY 2017/2018 for the first cell of the Phase VII MSW landfill without the use of debt. A vital facility for in-county residential waste disposal, a future cell for this facility is budgeted to be constructed in FY 2020/2021.

These CIP investments will help the County provide for household waste disposal for approximately 30 years, and ensure facility accessibility for citizens over time.

Projects include Collection Center updates, gas collection system expansion, and landfill projects. Funding sources include the Solid Waste Fund and the Methane Fund.

CIP Project lists with description, justification, link to County Council Goals and Objectives, status, funding sources, and expenditures are located at the following link:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management>, pages 57-62

### **Public Safety Projects**

Public Safety capital improvements are vital to ensuring the safety of the public in an efficient way. Projects include communication improvements and equipment, with funding sources of the 911 Phone Fund, Debt Service Transfer, General Fund and the General Obligations Bond.

CIP Project lists with description, justification, link to County Council Goals and Objectives, status, funding sources, and expenditures are located at the following link:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management> , pages 64-70

### **Technology Projects**

County investments in technology infrastructure in the provision of public service offer more effective customer service and more efficient use of equipment. Technology investments include hardware and software, with funding sources of the 911 Phone Fund, Capital Lease Proceeds, Information Technology Capital Reserve Fund and the General Fund.

CIP Project lists with description, justification, link to County Council Goals and Objectives, status, funding sources, and expenditures are located at the following link:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management>, pages 73-84

### **Community Development Projects**

These projects will allow a more efficient land use planning process and policy framework. The availability of water and sewer lines shape land use patterns by producing changes in land values and the intensity of development. More updated and efficient infrastructure also helps increase property values and bring a general improvement in quality of life.

Projects include a focus on affordable housing opportunities and owner-occupied housing rehabilitation, as well as community improvements such as road paving, water/sewer upgrades, and the improvement of facilities which provide services to the low to moderate income population. Funding sources include the General Fund, Federal Housing and Urban Development HOME Program, Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Also included is Comprehensive Planning and Area Performance Planning, which will help us plan for more orderly growth and development in the County. <http://spartanburgcountyapp.org/>

CIP Project lists with description, justification, link to County Council Goals and Objectives, status, funding sources, and expenditures are located at the following link:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management> , pages 86-88

### **Parks and Recreation Projects**

Investments in parks and recreation projects allow the County to continue to provide vital quality of life services to the community. Commitment to a multi-year parks improvement plan will improve existing parks and build new parks and recreation facilities including trails and expansion of the Tyger and Pacolet blueways (kayak trails) for residents and visitors. Funding sources include the Parks Fund and the Hospitality Tax. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure project, which will expand the trail and sidewalk network (see Transportation Element) and promote eco-tourism, will be a public-private partnership in coordination with community-based organizations in administration and funding.

CIP Project lists with description, justification, link to County Council Goals and Objectives, status, funding sources, and expenditures are located at the following link:

<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management> , pages 97-101

**\*\*Vehicle and equipment purchases vital to the implementation of infrastructure projects are also included in the Spartanburg County Capital Improvement Plan.**

### **Projects funded by the current SPATS TIP/STIP**

The Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS) is the designated Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization responsible for transportation planning within the Spartanburg urban area. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) “Guideshare” funding is available to the SPATS MPO for transportation projects through the FAST Act transportation legislation. Spartanburg’s funding allocation is based on the Spartanburg urban’s area population compared to the state population applied to the amount of funding available. With the exception of interstate funding, the guideshare allocation is the main source for major new location roadway projects in the SPATS area.

Projects in the SPATS Transportation Improvement Program Update (2016) by funding source can be found at the following links:

<http://spatsmpo.org/programs/tip-transportation-improvement-program/>

Guideshare projects can be found at this same link. The current version as of this publication is titled SPATS TIP, FY 2018-2023 (April 2018)

Non-guideshare projects can also be found in this location. The current version as of this publication is titled SPATS TIP, Nonguideshare (April 2018)

The most recently approved Transit projects are titled SPATS Transit Request – June 19, 2017 at the following link:

[http://spatsmpo.org/bin/dl/Transit\\_Request\\_June\\_19\\_2017.pdf](http://spatsmpo.org/bin/dl/Transit_Request_June_19_2017.pdf)

### **Selected Unfunded Spartanburg County CIP Proposed Projects for Road Infrastructure or Public Facilities**

#### **Proposed Projects Priority Class A:**

##### **Roadway Improvements**

**FY 2017/18 - \$25,000,000**

**Priority Class: A-1**

**Project Category: Road Infrastructure**

Proposed resources to improve our existing roadway infrastructure to make it safer and more conducive to today’s traffic patterns.

##### **Belcher Road Bridge Replacement**

**FY 2018/19 - \$975,000**

**Priority Class: A-2**

**Project Category: Road Infrastructure**

Proposed replacement of the bridge on Belcher Road, located near the Inman and Boiling Springs communities.

#### **Proposed Projects Priority Class B:**

**Dirt Road Surfacing****FY 2017/18 - \$910,000****Priority Class: B-6****Project Category: Road Infrastructure**

Proposed resources to surface ten dirt roads within the County.

**Cherokee Springs EMS Station****FY 2018/19 - \$659,000****Priority Class: B-7****Project Category: Public Safety**

Proposed construction of a twenty-four hour transport ambulance station on property in the Cherokee Springs area.

**Proposed Projects Priority Class C:****Pavement Rehabilitation (Landfill)****FY 2017/18 - \$280,000****Priority Class: C-5****Project Category: Solid Waste**

Proposed resources to improve the roadway network within the Wellford Landfill that is used to direct commercial traffic to specific disposal areas.

Priority B and C proposed projects also include **County Building and Facilities renovations or upgrades, and equipment or vehicle replacement.**

(full list at <https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/172/Budget-Management>, pages 105-109)

**SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan Unfunded Projects**

The SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan outlines unfunded transportation needs for the next 25 years identified through the transportation planning process. Projects will be chosen from this list as additional funds become available. The full list of projects is on the SPATS website at: <http://spatsmpo.org/planning/2015-long-range-transportation-plan/>

**SUGGESTIONS TO REDUCE THE FUNDING GAP**

The Comprehensive Plan Land Use Element identifies how the County plans to direct the right amount and type of development to the right areas. Meeting the development needs of the residents has to be balanced with an eye on the right placement of development. Development should be guided to the right locations for the most efficient use of resources.

Approaches to more efficient use of infrastructure include:

- Tools of market-based incentives
- Promotion of affordable housing and mixed use development/redevelopment
- Density bonuses, relaxed zoning regulations such as lot area requirements, setbacks
- Reduced or waived fees
- Fast track permitting



- Design flexibility
- Donation of right-of-way by developers and others
- Eliminating certain regulations to make the development process more efficient and eventually save taxpayer dollars.

Circumstances vary and may not impact the available funds for Spartanburg County infrastructure or facilities.

## **Recommended Plans, Programs and Studies**

For Spartanburg County, the CIP is developed with respect to the overarching goals and specific recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan. Other County plans, studies, and programs support and further refine the County goals, coordinated across organizations and jurisdictions to ensure maximization of taxpayers' funds. They are referenced here and outlined in more detail in other sections of the Spartanburg County Comprehensive Plan:

- SPARTANBURG COUNTY TOURISM ACTION PLAN,  
<https://spartanburgparks.org/plans/>
- SPARTANBURG COUNTY PARKS ENHANCEMENT PLAN,  
<https://spartanburgparks.org/plans/>
- SPARTANBURG COUNTY BLUEWAYS PLAN,  
<https://spartanburgparks.org/river-accessblueways/>
- SPARTANBURG URBAN TRAILS AND GREENWAYS MASTER PLAN,  
<https://spartanburgparks.org/plans/>
- SPARTANBURG COUNTY SOLID WASTE MASTER PLAN,  
<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/158/Solid-Waste>

And other guiding documents and plans of the following committees:

- SPARTANBURG COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE,  
<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/155/Public-Works>
- SPARTANBURG AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY,  
<http://spatsmpo.org/>
- SPARTANBURG COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
<https://www.spartanburgcounty.org/152/Planning-and-Development>

and the

AREA PERFORMANCE PLANNING PROJECT:

<http://spartanburgcountyapp.org/>

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“Through Area Performance Planning, Spartanburg County Council is providing a foundation for superior quality of life for residents, unlimited opportunities for business and an exceptional learning environment for education through purposeful planning, investment and use of resources. Area Performance Planning is about protecting property owners and Spartanburg County’s rich cultural, historical and natural destinations, while simultaneously encouraging sound economic growth. Using growth trajectories as a guide and road classifications as the methodology, Area Performance Planning provides the flexibility to accommodate market principles while balancing private property rights.”

(spartanburgcountyapp.org)

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