



## Charleston County News Release

Release Number: 2936  
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### County Council Awards \$4.3 Million for Greenbelt Projects

*Funds from the Transportation Half-Cent Sales Tax support greenbelt projects*

At a regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 21, [Charleston County Council](#) approved \$4,279,680 to fund six urban greenbelt projects and one rural greenbelt project under the Charleston County Greenbelt Grant Program.

The projects will be funded by the [greenbelt portion of the Transportation Half-Cent Sales Tax](#) revenues.

The six urban projects were approved by the Urban Grant Review Committee and the Charleston County Parks and Recreation Commission before they were brought to Charleston County Council for final approval. The rural project was approved by the County's Greenbelt Bank Board before being brought to Charleston County Council for final approval.

#### The urban municipal projects are:

City of Charleston: \$364,815 for 118 acres

- 118 acres on the northern tip of Morris Island, known as Cummings Point
- Proposed use is for a passive park

City of North Charleston: \$794,915 for 11 acres

- Four properties to be purchased by the city of North Charleston
- One property is located in Midland Park and will be used as a community park.
- Three properties are located in the Filbin Creek and Noisette Creek area and will be linked with other parcels.
- Proposed use is for a passive park

#### The urban unincorporated Charleston County project is:

Four Mile Community Association: \$269,950 for .88 acres

- .88 acres on Pat Kelly Lane in Mt. Pleasant
- The project will provide a passive park for the community and act as a buffer to commercial development.

#### The rural project is:

Town of Awendaw and Charleston County Parks and Recreation Commission

- \$2,850,000 for 60.69 acres
- The proposed use is for a regional park

Now that Charleston County Council has approved funding, grant agreements will be executed between the County and the greenbelt grant recipients. Once all necessary documents (appraisals, plats, environmental assessments, title insurance, etc.) are submitted and approved, closings will be conducted and greenbelt funds will be disbursed.

Greenbelt funds from the Transportation Half-Cent Sales Tax can be used for the acquisition of land and/or purchase of development rights. Funds may also be used to support the following minor improvements that provide public access and use of conservation lands purchased with greenbelt funds:

- Boardwalks
- Unpaved roadways
- Foot bridges
- Unpaved small parking areas
- Unpaved trails

So far, the Charleston County Transportation Half-Cent Sales Tax has provided \$37 million toward the preservation of greenspace in Charleston County, with \$13 million dedicated for urban areas and \$24 million for rural areas.

[CLICK HERE](#) for a list of the urban and rural greenbelt projects funded to date.

## **SIDEBAR – Application Approval Dates and Future Opportunities**

### **URBAN GRANT PROJECTS**

- The next round of greenbelt project applications for the [Urban Grant Program](#) may be submitted through 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2009. Completed applications with required attachments should be mailed or hand delivered to:  
Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax Programs  
Attn: Greenbelt Programs  
4045 Bridge View Drive, Suite C204  
North Charleston, SC 29405
- Any applications received after 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2009, will not be considered for this round of rural funding. Post marks will not be considered.

### **RURAL GRANT PROJECTS**

- The next round of greenbelt project applications for the [Rural Grant Program](#) may be submitted through 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 31, 2008. Completed applications with required attachments shall be mailed or hand delivered to:  
Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax Programs  
Attn: Greenbelt Programs  
4045 Bridge View Drive, Suite C204  
North Charleston, SC 29405
- Any applications received after 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 31, 2008, will not be considered for this round of rural funding. Post marks will not be considered.

## **SIDEBAR – Background Information on the Charleston County Greenbelt Program**

- The Charleston County Transportation Half-Cent Sales Tax referendum was approved by voters in November of 2004.
- Collection of the Transportation Sales Tax began in May 2005 and will continue for 25 years or until \$1.303 billion is generated for transportation and greenspace related projects and improvements.
- Funds from the Transportation Half-Cent Sales Tax are distributed as follows:
  - **\$1,081,788,800** for highways, bridges, roads, streets and mass transit systems (such as CARTA - Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority, and RTMA - Rural Transportation Management Authority)
  - **\$221,571,200** for the Charleston County Greenbelt Program through an Urban and Rural Grants Program. The purpose of the grants program is to implement the County's Greenbelt Plan for the conservation of greenspace in Charleston County.

For more information on the [Charleston County Greenbelt Program](#), contact Cathy Ruff by phone at (843) 202-7204 or by e-mail at [cruff@charlestoncounty.org](mailto:cruff@charlestoncounty.org).