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Public Input Continues on Where and How Growth Should Occur in Charleston County

Public workshops were held to gather public input for Charleston County's Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Review.

In June 2014, Charleston County Government hosted five public workshops in five different areas of the County to gather input on the <u>five-year review</u> of the <u>Charleston County Comprehensive Plan</u>. The main objectives of the five-year review are to:

- Review and revise the location of the Urban Growth Boundary for consistency with geographic features, property boundaries, and the Urban Growth Boundaries adopted by the City of Charleston and Town of Mount Pleasant;
- Review and revise the future land use designations to reflect current demographic trends and community needs and desires;
- Review and revise the goals, needs, and strategies of all Plan elements; and
- Update the implementation work plan.

As part of the five-year review, the existing conditions of all Plan elements will be updated, which includes updating demographic and statistical data. All maps will also be updated to include overlay zoning districts adopted since the 2008 Plan update and to reflect current municipal boundaries and other applicable data.

In addition to attending the public workshops to learn about the review of the Plan, citizens are also able to access all of the information on the County's <u>webpage</u> and submit comments online or via email throughout the adoption process.

"Expanding the opportunities for citizen comments results in a larger collection of valuable input on where and how growth should occur in Charleston County and how best to manage that growth," said Zoning and Planning Director Dan Pennick.

The public input gathered to date, along with the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, will be presented to the <u>Charleston County Planning Commission</u> on **Monday, Sept. 8, 2014 at 2 p.m.** at the Council Committee Room in the Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building, located at 4045 Bridge View Drive, North Charleston, SC 29405.

The draft Plan amendments and <u>Public Comment Summary Report</u> are available <u>online</u>. Following Planning Commission's recommendation, all public comments will be forwarded to Charleston County Council, which will hold at least one public hearing. Three readings are required for adoption of the five-year review and amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. All meetings are open to the public, and citizens are encouraged to attend and provide additional feedback.

To stay involved in the process, visit the <u>Zoning and Planning Department's webpage</u> or follow the Department on <u>Facebook</u>. Upon adoption of the five-year review, the Planning Commission and Zoning and Planning Department staff will begin working on the implementation work plan.

What is the Charleston County Comprehensive Plan?

Charleston County's Comprehensive Plan is an expression of the County's intent for where and how future growth and development should occur. The Plan also identifies parts of the County that may or may not be appropriate for certain types of growth, given the Lowcountry's unique character and natural conditions.

Why does the Comprehensive Plan need to be reviewed?

Title 6, Chapter 29 of the South Carolina Code of Laws requires that the Comprehensive Plan be reviewed at least once every five years and updated at least once every ten years. The original Comprehensive Plan was adopted by County Council on Apr. 20, 1999. The first five-year review was adopted on Nov. 18, 2003; the first ten-year update was adopted on Nov. 18, 2008; and the Charleston County Planning Commission adopted a resolution completing the second five-year review on Oct. 14, 2013.

Who is involved in the review process?

- The public
- Stakeholders
- **Charleston County Council:**
- **Charleston County Planning Commission**
- Charleston County Zoning & Planning Department

Visit the Charleston County Web Site at:

http://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/Planning/CompPlanUpdate/index.htm for a direct link to public meeting notices, agendas, presentations, and up-to-date news and information about the Charleston County Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Review.

For information on Charleston County Government news and services, the public can:

- Visit our website: www.charlestoncounty.org
- Follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/ChasCountyGov
- Like us on Facebook (main County site): http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753
 - Board of Elections and Voter Registration: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Board-of-Elections-and-Voter-Registration/103895809694986
 - Consolidated 9-1-1 Center's Public Education Program: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Consolidated-9-1-1-Center-Public-Education-Program/186965438015227
 - Economic Development: https://www.facebook.com/CharlestonCountyED
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 - Zoning and Planning Department: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Zoning-Planning-Department/549596221765813
 - Sheriff's Office: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Sheriffs-Office/557956290949818
- See us on You Tube: http://www.youtube.com/user/charlestoncountygov
- Watch County Council meetings online http://www.ustream.tv/channel/charleston-county-government









