

News Release

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Public Input Needed on Growth in Charleston County

Public workshops will be held to gather input for the county's Comprehensive Plan Ten-Year Update starting March 19

<u>Charleston County Government</u> will hold seven public workshops in different areas of the county in the coming weeks to gather input on proposed amendments to the <u>Charleston County Comprehensive Plan</u> as part of the ten-year update of the plan.

The <u>Charleston County Planning Commission</u> reviewed all ten elements of the plan throughout 2017, and now is in the process of presenting proposed amendments to the public. The public will have an opportunity to give input on the proposed amendments to the plan during the upcoming workshops. Each workshop will have a drop-in format where attendees can view the proposed amendments at their own pace and submit comments and suggestions before leaving the workshops. Citizens can also view and submit comments and suggestions on the county's website at https://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/zoning-planning/comp-plan.php.

"Public participation in the comprehensive planning process is critical to ensure county growth is consistent with the community's vision. Public input also helps guide the provision of county services and impacts future policy decisions that improve the general welfare of all citizens and visitors to Charleston County," said Planning Director Joel Evans.

Details on the seven public workshops:

Monday, March 19, 2018, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Edisto Island Presbyterian Church 2164 Hwy 174, Edisto Island

Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Johns Island High School 1518 Main Road. Johns Island

Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Wando High School 1000 Warrior Way, Mount Pleasant

Monday, March 26, 2018, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Ladson Elementary School 3321 Ladson Road, Ladson

Tuesday, March 27, 2018, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building 4045 Bridge View Drive, North Charleston

Wednesday, March 28, 2018, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. West Ashley High School 4060 W. Wildcat Blvd., West Ashley

Thursday, March 29, 2018, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. James Island Elementary School 1872 Grimball Road, James Island

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. County Council adopted the original Comprehensive Plan on April 20, 1999. The first five-year review was adopted on November 18, 2003; the first ten-year update was adopted on November 18, 2008; and the second five-year review was completed in October 2013 and implemented in January 2015.

Who is involved in the update process?

- The public;
- Stakeholders;
- Charleston County Council;
- Charleston County Planning Commission: and
- Charleston County Zoning & Planning Department staff

How does the process work?

- The Charleston County Planning Commission reviewed the Comprehensive Plan elements during their regular meetings, beginning in April 2017 and culminating in January 2018.
- Public workshops will be held in seven locations to gather public input on the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan to implement the Planning Commission review.
- The Planning Commission will review the input gathered from the public workshops and make a recommendation to Council regarding the Comprehensive Plan amendments to implement the Ten-Year Update. All Planning Commission meetings are open to the public.
- County Council will hold at least one public hearing regarding the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and adopt the amendments after three readings. All County Council meetings are open to the public.

Visit the Charleston County website at https://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/zoning-planning/comp-plan.php for a direct link to public meeting notices, agendas, presentations, and up-to-date news and information about the Charleston County Comprehensive Plan Ten-Year Update.

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
- See us on You Tube: http://www.youtube.com/user/charlestoncountygov
- Watch County Council meetings online http://www.ustream.tv/channel/charleston-county-government



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