Calhoun County Comprehensive Plan

JANUARY 19, 2023 PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING



Today's Meeting

- Review of work to date on the Comprehensive Plan
- Review of the Existing Land Use Map
- DRAFT Future Land Use Map
- Review of SWOT analysis from October 2022 Planning Commission meeting
- Group Participation Exercises
 - Land Use Maps
 - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT)
 - Survey and Comment Forms

Calhoun County Today

- Rural county on the edge of Columbia Metro Area
- Population has changed very little since 1950s
- Job losses in agriculture mechanization and shift in products
- Manufacturing job growth in northern Calhoun
- Population has shifted from south to north
- Aging Population median age is 46 now, was 33 in 1990

SC Population Trends



Calhoun County Population Trend



Calhoun County Economy



Source: County Business Patterns

Comprehensive Planning Process

- Staff prepares data, maps and background materials for each element
- Planning Commission reviews and provides direction on goals and objectives
- Staff prepares draft of each of the 10 plan elements
- Public engagement activities
 - Scheduled public meetings
 - Presentations to community groups
 - Information on County Website



Comprehensive Plan Elements

Ten Elements

- Population
- Housing
- Land Use
- Natural Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Community Facilities
- Transportation
- Economic Development
- Resiliency (ability to survive, adapt, and grow despite "acute shocks" and "chronic stress")
- Priority Investment

Public Involvement

- Strategic planning analysis of the county
- Expand the circle of people involved
 - encourage friends and colleagues to participate
- Presentations to community groups
 - church men's clubs, women's clubs, civic groups
- Community meetings to obtain input from citizens
 - Group exercises and "voting" on different ideas
 - Survey and Comment forms
 - Informational materials on the County Website





SWOT: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

- A way to examine the community and discuss ways to improve
- Identify long-term needs and priorities of the community
 - Build on Strengths
 - Manage Weaknesses
 - Capitalize on Opportunities
 - Minimize Threats



Existing Land Use

- Land Use is NOT the same as zoning
 - How is land being used currently (Industrial, Residential, Commercial, Agricultural, etc.)
- Developed based on tax records, aerial photos, and field observations
- Not a perfect inventory, audience comments and corrections to the map are encouraged
 - "Agricultural Transitional" uses are identified based on rollback taxes on properties
 - Multiple tax classifications on properties create some imprecision in classifying land use

Zoning

- Existing zoning outside of the Sandy Run area is limited
- Most of the county has Rural Undeveloped (RU) zoning with few restrictions on land use
- County-wide restrictions and regulations on "locally undesirable" land uses such as
 - Racetracks
 - Landfills
 - Sexually oriented businesses
 - Salvage yards
 - Solar Farms
 - Slaughter houses, stock yards, hog farms and large scale poultry farms



Future Land Use Map

- Normally not intended to be precise; sometimes called a "general land use plan"
- Often identifies "Centers" and "Corridors" for different types and intensities of development
 - Neighborhood Centers vs. Regional Centers
- Intended to guide future decisions about zoning changes and development approvals
- In South Carolina it is not "binding" on the Planning Commission or County Council

Future Land Use Map

- What places and areas should be protected?
- > How will future development occur?
 - What areas are currently growing and developing?
 - What new areas are likely to experience growth and development?
 - Where should growth be encouraged or discouraged?
 - What kinds of development should be encouraged or discouraged?

