Calhoun County Comprehensive Plan



State of the County

- Rural fringe county
- Population has changed very little since 1950s
- Job losses in agriculture mechanization and shift in products
- Manufacturing job growth in northern Calhoun
- Population shift from south to north
- Aging Population

SC Population Trends



Calhoun County Population Trend



Calhoun County Economy



Source: County Business Patterns

Sandy Run Area Plan

- Identified transportation and infrastructure capacity to support growth
- Examined existing land use patterns
- Engaged citizens in discussions about their preferences for growth and development
- Identified a preferred growth pattern
- Created a future land use map for the northern part of the county
- Led to zoning changes in the planning area



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



Planning Tools and Public Involvement Methods

- Strategic planning analysis of the county.
- "Expand the circle" of people involved and informed reach out to friends and colleagues in the community to encourage participation.
- Presentations to community groups such as church men's clubs, women's clubs, civic groups.
- Scheduled community meetings to provide updates on plan contents and obtain feedback and reactions from citizens
 - Group exercises and "voting" on different ideas
 - Comment forms
 - Informational materials on the County Website





SWOT: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

- Strategic planning exercise designed to get a group to examine their business or organization or community, discuss ways to improve
- Helps clarify the long-term needs and priorities of the community
- Similar to managing people: Build on Strengths and Manage Weaknesses



Desired Comp Plan Outcomes

Informed Community Consensus
Clear Goals and Objectives
Effective strategies to achieve goals and objectives

Your Homework

- Think about SWOT
- Identify people who should be involved in developing the plan
- Identify groups that we should meet with