

Advisory Committee Meeting #1 Summary

On Thursday, March 5, 2020, the Advisory Committee for the OnePickens County Comprehensive Plan met for the first time in the Hampton Memorial Library in Easley at 3pm. Sign-in sheets are included in **Attachment A**. Once members of the Committee and other attendees had arrived, information intended to familiarize the Committee with the planning process and to present some overview data about Pickens County was presented. A full copy of the presentation is included in **Attachment B**.

First, all attendees introduced themselves to the group. Then the presentation provided information about comprehensive planning and the Advisory Committee's particular role withing the planning process. The presentation then transitioned to show a series of data about the county, including things like age distribution, employment distribution, cultural resources, and the current Character Areas in Pickens County. During the presentation, meeting attendees were able to ask questions and several did. Discussions with the Committee included concerns over apparently high housing cost burden in the southern part of the county, likely influenced by the student population at Clemson University. These discussions also included mention of the cultural and natural resources available in the county and utility management in the various communities within Pickens County.

After the presentation of this key data, the Committee was asked to participate in a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Exercise. In this exercise, each member of the Committee was given a dedicated turn to identify one or more strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, or threats, which were then written on a board at the front of the room. When members agreed with previous suggestions, a check or other mark was added to indicate the support. A scan of the final boards is included in **Attachment C** and the text of the results is included below:

Strengths:

- Existing plans, data, and planning resources
- Quality of life/natural resources
- Post-secondary education system
- Central location (access to Atlanta, Charlotte, etc. and natural resources)
- Historic heart of SC Upstate
- People and service organizations
- Career and Technology Center and relationships with business community
- Great K-12 system
- Affordability (taxes, etc.)
- Friendly Community
- Family Structural Strength

Weaknesses:

- Lack of 4-lane access to I-85
- Lack of access to affordable childcare
- Affordable housing
- Inadequate roadways in/out of Pickens (especially to/from Greenville)







- Public transportation (especially with respect to public health)
- Crime (particularly drug related)
- Access to mental health services
- Early childhood opportunities
- Utility costs/controls/power
- Losing industrial/economic sites
- Coordination of services

Opportunities:

- Local food sources
- Leverage unique identity
- learn from neighbor's mistakes
- Leverage education (K-12 + Secondary)
- More job opportunities
- More short-term housing
- Fare free electric fleet (CATS) as model

Threats:

- Protection through regulation of lake
- Lack of strong stormwater regulation/septic
- Losing identity
- Loss of large preserved parcels
- Changing attitudes (Who are we?)
- Crime (particularly drug related)
- Cooperation towards common goals between service providers; need more regional or county level approach
- Resistance to tools to manage growth

Finally, meeting attendees were asked to participate in a Policy Scoring exercise. Committee members were each provided a set of dots, and the policies from the current Pickens County comprehensive plan were presented on a series of boards around the meeting space. Committee members were asked to review each policy and place a dot on the board indicating their agreement with the policy, including Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree. Copies of the boards with the dots are included in **Attachment D** and a summary of the results is shown below. In general, Committee members were very supportive of these existing policies. At least two-thirds of the dots placed on each policy were placed in either the "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" categories.

At the end of the meeting, attendees were also provided comment forms for them to indicate any additional comments or concerns they have to the planning team. Comments received via these forms are included in **Attachment E**.







		Dots					
Policy ID	Policy	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Placed Dots
NR-1	Maintain water quality and air quality a required by DHEC and EPA.	23	1	0	0	0	24
NR-2	Cooperate with other agencies that protect critical areas.	21	4	0	0	0	25
NR-3	Encourage the preservation of wildlife habitat, scenic views and vistas, and rural agricultural land and the development of local nature-based businesses and tourism.	26	2	0	0	0	28
NR-4	Support agencies and organizations that actively protect and promote natural resources of Pickens County.	23	2	1	0	0	26
Ξ	Establish and fund a Transportation Planning function of the Pickens County Government.	16	3	0	1	0	20
T-2	Continue implementation of a maintenance schedule of County roadways.	20	2	0	0	0	22
T-3	Upgrade and maintain the county road system in a manner that meets the needs of Pickens County's growing population and provides safe and efficient routes through the county.	23	1	0	0	0	24
Ŧ	Encourage accredited organizations to improve options in quality and affordable housing.	16	9	1	2	0	28
H-2	Encourage Master Planned Development projects as an economic development catalyst that provide attractive housing options and amenities to seniors, young professionals, and other population groups.	7	10	2	2	0	21
LU-1	Revisit the county development standards as necessary and tailor those policies to reflect the unique characteristics of the Character Areas.	20	7	2	1	0	30
LU-2	Cooperate with local municipalities and public service providers on criteria for annexations, provision of public services (water, sewer, school siting, etc.) and designation of, and land uses and development standards.	17	2	0	4	0	23







		Dots							
Policy ID	Policy	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Placed Dots		
EU-3	Encourage higher density development within existing urban areas and urban boundaries and establish consistent City-County policies for land use mixes, intensities and development standards.	20	6	3	3	0	32		
LU-4	Develop guidelines and standards for the implementation of overlays or corridor design standards.	21	5	2	2	0	30		
CF-1	Assist with a countywide water plan to be adopted by each water district and supplier to Pickens County in order to prepare for future supply and demand as well as natural and man-made disasters	16	7	0	0	0	23		
CF-2	Develop a strategic plan for county sewer service in collaboration with district service providers that supports economic development, projected population growth, and which utilized innovative methods of operation.	16	7	0	0	0	23		
OF-3	Continue to strive for high quality emergency and law enforcement services that correspond to population changes.	16	3	1	0	0	20		
CF-4	Create opportunities for new county open space and recreation.	14	10	2	0	0	26		
OF-5	Work with School District on sharing facilities and sports fields	12	6	8	0	0	26		
CF-6	Maintain all community facilities at quality standards and service in order to best serve the people of Pickens County.	8	10	2	0	0	20		
<u>F</u>	Continue implementation of a maintenance schedule of County roadways.	22	5	0	1	0	28		
P-1	Implement comprehensive growth management.	19	4	0	0	0	23		
P-2	Periodically assess quality of life in Pickens County via a thorough public feedback process that guides policy-making.	10	11	0	0	0	21		







		Dots					
Policy ID	Policy	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Placed Dots
P-3	Find ways to strengthen and promote volunteer, nonprofit, and other organizational programs that provide educational and healthy lifestyle opportunities to youth in Pickens County	15	2	0	0	0	17
CR-1	Implement the Pickens County Parks and Recreation Master Plan to provide adequate recreation facilities with an emphasis on foot trails and pedestrian amenities in culturally significant areas.	18	3	0	0	0	21
CR-2	Responsibly preserve and market cultural, heritage, and recreational resources.	18	9	1	0	0	28
CR-3	Integrate cultural resources with community opportunities for educational enrichment, healthy lifestyles, and youth involvement	12	2	2	0	0	16
CR-4	Continue to maintain and develop Pickens County's established cultural sites such as the Pickens County Museum and the Hagood Mill.	20	5	0	0	0	25

<u>Attachments</u>

A: Meeting Sign-In Sheets

B: Meeting Presentation

C: SWOT Exercise Boards

D: Policy Exercise Boards

E: Comment Forms







Attachment A

Meeting Sign-In Sheets







Advisory Committee Member	Organization	Signature
George Askew	Clemson PSA/Forest	
Andrew Babb	Pond (consultant)	
Bobby Ballentine	Pickens County Planning Commission	12.00 - 200x
Kathy Bearss	Advocates for Quality Development	Katha Searse
Chip Bentley	Appalachian Council of Governments	
Chris Brink	Pickens County	
Keith Brockington	GPATS (Greenville Pickens Area Transportation Study)	
Craig Brown	Pickens County Farm Bureau	
Julie Capaldi	United Way of Pickens County	SCOOL
Bill Cato	Pickens County Planning Commission	Carl Carl
Adam Chapman	Oconee County Planning	
Dennis Chastain	Individual - local historian/naturalist	Derios Charte
Brandon Clary	Cannon Memorial Hospital	
Dr. James P. Clements	Clemson University	
Susan Cohen	Clemson Chamber of Commerce	Swar H. Cosh
Andrea Cooper	Upstate Forever	
Mitchel Cooper	Pond (consultant)	M
Dr. Galen Dehay	Tri-County Technical College	P. Say Wat
Emily DeRoberts	Duke Energy	Lower Division



Advisory Committee Member	Organization	Signature
Michael Dey	Homebuilders Association of Greenville	Jan
George Dickert	Clemson Extension	
Bruce Evilsizor	City of Liberty	
Ray Farley	Alliance Pickens	19 Man!
Aiden Fell	SC Parks, Recreation, and Tourism	
Brett Garrison	Duke Energy – Lake Services	
Betty Garrison	School District of Pickens County	Say of San
Paula Gucker	Greenville County Planning	
Lisa Hallo	Upstate Forever	Logue
Steve Haynie	Conservatives of the Upstate	
Zac Hinton	Blue Ridge Electrical Cooperative	
George Hood	PC Cattleman's Association	
Cindy Hopkins	Greater Easley Chamber of Commerce	Cerich + 96 -
Wayne Kelley	Pickens County Historical Society	is apre Kaller
Joel Ledbetter	Easley Combined Utilities	Sied with
Greg Lucas	SC Department of Natural Resources	
Eric Lusher	Pond (consultant)	
Michelle McCollum	South Carolina Heritage Corridor	
Dr. Danny Merck	School District of Pickens County	om



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Advisory Committee Member	Organization	Signature
Robert Miller	SC Department of Natural Resources	elighteth
Walker Miller	Individual - agri-tourism/farm	Valher 4 I due
Phillip Mishoe	City of Central	7
Keith Moody	Clemson Area Transit (CATS)	
Ken Nabors	Pickens County Historical Society	
Terry Nation	Pickens County Planning Commission	
Tom O'Hanlen	Manufacturers Caring for Pickens County	c My We
Gary Owens	Advocates for Quality Development	gravens
Jeff Parkey	Anderson County Planning	
Jessica Preisig	School District of Pickens County	Operia Digwa
Johnnelle Raines	Conservatives of the Upstate	John Raines
Kimberly Smagala	Pickens Chamber of Commerce	
Bill Smith	Pickens County Water Authority	
Philip Smith	Pickens County Planning Commission	Short.
Todd Steadman	City of Clemson	11000 8
Stephen Steese	City of Easley	
Jason Stewart	Transylvania County, NC	
Roy Stoddard	Town of Six Mile	
Tyler Stone	Greenville County Planning	Han



Advisory Committee Member	Organization	Signature
Tom Strange	Manufacturers Caring for Pickens County	
Philip Trotter	City of Pickens	
Jennifer Vissage	Appalachian Council of Governments	
Dr. Todd Voss	Southern Wesleyan University	
Todd Walker	Prisma Health-Baptist Easley	
Michael Watson	Pickens County Planning Commission	
Dale Wilde	FOLKS (Friends of Lake Keowee Society)	
Sue Williams	Advocates for Quality Development	
Randy Williams	Dacusville Community Club	
Odell Williams	Town of Norris	
Amy Wilson	Pickens County Soil and Water Conservation District	
Dan Winchester	Pickens County Taxpayers Association	iles
Josh Young	School District of Pickens County	
Bob Young	Pickens County Planning Commission	



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Email	gabayant 1 @ hacker, net	So Ann 13 Lot a yahmilan GPCA Mentonipagment Cor	atowler @ co. pidence, sc. us			
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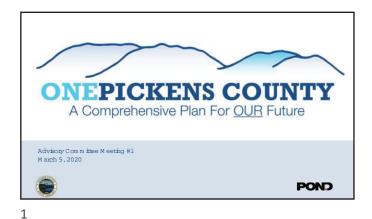


Attachment B

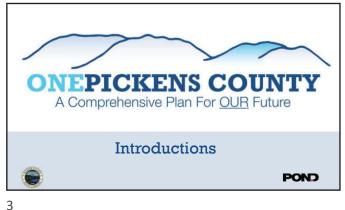
Meeting Presentation











RULES OF ENGAGEMENT



- P bease be respectfulofallview points and perspectives; we want to hearfrom allstakeholders
- Allm embers of the advisory committee will be given a dedicated opportunity to tak in turn
- If you have already spoken, please give others the opportunity to speak first
- If you have any questions or com m ents that we do not get to, please write them down and turn them in at the end of the m eeting forus to review



POND

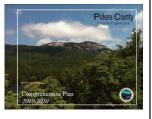
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WHY A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?



- The last com prehensive plan was written to plan for the period 2010-2030 (with an update in 2016)
- In South Carolina, Comprehensive Plans m ustbe reviewed at least once every five years, and updated every ten years (South Carolina LocalGovernmentComprehensive Planning Enabling Actof1994)

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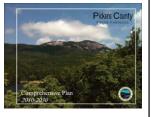
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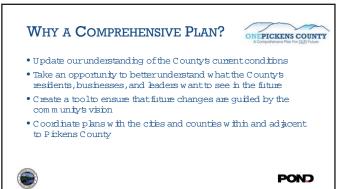
WHY A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?



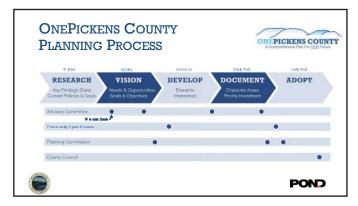
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- Pickens County population growth has outpaced expectations
 - Population estimates show Pickens has grown approximately 1,140 people peryear, 2015-2018
 - The previous plan projected growth of approximately 440 people peryear, 2015-2020



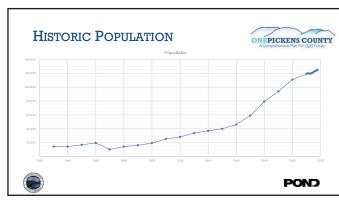




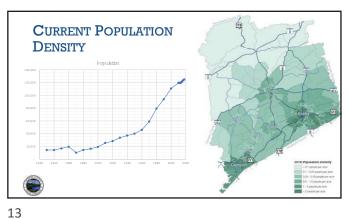


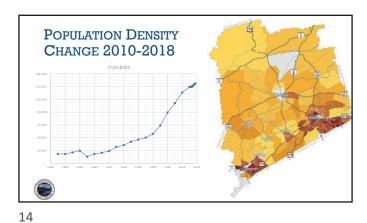


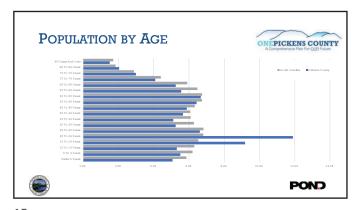


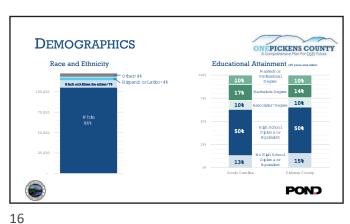


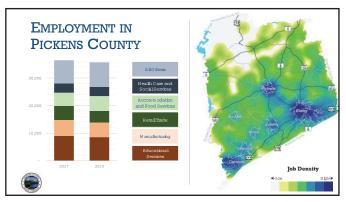
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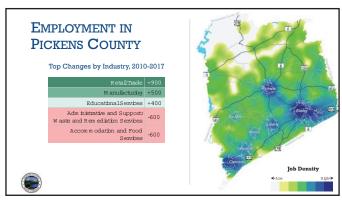


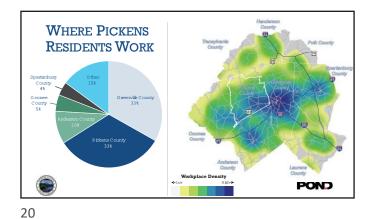




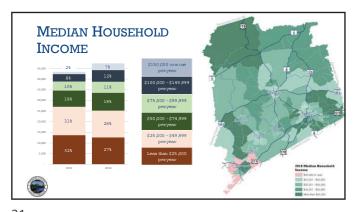


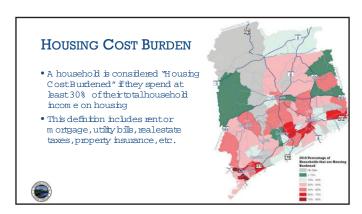




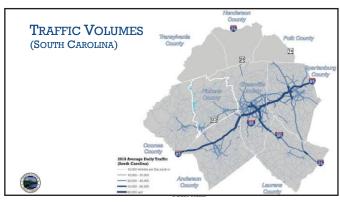


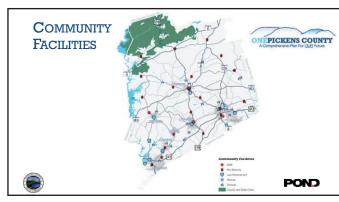
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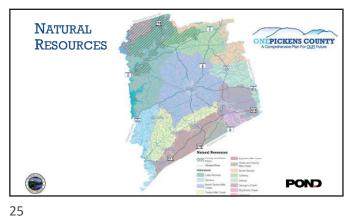


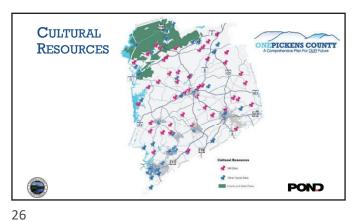
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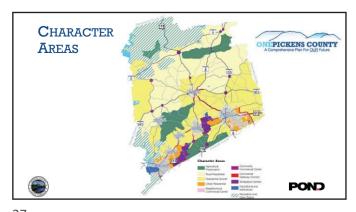


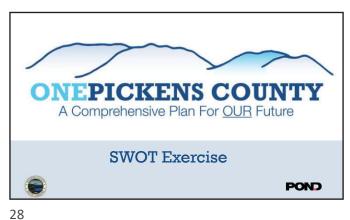


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POLICY REVIEW ACTIVITY



POND

- Please review each policy on the boards around the room
- Place one dot for each policy in the Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, or Strongly Disagree column
- If you feel any policies need to be new orded, please write the Policy ${\mathbb D}$ and your proposed wording on your comm ent form
- If you feelany additional policies need to be added, or have any other thoughts to share, please also write these on your comment
- Be sure to drop your comment form offat the sign-in desk before you bave

29 30



Attachment C

SWOT Exercise Boards





STRENGTHS



March 5, 2020
Existing Plans, Data, + Planning Resources
Quality of Life Matural Resources W
Post-secondary Education System V
Post-secondary Education System V/ Central Location (access to Atlanta, Charlotte, etc. + natural resources)
Historic Heart of SC Upstate
People + Service Organizations
Career + Technology Center + relationships / business comm.
Career + Technology Center + relationships / business comm. Great K-12 system VVV
Affordability (baxes, etc.)
Friendly Community
Friendly Community Family Structure / Strength



WEAKNESSES





OPPORTUNITIES



-local food sources	
everage unique identity	
- learn from neighbor's mistakes	
- Leverige education (K-12 + secondary)	
- more job opportuites (industrial development)	
more short tern housing	
- More short tern housing - Fore Free electric fleet (CATS) as model	



THREATS



- protection through regulation of lake		
lack of stormwater regulation / septic		
losing identity		
- lose of large preserved parcels		
- changing attitudes (who are we?)		
- Crime (particularly drug related)		
- Cooperation towards common gans >=	regional or county level approach?	
resistance to tools to manage growth		





Attachment D

Policy Exercise Boards





PREVIOUS POLICIES Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020

ONEPICKENS COUNTY
A Comprehensive Plan For QUB Future

PI-1 Priority Investment	CF-6 Community Facilities	CF-5 Community Facilities	CF-4 Community Facilities	CF-3 Community Facilities	CF-2 Community Facilities	CF-1 Community Facilities	POLICY
Continue implementation of a maintenance schedule of County roadways.	Maintain all community facilities at quality standards and service in order to best serve the people of Pickens County.	Work with School District on sharing facilities and sports fields	Create opportunities for new county open space and recreation.	Continue to strive for high quality emergency and law enforcement services that correspond to population changes.	Develop a strategic plan for county sewer service in collaboration with district service providers that supports economic development, projected population growth, and which utilized innovative methods of operation.	Assist with a countywide water plan to be adopted by each water district and supplier to Pickens County in order to prepare for future supply and demand as well as natural and manmade disasters	POLICY
							STRONGLY AGREE
				•			AGREE
	••			•			NEUTRAL
		8					DISAGREE
,						-	STRONGLY DISAGREE



PREVIOUS POLICIES Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020

ONEPICKENS COUNTY
A Comprehensive Plan For OUR Future

LU-4	LU-3	LU-2	LU-1 Land Use	H-2	H-1	РОШСУ
Develop guidelines and standards for the implementation of overlays or corridor design standards.	Encourage higher density development within existing urban areas and urban boundaries and establish consistent City-County policies for land use mixes, intensities and development standards.	Cooperate with local municipalities and public service providers on criteria for annexations, provision of public services (water, sewer, school siting, etc.) and designation of, and land uses and development standards.	Revisit the county development standards as necessary and tailor those policies to reflect the unique characteristics of the Character Areas.	Encourage Master Planned Development projects as an economic development catalyst that provide attractive housing options and amenities to seniors, young professionals, and other population groups.	Encourage accredited organizations to improve options in quality and affordable housing.	POLICY
						STRONGLY AGREE
						AGREE
	• •					NEUTRAL
						DISAGREE
						STRONGLY



PREVIOUS POLICIES

ONE PICKENS COUNTY
A Comprehensive Plan For QUR Future

T-3 Transportation	T-2	T-1	NR-4 Natural Resources	NR-3 Natural Resources	Natural Resources	NR-1 Natural Resources	POLICY ID
Upgrade and maintain the county road system in a manner that meets the needs of Pickens County's growing population and provides safe and efficient routes through the county.	Continue implementation of a maintenance schedule of County roadways.	Establish and fund a Transportation Planning function of the Pickens County Government.	Support agencies and organizations that actively protect and promote natural resources of Pickens County.	Encourage the preservation of wildlife habitat, scenic views and vistas, and rural agricultural land and the development of local nature-based businesses and tourism.	Cooperate with other agencies that protect critical areas.	Maintain water quality and air quality a required by DHEC and EPA.	POLICY
X ;							STRONGLY AGREE
		•					AGREE
Α			•				NEUTRAL
							DISAGREE
						4	STRONGLY DISAGREE



PREVIOUS POLICIES Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020



CR-4	Cultural op	Cultural an	CR-1 Max William Resources an	P-3 no propulation to	P-2 Pe	P-1 Im	POLICY PO
Continue to maintain and develop Pickens County's established cultural sites such as the Pickens County Museum and the Hagood Mill.	Integrate cultural resources with community opportunities for educational enrichment, healthy lifestyles, and youth involvement	Responsibly preserve and market cultural, heritage, and recreational resources.	Implement the Pickens County Parks and Recreation Master Plan to provide adequate recreation facilities with an emphasis on foot trails and pedestrian amenities in culturally significant areas.	Find ways to strengthen and promote volunteer, nonprofit, and other organizational programs that provide educational and healthy lifestyle opportunities to youth in Pickens County	Periodically assess quality of life in Pickens County via a thorough public feedback process that guides policy-making.	Implement comprehensive growth management.	POLICY
							STRONGLY AGREE
				•		•••	AGREE
	••						NEUTRAL
							DISAGREE
							STRONGLY DISAGREE





Attachment E

Comment Forms





Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020



Legends on Maps too small	too hard to read.
1	
Weakness	
limited WIFI in Real Areas.	
No mergnay call boxes. at	Boat Ramps.
V	·
· ·	





Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020



Please write your comments below. If your comment relates to a policy statement, please indicate the Policy ID of the statement you're referring to.

I Am SHAPPY that we have a diverse representation Ru - By that I mean - some Average every day people that have deep roots in Pickens Country + grew up in PC, as I did Institute that the majority of people him did not grow up here + do not have any Idea of who we are or what we are about! Whereas in welcome newbies, me do not Want to be ble when they came from! We are emigne or me do not need Change !!! We do ned to manage o update our infrashmeture + esp. roads so that our natural attractions have good roads We do not need to raise tayes to do that is anything else!

Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020



Threat	: Paneleinie diseoses released	
	: Pandemic drocoses released by Global Warning	
	7	
		×





Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020



Please write your comments below. If your comment relates to a policy statement, please indicate the Policy ID of the statement you're referring to.

THREAT: LACK OF LAND USE Overlays to protect

Key connidons or "Betuty" in Pickens Co.

Example: Highway 11 creducy to protect

against BillBokens, unsightly Development,

atc.

Oftonomity: Ref: ROAD + Highway hu fastructure

- Develop Comprehensive Connison

Overlags Pears for cennant mos.

Suture high faffic swas.

Oppontunte: Clearly understand the Cernnent

Lans Use map to Drive a Comprehensive

Towing flan for fictions Co.

- Encounage participative and Counter

Council led 20 wing in that ive pond

Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020



Regarding Transportation Mobility, TATT is currently developing a regional Upstate Mobility alliance — will be a great resource to connect w/ to to explore partnerships for Pickers County efforts
Cindy Hopkins. Easley Chamber 859.2693





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Street	gm)
	WE SRE OF THE FRONT END OF MASSIVE FRONTA WACE
J EXE.	V4(s)
	Lack of toxing
	TASOLTONOLLY MEGITALT TO DEGLAMA CAND USE
	No Mason "BENERACION"
OFF	
	Build UN EXUTING FRANSOT SYSTEM
	EXECT OUR DEST FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
Thre	PERCEPTUR THAT PLANTING/ ZONIN IS FOR
	PERCEPTUR THAT PLANTING/ ZONING IS EVIL
CHENS COUNTY	

Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020



Threats	
Threats (1) 4 papulation / demographic shif 0-18 year olds in decline	4 challences
· 0-18 year olds in decline	econom,
· 49 - 40= increasing	
° 554 - large increase (en	How from akferce)
Weakness.	
Weakness. (1) 65% of Pickens county don't h post-secondary credential, yet jobs regnire a post-second	L Z/3 of
Jess regnere de pris secono	





Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020



a really impressive group of community
wide idea of solutions - or plana. But it might be hard to bring
everyone logither
Med a little more, leadershy's boar A one or two people to toking over the conversation— when
one or two people to takingover the
anul salun - Mes





Advisory Committee Meeting #1 March 5, 2020



I know several people mentioned our education
(10wa) as being a strength - Having sold real
estate for a number of years I can tell you
the outside perception is not at that level -
clients overwhelming asked to live in he
Anderson school district just outside
Pickers County in the Powdersville
area, for example,
Just Good for thought





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Conservatives OF THE UPSTATE LAST TIME
a Comprehensive Plan was developed
made our own plan and I will
bring a copy of that to our
next meeting to give you.
Our main focus is to keep
Pickens County the most conservative
minded county and to keep taxes
minded county and to keep taxes low, and protect property rights.





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Threats	
Climat	e change
	e change of internally displaced people (immaginal by destruction of natural resources of collapse of our central year food Sigsten
Opportunities Regulation	o to protect local Industries and Jool



