

The background features a large, faded seal of Connee County, South Carolina. The seal is circular with the text "CONNEE COUNTY" at the top and "S.C." at the bottom. In the center is a map of the county with a green square highlighting a specific area.

Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee

Review of Goals

May 2, 2014



Goal # 1: Preserve, protect, and enhance the quality and quantity of Oconee County's natural resources.



Objective 1: Work to guarantee adequate water distribution systems for present and future economic development in Oconee County.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe
1. Work to facilitate the establishment of a partnership with water providers aimed at expanding service into underserved unincorporated areas of the county.	PC; CC	2012
2. Partner with municipalities in inventorying current condition of their water infrastructure systems to determine ability to accommodate future growth.	IAC; PC; CC	Ongoing
3. Work to develop agreements with water providers to coordinate with County on a plan provide for required fire protection for new development.	Emer. Serv. Comm.; PC; CC	2012



Objective 2: Improve and expand wastewater treatment within Oconee County.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe
1. Expand sewer service throughout areas designated by the Land Use Element as primary areas of development, while implementing appropriate limits needed to avoid negative impacts on sensitive areas.	PC; CC	Ongoing
2. Implement requirements for all developer-initiated sewer expansions to be configured with sufficient capacity to allow existing and future affected property owners to connect to the proposed line.	PC; CC	2012
3. Work with neighboring counties when possible to establish regional efforts to expand sewer service into prime commercial and industrial locations.	PC; CC	Ongoing
4. Partner with municipalities and Joint Regional Sewer Authority to coordinate efforts to provide sewer throughout high growth corridors.	IAC; PC; CC	Ongoing
5. Establish partnership(s) with regional, state, and federal agencies to find funding sources for wastewater treatment needs.	PC; CC	Ongoing
6. Study and establish increased access to sanitary boat dump stations on area lakes.	PRT; PC; CC	2013



Objective 3: Initiate efforts to develop the foundation of a county stormwater management program prior to federal mandates, thereby allowing for the most efficient and cost-effective implementation possible in the event of designation.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe
1. Study and evaluate options available to jurisdictions designated by EPA to establish storm water management programs, identifying those attributes desirable for an Oconee County program.	PC; CC	2011
2. Work with state and federal agencies as required to create necessary components of storm water program, when possible, through a phased approach that will lessen impact of meeting mandates.	PC; CC	2011
3. Support regional efforts to protect watersheds.	PC; CC	Ongoing



Objective 4: Establish a program of managing both water quantity and water quality throughout the county that will ensure efficient utilization, and appropriate conservation, of our greatest natural resource.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe
1. Work with state and federal agencies to establish a comprehensive network of water monitoring stations in Oconee County watersheds.	PC; CC	2014
2. Establish accurate 7Q10 rating for all water basins in Oconee County.	PC; CC	2014
3. Develop a county-wide water usage plan that defines water conservation practices for both normal and drought conditions, and insures that all users share equally in restrictions during drought conditions.	PC; CC	2012
4. Partner with both public and private entities to develop a county-wide education program designed to promote water conservation.	PC; CC	2012
5. Study and evaluate the impact of Oconee County's water supply on ISO ratings, and the resulting cost of fire insurance, seeking to identify opportunities for better ratings.	Emer. Serv. Comm.; PC; CC	2012
6. Partner with adjacent jurisdictions on comprehensive water studies detailing availability from all sources and usages/outflows.	PC; CC	Ongoing



Objective 5: Preserve, protect and enhance Oconee County’s environmentally sensitive lands, unique scenic views, agrarian landscapes, and topographic features.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe
1. Encourage use of “Best Management Practices” in farming and forestry operations.	PC; CC	Ongoing
2. Work to partner with public and private entities in developing a countywide greenway system that will offer opportunities for nature-based recreation in areas where few currently exist.	PC; CC	2014
3. Encourage and support collaboration between landowners and public and private agencies in the development of ecologically and economically sound plans for preservation and restoration of forests and farmland.	PC; CC	Ongoing



Objective 6: Promote partnerships and voluntary conservation easements to preserve significant lands and scenic areas under pressure.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe
1. Establish a county conservation bank to provide for the transfer of development rights and/or conservation easements to protect rural lands, sensitive areas, and significant natural resources.	CC	2011
2. Identify and establish various funding sources for the county conservation bank identified above; these may include grants, corporate gifts, a percentage of development permit fees, and annual revenue designations.	CC	2011
3. Provide appropriate assistance from county departments and agencies in efforts to identify and preserve historic structures, significant lands, and scenic areas.	PC; CC	Ongoing



Goal #2: Identify, develop and utilize all tools and funding sources necessary to meet the present and future economic development needs of Oconee County.





Objective 1: Continue support of a comprehensive planning process to insure that the citizens of Oconee County possess accurate inventories and analyses of existing county conditions, and the opportunity to better manage anticipated future conditions.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe for Completion
1. Review and update the various components of the Oconee County Comprehensive Plan as needed, not restricted to the minimum time periods established in state regulations.	PC; CC	Ongoing
2. Improve communication and cooperation between the County and municipalities, state and federal agencies, and other public and private entities.	PC; CC	Ongoing



Objective 2: Review, update, and adopt the Infrastructure Master Plan.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe for Completion
1. Review and update the Infrastructure Master Plan, insuring that those steps identified provide for the future growth in the county and limit damage to sensitive areas and resources.	EDC; PC; CC	2011
2. Adopt and implement the Infrastructure Master Plan.	CC	2011
3. Utilizing the elements of the Infrastructure Master Plan as a guide, work to establish a sustainable infrastructure upgrade and maintenance program supported by a steady revenue stream.	EDC; PC; CC	Ongoing



Objective 3: Develop and implement an effective Capital Projects Program that provides the highest level of service and facilities for Oconee County's citizens.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe for Completion
1 Seek partnerships with other agencies, municipalities, and private industry to eliminate unnecessary redundancy in facilities and services.	PC; CC	Ongoing
2. Maintain a Capital Projects Plan with specifics on estimated costs for upgrades and replacements, with timeframes for getting new estimates.	PC; CC	Ongoing



Objective 4: Explore and evaluate alternative methods of obtaining revenue and grant monies to fund capital improvements and new infrastructure.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe for Completion
1. Identify and work to establish alternative revenue sources such as special tax districts and local option sales taxes.	PC; CC	Ongoing
2. Adopt appropriate development impact fees to offset some of the cost of infrastructure and public services.	PC; CC	2012
3. Broaden utilization of grant monies to assist with capital projects.	CC	Ongoing
4. Seek to establish public-private partnerships, user-based fees, and other revenue sources to help fund infrastructure.	CC	Ongoing
5. Work with state and federal leaders to change formulas for state and federal funding that use Census figures that fail to account for the large percentage of non-resident property owners.	CC	Ongoing



Objective 5: Create and/or update plans for specific priorities.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe for Completion
1. Review and update the Community Facilities Plan, amending it to reflect the impact of recent growth and the needs of the aging population.	PC; CC	2012
2. Partner with municipalities to develop coordinated 5- and 10- year Economic Development Plans.	EDC; PC; CC	2014
3 Update and adopt the 2004 Infrastructure Master Plan.	EDC; PC; CC	2011
4. Evaluate, amend, and implement recreation plans, as necessary.	PRT Comm.; CC	Ongoing



Objective 6: Complete and properly maintain Oconee County's Geographic Information System (GIS).

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe for Completion
1. Complete digitization of parcel data, and implementation and integration of Tax Assessor's CAMA system.	CC	2011
2. Expand public access to GIS, emphasizing the accuracy of data collected, usability of mapping website, and the maintenance of data collected.	CC	Ongoing
3. Establish and maintain a GIS administrative structure that not only promotes efficient service for county agencies, but also serves the mapping needs other public and private entities.	CC	2010



Objective 7: Continue to actively promote the recruitment of employment opportunities that provide the best lifestyle for all Oconee residents.

Strategies for Success	Agencies Responsible	Timeframe for Completion
<p>1. Work with state and federal agencies to attract agribusiness-related grants and revenue sources, and support efforts to establish pilot programs related to new agricultural technologies and products.</p>	<p>PC; CC</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>2. Provide appropriate assistance to expand non-traditional and specialty agribusiness opportunities.</p>	<p>CC</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>3. Continue partnerships in regional economic development recruitment efforts.</p>	<p>EDC; PC; CC</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>4. Partner with area colleges and universities to expand local technical training facilities.</p>	<p>EDC; PC; CC</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>5. Develop sustainable funding mechanism to maintain availability of structures adequate for the needs of modern industry; this may include, but is not limited to, expansion of revenues designated to economic development, public-private partnerships, and grants.</p>	<p>EDC; CC</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6. Ensure that all governmental actions be considerate of racial, religious, and cultural groups that comprise Oconee County's population.</p>	<p>CC</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>