



DUE TO THE COVID-19
CONSIDERATIONS, A VIRTUAL
MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED WITH
COUNTY COUNCIL AND **ELECTRONIC**
VIRTUAL ACCESS FOR THE PUBLIC.

Watch Live via YouTube at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA

To Participate in Public Comment, please email to comments@jaspercountysc.gov or mail to Attn: Clerk to Council P.O. Box 1149 Ridgeland, SC 29936. To be called for public Comment, please email at the mentioned email address. ***Public Comments must be submitted by Monday, December 6, 2021, at 3:00pm.***

To participate in a **Public Hearing**, you may either email to comments@jaspercountysc.gov or request via email or phone by 1:00pm on Monday, December 6, 2021, to speak via telephone at the Virtual Council Meeting.

Instructions may also be found at the Jasper County website www.jaspercountysc.gov

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (843) 717-3696



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

VIRTUAL MEETING

Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg
358 3rd Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936

December 6, 2021

AGENDA

5:00 P.M.

I. Call to Order by Chairwoman Barbara B. Clark

Clerk's Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of meetings and agendas were posted and furnished to all news media and persons requesting notification

II. Executive Session SECTION 30-4-70.

(a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:

(1) Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body –**Premium Pay**

(2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract arrangements and proposed purchase or sale of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice related to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim – **Nickel Plate; Update on Opioid Litigation; Levy VFD; Heather Rath Consulting; MOU with Solicitor's Office for Career Criminal Unit; Rivers Reach; Ball v Jasper County**

(5) Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by a public body – **Jasper Ocean Terminal (JOT); Prospect Update;**

ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTER ON WHICH DISCUSSION HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED MAY HAVE DISCUSSION SUSPENDED FOR PURPOSES OF BEGINNING THE OPEN SESSION AT ITS SCHEDULED TIME, AND COUNCIL MAY RETURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION DISCUSSION AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

6:30 P.M.

III. Return to Open Session

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

V. Invocation

VI. Approval of Agenda

VII. Approval of the Minutes of 11.11.2021 and 11.15.2021:

VIII. Presentation and Proclamations:

A: Ashley Feaster, Palmetto Electric Cooperative, Inc. – Presentation of South Carolina Rural Development Act Utility Tax Credit (UTC) Funding in the Amount of \$172,500

B: Eric Greenway (Beaufort County Administrator) – Regional Housing Trust Fund

IX. Open Floor to the Public per Ordinance 08-17 any citizen of the County may sign to speak before the Council on matters pertaining to County Services and Operations. Presentations will be limited to three (3) minutes and total public input will be limited to 30 minutes.

Please submit **Public Comments via email at comments@jaspercountysc.gov or via US Mail at Attention: Clerk to Council P.O. Box 1149 Ridgeland, SC 29936. If you would like to be contacted by phone during **Open Floor**, please email your name, address and phone number to the email address listed above.*

X. Resolutions:

A: Andrew Fulghum – Resolution # 2021-28 establishing the criteria to be used for the reapportionment of the Jasper County Council Districts as to population following the adoption of the Federal Decennial Census as required by S.C. CODE ANN. § 4-9-90.

XI. Ordinances:

A: Andrew Fulghum – Public Hearing and **3rd Reading of Ordinance # 2021-28 to Amend Ordinance No. 2016-05 to Revise the Transportation Projects to be Financed by the Sales and Use Tax Authorized by such Ordinance and the Favorable Results of a Referendum held on November 8, 2016; and other matter related thereto.**

B: David Tedder – Public Hearing and **3rd Reading of an Ordinance # 2021-26 to amend Chapter 8, Businesses, to adopt a new business licensing ordinance incorporating, as made applicable to counties and specifically Jasper County, the provisions of the 2022 Business License Ordinance in accordance with Act 176, the SC Business License Tax Standardization Act, including its classification system, and establishing rates for such classification, and matters related thereto.**

C. Lisa Wagner – **3rd Reading of Ordinance # 2021-32 to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 029-40-04-022 from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map (535 Stiney Road).**

D: Andrew Fulghum – **2nd Reading of Ordinance # 2021-33 on the Lease Agreement with Jasper Animal Rescue Mission (JARM).**

E: Andrew Fulghum – **2nd Reading of Ordinance # 2021-34 on the Lease Agreement with Jasper County Chamber of Commerce (Perry House)**

XII. New Business:

A: Kimberly Burgess – Update on the Tax Sale

B: Wanda Simmons – Presentation of proposed County Council Meeting Schedule for 2022.

C: Wanda Simmons – Appointment of a new member to the Planning Commission and the Reappointment of 2 current members to the Planning Commission.

D: Wanda Simmons – Appointment of a new member to the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Reappointment of 3 current members to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

E: Chief Russell Wells – Motorola 911 Phone System Refresh

F: Chief Russell Wells – Motorola 911 Communications Radio System Service Agreement

G: Kimberly Burgess – Tarboro Community Center Roof Bid Presentation

H: Kimberly Burgess – Discussion of an Accommodations and Hospitality Local Tax Guidebook

I: Andrew Fulghum – Intergovernmental Agreement Between Beaufort County, Jasper County, and the City of Hardeeville for SC 170 Near Term Improvements

J: Andrew Fulghum - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office and Jasper County Government to Enhance their Working Relationship and the Prosecution of Career Criminals

XIII. Old Business:

A: Chief Russell Wells – COVID update

XIV. Council Members Comments

XV. Administrator's Report

XVI. Possible Return to Executive Session to Continue Discussion on Matters Regarding Agenda Item II.

XVII. Adjourn

***Council may act on any item appearing on the agenda including items discussed in executive session.**

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the meeting was posted on the County Council Building at a publicly accessible place and on the county website at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda was given to the local news media and posted at the meeting location twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

***Special Accommodations Available Upon Request to Individuals with Disabilities*
(843) 717-3696**

AGENDA ITEM:

VII

Approval of the Minutes



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED**

VIRTUAL MEETING And Public Hearing

**Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg
358 3rd Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936
Thursday, November 11, 2021
MINUTES**

Officials Present: Chairwoman Barbara B. Clark, Councilman L. Martin Sauls, Councilman Councilman John Kemp, and Vice Chairman Dr. Curtis Brantley. Absent: Councilman Adkins (attending SCEDA Graduation)

Staff Present: County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Clerk to Council Wanda H. Simmons, County Attorney David Tedder and Videographer Jonathan Dunham.

Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley called the meeting to order at 5:07PM. Chairwoman Clark was present on ZOOM for the meeting but could not be seen or heard so Vice Chairman Brantley presided over the meeting. Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley asked the Clerk to Council to read the Report of Compliance to the Freedom of Information Act. Wanda Simmons, Clerk to Council read the Clerk's Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley read the information below for the executive session.

Motion to go into executive session: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Executive Session SECTION 30-4-70.

(a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:

(2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract arrangements and proposed purchase or sale of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice related to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim -Project South / SALT Holdings LLC.

Return to Regular Session:

Motion to return from executive session: Councilman Kemp

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

There were no motions to come out from executive session.

The Pledge to the Flag was led by Councilman Kemp and the invocation was given by Councilman Sauls.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Ordinance:

A: David Tedder – Public Hearing and 3rd reading of Ordinance # [2021-31](#) authorizing the execution and delivery of a Fee-In-Lieu Of Tax Agreement by and between SALT Land Holdings LLC and the Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance (previously identified as “Project South”) (collectively, the “Company”) and Jasper County, whereby Jasper County will enter into a Fee-In-Lieu Of Tax Agreement with the Company and providing for payment by the Company of Certain Fees-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes; providing for Special Source Revenue Credits in connection with such agreement; authorizing and approving (1) Development of a new Joint County Industrial and Business Park pursuant to section 4-1-170 of The Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, in conjunction with Hampton County (The “Park”), such Park to be geographically located in Jasper County on a tract of land bearing TMP # 030-00-01-019, 030-00-01-020, 031-00-00-017, 030-00-01-022, 030-00-01-021, 030-00-01-007 and generally known as a portion of the Sherwood Tract located in the City of Hardeeville; (2) the execution and delivery of a written Park Agreement with Hampton County as to the requirement of payments of Fee In Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes with respect to Park Property and the sharing of the Revenues and Expenses of The Park; and (3) the distribution of revenues from the Park within Jasper County; and other matters relating thereto.

Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley opened the public hearing at 5:37. There were no public comments received and the public hearing closed.

Mr. Tedder was present to address this request. He noted that there were very minor changes from the 1st and 2nd reading. He noted that the changes were typographical and no substantive changes in the 2nd reading.

Motion to approve Ordinance # 2021-31 and allow the Administrator to adjust the ordinance to meet the dates as necessary: Councilman Kemp

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:41pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Wanda H. Simmons
Clerk to Council

Approved:

Barbara B. Clark
Chairwoman



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

Hybrid Meeting

Council in person with Electronic Virtual Access for the Public

Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg

358 3rd Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936

November 15, 2021

MINUTES

Officials Present: Chairwoman Barbara B. Clark, Councilman L. Martin Sauls, Councilman Pastor Alvin Adkins and Councilman John Kemp, Vice Chairman Dr. Curtis Brantley

Staff Present: County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Clerk to Council Wanda H. Simmons, County Attorney David Tedder, Kimberly Burgess, Russell Wells, Danny Lucas, Johnny Davis, and Videographer Jonathan Dunham.

Also Present:

Chairwoman Clark called the meeting to order at 5:00PM. Chairwoman Clark asked the Clerk to Council to read the Report of Compliance to the Freedom of Information Act. Wanda Simmons, Clerk to Council read the Clerk's Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

Chairwoman Clark read the information below for the executive session.

Motion to go into executive session: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Executive Session

SECTION 30-4-70. Meetings which may be closed; procedure; circumvention of chapter; disruption of meeting; executive sessions of General Assembly.

(a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:

(1) Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body; however, if an adversary hearing involving the employee or client is held, the employee or client has the right to demand that a hearing be conducted publicly. Nothing contained in this item shall prevent the public body, in its discretion, from deleting the names of the other employees or clients whose records are submitted for use at the hearing – Register of Deeds; Development Services

(2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract arrangements and proposed purchase or sale of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice related to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim – Agreement with Solicitor’s Office (Career Criminal Team); Opioid Litigation

(5) Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by a public body – Jasper Ocean Terminal (JOT); Prospect Update; Project South

ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTER ON WHICH DISCUSSION HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED MAY HAVE DISCUSSION SUSPENDED FOR PURPOSES OF BEGINNING THE OPEN SESSION AT ITS SCHEDULED TIME, AND COUNCIL MAY RETURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION DISCUSSION AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

Return to Open Session:

Motion to approve: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Business from Executive Session: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Sauls and Councilman Adkins gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve with the change of showing the minutes for approval as 11.01.2021 instead of 11.20.2021 as noted in error on the 11.15.2021 agenda: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes of 11.01.2021:

Motion to approve: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Presentation:

A. Johnny Davis – The Art of Community: Rural South Carolina

Mr. Johnny Davis was present to address this request. He noted that when he had come to Jasper County that this department was sports focused and now, they have an Arts Program. He gave a history of how the Arts Program began and the challenges they were met with. They were challenged with an initiative to advocate for, and they chose literacy as it affects so many people. He said they now focus on both Arts and Literacy as well as having sports programs in Jasper County. He noted at first, they did not have an Arts Council but now this has been established and is in the early stages now. He also provided a PowerPoint for County Council to show them how the "2021 Summer Arts in Our Community" had went. A copy of this PowerPoint is attached. He noted that they had received over \$44,000 in grants from the South Carolina Arts Commission, so this was all done with grant funds. He also had a special guest Kadeer Stephens a 4th grader at Step of Faith Christian Academy. He told everyone what he had learned during this program and showed his work and drawings to Council. He noted that at this program he had learned how to use watercolors, how to make thumbnails and trace his work with a special pen. Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley asked if we provide transportation for the students. Mr. Davis said we did not but that it was worked out. Also, for further information on this presentation or any other item on this agenda please go to: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCjIA.

Open Floor to the Public per Ordinance 08-17 any citizen of the County may sign to speak before the Council on matters pertaining to County Services and Operations. Presentations will be limited to three (3) minutes and total public input will be limited to 30 minutes.
There were no public comments for this meeting.

Resolutions:

A: Andrew Fulghum – Resolution #2021-26 confirming appointment / appointing the Jasper County Register of Deeds.

Mr. Fulghum was present to address this request. He noted that the Council needed to appoint a new Register of Deeds effective 12.23.2021 as Mrs. Patsye Greene would be leaving the County. He noted at this time the resolution was to appoint Vanessa Wright to this position.

Motion to approve: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Ordinances:

A: Andrew Fulghum – 2nd Reading of Ordinance # 2021-28 to Amend Ordinance No. 2016-05 to Revise the Transportation Projects to be Financed by the Sales and Use Tax Authorized by such Ordinance and the Favorable Results of a Referendum held on November 8, 2016; and other matter related thereto.

Mr. Fulghum was present to address this request. He reviewed this item with Council noting that this ordinance was to amend the current Ordinance # 2016-05 to revise the projects that were to be financed by the Sales and Use Tax. He noted this ordinance was discussed with Council in October regarding the changes to the ordinance that needed to be made to the existing ordinance from 2016. He noted that in Section 1 item D which lists the Transportation

Projects identified and adopted by County Council in the 2016 Ordinance which had been changed for various reasons. He noted that the reasons for these changes were noted in the ordinance on page 2. He then noted that in Section 1 item E in the 2016 Ordinance, it had been noted for the fact that it was established that the ordinance may be amended from time to time. Section 1 item F lists the disposition of the projects. He also stated that in Section 2, Roman numeral small letter "i" thru number 7 describes the current projects being worked on at this time. Mr. Fulghum also mentioned that there were 2 new projects added at this time, one being the Exit 3 Project and the other SC 170 Corridor Access Management Study proposed to be done in conjunction with Beaufort County and / or possibly the City of Hardeeville as well. Public hearing and third reading scheduled for 12.06.2021.

Motion to approve: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

B: David Tedder – 2nd Reading of an Ordinance # 2021-26 to amend Chapter 8, Businesses, to adopt a new business licensing ordinance incorporating, as made applicable to counties and specifically Jasper County, the provisions of the 2022 Model Business License Ordinance in accordance with Act 176, the SC Business License Tax Standardization Act, including its classification system, and establishing rates for such classification, and matters related thereto.

Mr. Tedder was present to address this request. He reviewed this item with Council noting that the changes previously discussed were encapsulated in this revised ordinance. He explained that this ordinance was to amend Chapter 8 Businesses and to adopt as presented on the 2nd reading repealing and replacing our current business license ordinance. He explained the necessity of this ordinance and the statutes surrounding this ordinance. He noted that the third reading and public hearing would be held on 12.06.2021. Councilman Kemp had a few questions on the ordinance which Mr. Tedder addressed on this item.

Motion to approve: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

C: Lisa Wagner – Public hearing and 2nd Reading of Ordinance # 2021-32 to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 029-40-04-022 from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map (535 Stiney Rd).

Ms. Wagner was present to address this request. She noted that the subject property consists of 9.93 acres and is located at 535 Stiney Road. The Applicant has requested a Zoning Map Amendment to have the property designated as Industrial Development (ID). The property is currently zoned Residential. Lowcountry Pavers developed the property in March 2000 and has operated their business at this location for more than 20 years. Lowcountry Pavers would like to upgrade the property and modify the operation of their business, which will include eliminating the concrete

plant portion of the business. Prior to making a significant investment in the property, the applicant would like to have the property re-zoned to Industrial Development, eliminating the non-conformity status. The property was conforming when it was developed in 2000; however, during the 2007 Countywide Re-zoning project, this property was made non-conforming.

Ms. Wagner noted that according to the 2018 Jasper County Comprehensive Plan, the Future Land Use Map identifies this area as "Urban Transition," which are pockets of unincorporated Jasper County that are partially or entirely surrounded by the municipality. For these areas that experience new development or redevelopment, consideration should be given to working with the adjacent municipality for annexation. The adjacent parcels are zoned Residential and Rural Preservation with Light Industrial Zoning nearby in the City of Hardeeville. She stated that the adjacent land uses are residential and commercial, with heavy industrial located nearby in the City of Hardeeville. The subject property is accessed by Stiney Road, which is a two-lane state-maintained highway, classified as a local road.

Ms. Wagner noted that there was no motion made by the Planning Commission, so the application has been forwarded to the County Council with no recommendation. The public hearing was opened but there were no public comments. Councilman Kemp had a couple of questions that Ms. Wagner addressed on this item.

Motion to approve: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

D: Andrew Fulghum – Consideration of a 1st reading of an Ordinance on the Lease Agreement with Jasper Animal Rescue Mission (JARM)

Mr. Fulghum was present to address this request. He noted that this was an extension of the current lease agreement that had been in place for 14 years with the Jasper Animal Rescue Mission for the County owned property located at 401 Carters Mill Road. He noted none of the terms had been amended. He noted the lease was to be extended for a 5-year term.

Motion to approve: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

E: Andrew Fulghum – Consideration of a 1st reading of an Ordinance on the Lease Agreement with Jasper County Chamber of Commerce (Perry House)

Mr. Fulghum was present to address this request. He noted that this was an extension of the current lease agreement with the Jasper County Chamber of Commerce (Perry House) and the Jasper County Historical Society. He noted that the property was a County owned property located at 403 Russell Street and that the current lease had been in place for 12 years. Councilman Sauls recused himself from voting on this issue. He noted the lease was to be extended for a 5-year term.

Motion to approve: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous vote of the remaining Council (Councilman Sauls recused himself from the item)
The motion passed.

New Business:

A: [Danny Lucas](#) - Holt Consulting Agreement for Professional Services, Ridgeland - Claude Dean Airport.

Kimberly Burgess was present to address this request. Ms. Burgess noted that they are seeking approval of this agreement for professional services between Jasper County and Holt Consulting LLC. She noted that they were the successful proposer for the Airport Consultant. She noted that they would like approval tonight with subject to final review by the County Attorney.

Motion to approve: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

B: [Kimberly Burgess](#) - Cummings Group Contract Extension.

Ms. Burgess was present to address this request. She noted that they anticipated construction being completed in October but now needs to be extended (as noted in the enclosed letter). She said the new completion date will not be until February with an amount not to exceed \$45,000 from the dates of 11.21.2021 thru 03.22.2022. Councilman Kemp asked why there had been a delay on Marsh Cove. Ms. Burgess noted that the delay was primarily related due to materials, supply and labor shortages. She also noted that the delay of the metal building had also been delayed.

Motion to approve: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Old Business:

A: [Chief Russell Wells](#) - COVID update

Chief Wells presented this information. He noted that the COVID numbers continue to improve. He noted that the SC positivity rate was down an almost 4-point reduction and Jasper County positivity rate showed a reduction of 0.5 points as well, with a 3.2 positivity rate since the last report. The CDC did give formal approval for Pfizer for ages 5 and older. Vice Chairman Dr, Brantley asked if there were areas of the County where the vaccines were not available. Chief Wells said unfortunately so, however, they are exploring alternate ways to address this issue with contractual services for a mobile medical vaccine clinic.

Council Members Comments:

Chairwoman Clark:

Chairwoman Clark thanked Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley, Councilman Sauls and Councilman Kemp for carrying on the meeting on Thursday evening. She noted that she could hear everyone but that they could not hear her. She asked that everyone keep the Leatherman family in prayer as Senator Leatherman had passed away. She asked for prayers for herself for her hospital trip on Tuesday so that all goes well and stays safe.

Councilman Sauls:

Councilman Sauls congratulated Councilman Adkins on his SCEDA graduation and encouraged everyone to read the in the newspaper about this and the story on Mr. Johnny Davis. He thanked Councilman Adkins for his beautification efforts all around the County and noted it is a pleasure to work with him. He noted he had attended the meeting of the Southern Carolina Alliance and that he received a lot of good information. He reminded Council to continue to check their emails as there would be information forthcoming related to the SCA and the Chamber of Commerce for the month of December. He thanked Mr. Fulghum, the Police, Fire, and Veterans of the County for all they do. He also reminded everyone of the Big Thursday Oyster Roast that was coming up.

Councilman Adkins:

Councilman Adkins thanked God for all things and for carrying him through the SCEDA class. He said he had passed the course and learned a lot of great information. He said he was working with the Administrator on other courses to take. He also noted that he had enjoyed working with Mr. Johnny Davis and had hoped they would work together longer. He noted that children are the future and we need things in place for them.

Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley:

Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley stated that COVID seems to have no respect for any person. He requested that each citizen consider taking advantage of the services offered within the County. He asked that God Bless everyone.

Councilman Kemp:

Councilman Kemp stated that he had went to visit with the Sun City Veterans. He said he had also went to the Jasper County Affairs office and they had a great BBQ meal on Veterans Day. He said there were about 3000 Veterans in Jasper County and that Alton Jenkins is trying to work with the Veterans. He talked to the Sheriff at the meeting and noted that they needed 15 people and are now down to needing about 5 people. Councilman Kemp also wished good luck to Johnny Davis.

Administrator's Report:

Mr. Fulghum stated that he had placed his Administrator's Report and Progress Report in Council's packet. He said he was present if Council had any questions. He thanked Council for the

opportunity to attend the National Association High Performance Leadership Academy for the previous 12 weeks. He said now he will be sending some other employees to go through this course. Chairwoman Clark said that Mr. Fulghum had done so well on his presentation in class that the Professor would like him to do it again.

Possible Return to Executive Session to Continue Discussion on Matters Regarding Agenda Item II. There was no reason to return to executive session at this time.

Adjourn:

Motion to approve: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Second: Councilman Adkins

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Wanda H. Simmons
Clerk to Council

Approved:

Barbara B. Clark
Chairwoman

AGENDA ITEM:

VIII

Presentation Item A



1 Cooperative Way

Hardeeville, SC 29927-5123

843-208-5551

November 10, 2021

Mr. Andrew Fulghum
County Administrator
Jasper County
P.O. Box 1149
Ridgeland, SC 29936


Dear Andrew:

The Palmetto Electric Cooperative Board of Directors has approved the Jasper County's request for South Carolina Rural Development Act Utility Tax Credit (UTC) funding in the amount of \$172,500.

Palmetto Electric Cooperative is extremely supportive of the efforts being taken by the County to develop competitive sites and product within the Cypress Ridge Business Park. Our board understands the impact installing a concrete flooring system within Cypress Ridge Spec Building #4 will have in securing the manufacturing prospect currently interested in purchasing the property. A member of our staff will be in contact with you in the near future to finalize all necessary funding requirements, including execution of a contract and scheduling a date and time to virtually "present" a check to the Jasper County Council.

Palmetto Electric Cooperative takes great pride in supporting municipalities and counties in our service area with their economic development efforts. We look forward to working with you and Jasper County to further advance the success of the Cypress Ridge Business Park.

Kindest regards,


A. Berl Davis, Jr.
President and CEO



AGENDA ITEM:

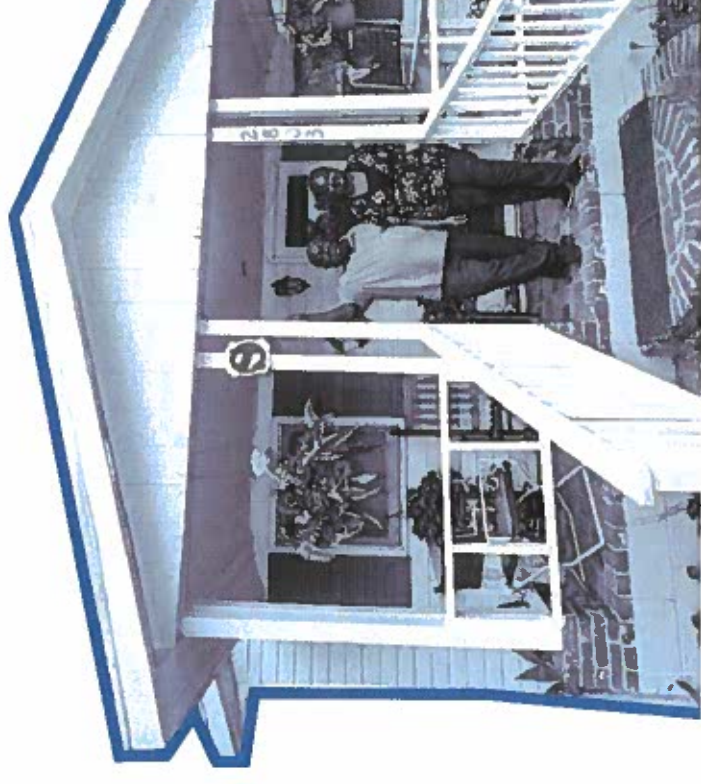
VIII

Presentation Item B

Regional Housing Trust Fund Implementation

Beaufort-Jasper Counties Regional Housing
Trust Fund (RHTF)

December 6, 2021



Study's Funding Jurisdictions

Thank you to the following jurisdictions for funding the Beaufort-Jasper Counties Regional Housing Trust Fund Study:

- Beaufort County
- Jasper County
- City of Beaufort
- Town of Bluffton
- City of Hardeeville
- Town of Hilton Head Island
- Town of Port Royal
- Town of Yemassee

Purpose of This Study

The study's goal was to make recommendations for the process of forming, funding, and staffing a Regional Housing Trust Fund (RHTF).

This study's key questions to answer were the following:

- **Revenue Sources:** What types of revenue sources can provide a sustainable, ongoing revenue source for the RHTF?
- **Uses of Funds:** How should funds be used to support affordability? What are the broad priorities of the RHTF?
- **Fund Governance and Partnerships:** How will regional governance of the fund work? How will it be staffed, and who will make up the board?
- **Project Criteria:** What does the RHTF consider "affordable"? What types of projects are eligible for funding? How long should properties remain affordable?

What Is a Housing Trust Fund?

A Housing Trust Fund is a fund established to support the production and/or preservation of affordable housing.

The Housing Trust Fund is generally supported by the public sector (local and/or state governments) to fill gaps in the housing supply provided by the market. These funds are also supported by philanthropy and the private sector.

Priority #1: Providing accessible, affordable housing to the region to support the workforce in the service economy, as well as others with high housing cost burdens.

Table 1: Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort (MSA) Annual Mean Wages for Top 4 Employment Occupational Groups (2019)

	Total Employment	Annual Mean Wage
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	12,810	\$23,810
Sales and Related Occupations	10,800	\$39,110
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	10,380	\$35,830
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	4,830	\$32,370
Beaufort County Household Income Needed to Afford Median Gross Rent		\$48,080
Jasper County Household Income Needed to Afford Median Gross Rent		\$37,160

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) Survey

Priority #2: Overcoming barriers to affordable development, such as financial gaps and land availability.

- The availability of utilities, particularly water and sewer lines, is important for determining the feasibility of new developments, especially multifamily housing development.
- The RHTF can help close financing gaps related to infrastructure.

Priority #3: Ensuring a regional approach for affordable housing that addresses the needs of each jurisdiction, while meeting important strategic goals for housing location.

- The RHTF board should include appointed representatives from all contributing jurisdictions.
- Funds will finance projects in the region, based on whether the affordable housing project seeking financing meets the RHTF project criteria.
- All jurisdictions are likely to see an economic benefit from the RHTF.

Priority #4: Understanding the tools and resources available to Housing Trust Funds through various state laws and regulations.

- The RHTF has the ability to stimulate projects through accessible financing and/or provision of land.

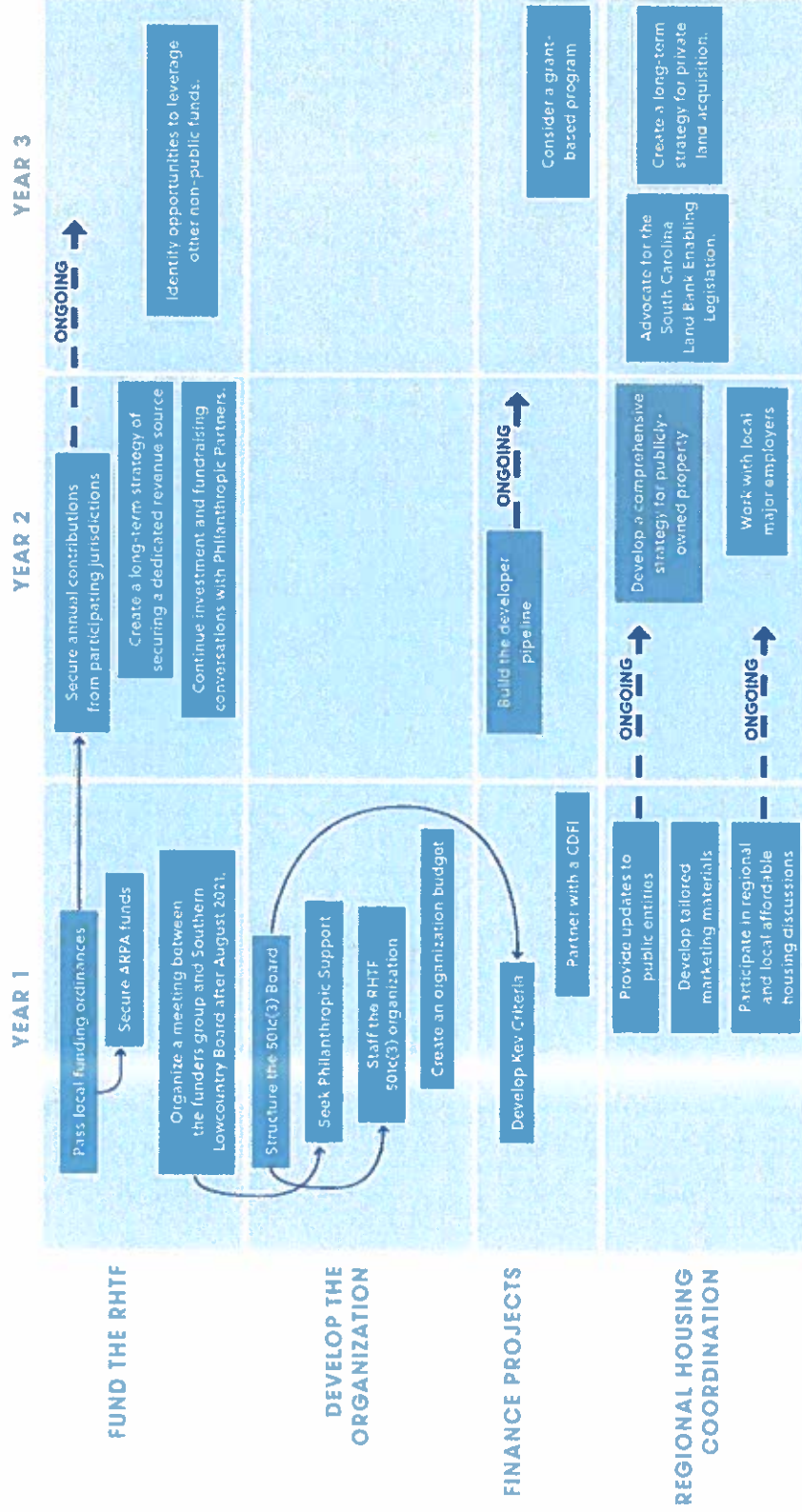
Priority #5: Identifying a stable and reliable dedicated revenue source.

- A stable and reliable dedicated funding source provides a housing trust fund with a flow of resources that can aggregate and increase over time.
- Lack of dedicated sources will hamper year-to-year investment planning and make it difficult to finance larger multifamily rental deals.

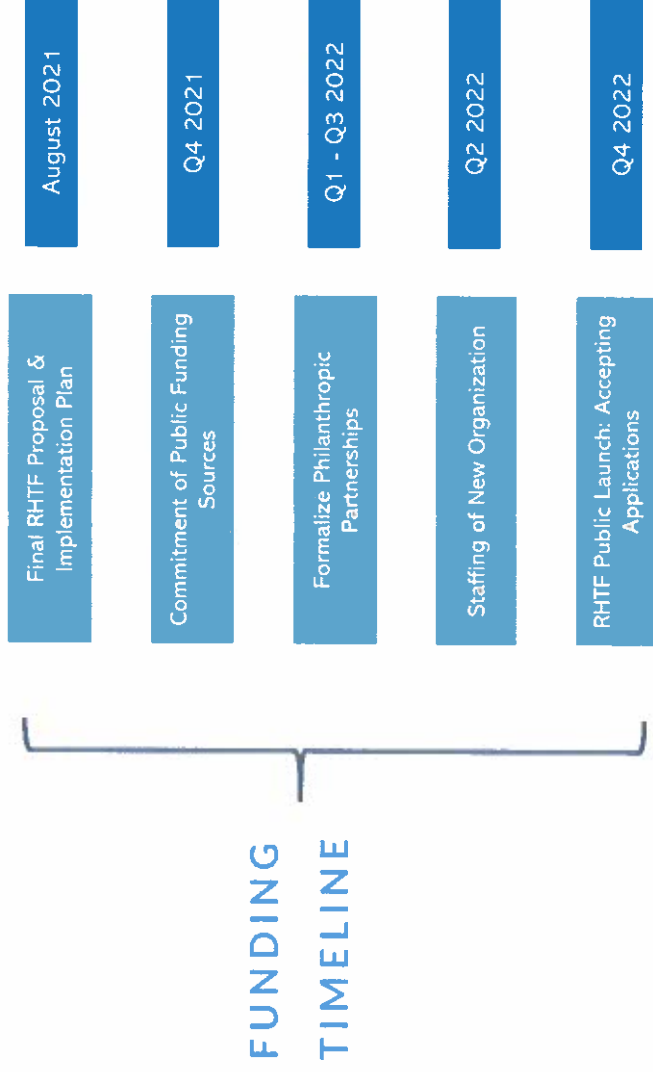
Objectives

- Create new housing units, or rehabilitate or preserve existing housing units, for households at or below 120% of Area Median Income, with a **strong focus on households at or below 60% of Area Median Income**
- Provide **workforce housing** for the growing Beaufort-Jasper economy
- Help households **maintain financial stability and build wealth** by reducing the amount of money they must spend on housing and transportation
- Strengthen relationships, build trust, and engage partners and stakeholders, ensuring an **organized and collaborative approach to regional housing challenges**
- Increase awareness of existing and **new financial products** that serve the Beaufort-Jasper community
- **Leverage outside funding** from banks, corporations, philanthropic institutions, and federal, state and local governments.

Action Plan Timeline



Step 1: Fund the RHTF



Step 1.1. Pass Local Funding Ordinances

- The “William C. Mescher Local Housing Trust Fund Enabling Act” gives local governments authority to jointly form a regional housing trust fund by ordinance.
- The ordinance must establish financing for the RHTF.

Step 1.2. Secure ARPA funds in Year 1

- The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) will allocate over \$67 Million to the Beaufort-Jasper County region.
- We are asking each participating jurisdiction to dedicate 3% of their individual ARPA allocations to the RHTF in Year 1.
- Ideally, these would come from the State and Local Recovery pool of ARPA funds, which is the most flexible pool and will allow for more streamlined financing of the RHTF.

Step 1.3. Secure a total annual contribution of \$500,000 from participating jurisdictions, based on population share, in Year 2 and ongoing.

- The participating jurisdictions can meet a goal of raising about \$500,000 a year, based on population share of each jurisdiction. The \$500,000 goal in the report is adjusted for inflation and therefore contributions rise slightly each year.
- The following Funding Matrix provides an example of how funds can be raised, by jurisdiction, and accumulate to over \$7 Million by Year 10.

Step 1.3. Funding Matrix

Initial Infusion of Stimulus Funds*, plus \$500,000 Per Year (adjusted for inflation)

Annual Contributions, plus inflation (3%)

Year Sum	Beaufort County	Hilton Head Island	Bluffton	Port Royal	City of Beaufort	Jasper County	Hardeeville	Yemassee
Y1*	\$1,119,523	\$156,815	\$59,474	\$197,669	\$200,671	\$175,240	\$108,699	\$16,967

**Year 1: 3% of American Rescue Plan funds

Year Sum	Beaufort County	Hilton Head Island	Bluffton	Port Royal	City of Beaufort	Jasper County	Hardeeville	Yemassee
Y2	\$231,855	\$92,389	\$59,236	\$30,676	\$31,432	\$50,201	\$16,869	\$2,633
Y3	\$238,811	\$95,161	\$61,013	\$31,596	\$32,375	\$51,707	\$17,375	\$2,712
Y4	\$245,975	\$98,015	\$62,843	\$32,544	\$33,346	\$53,258	\$17,896	\$2,793
Y5	\$253,354	\$100,956	\$64,729	\$33,520	\$34,347	\$54,856	\$18,433	\$2,877
Y6	\$260,955	\$103,985	\$66,671	\$34,526	\$35,377	\$56,502	\$18,986	\$2,963
Y7	\$268,783	\$107,104	\$68,671	\$35,562	\$36,438	\$58,197	\$19,556	\$3,052
Y8	\$276,847	\$110,317	\$70,731	\$36,629	\$37,531	\$59,943	\$20,142	\$3,144
Y9	\$285,152	\$113,627	\$72,853	\$37,728	\$38,657	\$61,741	\$20,747	\$3,238
Y10	\$293,707	\$117,036	\$75,038	\$38,859	\$39,817	\$63,593	\$21,369	\$3,335
Sum	\$3,474,963	\$1,095,405	\$661,259	\$509,310	\$519,992	\$685,237	\$280,073	\$43,715

**Y2-Y10 = funding based on population share. Source not specified, but promising potential sources are noted in final report.

Step 1.4. Create a long-term strategy of securing a dedicated revenue source from participating jurisdictions.

- A stable and reliable dedicated funding source will provide the RHTF with a flow of resources that can aggregate and increase over time.
- The lack of a dedicated revenue stream will hamper year-to-year investment planning.

Step 1.5. Continue investment and fundraising conversations with philanthropic and corporate partners.

- Foundation and private contributions to the RHTF can be a good way to grow the fund over time.
- The size of these funds can vary widely and also require staff time to dedicate toward fundraising efforts.
- Organize a meeting between the funders group and Southern Lowcountry Board after August 2021.

Step 1.6. Identify opportunities to leverage other non-public funds.

- **Banks** - Banks are eligible for CRA (Community Reinvestment Act) credit when they make investments in low- and moderate-income communities.
- **Corporate Dollars** - Corporations can receive an income tax, bank tax, or insurance premium tax credit through the South Carolina Community Development Credit by making investments into community development corporations or financial institutions like CDFIs.

Step 2: Develop the Organization

Step 2.1. Determine the 501c(3) Board Structure

- First, the participating jurisdictions will need to come to an agreement between the following two options regarding the 501c(3) Board Structure:
 - In August SoLoCo voted unanimously:

Each participating jurisdiction appoints one board member per jurisdiction.

Step 2.3. Staff the RHTF 501c(3) organization

- The RHTF will require 1-2 staff members in Years 1-3 to manage the Fund's day-to-day operations.
- The following two key roles are of greatest importance to implement the RHTF in Years 1-3, and will fulfill the Work Plan described below in Step 4:
 - Executive Director
 - Project Manager

Step 2.4. Create an organization budget.

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	NOTES
Operating costs				
South Carolina charitable registration	\$50			\$50 (or \$0 if filing exemption)
Small Office space (lease, utilities, and amenities)	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	(annual)
Travel & Insurance	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	(annual)
Professional Services (Prep of Org. Documents, Filings, Audits, Legal Services, Consulting)	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	For audits
Staffing Costs				
Executive Director	Base Salary \$90,000 Fringe \$126,000 Base + Fringe \$216,000	Base Salary \$90,000 Fringe \$129,780 Base + Fringe + COLA \$219,780	Base Salary \$90,000 Fringe \$133,673 Base + Fringe + COLA \$223,673	
Program Manager	Base Salary \$60,000 Fringe \$84,000 Base + Fringe \$144,000	Base Salary \$60,000 Fringe \$86,520 Base + Fringe + COLA \$146,520	Base Salary \$60,000 Fringe \$89,116 Base + Fringe + COLA \$149,116	
Total	\$255,675	\$261,300	\$267,789	
Anticipated Year 1 budget of \$255,000				

Step 2.5. Seek philanthropic support.

- Some foundations provide administrative grants to help fund the start up costs of worthy causes.
- This can include initial staff funding, fund the administrative costs to pass local ordinances and nonprofit corporation application costs.
- Identify a group to work with Coastal Community Foundation, Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, and other potential funders for implementation.

AGENDA ITEM:

X

Resolution: Item A

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
JASPER COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021 -28

RESOLUTION OF JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CRITERIA TO BE USED FOR THE REAPPORTIONMENT OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICTS AS TO POPULATION FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS AS REQUIRED BY S.C. CODE ANN. § 4-9-90

WHEREAS, the Jasper County Council (“County Council”) is responsible for County Council district redistricting (the “Redistricting Plan”) in conjunction with the 2020 U.S. Census; and

WHEREAS, Jasper County is committed to approving criteria to redistrict Jasper County (the “County”) pursuant to § 4-9-90 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976 as amended), so as to reapportion as to population within a reasonable time prior to the next scheduled general election following the adoption by the State of South Carolina of the federal decennial census in accordance with applicable law; and

WHEREAS, the County must meet redistricting standards as follows:

- (i) Adhere to the court ordered constitutional requirement of one person, one vote (County Councils must adhere to a state law of population variance under 10%);
- (ii) Adherence to the 1965 Voting Rights Act, as amended and as interpreted by court decisions;
- (iii) Solicit public input;
- (iv) Ensure that parts of the districts are contiguous;
- (v) To the extent practicable, ensure that the districts are geographically compact;
- (vi) Respect Communities of Interest;

- (vii) Attempt to maintain constituent consistency; and,
- (viii) Seek to avoid splitting voting precincts.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council of Jasper County, South Carolina that:

1. County Council hereby adopts the above criteria (i) through (viii) for the purpose of redistricting the Council Districts to meet the current requirements of the census and to meet the standards and requirements imposed by Federal and State law.

2. County Council hereby authorizes its members, managers, department heads, personnel and agents to perform all necessary actions and duties, including utilizing the resources and expertise of the South Carolina Department of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, in order to meet the redistricting criteria herein described in order to accomplish the redistricting of Jasper County.

ADOPTED THIS THE _____ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2021, AND EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

Barbara B. Clark, Chairwoman

ATTEST:

Wanda Simmons, Clerk to Council

Reviewed for form and draftsmanship by the Jasper County Attorney.

David L. Tedder

Date

REDISTRICTING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Q: WHAT IS REDISTRICTING AND HOW DOES IT DIFFER FROM REAPPORTIONMENT?

Redistricting is the process of redrawing the lines of districts from which public officials are elected. It typically takes place after each census to accommodate population changes over the previous decade. Redistricting affects all jurisdictions that have single-member elections, whether for members of Congress, state legislatures, county councils, city councils, school boards, etc. and seeks to equalize population among districts.

Reapportionment is the reallocation of congressional seats in the U.S. House of Representatives based on total state population. Like with redistricting, it is performed after the release of the state population totals based on the latest decennial census, which was the 2020 Census.

Q: WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT REDISTRICTING?

Simply put: It's about your vote having the same impact as others.

One of the greatest rights the people of South Carolina have is to elect their own representatives to conduct the business of their government. Redistricting is the process to maximize that right. By engaging in the redistricting process, communities may have a better opportunity to express their interests in establishing districts for the next ten years.

Q: WHEN SHOULD REDISTRICTING BE COMPLETED?

S.C. Code of Laws §4-9-90 requires counties to redistrict within a reasonable time prior to the next general election following the federal decennial census. There is no corresponding statute for other political subdivisions but similar constitutional principles apply.

Ordinarily, redistricting is to be accomplished before the start of the next election's filing period. If the redistricting simply cannot be accomplished before the start of the next election's filing period, the federal courts have generally allowed those elections to go forward using the prior maps – provided that the government has a “reasonably conceived plan” for timely completion of the new maps. The delay of the release of the 2020 census may impact the ability to accomplish this before November 2022.

Q: HOW IS REDISTRICTING COMPLETED?

Generally, redistricting is an action just like a bill or ordinance and follows the same legislative process. Council must adopt the criteria that describes the key factors to be considered in the plan and discuss the plan at two or more meetings.



Q: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REDRAWING THE LINES OF THE VARIOUS ELECTORAL DISTRICTS?

The responsibility varies for electoral districts at the federal, state and local levels. The following lists examples of common electoral districts and the entities responsible for redrawing the boundaries:

- U.S. Congress – Districts are drawn by the S.C. General Assembly.
- S.C. House of Representatives and Senate – Each legislative body draws its own districts.
- County Council – Districts are drawn by the County Council.
- City Council – Districts are drawn by the City Council.
- School Districts – Districts are drawn by the S.C. General Assembly.

Q: WHY DO WE REDRAW THE LINES?

The U.S. Constitution, the S.C. Constitution and state law, among other authorities, require South Carolina to redraw electoral lines. Redistricting also is the fair and equitable thing to do to ensure people have effective representation in the various levels of government as populations change and communities grow and shrink. Ideally, redistricting enhances participation and representation in our democracy.

Q: WHAT CRITERIA ARE USED TO REDRAW ELECTION DISTRICT LINES?

The criteria used for redistricting include:

- Districts must be of equal population, or as nearly as practical, to comply with the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and the principle of “one person, one vote.”
- Districts must comply with the federal Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities have an equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.
- Districts must be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district are connected to each other.
- Districts must minimize the division of voting precincts, cities, counties, neighborhoods, and communities of interest to the extent possible.
- Districts should be geographically compact so that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
- Districts must comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.

Q: WHAT ARE “COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST”?

A community of interest is not a set standard for defining districts but is considered as part of the traditional redistricting principles. A community of interest could be a neighborhood, community, or group of people that has common policy concerns, as well as social and economic interests, and would benefit from being maintained in a single district. Another way of understanding a community of interest is that it is simply a way

for a community to tell its own story about what residents share in common, and what makes it unique when compared to surrounding communities. Many times, multiple communities may exist in an area or cross traditional boundaries like schools and voting precincts. Keeping communities of interest together is an important principle in redistricting and participating in a public hearing helps to ensure that communities are not left out of the political process.

Q: WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE S.C. REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE (RFA) IN REDISTRICTING?

RFA provides state and local governments with services performed in accordance with redistricting laws and principles. However, RFA does not provide legal advice or representation.

Q: HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

As part of the legislative process, public hearings are a key part of the process and redistricting is no exception. Public hearings are often held to allow for a more informal but detailed explanation of the proposed changes. Attending and participating in these events or contacting your representatives about redistricting are key ways to be informed and involved.

In the S.C. General Assembly, redistricting bills go through the legislative process, which typically allows for public testimony. County and city councils are required to have public hearings before final approval of redistricting measures.

Q: WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ON REDISTRICTING?

For more information on redistricting in South Carolina, please visit our website: rfa.sc.gov.

RFA REDISTRICTING PROCESS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

- Process, data, and plans are to be transparent
- RFA to provide clear and detailed documentation to Council and the public

1. PROJECT INITIATION

- Local Government requests consultation or redistricting services from RFA
- RFA sends Local Government a confirmation letter
- Council may adopt a resolution engaging RFA (optional)

2. PRIOR TO RELEASE OF THE 2020 CENSUS DATA AND BEFORE PROJECT IS STARTED, LOCAL GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE TO RFA:

- A designated liaison
- Notice of potential issues that may affect project timeline (filing deadline, next election)
- Names and residential street addresses of incumbents
- Council will coordinate and verify that RFA has the GIS data accurately reflecting current districts

3. COUNCIL HAS THREE OPTIONS FOR MOVING FORWARD DEPENDING OF THE LEVEL OF RFA INVOLVEMENT AND THE SPEED AT WHICH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED:

- **OPTION 1:** Council may conduct its own redistricting and use RFA in a consulting role as appropriate.
- **OPTION 2:** RFA can create a Benchmark Report, criteria, and council can then draft its own plan.
- **OPTION 3:** Council may first review the Benchmark Report created by RFA then adopt a set of criteria and request RFA to create a preliminary redistricting plan based on these criteria. This option has the largest time commitment.

4. RFA WILL COORDINATE A TENTATIVE ACTION PLAN AND PROJECT TIMELINE BASED ON THE OPTION SELECTED.

FURTHER STEPS ARE DETERMINED BASED ON THE PLAN SELECTED; THE STEPS OUTLINED BELOW ARE BASED ON OPTION 3.

5. AT THE REQUEST OF COUNCIL AND WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE 2020 CENSUS DATA IS RELEASED RFA WILL:

- Create a Benchmark Report showing the new population in the current districts and notating the population adjustments needed in each district to achieve the one person, one vote standard and an appropriate acceptable deviation standard

- Provide statistical analyses and guidelines to consider to comply with the Voting Rights Act, specifically Section 2
 - Provide a proposed set of traditional redistricting principles
6. BENCHMARK PLAN RELEASE:
- RFA will share the Benchmark Report with Council for review prior to the public meeting.
7. AT THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING
- RFA will provide a briefing for Council and the public on redistricting
 - Traditional Redistricting Principles
 - Constitutional and Statutory Requirements
 - RFA will provide a report to include:
 - A proposed set of criteria determined by either Council or RFA
 - An analysis (Benchmark Report) of existing districts with 2020 Census data
 - RFA will solicit feedback from Council and the public on key issues, including communities of interest
8. AFTER THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING
- Local Government liaison will notify RFA of key issues to consider when drafting the preliminary plan.
 - RFA will provide the liaison with the preliminary plan
 - Liaison will share solicited feedback from Council
 - RFA will amend the plan to best achieve the constitutional requirements and local preferences.
9. AT THE SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT MEETING(S)
- Council can decide when the plan should be presented at a public meeting
 - Final plan presented for Council to adopt (RFA may or may not need to attend)
10. AFTER ADOPTION
- Council will provide a letter notifying RFA of adoption of the plan
 - Council will notify local voter registration office and other affected entities



2020 REDISTRICTING BENCHMARK REPORT JASPER COUNTY

REPORT PREPARED BY:
South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs
Rembert Dennis Building, Room 419
1000 Assembly Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
(803)-734-3793
www.rfa.sc.gov
December 1, 2021

**REDISTRICTING REPORT 2020
PRESENTED TO: JASPER COUNTY**

The South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) has prepared the following analysis and accompanying maps regarding the redistricting for Jasper County Council.

RFA strives to release data that is complete, accurate, and useful. However, we ask that you notify us, either by email (redistricting@rfa.sc.gov) or phone (803-734-3793), of any discrepancies.

ITEMS TO NOTE PRIOR TO REVIEWING THIS REPORT:

- The 2020 Census presents new challenges regarding redistricting as the data below the state level will be affected by the U.S. Census Bureau's efforts with respect to differential privacy. The Bureau has stated that the total population in each state will be "as enumerated," but that all other levels of geography could have some variance from the raw data. This variance is referred to by the Census Bureau as "injecting noise" into the data and is an attempt to improve privacy. The bureau has indicated that no "noise" will be injected into the state total population, but it is likely that noise will be injected for every other level of geography. More noise is injected as the geography levels get smaller. In other words, population counts at the county, city, or block level may not be "as enumerated".
- In determining total population, RFA recommends and has excluded the prison population from the analysis in order to avoid prison gerrymandering concerns. However, the final decision to include or exclude the prison population is at the discretion of Council.
- Race is defined following the guidance provided in OMB Bulletin No. 00-02 which allocates population counts of a "minority race and white" category to the minority race. In Tables 2 and 3, NH DOJ Black is the sum of Non-Hispanic Black and Non-Hispanic Black and White as recommended by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PRELIMINARY PLAN:

In developing a preliminary plan, RFA recommends following constitutional and statutory provisions:

- The requirement of "one person, one vote" under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and accepted variances.
- The Voting Rights Act, primarily Section 2, which protects the interest of the racial minority population.
- Other applicable court decisions and federal and state law.

Further, RFA recommends the following set of traditional redistricting principles be considered:

- Districts or wards will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district or ward are connected to each other.
- Districts or wards will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts.
- Districts or wards will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
- Districts or wards will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interests, which will require input from Council and the citizens.
- Districts or wards will be drawn to comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.

2020 CENSUS BENCHMARK REPORT

The population of Jasper County, including the prison population, has increased 16.2% from 24,777 to 28,791. However, based on recent court decisions, RFA recommends excluding the prison population of 927 to better reflect 'one person, one vote'.

The Benchmark Report noted a deviation range of 74.17% (the sum of the highest deviation, 50.9% and the absolute value of the lowest deviation |-23.27%|) which is above the maximum range of 10%. RFA recommends a deviation range of 5%.

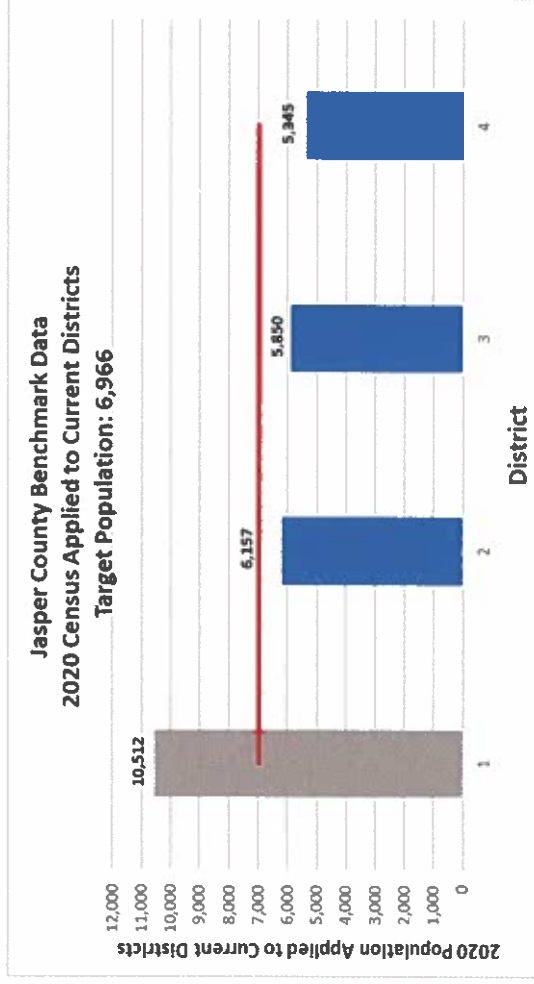
The following table and chart show which districts are (under-) or over-populated indicating adjustments may be necessary to stay within the allowable deviation range.

TABLE 1: 2020 CENSUS COUNTS APPLIED TO CURRENT DISTRICTS

CHART 1:

Note: The population of 927 housed at Ridgeland Correctional Institute was removed for this analysis

District	2020 Census	Goal	Over/(Under)	% Deviation
1	10,512	6,966	3,546	50.90%
2	6,157	6,966	(809)	-11.61%
3	5,850	6,966	(1,116)	-16.02%
4	5,345	6,966	(1,621)	-23.27%
Lowest	-23.27%			
Highest	50.90%			
Range	74.17%			



MAP 1:

Current County
Council District Lines and
Addresses of Incumbents

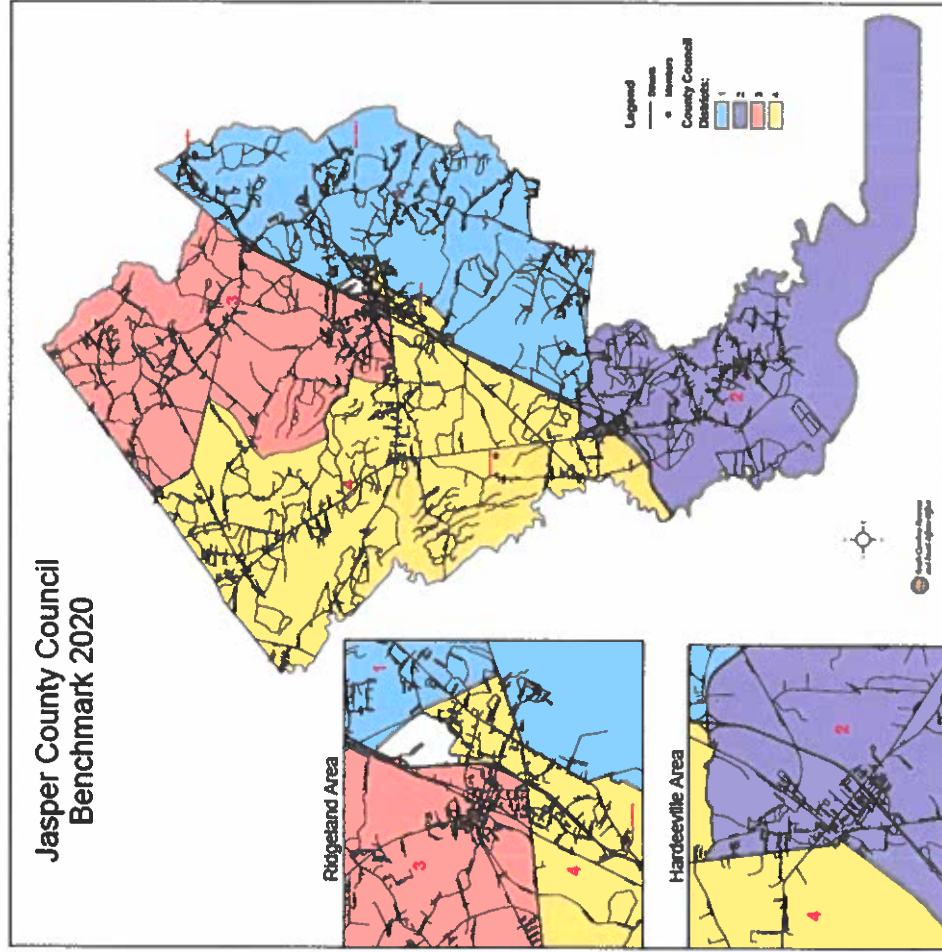


TABLE 2: TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE * RACE DEFINED USING DOJ DEFINITIONS. NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO IS ABBREVIATED AS NH.

District	Total	Hispani c	% Hispanic	NH White	% NH White	NH DOJ Black*	% NH DOJ Black	NH Other Race	% NH Other	NH Other Race
1	10,512	1,309	12.45%	6,321	60.13%	2,614	24.87%	268	2.55%	
2	6,157	1,810	29.40%	1,952	31.70%	2,184	35.47%	211	3.43%	
3	5,850	901	15.40%	3,112	53.20%	1,655	28.29%	182	3.11%	
4	5,345	1,020	19.08%	1,442	26.98%	2,716	50.81%	167	3.12%	
Total	27,864	5,040	18.09%	12,827	46.03%	9,169	32.91%	828	2.97%	

Tract 950203, Block 4009 population of 927 housed at Ridgeland was removed from this analysis

TABLE 3: VOTING AGE POPULATION BY RACE * RACE DEFINED USING DOJ DEFINITIONS. NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO IS ABBREVIATED AS NH.

District	Total VAP	Hispani c VAP	% Hispanic VAP	NH		% NH		NH Other VAP	% NH Other VAP
				White VAP	% NH White VAP	NH DOJ Black* VAP	% NH DOJ Black VAP		
1	9,012	911	10.11%	5,882	65.27%	1,996	22.15%	223	2.47%
2	4,614	1,124	24.36%	1,698	36.80%	1,641	35.57%	151	3.27%
3	4,522	561	12.41%	2,603	57.56%	1,224	27.07%	134	2.96%
4	4,027	608	15.10%	1,204	29.90%	2,086	51.80%	129	3.20%
Total	22,175	3,204	14.45%	11,387	51.35%	6,947	31.33%	637	2.87%

Tract 950203, Block 4009 population of 927 housed at Ridgeland was removed from this analysis

RFA ANALYSIS RESULTS:

Preliminary results of our analysis indicate there does appear to be racially polarized voting in Jasper County but more time is needed prior to making a recommendation.

Voting data was analyzed to determine compliance with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

- The results of the analysis are not absolute due to the limitations of the data; therefore, conclusions are to be used only as a precautionary measure.
- The following techniques were used:
 - Bivariate Ecological Regression Analysis (Appendix C) - This technique focuses on two aggregate variables and the relationship between them.

RFA RECOMMENDATIONS:

- RFA requests Council conduct a public meeting to discuss this report and solicit feedback from the public.
- RFA recommends Council adopt, through either a resolution or acceptance of this plan, the following traditional redistricting principles:
 - Districts or wards will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district or ward are connected to each other.
 - Districts or wards will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts.
 - Districts or wards will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
 - Districts or wards will be drawn to comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.
 - Districts or wards will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interests, which will require input from Council and the citizens.
- RFA recommends Council consider excluding prison population when redrawing the districts.
- RFA recommends Council give careful consideration to minority districts for compliance with Section 2 criteria of the Voting Rights Act.
- Because of the potential effects of differential privacy, RFA recommends Council adopt a deviation range of 5%.

APPENDIX A – POPULATION TREND (INCLUDES PRISON POPULATION)

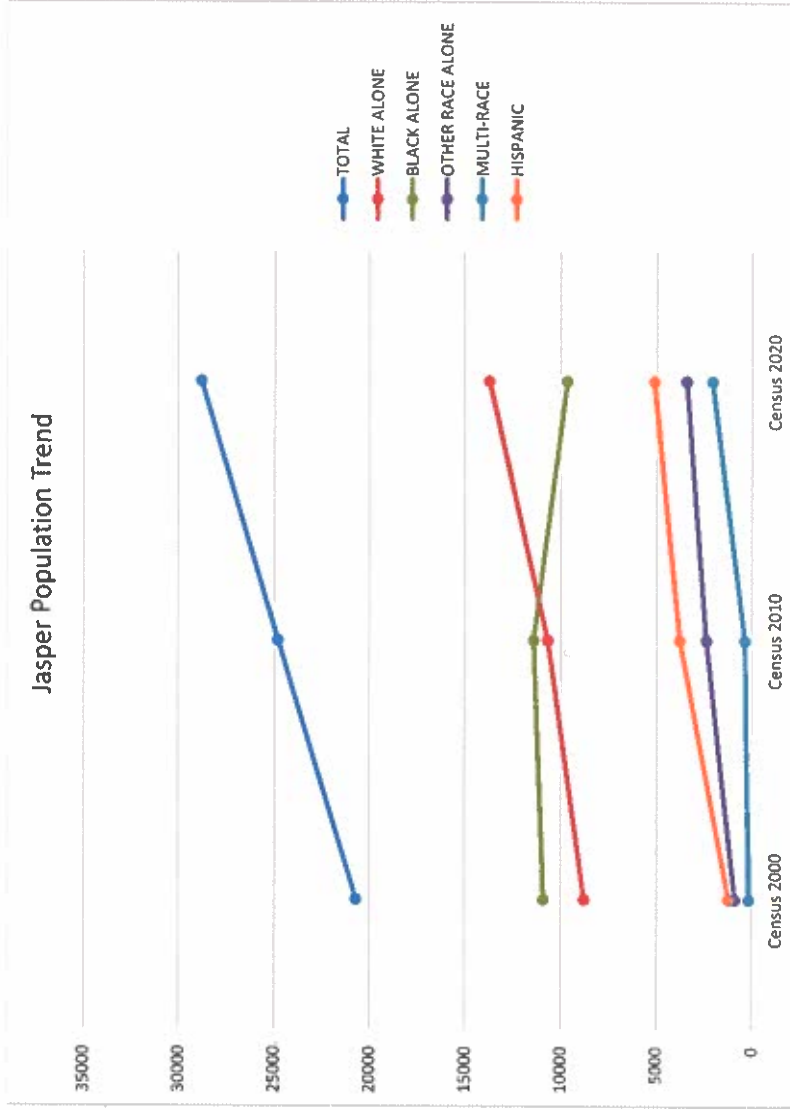
TABLE A-1 PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2010 TO 2020 BY DETAILED RACE CATEGORIES

DOJ Definitions*	Year Total Pop	White Alone	Black Alone	Other Single Race	Percent of Total Race	Hispanic or Latino Population	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic White*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Black*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Other Race*	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Multiple Race*	Percent of Total
County	2010	24,777	10,658	43.02%	2,361	9.53%	9,263	37.39%	11,401	46.01%	88	0.36%	182	0.73%	27	0.11%	56	0.23%	
JASPER	2020	26,791	13,715	47.64%	3,395	11.79%	13,056	48.75%	9,423	35.12%	287	1.07%	232	0.87%	186	0.69%	102	0.38%	
Percent Change		16.20%	28.68%	-15.44%	43.80%	35.37%	40.95%	-13.84%	226.14%	27.47%	225.00%	588.89%	82.14%						

TABLE A-2 PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2010 TO 2020 BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORIES

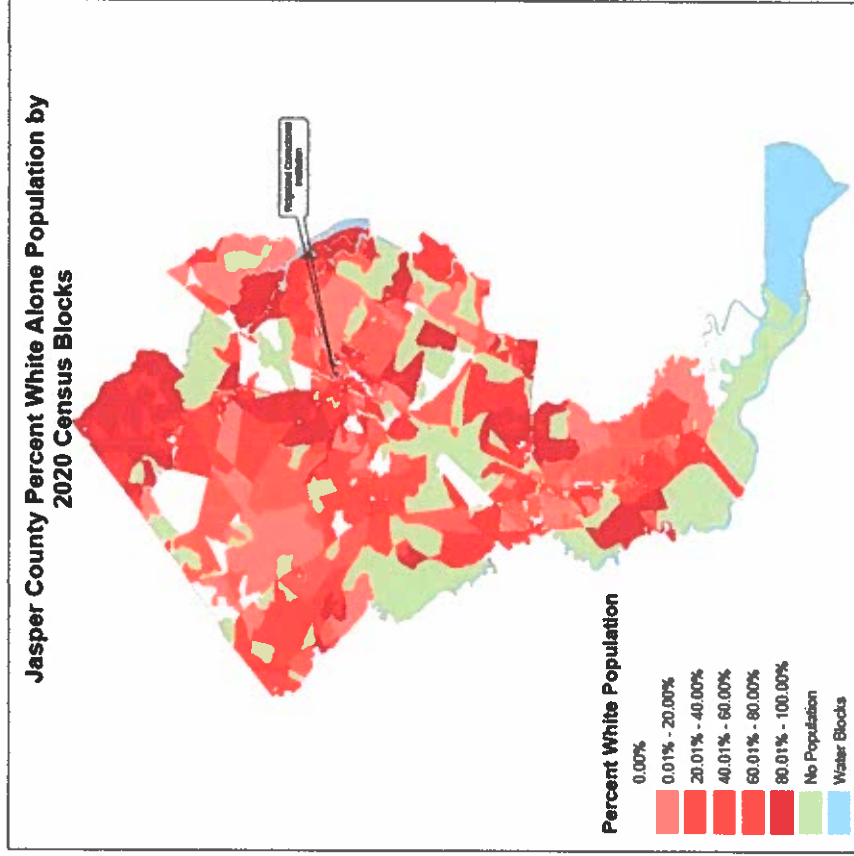
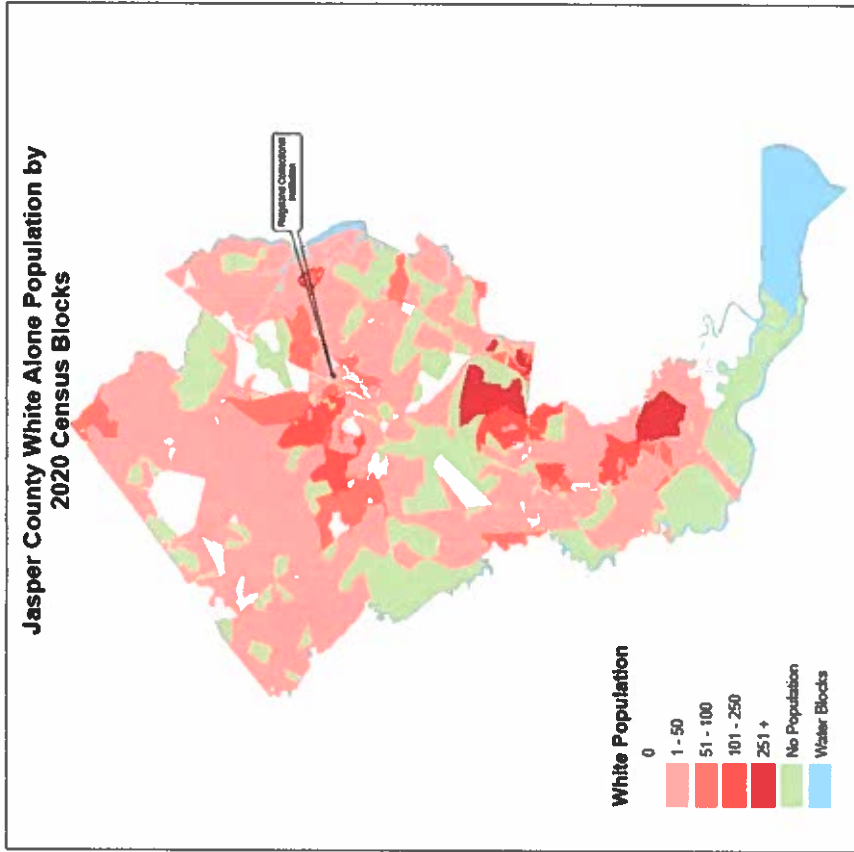
County	Year	Total Population	White Alone	Percent of Total	Black Alone	Percent of Total	Other Single Race	Percent of Total	Multiple Race	Percent of Total	Non-Hispanic Multiple Race	Percent of Total
JASPER	2010	24,777	10,658	43.02%	2,361	9.53%	352	1.42%	352	1.42%		
JASPER	2020	26,791	13,715	47.64%	3,395	11.79%	2,036	7.07%	2,036	7.07%		
Percent Change		16.20%	28.68%	-15.44%	43.80%	43.80%	478.41%	478.41%	478.41%	478.41%	478.41%	478.41%

CHART A-1 POPULATION TREND BY SINGLE RACE, 2000 - 2020

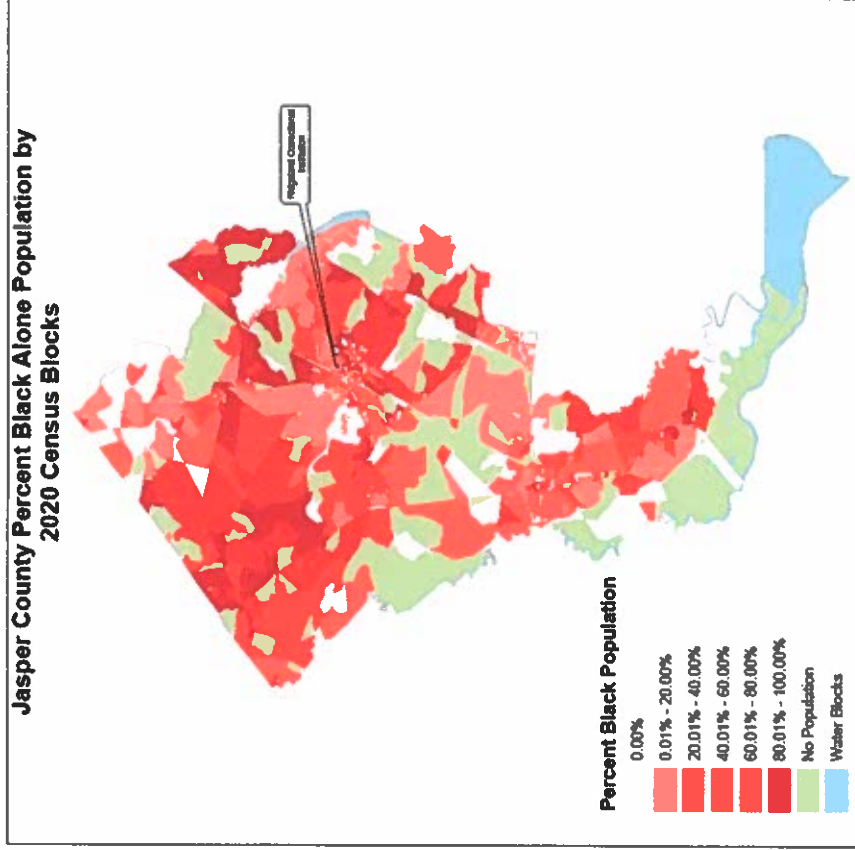
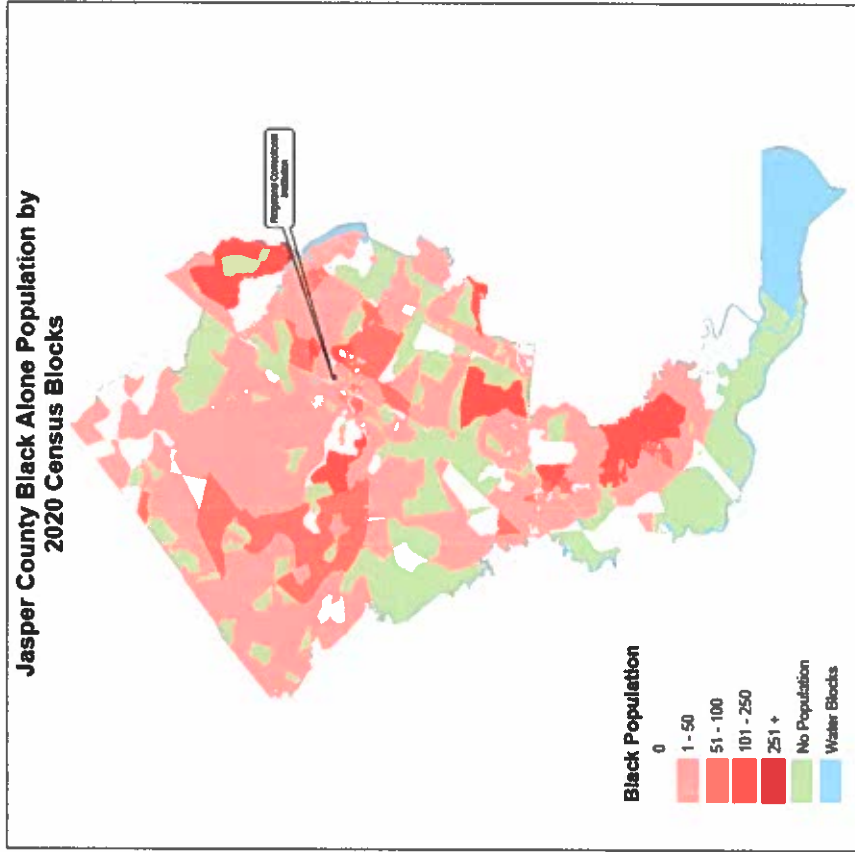


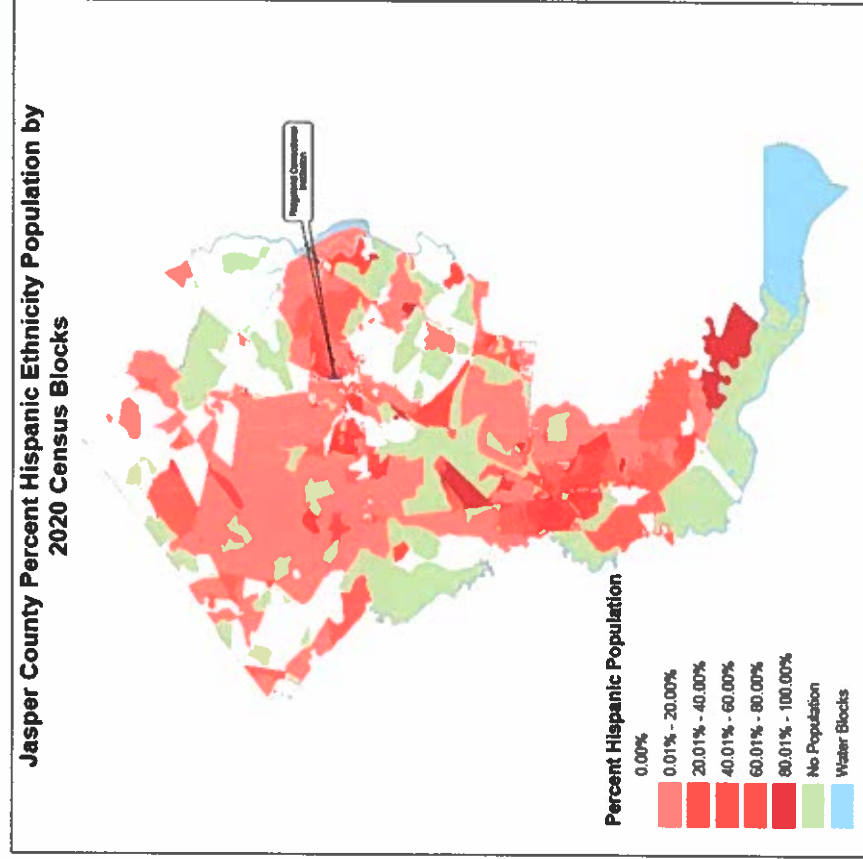
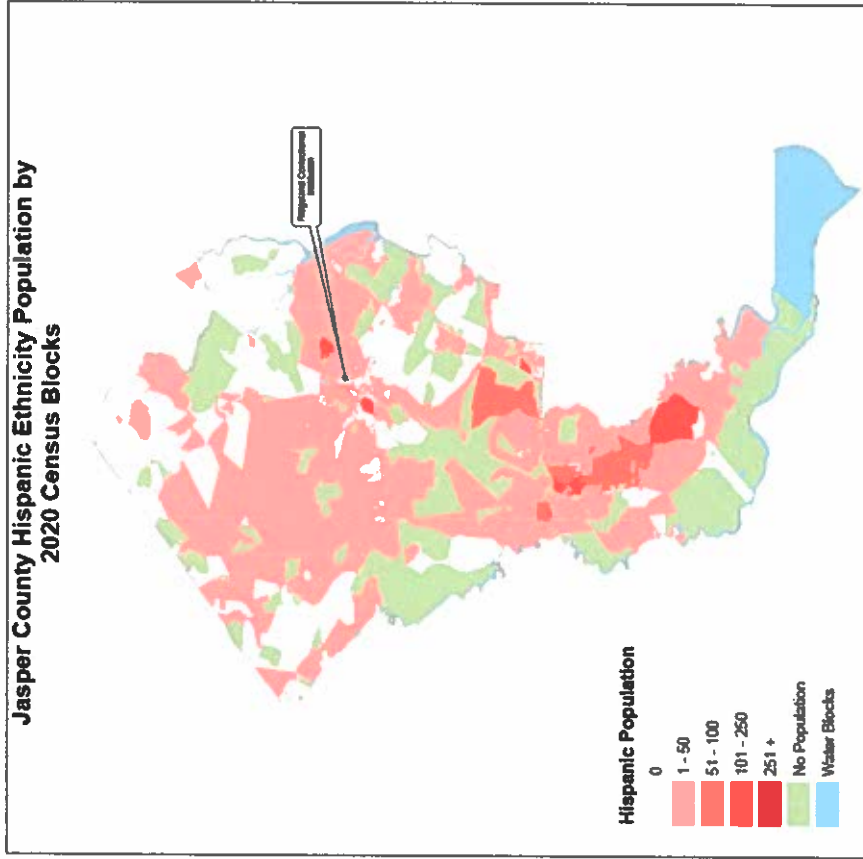
APPENDIX B - MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORIES (CORRESPONDS WITH TABLE A-2)

MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORY - WHITE



MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORY - BLACK





APPENDIX C - VOTING ANALYSIS, BIVARIATE ECOLOGICAL REGRESSION ANALYSIS

