



City of
Georgetown
SOUTH CAROLINA

2024

Annual Report

City of
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February 2025

Members of City Council and Residents of the City of Georgetown:

It is our pleasure to present the 2024 Annual Report for the City of Georgetown. This report highlights major accomplishments and initiatives over the past year. These achievements represent a collaborative effort amongst the City Council, City Departments and City employees.

We have worked together to assess the needs of the city for the present and the future. Fortunately, this past year saw the completion of many projects beneficial to our infrastructure and utilities. As we strive to necessitate these upgrades, the importance of cost efficiency and adequate services are tantamount to the success of our community as well.

Over the next year, we will continue to strive towards the betterment of our city for all our citizens. Again, the workings of the city will be seen in action from planning for upcoming projects, starting new projects and completing projects favorable to us.

Please take time and review this informative Annual Report as it is an excellent overview of the past year and upcoming goals for the city.

Sincerely,

Carol Jayroe
Mayor, City of Georgetown

Scott Whittier
City Administrator



2024 ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Carol Jayroe

Council Member Jonathan Angner	Council Member Jim Clements	Council Member Jimmy Morris
Council Member Bruce Carl	Council Member Erin Ethridge	Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng

2024 APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Stephanie Buccione
Municipal Clerk

Scott Whittier
City Administrator

Elise Crosby, Esq.
City Attorney

2024 DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS/Managers

Orlando Arteaga
Engineering

Chris Mullis
Water Utilities

Ryan Call
Building Official

Cindy Owens
Municipal Court

Chief Charlie Cribb
Fire Department

Chief William (Bill) Pierce
Police Department

Ryan Courtemanche
Electric Utilities

Natrona Simmons
Public Works

Peter Gaytan
Planning Director

Kathy Vermeland
Finance Department

Kara Hamilton
Human Resources

Isaac Williams
Fleet Services

ADMINISTRATION

Mission

The mission of the City of Georgetown is to provide for the safety and general wellbeing of its residents and visitors. The City enhances the quality of life for its citizens by protecting its natural environment, fostering a vibrant and diverse economy that will create economic opportunities, ensuring orderly growth, and providing excellent services, amenities, and infrastructure. The City plays a proactive leadership role in shaping the future of the community based on input from its stakeholders.

Vision

The City of Georgetown will be a destination city known for its rich history and natural beauty. It will continue to be recognized as one of the best small coastal towns in the United States. It will continue to be a great place to visit, live, work, and play.

Values/Guiding Principles

Integrity: Standards of honesty, objectivity, inclusiveness, and ethical conduct will guide all that we do and is essential to the City building and maintaining a bond of trust with its residents, customers, and among its elected officials and employees.

Loyalty: We are loyal to the City's mission, its residents, and to our fellow employees. We recognize the importance of working together as a team.

Professionalism/High Performance: We are committed to excellence and the delivery of quality services. We are dedicated to conducting all our business in an impartial, consistent, and reliable manner. Our employees are knowledgeable and display a strong work ethic.

Initiative: As City officials and employees, we will look for new and creative ways to address the needs of our residents. Our employees are encouraged to work independently and to use their best judgement as they fulfill their duties and responsibilities. We strive to go "the extra mile."

Transparency: We will be accountable for and take responsibility for our actions and decisions and will openly communicate with our residents and other stakeholders and will seek their input.

Inclusiveness: The diversity of our residents and our employees is a strength. As a City we are committed to serving and involving all segments of our community.

City Council adopted the mission, vision, and values/guiding principles listed above in November 2022.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

- Procured a design-build contractor for the renovations for the new city hall site.
- Obtained funding for a feasibility study for the stormwater pumping system.
- Held several workshops to make the City Council aware of specific topics that need Council's attention and further action.
- Continued providing support and guidance to the mayor and city council members and department directors on a daily basis.
- Continued working with bond counsel and financial advisors on:
 - Financing options for equipment acquisition to replace aging equipment and vehicles.
 - City Hall
- Conducted cost of service study for the Electric utility for a new rate design
- Continued working with the federal and state governments on the following grant funded projects:

2024 Grant Funded Projects by Fund		
Fund	Amount	Project Description
General Fund	737,245	SROs, West End Demo, Wi-Fi at city parks, SCDHEC, BPV
Capital Projects Reserve	853,423	Fire equipment, Police Equipment, and West End sidewalks
H/A Tax	1,314,298	Cleland St Parking Lot, Bobby Alford Pavilion, DMO Marketing
ARPA	2,177,263	Water & Wastewater Utilities infrastructure projects. Total received: \$4,352,151.90
Water Utilities Fund	4,178,000	Water Treatment Plant Improvements, West End Water Upgrades
Stormwater Fund	6,270,290	Stormwater System Improvements (EDA/Rural Initiative)
Wastewater Fund	9,926,537	Sewer Pump Station and Force Main Replacement, Pump Station Generators
Grant funding came from the following sources:		
Bureau of Justice Assistance, US Department of Agriculture, SC Department of Commerce, Federal Emergency Management (FEMA), SC Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP), SC Parks Recreation & Tourism (DMO), SC Department of Public Safety, Body Amor Award Grant Program, State of South Carolina, SC Department of Environmental Services, US Department of Commerce		

Goals for 2025

- Advance the new City Hall project.
- Continue working with bond counsel and financial advisors on TIF fund projects, and other capital projects.
- Continue improving and streamlining processes by increasing the use of technology.
- Evaluate and implement community communication platform.

ELECTRIC UTILITY DEPARTMENT

Mission: To provide the citizens and businesses of Georgetown with electric service in a safe, reliable, and cost-effective manner.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

- We successfully reduced the 2024 demand charges by approximately \$802,981.00 through efficient operation of the peak shaving generation plant, based on the base demand rate from our wholesale provider.
- Construction completed for phase II of the Front Street underground infrastructure upgrade project.
- Successful transition to new Municipal Complex.
- The tree dept successfully completed ACRT Line Clearance Certification.
- Line Technicians completed the next level in the apprenticeship program with ElectriCities.
- Addition of a Certified Arborist in the Tree Dept.
- Upgrades to our current SCADA System to improve reliability in our Electric distribution infrastructure.
- With the Electric Dept being fully staffed and having qualified technicians we were able to provide mutual aid assistance to other municipalities devastated by Hurricane Helene.
- Decorated the City with holiday lights, garland, and a Christmas tree.

Work Orders 2024	
Cut on – regular	1,736
Cut off – regular	1,287
Cut off – non-pay	3,410
Restores – non-pay	2,524
Re-reads	36,149

Current Projects

- Eaton will be replacing 4000 water nodes that are currently not working in our AMI system. Installation is scheduled to start sometime in February.
- GIS Electric System mapping is currently underway. This location data is essential for efficient and effective response during and after an emergency.
- Phase 3 of the Front Street underground infrastructure was sent out to bid and awarded to Sumter Utilities. Construction is planned to start February of 2025.

Goals for 2025

- The fourth and final phase of the Front Street underground infrastructure upgrade project will be discussed during FY 25/26 budget planning process.
- Continue to work with the manufacturer of our advanced metering system to improve reliability and upgrade existing infrastructure.
- Looking to add the software MY Meter as a layer to our AMI system to give customers access to track their utility consumption, receive alerts on energy spikes or water leaks and manage their account from anywhere. This will be discussed during FY 25/26 budget planning process.
- Implement a pole inspection program to identify and replace damaged or aged poles ensuring reliability and safety of the electric system. Project will be discussed during FY 25/26 budget planning process.
- Complete the Marina Drive and Frontage Road distribution upgrade. This includes adding a loop feed to improve reliability by reducing outage time if a problem occurs on the existing radial feed.
- Develop a procedure for annual periodic Meter tests and inspections to maintain meters at a standard for accuracy.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Mission: To service and respond to the City's infrastructure needs with integrity and professionalism.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

The City's Water Utilities Department has the crucial task of supplying safe and reliable potable water and collecting all residential and commercial wastewater for treatment to and from its residents. During this year, Engineering assisted with the completion of the following major projects:

- Water Projects:
 - EDA Secondary Sedimentation Basin-Construction ongoing with an anticipated completion of June 2025
 - West End Water Main Upgrades.-Completed
 - Maryville Watermain Distribution Improvements Phase I. -Completed
 - Raw Water Station Electrical Upgrades -Engineering is completed.
- Wastewater Projects:
 - Pump Station #11 and 20-in. Force Main Replacement (SCIIP Grant) -Engineering is completed.
 - WWTP Grit Removal System Replacement-Completed.
 - S. Fraser Street Sanitary Sewer Survey, Manhole Replacement, and Sewer Line Point Repairs-Completed
- Stormwater:

- EDA Historic District Stormwater Improvements-Construction ongoing with an anticipated completion of July 2025.

Engineering also assisted Public Works with the following projects:

- Public Works:
 - Bobby Alford Picnic Pavilion- Completed.
 - Gilbert, Butts, and Hawkins Street Sidewalks-Completed
 - Harborwalk Structural Repairs-Completed.
 - Cleland Street Parking Lot- Engineering is ongoing.
 - Lincoln Street Building Renovations.

Engineering is also responsible for managing grant funded projects as follows:

- Federal and State Grants Applied:
Rep. Hewitt State Allocation for Stormwater Pump Station Feasibility Study and Engineering
- Federal and State Grants Awarded:
 - EDA Secondary Sedimentation Basin. Award amount: \$4,285,000
 - EDA Historic District Stormwater Improvements: Award amount: \$5,488,526 (Revised)
 - SC Dept. of Commerce-CDBG Rural Initiative Fund for Historic District Stormwater. Award Amount: \$ 781,764
 - South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP) PS #11 and Force Main Replacement. Award Amount: \$9,733,738
 - Stormwater Pump Station Feasibility and Engineering (RIA). Award Amount: \$375,000
- Planned Developments:
The City Engineer actively participates in technical review meetings (TRMs) with other city staff on new proposed planned developments (PDs) within the city limits. Engineering reviews design documents of all non-residential proposed site development activities including water, wastewater, stormwater, driveways, roads, and parking lots for compliance with local, state, and federal regulations. The City Engineer is responsible for the review and approval of all stormwater management plans of sites one acre or larger.
- The following proposed private developments were reviewed in 2024:
 - Seaport
 - Riverside of Georgetown
 - Bank of Greeleyville
 - 902-904 Front Street Planters & Mechanics Bank
 - 814 Elizabeth Street Hydraulics Shop

- Winyah Dental
- Winyah Fishing Village
- Boyd Living Shoreline (TNC)

Current 2025 City Construction Projects:

- EDA Historic District Stormwater Improvements
- EDA- Secondary Sedimentation Basin
- City Hall
- Municipal Building Complex
- Indigo Avenue Surface Restoration
- WTP and WWTP Condition Assessments
- Stormwater Pump Station Feasibility and Engineering

Goals for 2025

Complete the following CIP projects

- City Hall.
- Municipal Building Complex.
- CDBG-Cleland Street Parking Lot.
- EDA WTP Secondary Sedimentation Basin.
- EDA Historic District Drainage Improvements Project.
- Raw Water Pump Station Electrical Upgrades.
- Maryville Watermain Distribution Improvements Phase II-Engineering.
- N. Merriman – Congdon Street Stormwater Improvements-Engineering.
- Willowbank Watermain Improvements -Engineering.
- Stormwater Pump Station-Engineering
- WTP Condition Assessment
- WWTP Condition Assessment

Other

- Continue to update easement database and as-builts in GIS map system.
- Apply for a RIA planning grant for Water Utilities Asset Management and Leak Detection System

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Mission: To ensure the sound financial management of the City's funds by planning and furnishing accountable financial data; including auditing, budgeting, purchasing, customer service, utility billing, collections, and delinquent collections.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

- Business License: **Business** license revenues remain the second largest revenue source in the General Fund. The city implemented the South Carolina Business License Tax Standardization Act 176, renewal deadline is April 30. HDL Companies continues to assist with identifying businesses operating within the City Limits without a license. One hundred fifty-seven new businesses applied for an annual license in the city from January 2024 – December 2024.
- Procurement Project Activities:
 - City Hall 420 S Hazard Street
 - BS&A Software Implementation
 - Fire Training Center
 - East Bay Park
 - Bobby Alford Pavilion
 - Playground Equipment Improvement
 - Annual Floral Installation and Maintenance
 - Water Treatment Plant Second
 - Front Street Phase 3 Infrastructure Upgrade
 - Maryville Water Distribution
 - Raw Water Station Electrical Improvements
 - Municipal Complex, Electric, Public Works
 - Sewer Force Main Replacement
 - WWTP Grit Removal System Replacement
 - Sanitary Sewer Manhole Replacement and Sewer Line Repairs
 - Stormwater Systems Improvements
 - Christmas Lights on Front Street- Completed
 - Tree Crew Services
 - WW Lift Stations/Conditions Assessments
 - SW Pump Station Feasibility Study
 - Municipal Complex Fencing- Completed
 - Water Treatment Plant Sedimentation Basin
- Improvements
 - Cleland Street Parking Lot
 - Harborwalk Maintenance Repairs- Completed
 - Historic District Stormwater Improvements
- FY 2024/2025 Budget:
 - Staff presented the first draft of the budget at the Annual Retreat in March 2024.
 - Completed the budget process with Council approving the budget in June 2024.
- Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) Audit FY 2023/2024: The FY 2024 financial statement audit is nearing completion. The City received the GFOA Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its FY 2023 ACFR for the 33rd consecutive year. The ACFR continued to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements. The 2024 ACFR will be submitted to the GFOA to determine eligibility for another certificate. Council approved a contract with Mauldin and Jenkins, CPAs & Advisors to ACFR Audit for FY2023, FY2024, and FY2025.
- Revenue Collections and Customer Service: City Hall operated on a normal operating schedule and staff continued to address and process all customer concerns and collections. Customers are encouraged to continue to pay online and use the drop boxes located at City Hall for convenience.
- Set-Off Debt: During 2024, staff continued to submit outstanding utility bills and Municipal Court fines to the Municipal Association and the State for setoff against State Income Tax Refunds. Over the years, this has proven to be an excellent source for delinquent revenue collections.

- Submitted over 719 outstanding utility bills, miscellaneous bills, and police fines to the Municipal Association and the State for setoff against 2025 State Income Tax Refunds.

Current Projects

- FY 2025/2026 Budget: The beginning stages of budget preparation have been initiated, and the Budget Calendar has been presented to and approved by Council. Staff will begin to prepare preliminary projections for payroll and capital items with FY2025/2026 operating budget projections to follow.
- Calendar Year-End Processing: Balanced the payroll for the calendar year ended 2024 and prepared the applicable quarterly and year-end reports, with W-2 and 1099 processing.
- The City entered a contract with BS&A for the new ERP software to manage the growing needs of the City and streamline processes. We will begin implementation on January 21, 2025.

Goals for 2025

- Execute the planning, review, and implementation of the FY2026 City of Georgetown operating and capital budgets.
- Review and update Finance Department policies and procedures.
- Continue to provide timely, accurate, and useful financial information.
- Prepare financial statements and information in anticipation of the FY 2025 audit.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mission: To provide fire and life safety services to the citizens of our community by effective and efficient utilization of our personnel and equipment in the area of public education, inspections, codes enforcement, hazardous materials, rescue, emergency medical care and fire suppression, while maintaining a high level of training and readiness to safely intervene in life threatening emergencies.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

Last year certainly brought about new challenges but the GFD responded to each and continued to provide the same compassionate professional services as always.

- Responded to a total of 3,057 calls for service and provided 396 fire inspections to commercial properties.
- Provided public education events reaching 1,509 adults and 3,297 children. The year 2024 continued to present a struggle to remain active in the public education arena as the COVID pandemic started to resurface. However, through outlets like Facebook and socially distanced programs as well as materials provided to the schools for distribution, the GFD was able to reach

many people. The process was slightly altered but service did not cease. We were able to resume some school programs and conduct our Fire Prevention Open House.

- Completed 73 Facebook posts containing safety messages reached a total of 32,362 people.
- Installed a total of 88 smoke alarms and 10 carbon monoxide alarms.
- Continued work of the new training facility, which included stacking and welding the burn building containers and getting all the window and door openings cut out.

Current Projects

- Continue to respond to any challenges and changes as the city continues to grow.
- Continue the next phase of the new training facility.

Goals for 2025

- Closely continue to monitor as new homes and buildings are being added to the city and stay proactive with staffing to accommodate new construction and population.
- Look to fund and open a third Fire Station at the old Station Two site in Maryville.
- Continue to work on replacing the aging Apparatus fleet.
- Continue with construction of the training facility.
- Work to enhance and update our supervisor leadership educational program.
- Continue to work on the recruitment and retention issues that we face.

FLEET SERVICES

Mission: To responsibly maintain the City's fleet of vehicles and equipment to provide quality fleet management, equipment repair and safe vehicles so that the City of Georgetown is thoroughly equipped to serve its residents. Seek new and innovative ways to improve the quality and cost of services by using the latest technology and methods to keep pace with the industry and service needs.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

Services provided	
Repairs	945
Preventative Maintenance	246
Tires Repaired or Replaced	469

Current Projects

- On a day-to-day basis, maintain the City's fleet and equipment by conducting preventative maintenance and completing repairs.

Goals for 2025

- Complete capital improvement requests for Fleet Services:
 - Replace Tire Changer
 - Replace Tire Balancer
 - Heavy equipment requests for Public Works,
- Minimize down time of vehicles and equipment by eliminating past due maintenance services.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Mission: To recruit, develop and retain a diversified workforce of skilled, competent employees; provide attractive compensation and benefits; cultivate an organizational culture that ensures a safe and healthy work environment; promote employee wellness; and apply Human Resource policies and practices in an ethical, consistent, and respectful manner. The City of Georgetown's Human Resources Department is committed to providing first-rate service to not only its employees but the residents of our great City as well.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

- Adopted and approved a new handbook
- Successfully launched a Lunch and Learn Program
- Implemented ACH billing to our insurance
- Completed enrollment of new ancillary benefits
- Market adjusted salaries for police and firefighters

Current Projects

- Working on a total compensation analysis to review for the next fiscal year.
- Working on the orientation and onboarding process.
- Partnering with SC Works on employment opportunities and career fairs.

Goals for 2025

- Stay interviews, as well as continuing to process exit interviews for data collection.
- Continue to encourage the use of Proactive Care.
- Continue to have lunch and learn about topics that will help all employees in their daily and personal life.
- Working on improvement of the onboarding process.
- Implementation of the compensation study.

MUNICIPAL CLERK

Mission: To provide highly responsible administrative support to City Council and City Administrator; Prepares public notices, records, attests, and maintains official actions of City Council including meetings calendar and agendas; and performs extensive research of records at the request of City Council, staff, and City Attorney.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

- Revised City Clerk's Official Record Book with FY 2025 budget information
- Coordinated the review, selection, transition, and training for staff on a new meeting agenda and minutes software system.
- Maintained records for managing appoints/reappoints/applicants to Boards and Commissions to share with City Council.
- Completed public notices, newspaper ads, and calendar for agendas and minutes for City Council meetings and public hearings.
- Coordinated updates for the City of Georgetown's Code of Ordinances with Municode.
- Cross trained backup support on Civic Clerk to publish council meeting agendas and other Clerk duties.

Current Projects

- Continue supporting the mayor with requests from the public to make presentations and discuss public affairs of the city.
- Plan and coordinate logistics for the upcoming annual budget retreat.
- Continue communicating and maintaining official city business and handling City, Mayor, and Clerk memberships with outside organizations.

Goals for 2025

- Complete further education and training to obtain certifications for Municipal Clerks.
- Work with SC Archives & History to fully understand the retention schedule for documents and records that are not listed in their guide and have a meeting with staff to communicate information.

MUNICIPAL COURT

Mission: To process cases filed in our Court efficiently and justly while providing quality customer service and treating all persons with respect and fairness.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

- Disposed of 4,473 cases and imposed fine amounts of \$ \$691,822.05.

- Completed the 2024-2025 SLED Information Technology Security Audit. We were found to be in compliance with the FBI's CJIS Security Policy associated with access to, and utilization of FBI CJIS systems data. Purchased the first ever brand new vehicle for Municipal Court use.
- Cross trained newly appointed Assistant Clerk of Court on the Clerk of Court's duties

Goals for 2025

- Implement new court proceedings in order to reduce the time court attendees spend waiting on their case to be called.
- Due to the increased case load, possibly add an afternoon court session each week. This will give us three bench trial session each week.

PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Mission: To assist in the development of the community and welfare of its citizens by providing a safe and orderly infrastructure to the City's growth while ensuring protection, preservation, and enhancement of its "Historic" stature.

2024 Department Accomplishments and Highlights

Board & Commissions*		Presentations to City Council	
Architectural Review Board	65	Text amendments	1
ARB Onsite Meetings	1	Rezoning requests	1
Board of Zoning Appeals	7	Annexation request (3.7 acres)	0
Planning Commission	20	Ordinances	0
Community Appearance Board	26	Applications Heard by City Boards	
Construction Board of Appeals	6	Board of Zoning Appeals	7
Technical Review Committee	10	Planning Commission	20

Building and Development:

- COs issued for approximately 39 New Single-Family Homes.
- CO issued for Parkers Gas Station on Church Street.
- CO has been issued for The George.
- Construction for Winyah Dental at the corner of Wood Street and Church Street is underway.
- Construction for the Greeleyville Bank at the corner of Highmarket Street and North Fraser Street has started.
- CO issued for Valvoline at the corner of Antuan Maybank and North Fraser.
- CO issued for commercial hydraulic shop in Maryville at 814 Elizabeth Street.
- Upgrades in the 900 block of Front Street (future restaurant turned clothing store) completed.

- Construction of single-family homes continues at a fast pace in the areas of Oak Bay Drive, Harbor Club, South Island Plantation, Country Club, and other parcels throughout the City.
- The Fishing Village on Church Street continues to move forward with construction. Construction should be completed in 2025 on 17 residential structures and one commercial structure.
- CBDG Demolition grant was finalized with the demolition of 14 residential dilapidated structures.
- Please see the chart attached below for permits issued for alterations and additions.

2024 Inspections			
Business License Inspections	25-30	Sheathing	93
Stop Work Orders Issued	20-30	Insulation	114
Rough Framing	234	Final	230
Rough Electrical	328	Others	274
Rough Plumbing/Gas	457		
Rough Mechanical	200		

Permit Valuation Report			
Type of Permit	Permits Created	Valuation	Fees Paid
Commercial Addition	6	\$168,186.00	\$4,081.89
Commercial Alteration	28	\$4,483,938.05	\$40,961.50
Commercial Electric	28	\$784,635.95	\$5,168.00
Commercial Gas	3	\$33,050.00	\$428.00
Commercial Mechanical	27	\$464,754.17	\$5,470.00
Commercial New Build	6	\$1,468,696.00	\$25,695.57
Commercial Plumbing	9	\$236,200.00	\$2,700.00
Commercial Roofing	15	\$429,680.00	\$3,824.00
Demolition	27	\$102,550.00	\$4,050.00
Mobile Homes	9	\$148,115.00	\$2,100.00
Residential Addition	11	\$583,872.00	\$7,890.00
Residential Alterations	125	\$4,467,947.25	\$37,989.00
Residential Electrical	59	\$430,373.13	\$4,677.00
Residential Gas	18	\$26,505.81	\$825.00
Residential Mechanical	55	\$540,560.00	\$5,367.00
Residential New Build	60	\$12,487,733.99	\$124,426.85
Residential Plumbing	56	\$453,362.35	\$5,609.00
Residential Roofing	76	\$722,307.53	\$7,358.00
Totals	618	\$23,996,922.23	\$288,620.81

Comprehensive Plan:

- Comprehensive Plan Updates-All updates for the Comprehensive Plan have been out-sourced to the WRCOG.
- Upon final review and approval from the Planning Commission, the Plan will be presented to the City Council for adoption in 2025.

Floodplain Management:

- Applied for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP-90% Federally Funded/10% Homeowner Funded); Results: Grant was not approved.
- The city has maintained a Community Rating System (CRS) rating of 7 from FEMA.
- Peter Gaytan Director has received his Certified Floodplain Manager Certificate

Code Compliance Activity:

Letters Issued for Violations	
Overgrown Lots	95
Litter/Construction debris/In-operable Vehicles	68
Zoning Violations	9
Citations Issued	47
Unsafe Structures/Living Conditions	7

Main Street Program:

- Conducted 27 interviews with multiple media outlets in 2024
- Attended 21 ribbon cuttings in 2024, facilitated and conducted 3
- Worked with the Georgetown County Republican Party to commission and install a plaque in Rainey Park
- Brought American Dream TV to Georgetown, 3 separate episodes in 2024
- Conducted the 2nd annual business owners meeting at Winyah Auditorium
- After a year long effort, Georgetown was designated as a Cultural District for the state of South Carolina in February 2024
- Attended 4 Main Street SC quarterly meetings, the Main St. SC annual retreat in Beaufort and the Governors Conference on Travel and Tourism
- Facilitated and led a marketing proposal meeting with Our State Magazine and multiple business owners for additional advertising potential
- Facilitated and led an online conference with Tourism Exchange USA, an international marketing and advertising agency, with multiple business owners for expanded marketing and advertising

- Attended and completed a week long Economic Development class at the University of North Carolina
- Brought a 50+ person contingent from the Decorative Arts Trust, an international arts and cultural organization, to Georgetown for lunch, tours of historic sites and a reception at the George Hotel
- Organized and facilitated a tour group from Wilmington, NC to come to Georgetown for a two day visit
- Worked with the City Administrator, Finance and the GBA to renew the DMO agreement between the GBA and the City
- Brought Chick-fil-A to Georgetown
- Organized a parking presentation for City Council for the August, 2024 workshop
- Worked with Bethel AME Church to offer tours, dining and events for their three day annual conference which brought over 800 people to Georgetown
- Worked with the Charleston Offshore Racing Association (CORA) to bring a race from Charleston to Georgetown with a reception after the race
- Expanded the Christmas lighting in the Historic Business District and added decorations
- Emceed the Tree Lighting and the Christmas parade
- Asked to be a guest speaker at Hemingway Middle and High Schools to talk about tourism
- Participated in the first design meeting for the rebuilding of Constitution Park, will continue these meetings in 2025
- Participated in 3 Stormwater planning meetings
- Organized, facilitated and hosted Main St SC and WeShopSC for a workshop in Georgetown for 18 business owners
- Facilitated the time capsule ceremony at the Charters of Freedom
- Participated in strategic planning sessions for both the GBA and the Kaminski House Museum
- Attended/participated in 72 meetings for the GBA, Keep Georgetown Beautiful, SC250, Food, Beer and Wine, Art/Wine Walk, Music in the Park, Christmas, Chamber of Commerce
- Processed 37 Special Event permit applications in 2024

Goals for 2025

Building and Planning

- Complete the Comprehensive Plan.
- Amend Accessory Structure Ordinance.
- Amend Short Term Vacation Rental Ordinance.
- Continue to serve the City of Georgetown and its residents.
- Review and update Zoning Ordinance.

Main Street

- Conduct the 2025 Business Owners meeting in February, bring all merchants together to gather ideas and suggestions to continue to improve the Historic Business District
- Continue to work with Engineering, Public Works and our landscape architect in the rebuilding of Constitution Park
- Since we did not extend the Myrtle Beach airport marketing project, determine where the Front St. streetscape model will be permanently displayed
- Continue to work with the GBA on all events in the city
- Continue to grow the Arts and Cultural Commission, complete the transformer art project on Front St. and work towards an ordinance change to allow banners on light poles on Front St.
- Continue to expand the Christmas lights and decorations in the Historic Business District in 2025
- Pursue the possibility of wayfinding signage identifying the Cultural District
- Continue to attend Main St. SC quarterly meetings, the summer retreat as well as the Governors Conference on Travel and Tourism
- Work to form a coalition of civic organizations/non-profits throughout the city (Chamber, Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, etc.), along with the GBA to strengthen and enhance marketing, city promotion and events
- Take a more active role with the GBA and Three Ring Focus on marketing and advertising for the city. This lagged in mid to late 2024, we have already had our first very productive 2025 meeting to chart the marketing course

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement: The mission of the Georgetown Police Department is serving, protecting and positively impacting the quality of life of all citizens of Georgetown..

2024-2025 Accomplishments and Highlights (through December 31, 2024)

- Grants received approximately \$291,357.00
 - SRO grant \$193,132.00, funding for Maryville Elementary, and Howard Alternative.
 - SCDPS radio grant in the amount of \$74,966.00 to purchase mobile radios.
 - \$11,259.00 DOJ BAAG ballistic vest grant.
 - SCMIT and SCMIRF award of approximately \$12,000. These monies are used to offset the operating costs of two key software platforms (PowerDMS and PowerTime),
- Ordinances revised or adopted:
 - Sec. 20-12. Activities from public ramps, docks, and kayak launch at East Bay Park.
 - Sec. 20-46. Operation on flooded or closed streets, roads, highways, bridges or alleys.
- Public Nuisances Identified and Abated:

- Townz Bar and Grill was identified as a public nuisance after numerous complaints were received from the community, and frequent calls for service were responded to. In August the establishment was cited for maintaining a public nuisance after officers responded and found narcotics being used in plain view of management and staff. In December the owner of this location surrendered their alcohol license and closed the business.
- 2024 Significant Events:
 - Council recognized the need, and approved salary increases to strengthen retention, and bolster hiring to fill vacancies.
 - The police department was awarded State Accreditation through SCLEA. SC State Law Enforcement Accreditation is for three years and signifies the police department meets established academic standards and complies with state mandates, thus ensuring we are operating with the highest degree of professionalism, transparency, and accountability.
 - Safe exchange zone established in the parking lot of the police department. The Safe Exchange Zone provides a safe environment for people who buy, sell, or trade items in private party transactions, with people they don't know. Additionally, the area can be used as a safe and neutral site for child custody exchanges. The goal of the Safe Exchange Zone is to help reduce and deter fraudulent transactions, thefts, violent custody disputes, and robberies.
 - Continued our partnership with St. Peters Lutheran Church in Pawleys Island to donate Christmas presents to boys and girls in the Housing Authority.
 - Partnered with DSS to provide donated Christmas gifts to several foster children in the city.
 - Partnered with The Love Chapel Church by providing enough pilau to feed about 300 people during their holiday meal program.
 - Continued our partnership with Greg's Groceries, officers travel to Columbia to help pack and distribute thousands of boxes of non-perishable food to families in need around the State. Since joining this initiative, we have distributed several hundred boxes locally to families in need.
 - Continued our partnership with Georgetown County Parks and Recreation for our annual National Night Out event held at the Beck Center. This year, for the first time, we were joined by the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office.
 - The annual Bridge-2-Bridge Run. The police department utilized every sworn officer to provide security and traffic control along the race route which traverses most of the city.
 - The annual Wooden Boat Show draws thousands of visitors to Front Street for the three-day event the police department provides around-the-clock security.
 - July 4th fireworks is a GPD "all hands-on deck" event as thousands of visitors converge on various spots around the city to view the city's fireworks display.
 - The Food, Beer, and Wine Festival, also held on Front Street, is another large event the police department provided security for.
 - The annual Christmas tree lighting, and Christmas parade are two large holiday festivities that the police department staffed to ensure security is maintained.
 - The MLK parade required police security and traffic control along the parade route.
 - Through our affiliation with the Federal Government 10-33 program, we were able to secure a high mobility multi-purpose wheeled vehicle (Humvee). The Humvee is

available in response to emergencies such as hurricanes and flooding when other vehicles might not be practical or effective.

- In August, tropical storm “Debby” descended upon Georgetown which resulted in upstaffing police presence 24-hours-a-day for a three-day period.
- Two additional Flock License Plate Readers were installed on Antwan Maybank Drive.
- Georgetown Police partnered with the Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office, in addition to other state agencies, and participated in a number of crime suppression and saturation operations in and around the city of Georgetown. This joint operation resulted in hundreds of citations, and numerous arrests.

• Annual statistics (Included below)

Enforcement	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Total CAD Activity	2202	1917	1834	1712	2448	2127	2948	2004	3165	3305	3729	4013	31404
Calls for Service	783	800	1242	990	995	801	823	832	853	799	739	722	10379
Incident Reports	161	163	145	167	176	145	164	165	188	202	160	130	1966
Zone 1	29	22	18	28	30	14	30	24	19	27	16	9	266
Zone 2	60	60	48	55	53	51	52	48	63	72	43	55	660
Zone 3	72	81	79	54	93	80	82	93	106	103	101	66	1010
Arrest	79	82	59	82	92	87	94	93	77	81	87	69	982
Warrants Served	38	26	29	40	38	26	36	29	40	34	34	16	386
Traffic Accidents													
Responded To	34	56	47	56	52	46	61	43	47	46	57	42	587
TR310s completed	29	42	47	54	47	44	60	44	46	47	58	39	557
Traffic Stops	569	509	420	544	457	545	519	383	395	489	526	555	5911
Uniform Traffic Ticket	233	233	197	251	275	306	311	222	204	270	296	352	3150
Male	149	157	114	145	165	186	204	133	124	169	191	191	1928
Female	84	76	83	106	110	120	107	89	80	101	105	161	1222
Caucasian	121	107	86	128	160	162	182	113	100	123	142	198	1622
African American	33	43	26	29	23	41	36	36	35	61	40	35	438
Hispanic	30	34	25	35	30	29	34	15	12	17	36	28	325
Other	49	49	60	59	62	74	59	58	57	69	78	91	765
Warning/Public Contact	325	343	255	350	291	296	297	249	257	292	305	277	3537
Male	200	196	129	190	165	162	179	137	143	158	181	147	1987
Female	125	147	127	160	129	134	118	113	114	134	124	130	1555
Caucasian	178	185	137	205	164	180	175	151	148	166	165	153	2007
African American	46	68	103	131	118	105	104	17	25	29	31	24	801
Hispanic	14	15	12	8	11	5	9	13	3	9	12	17	128
Other	120	75	4	5	9	6	9	67	81	88	97	83	644
Property Check	797	554	103	77	935	657	1421	667	1801	1750	2359	2697	13818
Overdose	3	3	1	2	2	8	1	3	1	1	2	1	28
Non-death	3	3	1	2	2	8	1	3	1	1	2	1	28
Death	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Narcotics by GPD	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Parking Tickets	53	54	69	101	61	124	185	122	116	267	105	39	1296

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Mission To ensure health, safety, and quality of life for our residents, by promoting excellence in the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of City Streets, Facilities, Grounds, and Curbside collections of Solid Waste, Yard and Bulk Waste materials. We strive to advocate responsible infrastructure investment in our public and recreational facilities, prioritizing our residential and community needs and environmental stewardship.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

Collections	Total Tons
Curbside – Yard Waste	1,250
Curbside – Bulk Waste	692
Solid Waste	3,938
Recyclables	146
Work Order Requests	Total W.O.
Sidewalk and Curbing Repairs	399
Park and facility Maintenance Repairs	433
Trash Can and Recycle Bins	779

Projects Completed:

- **City Engineer assistance:**
 - Sidewalk Installations for Gilbert, Butts & Hawkins Streets.
 - New construction of Picnic Pavillion at East Pay Park.
 - Harborwalk floating dock Repairs, sand and sealing of Handrails.
- Phragmites Spraying at Morgan Park and East Bay areas.
- New Park swings equipment installation at East Bay and Willowbank Parks.
- **Beautification projects:**
 - Seasonal Planting of Concrete Planters on Front Street, Francis Marion Park and Screven Street Restrooms, Orange Street Parking Lot, and Front Street median.
 - Irrigation lines separation at Rainey Park and Kaminski House Museum.
- **Special Events** – Provided City equipment and staff:
 - MLK Parade
 - Juneteeth Parade
 - Food & Wine Festival
 - Sandbagging for Hurricane Debbie preparations
 - Wooden Boat Show
 - Music in the Park

- Christmas Movies in the Park
- Christmas Parade
- Quarterly residential bulk waste collections (January, April, July, and October).
- Street and Grounds Maintenance Installation:
 - Season's Greeting Sign Covers.
 - Concrete Planters and trash receptacles for Front Street Downtown Business District and East Bay Park.
 - Picnic Tables for the new picnic pavilion.
- **Equipment purchases:**

		<u>Total</u>
Waste Management	Automated Garbage Truck	\$337,253.28
	Dump Truck	\$196,149.75
	Knuckleboom Truck	\$219,163.66
	Leaf Vac Truck	\$265,079.30
Public Works	(2) Lawnmowers	\$31,156.92
	(2) Pickup Trucks	\$81,700.00
	Surveillance Camera for Code Enforcement	\$8,720.00

- **Pending equipment purchases:**

		<u>Budgeted</u>
Waste Management	Recycle Trailer	\$25,000
Public Works	Sidewalk Cleaner or Contracted	\$25,000

- **Department vacancies:**
 - Administrative Assistant position filled.
 - Reclassed positions:
 - (4) Sanitation Workers to General Laborers.
 - General Supervisor to Waste Management Supervisor.
 - Street Supervisor to Public Works Supervisor / Litter Control Officer.
 - Pending vacancies for Heavy Equipment Operator I for Waste Management.

Current Projects

- **City Engineer assistance:**
 - Indigo Road Resurfacing.
 - Boardwalk repairs in Francis Marion Park.
 - Constitution Park – Bulkhead Project.
 - Proposals for Landscape Design for Constitution Park.
 - Proposals for architectural designs working with Finance and City Engineer to submit SCPRT Grant Application for Morgan Park walking trail and bridge improvements.
- East Bay Park Playground upgrades.
- Public restrooms automatic locking control systems.
- Proposals for surface staining of splash pad areas at Ben Cooper Park.
- Continue inspections of sidewalks and parks in the core commercial district to repair and eliminate trip hazards.
- Working with 3 Ring Focus on Recycle video for Residential Customers funded by SC Department of Environmental Services Solid Waste Grant.
- Submitted grant application for Palmetto Pride Litter Enforcement Grant.
- **Beautification projects:**
 - Seasonal Planting of Concrete Planters on Front Street, Francis Marion Park and Screven Street Restrooms, Orange Street Parking Lot, and Front Street median.
 - Installing additional concrete planters along Front Street, Downtown business district.

Goals for 2025

- Relocation of Public Works Department to New Municipal Complex on Highmarket Street.
- Working with Keep Georgetown Beautiful on Beautification projects throughout the City.
- Educational videos for residential customers on Curbside Collections.
- Road resurfaces needs on city roads per Road Assessment Study conducted in 2023.
- Sidewalk installations on Emanuel Street, Reservoir and Church Streets.
- Constitution Park redesign and renovations.
- Cleland Street Parking Lot improvements.
- East Bay Park and Morgan Park, Parking lot architectural designs.
- Morgan Park Bridge and Walking Trail improvements.

WATER UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Mission: The mission of the City of Georgetown's Water Utilities Department is to provide a safe and clean drinking water supply and ensure availability of adequate fire flows, provide environmentally acceptable wastewater collection and treatment consistent with applicable state and federal laws, and

protect property damage from flooding events all while providing the highest quality of essential services.

2024 Accomplishments and Highlights

- The total amount of drinking water produced from the City's wells and the Water Plant was 494,788,000 gallons, which averages about 42,994,000 gallons per month.
- The total amount of wastewater treated at WWTP was 1,308,840,000 gallons, which averages about 109,070,000 gallons per month.
- SCADA upgrades for the water and wastewater plants.
- Grit Chamber Replacement for the WWTP.
- West End water main improvements.
- Maryville water main improvements.
- Fraser St. Sewer manhole replacement.
- Generators via FEMA Grant project.
- Storm water lift station pump refurbished.

Current Projects

- The second Sedimentation Basin project at the Water Treatment Plant, which is a high priority to ensure continuance of operations at the Water Treatment Plant.
- Historic District stormwater improvements.
- Condition Assessments for the water, and wastewater plants.
- City Hall lift station/Force main improvements.
- Bar screen improvements for WWTP
- Maryville Distribution Upgrades (phase II).
- Raw water station upgrades

Goals for 2025

- Willowbank water main improvements.
- Replace old vehicles to be able to serve residents and businesses with reliable and safe equipment to efficiently perform work.
- Complete a system survey at the wastewater collections system through the CIP to identify the worst areas in need of more CIPP lining of the sewer mains to help extend the life and minimize leaks and potential costly repair problems.

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

