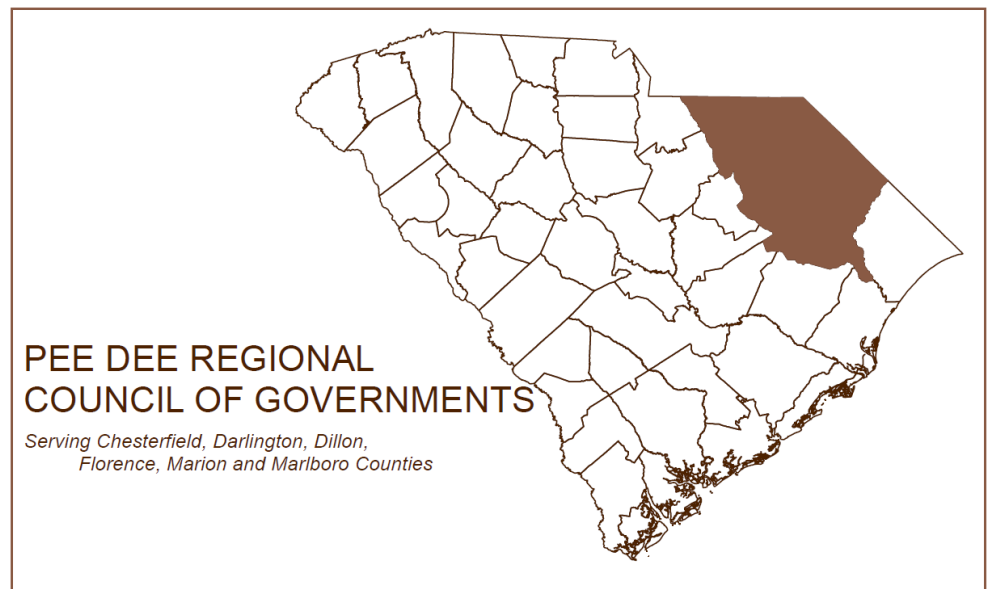


RURAL PLANNING WORK PROGRAM



June 2023 to
June 2025

Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments
RPWP

The RPWP serves to categorize work program tasks and budget items for rural transportation planning in the Pee Dee Region.

Rural Planning Work Program

PEE DEE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS RPWP

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PEE DEE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Overview

The PEE DEE REGIONAL Council of Governments (PDCOG) is a multi-county planning and development organization serving six counties (Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marion and Marlboro Counties) in northeastern South Carolina. The PDCOG provides direct and indirect assistance primarily to the counties and municipalities in the Region, but also serves public agencies and organizations and citizens through the following broad areas of service. A diverse staff of planners, public administrators, workforce developers, project managers, engineers, graphic technicians and others assist with the following:

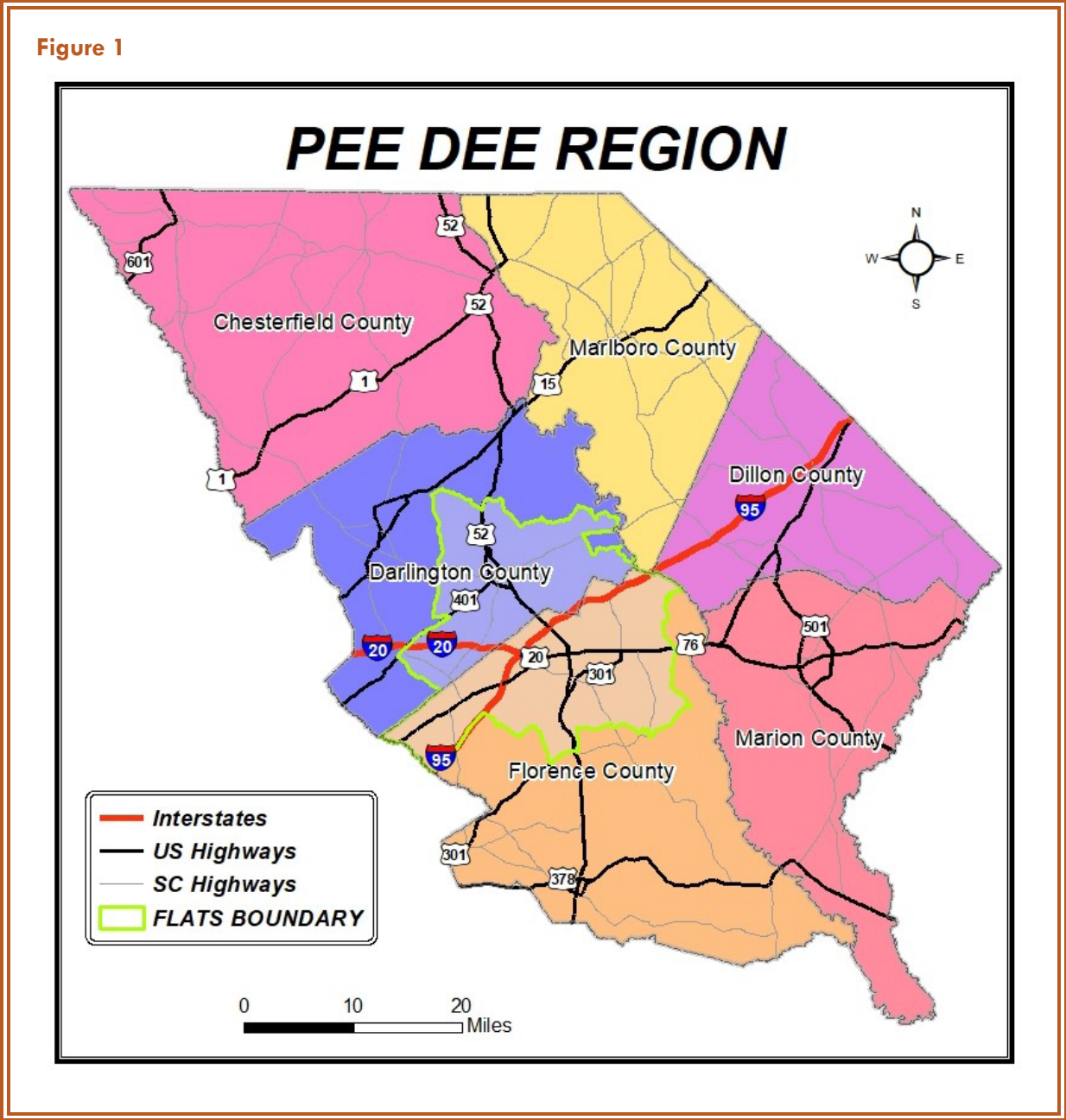
1. Workforce Development – Coordinating workforce training/enhancement programs
2. Economic Development – Assistance in economic planning and infrastructure development
3. Community Development – Housing and infrastructure for low-to-moderate income persons
4. Local Government Planning – Assistance with comprehensive planning and zoning
5. Transportation Planning – Coordinated multi-modal transportation planning for the Region
6. Engineering – Civil engineering design/inspection of roads and stormwater drainage
7. Other Technical and Grant Services – Grantsmanship and other technical assistance
8. Mapping/GIS – Technical mapping support for other programs
9. Streaming Website Training – Training via the internet for Local government elected and planning/zoning officials/staff
10. SC Project Notification and Review System – Assistance in local public notification and review of projects
11. Pee Dee Regional Development Corporation - Facilitates economic development projects

Transportation planning activities fit well within the varied involvements of PDCOG staff, lending an interdisciplinary team approach to regional planning.

The geographic area covered by this RPWP includes the service area of the Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments (Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marion and Marlboro Counties) less the service area of the Florence Area Transportation Study (FLATS), the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Florence urban area.

Pee Dee Regional Map

Figure 1



FIXING AMERICA'S SURFACE TRANSPORTATION ACT (FAST ACT)

The FAST Act strives to be a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive performance-based multimodal transportation planning process, including the development of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), that encourages and promotes the safe and efficient development, management, and operation of surface transportation systems to serve the mobility needs of people and freight (including accessible pedestrian walkways, bicycle transportation facilities, and intermodal) fosters economic growth and development, and takes into consideration resiliency needs, while minimizing transportation-related fuel consumption and air pollution.

FAST Act Factors

To accomplish these objectives, PDCOG in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) and public transportation operators, shall develop a long-range transportation plan (LRP) and TIP through a performance-driven, outcome-based approach to planning for the Pee Dee Region. The planning process shall provide for consideration and implementation of projects, strategies, and services that will address the following factors:

1. Support the economic vitality of the Pee Dee Region, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
4. Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight;
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight;
7. Promote efficient system management and operation;
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system;
9. Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation; and
10. Enhance travel and tourism.

RURAL PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

I. Program Management

This activity includes all ongoing department-wide management and administrative activities necessary to initiate and properly manage the transportation planning process. This does not include activities attributable to specific program activities. The objectives for this task include:

A. Administration

1. Completion of necessary contracts, purchasing, invoices, reports and correspondence in support of the work program
2. Meeting coordination and attendance
3. Maintain latest RPWP on website

B. Training and Workshop Activities

1. Regional, state and national planning related conferences and workshops attendance
2. Research to stay informed of the latest transportation planning requirements and best practices, including FAST Act requirements.

II. Transportation Planning Technical Assistance

PDCOG staff will coordinate with SCDOT, the PDCOG Board and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), FLATS and other representatives to create and implement the Pee Dee Regional Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRP).

A. Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Maps

1. Maintain GIS Census Demographics
2. Maintain GIS SCDOT Traffic Counts
3. Produce transportation maps for reports, grant applications and meetings

B. Pee Dee Regional LRP and TIP

1. Update and maintain LRP as necessary
2. Update and maintain TIP as new project information becomes available
3. Meetings with PDCOG Board, TAC and local officials concerning TIP or LRP to update and inform
4. Maintain list of potential transportation highway needs not currently in the TIP

C. Studies / Estimates for Local Roads

1. Provide feasibility studies with estimates and recommendations
2. Incorporate safety and stormwater management in all recommendations

D. Transportation Alternatives Program

1. Promote program with interested communities
2. Provide technical assistance as needed

E. Transit Planning

The role of the Council of Governments will be that of a facilitator of regional collaboration, cooperation, and coordination as applicable. SCDOT shall maintain the administrative and oversight functions of all applicable Federal Transit Administration (FTA) programs administered by SCDOT (e.g., 5310, 5311).

1. Assist SCDOT in improving communication and cooperation among regional transportation providers;
2. Facilitate coordination of local human service transportation funding requests:
 - a. Assisting SCDOT in the dissemination of announcements and application packages within the region of responsibility;
 - b. Accepting completed applications;
 - c. Prioritizing projects;
 - d. Submitting to SCDOT Office of Public Transit (OPT) a prioritized list of recommended projects for final review and funding recommendations;
 - i. SCDOT will enter into contract agreements directly with the sub-recipients as approved by the Commission
 - ii. The SCDOT OPT is responsible for reviewing regional priority list and making final recommendation on award.
 - iii. Each year, SCDOT will determine the appropriate funding level for COGs for administrative purposes.
3. Submitting a RPWP as required to SCDOT for review and approval prior to disbursement of planning or administrative funds;
4. Periodic evaluation and update of the regional coordination or transit plan, along with input to SCDOT for updating regional and statewide coordination; and

F. Feasibility Studies

PDCOG staff will coordinate with SCDOT, the PDCOG Board and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and other representatives to provide regional input for the feasibility studies. SCDOT shall maintain the administrative and oversight functions of the Study.

1. Coordinate with SCDOT in determining overall project scopes for approved studies;
2. Review ongoing studies and provide guidance as necessary; and
3. Keep PDCOG Board, TAC and representatives abreast of the statuses of ongoing studies.

III. Public Participation

With the assistance of SCDOT and local governments, PDCOG staff will implement public involvement opportunities that will provide meaningful and balanced input to the transportation planning process by stakeholders and the general public.

A. Maintain Latest Reports, Documents and Relevant Links on Website

1. Pee Dee Region LRP
2. Pee Dee Region TIP
3. Pee Dee Region RPWP
4. FLATS website link

5. Scheduled Pee Dee Region transportation related public hearings or meetings held by SCDOT or PDCOG
6. Pee Dee Region Transit Coordination Plan
7. SCDOT's COGs and District Offices Public Comment Notices
8. PDCOG contact information
9. SCDOT statewide STIP website link
10. Other relevant links

B. Local Meetings

1. Attend local meetings
2. Host meetings for transportation related activities

C. Public Notices

1. Post hard-copy SCDOT notices that are available for public review and comment
2. Post SCDOT notices on website

FAST ACT PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

Fast Act Factors by Work Task Table

Work Task	FAST Act Factors									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I. Program Management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
II. Transportation Planning Technical Assistance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
II-A. GIS & Maps	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓
II-B. Pee Dee Regional LRP & TIP	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
II-C. Engineering for Local Roads		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
II-D. Transportation Alternatives Program				✓	✓	✓				✓
II-E. Transit Planning	✓			✓	✓		✓			✓
II-F. Feasibility Studies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓
III. Public Participation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

BUDGET

Fiscal Years 2023-2024 and FY2024-2025 Table

Work Task	SCDOT	PDCOG Match	Total	Percent
I. Program Management	\$12,000	\$3,000	\$15,000	9.6%
II. Transportation Planning Technical Assistance				
II-A. GIS & Maps	\$9,500	\$2,375	\$11,875	7.6%
II-B. Pee Dee Regional LRP & TIP	\$31,000	\$7,750	\$38,750	24.8%
II-C. Engineering for Local Roads	\$25,000	\$6,250	\$31,250	20.0%
II-D. Transportation Alternatives Program	\$9,500	\$2,375	\$11,875	7.60%
II-E. Transit Planning	\$15,000	\$3,750	\$18,750	12.0%
II-F. Feasibility Studies	\$15,000	\$3,750	\$18,750	12.0%
III. Public Participation	\$8,000	\$2,000	\$10,000	6.4%
TOTAL:	\$125,000	\$31,250	\$156,250	100.0%