



Agenda
Sumter County Council
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 24, 2020 -- Held at 6:00 PM.
Sumter County Administration Building – County Council Chambers
Third Floor, 13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- 1) Chairman Or Vice Chairman Of Sumter County Council

2. INVOCATION: Council Member, Staff, or Member of the Public

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: March 24, 2020

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting Held On

- 1) Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Emergency Meeting Wednesday, March 18, 2020

6. LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS:

- 1) RZ-20-01 -- *Black River Road And Edens Road (County) – Second Reading/Public Hearing -- A Request To Rezone 6 Separate Tax Parcels Totaling +/- 313.6 Acres Of Land From R-15 To Agricultural Conservation (AC). The Property Is Located Near The Intersection Of Black River Road And Edens Road And Represented By Tax Map #’S 191-00-02-011, 191-00-02-029, 191-00-01-021, 191-00-01-002, 191-00-01-023 And 191-00-02-030. (Prior To Action On Second Reading, Council Will Hold A Public Hearing On This Matter.)*

7. OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- 1) None

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Proclamation Proclaiming April As Fair Housing Month In Sumter County, South Carolina.
- 2) **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE: 20-921** – Sumter County Council Declaration Of Public Health Emergency In Response To The Public Safety Threat Of The Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”), And Emergency Ordinance Authorizing Members Of Sumter County Council To Participate In Meetings Electronically From Remote Locations Effective March 24, 2020.
- 3) **20-922 – First Reading** -- An Ordinance To Allow Sumter County Council Members To Participate In County Council Meetings From Remote Locations By Electronic Means In Certain Circumstances.
- 4) **20-923 – First Reading** -- An Ordinance To Rescind Ordinance 18-844 Which Established And Created A Special Tax District Within Sumter County, South Carolina, Known As The "Boyles Pond Special Tax District."

5) It May Be Necessary To Hold An Executive Session To Discuss An Employment Matter, An Economic Development Matter, A Legal Briefing, Or Other Matters Pertaining To An Executive Session, And Take Appropriate Actions Thereafter If Required.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

1) None

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1) **Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee Meeting March 24, 2020, 5:30 p.m.** In County Council's Conference Room, Sumter County Courthouse 141 N. Main Street, Room 301. (McCain, Edens, McGhaney)

2) Report From Council Members On Other Meetings, Trainings, And/Or Conferences.

11. MONTHLY REPORTS:

1) Cancellation of Sumter County Council's Meeting Of April 14, 2020.

2) Bragg Literacy STRrEAM Institute of Sumter – PowerPoint And Executive Summary (*Charter School*).

3) United Way Diamonds Program Budget Request Information.

12. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

13. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1) Public Comment Is Suspended Until May 12. 2020, Or Until Further Notice By Sumter County Council.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

In compliance with ADA/Section 504, Sumter County Is Prepared To Make Accommodations For Individuals Needing Assistance To Participate In Our Programs, Services, Or Activities.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Office, 13 East Canal Street, Sumter, SC and the Sumter County website www.sumtercountysc.org under Our Council Agenda/Minutes. In addition, the agenda electronically sent to newspapers, radio stations, television, and concerned citizens



Minutes
Sumter County Council
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 10, 2020 -- Held at 6:00 p.m.
Sumter County Courthouse, Third Floor, Room 308
County Council's Chambers – 141 North Main Street, Sumter, SC

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COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: James T. McCain; Chairman; James R. Byrd, Vice Chairman; Artie Baker, Charles T. Edens, Vivian Fleming McGhaney, and Chris Sumpter.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Mixon, Johnathan Bryan, Mary Blanding, Joe Perry, Helen Roodman, Allan Dailey, and approximately 32 Sheriff's Deputies, the wife of Corporal Andrew Gillette.

MEDIA PRESENT: The Item Newspaper

CITIZENS PRESENT: Approximately sixteen members of the public attended the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Or Vice Chairman Of Sumter County Council

Chairman McCain called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Council Member, Staff Member, Or Local Citizen

Councilman Vivian McGhaney gave the invocation and gave a plead that the Sheriff and his staff as well as all those involved in all the aspects of the shooting and death of Corporal Andrew Gillette will be healed from the tragedy.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone in attendance repeated the Pledge of Allegiance To The American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Chairman McCain asked the Clerk to Council if there were any changes or deletions to the agenda for this meeting. The Clerk indicated that there were no changes or deletions. Then the Chairman called for a motion to approve the agenda as printed.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval of the agenda for Tuesday March 10, 2020, as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 25, 2020

Chairman McCain asked for a motion from Council members on the minutes of February 25, 2020

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Sumpter, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval of the minutes for Council's February 25, 2020, meeting as presented by the Clerk to Council.

LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS:

Planned Development/Rezoning Requests

NOTE: *PD = Planned Development Relating To Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards*

RZ = Rezoning Of Property As Applicable In Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards

1. **RZ-20-01 -- Black River Road And Edens Road (County) -- First Reading -- A Request To Rezone 6 Separate Tax Parcels Totaling +/- 313.6 Acres Of Land From R-15 To Agricultural Conservation (AC). The Property Is Located Near The Intersection Of Black River Road And Edens Road And Represented By Tax Map #’S 191-00-02-011, 191-00-02-029, 191-00-01-021, 191-00-01-002, 191-00-01-023 And 191-00-02-030.**

Baker –Sumpter first reading for rezoning.

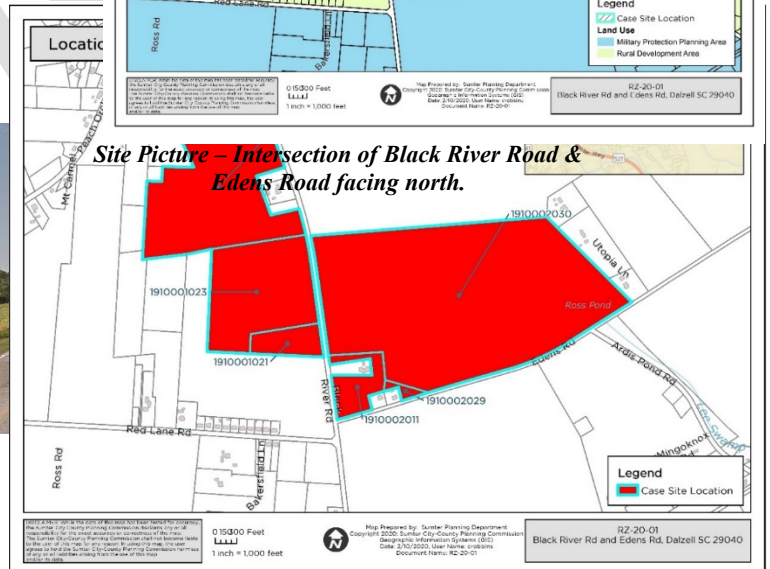
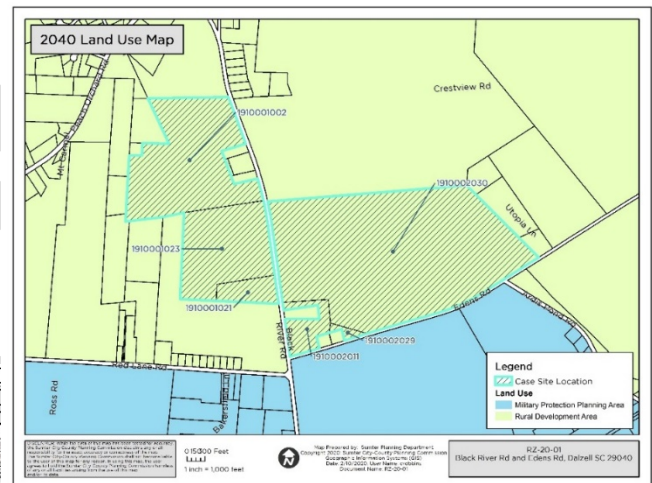
2. **PD-05-01 (REV 1) -- 3760 & 3770 Peach Orchard Road (County) -- Third Reading -- (20-919) -- Amend Ordinance PD-05-01 To Amend The Site Development Plan, To Permit Deer/Meat Processing As Commercial Activity And To Revise/Codify Applicable Development Standards. The Property Is Located At 3760 And 3770 Peach Orchard Road And Represented By Tax Map #136-00-02-058.**

Mrs. Helen Roodman, Interim Planning Director stated that this request is to rezone six (6) separate tax parcels totaling +/- 313.6 acres from Residential-15 (R-15) to Agricultural Conservation (AC). This request was initiated by County Council members during their January 14, 2020, meeting unanimously voted to forward rezoning action to the Planning Commission for formal recommendation as required under state law. Discussion of these R-15 zoned parcels originated from County Council adoption proceedings for the Sumter 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Roodman stated that the subject parcels are located near the intersection of Black River Road and Edens Road. The area is generally located northeast of Dalzell and south of Peach Orchard Road.

The subject properties are rural in character with agricultural land uses. The largest parcel of the grouping, TMS# 191-00-02-030, is subject to a 2010 conservation easement agreement between the current property owner, Sumter Soil & Water Conservation District, and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Per conditions of the agreement, only limited agricultural uses can occur on the property. This parcel is 174.45 acres in size and comprises 56% of the combined area related to this action.

The zoning designation for these properties was changed to R-15 in 2007 in order to accommodate potential future residential development. The previous zoning designation prior to 2007 was AC. No new development has occurred on these properties since 2007. Since this time, the County has adopted a new Comprehensive Plan, as well as the Sumter-Shaw A.F.B. Joint Land Use Study (JLUS). Land use policies within these adopted plans conflict with residential density above one unit per acre in this location. The County wishes to zones these properties to an appropriate zoning district that is consistent adopted plans.



Zoning:

R-15 zoning allows for the largest lot sizes of the designated residential districts within, and is intended to create development patterns that are suburban in nature.

AC zoning is designed to protect and preserve areas of the county, which are presently rural or agricultural in character and use. AC parcels are required to be at least one (1) acre in size, and primarily permit single-family residential and agricultural uses, with select nonresidential uses permitted with additional conditional and special exception use review. Below is a non-exhaustive listing of permitted and conditional uses in the AC district.

The general character of the area subject to this request is rural. The properties are being used for agricultural purposes, and more the half of the combined acreage subject to this request is protected via conservation easement. Surrounding properties are all zoned AC and are similar in character, as shown in the zoning map to the right.

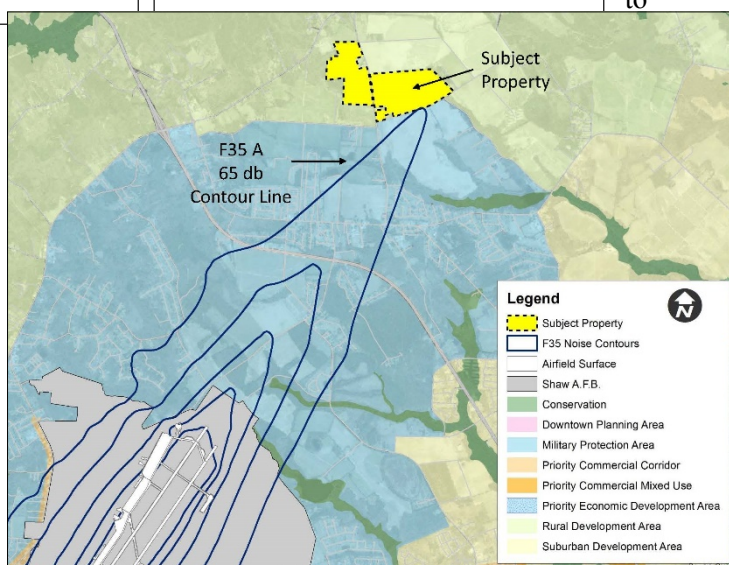
As shown in the 2040 Land Use Map, the property is located within the Rural Development planning area. Additionally, the site is located in close proximity and is influenced by the Military Protection planning area located directly to the south.

The Rural Development planning area is intended to support low-density residential development (one unit per acre at minimum) and selected non-residential and agricultural uses in a relaxed regulatory climate.

The Military Protection area is intended to Shaw A.F.B. and Electronic Combat from encroachment incompatible land to reduce the and noise potential citizens in areas adjacent to these two critical military installations. Only very low-density residential uses of one acre or more on private well and septic tank are supported in this planning area.

Ms. Roodman stated that while the properties subject to this request are located just outside of the Military Protection planning area, they are directly in the flight line for base operations and are subject to noise impacts. Noise impacts will be increased if Shaw A.F.B. receives the

Permitted Uses	Conditional Uses	planning protect Poinsett Range of uses and accident to
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Single Family Residential Uses 2. Agricultural Uses 3. Manufactured Homes 4. Parks and Playgrounds 5. Residential Accessory Uses 6. Public Utilities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mining of Non-Metallic Minerals 2. Mini-Warehouse Uses 3. Retail Nurseries 4. Churches 5. Cemeteries 6. Auto Service 	



F-35A fighter jets. Noise impacts of at least 65db or greater will reach farther north with the F-35A fighter jet as compared to the F-16 fighter jet. These impacts are shown on Map to the right.

The Sumter 2040 Comprehensive Plan policies support this property being rezoned to AC. Additionally, this rezoning action is supported by the 2016 Sumter-Shaw A.F.B JLUS, which supports expansion of the current Military Protection planning area boundaries.

Mrs. Roodman stated that the Planning staff recommends approval of this request to rezone +/- 313.6 acres of property from R-15 to AC. The property is within the Rural Development planning area and is influenced by the Military Protection planning area, per the recently adopted Sumter 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Both future land use designations do not support residential densities permitted by the R-15 zoning district. Additionally, the area is subject to increased noise impacts from Shaw A.F.B. if F-35A fighter jets are assigned as a part of the bases ongoing mission. The area is rural in character and public infrastructure that would enable R-15 densities is not available. Expansion of such infrastructure is not supported by Comprehensive Plan policies. Additionally, a significant portion of the property subject to this request is protected from development via conservation easement.

It was also noted by Mrs. Roodman that the Sumter City -County Planning Commission, at its meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, recommended approval for the rezoning of the six separate tax parcels totaling +/- 313.6 acres of land from R-15 to Agricultural Conservation (AC).

After all discussions, the Chairman called for a motion on first reading.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Sumpter, and unanimously carried by Council to grant first reading as presented by Mrs. Roodman.

OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. There were no other public hearings at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A Proclamation Proclaiming March 2020, As Women History Month And Recognition of The League Of Women.

The Clerk to Council informed Council members that March is Women History and Ms. Dee Woodward, Chairman of the League of Women Voters would like the County to provide the League with a Proclamation during Women History Month. The proclamation would also recognize the League of Women Voters nationwide for its 100th year Anniversary. The Clerk stated that she would prepare the proclamation and have it ready on March 21, 2020, to be presented at the League's March meeting and a Tea at 3:00 p.m. at Covenant Place in Sumter, SC. The League will recognize all past presidents and other dignitaries during this meeting. All Council members are invited to attend.

Council members took the following action.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman McGhaney, seconded by Councilman Sumpter, and unanimously carried by Council to grant the Clerk to County the Authority to write a proclamation on behalf of Women History Month and Recognition of the League of Women Voters celebrating its 100th Anniversary.

2. **It May Be Necessary To Hold An Executive Session To Discuss An Employment Matter, An Economic Development Matter, A Legal Briefing, Or Other Matters Pertaining To An Executive Session, And Take Appropriate Actions Thereafter If Required.**

No executive session was held.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. There was no old business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Technology/Personnel Committee and Public Safety Committee Meeting March 10, 2020, 5:00 p.m. In County Council's Conference Room, Sumter County Courthouse 141 N. Main Street, Room 301. (Sumpter, McGhaney, Byrd, and Baten) *(This meeting will start at 5:00 p.m. or immediately after the 4:30 p.m., meeting of the County's Forfeited Land Commission).*

Councilwoman McGhaney stated that there was a joint committee meeting of the Technology/Personnel Committee and Public Safety Committee. As Chairman of the Technology/Personnel Committee, she gave the following report for a portion of the meeting.

1. **COVID-19** – The Committee received a briefing from Erik Hayes.

Public Safety Committee Chairman, Chris Sumpter, stated that all members of the Committee attended at the meeting. The agenda item was centered around the Sheriff's staff salary adjustments. Councilman Sumpter further stated that all Council members are in support of the salary adjustments for the Sheriff's staff. However, the County is currently conducting a salary study countywide. The Council members would like to wait until the study is completed, and then take action from that point. Councilman Sumpter stated that with as many Sheriff Deputies present at the meeting, he encouraged them by stating that their best interest is at the top of Council's priority. Council members understand the importance and the value of each of the Deputies.

Councilman McGhaney also stated that because all Council members are interested in salary increases for the Salary for Sheriff's Deputies, it was discussed that the next time the discussions take place, it will be in a Special Call Meeting of Sumter County Council. Therefore, all Council members will be able to have a full vote on any matters coming out of the meeting.

Councilman Baten's stated that, he extend condolences to the men and women who are here (Sheriff's Deputies) because of the loss of one of their fellow officer. He also stated that he is a retired Veteran and a retired State Constable; therefore, he understands the weight of what they are going through. In addition, Councilman Baten stated Council members would be helping the Deputies at the Sheriff's office and the men and women at the Detention Center.

Chairman McCain stated that Council is in support of the pay increases for the Sheriff's Office, and it was decided months ago to support the Sheriff in his request. However, it must be handled in the proper way and with salaries being an ongoing expense; it must be budgeted for during the budget process. Chairman McCain said he gives his word that increases will happen. He also stated that he along with the Administrator, the Finance Director, and other staff meet with the Sheriff this morning (March 10, 2020).

2. Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee Meeting March 10, 2020, 5:30 p.m. In County Council's Conference Room, Sumter County Courthouse 141 N. Main Street, Room 301. (McCain, Edens, McGhaney)

Chairman McCain, who is also the Chairman of the Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee, stated that this Committee received a detailed presentation from Santee Lynches Regional Council on Governments (Director, Chris McGhaney) and Santee Wateree Regional Transportation Authority (Director, Lottie Jones) concerning a Transportation Needs Assessment. The full report was attached to Council's agenda packet and members of each of the agencies presented the report.

No action was taken.

3. Report From Council Members On Other Meetings, Trainings, And/Or Conferences. (For Information Only – Sumter County's Forfeited Land Commission Members Will Meet On March 10, 2020, at 4:30 p.m. In Room 301, Of The Sumter County Courthouse.)

Councilman Baker introduced Chris Sorrell, a Boy Scout, who is working on his Eagle Scout Badge.

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. Chamber of Commerce Annual Gala – April 2, 2020
2. League of Women Voters and Women History – March 21, 2020
3. Groundbreaking for the Penny For Progress – Recreation Renovation and Gymnasium Construction – March 17, 2020.
4. Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, May 4, 2020
5. Farm To Table – March 19, 2020
6. Joyful Noise – Event At Patriot Hall
7. Census Awareness Day, April 1, 2020.
8. Education Liaison Committee – March 11, 2020

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Animal Shelter: Mr. Gary Mixon, the County Administrator, stated that another one of the Penny for Progress Projects would be coming to the forefront for construct very soon. The Project is the Animal Shelter. The grounds are being cleared and prepared for the construction. I hope that the groundbreaking will be held during the last week of March or early April.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. **Sgt. Brian Rulong** – acknowledge the presence of Mrs. Louise Gillette, wife of fallen officer, Andrew Gillette. He further stated that Ms. Gillette is in support of the requests from the officers of the Sheriff's Department.
 - The Sheriff's Deputies are in support of the Sheriff's Office Salary Increase, but not being lump into the overall County's salary increases. Otherwise, with a 3% increase for everyone would place the deputies' right back where they are now.
 - A copy of the recommendations for the Pay Scale as prepared by the Deputies was given to Councilman Sumpter and Mr. Gary Mixon so that each of Council members would have it to review. This would allow for there to be a comparison with the County's pay increase and the Sheriff Deputy's increases.
 - He gave a thorough report of the Pay Scale recommendation.

2. **Investigator Randle Stewart** stated that the financial numbers associated with the Pay Scale Recommendations presented by Sgt. Brian Rulong are real numbers and can help the Sheriff Deputies if the pay ranges, finances, and longevity are implemented in this pay increase process. Mr. Stewart further stated that these financial numbers were retrieved from different counties, agencies, etc., of similar sizes and staffing. Sumter County's 25%-32% disparity in the Sheriff's Office is documented and affects the Staff Sergeants.
3. **Lt. Lee Monahan** stated that when a person looks at a Business Program, they need to look at three main goals – are you going to be a: Leader, or Match the competitors, or Lag behind the competitors. In addition to this information, Lt. Monahan gave the following statements as to why the Sheriff's office should be considered different from any other group of employees in Sumter County.
 - a) Required local, state, and federal requirements and certifications.
 - b) Educational and physical requirements
 - c) Level of authority that has been entrusted to the officers.
 - d) The dangers
 - e) Skill levels – counseling, mental health knowledge
 - f) Working with attorneys and the ever-changing laws
 - g) No matter how dangerous, we are still willing to lay down our lives for the citizens of Sumter County.
4. **Sargent Tasson** stated that we are not looking for a short-term fix; we want it to be a long-term fix. He also stated that it is true that all employees need to receive raises if it is feasible for them; however, what separates the Sheriff Office from the guy that cuts the grass is that guy is not answering a call from a citizen that his/her neighbor is running down the street shooting a gun. Sgt. Tasson said the example he gave is the type of work that makes the Sheriff Deputies' work different. He also asked Council whether the County's morgue is being renovated. He added that the County's morgue is the most decredypted building and he would not want to take a family there to see their loved one.

NOTE: The County Administrator stated that a new morgue is currently being built.

ADJOURNMENT

After all discussion and all comments from the public, a motion was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Councilman Sumpter to adjourn the meeting of Sumter County Council at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James T. McCain,
Chairman or Vice Chairman
Sumter County Council

Mary W. Blanding
Clerk to County Council
Sumter County Council

Approved: _____

I certify that public and media notification of the above-mentioned meeting was given prior thereto as follows required by Freedom of Information:

Public Notified: Yes

Manner Notified: Agendas posted on bulletin board on first floor of the County Courthouse.

Date Posted: March 9, 2020

Media Notified: Yes

Manner Notified: Agenda Information is listed on Sumter County's Home Page, and E-mailed to The Item, The Chamber, WIS-TV, WBTW, and Time Warner Cable.

Date Notified: March 5, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Mary W. Blanding
Mary W. Blanding

DRAFT

ADA Information: In compliance with ADA/Section 504, Sumter County Is Prepared To Make Accommodations For Individuals Needing Assistance To Participate In Our Programs, Services, Or Activities.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 13 East Canal Street, Sumter, SC, and the Sumter County website -- www.sumtercountysc.org under Our Council *Agendas/Minutes*. In addition, the agenda was electronically sent to newspapers, radio stations, television stations, and concerned citizens.

Minutes
Emergency Meeting
Sumter County Council
Wednesday, March 18, 2020 – 12:00 Noon
Sumter County Council Chambers – County Council Courthouse
141 North Main Street, Sumter, SC

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Mixon, Lorraine Dennis, Johnathan Bryan, Mary and W. Blanding

MEDIA PRESENT: None

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman James T. McCain, Jr.

INVOCATION: Councilwoman Vivian Fleming McGhaney

PLEDGED OF ALLEGIANCE: Although the Pledge of Allegiance was not listed on the agenda, the Chairman of Council asked everyone to join with him as everyone repeated the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: This was not on the agenda; however, Council followed the agenda as prepared and also allowed the County Administrator to introduce two staff members prior to discussing items on the agenda.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Mr. Gary Mixon introduced Jamie Michaelson, and remind Council that Mr. Michaelson has resigned his position as Finance Director for Sumter County. Mr. Michaelson's last date at the County is Friday, March 20, 2020.

Then Mr. Michaelson thanked Council for the opportunity to work at Sumter County. He also stated that he has enjoyed working with County Council members and the outstanding staff members who work at the County including the Department Heads and the Finance staff.

Mr. Mixon then introduced Kelsey Andrews who is currently working in the Finance Department as the Assistant to the Finance Director. Mrs. Andrews will assume the lead position in the Finance Department; however, a title and responsibilities are currently being discussed. The County Administrator further stated that Ms. Andrews has worked with the County's Budget especially in areas such as the Treasurer and the Auditor Departments. She has also been involved in the external audit preparation, and is well prepared for standing in this position until a decision is made as to what will be done in this area.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) Emergency Ordinance 20-920 -- Sumter County Council Declaration Of Public Health Emergency In Response To The Public Safety Threat Of The Novel Coronavirus ("Covid-19"), And Emergency Ordinance Effective March 18, 2020).

Mr. Mixon introduced this ordinance to Council. He stated that the purpose of the ordinance is to let the business know that it is not business as usual with the COVID-19 Virus and Pandemic.

The ordinance will also allow some flexibility on how we conduct the County's business as changes are coming from the President of the United States and the Governor of South Carolina. Mr. Mixon stated that his biggest concern is it may occur that a Council member or more than one Council member may need to quarantine his or herself and it may have a negative effect on the County Council's operations; thereby, affecting the County's operations.

Emergency purchases can be made due to the emergency process if this ordinance is passed which will allow to purchase items that are not necessarily from the lowest bidder.

Additionally, the ordinance will also give the county flexibility in changing work hours as necessary, or even shut down the facility, which may include everyone except essential employees.

Any need for a Curfew will be referred to County Council and the proper Law Enforcement officials. It was suggested that the Curfew information

After all discussions concerning section #2 of the ordinance, the Chairman called for a motion on whether or not to leave that portion of the ordinance in the version of the ordinance.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd and unanimously carried to remove paragraph #2 from the proposed ordinance.

The County Attorney, read a section of the City's Emergency Ordinance, which is also included in the County's ordinance about meetings of boards and commissions and joint boards and commissions. It was Council agreed that the statement can remain in the County's ordinance. After all comments, the Chairman called for a motion on adopting the ordinance with any deletions or additions.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval of the ordinance as amended.

- (2) Update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The Administrator announced that there has been one person admitted to Tuomey with COVID-19 Virus. The person is from the Lee County area but drove to Sumter County.

Mr. Mixon also stated as the Budget is being shaped, Council needs to be mindful that COVID-19 may be part of the discussion for any expenses that may occur during this period of time and not a part of the existing budget projections.

Mr. Mixon said that one of the other ways the budget may be impacted with this pandemic is Court Fines, the Penny for Progress Projections, and possibility other areas that have not been brought to the forefront as of this meeting.

The Personnel Study should be completed by the end of April and ready for incorporation with the budget.

Assistant County Administrator, Lorraine Dennis, informed Council that she, the Administrator, and the Human Resources Director, Mrs. Keysa Rogers have been working together to develop a Plan of Action if the County employees are asked to stay at home. The County Business will need to continue if there are closures required by the

- (3) If Necessary Council May Suggest To Hold An Executive Session To Receive a Legal Briefing, And/Or To Discuss Contractual/Personnel Matters. (The Executive Session, If Approved By Council, Will Be Held After All Business Matters Have Been Completed.)

No executive session was held.

OLD BUSINESS

- (1) None

ADJOURNMENT

After all business, Chairman McCain called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Sumpter, and unanimously carried to convene this emergency meeting at 12:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary W. Blanding, Clerk to County Council

Attachment: Ordinance 20-920 – Emergency Ordinance
Final Version Ordinance 20-920:

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 20-920

SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY THREAT OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (“COVID-19”), AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCE EFFECTIVE MARCH 18, 2020

WHEREAS, the Governor of South Carolina, by Executive Order 2020-08, has declared that a state of emergency exists by virtue of the threat posed by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, Sumter County has taken, and must continue to take, all necessary and appropriate actions in proactively preparing for and promptly responding to the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as cases of COVID-19 increase, causing an imminent threat to the citizens and visitors of Sumter County, it is necessary for Sumter County to implement emergency planning for anticipated problems and prepare for emergency actions needed to confront the challenges of this public health emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, in accordance with *South Carolina Code of Laws* Title 4, Article 9 Section 130 and the *Code of Ordinances, Sumter County, South Carolina*, Section 2-25(5), Sumter County declares that a state of emergency exists, and that the threat thereof is imminent, and extraordinary emergency measures are deemed necessary to cope with the existing and anticipated situation. Sumter County has implemented the following COVID-19 operations plan which is effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020, until further notice.

1. The County Administrator is authorized to take any necessary actions for protections of the health, safety and welfare of Sumter County citizens and visitors including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Utilize all available resources of county government as reasonably necessary to cope with the COVID-19 emergency; and
 - b. Transfer the direction, personnel or functions of county departments and agencies or units thereof for purposes of facilitating or performing emergency services as necessary or desirable; and
 - c. Contract, requisition and compensate for goods and services from public and private sources; and
 - d. Prescribe routes, modes of transportation and destinations in connection with evacuations or relocations, if any; and
 - e. Suspend or limit nonemergency activities and prohibit public assemblies; and
 - f. Any and all other actions deemed necessary by the Administrator for the preservation of the health, safety and welfare of citizens, residents, and visitors of Sumter County, South Carolina.
2. All deadlines for action imposed by the *Code of Ordinances, Sumter County, South Carolina* or any other Sumter County Ordinances, including but not limited to planning and zoning codes and ordinances, that are applicable to Sumter County government or to Sumter County staff are suspended for the temporary period through April 30, 2020, and the time to respond to any such deadlines shall begin with the end of such temporary period.
3. This Ordinance shall remain in force until emergency conditions associated with COVID-19 have subsided and the emergency activities in Sumter County are no longer necessary to protect the life and property of our citizens, or upon the sixty-first (61st) day after the effective date of this emergency declaration.

Effective the 18th day of March 2020, in the County of Sumter, South Carolina by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of Sumter County Council present at the meeting called by the Chairman for 12:00 p.m. this date.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUMTER COUNTY

By: _____
James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

Mary W. Blanding, Clerk to Council

DRAFT



Sumter City-County

Planning Department

DERON L. MCCORMICK
CITY MANAGER

HELEN M. ROODMAN
ACTING PLANNING DIRECTOR

GARY M. MIXON
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Blanding, Clerk to County Council

FROM: Helen M. Roodman, AICP, CFM / Acting Planning Director

DATE: March 17, 2020

SUBJECT: COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA – March 24, 2020

The Sumter City-County Planning Commission will have the following land use item(s) for review at County Council on Tuesday, March 24, 2020:

SECOND READING

RZ-20-01, Black River Rd & Edens Rd. (County)

A request to rezone 6 separate tax parcels totaling +/- 313.6 acres of land from R-15 to Agricultural Conservation (AC). The property is located near the intersection of Black River Rd. and Edens Rd and represented by Tax Map #'s 191-00-02-011, 191-00-02-029, 191-00-01-021, 191-00-01-002, 191-00-01-023 and 191-00-02-030.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (803) 774-1660.

Sumter County Council

March 24, 2020

Second Reading / Public Hearing

Planning Commission Staff Report

RZ 20-01, Black River Rd. & Edens Rd. (County)

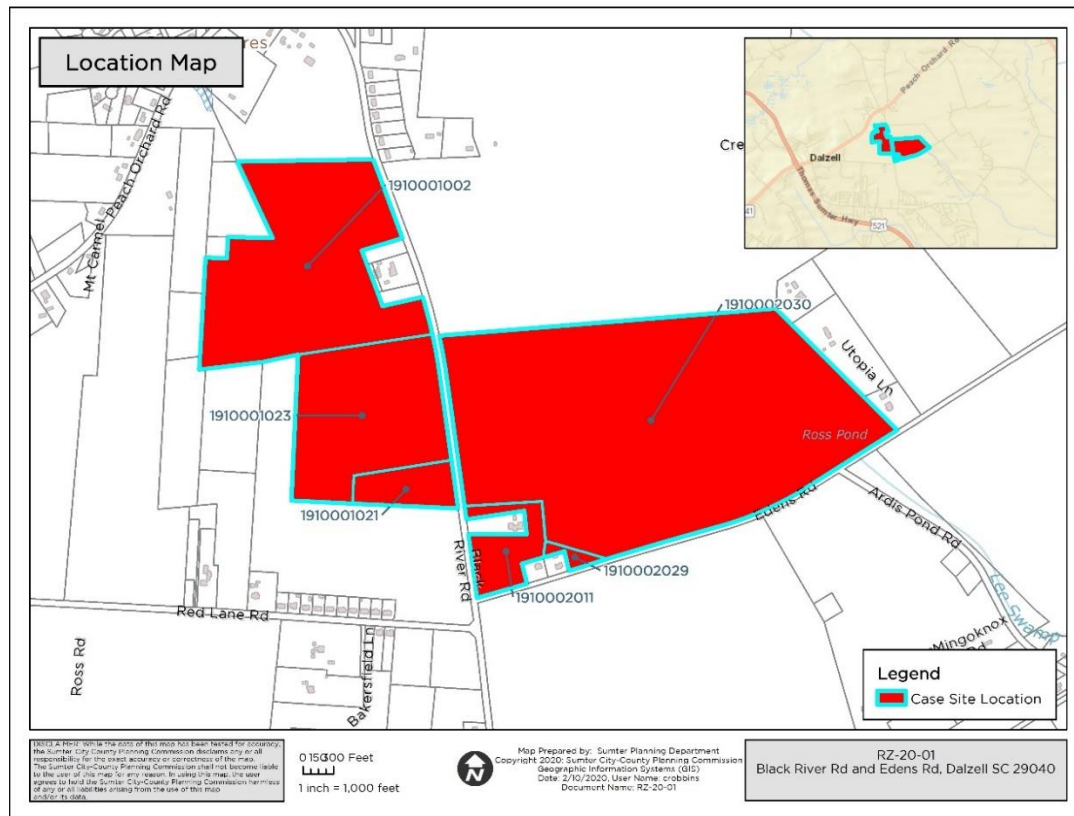
THE REQUEST

Applicant:	County Council Initiated
Status of the Applicant:	Authorized Local Government
Request:	A request to rezone 6 separate tax parcels totaling +/- 313.6 acres of land from R-15 to Agricultural Conservation (AC)
Location:	Black River Rd. & Edens Rd.
Size of Property:	+/- 313.6 acres
Present Use/Zoning:	Agriculture / R-15
Proposed Use of Property:	No proposed change specified
Tax Map Reference:	191-00-02-011; 191-00-02-029; 191-00-01-021; 191-00-01-002; 191-00-01-023; 191-00-02-030
Adjacent Property Land Use and Zoning:	North – Agricultural / AC South – Agricultural / AC East – Agricultural & Residential / AC West – Agricultural / AC

II. BACKGROUND

This request is to rezone six (6) separate tax parcels totaling +/- 313.6 acres from Residential-15 (R-15) to Agricultural Conservation (AC). This request was initiated by County Council, who at their January 14, 2020 meeting unanimously voted to forward rezoning action to the Planning Commission for formal recommendation as required under state law. Discussion of these R-15 zoned parcels originated from County Council adoption proceedings for the Sumter 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

The subject parcels are located near the intersection of Black River Rd. and Edens Rd. The area is generally located northeast of Dalzell and south of Peach Orchard Rd. The parcels subject to this request are shown on location map located on the following page.



Location Map

The subject properties are rural in character with agricultural land uses. The largest parcel of the grouping, TMS# 191-00-02-030, is subject to a 2010 conservation easement agreement between the current property owner, Sumter Soil & Water Conservation District, and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Per conditions of the agreement, only limited agricultural uses can occur on the property. This parcel is 174.45 acres in size and comprises 56% of the combined area related to this action.



Site Picture –

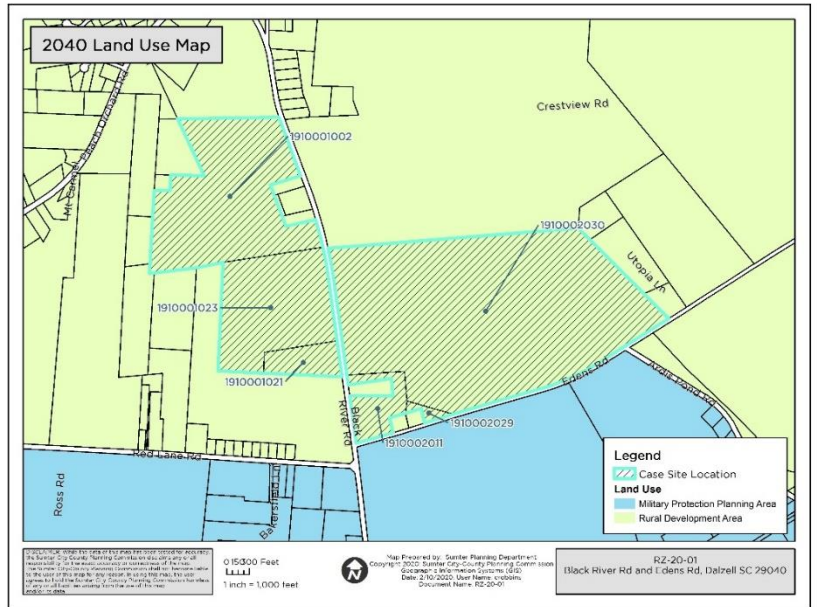
Intersection of Black River Rd. & Edens Rd. facing north.

The zoning designation for these properties was changed to R-15 in 2007 in order to accommodate potential future residential development. The previous zoning designation prior to 2007 was AC. No new development has occurred on these properties since 2007. Since this time, the County has adopted a new Comprehensive Plan, as well as the the Sumter-Shaw A.F.B. Joint Land Use Study (JLUS). Land use policies within these adopted plans conflict with residential density above one unit per acre in this location. The County wishes to zones these properties to an appropriate zoning district that is consistent adopted plans.

Zoning:

R-15 zoning allows for the largest lot sizes of the designated residential districts within, and is intended to create development patterns that are suburban in nature.

AC zoning is designed to protect and preserve areas of the county which are presently rural or agricultural in character and use. AC parcels are required to be at least one (1) acre in size, and primarily permit single family residential and agricultural uses, with select nonresidential uses permitted with additional conditional and special exception use review. Below is a non-exhaustive listing of permitted and conditional uses in the AC district.



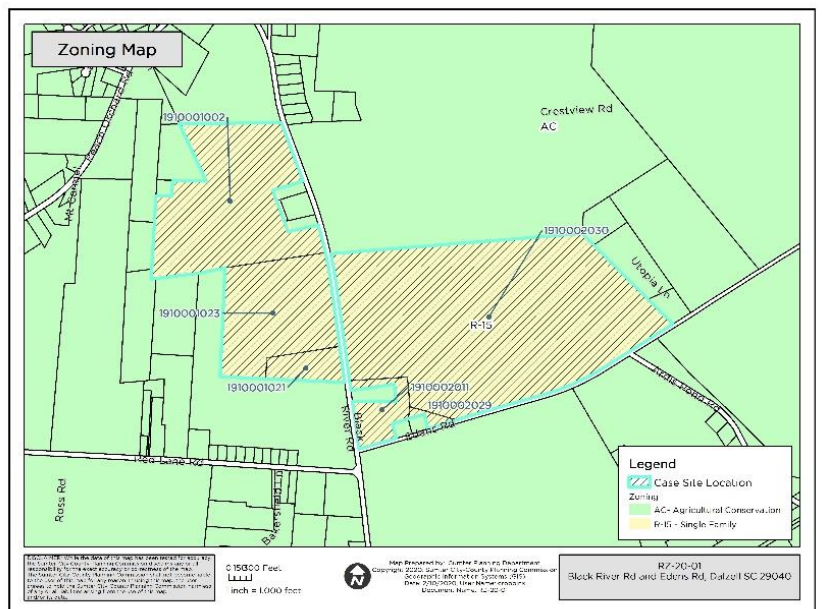
Permitted Uses	Conditional Uses
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Single Family Residential Uses 2. Agricultural Uses 3. Manufactured Homes 4. Parks and Playgrounds 5. Residential Accessory Uses 6. Public Utilities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mining of Non-Metallic Minerals 2. Mini-Warehouse Uses 3. Retail Nurseries 4. Churches 5. Cemeteries 6. Auto Service

The general character of the area subject to this

request is rural. The properties are being used for agricultural purposes, and more the half of the combined acreage subject to this request is protected via conservation easement. Surrounding properties are all zoned AC and are similar in character, as shown in the zoning map to the right.

III. COMPATIBILITY WITH THE 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

As shown in the 2040 Land Use Map, the property is located within the Rural Development planning area. Additionally, the site is located in close proximity and is influenced by the Military Protection planning area located directly to the south.

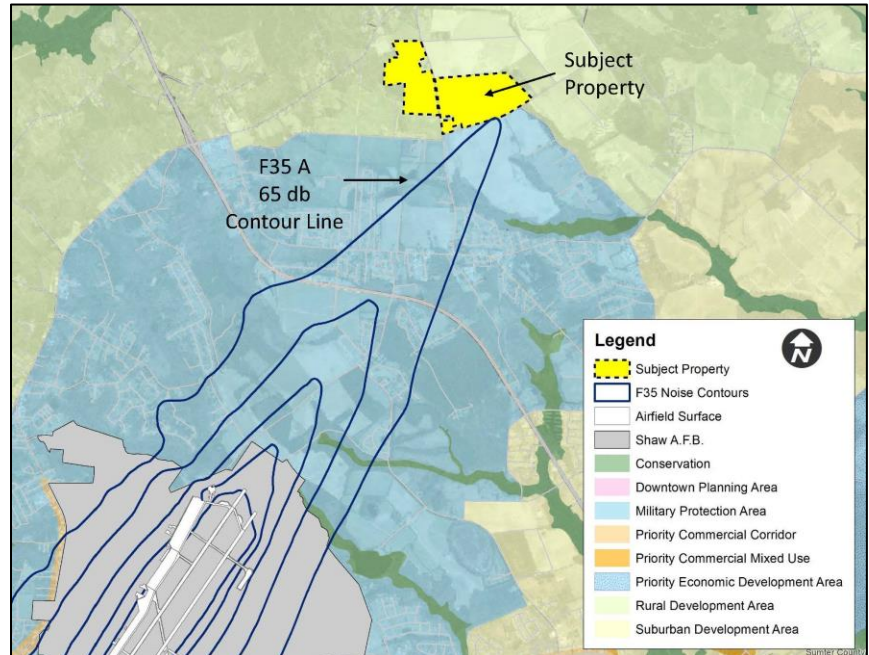


The Rural Development planning area is intended to support low-density residential development (one unit per acre at minimum) and selected non-residential and agricultural uses in a relaxed regulatory climate.

The Military Protection planning area is intended to protect Shaw A.F.B. and Poinsett Electronic Combat Range from encroachment of incompatible land uses and to reduce the accident and noise potential to citizens in areas adjacent to these two critical military installations. Only very low-density residential uses of one acre or more on private well and septic tank are supported in this planning area.

While the properties subject to this request are located just outside of the Military Protection planning area, they are directly in the flight line for base operations and are subject to noise impacts. Noise impacts will be increased if Shaw A.F.B. receives the F-35A fighter jets. Noise impacts of at least 65db or greater will reach farther north with the F-35A fighter jet as compared to the F-16 fighter jet. These impacts are shown on Map to the right.

The Sumter 2040 Comprehensive Plan policies support this property being rezoned to AC. Additionally, this rezoning action is supported by the 2016 Sumter-Shaw A.F.B. JLUS which supports expansion of the current Military Protection planning area boundaries.



IV. TRAFFIC REVIEW

Black River Rd. is an SCDOT owned and maintained paved two-lane road which is functionally classified as a major collector. Edens Rd. is an SCDOT owned and maintained paved two-lane road which is functionally classified as a local access road. The 2018 annual average daily traffic (AADT) volume for Black River Rd. is 2,000, based on SCDOT count station #383. No traffic count information is available for Edens Rd.

Any proposed development at the subject property will have its transportation impacts evaluated at time of site plan approval with appropriate mitigation measures required.

V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of this request to rezone +/- 313.6 acres of property from R-15 to AC. The property is within the Rural Development planning area and is influenced by the Military Protection planning area, per the recently adopted Sumter 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Both future land use designations do not support residential densities permitted by the R-15 zoning district. Additionally, the area is subject to increased noise impacts from Shaw A.F.B. if F-35A fighter jets are assigned as a part of the bases ongoing mission. The area is rural in character and public infrastructure that would enable R-15 densities is not available. Expansion of such infrastructure is not supported by Comprehensive Plan policies. Additionally, a significant portion of the property subject to this request is protected from development via conservation easement.

VI. PLANNING COMMISSION – February 26, 2020

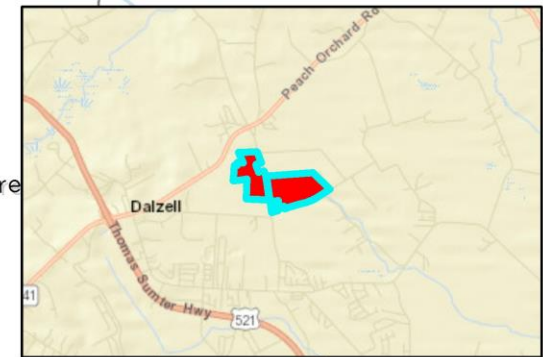
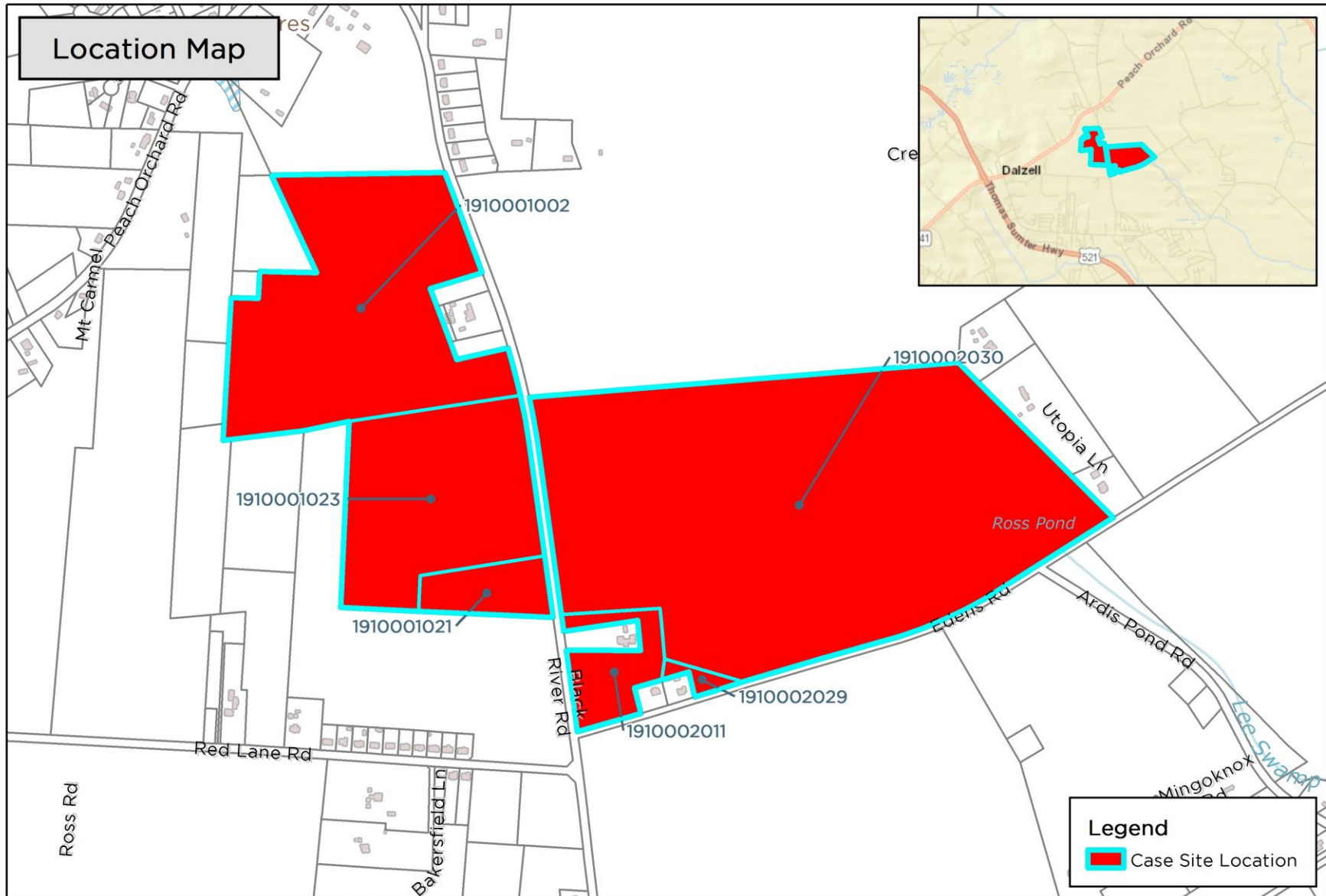
The Sumter City – County Planning Commission at its meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 recommended approval for the request referenced above to rezone 6 separate tax parcels totaling +/- 313.6 acres of land from R-15 to Agricultural Conservation (AC).

VII. COUNTY COUNCIL – MARCH 10, 2020 – FIRST READING

The Sumter County Council at its meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 gave First Reading approval for this request.

VIII. COUNTY COUNCIL – MARCH 24, 2020 – SECOND READING / PUBLIC HEARING

Location Map



DISCLAIMER: While the data of this map has been tested for accuracy, the Sumter City-County Planning Commission disclaims any or all responsibility for the exact accuracy or correctness of the map. The Sumter City-County Planning Commission shall not become liable to the user of this map for any reason. In using this map, the user agrees to hold the Sumter City-County Planning Commission harmless of any or all liabilities arising from the use of this map and/or its data.

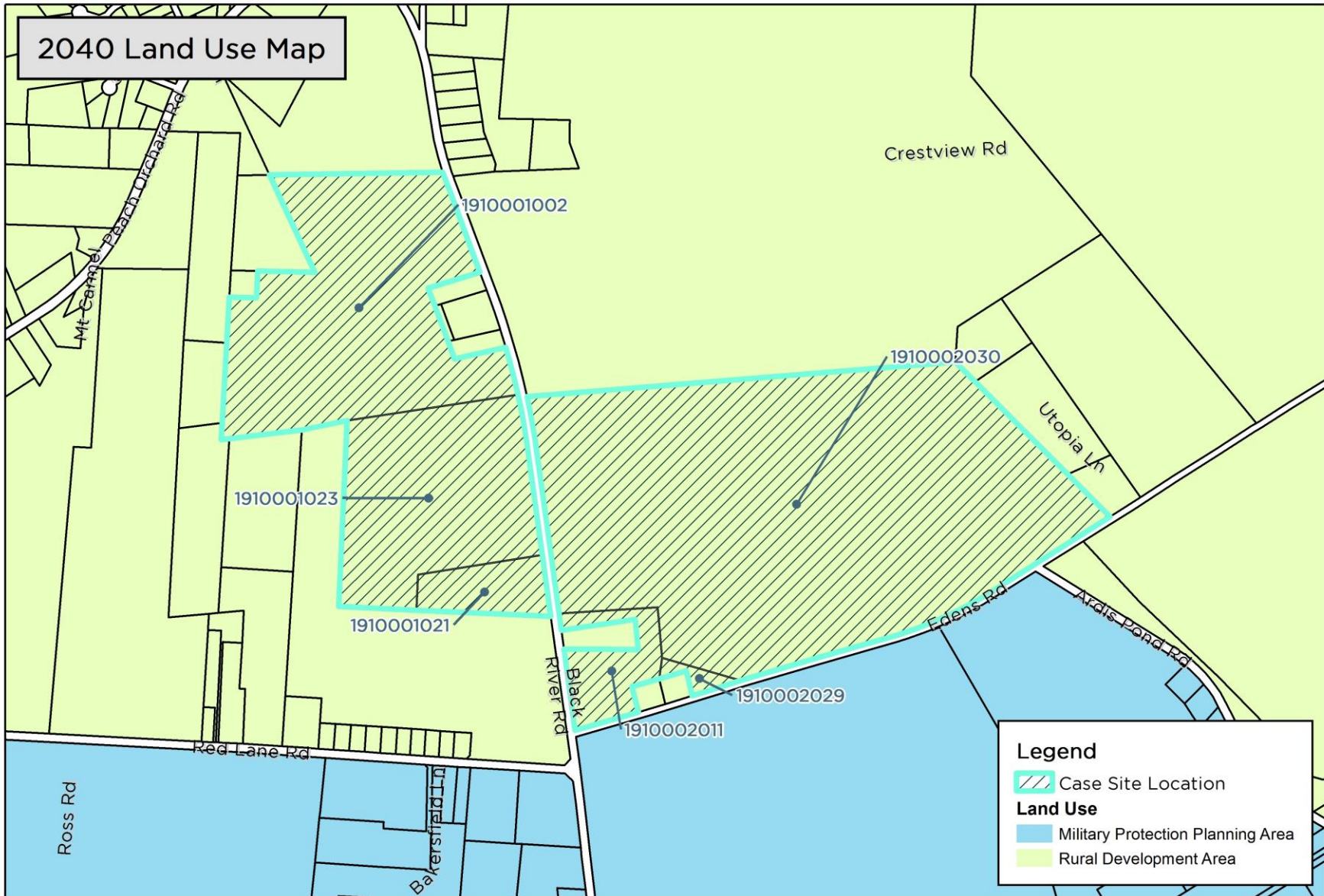
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1 inch = 1,000 feet



Map Prepared by: Sumter Planning Department
Copyright 2020: Sumter City-County Planning Commission
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
Date: 2/10/2020, User Name: crobbins
Document Name: RZ-20-01

RZ-20-01
Black River Rd and Edens Rd, Dalzell SC 29040

2040 Land Use Map



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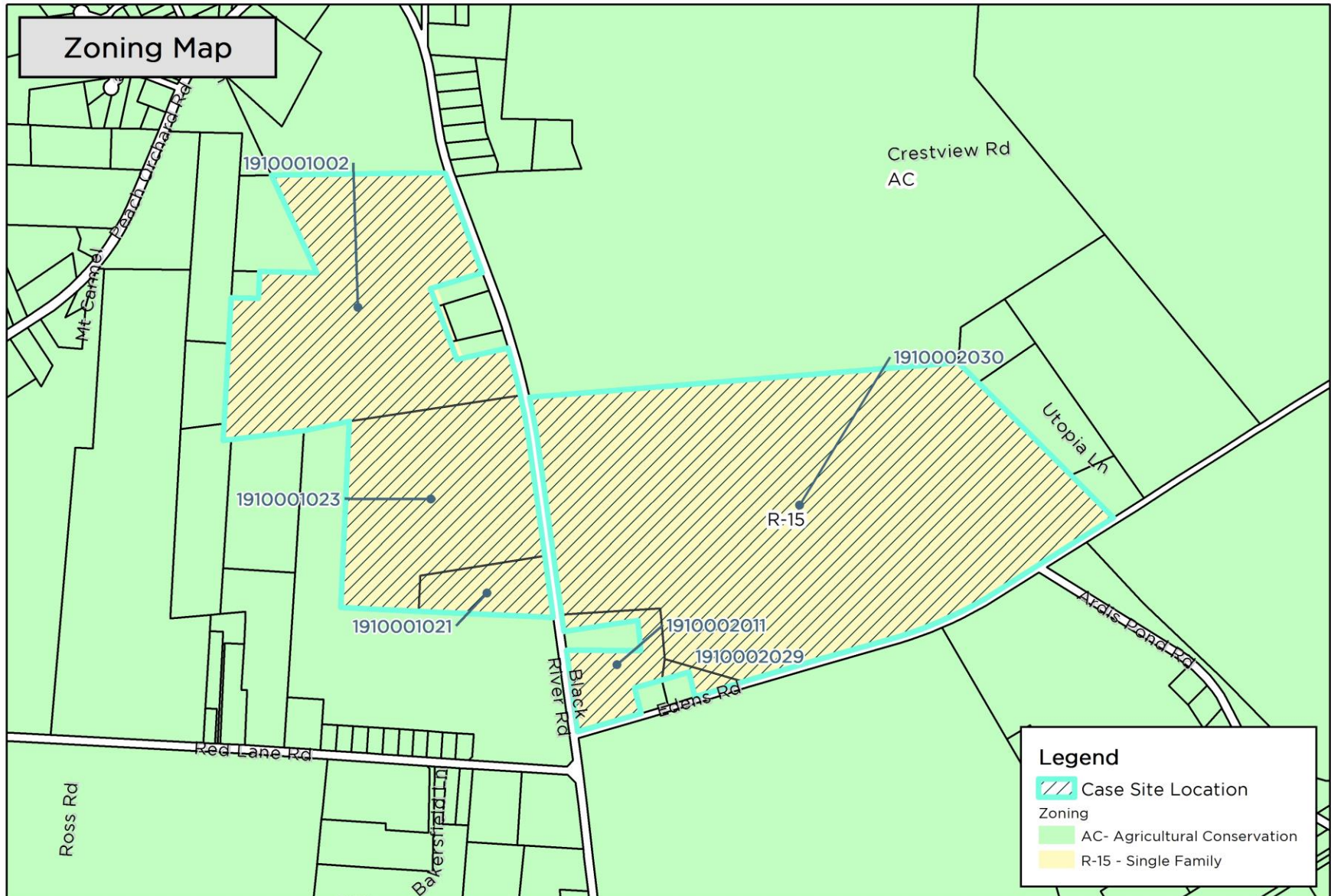
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Zoning Map



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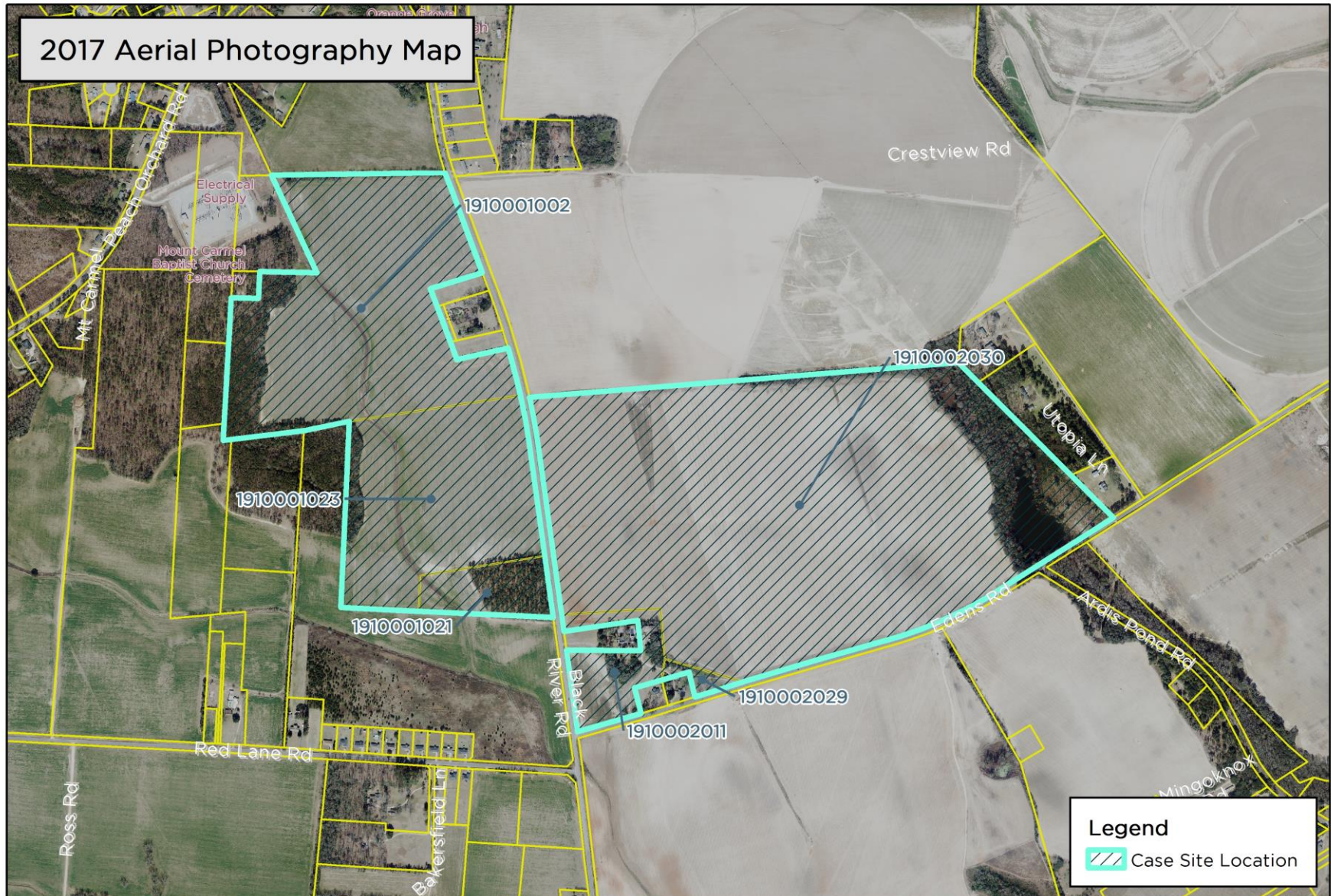
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2017 Aerial Photography Map



Legend

 Case Site Location

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Sumter County Council

March 24, 2020

Second Reading / Public Hearing

Planning Commission Staff Report

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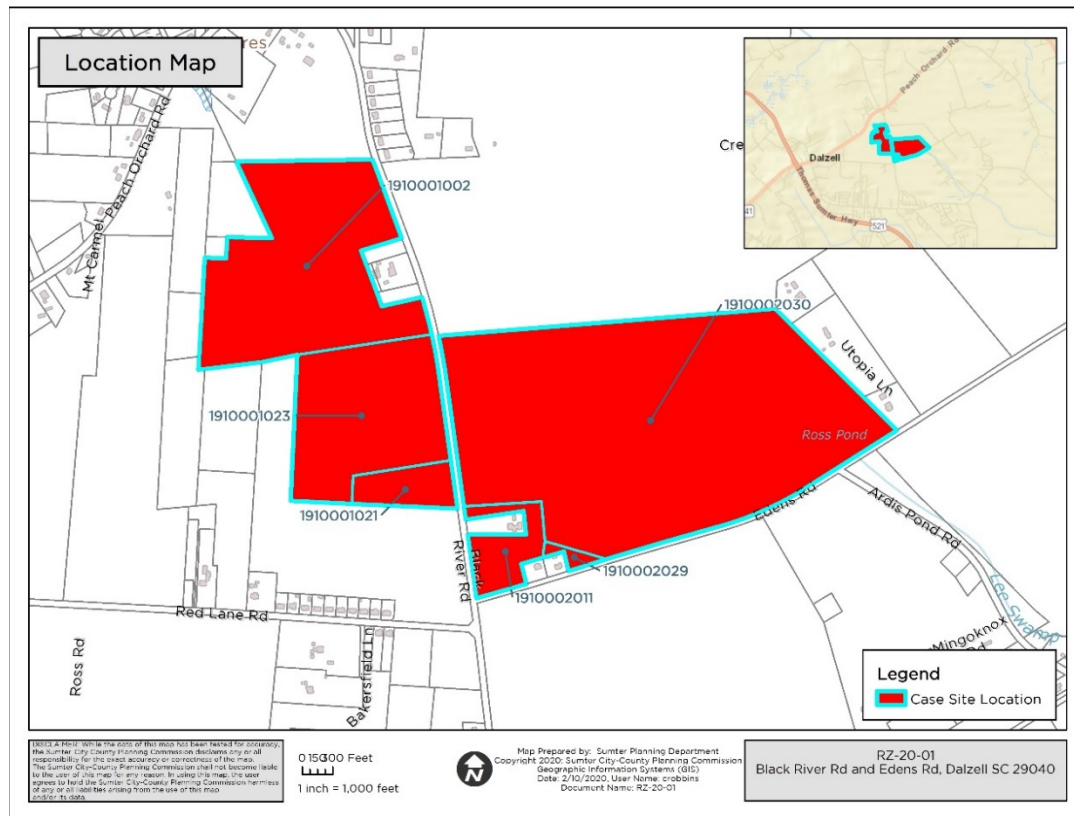
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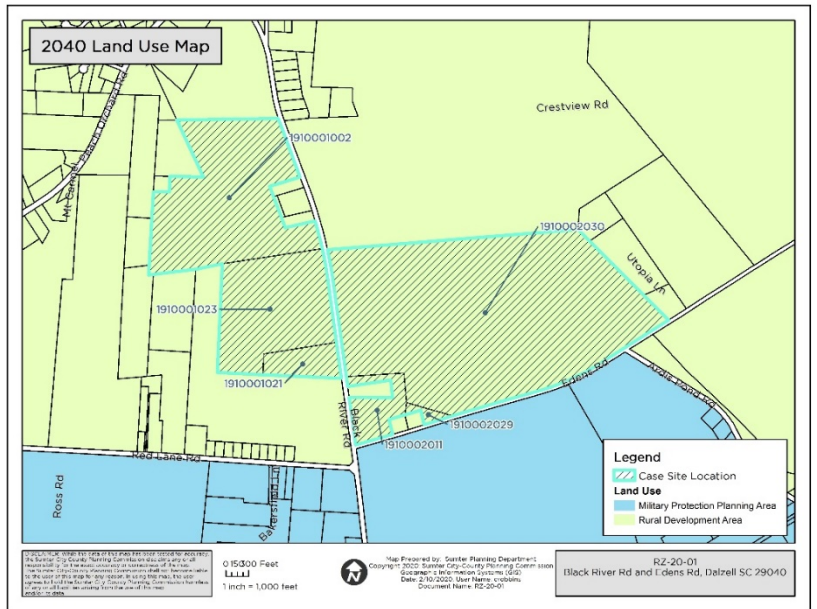
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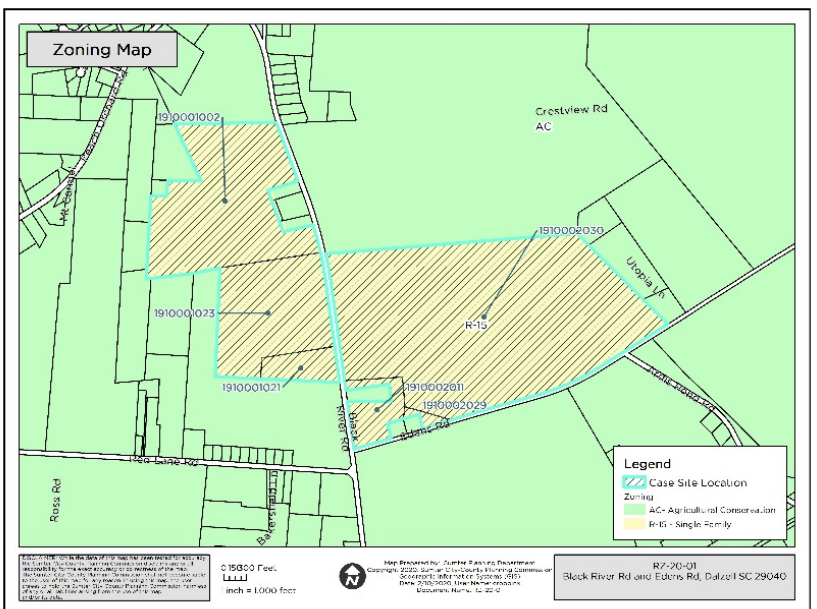


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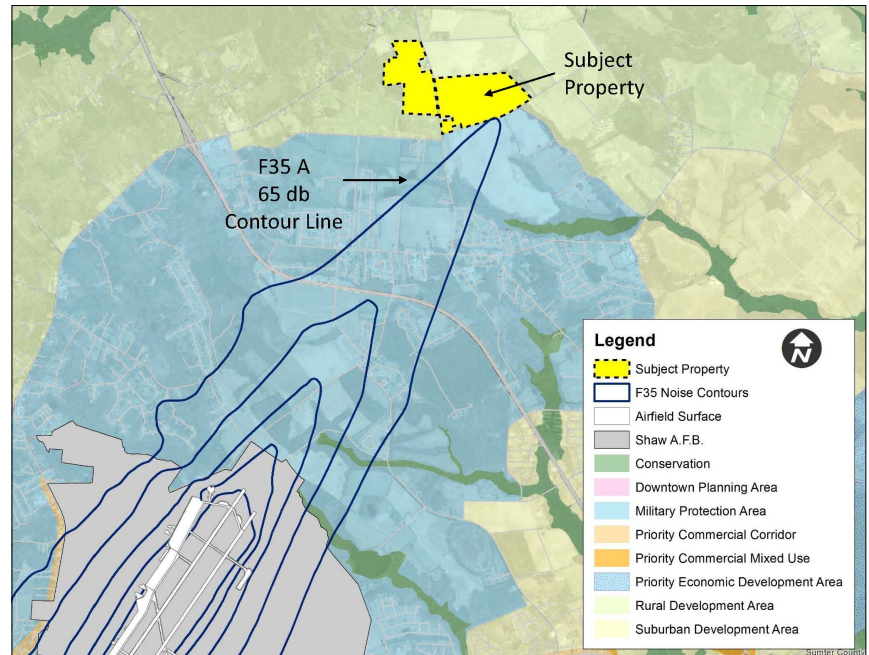


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VII. COUNTY COUNCIL – MARCH 10, 2020 – FIRST READING

The Sumter County Council at its meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 gave First Reading approval for this request.

VIII. COUNTY COUNCIL – MARCH 24, 2020 – SECOND READING / PUBLIC HEARING



Proclamation

Fair Housing Month

WHEREAS, Sumter County Council desires that its citizens be offered the opportunity to attain a decent and sanitary living environment; and,

WHEREAS, Sumter County Council recognizes that 2020 marks the 52nd Anniversary of the 1968 passage of the Federal Fair Housing Law that prohibits discrimination in housing; and in 1989, South Carolina passed a Fair Housing Law that provides rights and remedies substantially equivalent to those found in the Federal Fair Housing Act; and

WHEREAS, Sumter County Council rejects discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, ancestral status, and disability; and,

WHEREAS, Sumter County desires that every citizen be offered the opportunity to live in the home of his or her choice; hence, Sumter County Government does not discriminate in its housing practices;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we the members of Sumter County Council do hereby proclaim **April** as **FAIR HOUSING MONTH** in the County of Sumter, South Carolina and recognize the importance of Fair Housing benefits for its citizenry; Council will continue to promote and advocate fair housing for all of its citizens.

APPROVED AND RATIFIED, in the Sumter County Council regular meeting held this 24TH day of March 2020.

Sumter County Council

James T. McCain, Jr.

Its: Chairman, James T. McCain, Jr.

ATTEST

Mary W. Blanding

Its: Clerk, Mary W. Blanding



EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 20-921

SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY THREAT OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (“COVID-19”), AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MEMBERS OF SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS ELECTRONICALLY FROM REMOTE LOCATIONS EFFECTIVE MARCH 24, 2020

WHEREAS, the Governor of South Carolina, by Executive Order 2020-08, has declared that a state of emergency exists by virtue of the threat posed by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, Sumter County has taken, and must continue to take, all necessary and appropriate actions in proactively preparing for and promptly responding to the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as cases of COVID-19 increase, causing an imminent threat to the citizens and visitors of Sumter County, it is necessary for Sumter County to implement emergency planning for anticipated problems and prepare for emergency actions needed to confront the challenges of this public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Sumter County Council must be able to meet and to take action to address the pending emergency; and

WHEREAS, due to this emergency, it may be impossible or imprudent for one or more of the members of Sumter County to travel to the Sumter County Council Chambers to participate in the meeting in person.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, in accordance with *South Carolina Code of Laws* Title 4, Article 9 Section 130, Sumter County declares that a state of emergency exists, and that the threat thereof is imminent, and extraordinary emergency measures are deemed necessary to cope with the existing and anticipated situation. Sumter County has implemented the following electronic meeting participation plan.

1. Members who are unable to travel to Sumter County Council Chambers to participate in a regular or called meeting due to illness or impossibility may participate in the meeting and shall be counted in determining whether a quorum exists using the following procedures:
 - a. A conference call shall be arranged and the member(s) participating from remote locations shall call the host number, identify themselves when prompted and be recognized by the presiding officer who shall speak into a telephone instrument that is set to operate on its speaker.
 - b. The speaker on the telephone instrument shall be set so that everyone in the room can hear the voice of those participating from remote locations.

- c. The presiding officer shall allow those participating from remote locations to participate in the discussion by calling on each remote participant and giving him/her an opportunity to speak during the discussion of any motion.
 - d. If a remote participant desires to be recognized by the presiding officer, the participant shall speak the words, "Mr. Chairman," or "Madam Chairwoman," and wait to be recognized by the presiding officer.
 - e. Votes will be taken from the remote participant(s) by the presiding officer asking him/her how he/she votes on the issue. The remote participant shall vote by saying, "I vote in favor of the motion," or "I vote against the motion."
2. This Ordinance shall remain in force until emergency conditions associated with COVID-19 have subsided and the emergency activities in Sumter County are no longer necessary to protect the life and property of our citizens, or upon the sixty-first (61st) day after the effective date of this emergency declaration.

Effective the 24th day of March 2020, in the County of Sumter, South Carolina by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of Sumter County Council present at the regularly scheduled meeting for this date.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUMTER COUNTY

By: _____
James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

Mary W. Blanding, Clerk to Council

ORDINANCE 20-922

AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS FROM REMOTE LOCATIONS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES

WHEREAS, during times of emergency and crisis the Sumter County Council must be able to meet and to take action to address the pending emergency; and

WHEREAS, due to nature of any particular emergency, it may be impossible or imprudent for one or more of the members of Sumter County to travel to the Sumter County Council Chambers to participate in the meeting in person; and

WHEREAS, due to forum requirements and to give opportunity to members who cannot or should not travel to the Sumter County Council Chambers to participate in the deliberative meeting in person,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, Sumter County has implemented the following electronic meeting participation plan and procedures for members who are unable to travel to Sumter County Council Chambers to participate in a regular or called meeting due to illness or impossibility so that they may participate in the meeting and shall be counted in determining whether a quorum exists:

1. A conference call shall be arranged and the member(s) participating from remote locations shall call the host number, identify themselves when prompted and be recognized by the presiding officer who shall speak into a telephone instrument that is set to operate on its speaker.
2. The speaker on the telephone instrument shall be set so that everyone in the room can hear the voice of those participating from remote locations.
3. The first order of business will be determination, by majority vote of those attending in person and by electronic means that there is, in fact, an emergency affecting life, health, safety or the property of the people. A motion to make such a determination shall include a declaration that an emergency exists and shall describe the emergency. Only if the motion passes shall the members participating electronically shall be allowed to continue to participate.
4. The presiding officer will obtain from the member(s) participating remotely sufficient information to justify, in the opinion on the presiding officer, the reason why each member is not present in person. If the presiding officer has been made aware of that information prior to the meeting, (s)he shall convey that information to those present after the meeting has been opened and it shall be entered in the minutes.

5. The presiding officer shall allow those participating from remote locations to participate in the discussion by calling on each remote participant and giving him/her an opportunity to speak during the discussion of any motion.
6. If a remote participant desires to be recognized by the presiding officer, the participant shall speak the words, "Mr. Chairman," or "Madam Chairwoman," and wait to be recognized by the presiding officer.
7. Votes will be taken from the remote participant(s) by the presiding officer asking him/her how he/she votes on the issue. The remote participant shall vote by saying, "I vote in favor of the motion," or "I vote against the motion."

This Ordinance is done, ratified and adopted _____, 2020.

**THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
(SEAL)**

**BY: _____
James T. McCain, Jr.
ITS: Chairman**

ATTEST:

**By: _____
Mary W. Blanding
Its: Clerk of County Council**

First Reading: _____, 2020.

Second Reading: _____, 2020.

Third Reading and Adoption: _____, 2020.

AN ORDINANCE TO RESCIND ORDINANCE 18-844 WHICH ESTABLISHED AND CREATED A SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT WITHIN SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, KNOWN AS THE "BOYLES POND SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT."

WHEREAS, Sumter County Council established and created the Boyles Pond Special Tax district upon receipt of a petition signed by the owners of the individual parcels of land that had frontage on Boyles Pond and at the request of Boyles Pond HOA, Inc., their homeowners association;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the special tax district was to facilitate the collection of funds to be used to rehabilitate the Boyles Pond Dam; and

WHEREAS, it now appears that the costs to rehabilitate the dam have exceeded the property owners' expectation and they have voted to discontinue the dam restoration project as documented by letter of Henry L. Veatch, President of the Boyles Pond HOA, Inc. to The Sumter County Assessor and Sumter County Attorney dated March 10, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AT ITS REGULAR MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED AND BY THE AUTHORITY THEREOF:

1. That Sumter County Ordinance 18-884 is hereby rescinded.
2. The Sumter County Auditor shall remove from the tax bills the special assessments from any parcels previously impacted by the Special Tax District for tax year 2020 and subsequent years.
3. The Sumter County Treasurer shall collaborate with the Boyles Pond HOA, Inc. to account for any funds collected for the Special Tax District for tax year 2019 and any prior years.

DONE AND ENACTED IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED this ____ the day of May, 2020.

**THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR SUMTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
(SEAL)**

BY: _____
James T. McCain, Jr.
Chairman of County Council

ATTEST:

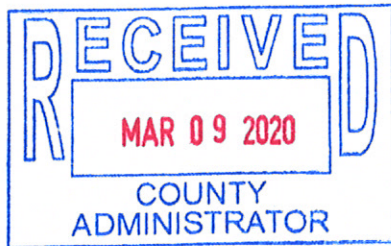
BY: _____
Mary W. Blanding.
Clerk to Council

First Reading: _____

Second Reading: _____

Public Hearing: _____

Third Reading and Adoption: _____



Boyles Pond HOA, INC. c/o Henry Veatch March 10, 2020
3785 Lookout Cove, Sumter, Sc 29154

To: Sumter County, SC Assessor /Sumter County Attorney

Subject: Special Tax District

Please terminate the special tax district assessments of all lots at Boyles pond effective for the tax year 2020 and all future years. The Small Business Loan has been paid off and the special tax district is no longer required. This action is the result of a vote to discontinue the damn restoration project due to excessive DHEC requirements.

Thank you for all your assistance in this effort on the pondowners behalf.

Henry Veatch

President/ 803-847-3386

Boyles Pond HOA, INC.



Agenda
Sumter County Council
Committee Meeting: Fiscal, Tax, And Property
Tuesday, March 24, 2020 - Held at 5:30 p.m.
Sumter County Courthouse, Third Floor, County Council's Conference Room 301
141 North Main Street, Sumter, SC

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- I. **Call to Order:** Committee Chairman, The Honorable James T. McCain, Jr.
- II. **Invocation:** Council Member, Staff, or Citizen
- III. **Action On Agenda:** Tuesday, March 24, 2020
- IV. **New Business:**
 1. **Executive Session:** It Is Necessary To Hold An Executive Session To:
 - A. Discuss An Economic Development Matter.
 - B. Discuss Items That Are Appropriate For Executive Session And To Take Action Thereafter If Necessary On Any Of The Items For Executive Session.
 2. Additional Information _____
- V. **Old Business**
 1. None
- VI. **Adjournment**

cc: Committee Members – (McCain, Edens, McGhaney)
Council Members
Staff
Media

In compliance with ADA/Section 504, Sumter County is prepared to make accommodations for individuals needing assistance to participate in our programs, services, or activities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We are delighted to seek sponsorship from the Sumter County School District whose mission, *to equip students to be responsible, successful and productive citizens in a global society*, is congruent with BRAG's mission, *to ensure the success of our students by teaching our students core knowledge, so that our students will become successful well-rounded secondary school students*. Moreover, Sumter's mission dovetails with the mission of the Core Knowledge Foundation, *to advance excellence and equity in education for all children*. We believe that core knowledge and literacy in the content areas will allow our students to be successful; therefore, augmenting the mission of the Sumter County School District.

BRAG Literacy STRrEAM (Science, Technology, Reading, Robotics, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) Institute of Sumter, organized by ordinary South Carolinians on an extraordinary quest to educate South Carolina's children, is a sensible investment for the citizens of Sumter County. Giving more children hope for a respectable future; thereby, moving Sumter County forward in our globally competitive world. It is our choice- to continue to spend billions of dollars on welfare programs and incarceration, or invest in their future, our future, by providing children in Sumter County with a quality education in environments tailored to meet their unique academic and social needs.

In this year's January 21, 2020 *State of the State Address* Governor Henry McMaster emphatically stated, *"The path to prosperity goes straight through the classroom. Last year we took bold steps in education reform to empower the next generation's workforce. We invested in our classroom teachers, in rural schools, in keeping our children safe and secure. This year our continued investment must be the most significant ever."*

BRAG Literacy STRrEAM Institute has made the choice to join Governor McMaster and the South Carolina General Assembly in advancing our State. We are delighted to submit this application for the opportunity to work with the Sumter County School District to make a difference in the lives of South Carolina's children who live in the "Corridor of Shame."

The **Vision** of BRAG Literacy STRrEAM Institute of Sumter is to create optimal learning environments in which scholar-leaders are developed who are ideal 21st Century citizens. Such a learning environment is critical in helping students be successful in this century. Using readily available technological learning tools, our vision is the seamless integration of subject matter employing *Core Knowledge* as our curriculum, supplemented with other instructional programs of study with literacy in the content areas as the primary focus. Literacy will be the pulse of our learning community.

The school will educate scholar-leaders in grades K4 through 5th grade, adding one grade each year, concluding with grade 8. We will advance students academically on what they can master from one level to the next, where student advancement will be based on competence as they matriculate within grade-level clusters. Our curriculum will address the subject level and grade level standards established by the South Carolina State Board of Education, as a result, our scholar-leaders will be equipped to demonstrate on local, state and national assessments what they have learned.

We will disaggregate academic performance data for students as individuals, by student disaggregate-demographic-groups, and by grade-level-groups, in order to monitor student growth at all levels. We will analyze data from various sources, including the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee. We aspire for 100% of our scholar-leaders to be literate, to meet standards, to be above grade level, to exceed expectations and to perform on the exemplary level. This aspiration, this hope, this dream, will help us continuously push for excellence as Robert Browning alludes to in these immortal words, "Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, Or what's a heaven for?" The pedagogical practices of BRAG Literacy STRrEAM Institute of Sumter will be framed using the

Constructivist Philosophy which espouses the belief that human beings design their own understanding of the world.

We will engage the National Dropout Center; the University of South Carolina -Sumter; Central Carolina Technical College; the Center for the Education and Equity of African-American Students at USC, Columbia; the Consortium for Latino Immigration Studies at USC, Columbia; and other organizations and agencies to assist in developing our curriculum and instructional program to help ensure the overall success of our students. These professional resources will help us close the academic achievement gap along intellectual-ability, racial and social-economic lines. Furthermore, we will utilize the resources of the Public Charter School Alliance of South Carolina and other assets dedicated to supporting public charter schools. These entities, along with other individuals and organizations, have provided written and verbal support for our endeavor.

The BRAG Literacy STRrEAM Institute of Sumter Charter Start-up Committee has received an enormous amount of encouragement for the development of a new school since we began this endeavor. Currently, informal canvassing of the area gleaned parents of over 300 potential students who have shown an interest in their children becoming a part of BRAG Literacy STRrEAM Institute of Sumter. Our initial Charter Start-up Committee is comprised of individuals with a diverse set of skills and life-experiences. The chair of our Charter Start-up Committee has successfully advanced public schools in South Carolina from rural to suburban areas, including schools with majority-minority populations living in poverty. He along with other committee members, state and national entities, possess the expertise to make a difference, academically and socially, in the lives of South Carolina's children who reside in Sumter County.

To date the BRAG Literacy STRrEAM Institute of Sumter is a member of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce, has advertised with local and area media outlets. Our planning chair has been on several local radio venues. BRAG has sponsored over twenty-five formal community meetings and briefings with area parents and leaders. Many participants believe a charter school, such as BRAG, is needed, particularly surrounding the discussion regarding the results on the 2017 ACT. Those results, of Sumter's eleventh grade public school students, reflect a need for innovative pedagogy in kindergarten, primary school and elementary school. The results on the ACT, administered near the end of a student's junior year, for students of color, students in poverty, and disabled students reveal a startling lack of academic preparedness for college, and/or a career. Research indicates that students begin their academic preparation for college and/or a career even before preschool; therefore, it was the consensus of the group that an education grounded in core knowledge, accompanied by experiential life-affirming experiences, is needed.

This charter application addresses all the elements required by the *South Carolina Charter School Act* and the South Carolina Department of Education. The various components of this application will continue to be developed, as necessitated by the ever-changing needs of our learning-community, as the BRAG Literacy STRrEAM Institute of Sumter evolves.



215 North Washington Street Sumter, SC 29150
803.773-7935 Ext 113 www.uwaysumter.org

March 9, 2020

Sumter County Council Members
C/o Clerk of Council (Mrs. Mary Blanding)
13 East Canal Street
Sumter, SC 29150



United Way
of Sumter, Clarendon
and Lee Counties

Dear County Council Members,

It's been an exciting and challenging twenty years, but the United Way Diamonds Youth Development Program continues to make great strides reducing teen pregnancy in the Tri-County area. The partnerships are many, including the Sumter School District, Sumter County Prevention Team, Sumter County (Parents Accessing Resources for Kids) PARK, Central Carolina Technical College, Morris College and multiple community churches and civic groups, to name a few. Remarkable progress has been made in the area of teen pregnancy with the help of Sumter County Council, private donations, and United Way contributions.

In the year 2000 at the inception, statewide 10,732 girls between the ages of 10-19 became pregnant as noted by Dr. Darrell Parker of Economic Development at Winthrop University; for the South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. In that same year, Sumter County had 364 pregnancies to youth between the ages of 9-19. Statewide these births cost the state about 824 million dollars (www.teenpregnancysc.org). Today, Sumter County has 77 pregnancies for youth between the ages of 15-19 years old a historic low, (www.factforward.org) and that is a reason to be excited.

While we have and continue to make great strides, we must not lose sight of those youth that may still be contemplating sexual experimentation as a result of peer influence or low self-esteem. Young people participating in sexual risk behaviors can result in unintended health outcomes. The 2017, Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) states that 40% of high school students have had sexual intercourse, 10% have had four or more sexual partners, 7% have had forced sexual intercourse; 46% did not use a condom, 14% did not use any birth control method and 19% had used alcohol prior to sexual intercourse (www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/sexualbehaviors/index.htm). When youth participate in risky behaviors they jeopardize their futures.

The cycle of poverty or onset of poverty is set in motion when young people make poor choices with regards to their sexuality that impact their future. Therefore, youth development must be addressed annually, and education is the key for youth to have a great future.

Students participating in United Way Diamonds received a positive message relating to reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases, and the consequences of early sexual experimentation. The students are given a clear message that show the impact of their choices and behaviors on their future.



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and Lee Counties

United Way Diamonds' science-based, age-appropriate, comprehensive message is consistent with the South Carolina Department of Education Health Science Curricula and Standards for all school aged students. The current school and social climate dictates reaching out to our youth and ensuring that they feel safe and have a caring adult in which to confide.

United Way Diamonds "Men's Day Wednesday" program is utilizing male volunteers in Sumter County schools as mentors and caring adults to encourage young male students to stay focused. The adult male volunteers agree to a specific day to volunteer, which allows them to work around their personal schedules. The volunteers are paired with one student or they may meet several students in a group. The feedback from these sessions has been positive. For many students, this is an opportunity to see and be in the presence of a positive responsible mature male, something some students may be missing. One student in general told the mentor that he was in "in-school suspension (ISS) every day because the teacher told him he would never be nothing." We must continue to encourage the youth to eliminate this negative message.

The Men's Day Wednesday program volunteers have had a positive impact on both the students and the school environment. Often the male volunteers are able to identify potential behavior problems and address them or refer the student to the appropriate school resource. Male mentors meet the need for positive communication between adolescents and a caring adult. Strong parent-child communication promotes self-esteem, prevents risky behaviors, and sexual risk taking. Research has shown that by providing accurate information and creating open lines of communication, parents increase their children's adoption of safer behaviors.

https://teenpregnancy.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/Parent_Child_Communication.pdf

United Way Diamonds appreciates and needs Sumter County Council's continued support, we are asking for funding in the amount of \$27,050. Your support, along with the funding received from United Way fundraising and donations, allows us to continue to provide an excellent service to the youth and families of Sumter County.

Sumter County Councils' financial support is an investment in Sumter's youth. The youth want to succeed! Attached are some of the local success stories of the past twenty years!

Sumter County youth want to be successful and they have the drive and ability to make a difference! Given the right tools and guidance, every child will succeed! With your continued support we will strive to continue to make an impact in the Sumter Community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melanie Dees".

Melanie Dees
Director of Programs



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803.773-7935 Ext 113 www.uwaysumter.org



United Way
of Sumter, Clarendon
and Lee Counties

United Way Diamonds Success Stories

Student Number 1 “The most memorable thing that I learned during my time in the United Way Diamonds Program is to enjoy my youth and to make my community a better place in the process. I have taken that lesson and truly applied it to my life. In order to fully give back to my Sumter community, I have become a high school teacher. During my five years as a teacher I have been named 2018 Sumter Chamber of Commerce High School Level Teacher of the Year, 2019-2020 Sumter Career and Technology Center Teacher of the Year and one of Sumter 20 Young Professionals Under 40. I never knew how much the Diamonds program would impact my life however”.

Student Number 2 “I especially enjoyed having the opportunity to participate in the Ms. Teen Awareness Pageant, work with the “Baby, Think It Over” dolls, and even participate in a commercial about teen pregnancy and prevention. As a high school teacher, I use these experiences to assist my students with making informed decisions about life as they transition from high school to the work force. This program not only assisted me with reaching my personal goals but also allowed me to share the lessons that I’ve learned and assist my students as they strive for excellence!”

Student Number 3: “I am one of the original members of Team DP. I have so many memories to reflect on from Team DP, but my favorite memory would have to be all of the team building and community service projects that we did together. Giving back has always been something dear to my heart, whether it be time or money. Ms. Dees, Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. Francis were great leaders and they always provided us with guidance and skills that are very valuable in my life today. I am an employee of Central Carolina Technical College and I also manage my Mary Kay business. Thanks to the staff of Team DP, I am able to use the lifestyle skills that they taught us to be a successful employee/business owner”



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United Way
of Sumter, Clarendon
and Lee Counties

2020 BUDGET

LINE	EXPENSE	BUDGET
1	Staffing/Teacher	\$18,000
2	Marketing	\$3,500
3	Travel	\$1,300
4	Training	\$1,750
5	Printing	\$450
6	Telephone	\$1,200
7	Office Supplies	\$1,000
8	Postage	\$50
	TOTAL	\$27,250

SUMTER

SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY PROFILE



2018 Teen Birth Rate

TEEN BIRTH RATE
AGES 15-19



2017 Rate = 30.2

COUNTY
RANKING



2017 Rank = 19

DECREASE
SINCE 1991



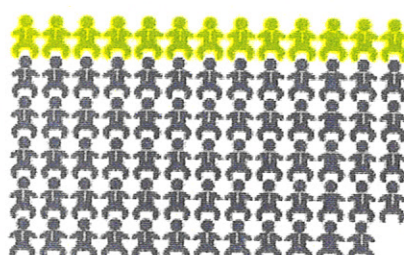
IN SOUTH
CAROLINA

♂ **40%**
OF HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS
HAVE EVER
HAD SEX

📺 **59%**
OF SEXUALLY ACTIVE
HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS
USED A
CONDOM
AT LAST SEX

2018 Teen Birth Numbers

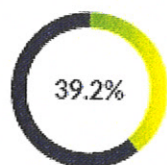
BIRTHS TO 15-17 YEAR OLDS	=	13
BIRTHS TO 18-19 YEAR OLDS	=	64
TOTAL BIRTHS 15-19 YEAR OLDS	=	77



Total number of births to South Carolina teens (ages 15-19) = 3,480.

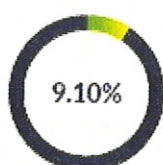
Community Well-Being

Women in Need of
Publicly-Funded Family
Planning Services



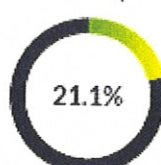
County Rank* 4

Teens Not Enrolled
in School and Not
Working



County Rank* 19

People Living in
Poverty



County Rank* 20

Sexual Health

Gonorrhea
Ages 15-19

Cases 78
Rate (per
100,000) 1137.9

County Rank* 20

Chlamydia
Ages 15-19

Cases 322
Rate (per
100,000) 4697.3

County Rank* 11

*Ranking Range = 1 (Worst) - 46 (Best). Data sources available at FactForward.org/statistics

FactForward.org | 1331 Elmwood Ave., Suite 300, Columbia, SC 29201 | 803-771-7700

Published September 2019