APPENDIX I

GOALS & POLICIES

The following appendix consolidates the goals and policies from each chapter into one section for easy reference.

Goals & Policies

Population & Demographics

Goal 2.1: Improve local and regional planning efforts

- Policy: Promote regional planning
 - o Action: Push for, and participate in a regional plan using 2010 census information
 - o Action: Push for a multi-jurisdictional planning commission
- Policy: Improve the accuracy of local planning
 - o Action: Perform annual 'minor' updates to the Comprehensive Plan to keep up with local and regional trends and developments.

Housing

Goal 3.1: Promote the stability and maintenance of established residential neighborhoods.

- Policy: Prevent encroachment of incompatible land uses into established residential districts.
- Policy: Support home repair and maintenance programs, such as the Metanoia CDC and Charleston Area CDC homeowner maintenance programs.
- □ Policy: Support neighborhood organizations.
- □ Policy: Provide tax exemptions for senior citizen homeowners in order to allow them to maintain their homes and remain in the community.
- Policy: Provide incentives to developers for infill development, including both new construction and rehabilitation of existing structures.
- □ Policy: Require cost participation for recipients of home rehabilitation program who do not have significant financial need.

Goal 3.2: Preserve the character of historic neighborhoods within North Charleston

- Policy: Support local historic preservation organizations
- Policy: Conduct a historic resources inventory in order to identify potential historic districts.
- □ Policy: Encourage eligible historic homes to register with local and national historic preservation programs.
- Policy: Support the designation of worthy residential areas as neighborhood historic districts.
- Policy: Ensure that infill development is compatible with the character of historic neighborhoods.

Goal 3.3: Improve the ratio of owner-occupied housing to renter-occupied housing

- Policy: Increase the stock of owner-occupied, multi-family housing developments (condominiums, townhouses, live-work units).
- Policy: Provide credit counseling in order to educate residents about home ownership opportunities.
- Policy: Provide programs to aid homeowners negatively impacted by sub-prime lending and declines in the housing and mortgage credit markets.
 - o Action: Create a program to buy down the interest on adjustable rate mortgages for homeowners vulnerable to foreclosure.

Goal 3.4: Significantly reduce blight and the amount of abandoned properties in North Charleston's neighborhoods

- □ Policy: Strictly enforce property and building codes.
- Policy: Increase penalties for absentee landlords and abandoned properties
- Policy: Identify neighborhoods with significant vacant and abandoned properties for potential redevelopment.
- Policy: Encourage demolition and redevelopment of vacant substandard housing that cannot be rehabilitated
- □ Policy: Provide counseling and assistance to property owners faced with foreclosure, condemnation, and demolition.
- □ Policy: Create a land bank to manage the redevelopment of abandoned, dilapidated, and tax delinquent properties.
- Policy: Work with non-profit housing developers to promote redevelopment of tax delinquent properties.
- □ Policy: Continue to utilize innovative funding for residential redevelopment, such as Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

Goal 3.5: Reduce the amount of sub-standard mobile home or multi-family developments.

- Policy: Improve site design and building standards for manufactured and mobile homes.
- □ Policy: Discourage additional trailer park developments beyond the current stock.
- □ Policy: Plan for the long-term redevelopment of mobile home parks into conventional stick-built housing.
- Policy: Promote redevelopment of substandard public housing complexes into viable mixed-income communities.

Goal 3.6: Maintain the affordability of North Charleston's housing stock

- Policy: Continue to provide zoning for a wide variety of housing types, sizes, and costs.
- Policy: Ensure an adequate amount senior housing to accommodate the growing senior citizen population.
- Policy: Ensure an adequate stock of workforce housing (teachers, police officers, firemen, city staff, etc.)
- Policy: Utilize federal and state housing assistance programs, such as CDBG and HOME funds for the construction of quality affordable housing.
- Policy: Provide incentives for the inclusion of affordable housing within new developments

- Policy: Provide financial support for housing trust funds in order to facilitate the development of affordable housing
- Policy: Use inclusionary zoning to generate a larger stock of affordable housing units
 Action: Require a percentage of affordable housing units for developments within the recommended Mixed-Use
 Redevelopment zoning district.

Goal 3.7: Support market-based strategies for providing affordable housing

- Policy: Provide developer incentives for affordable housing, such as density bonuses and fee waivers for developments that reserve a proportion of units for affordable rates.
 - o Action: Revise the Planned Development District to create inclusionary zoning on a voluntary basis, by providing developer incentives for those that meet a percentage requirement for affordable housing units.
- Policy: Utilize tax credit programs such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit to fund affordable housing development
- Policy: Promote public/private partnerships with affordable housing developers.

Goal 3.8: Provide quality housing for the lowest-income populations and special needs populations

- Policy: Support non-profit affordable housing developers such as Habitat for Humanity and Mercy Housing
- Policy: Provide emergency shelters, transitional housing, and social services for the homeless population.
- Policy: Provide substance-abuse treatment programs in order to prevent homelessness.
- □ Policy: Support providers of emergency housing for domestic violence and abuse.

Goal 3.9: Encourage the development of mixed-income communities

 Policy: Support the redevelopment of distressed public housing complexes into mixed income communities using HOPE VI funds.

Goal 3.10: Mitigate the negative impacts of foreclosure on economically vulnerable neighborhoods

- Policy: Work with programs such as the South Carolina Foreclosure Initiative to provide credit counseling and agency referrals to residents threatened by foreclosure.
- Policy: Intervene early to stabilize neighborhoods affected by high foreclosure rates.
 - o Action: Track foreclosures within North Charleston and identify "hot spots" of high foreclosure rates.
 - o Action: Explore programs for refinancing and restructuring the loans of residents threatened by foreclosure.

Economic Development

Goal 4.1: Attract new business and industry to North Charleston.

- □ Policy: Increase marketing of the city.
- Policy: Continue to support and cooperate with the local Chambers of Commerce, Regional Development Alliance, and other regional business organizations.
- Policy: Continue providing attractive business incentives that will attract desired industries.
- Policy: Encourage new hotel development and other accommodations-related uses.

Goal 4.2: Increase and incubate the high-tech industry sector in North Charleston.

- Policy: Work with Trident Technical College and high school vocational programs to generate a work-ready labor force for high-tech industries.
 - o Action Market North Charleston as a center for high-tech and innovative industries and businesses.
- Policy: Promote sustainability in North Charleston as a draw for innovative and environmentally conscious small businesses and corporations.
 - o Action: Declare North Charleston a 'Sustainable City' and use this in marketing and business recruiting.

Goal 4.3: Utilize the city's cultural assets as a generator of the local economy.

- Policy: Provide adequate support for local arts organizations
- Policy: Continue promoting festivals, farmers markets, and other cultural events in the city.

Goal 4.4: Continue to ensure the availability of good jobs for the city's residents.

- Policy: Coordinate with school systems to provide high school curriculums that provide skills needed by local industries.
- Policy: Provide a local labor force with skills needed for local industries and businesses.
 - Action: Continue and expand workforce-training partnerships with Trident One-Stop and technical schools, through the Workforce Investment Act and JTPA.

Goal 4.5: Provide education and training for residents to create the workforce skills necessary to support and attract new industries.

- Policy: Focus the city's Economic Development on job training in addition to business recruiting.
 - o Action: Provide job training and marketable skills to citizens in distressed areas.
 - o Action: Develop a summer internship program aimed at local youth.

Natural Resources

Goal 5.1: Preserve natural systems associated with tidal streams, wetlands and floodplains

- Policy: Prevent the fill and development of wetlands and floodplain areas where possible.
- □ Policy: Take measures to restore tidal stream watersheds.
 - Action: Adopt the proposed Noisette Creek Preserve Overlay to increase protection around Noisette Creek's watershed.
 - o Action: Create restoration management plans for other tidal streams within the city.
- Policy: Prevent development and impervious surfaces (except bridges) within 50 feet of streams and wetlands
 - Action: Adopt a city wide riparian buffer ordinance to increase stream and wetland protection outside of current overlay districts.

Goal 5.2: Maintain and enhance the natural beauty throughout North Charleston

- Policy: Protect native plant and animal species in North Charleston
 - o Action: Revise the tree preservation ordinance to increase standards for native species.
 - o Action: Revise the bird sanctuary section of the city's ordinance to include protection of small mammals.
- Policy: Continue protecting scenic corridors and natural viewsheds along the Ashley and Cooper Rivers.

Goal 5.3: Promote more ecological awareness

- Policy: Provide trails and parks with educational and interpretive ecological learning experiences.
- □ Policy: Continue to encourage eco-friendly and neo-traditional development design to promote green building practices and reduce sprawl.

Goal 5.4: Reduce stormwater runoff and non-point source pollution for improved water quality

- Policy: Discourage polluting industries and business operations
- Policy: Encourage developers to utilize bioswales and natural treatment train systems as a natural alternative to curb-and-gutter system
 - o Action: Action: Encourage residents to use rain gardens on their property to help reduce runoff
 - o Action: Add a maximum impervious surface percentage standard to residential zoning districts.
- Policy: Improve drainage and reduce storm water runoff
- □ Policy: Coordinate with other regional jurisdictions to ensure consistent water quality throughout the region.
 - Action: Support regional water quality efforts that support the recommendations of the Charleston Harbor Management Plan.

Cultural Resources

Goal 6.1: Promote North Charleston's local history

- Policy Preserve the character of historic neighborhoods and districts.
 - o Action: Adopt the proposed Olde North Charleston Historic District and Neighborhood Conservation District to preserve the character of the area, and prevent incompatible development.
 - o Action: Identify additional neighborhoods where historic overlay districts should be established.
 - o Action: Create an Architectural/Design Review Board to ensure quality design and contextual appropriateness of new construction and rehabs.
- Policy Create a unique sense of place in the different areas of the city.
 - o Action: Create unique street signage for each neighborhood
 - o Action: Identify development and unique building characteristics to incorporate into design standards for new and redeveloped properties.
 - o Action: Improve development and design standards along commercial corridors.
- Policy: Educate the public of North Charleston's unique history
 - o Action: Create a North Charleston Museum to showcase the city's history and natural environment, as well as to house its historical records and artifacts.

Goal 6.2: Protect existing historic properties

- Policy Preserve historic structures with historical importance or architectural relevance.
 - Action: Identify historic structures eligible for designation on the National Register of Historic Properties.
 - o Action: Hire an historic preservation consultant to perform an update to the 1995 historic survey.
- Policy Encourage adaptive reuse of under-utilized historic buildings.
 - o Action: Provide tax incentives for renovation and adaptive reuse of historic structures.

Goal 6.3: Provide an adequate amount and variety of cultural venues and events throughout all parts of the city.

- □ Policy: Provide more cultural centers and performing arts venues in Planning Areas 3, & 4.
 - Action: Lobby Dorchester County for a library and/or small cultural arts center to be provided in Planning Area 3.

Community Facilities

Goal 7.1: Reduce crime rates, especially murder and other violent crimes.

- □ Policy: Increase community involvement between law enforcement and neighborhoods.
 - o Provide permanent community resource officers in areas of highest criminal activity.
- □ Policy: Promote community-based crime watch organizations.
- Policy: Continue police and code enforcement priority in highest crime areas.

- Policy: Increase the number of bilingual, Spanish-speaking officers
 - o Action: Provide foreign language training to police officers and other city staff, on a voluntary basis.

Goal 7.2: Provide adequate, cost-effective emergency services throughout all areas of the city

- Policy: Maintain high level fire protection throughout all areas of North Charleston
 - o Action: Identify appropriate locations for future fire stations.
 - o Action: Resolve any gaps in fire service response times.
 - o Action: Add fire hydrants where lacking.
- □ Policy: Maintain efficient coordination of EMS and 911 services with the counties.

Goal 7.3: Provide a high-quality education and a good learning environment for all students

- Policy: Provide public safety at schools to ensure a safe learning environment
- Policy: Take measures to reduce the educational disadvantages for Charleston County School students.
 - o Action: Increase social service resources for underprivileged students.
 - o Action: Help provide additional Head Start or similar programs in low-income areas of North Charleston.

Goal 7.4: Provide cultural arts venues and programs in all parts of the city

- Policy: Provide additional libraries, performance spaces, and other cultural facilities in Planning Areas 2, 3, & 4.
- Policy: Provide a high-quality civic and cultural arts complex that will be a source of community pride

Goal 7.5: Provide an adequate and equitable system of parks and recreation facilities

- Policy: Ensure equal opportunity of North Charleston's citizens to enjoy quality open space and recreation facilities.
 - o Action: Provide a large, signature public park for each planning area
 - o Action: Provide a system of smaller, neighborhood pocket parks, evenly distributed throughout the city.
- Policy: Increase the amount of public park and recreation space in Planning Areas 2 & 3
 - o Action: Prioritize park space acquisition and development in Planning Areas 2 & 3
 - o Action: Continue working deals with schools and churches to share recreation facilities.
- Policy: Increase use of underutilized parks by increasing safety, lighting and security.
- Policy: Provide more public access to North Charleston's waterfronts.

Goal 7.6: Provide quality water and sewer services throughout North Charleston

 Policy: Ensure that adequate water and sewer infrastructure is available to support anticipated growth and development.

- Goal 7.7: Reduce capital expenditures through shared public facilities and energy-efficient design standards.
 - Policy: Seek additional opportunities to use school or church facilities (libraries, auditoriums, classrooms, recreation facilities) for multiple community functions.
 - o Policy: Build and renovate public facilities with energy-efficient design (LEED or similar).

Transportation

- Goal 8.1: Continue coordinating transportation and land use planning
 - Policy: Ensure that new development does not decrease the level of service (LOS) of roadways.
 - □ Policy: Require Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) reports for large new developments.
 - Action: Set development thresholds for requirement of traffic impact studies (E.g. Commercial > 175,000 sq. ft., Residential > 125 units).
 - Policy: Provide for flexible, negotiated traffic mitigation measures for large new developments that facilitate pedestrian and transit access.
 - Policy: Support context-sensitive roadway design in order to ensure that transportation facilities are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods and activity centers.
 - Action: Apply the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Government (BCDCOG) "Complete Streets" planning criteria to major transportation improvements in order to ensure that roadways accommodate all modes of travel and support surrounding business districts and neighborhoods.
 - Policy: Coordinate regional transportation planning with local corridor improvement studies.
- Goal 8.2: Provide a safe environment for pedestrian and bicycle use.
 - Policy: Expand the city's system of multi-use trails, bicycle routes, and bike lanes.
 - Action: Link trails within North Charleston and to other cities or regional systems, to form a connective network.
 - Action: Provide annual budgeting to go towards trail development and local matches for regional, state and federal trail grants.
 - o Action; Use the Bike & Pedestrian Plan to guide the prioritization of trails.
 - Policy: Provide sidewalks throughout the city, especially in areas with high foot traffic.
 - o Action: Prioritize sidewalk construction projects in priority areas, as outlined in the Bike & Pedestrian Plan
 - o Action: Provide additional sidewalks using city funds and local, state and federal transportation grants.
 - Policy: Actively pursue Charleston County greenbelt funds through the half-cent sales tax program.

 Action: Planning and Parks and Recreation departments should work together to pursue identify possible parks and greenbelts, and apply for funding.

Goal 8.3: Create an efficient network of roads

- □ Policy: Encourage street connectivity to create a more grid-like street pattern.
 - o Action: Continue connecting streets in Planning Areas 3 & 4, as outlined in the city's Transportation plan.
- Policy: Discourage cul-de-sac and dead-end roads in new developments where natural features do not prevent street connections.
 - o Action: Require large new residential subdivisions to provide multiple entrances and exit points.
- □ Policy: Improve intersections and traffic light timing/signalization.
 - o Action: Implement Intelligent Traffic Systems that utilize new technology to improve the flow of traffic.
- Policy: Improve traffic safety and flow through access management on major roads.
 - Action: Limit the number of curb cuts and driveways allowed for development along major roadways and at congested intersections.
 - Action: Encourage interparcel connectivity in order to allow internal circulation and compensate for reduced access points.
- Policy: Prevent conflicts between freight and vehicular traffic
 - o Action: Enforce freight routes, and prohibit freight traffic on neighborhood roads.

Goal 8.4: Reduce traffic problems along congested major corridors such as Dorchester Road.

- Policy: Work with Charleston Air Force Base to prevent traffic congestion at the base's main gate on Dorchester Road.
- □ Policy: Work with railroad companies (CSX, Norfolk-Southern) to manage train schedules for at-grade road crossings, in order to prevent additional problems during rush hours.

Goal 8.5: Develop a multi-modal transportation system in North Charleston.

- Policy: Continue supporting regional efforts that would provide commuter rail, bus rapid transit (BRT), or other forms of regional mass transit.
- Policy: Use Transfer of Development Rights to increase densities for transit corridors.

Goal 8.6: Develop Travel Demand Management (TDM) programs to reduce traffic.

- Policy: Coordinate with regional planning agencies to develop and implement TDM programs.
- Policy: Support flex-time and telecommuting programs in order to shift travel demand into off-peak hour travel times.

- Policy: Encourage carpooling and high-occupancy vehicles to reduce vehicular traffic.
 - o Action: Establish a city vanpool/rideshare program.
 - Action: Create High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on interstate highways for carpools, busses, and motorcycles.

Land Use & Development

Goal 9.1: Improve North Charleston's image, sense of character, and physical aesthetics.

- Policy: Improve the aesthetic quality of commercial corridors.
 - o Action: Create commercial corridor overlay zones to promote architectural, landscaping, and signage uniformity through design guidelines.
 - o Action: Increase the area of current roadway overlays to preserve more natural buffers.
- Policy: Create a better 'sense of place' and history throughout the city.
 - Action: Continue to develop 'gateway' entrances into the city with monumental signage and distinct landscaping.
 - Action: Add way-finding signage and unique street signage for historic areas/neighborhoods to help promote local history.
- Policy: Encourage and promote innovative urban design concepts for new developments.
 - Action: Adopt a Noisette Community Overlay District to incorporate the unique land use and zoning concepts proposed for the area in the Noisette Community Master Plan.

Goal 9.2: Preserve the natural environment of North Charleston.

- Policy: Protect North Charleston's wetlands and natural waterways.
 - Action: Adopt a citywide stream buffer ordinance to prevent development in naturally sensitive areas outside of overlay areas that already require protection.
 - Action: Implement a Transfer of Development Rights program to purchase development rights for conservation purposes.
- Policy: Encourage the use of conservation or cluster development
 - Action: Develop a Conservation Planned Urban Development zoning district, geared towards preserving wetlands or other natural spaces, and providing community open spaces.

Goal 9.3: Reduce the need for single occupancy vehicle trips through proper land use planning.

Policy: Allow land use patterns that reduce distances between residences & services:

- o Action: Create a Mixed-Use Redevelopment zoning district that allows flexibility in uses to help revitalize underserved areas.
- Policy: Provide more opportunities for neighborhood-scale commercial and retail services within short walking distances of residences.
 - o Action: Recommendation: Identify appropriate locations for neighborhood commercial nodes.

Goal 9.4: Increase the amount of active and passive park space in North Charleston.

- □ Policy: Provide a system of trails and greenways.
 - o Action: Explore funding sources for financing a trail system.
 - o Action: Create a Trails and Greenways Master Plan for the city.
 - Action: Submit applications for Charleston County Greenway funds to create and finance new parks or trail systems.
- □ Policy: Acquire and convert large underutilized or abandoned properties for parks and open space.
 - Action: Establish a land bank or property acquisition program to help acquire and assemble parcels for parks and recreation.

Goal 9.5: Protect and enhance established residential neighborhoods.

- Policy: Ensure that new or infill development is compatible with the character of established neighborhoods.
 - o Action: Establish historic neighborhood overlay zoning districts.
 - o Action: Create a Design Review Board to achieve and regulate desirable development design.
 - o Action: Create a Traditional Neighborhood zoning district to develop appropriate regulations for traditional, urban-scale single-family development.
- Policy: Revitalize declining neighborhoods or areas in need of infrastructure improvements.
 - o Action: Identify areas to prioritize reinvestment and infrastructure improvements.
 - Action: Establish a city-sponsored better-housing program to improve the conditions of the city's housing stock and promote home ownership.

Goal 9.6: Use the Charleston Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study as an opportunity to create compatible land use, transit corridors, and housing solutions for military housing.

- Policy: Limit incompatible development within Charleston AFB AICUZ (Air Installation Compatible Use) Zones.
 - Action: Implement a TDR (transfer of development rights) Program that would allow purchase of development rights in AICUZ zones, in order to boost density in transit supportive areas, protect development from flight operation impacts, and allow AICUZ landowners economic use of their property.

- o Action: Coordinate with the Joint Land Use Study's Technical and Policy Committees in order to develop and implement best possible land use policies for areas surrounding Charleston Air Force Base.
- o Action: Create an Airbase Overlay Zoning District to encourage compatible land use types, densities, height standards, and building code requirements within AICUZ impact zones.
- Policy: Use Transfer of Development Rights to conserve land and generate transit corridors.
 - o Action: Establish TDR 'receiving areas' in appropriate areas to increase densities for transit corridors; and to generate economic gain for landowners within the Airbase Overlay.
 - Action: Establish TDR 'sending areas' where land will be conserved or protected under the Airbase Overlay District.
- Policy: Coordinate with the Air Force to encourage personnel to live close to the Air Force Base.
 - o Action: Establish Transportation Efficient Mortgage financing through the Fannie Mae Foundation.
 - o Action: Develop incentives for Air Force personnel to live near the base.

Goal 9.7: Create land use patterns that allow efficiency of public services.

- Policy: Ensure that new development does not overburden public service capacities.
 - o Action: Restructure the rezoning application process to include coordination with other city departments and public service providers.
 - o Action: Annex unincorporated areas within the Planning Areas to fill out the city.
- Policy: Increase mass transit opportunities through proper planning of land use patterns.
 - Action: Develop transit-oriented nodes, where appropriate, to provide the density needed for mass transit feasibility.

Goal 9.8: Achieve a balance of land uses to support the needs of the city.

- □ Policy: Prioritize redevelopment and infill opportunities over development of new land.
- Policy: Improve the jobs/housing balance throughout North Charleston.
- □ Policy: Prioritize filling in city boundaries through annexations before expanding outward.
 - o Action: perform cost-benefit analyses when considering future expansions of the city boundaries. Include all cost factors (traffic increases, expansion of services, environmental degradation, etc.).
 - o Action: Pursue annexation of unincorporated 'donut holes' in the city.

Goal 9.9: Coordinate land use and transportation planning in a way that they complement each other.

- Policy: Develop transit supportive development corridors
 - o Action: Allow higher development densities in proximity to existing transit corridors.

- o Action: Coordinate with CARTA to provide bus service to existing high-density areas.
- □ Policy: Coordinate proposed developments with traffic patterns and roadway levels of service to prevent increased traffic congestion.
- □ Policy: Where appropriate, provide housing in proximity to major employment centers to help reduce the need for vehicle travel.
- Policy: Concentrate commercial development in nodes to help curtail strip retail development.
 - Action: Require inter-parcel access between commercial uses along commercial corridors to reduce the amount of curb cuts.

Goal 9.10: Use redevelopment resources and programs to prevent blight, substandard living conditions and the decline of older neighborhoods.

- Policy: Re-establish North Charleston's Redevelopment Commission to coordinate redevelopment resources, and take responsibility for the following actions (for which it is already granted authority to do so):
 - o Action: Establish a City Land Bank and Land Bank Authority to acquire vacant or severely substandard properties for city use, or sale for viable development
 - o Action: Provide or coordinate relocation assistance for any citizens displaced through land acquisitions.
 - o Action: Form partnerships with affordable housing providers to ensure an adequate amount of affordable housing in North Charleston.
 - o Action: Officially designate Priority Funding Areas, where city resources and subsidies should be pooled to fund infrastructure and redevelopment.
 - Action: Coordinate efforts of current redevelopment resources, including the NET team, tax-increment financing, municipal improvement districts, CDBG grants, and Weed & Seed to achieve maximum redevelopment efficiency and equity.
- Policy: Allocate additional funding and resources towards revitalization.
 - Action: Provide an annual budget to the Redevelopment Commission for property acquisition, staffing, and other needs.
 - o Action: Consider holding a vote for a city tax that would fund a city land bank.

APPENDIX II

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following appendix contains the Public Participation Plan and the Public Survey for North Charleston's Comprehensive Plan Update

North Charleston Comprehensive Plan Update

Public Participation Plan

Prepared by:

Robert & Company

REVISED: May 08, 2007

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The purpose of a Comprehensive Plan is to provide a community with documentation of its vision for the future and a guide for achieving that vision. The purpose of the Public Participation Program is to ensure that the community vision developed through the City of North Charleston's Comprehensive Plan Update process reflects the full range of community values and desires. A multi-faceted participation process can strengthen the North Charleston community by providing a venue for citizens to work side by side with local leaders and government staff to collaboratively address the issues and opportunities that will shape their future.

Scope

The South Carolina Code of Ordinances requires that local governments update their comprehensive plan at least once every ten (10) years. This document will form the base line of understanding from which community leaders and citizens will work to develop the 20-year vision (2007-2027) for the community and implementation plan for achieving the vision. This vision covers a wide base of community interests. South Carolina requires the following elements to be included in a comprehensive plan: population, economic development, natural resources, cultural resources, community facilities, housing, and land use. Each of these elements presents an inventory of existing conditions, an assessment of needs and goals, and an implementation strategy for that aspect of the community's development.

Requirements and Goals

Public involvement is essential to the success of any planning effort. Plans have a greater likelihood of implementation if they provide solutions that have been developed through the cooperative efforts of all segments of the community – citizens, elected officials, the business community and civic organizations. Community involvement creates benefits for the community through education, as well as through the formation of a product that includes local knowledge and preferences. These important steps in the planning process ensure support and acceptance of the vision and the supporting plan document. Community participation in the *North Charleston Comprehensive Plan Update* seeks to accomplish the following goals:

- □ Raise the level of awareness and understanding of planning in the North Charleston community.
- Provide a process for community input that allows members of the city to voice their concerns and aspirations in individualized settings and also provide chances for these citizens to come together and collaboratively address growth and development issues that cross municipal boundaries.
- □ Engage traditionally underserved communities (minority, low-income, elderly, etc.) in the planning process.
- Improve the quality of the decisions that are made during the planning process.

- □ Provide opportunities for stakeholders to make decisions and create the identity they envision for the North Charleston community.
- □ Increase interest and facilitate ease in the implementation of solutions.
- □ Provide tangible evidence that the community created its own vision for the future.

IDENTIFICATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

Coordination and oversight are important parts of the comprehensive planning process. To ensure that the comprehensive plan is truly inclusive of the vision, needs, and desires of all community members, and that the plan adequately addresses the challenges and opportunities that are most important to the community, the involvement of a wide network of individuals is essential. Specifically, North Charleston City Council members, Planning Commission members, planning staff and other key department staff from both the city and county must be engaged and provide oversight throughout the planning process. Additionally, the wide network of civic organizations and local businesses in the North Charleston Community must be engaged in the process. Large-scale efforts should be made to distribute meeting notices and information about the plan to the entire community.

Project Steering Committee

The consultant team will work closely with a Steering Committee throughout the duration of the project. This small committee will be comprised of North Charleston's Planning Commission. The Steering Committee may decide that a subcommittee of key city staff and council members will be a valuable asset to provide additional input and/or guidance. The major administrative tasks of this committee are: to review and provide comments on consultant work products, recommend members for other supporting committees, provide guidance for addressing political issues, and promote the planning process to the citizens of the city. The committee will meet monthly with the consultants during the project process as noted in the schedule included at the end of this document.

Citizen Advisory Panel and Technical Advisory Group

A Citizen Advisory Panel and Technical Advisory Group will be formed to provide project leadership and guide the planning process. These groups are intended to be working groups, with assistance provided by City staff. The major tasks of the committees are to analyze, prioritize and balance community issues, as well as helping to inform the public of upcoming meetings. The committees will react to concepts and draft documents from the consultant, assist in developing the future land use plans for the city, act as sounding board(s) for the consultant, and propose balanced positions to resolve conflicting points of view.

The Citizen Advisory Panel should include neighborhood representatives, such as homeowners' association and other community-based leaders. It would be appropriate to use the neighborhood advisory group that is already in place in North Charleston to function as the Advisory Panel. Meetings with this group should be scheduled in conjunction with the Public Kickoff Meeting (described later in this document), with the possibility of additional meetings throughout the course of comprehensive plan update.

A Technical Advisory Group should be formed, representing the business community, developers, faith-based groups, and other civic organizations in North Charleston. Like the Citizens' Panel, the Technical Advisory Group will provide additional points of view to the planning process. Meetings with this group should be coordinated in conjunction with the Citizens' Panel.

Members of these groups will be listed in this section after they are formed for inclusion in the draft and final documents of the Comprehensive Plan Update.

IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATION TECHNIQUES

The public participation plan for the North Charleston Comprehensive Plan incorporates several methods of public engagement to ensure that the final goals and implementation strategies of the plan are derived from local perspectives. A brief description of the engagement techniques recommended by the consultant team is provided in the following section. It is anticipated that these recommendations will be discussed with the Steering Committee and a mutually agreed upon menu of participation methods will result.

Public Presentation / Kick-off Meeting

A Public presentation and kick-off meeting will be held to introduce the planning process to the public and present the findings of the Community Assessment and Community Participation Plan; and also to gather input regarding the issues and opportunities facing North Charleston residential and business communities. It is expected that this meeting will be held at City Hall on Tuesday, May 29th, with the exact time to be determined. This meeting will include:

- Overview of the Comprehensive Planning Process
- Presentation of key points from the Assessment Report
- Review of preliminary list of Opportunities and Challenges
- Review of preliminary identified Character Areas
- Presentation of Community Participation Program

Public Workshops

The consultant will hold a total of twelve (12) public workshops – three types of workshops (community visioning, land use scenarios, and plan recommendations), each at four different locations throughout the city. These will be held on four (4) consecutive days in June, July, and August 2007. The four established planning areas from the 1996 Comprehensive Plan could serve as a logical division for the separate public workshop series.

Each public workshop meeting will discuss issues related to their quarter of the city, and the city as a whole. Additionally, break-out sessions into 2 or 3 separate groups (based on location) will take place to focus in on smaller areas or groups of neighborhoods – with each group discussion being led by a project team member. This will ensure that issues and opportunities are addressed at the neighborhood level.

With each of the three sessions of public workshops being conducted at four separate locations, combined with smaller subgroup participation during the workshops, the opportunity for the residents and workers of North Charleston to participate in the planning of their city's future will be provided at a tangible, community level.

Community Visioning Workshops (4)

Community visioning meetings will be held to allow the city's communities to articulate their opinions and concerns about the future. The meetings will include facilitated activities that are undertaken specifically to determine:

- □ The perceived strengths and weaknesses of the quality of life in the city
- ☐ The opportunities and threats that will confront the quality of life in the North community over the next twenty years
- ☐ The quality of life that the workshop participants envision for their community twenty years from now
- ☐ The factors of change and big decisions that will be required to move the community from where it is today to where the workshop participants want it to go

The consultant will conduct the four (4) visioning meetings in June 2007 on consecutive days. Exact dates, times, and locations will be coordinated with planning staff and the steering committee with enough advance notice to properly advertise the sessions and reserve the meeting spaces. Early afternoon start times may be the best to accommodate those that work in the city before commuting back home to other areas of the region.

Land Use Scenario Workshops (4)

At the land use scenario workshops, goals and a summary of the existing conditions and trends affecting the community will be presented along with preliminary future development scenario(s) for the city. The consultant team and appropriate members of the Steering Committee, who may be present, will answer questions posed by workshop participants. The attendees will get an opportunity to participate in a design charette to create alternatives or revisions to the preliminary scenarios. These charettes will give citizens the chance to work with different land use, transportation and design scenarios to identify development patterns that will fulfill the community's stated vision for the future.

These four (4) sessions will be held on consecutive days in July 2007.

Plan Recommendations Workshops (4)

Once the Comprehensive Plan has been entirely drafted, the consultant team will present to the public a summary of the document, its selected planning recommendations, and implementation strategies. These meetings will ensure that all development and land use issues have been addressed, and that input from the public meetings is reflected adequately in the draft plan.

These four (4) sessions will be held in September 2007, so that input from these sessions can be incorporated into a final draft before the plan adoption process begins in October.

Optional Additional Meetings

During the weeks when the project team is in town holding Public Workshops, there may be additional opportunities to meet with neighborhood leaders to discuss issues specific to their areas. Given the large population and land area of North Charleston, it is infeasible to hold meetings for individual neighborhoods, or even small clusters of neighborhoods. Therefore if some of these neighborhood clusters feel the need for additional input, the planning team will make efforts to accommodate those needs.

Public Hearings for Plan Transmittal

As required by state ordinance, the governing body must hold a public hearing before adopting the recommended plan. Publication of the time and place of the hearing must be published at least 30 days prior to the hearing. Formal public hearings will be held in conjunction with the North Charleston City Council to submit the document to the adopting body and allow for formal public comments.

Outreach Efforts

It is anticipated that a wide variety of techniques will be used to disseminate information about the North Charleston Comprehensive Plan Update to project participants and the citizens of North Charleston.

Internet Postings

Websites are a powerful tool for getting planning information out to the community. If possible, the community's website, <u>northcharleston.org</u> will be used to display information about the Comprehensive Plan. The website may include information about the planning process, meeting notices, press releases, contact information and links to email any questions or concerns to appropriate consultants or local project managers. The website may also provide a place to post draft plan documents for public review made available for download in PDF file format.

Surveys and Questionnaires

Surveys or questionnaires may also be employed in the planning process as a means of soliciting feedback from the silent majority and traditionally overlooked groups (minorities, elderly, disabled) who may be reluctant or unable to speak up in open public forums.

Information Brochures

The consultant team will prepare brochures and/or fact sheets in simple, straightforward terms to explain the Comprehensive Planning process. The brochures will provide answers to frequently asked questions about what the plan is meant to accomplish. Brochures will be made available to the city to copy and distribute as they feel appropriate. Possible distribution methods include at public buildings, through the school systems, and through civic organizations.

Online Workbooks

In conjunction with the Public Workshops, the consultant project team will develop workbooks in PowerPoint format, which will be made available online at the city's website. These workbooks

will provide information about the workshops, educate citizens about the planning process, and act as a guidebook to elicit the desired types of public input that the Workshops will aim to receive. These workbooks could be used prior to the Workshops, to help citizens think about what will be discussed – or to serve in its place for those who are unable to attend them.

Cable Television

It has been brought to the attention of the consultant that North Charleston's city council meetings are broadcast on a local cable network. This cable service will be used to record and broadcast the public kickoff meeting. Cable broadcast may also be a possibility for some of the Public Workshops, although it will probably not be feasible for all twelve meetings. This service will provide an opportunity to inform a larger audience, as well as document the meetings for later review. It will also help advertise the Comprehensive Plan, an may produce more citizen participation as a result.

Standard Procedures

Public meetings will be held in locations in the city that are conducive to encourage meaningful community input. In addition to use of government facilities, local cultural facilities and public schools will be used for public meetings when possible. City hall facilities should serve as an appropriate location for the kickoff meeting, but visioning workshops will require additional locations, in locations that are reasonably central to the focus area of the meeting. The planning team will consult with the Steering Committee and Citizen Advisory Panels in order to organize and schedule all public meetings and disseminate meeting notification to the widest audience possible.

Media Relations

If the media approaches a member of the consultant team and requests an interview or has questions about the plan, the consultant will take the name of the media representative, publication they represent, when the article, radio or TV spot will run and what was talked about. This information will be passed along to the appropriate city project managers in a timely manner.

North Charleston Community Visioning Survey

Results from Online and Handout surveys (Sept. 7, 2007)

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

North Charleston should encourage redevelopment and infill opportunities rather than the development of new land

| man me development of new tana | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 64.22% | 70 |
| Agree | 26.61% | 29 |
| Neutral | 4.59% | 5 |
| Disagree | 3.67% | 4 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.92% | 1 |
| ansv | vered question | 109 |
| ski | pped question | 2 |

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 12.04% | 13 |
| Agree | 38.89% | 42 |
| Neutral | 18.52% | 20 |
| Disagree | 25.00% | 27 |
| Strongly Disagree | 5.56% | 6 |
| ansv | vered question | 108 |
| ski | pped question | 3 |

| The overall | quality of | f lifa in | North Charleston | is acod |
|-------------|------------|-----------|------------------|----------|
| rne overali | auality of | r iire in | North Charleston | is acoa. |

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 8.26% | 9 |
| Agree | 42.20% | 46 |
| Neutral | 21.10% | 23 |
| Disagree | 26.61% | 29 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.83% | 2 |
| ansv | vered question | 109 |
| ski | pped question | 2 |

| North Charleston should pursue slower growth. | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 18.35% | 20 |
| Agree | 35.78% | 39 |
| Neutral | 11.93% | 13 |
| Disagree | 29.36% | 32 |
| Strongly Disagree | 4.59% | 5 |
| answered question | | 109 |
| ski | pped question | 2 |

New developments occurring in and around North Charleston (such as Noisette, Magnolia, Horizon Village, Oak Terrace Preserve) are exciting, and will help revitalize the community.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 40.74% | 44 |
| Agree | 29.63% | 32 |
| Neutral | 15.74% | 17 |
| Disagree | 8.33% | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree | 5.56% | 6 |
| answ | vered question | 108 |
| ski | pped question | 3 |

HOUSING

North Charleston should ensure an adequate supply of workforce housing in order to allow residents to affordably live close to their place of employment.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 40.20% | 41 |
| Agree | 33.33% | 34 |
| Neutral | 11.76% | 12 |
| Disagree | 13.73% | 14 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.98% | 1 |
| ansv | vered question | 102 |
| ski | pped question | 9 |



| Infill development should be compatible with historic neighborhoods. | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 46.08% | 47 |
| Agree | 44.12% | 45 |
| Neutral | 5.88% | 6 |
| Disagree | 2.94% | 3 |
| Strongly Agree | 0.98% | 1 |
| answered question | | 102 |
| skipped question | | |

Additional senior housing is needed to accommodate the rising population of retirement-aged residents.

| 1 1 1 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 27.18% | 28 |
| Agree | 47.57% | 49 |
| Neutral | 18.45% | 19 |
| Disagree | 6.80% | 7 |
| Strongly Agree | 0.00% | 0 |
| answ | vered question | 103 |
| ski | pped question | 8 |

North Charleston needs more mixed-income housing (developments that integrate affordable housing and market-rate housing).

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 25.49% | 26 |
| Agree | 31.37% | 32 |
| Neutral | 21.57% | 22 |
| Disagree | 17.65% | 18 |
| Strongly Agree | 3.92% | 4 |
| answ | vered question | 102 |
| ski | pped question | 9 |

| There is room for growth in the city's 'high-end' housing market. | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 16.67% | 17 |
| Agree | 53.92% | 55 |
| Neutral | 16.67% | 17 |
| Disagree | 10.78% | 11 |
| Strongly Agree | 1.96% | 2 |
| answered question | | 102 |
| skipped guestion | | 9 |



A balanced mix of housing types should be provided in North Charleston, including single-family, duplexes, townhomes, apartments, condos, and manufactured housing.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 22.77% | 23 |
| Agree | 45.54% | 46 |
| Neutral | 13.86% | 14 |
| Disagree | 11.88% | 12 |
| Strongly Agree | 5.94% | 6 |
| answered question | | 101 |
| skipped question | | 10 |

| There are too many mobile homes and mobile home parks in North Charleston. | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 44.12% | 45 |
| Agree | 33.33% | 34 |
| Neutral | 16.67% | 17 |
| Disagree | 2.94% | 3 |
| Strongly Agree | 2.94% | 3 |
| answered question | | 102 |
| skipped question | | 9 |

ECONOMY

North Charleston's historic and cultural resources need to be promoted in order to boost tourism and the local economy.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 45.54% | 46 |
| Agree | 34.65% | 35 |
| Neutral | 8.91% | 9 |
| Disagree | 8.91% | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.98% | 2 |
| answered question | | 101 |
| skipped question | | 10 |



North Charleston needs more grocery stores, restaurants, and other retail services.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 39.60% | 40 |
| Agree | 28.71% | 29 |
| Neutral | 15.84% | 16 |
| Disagree | 12.87% | 13 |
| Strongly Disagree | 2.97% | 3 |
| answered question | | 101 |
| skipped question | | 10 |

The city should encourage additional 'big-box' retailers (Home Depot, Wal-Mart, Target, etc.).

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 2.97% | 3 |
| Agree | 12.87% | 13 |
| Neutral | 24.75% | 25 |
| Disagree | 38.61% | 39 |
| Strongly Disagree | 20.79% | 21 |
| answered question | | 101 |
| skipped question | | 10 |

North Charleston should explore additional opportunities for innovative funding solutions for new infrastructure and development, such as Tax Increment Finance Districts (TIFs). TIFs can be used to fund new infrastructure improvements by issuing bonds based on future increases in surrounding property values.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 30.61% | 30 |
| Agree | 38.78% | 38 |
| Neutral | 19.39% | 19 |
| Disagree | 9.18% | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree | 2.04% | 2 |
| answei | red question | 98 |
| skipp | ed question | 13 |



The city should implement workforce training programs to ensure that residents have job skills that match existing business and growing industries.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 42.00% | 42 |
| Agree | 33.00% | 33 |
| Neutral | 15.00% | 15 |
| Disagree | 8.00% | 8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 2.00% | 2 |
| answered question | | 100 |
| skipped question | | 11 |

The city should implement workforce training programs to ensure that residents have job skills that match existing business and growing industries.

| answer options Strongly Agree | Response Percent 42.00% | Response Count 42 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Agree | 33.00% | 33 |
| Neutral | 15.00% | 15 |
| Disagree | 8.00% | 8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 2.00% | 2 |
| answered question | | 100 |
| skipped question | | 11 |

The city cannot continue to attract growing industries with good-paying jobs to relocate to North Charleston without improvements to the schools.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 82.18% | 83 |
| Agree | 12.87% | 13 |
| Neutral | 3.96% | 4 |
| Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.99% | 1 |
| answered question | | 101 |
| skipped question | | 10 |

The city cannot continue to attract growing industries with good-paying jobs to relocate to North Charleston without improvements to its roads and traffic flows.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 59.00% | 59 |
| Agree | 27.00% | 27 |
| Neutral | 12.00% | 12 |
| Disagree | 1.00% | 1 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.00% | 1 |
| answered question | | 100 |
| skipped question | | 11 |



The proposed seaport and port service road are crucial to North Charleston's and the region's future economies.

| una ma ragioni a rationa de ambinitati | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 24.00% | 24 |
| Agree | 29.00% | 29 |
| Neutral | 15.00% | 15 |
| Disagree | 12.00% | 12 |
| Strongly Disagree | 20.00% | 20 |
| answered question | | 100 |
| skipped guestion | | 11 |

<u>TRANSPORTATION</u>

North Charleston should pursue more opportunities to provide public transportation.

| in an open anoth | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 57.00% | 57 |
| Agree | 27.00% | 27 |
| Neutral | 11.00% | 11 |
| Disagree | 5.00% | 5 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| ansv | vered question | 100 |
| ski | pped question | 11_ |

I would support the city providing incentives for residents to live within a short distance of their place of employment.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 39.00% | 39 |
| Agree | 27.00% | 27 |
| Neutral | 16.00% | 16 |
| Disagree | 11.00% | 11 |
| Strongly Disagree | 7.00% | 7 |
| answered question | | 100 |
| ski | pped question | 11 |



North Charleston should invest in providing more sidewalks throughout the city.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 62.38% | 63 |
| Agree | 25.74% | 26 |
| Neutral | 2.97% | 3 |
| Disagree | 7.92% | 8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.99% | 1 |
| ansv | vered question | 101 |
| ski | pped question | 10 |

North Charleston should invest in providing bicycle and multi-use trails.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 61.39% | 62 |
| Agree | 26.73% | 27 |
| Neutral | 3.96% | 4 |
| Disagree | 4.95% | 5 |
| Strongly Disagree | 2.97% | 3 |
| ansv | vered question | 101 |
| ski | pped question | 10 |

The city should support proposed regional transit opportunities, such as commuter rail.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 61.00% | 61 |
| Agree | 22.00% | 22 |
| Neutral | 5.00% | 5 |
| Disagree | 7.00% | 7 |
| Strongly Disagree | 5.00% | 5 |
| answ | vered question | 100 |
| ski | pped question | 11 |

Interstate 26 should be widened to accommodate growing traffic volumes.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 27.55% | 27 |
| Agree | 21.43% | 21 |
| Neutral | 15.31% | 15 |
| Disagree | 18.37% | 18 |
| Strongly Disagree | 17.35% | 17 |
| ansv | vered question | 98 |
| ski | pped question | 13 |



The most intensive developments should occur along major roads that can accommodate additional traffic.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 25.25% | 25 |
| Agree | 39.39% | 39 |
| Neutral | 13.13% | 13 |
| Disagree | 13.13% | 13 |
| Strongly Disagree | 9.09% | 9 |
| ansv | vered question | 99 |
| ski | pped auestion | 12 |

Traffic-calming devices, such as speed humps, are needed in residential areas in order to increase safety.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 28.71% | 29 |
| Agree | 28.71% | 29 |
| Neutral | 15.84% | 16 |
| Disagree | 18.81% | 19 |
| Strongly Disagree | 7.92% | 8 |
| ansv | wered question | 101 |
| sk | ipped question | 10 |

| North Charleston should promote carpooling and/or rideshare programs. | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 41.00% | 41 |
| Agree | 43.00% | 43 |
| Neutral | 12.00% | 12 |
| Disagree | 3.00% | 3 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.00% | 1 |
| answered question 10 | | 100 |
| skipped question 1 | | 11 |

Carpool or High-Occupancy (HOV) lanes should be provided on I-26 and I-526 Response answer options Percent **Response Count** 44.55% **Strongly Agree** 45 22 Agree 21.78% Neutral 14.85% 15 Disagree 14.85% 15 Strongly Disagree 3.96% 4 answered question 101 skipped question 10



NATURAL RESOURCES

Water resources, such as river corridors, flood plains, and wetlands should be protected from development.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 80.81% | 80 |
| Agree | 15.15% | 15 |
| Neutral | 3.03% | 3 |
| Disagree | 1.01% | 1 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| ansv | vered question | 99 |
| ski | pped question | 12 |

North Charleston should act to preserve as much undeveloped land as possible.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 62.89% | 61 |
| Agree | 23.71% | 23 |
| Neutral | 9.28% | 9 |
| Disagree | 4.12% | 4 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| ansv | vered question | 97 |
| ski | pped question | 14 |

More opportunities should be created for the public to enjoy the city's waterfront areas.

| answer options Strongly Agree | Response Percent 67.68% | Response Count 67 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Agree | 26.26% | 26 |
| Neutral | 5.05% | 5 |
| Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.01% | 1 |
| answ | vered question | 99 |
| ski | pped question | 12 |

Scenic views and natural areas in North Charleston are disappearing.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 59.60% | 59 |
| Agree | 25.25% | 25 |
| Neutral | 8.08% | 8 |
| Disagree | 7.07% | 7 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| answered question | | 99 |
| skipped guestion | | 12 |



Increased development densities should be allowed in some areas to allow and offset conservation of land in other areas.

| answer options Strongly Agree | Response Percent 34.69% | Response Count |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Agree | 34.69% | 34 |
| Neutral | 17.35% | 17 |
| Disagree | 6.12% | 6 |
| Strongly Disagree | 7.14% | 7 |
| ansv | vered question | 98 |
| ski | pped question | 13 |

CULTURAL RESOURCES

North Charleston should do more to promote and preserve its history. Response **Response Count** answer options Percent **Strongly Agree** 49.48% 48 39.18% 38 Agree 7 Neutral 7.22% 3 3.09% Disagree 1.03% Strongly Disagree 97 answered question skipped question 14

The city should be more active in identifying historic districts, neighborhoods and sites; and should seek to designate properties for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 50.52% | 49 |
| Agree | 28.87% | 28 |
| Neutral | 16.49% | 16 |
| Disagree | 1.03% | 1 |
| Strongly Disagree | 3.09% | 3 |
| answered question | | 97 |
| skipped question | | 14 |



| The city needs better design standards for public buildings and large developments. | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 62.24% | 61 |
| Agree | 25.51% | 25 |
| Neutral | 9.18% | 9 |
| Disagree | 2.04% | 2 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.02% | 1 |
| answered question | | 98 |
| sk | ipped question | 13 |

Revised zoning & subdivision standards are needed in historic areas in order to preserve their character.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 47.96% | 47 |
| Agree | 32.65% | 32 |
| Neutral | 15.31% | 15 |
| Disagree | 3.06% | 3 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.02% | 1 |
| answered question | | 98 |
| ski | pped question | 13 |

COMMUNITY SERVICES & FACILITIES

Development should be coordinated with public service capacities (schools, public safety, water & sewer, etc.), so that capacities are not exceeded.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 76.53% | <i>75</i> |
| Agree | 23.47% | 23 |
| Neutral | 0.00% | 0 |
| Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| answered question | | 98 |
| ski | pped question | 13 |



Public service providers should have input on major zoning and development decisions that will impact the level of service they provide.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | <i>55.67%</i> | 54 |
| Agree | 30.93% | 30 |
| Neutral | 10.31% | 10 |
| Disagree | 1.03% | 1 |
| Strongly Disagree | 2.06% | 2 |
| answered question | | 97 |
| ski | pped question | 14 |

| North Charleston needs more | a narks and | l recreational facilities |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Nonn Chanesion needs more | e paiks and | recreational facilities. |

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 55.10% | 54 |
| Agree | 26.53% | 26 |
| Neutral | 12.24% | 12 |
| Disagree | 5.10% | 5 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.02% | 1 |
| answered question | | 98 |
| ski | pped question | 13 |

New growth should have to help pay for its impact of infrastructure costs.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 65.98% | 64 |
| Agree | 23.71% | 23 |
| Neutral | 4.12% | 4 |
| Disagree | 4.12% | 4 |
| Strongly Disagree | 2.06% | 2 |
| answered question | | 97 |
| ski | pped question | 14 |

With the exception of a few bad areas, North Charleston is a safe community to live and work in.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 13.27% | 13 |
| Agree | 48.98% | 48 |
| Neutral | 13.27% | 13 |
| Disagree | 19.39% | 19 |
| Strongly Disagree | 5.10% | 5 |
| answered question | | 98 |
| skipped question | | 13 |



| Additional investment is needed in the following services: | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Fire | 33.33% | 31 |
| Police | 68.82% | 64 |
| EMS/911 | 29.03% | 27 |
| Water | 24.73% | 23 |
| Sewer | 23.66% | 22 |
| Schools | 86.02% | 80 |
| Parks & Rec./Cultural Arts | 61.29% | 57 |
| Public Works | 32.26% | 30 |
| Code Enforcement | 58.06% | 54 |
| Other (please specify) | 12.90% | 12 |
| | answered question | 93 |
| | skipped auestion | 18 |

| Other (please specify) | |
|---|-------------|
| Mass transit car/van pooling | |
| Housing Services | |
| Senior Center North Area | |
| Cultural Arts; Small Business Administratio | n |
| Planning, GIS | |
| Minority Business Programs | |
| Domestic Violence, and the youths in ou | r community |
| Roads, streets | |
| Drainage | |
| Senior Facilities | |

LAND USE

North Charleston should take action to acquire and redevelop vacant properties and tax delinquent properties before developing new land.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 73.47% | 72 |
| Agree | 18.37% | 18 |
| Neutral | 6.12% | 6 |
| Disagree | 1.02% | 1 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.02% | 1 |
| answered question | | 98 |
| ski | pped question | 13 |



Commercial development should be concentrated in walkable retail villages, rather than in auto-oriented strip shopping centers.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 64.95% | 63 |
| Agree | 18.56% | 18 |
| Neutral | 10.31% | 10 |
| Disagree | 4.12% | 4 |
| Strongly Disagree | 2.06% | 2 |
| answered question | | 97 |
| ski | pped question | 14 |

The city should ensure that new development in commercial corridors is designed to be visually pleasing and economically viable.

| answer options Strongly Agree | Response Percent 71.13% | Response Count |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Agree | 24.74% | 24 |
| Neutral | 3.09% | 3 |
| Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.03% | 1 |
| answered question | | 97 |
| ski | pped question | 14 |

North Charleston should encourage more mixed-use developments (Mixed-use development combines residential areas with retail, office or other uses).

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 49.48% | 48 |
| Agree | 26.80% | 26 |
| Neutral | 11.34% | 11 |
| Disagree | 10.31% | 10 |
| Strongly Disagree | 2.06% | 2 |
| answered question | | 97 |
| skipped question | | 14 |



It would be good to have more small-scale stores or restaurants in neighborhoods or within walking distance of residences.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 64.21% | 61 |
| Agree | 25.26% | 24 |
| Neutral | 5.26% | 5 |
| Disagree | 5.26% | 5 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| answered question | | 95 |
| ski | pped question | 16 |

North Charleston should allow higher-density developments near major transit stops or activity centers.

| · · | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Strongly Agree | 38.95% | 37 |
| Agree | 32.63% | 31 |
| Neutral | 20.00% | 19 |
| Disagree | 7.37% | 7 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.05% | 1 |
| answered question | | 95 |
| ski | pped question | 16 |

North Charleston should provide more housing near employment centers to reduce commute times.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 38.54% | 37 |
| Agree | 33.33% | 32 |
| Neutral | 16.67% | 16 |
| Disagree | 8.33% | 8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 3.12% | 3 |
| answered question | | 96 |
| ski | pped question | 15 |

The city's highest land use priority should be protecting existing neighborhoods.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 45.83% | 44 |
| Agree | 31.25% | 30 |
| Neutral | 12.50% | 12 |
| Disagree | 9.38% | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1.04% | 1 |
| answered question | | 96 |
| ski | pped question | 15 |



Conservation developments, which cluster housing in order to preserve common greenspace or natural open space in another portion of the development, should be utilized in North Charleston.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 42.55% | 40 |
| Agree | 32.98% | 31 |
| Neutral | 13.83% | 13 |
| Disagree | 6.38% | 6 |
| Strongly Disagree | 4.26% | 4 |
| answered question | | 94 |
| ski | pped question | 17 |

Additional industrial and commercial parks are needed to accommodate growing industries.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 10.42% | 10 |
| Agree | 30.21% | 29 |
| Neutral | 29.17% | 28 |
| Disagree | 23.96% | 23 |
| Strongly Disagree | 6.25% | 6 |
| answered question | | 96 |
| ski | pped question | 15 |

The city should discourage incompatible development in areas with potential noise or accident impacts from Charleston Air Force Base.

| answer options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree | 40.62% | 39 |
| Agree | 32.29% | 31 |
| Neutral | 18.75% | 18 |
| Disagree | 8.33% | 8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 0.00% | 0 |
| answered question | | 96 |
| | skipped question | 15 |

^{*}Thank you to everyone that has participated in this survey – your input is important to us!

