RICHLAND COUNTY REGULAR SESSION

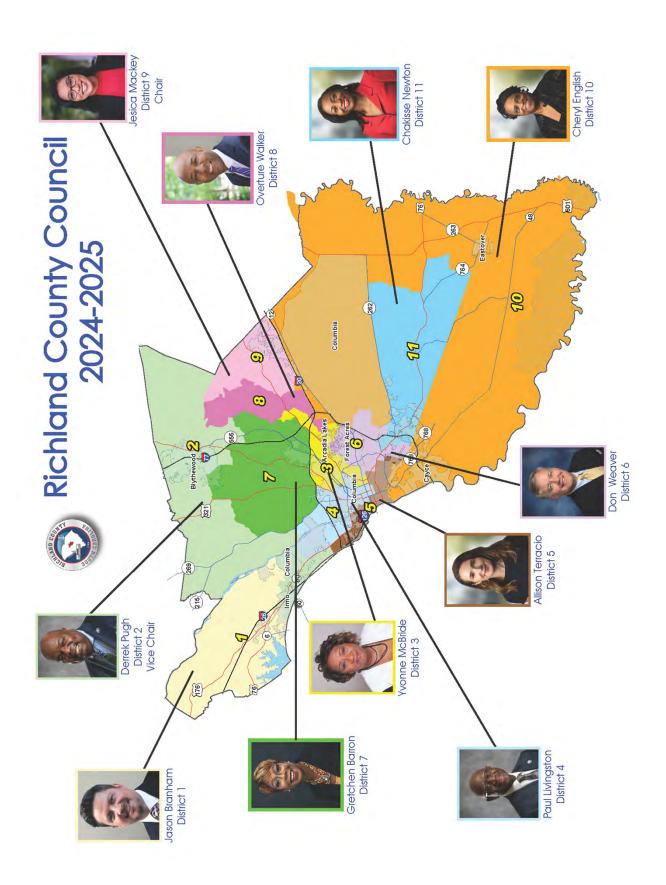
AGENDA



TUESDAY APRIL 16, 2024

6:00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS





Richland County Regular Session

AGENDA

April 16, 2024 - 6:00 PM Council Chambers 2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable Jesica Mackey, Chair Richland County Council

a. ROLL CALL

2. INVOCATION

Senior Pastor Don Brock, Gateway Baptist Church

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Jason Branham

4. RATIFICATION OF RESOLUTION

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

a. Resolution Recognizing the University of South Carolina's 2024 NCAA Women's Basketball National Championship

5. PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS

a. A Proclamation Recognizing April 14-20, 2024, as Animal Care and Control Appreciation Week

The Honorable Don Weaver The Honorable Gretchen Barron The Honorable Chakisse Newton

b. A Proclamation Recognizing Lower Richland High School JROTC Drill Team on their 2024 State Championship The Honorable Chakisse Newton

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

a. Special Called: April 9, 2024 [PAGES 8-15]

7. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

8. REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

Patrick Wright, County Attorney

After Council returns to open session, council may take action on any item, including any subsection of any section, listed on an executive

session agenda or discussed in an executive session during a properly noticed meeting.

9. CITIZEN'S INPUT

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

a. For Items on the Agenda Not Requiring a Public Hearing

10. CITIZEN'S INPUT

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

a. Must Pertain to Richland County Matters Not on the Agenda (Items for which a public hearing is required or a public hearing has been scheduled cannot be addressed at this time.)

11. REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

[PAGES 16-17]

Leonardo Brown, County Administrator

- **a.** Updates for Consideration:
 - 1. General Updates
 - 2. Strategic Planning Dashboard
- **b.** Richland Two Superintendent Presentation

12. REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL

Anette Kirylo, Clerk of Council

13. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

a. Transportation Penny Advisory Committee Appointment

14. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

a. An Ordinance authorizing the easements to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. to construct, extend, replace, relocate, perpetually maintain and operate an overhead or underground electric line or lines; located on property owned by Richland County at 1364 Northpoint Blvd.; and as is more fully described herein [SECOND READING] [PAGES 18-24]

15. SECOND READING ITEMS

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

a. An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 18, Offenses; by adding Section 18-10, so as to prohibit the desecration of a gravesite,

cemetery, or burial ground and to provide penalties [SECOND READING] [PAGES 25-27]

 An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, Animals and Fowl [PAGES 28-81]

16. REPORT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Honorable Paul Livingston

- a. Authorizing the expansion of the boundaries of the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park jointly developed with Fairfield County to include certain property located in Richland County; the execution and delivery of a public infrastructure credit agreement to provide for public infrastructure credits to Silver Hills Huger LLC; and other related matters [FIRST READING] [PAGES 82-104]
- **b.** Committing to negotiate a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes agreement between Richland County and Project Charge; identifying the project; and other matters related thereto **[PAGES 105-106]**
- c. Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Project Charge to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; authorizing certain infrastructure credits; and other related matters [FIRST READING] [PAGES 107-140]

17. REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS COMMITTEE

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

a. Fiscal Year 25 Grant Application Requests [PAGES 141-143]

18. OTHER ITEMS

The Honorable Jesica Mackey

- a. Award of Construction Atlas Road Widening [PAGES 144-151]
- **b.** FY24 District 2 Hospitality Tax Allocations [PAGES 152-153]
 - 1. Black Pages International \$5,000
- c. FY24 District 8 Hospitality Tax Allocations [PAGES 154-155]
 - 1. Delta House, Incorporated \$4,500
- **d.** FY24 District 9 Hospitality Tax Allocations [PAGES 156-157]
 - 1. Delta House, Incorporated \$2,500

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Patrick Wright, County Attorney

After Council returns to open session, council may take action on any item, including any subsection of any section, listed on an executive session agenda or discussed in an executive session during a properly noticed meeting.

20. MOTION PERIOD

21. ADJOURNMENT

The Honorable Jesica Mackey



Special Accommodations and Interpreter Services Citizens may be present during any of the County's meetings. If requested, the agenda and backup materials will be made available in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), as amended and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Any person who requires a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting may request such modification, accommodation, aid or service by contacting the Clerk of Council's office either in person at 2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC, by telephone at (803) 576-2061, or TDD at 803-576-2045 no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.



Richland County Council Special Called MINUTES

April 9, 2024 – 6:00 PM Council Chambers

2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jesica Mackey, Chair; Derrek Pugh, Vice-Chair; Jason Branham, Yvonne McBride, Paul Livingston, Allison Terracio (arrived at 6:14pm), Don Weaver, Gretchen Barron, Overture Walker, Cheryl English, and Chakisse Newton

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Onley, Aric Jensen, Leonardo Brown, Anette Kirylo, Lori Thomas, Stacey Hamm, Susan O'Cain, Dale Welch, Ashiya Myers, Kyle Holsclaw, Angela Weathersby, Andrew Haworth, Tamar Black, Patrick Wright, Michael Maloney, Ashley Fullerton, Jeff Ruble, Sandra Haynes, John Thompson, Geo Price, Zach Cavanaugh, Jackie Hancock, John McKenzie, Quinton Epps, Tish Gonzales, Jennifer Wladischkin, and Shirani Fuller

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER** Chairwoman Jesica Mackey called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.
- 2. INVOCATION Senior Pastor Karl McCallister, Faith Presbyterian Church, led the Invocation.
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Honorable Jason Branham.

4. PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

Ms. Barron moved to adopt the resolution recognizing "Black Maternal Health Week," seconded by Ms. English.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton Absent: Terracio

The vote in favor was unanimous.

a. <u>A Resolution Recognizing Black Maternal Health Week</u> – Ms. Mackey read the resolution into the record.

5. PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS

- a. Recognizing April 27, 2024, as Richland County Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Day Ms. Mackey read the proclamation into the record.
- b. Recognizing Ridge View High School Boys Basketball Team as AAA State Champions Mr. Walker read the proclamation into the record and recognized the Coaches and players for this outstanding accomplishment.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Session: March 19, 2024 – Mr. Livingston moved to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Ms. English.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Ms. Barron congratulated the USC Women's Basketball Team on their national championship win.

7. ADOPTION OF AGENDA -

Mr. Branham requested to remove Item 15(e): "An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 18, Offenses; by adding Section 18-10, so as to prohibit the desecration of a gravesite, cemetery, or burial ground and to provide penalties" from the Consent Agenda.

The County Administrator, Leonardo Brown, requested Item 15(g): "Department of Public Works – Engineering – Springwood Lakes High Hazard Potential Dam Rehabilitation," be removed from the agenda.

Mr. Walker moved to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Weaver

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous to adopt the agenda as amended.

- 8. **REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION (Pursuant to SC Code 30-4-70)** Mr. Patrick Wright, County Attorney, indicated the following items qualify for Executive Session.
 - a. Department of Public Works Engineering Springwood Lake High Hazard Potential Dam Rehabilitation
 - b. Richland County Workforce Training Center
 - c. <u>Property Inquiry 1221 Gregg Street, Columbia, SC 29201, TMS # R11406-16-16 and TMS # R11406-16-17 [Pursuant to SC Code of Laws, Sec. 30-4-70(a)(2) and (5)]</u>

Mr. Walker moved to go into Executive Session, seconded by Ms. English.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton The vote in favor was unanimous.

Council went into Executive Session at approximately 6:38 PM and came out at approximately 7:13 PM

Mr. Walker moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Ms. English.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton The vote in favor was unanimous.

- d. Ms. Mackey indicated the council entered into an executive session to receive legal advice regarding the Richland County Workforce Training Center, no action was taken in Executive Session.
 - a. <u>Richland County Workforce Training Center</u> Ms. English moved to allow the County Administrator to write a letter of support for the Richland County Workforce Training Center, seconded by Mr. Livingston.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. English moved to reconsider this item, seconded by Ms. Newton.

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

9. CITIZENS' INPUT

a. For Items on the Agenda Not Requiring a Public Hearing – No one signed up to speak.

10. CITIZENS' INPUT

a. <u>Must Pertain to Richland County Matters Not on the Agenda (Items for which a public hearing is required or a public hearing has been scheduled cannot be addressed at this time.)</u> – No one signed up to speak.

11. REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- a. Updates for Consideration
 - 1. <u>Property Inquiry 1221 Gregg Street, Columbia, SC 29201, TMS # R11406-16-16 and TMS # R11406-16-17</u> This item was taken up in Executive Session.

- Administrator's Nomination: Items in this section require action that may prejudice the County's interest in a discernable way (i.e., time-sensitive, exigent, or of immediate importance)
 - County Administrator McEntire Tate Land Purchase Colie-Martin Tract Mr. Brown stated McEntire Joint National Guard Base has requested the purchase of property identified by tax map number R30400-01-19. This is a part of their airfield clear zone program. The land value that could be removed from the tax rolls is \$7,100. Specifically, airfield Clear Zones begin at the end of the runway for airfields operated by the Air Force and are rectangles that run along the extended centerline of the runway. Installations previously granted permission for reduced-size Clear Zones for their Class B runways will now have to reflect the standard 3,000-ft. by 3,000-ft. Clear Zones in all Air Installations. The land purchase would bring them into compliance with their requirements.

Mr. Walker moved to approve this item, seconded by Ms. Newton.

In Fayor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Walker moved to reconsider this item, seconded by Ms. Terracio.

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- Richland County Family Services Center Letters of Support Mr. Brown noted letters of support for the Family Service Center were included in the agenda packet.
- 12. **REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL** No report was given.
- 13. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR** No report was given.

14. OPEN/CLOSE PUBLIC HEARINGS

An Ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances: Chapter 16. Licenses and Miscellaneous Business Regulations; by adding Article VII entitled "Short-Term Rentals" so as to establish certain requirements for properties being used as short-term rentals, to define necessary terms, and to provide <u>penalties</u>

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the ordinance:

- David Bergmann, 560 Regatta Road, Columbia, SC 29212 Wendy Bergmann, 560 Regatta Road, Columbia, SC 29212 Brad Swensen, 7716 Leitner Road, Columbia, SC 29209
- An Ordinance authorizing a quitclaim deed to Bobby J. and Nancy Y. Spivey for unused and unopened right-ofway on Lake Dogwood Circle South No one signed up to speak.
- Authorizing the expansion of the boundaries of the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park jointly developed with Fairfield County to include certain property located in Richland County; the execution and delivery of an infrastructure credit agreement to provide for infrastructure credits to Colite Technologies, LLC; and other related matters - No one signed up to speak.

15. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

An Ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 16, Licenses and Miscellaneous Business Regulations; by adding Article VII entitled "Short-Term Rentals" so as to establish certain requirements for properties being used as short-term rentals, to define necessary terms, and to provide penalties [THIRD READING]

Ms. Barron stated Council members have received a lot of emails regarding this item. She noted she usually does not vote against items that come out of committees she serves on. Still, she is concerned and has some unanswered questions about what the ordinance does to many of these businesses.

Ms. Newton acknowledged that Council members are receiving emails about where people can have short-term rentals. Those decisions are solely housed in the Land Development Code. Nothing that we do tonight affects that. The motion before us tonight allows us to register any existing short-term rentals. If we do not adopt this ordinance, the County has no authority, recordkeeping, or regulations over something already existing.

Mr. Weaver stated he understood the need for regulations but believes we are rushing this. He does not see the urgency and would suggest Council stepping back to address the unanswered questions.

Ms. Newton moved to approve this item, seconded by Ms. Terracio.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: Weaver and Barron.

The vote was in favor.

- b. <u>County Attorney's Office Road Closure Request Cottontown Way</u>
- c. An Ordinance authorizing the easement to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. to construct, extend, replace, relocate, perpetually maintain and operate an overhead or underground electric line or lines; located on property owned by Richland County at 1364 Northpoint Blvd; and as is more fully described herein [FIRST READING]
- d. <u>Community Planning & Development Building Inspections Division Town of Eastover Intergovernmental Agreement</u>
- e. An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 18, Offenses; by adding Section 18-10, so as to prohibit the desecration of a gravesite, cemetery, or burial ground and to provide penalties [FRST READING] – Mr. Walker moved to approve this item, seconded by Mr. Livingston.

Mr. Branham made a substitute motion to amend Section 18-10(d) as follows: "No further ground disturbing activities may commence until the site has undergone inspection by Community Planning and Development Services and a plan to mitigate disturbance of the gravesite has been prepared by the person or company undertaking the ground-disturbing activities. Upon completion of such inspection and acceptance of the prepared plan, the Department may authorize further ground-disturbing activity pursuant to applicable state and local laws." Seconded by Mr. Weaver.

Ms. McBride inquired if Mr. Branham consulted with staff, including Legal, regarding the amendment.

Mr. Branham responded in the affirmative.

Ms. McBride inquired if staff would be responsible for the investigation.

Assistant County Administrator Aric Jensen replied that the Conservation Commission staff would be responsible for the investigations.

Mr. Livingston requested the language change to the ordinance be highlighted for 2nd Reading.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- f. <u>Utilities Greenlake Gravity Sewer Rehabilitation</u>
- g. <u>Department of Public Works Engineering Springwood Lakes High Hazard Potential Dam Rehabilitation</u> This item was removed from the agenda during the Adoption of the Agenda.

Mr. Walker moved to approve Items 15(a) - (d) and (f), seconded by Ms. Newton.

Ms. Barron requested to remove Item 15(a) from the Consent Items.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Newton moved to reconsider Items 15(a) and (f), seconded by Mr. Walker.

In Favor: Barron

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Ms. Newton thanked staff and the Greenlake Community for their hard work on the Greenlake Gravity Sewer.

16. THIRD READING ITEM

a. An Ordinance authorizing a quitclaim deed to Bobby J. and Nancy Y. Spivey for unused and unopened right-ofway on Lake Dogwood Circle South – Ms. Terracio moved to approve this item, seconded by Mr. Walker.

 $In\ Favor:\ Branham,\ Pugh,\ McBride,\ Livingston,\ Terracio,\ Weaver,\ Barron,\ Walker,\ Mackey,\ English,\ and\ Newton$

The vote in favor was unanimous.

b. Authorizing the expansion of the boundaries of the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park jointly developed with Fairfield County to include certain property located in Richland County; the execution and delivery of an infrastructure credit agreement to provide for infrastructure credits to Colite Technologies, LLC; and other related matters – Mr. Walker moved to approve this item, seconded by Mr. Livingston.

Ms. Terracio inquired about the rate of pay will be for the jobs.

Mr. Livingston responded that the average salary would be \$75,000.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Livingston moved to reconsider Items 16(a) and (b), seconded by Ms. Barron.

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

17. FIRST READING

a. Authorizing the imposition of a one percent (1%) Transportation Sales and Use Tax within Richland County pursuant to Section 4-37-30 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended; determining (I) the categories of projects to be funded with the tax, (II) the maximum time for imposition of the tax, and (III) the estimated capital costs of the projects; directing the Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Richland County to conduct a county-wide referendum on the imposition of the tax and the issuance of General Obligation Bonds; prescribing the contents of the ballot questions; and other related matters – Ms. Mackey stated the language in the ordinance is subject to change based on input from the upcoming work sessions and the Transportation Penny Advisory Committee.

Ms. Barron moved to approve this item, seconded by Mr. Livingston.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

18. REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances. Chapter 5, Animals and Fowl – Mr. Walker stated the committee recommended approval of the proposed ordinance. To keep the county current with changes in the community and evolving professional practices, revisions were recommended to the tethering policies to reduce the number of pets injured or abused by improper tethering methods.

Ms. Newton inquired if the animal had to be brought inside if they had exceeded the time allowed for them to be tethered.

Ms. Haynes, the Animal Care Director, replied the animal could remain outside. They just have to meet the requirements established in the ordinance.

Ms. Newton indicated the ordinance states, "No fertile pet shall be redeemed unless one of the exceptions is Section 5-3(a) is met." For example, if it is a licensed hunting dog, or they can demonstrate that the dog is a show dog. She asked if it would be appropriate to add that if the dog is part of a licensed breeding facility, it would not have to be spayed or neutered to redeem the animal.

Ms. Haynes responded they did not consider the commercial pet breeder. She maintained they need to keep their property so that their pet(s) cannot get out or another pet cannot get into them. They have to meet the same requirements as all other citizens.

Ms. Terracio inquired if there would be future opportunities for improvements to the ordinance.

Ms. Haynes stated we could continue to work on it and make improvements, but these recommendations are being brought forward for now.

Mr. Weaver inquired why we would not return the animal to the owner without spaying or neutering it.

Ms. Haynes replied it is the county ordinance and one of the City of Columbia's animal shelter requirements. If the owner can meet the officer before the pet is impounded, it would not necessitate the pet being spayed or neutered.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: Weaver

The vote was in favor.

19. REPORT OF THE RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

a. Notification of Appointments

1. Board of Zoning Appeals – 1 – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommended appointing Mr. Alexander Alderan to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

2. Planning Commission -2 – Ms. Barron indicated the committee had a recommendation for this item; however, incorrect information was disseminated to the Planning Commission. She believes we owe it to those individuals serving on the Planning Commission to have an opportunity to apply. Therefore, she will not be making a recommendation for these vacancies at tonight's meeting.

20. REPORT OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING AD HOC COMMITTEE

a. <u>Affordable Housing Definitions</u> – Ms. Terracio stated the committee recommended the following definition, "Affordable housing is a continuum of equitable, inclusive, and quality rental and homeownership opportunities for people at every income level, which is critical to creating safe, complete, and thriving communities."

Mr. Branham inquired if the intent of the definition is that everyone should be able to afford housing, even if they only make \$1/yr.

Ms. Terracio expressed the definition was worked on at length by the City of Columbia, stakeholders, and individuals invested in affordable housing. She noted that if someone is only earning \$1/yr., they are not likely to spend \$0.33 on housing but have housing in some other way. Individuals at minimum and mid-income levels still have difficulty locating decent, affordable housing. Affordable housing ensures a decent housing supply so the market can bear everyone who needs housing.

In Favor: Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: Branham

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The vote was in favor.

b. <u>Project Scope</u> – Ms. Newton indicated the recommendation was to direct the Administrator to explore opportunities for homeownership/down payment assistance." She wanted to ensure this does not mean the committee's scope excludes other activities promoting affordable housing.

Ms. Terracio responded the committee anticipates staff providing additional options in the future.

c. <u>Affordable Housing Budget</u> – Ms. Terracio stated the committee recommended directing the Administrator to explore future funding options.

Mr. Branham indicated he did not believe the committee took up this item.

Ms. Terracio stated the only funds allocated for affordable housing are the \$4M in the General Fund. We have not explored future funding opportunities but request that the Administrator research the available funding sources.

Items 20(b) and (c) were deferred until the next Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee Report.

21. REPORT OF THE DETENTION CENTER AD HOC COMMITTEE

a. <u>Detention Center Update</u> – Mr. Brown confirmed that 252 locks have been upgraded to the Willow Wedge Locking System. This locking system replaces the pneumatic locking system with an electronic system. Four (4) housing units remain to be upgraded with the new locking system.

22. REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY GRANTS AD HOC COMMITTEE

a. <u>Fiscal Year 25 Community Partners Grant Requests</u> – Ms. Mackey stated the committee met to review the FY25 Community Partner Grant requests. On p. 248 of the agenda packet is a spreadsheet of the amount requested and recommended for the community partners.

Mr. Livingston indicated he is a committee member but did not support the committee's recommendation. He declared he is gravely concerned about its impact on Senior Resources, which is Richland County's designated agency for senior services. What is being proposed is a significant decrease to Senior Resources budget from last year. Their request was \$548,000, and the recommendation was significantly less than that. We are talking about an agency already underfunded in terms of its services to the county and even more so relative to its counterparts. When we were doing Lump Sum appropriations in 2018/2019, this agency was receiving

\$548,000, and we are recommending that they be given less than that this year when they have a long waiting list. We were funding the Lourie Center at \$200,000 before they folded. Senior Resources has taken on some of their responsibilities, and we are still discussing cutting their funding. He thinks that it is going to have a significant impact on senior citizens. He recommended that we fund Senior Resources at last year's amount of \$548,046.

Ms. Mackey noted the amount of funding for Community Partners is a set amount. Therefore, recommending an organization receive a different amount would require additional motions to figure out how not to exceed the funding amount.

Ms. Barron shared with the committee that she is a supporter of Senior Resources and the work they do. When we decided as a Council that we would have Community Partners, and there would be a set amount set aside for these organizations, she knew it would be a hard task. She supports the recommendation coming out of the committee, but she would like us to look at potentially funding Senior Resources out of the General Fund. As we move into our budget cycle, we need to begin funding our priorities.

Ms. Mackey pointed out that we went through a process where we said we wanted transparency and accountability, and we created a process where all non-profits had to apply to receive funding. Then, we also decided to establish Community Partners and agreed on a percentage. The organizations selected for this list were the body's way of saying these are the ones we pick. Additional groups were added to the Community Partners' list between last year and this year, but the funding stayed the same. In addition, she understands we have supported Senior Resources for many years for over \$500,000. She noted some departments at Richland County do not receive \$500,000 in their budget. Other non-profits request \$30,000-\$60,000 to go directly into the community to change people's lives one-on-one. They are not using the funds to leverage it and get additional money; they are going directly into a community to make that change. The funding available is what we should be looking to change and not going to the General Fund. We have other initiatives in the Strategic Plan that we need to work toward, and not looking at how we can give more to an organization that has been receiving over \$500,000.

Ms. McBride expressed that we are still not meeting the unique needs of individual districts. There should be an allocation to ensure that each district gets an equitable amount of funding. Many programs are struggling and do not submit grants because they are unaware of the grants or do not know how to write them. Therefore, we are still overlooking a percentage of non-profits that work directly in the community and address the community's needs without any funds. She pointed out the Community Partners were established without any criteria. We need to set criteria for selecting Community Partners in the future.

Mr. Livingston stated he would come back during the budget process to ensure Senior Resources is not treated like a regular non-profit. He suggested making it a line item in the budget or a special-purpose district.

Ms. Mackey noted it was not the intent of the committee to punish Senior Resources or not fully support them. However, the committee must be mindful of how we are spending over \$500,000. It was pointed out we do not have stats on how many residents are served or if it only goes to feed them. We need all the facts about how they are spending taxpayers' money.

Ms. English noted that the ARPA funds they received last year to make up for the deficit in grant funding are no longer available.

Mr. Walker inquired if the County is funding any non-profits from other funding sources.

Ms. Mackey responded there are non-profits funded with Hospitality and Accommodations Tax, etc.

Mr. Walker inquired if looking for another funding source for Senior Resources would undermine the process established with the Community Impact Grants.

Ms. Mackey responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Walker indicated his understanding that the point of Community Impact Grants was so that we would not have an organization dependent on County dollars but would serve in an ancillary way.

Ms. Mackey stated every time an organization has an ask, they want to give them everything they asked. By doing so, we are not being responsible and thinking about how we fund the county moving forward.

Mr. Weaver moved to call for the question, seconded by Ms. McBride.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: McBride and Livingston

The vote was in favor of approving the committee's recommendation.

23. REPORT OF THE TRANSPORTATION AD HOC COMMITTEE

a. <u>Atlas Road Re-Scoping</u> – Mr. Walker stated the committee recommended restoring the scope of Atlas Road from Bluff Road to Shop Road.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Award of Construction – Atlas Road Widening – Ms. Newton moved to defer this item until the April 12, 2024
 Council meeting, second Mr. Branham.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, English, and Newton

Opposed: Mackey

The vote was in favor.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Mr. Pugh encouraged his colleagues to attend the committee/ad hoc meetings when there are pressing issues.

24. OTHER ITEMS

a. <u>FY24 – District 9 Hospitality Tax Allocations (Columbia City Ballet (SC Ballet) - \$5,000</u> – Ms. Newton moved to approve this item, seconded by Ms. Terracio.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Newton moved to reconsider this item, seconded by Ms. Barron.

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton The motion for reconsideration failed.

25. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Newton moved to go into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Livingston.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: Weaver

The vote was in favor.

Council went into Executive Session at approximately 8:47 PM and came out at approximately 9:09 PM

Mr. Weaver moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Ms. Barron.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Mackey indicated that council entered into executive session to discuss the below listed items, no action was taken in Executive Session.

- a. <u>Department of Public Works Engineering Springwood Lakes High Hazard Potential Dam Rehabilitation</u> No action was taken.
- b. Property Inquiry 1221 Gregg Street, Columbia, SC 29201, TMS # R11406-16-16 and TMS # R11406-16-17 No action was taken.
- 26. **MOTION PERIOD** No motions were submitted.
- 27. **ADJOURNMENT** Ms. Newton moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Terracio.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:10 PM.

RICHLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069 Columbia, SC 29204 803-576-2050



Report of the County Administrator

Regular Session – April 16, 2024

UPDATES FOR CONSIDERATION:

General Updates

Strategic Planning Dashboard

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Informational Briefing – Strategic Planning Dashboard

RICHLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION 2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069 Columbia, SC 29204 803-576-2050

Report of the County Administrator Attachment 1



Informational Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Maddison Wilkerson		Title:		Director	
Department:	tment: Budget and Grants Management		Division:		:	
Date Prepared:	April 9, 202	4	Meeting [Date:	April 16, 2024
Approved for consideration:		Assistant County Administrator		tor Lori J. Thomas, MBA, CGFO		nas, MBA, CGFO
Meeting/Committee	Regular Session					
Subject:	Strategic Planning Public Dashboard					

On April 16, 2024, the County will launch the Strategic Planning Public Dashboard, a significant initiative aimed at enhancing transparency, accountability, and community engagement within our county.

The Strategic Planning Public Dashboard is a digital platform that will provide monthly, quarterly, and annual updates and insights into the progress of the strategic initiatives, objectives, and goals. This dashboard aims to empower the community by offering accessible and comprehensive information regarding the County's strategic priorities and the actions being taken to achieve them.

Staff will be available to conduct a live demonstration of the public dashboard and indicate where it can be found on the Richland County website.

Richland County Council Request for Action

Subject:

An Ordinance authorizing the easements to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. to construct, extend, replace, relocate, perpetually maintain and operate an overhead or underground electric line or lines; located on property owned by Richland County at 1364 Northpoiont Blvd.; and as is more fully described herein

Notes:

March 26, 2024 – The D&S Committee recommended approving Dominion Energy's request to access easement through property owned by Richland County at 1364 Northpoint Blvd. to provide power to a new commercial business.

First Reading: March 9, 2024 Second Reading: Third Reading: Public Hearing:

RICHLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069 Columbia, SC 29204 803-576-2050



Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Shirani Fuller		Title:	C	County	Engineer	
Department:	Public Works		Division: Engi		Engi	neering	
Date Prepared:	February 27, 2024		Meet	Meeting Date:		March 26, 2024	
Legal Review	Elizabeth McLean via email			Date:		March 14, 2024	
Budget Review	Maddison Wilkerson via email			Date:		February 29, 2024	
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm via email			Date:		March 7, 2024	
Approved for consideration: Assistant County Administrator			ator .	or John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM, SCCEM			
Meeting/Committee	Development & Services						
Subject	Dominio	Dominion Energy Easement Request - 1364 Northpoint Boulevard					

RECOMMENDED/REQUESTED ACTION:

Dominion Energy requests an access easement through the property owned by Richland County at 1364 Northpoint Blvd to provide power to a new commercial business. Staff recommends Council approval of the request.

FIDUCIARY:		
Are funds allocated in the department's current fiscal year budget?	Yes	No
If not, is a budget amendment necessary?	Yes	No

ADDITIONAL FISCAL/BUDGETARY MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

Request for Council Reconsideration: X Yes

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the County.

Applicable department/grant key and object codes: not applicable

OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING FEEDBACK:

Not applicable.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FEEDBACK/POSSIBLE AREA(S) OF LEGAL EXPOSURE:

There are no legal concerns regarding this matter.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

MOTION OF ORIGIN:

There is no associated Council motion of origin.

STRATEGIC & GENERATIVE DISCUSSION:

Through the Richland County Economic Development Department, a portion of parcel R14900-01-02, addressed as 1364 Northpoint Blvd, is under development and is part of the industrial park. Dominion Energy is requesting an exclusive easement to provide service to the property. The requested area is described in the easement document and shown in the drawing.

ASSOCIATED STRATEGIC GOAL, OBJECTIVE, AND INTIATIVE:

- Goal 2: Invest in economic development
 - Objective 2.1: Create high paying jobs from planning growth and strategic economic development projects
 - Initiative: Encourage private sector engagement with Economic Development

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Easement Document
- 2. Easement Exhibit
- 3. Ordinance

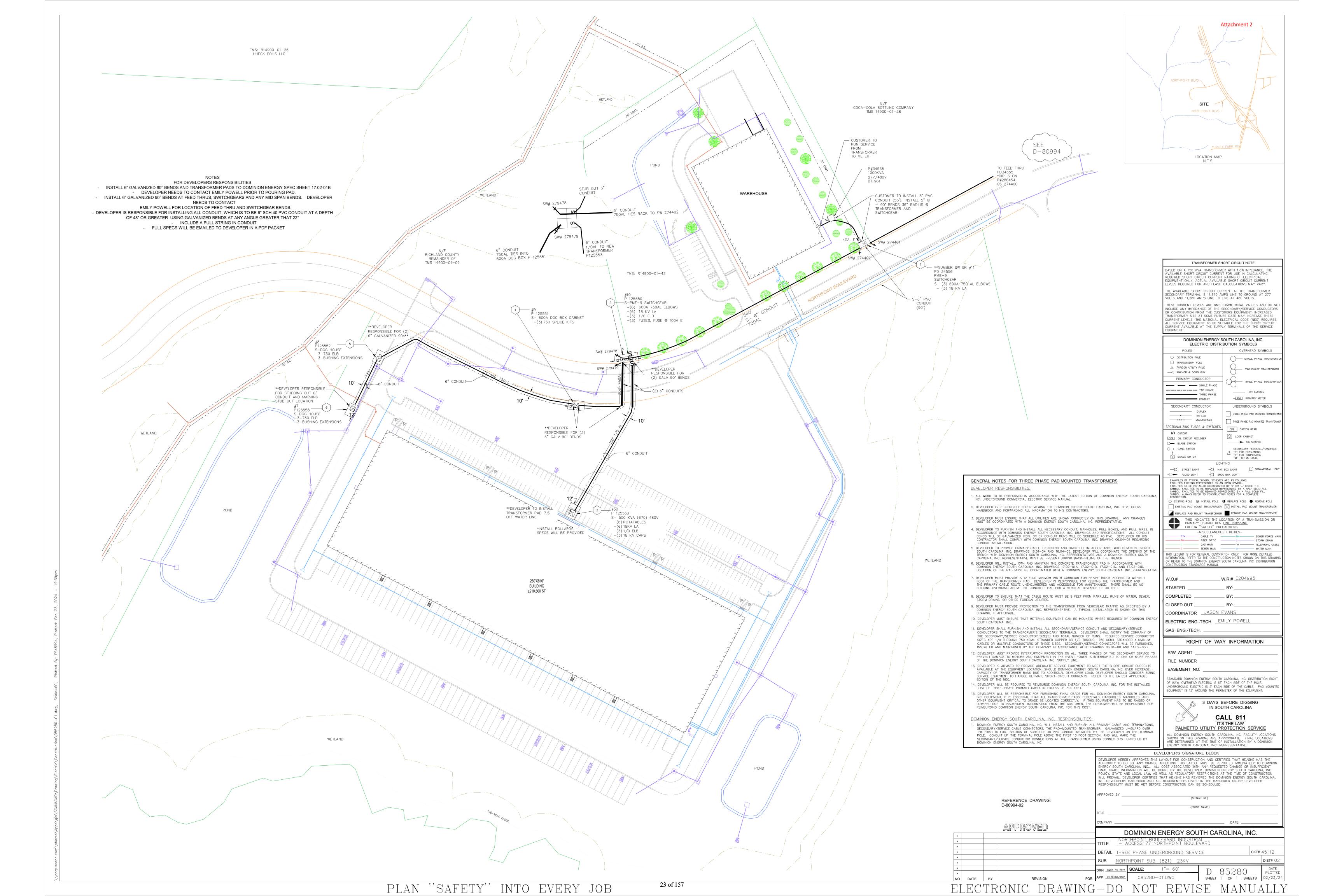
INDENTURE, made this day of, 2024 by and between RICHLAND COUNTY, of the State of South Carolina, hereinafter called "Grantor" (whether singular or plural), and the DOMINION ENERGY SOUTH CAROLINA, INC., a South Carolina corporation, having its principal office in Cayce, South Carolina, hereinafter called "Grantee". WITNESSETH:
That, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) received from Grantee, Grantor, being the owner of land situate in the County of Richland , State of South Carolina, hereby grants and conveys to Grantee, its successors and assigns, the right to construct, extend, replace, relocate, perpetually maintain and operate an overhead or underground electric line or lines consisting of any or all of the following: poles, conductors, lightning protective wires, municipal, public or private communication lines, cables, conduits, pad mounted transformers, guys, push braces and other accessory apparatus and equipment deemed by Grantee to be necessary or desirable, upon, over, across, through and under land described as follows: a tract or lot of land containing 89.20 acres, more or less, and being the same lands conveyed to Grantor by deed of The Citadel Foundation , dated or recorded 12/3/2008 , and filed in the Register of Deeds office for Richland County in Deed book 1479 at Page 1098 .
The property is located at 1364 Northpoint Blvd., Richland County, SC.
The right of way granted herein is for the installation, operation and maintenance of DESC facilities. These facilities are more fully shown on DESC drawing D-85280 and revisions thereof, which is by reference only made a part hereof. The actual final Right of Way will be determined by the final location of the facilities as installed in accordance with the easement.
TMS: R14900-01-02
Together with the right from time to time to install on said line such additional lines, apparatus and equipment as Grantee may deem necessary or desirable and the right to remove said line or any part thereof. Together also with the right (but not the obligation) from time to time to trim, cut or remove trees, underbrush and other obstructions that are within, over, under or through a strip of land ("Easement Space") extending Fifteen (15) feet on each side of any pole lines and Five (5) feet on each side of any underground wires and within, over, under or through a section of land extending Twelve (12) feet from the door side(s) of any pad mounted transformers, elbow cabinets, switchgears or other devices as they are installed; provided, however, any damage to the property of Grantor (other than that caused by trimming, cutting or removing) caused by Grantee in maintaining or repairing said lines, shall be borne by Grantee; provided further, however, that Grantors agree for themselves, their successors and assigns, not to build or allow any structure to be placed on the premises in such a manner that any part thereof will exist within the applicable above specified Easement Space, and in case such structure is built, then Grantor, or such successors and assigns as may be in possession and control of the premises at the time, will promptly remove the same upon demand of Grantee herein. Grantor further agrees to maintain minimum ground coverage of thirty six (36) inches and maximum ground coverage of fifty four (54) inches over all underground primary electric lines. Together also with the right of entry upon said lands of Grantor for all of the purposes aforesaid. The words "Grantor" and "Grantee" shall include their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, as the case may be. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has caused this indenture to be duly executed the day and year first above written. WITNESS:
RICHLAND COUNTY
By:(SEAL)
Print: 2nd Witness

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF RICHLAND

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me, the undersigned Notary, and I do hereby certify that the within named
, of RICHLAND COUNTY, personally appeared before me this day and that the
above named acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.
Sworn to before me this day of, 2024
Signature of Notary Public State of SC
My commission expires:
Print Name of Notary Public
RIGHT OF WAY GRANT TO DOMINION ENERGY SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.
Line: Access 77 Spec Building - Northpoint
County: RICHLAND
R/W File Number: 26978
Grantor(s): RICHLAND COUNTY
Return to: DESC



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. _____-24HR

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN EASEMENTS TO DOMINION ENERGY SOUTH CAROLINA, INC. TO CONSTRUCT, EXTEND, REPLACE, RELOCATE, PERPETUALLY MAINTAIN AND OPERATE AN OVERHEAD OR UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC LINE OR LINES; LOCATED ON PROPERTY OWNED BY RICHLAND COUNTY AT 1364 NORTHPOINT BLVD; AND AS IS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED HEREIN.

Pursuant to the authority granted by the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, BE IT ENACTED BY RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL:

<u>SECTION I.</u> The County of Richland and its employees and agents are hereby authorized to grant to DOMINION ENERGY SOUTH CAROLINA, INC. an easement to construct, extend, replace, relocate, perpetually maintain and operate an overhead or underground electric line or lines; as specifically described in Easement #905373; which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

<u>SECTION II.</u> <u>Severability</u>. If any section, subsection, or clause of this ordinance shall be deemed unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, and clauses shall not be affected thereby.

<u>SECTION III</u>. <u>Conflicting Ordinances</u>. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION IV.	Effective Date.	This	ordinance	shall	be	enforced	from	and	after
	_]	RICHLAND	COU	NTY	COUNCI	L		
]	By:	Macke	y , C	hair		_	
Attest this	day of								
	, 2024.								
Anette Kirylo Clerk of Council									
RICHLAND CO	UNTY ATTORNEY	'S OFF	ICE						
	LEGAL Form Only dered As To Content								
First Reading: Second Reading: Public Hearing:									

Third Reading:

Richland County Council Request for Action

Subject:

An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 18, Offenses; by adding Section 18-10, so as to prohibit the desecration of a gravesite, cemetery, or burial ground and to provide penalties

Notes:

March 26, 2024 – The A&F Committee recommended that Council approve the proposed ordinance to better protect graves, graveyards, tombs, mausoleums, Native American burial grounds or burial mounds, and other repositories of human remains in Richland County.

First Reading: March 9, 2024 Second Reading: Third Reading: Public Hearing:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. _____-24HR

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RICHLAND COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES; CHAPTER 18, OFFENSES; BY ADDING SECTION 18-10 SO AS TO PROHIBIT THE DESECRATION OF A GRAVESITE, CEMETERY, OR BURIAL GROUND AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES.

Pursuant to the authority granted by the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, BE IT ENACTED BY RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL:

<u>SECTION I.</u> The Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Offenses, is hereby amended by adding Section 18-10 to read:

"Section 18-10. (A) It is unlawful for a person to willfully and knowingly, and without proper legal authority, to:

- (1) obliterate, vandalize, or desecrate a burial ground where human skeletal remains are buried, a grave, graveyard, tomb, mausoleum, Native American burial ground or burial mound, or other repository of human remains;
- (2) deface, vandalize, injure, or remove a gravestone or other memorial monument or mark commemorating a deceased person or group of persons, whether located within or outside of a recognized cemetery, Native American burial ground or burial mound, memorial park, or battlefield; or
- (3) obliterate, vandalize, or desecrate a park, Native American burial ground or burial mound, or other area clearly designated to preserve and perpetuate the memory of a deceased person or group of persons.
- (B) In addition to being subject to the criminal penalties provided in the South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 16-17-600, an infraction of this Section is punishable by a fine of up to five hundred dollars (\$500). Each day's continued violation constitutes a separate and distinct offense. A violation is deemed continued if a person:
 - (1) continually engages in an activity prohibited pursuant to subsection (A);
 - (2) fails to report a previously committed activity prohibited pursuant to subsection (A) to an appropriate County or State entity; or
 - (3) fails to undertake remedial actions addressing a previously committed activity prohibited pursuant to subsection (A).
- (C) This section shall be enforced by the county sheriff's department and code enforcement officers commissioned by County Council pursuant to the provisions of Section 1-12 of this Code of Ordinances.
- (D) During any construction, development, re-development, or ground disturbing activity, if a person discovers or is otherwise put on notice of any known or probable gravesites on the subject lot, including but not limited to human remains, grave stones, grave markers, ground depressions,

historical markers, historic maps, plats or surveys, photographs, or other indicators of probable gravesites, the person must immediately cease any ground disturbing work and report such notice to Community Planning and Development Services, as well as the county coroner and the appropriate state agencies including the State Historic Preservation Office and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. No further ground disturbing activities may commence until the site has undergone inspection by Community Planning and Development Services and a plan to mitigate disturbance of the gravesite has been prepared by the person or company undertaking the ground disturbing activities. Upon completion of such inspection and acceptance of the prepared plan, the Department may authorize further ground disturbing activity pursuant to applicable state and local laws."

SECTION II. Conflicting Ordinances. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION III. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be enforced from and after							
	RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL						
	By: Jesica Mackey, Chair						
Attest this day of							
, 2024.							
Anette Kirylo Clerk of Council	_						
RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OF	FICE						
Approved As To LEGAL Form Only. No Opinion Rendered As To Content.							
First Reading: Second Reading:							

Public Hearing: Third Reading:

Richland County Council Request for Action

Subject:

An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, Animals and Fowl

Notes:

March 26, 2024 – The A&F Committee recommended Council approve the proposed revisions to Chapter 5, Animals and Fowl, of the County Code of Ordinances.

First Reading: March 9, 2024

Second Reading: Third Reading: Public Hearing:

RICHLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069 Columbia, SC 29204 803-576-2050



Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Sandra Haynes		Title	:	Directo	r
Department:	Animal Services		Divis	Division:		
Date Prepared:	March 5, 2024		Mee	/leeting Date:		March 26, 2024
Legal Review	Tish Gonzalez via email			Date:		March 6, 2024
Budget Review	Maddison Wilkerson via email			0	Date:	March 8, 2024
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm via email			0	Date:	March 8, 2024
Approved for consideration: Assistant County Administrate		ator	Aric A Jensen, AICP			
Meeting/Committee	Meeting/Committee Administration & Finance					
Subject	Animal Care Ordinance Revision					

0						
nce Review	Stacey Ham	ım via email	Date:	March 8, 2024		
roved for consider	ration:	Assistant County Administrator Aric A Jensen, AICP				
eting/Committee	Administ	ration & Finance				
ect Animal Care Ordinance Revision						
RECOMMENDED/	REQUESTED A	CTION:				
Staff recommen of the County Co		ty Council approves the proposed ances.	revisions to	Chapter 5, Animals and Fowl,		
Request for Cou	ncil Reconsid	leration: Yes				
FIDUCIARY:						
Are funds alloc	ated in the d	epartment's current fiscal year bu	dget?	Yes No		
If not, is a budg	get amendme	ent necessary?		Yes 🔀 No		
		Y MATTERS TO CONSIDER:				
The ordinance re	evision is not	anticipated to affect the current l	evel of fund	ing.		
Applicable dep	artment/gra	nt key and object codes: 110030	6200			
OFFICE OF PROCU	REMENT & Co	ONTRACTING FEEDBACK:				
Not applicable.						
COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FEEDBACK/POSSIBLE AREA(S) OF LEGAL EXPOSURE:						
REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:						
S. C. Code of laws Title 47, Animals, Livestock and Poultry						

Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5: Animals and Fowl

MOTION OF ORIGIN:

There is no associated motion of origin.

STRATEGIC & GENERATIVE DISCUSSION:

For the past year, Animal Care Director Sandra Haynes and Assistant County Administrator Aric Jensen have met with community stakeholders to discuss potential updates to the Richland County Animal Care Ordinance. Periodic updates are necessary to keep the County current with evolving professional practices, technology, and changes in the community.

The proposed revisions include a new subsection to address the tethering of pets. This subsection is being added to clarify and educate citizens and enforcement officers regarding acceptable and safe methods of tethering. The goal is to reduce the number of pets that are injured and/or abused by persons using improper tethering methods.

Other subsections of the ordinance have been reorganized and/or clarified with the express purpose of making the ordinance easier to understand. The end goals are to educate pet owners and the residents, and to make the County's regulations easier to enforce consistently and uniformly.

This code update process included creating a stakeholder committee composed of internal and external stakeholders vested in animal care. Internal stakeholders are County Council, County Administration, Legal Department, Animal Services, Community Planning and Development, Business Service Center, Ombudsman, and Richland County Sheriff's Department. External stakeholders are Pawmetto Lifeline, The Humane Society of South Carolina, City of Columbia, Town of Irmo, Town of Blythewood, Animal Mission, and the Animal Care subcommittee. The stakeholder committee will continue to meet quarterly to discuss and share information.

The proposed amendments will bring the County's animal care ordinance current with industry standards and practices. Should Council choose not to approve the proposed amendments, the County will continue to operate under the existing regulations.

ASSOCIATED STRATEGIC GOAL, OBJECTIVE, AND INITIATIVE:

- Goal 1: Foster Good Governance
 - o Objective 1.5: Collaborate with other governments.
 - Initiative: Establish best practices using peer-to-peer neighbors, like entities and related professional associations to measure achievement of best practices via workshops, fairs, or another constructive events
 - Initiative: Build relationships with non-profit governmental organizations, municipalities, state, and federal organizations across all departments to determine points of parity

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Chapter 5 Animal Care Ordinance Redlined version
- 2. Chapter 5 Animal Care Ordinance revised
- 3. Summary of ordinance revisions

Richland County STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. -16HR

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RICHLAND COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 5, ANIMALS AND FOWL.

Pursuant to the authority granted by the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the General Assembly of the state of South Carolina BE IT ENACTED BY RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL:

SECTION I. The Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 5, Animals and Fowl, is hereby amended by the deletion of the language contained therein and the substitution of the following language:

CHAPTER 5: ANIMALS AND FOWL

Sec. 5-1. Definitions.

Whenever used in this chapter, unless a contrary intention is clearly evidenced, the following terms shall be interpreted as herein defined.

Abandon. The owner or custodian's failure to provide for its animal the necessities of life and well-being or shall mean to desert, forsake, or intend to give up absolutely an its animal without securing another owner or custodian. This section does not include the responsible release of community cats trapped, sterilized, and released back into the community.

Abuse. shall mean the The act of any owner or custodian person who deprives any its animal of necessary sustenance or shelter, or of a person who inflicts unnecessary pain or suffering upon any animal, or of a person causing eauses these things to be done.

Animal. shall mean, in In addition to dogs and cats, any organism of the kingdom of Animalia, other than a human being.

Animal Care Officer. shall mean any A person employed by the county to enforce the animal care program or anyan official with legal enforcement authority thereof.

Animal Care Facility, shall mean any Any premises designated or selected by the county for the purpose of impounding, care, adoption, or euthanasia of animals held under the authority of this chapter.

At large, shall mean an animal running off the premises of the owner or keeper and not under the physical control of the owner or keeper by means of a leash or other similar restraining device, or an animal on its owner's premises but not Not under restraint or confinement. A dog properly within the enclosed boundaries of a dog park shall not be considered at large. For the purposes of this definition, a dog park shall mean an enclosed area, owned and/or operated by the

county, any municipality, or private entity, designed, intended, and used for domestic dogs to play and exercise off-leash in a controlled environment under the supervision of their owners.

<u>Commercial pet breeder.</u> Any A person, partnership, corporation, association, or establishment engaged in a business, occupation, profession, or activity in which one or more dogs are owned, kept, harbored, or boarded and used for a stud for which a fee is charged and/or used for breeding purposes for which a fee is charged for the offspring.

Community Cat, also called "free-roaming cat.", shall mean aA domestic cat that is no longer in a domesticated environment or one of its descendants and that lives outdoors full-time, has little or no human contact, is not well socialized to humans, and has no known owner. Pets and/or, house cats which are outside outdoors periodically, and stray cats (lost or abandoned house pets) are specifically excluded from this definition.

<u>Custodian</u>. Any A person who, regardless of the length of time, keeps, has charge of, shelters, feeds, harbors, or takes care of any animal, or is otherwise acting as the owner of an animal. A custodian is not necessarily the owner.

Dangerous or vicious animal, shall mean:

(a) Dangerous or vicious animal means:

- (1) AnyAn animal, which the owner or custodian knows, or reasonably should know, has the propensity, tendency, or disposition to, without provocation, attack, to cause injury to, or to otherwise endanger the safety of human beings, or domestic animals, or livestock; or
- (2) AnyAn animal which bites or attacks a human being or domestic animal or livestock one or more times without provocation, whether or not such bite or attack occurs on the premises of the animal's owner; or
- (3) AnyAn animal, which is while not under restraint or confinement, and which commits one or more unprovoked acts, without provocation, and those acts that causes a person to reasonably believe that the animal will bite or attack and cause bodily injury to a human being, or domestic animal, or livestock; or
- (4) AnyAn animal owned, kept or harbored by its owner or custodian primarily, or in part, for the purpose of animal fighting or an animal which has been trained for animal fighting.

(b) An animal shall not be deemed dangerous or vicious if:

- (1) The animal bites, attacks, or commits an unprovoked act upon, as described in subsection (a):
 - a. A human being or animal assaulting its owner or custodian;
 - b. A human being or animal trespassing upon the property of its owner or custodian. For the purpose of this definition, trespassing means entering or remaining upon the property of another without permission or legal privilege; or
 - c. A human being or animal which has abused or tormented it;

- (2) The animal is protecting or defending its offspring or another animal; or
- (3) The animal is acting in defense of an attack upon its owner or custodian or other person.

Domestic. shall mean any animal which To shares the genetic makeup and/or physical appearance of its ancestors which were historically domesticated for human companionship and service.

Feral animal. An animal which may be an individual domesticated animal who is no longer in a domesticated environment, or one of their descendants.

Fowl. Birds kept for domestic, or utility purposes including, but not limited to, chickens, hens, roosters, guineas, ducks, geese, turkeys, emus, and poultry.

<u>Harboring</u>. Allowing an animal to, regardless of the length of time, remain, be lodged, or be fed upon or within anya premise which the person occupies or owns. Premises include, but is not limited to, dwellings, buildings, yards, and enclosures.

Impound. The humane confinement of the animal by an Animal Care Officer at an animal care facility.

Livestock. Cattle, sheep, horses, goats, swine, mules, asses, and other animals ordinarily raised or used on a farm.

Non-domestic shall mean any animal which shares the genetic makeup and/or physical appearance of its ancestors which were not historically domesticated for human companionship and service.

Nuisance shall mean an animal that disturbs the rights of, threatens the safety of, or damages a member of the general public, or interferes with the ordinary use and enjoyment of their property or public property.

Owner, shall mean any AnyA person who:

- (1) Has a property right in an the animal;
- (2) Keeps or harbors an the animal, or who has it in his or herits care, or acts as its custodian; or
- (3) Permits an the animal to remain on or about any premises occupied by him or herit owns or occupies.

Pet. shall mean a domestic Domestic dog (canis lupus familiaris cants familiaris) and/or a domestic cat (felis catus domestic tus). When applicable, pet shall also mean anyan animal kept lawfully for pleasure rather than utility or commercial purposes, including fowl.

Provocation shall mean any Any An act done towards an animal that a reasonable person would expect to enrage such an animal to the extent that the animal would be likely to, or did, bite, or attack, and/or cause bodily injury. Provocation including includes, but is not limited to, teasing, harassing, beating, torturing, injuring, or intentionally causing pain to an animal. Where When an animal is attacked on its owner's the property of its owner or custodian by another

animal off its owner's <u>or custodian's</u> property, the attack will be presumed unprovoked, absent clear evidence to the contrary. Provocation does not include any actions on the part of an individual that pertain to reasonable efforts of self-defense, <u>or defense of another animal</u>.

<u>Seizure</u>. The removal of an animal from an individual's property or possession, without the consent of the owner or custodian, by an Animal Care Officer as a result of a violation or alleged violation of the provisions of this chapter or to satisfy an order entered by the court.

Shelter. shall mean any Unless stated otherwise, a structure reasonably expected to protect the animal from exposure to appropriately sized for the pet to stand or lie in a normal manner. The structure must have a roof, three sides, appropriate sized opening for the entry and exit and a floor so as to protect the pet from the elements of weather or adverse conditions where such exposure could cause the animal physical suffering or impairment.

<u>Tether</u>. To fasten, chain, tie, secure, or restrain an animal by a collar or harness to anya dog house, tree, fence, or other stationary object or structure.

Under restraint or confinement. Under restraint or confinement shall mean an animal that is:

- (1) on On the premises of its owner or keeper custodian indoors;
- (2) On the premises of its owner or custodian outdoors by means of on a leash or other similar restraining device or, within a fenced-in area or other similar restraining device;
- (3) , or is on On the premises of its owner or keeper custodian and while accompanied by the its owner/keeper or custodian; or
- (4) an animal that is off Off the premises of its owner or keeper custodian but iswhile accompanied by its owner or keeper custodian and is under the physical control of such owner or keeper custodian by means of a leash or other similar restraining device.

<u>Unincorporated area of the county</u>. The unincorporated area of Richland County and all areas located in municipalities with which Richland County has an agreement for animal services.

Wild or feral animal shall mean any An animal which is not naturally tame or gentle, and which is of a wild nature or disposition, and which is capable of killing, inflicting serious injury upon, or causing disease among human beings or domestic animals and having known tendencies as a species to do so.

Sec. 5-2. <u>License for dogs and cats</u>; <u>Differential county and commercial pet breeder licenses</u>, license fees; rabies vaccination tags.

For the purpose of this section, pet shall mean domestic dog and/or domestic cat.

(a)

- (b) It shall be unlawful for the owner <u>or custodian</u> of <u>anya</u> pet to fail to obtain <u>a current</u> <u>county pet license</u> for <u>anya</u> pet over four (4) months of age, <u>a current county pet license</u>.
 - (1) The county Animal Services Department shall annually provide a sufficient number of durable tags suitable for pets, numbered from one (1) upwards, on which shall be stamped the year and the words "pet license." Such tags must be worn by all pets within the unincorporated area of the county at all times.
 - (2) The county Animal Services Department shall maintain the name and address of each party to whom a license and tag have been issued under the provisions of this section and shall keep the same on file in the offices of the department for the purpose of identification.
 - (3) It shall be unlawful for the The owner or custodian of anya pet over four (4) months of age to fail to vaccinate the pet and obtainmust also have a current rabies vaccination tag showing that such pet has been vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian. No license will be issued unless proof of inoculation vaccination is shown.
 - (b)(4) AnyA pet owner or custodian who moves into the unincorporated area of the county for the purpose of establishing residency shall have thirty (30) business calendar days in which to obtain the license.

(c) License fees.

- (1) The annual Annual license fees. Annual license fees for fertile and sterilized pets shall be established and approved by the county council. Licenses will expire one (1) year after the date of issue, and owners/custodians must renew the license prior to its expiration will have until the end of the month of original issue to renew the licenses.
- (2) Exemptions from annual license fees. The following owner/custodian classifications of fertile pets shall be exempt from paying the higher license fee for fertile pets. These exempt persons shall be required to purchase a license for their fertile pet and will pay the same license fee as required for sterilized pets:
 - a. AnyA pet owner or custodian who can furnish a statement from a licensed veterinarian that the pet, due to health reasons, could not withstand sterilization surgery;
 - b. AnyAn owner or custodian of a purebred pet who can furnish proof of participation in a nationally recognized conformation or performance event occurring within the past twelve (12) months; or
 - c. AnyAn owner or custodian of a dog currently being used for hunting purposes who can furnish proof the dog has been properly registered with a nationally recognized organization which sanctions hunting tests and/or field trials.

- (e) (3) AnyAn owner or custodian of a dog which is trained to be an assistance/service dog shall be required to obtain an annual license but shall not be required to pay a license fee.
- (d) The Animal Care Department shall annually provide a sufficient number of durable tags suitable for pets, numbered from one (1) upwards, on which shall be stamped the year and the words "pet license." Such tags must be worn by all pets in the county at all times.

Sec. 5-3. Permit for commercial pet breeding.

- (a) For the purpose of this section, *pet* shall mean domestic dog and domestic cat. A commercial pet breeder is permitted to operate in the unincorporated area of the county so long as the breeder obtains from the county Animal Services Department a commercial pet breeder permit and meets all other requirements established by federal, state, or local laws. The breeder permit application process should begin prior to anya litter being delivered.
- (e) (b) It shall be unlawful for a commercial pet breeder to fail to obtain a county commercial pet breeder <u>permitlicense</u> from the county Animal Services <u>Department</u>. The <u>requirements for such To obtain</u> a <u>license are as follows</u> commercial pet breeder <u>permit</u>:
 - (1) Individuals engaged or intending to engage in breeding as a business, occupation, or profession must obtain a commercial pet breeder license from the Animal Care Department. Additionally, such breeders must obtain a separate business license through the County's Business Service Center.
 - (1) Applicants Before applying for a permit, the applicant must first have obtained:
 - a. A County Business License issued by the Richland County Business

 Service Center; and
 - reached the age of over four (4) months of age kept or harbored by the breeder as set forth in Section 5-2, currently licensed with a county pet license, before applying for the commercial pet breeder license.
 - (2) The permit applicant must complete a commercial pet breeder permit application.

 An application is complete when filled out properly and accompanied by a copy of a valid County business license and proof of pet licensing and vaccination, where applicable. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
 - (3) The permit applicant must pass an inspection. The Animal Care

 Department Animal Services Department, through its Animal Care Officers, shall conduct an inspection of the property premise upon which the pets are primarily kept to ensure the following requirements, along with the requirements set forth in Section 5-4, are met: for the license requested by the applicant to determine whether the applicant qualifies to hold a license pursuant to this section.

- (4)(3) During an inspection, an Animal Care Officer will be looking for the following:
 - (1)a. The enclosure or other area(s) where the pets are being kept should beis constructed in such a manner that any pets housed there will be adequately and comfortably kept in any season of the year;
 - (2)b. The location of all pet enclosures should be in such a position so that they can The enclosure or other area(s) where the pets are kept is able to be easily cleaned and sanitized. Any kennels or yards that are connected or are used to confine the pets must be and kept clean and free from accumulations of feces, filth, mud, and debris;
 - (3)c. Every pet on the premises should have has constant access to a clean and fresh water supply. All pets must also have and an adequate amount of appropriate food appropriate to maintain each pet's normal condition of health;
 - d. The premises must be where the pets are kept is set up in such a manner as to not allow prevent pets to from straying beyond their enclosed confines or other areas and. The setup must also prevents the public and stray animals from obtaining entrance into thereto or gaining making contact with any the pets on the premises;
 - (4)e. Permits shall be displayed in a conspicuous place inside of the physical location shown on the application.
 - f. The above-listed requirements must be maintained throughout the period of time for which the permit is issued Every pet that has reached the age of four (4) months on the premises must have a valid pet license on file with Richland County and failure to maintain these requirements may result in a revocation of the permit.

(5) (c) Restrictions:

- (5)(1) A license permit will not be issued to an applicant who has been previously found guilty of violating that has pled no contest, or has been found to have violated any federal, state, or local laws or regulations pertaining to animal cruelty within five (5) years of the date of application.
- (6) License application should be made prior to any litter being delivered.
- (7)(2) A permit will only be valid if there also exists a valid business license and only for the applicant and A commercial pet breeder license is not transferrable to another person or location listed on the application. The permit is non-transferable.

- (8) The annual inspection fee for a county commercial pet breeder license shall be established and approved by county council. The license shall expire one (1) year after the date of issue.
- (9) Any violations or alleged violation found under the provisions of this Cchapter shall be grounds for the suspension-revocation of the commercial pet breeder license permit. The county Animal Services Department shall determine, in its sole discretion, whether the permit is to be revoked and shall communicate the revocation to the breeder in writing. Revocation means the breeder shall cease all commercial breeding activity until a new valid permit is issued or the revocation is rescinded and failure to do so will subject the breeder to penalties. The breeder may appeal the revocation by submitting to the Animal Services Director a writing setting forth the reasons for the appeal. Only what is submitted in writing will be considered. The written appeal must be received by the Animal Services Director within seven (7) business days of the revocation notice and the Animal Services Director will review the written appeal and issue its determination to rescind or uphold the revocation within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the appeal., if deemed necessary by the Animal Care Department. Reinstatement of such license shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. The commercial pet breeder license of any licensee whose license has been suspended shall remain inactive and all breeding shall cease until the license has been reinstated or a new license is issued
- (3) In addition to the inspection fee for the commercial pet breeder license, a pet breeder is required to adhere to the licensing requirements of the county pet license as set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, so that there is a requirement of one (l) commercial pet breeder license per breeder in addition to one (l) county pet license per pet that has reached a minimum age of four (4) months and is still in the commercial pet breeder's custody.
- (d) The annual fee for a commercial pet breeder permit is non-refundable and shall be established by county council. The permit shall expire one (1) year after the date of issue.
- (e) The county Animal Services Department shall maintain the name and address of each party to whom a permit has been issued under the provisions of this section and shall keep the same on file in the offices of the department for the purpose of identification.

Sec. 5-3. Exemptions from differential licensing fees.

- (a) The following classifications of owners of pets shall be exempt from paying the higher license fee for fertile pets. These exempt persons shall be required to purchase a license for their pet and will pay the same license fee as required for sterilized pets:
 - Any owner of a pet who can furnish a statement from a licensed veterinarian that the pet, due to health reasons, could not withstand spay/neuter surgery;

- (2) Any owner of one or more purebred pets who can furnish proof of participation in a nationally recognized conformation or performance events within the past twelve months:
- (2) Any owner of a dog that is currently being used for hunting purposes and has properly been registered with a nationally recognized organization which sanctions hunting tests and/or field trials. Such registration must be accompanied by proper documentation that will be required to receive this exemption.
- (a) Any owner of a dog which is trained to be an assistance/service dog for its owner shall be required to obtain an annual license but shall not be required to pay any license fee.
- (a) The county Animal Care Department shall maintain the name and address of each party to whom a license and tag have been issued under the provisions of this chapter and shall keep the same on file in the offices of the department for the purpose of identification.

Sec. 5-4. Animal care, generally.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for an owner or custodian to fail to provide its animals with:
 - (1) Necessary sustenance, such as sufficient good and wholesome food, in an adequate amount to sustain flesh or permit normal growth and an adequate amount of clean water that is not sour, filthy, or spoiled. Food and water should be of the appropriate amounts and type for the species;
 - (2) Proper protection from the weather;
 - (3) Veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering or care for a diseased, sick, or injured animal;
 - (4) Humane care and treatment. It shall be unlawful for a person to tease, molest, beat, cruelly treat, torment, overload, overwork, or otherwise abuse an animal, or cause, instigate, or permit dogfighting or other combat between animals or between animals and humans; or
 - (5) Proper shelter. Proper shelter for an animal primarily kept outdoors and unattended includes, but is not limited to:

a. Dogs.

- 1. The shelter should be of weatherproof construction, have a roof, enclosed sides, a doorway, and a solid level floor raised at least two inches from the ground. There shall be no cracks or openings other than the entrance except that rainproof openings for ventilation are acceptable in hot weather.
- 2. The shelter shall be small enough to allow the dog to maintain warmth and body heat, but large enough to allow the dog to stand, turn around, and lie down.
- 3. When the real or effective temperature is forty (40) degrees

 Fahrenheit or below, a sufficient amount of dry bedding, such as

- cedar shavings or straw, must be provided to insulate against the cold and dampness.
- 4. The following is not considered proper shelter: Storage buildings, sheds, crates, pet carriers, barrels, screened porches, patios, or balconies, nor the areas under lean-tos, covered porches, decks, vehicles, or houses.

b. Livestock.

- 1. The shelter should provide protection from heavy rain, snow, and high wind and provide sufficient shade in the summer.
- 2. The shelter for large livestock and healthy horses and cattle does not have to be manmade. Natural shelters, such as trees, are acceptable. However, a windbreak must be provided.
- 3. The shelter for small livestock and unhealthy horses and cattle must be in the form of a barn or pen of sufficient capacity and strength to properly accommodate the number of animals contained therein.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for a person to leave anyan untethered pet outdoors unattended for two (2) continuous hours or longer without access to fresh water and shelter, as defined in this chapter, regardless of temperature.
- (c) It shall be unlawful for a person to leave anyan untethered pet outdoors unattended for thirty (30) minutes or longer during a consecutive four (4) hour period when:
 - (1) The temperature is below forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit for a sustained four (4) hour period, unless adequate shelter, as defined in this chapter, is provided to protect the animal from the elements; or
 - (2) The temperature is above ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit for a sustained four (4) hour period, unless adequate shade is provided to protect the animal from the elements.
- (d) It shall be unlawful for a person to improperly collar or harness a pet. Collars and harnesses must be made of leather, nylon, or similar material and properly fitted for the pet's measurements and body weight so as to not choke or impede the pet's normal breathing or swallowing and to not cause pain or injury to the pet. Logger chains, towing chains, and similar items are not permitted to be used as collars or harnesses. Pet-safe metal collars, chain collars, prong collars, or choke collars are permitted to be used while the pet is accompanied by its owner/keeper or custodian.
- (e) It shall be unlawful for a person to expose an animal to a known poisonous substance, whether mixed with food or not, so that the same shall be reasonably expected to be eaten by the animal; EXCEPT that it shall not be unlawful for a person to expose on their own property pest or vermin deterrent substances to prevent the spread of disease or the

- destruction of crops, livestock, or property. In no instance shall a feral or community cat or domestic animal be considered vermin.
- (f) It shall be unlawful for a person to fail to remove from a shelter or confinement area excrement, debris, standing water, or mud. No person shall fail to keep a shelter or confinement area clean, odor-free, and free of bloodsucking insects that are carriers of disease.
- (g) No person, except a licensed veterinarian, shall perform an operation to crop, notch, or split an animal's ears and/or tail.
- (h) It shall be unlawful for a person to dye or color artificially anyan animal, including fowl, with products not identified as pet-safe or to bring such dyed or colored animal into the unincorporated area of the county.
- (i) It shall be unlawful for anyan owner or custodian to abandon an animal in the unincorporated area of the county.

Community Cat Diversion Program.

- (a) Purpose. It is the intent of this section to create a Community Cat Diversion Program ("Program") within Richland County in order to reduce cat overpopulation in an effective arid humane way by using the Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR) method.
- (a) Scope. This section shall apply only to healthy free roaming and Community Cats. Well-socialized, friendly, or abandoned house pets do not qualify for the Program as they depend on humans for survival. The Superintendent of Animal Services, or his/her designee, shall make the decision as to whether a cat qualifies for the Program.
- (a) Procedures:
- (0) Any Community Cat either trapped or seized by an animal care officer or turned into the animal care facility by a citizen shall be:
- -Assessed by a veterinarian to determine the condition of health:
- .Spayed or neutered, as needed;
- . Vaccinated for rabies, feline viral rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, and panleukopenia; and:
- .Ear-tipped for identification.
- (0) All cats entering the animal care facility shall be immediately assessed for Program qualification; those unqualified shall be processed in accordance with this chapter.
- (0) Any Community Cat entering the Program shall be returned on the third day after spay/neutering or as soon as practicable thereafter to the area where it was trapped or seized. Any Community Cat which meets all the requirements in section (c)(l), above, that is trapped, seized, or brought to the animal care facility may be immediately returned to the same community. However, a Community Cat will be relocated if a request from a property owner

within the community requests that the cat be relocated to a location other than where it was trapped.

The county shall have no liability for cats in the Program.

(1) Community Cats are exempt from licensing and related fees.

Sec. 5-5. Running at large <u>restraint</u>.

- (a) It is unlawful for an animal to be at large. All animals must be kept under restraint or confinement and anyan. Any animal not so restrained or confined will be deemed unlawfully running at large in the unincorporated area of the county. Provided, however, this This subsection shall not apply to domestic cats that have been spayed or neutered sterilized or community cats trapped, sterilized, and released those cats in the Community Cat Diversion Program.
- (b) Dogs that are participating in hunting events, obedience trials, conformation shows, tracking tests, herding trials, lure courses, and other events similar in nature shall not be considered "at large."
- (c) Dogs properly within the enclosed boundaries of a dog park shall not be considered at large. A dog park shall mean an enclosed area, owned and/or operated by the county, a municipality, or private entity, designed, intended, and used for domestic dogs to play and exercise off-leash in a controlled environment under the supervision of their owners or custodians. In the interest of public safety, if an Animal Care Officer witnesses an animal not under restraint, the officer may exercise the authority to pursue the animal(s) onto private property and/or into an enclosed fenced yard. This authority may only be exercised if it has been determined by the officer that the animal is clearly able to enter and exit from the premises unrestrained and presents an immediate threat of bodily harm to public safety such as, but not limited to: aggressively charging, attempting to bite, or displaying obvious unprovoked acts of aggression. Such pursuit shall end at such time as the animal is no longer at large and/or is under restraint. If an immediate threat to public safety is absent, then a search warrant must be executed in order to enter an enclosed fenced yard.
- (e)(d) AnyAn animal found running at large may be impounded by an Animal Care
 Officer and may be redeemed pursuant to Section 5-17 only upon authorization by the
 county Animal Services Department, with assurance from the owner or custodian that
 proper care and custody will be maintained.

Sec. 5-6. Nuisance animals.

(a) It shall be unlawful for an owner or custodian to keep an animal in such a manner so as to constitute a nuisance. The actions of an animal constitute a nuisance when the animal disturbs the rights of, threatens the safety of, or damages a member of the general public or interferes with the ordinary use and enjoyment of their property or public property.

- (b) By way of example, and not of limitation, the following acts or actions by the owner or custodian of anyan animal are hereby declared to be a nuisance and are, therefore, unlawful:
 - (1) Failure to exercise sufficient restraint necessary to control the animal as required by Section 5-5;
 - (2) Attracting stray and/or feral cats to an area by means of providing food, water, and/or shelter. This provision does not apply to citizens performing these acts to trap, sterilize, and release community cats;
 - (3) Allowing or permitting an animal to damage the property of another including, but not limited to, turning over garbage containers or damaging gardens, flowers, or vegetables;
 - (4) Maintaining an animal in a manner which could or does lead to the animal biting or attacking a human being, domestic animal, or livestock one or more times without provocation, whether or not such bite or attack occurs on the premises of the animal's owner.
 - (5) Maintaining animals in an environment of unsanitary conditions which results in offensive odors or is dangerous to the animal or to the public's health, welfare, or safety;
 - (6) Maintaining property in a manner that is offensive, annoying, or dangerous to the public's health, welfare, or safety because of the number, type, variety, density, or location of the animals on the property;
 - (7) Maintaining an animal that is diseased and dangerous to the public's health, welfare, or safety;
 - (8) Maintaining an animal that habitually or repeatedly chases, snaps at, or attacks pedestrians, bicycles, or vehicles; or
 - (9) Failure to keep female animals in heat confined in a building or secured enclosure in such a manner as will not create a nuisance by attracting other animals
- (c) An animal determined to be a nuisance by an Animal Care Officer may be caught or seized and impounded pursuant to this chapter and may be redeemed pursuant to Section 5-17 only upon authorization by the county Animal Services Department, with evidence presented by the owner or custodian that the situation creating the nuisance has been abated. Removal of exerement.

The owner of every animal shall be responsible for the removal of any excretions deposited by his or her animal on public walks and ways, recreation areas, or private property other than that of the owner.

Sec. 5-7. <u>Dangerous or vicious animal.</u>

- (a) The Animal Services Director or its designee shall have the authority to determine if an animal is dangerous or vicious. Upon determining an animal is dangerous or vicious, the Animal Services Director or its designee shall serve written notice of such determination upon the owner or custodian at their last known address.
- (b) The owner or custodian of a dangerous or vicious animal shall properly confine the animal at all times. Proper confinement is as follows:

(1) Dogs:

- a. If the animal is indoors, the animal must be kept in such a manner as to prevent the animal from, without provocation, attacking, causing injury to, or otherwise endangering the safety of individuals or other animals also located indoors.
- b. If the animal is outdoors and attended, the animal shall be muzzled, on a leash or attached to a similar physical restraining device, and under the physical control of the owner or custodian at all times.
- c. If the animal is outdoors and unattended, in addition to the requirements set forth in Section 5-4(a), the animal must be confined in a locked pen or "run" area that consists of a secured top and at least four (4) sides which are at least six (6) feet high. The shelter floor must be concrete or the sides must be buried at least twelve (12) inches in the ground.
- d. Proper confinement provisions of this subsection shall not apply to anyan animal owned by a licensed security company while the animal is patrolling the premises at the direction of the company. However, when off of the patrolled premises, the animal shall be properly confined as set forth in this subsection.

(2) Other animals:

- a. If the animal is indoors, the animal must be kept in such a manner as to prevent the animal from, without provocation, attacking, causing injury to, or otherwise endangering the safety of individuals or other animals also located indoors.
- b. If the animal is outdoors and attended, the animal must be restrained on a leash or attached to a similar physical restraining device, and under the control of the owner or custodian at all times.
- c. If the animal is outdoors and unattended, the animal must be confined in a locked pen or "run" area that is set up in such a manner as to prevent the animal from straying beyond its enclosed confines and prevents the public and other animals from obtaining entrance into or making contact with the animal.

- d. The Animal Services Director may, at its discretion and dependent upon the type of animal, set forth other reasonable requirements in the interest of protecting the public's health, welfare, or safety. These additional requirements shall be communicated to the owner or custodian in writing.
- (c) The premises upon which a dangerous or vicious animal is kept or harbored must have posted a sign visible to the public cautioning the public to beware of the animal located on the premises. By way of example, and not limitation, a sign reading "Beware of Dog" or "Beware of Animals" is sufficient.

Injured or diseased animals.

Anyone striking a domestic animal with a motor vehicle or bicycle shall notify the county Animal Care Department who will then take action necessary to make proper disposition of the animal.

Any domestic animal received by the animal care facility in critical condition from wounds, injuries, or disease may receive sustaining treatment by a licensed veterinarian until such time as the owner of the animal is contacted. Every effort possible shall be made to contact the owner or veterinarian of the animal via information obtained from its tag or microchip. Any such animal in critical condition, as described in this section, may be humanely destroyed if the owner or veterinarian of the animal cannot be contacted within two (2) hours. If the animal is in severe pain it may be destroyed immediately with agreement from a licensed veterinarian.

Sec. 5-8. Tethering.

- (a) It shall be unlawful to tether a pet outdoors for two (2) continuous hours or longer, unless:
 - (1) The pet is older than six (6) months;
 - (2) The tether is a minimum of twelve (12) feet in length and has swivel-type termination at both ends and the tether weight does not exceed ten (10) percent of the pet's body weight. Logger chains, towing chains, and other similar tethering devices are not acceptable;
 - (3) The tether must be attached to the pet with a buckle-type collar or a body harness. Logger chains, towing chains, and similar items are not permitted to be used as collars or harnesses. Pet-safe metal collars, chain collars, prong collars, or choke collars are permitted to be used while the pet is accompanied by its owner/keeper or custodian;
 - (4) The pet is tethered so as to prevent injury, strangulation, or entanglement with objects, vegetation, or other tethered animals;
 - (5) The pet has access to fresh water and shelter, as defined in this chapter;
 - (6) The pet is not sick or injured;
 - (7) Every female confined by a tether and unattended is sterilized; and

- (8) The temperature is above forty (40) degrees and less than ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit, EXCEPT:
 - a. If the temperature is below forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit for a sustained four (4) hour period, the animal may be tethered for thirty (30) minutes in a consecutive four (4) hour period so long as adequate bedding and shelter, as defined in this chapter, are provided to protect the animal from the elements; or
 - —If the temperature is above ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit for a sustained four (4) hour period, the animal may be tethered for thirty (30) minutes in a consecutive four (4) hour period so long as shade is provided to protect the animal from the elements. **Nuisance animals.**
 - ()—It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, possess, or maintain an animal in such a manner so as to constitute a nuisance. By way of example, and not of limitation, the following acts or actions by an owner or possessor of any animal are hereby declared to be a nuisance and are, therefore, unlawful:
 - (0) Failure to exercise sufficient restraint necessary to control an animal as required by Section 5-5;
 - (0)—Allowing or permitting an animal to damage the property of anyone other than its owner, including, but not limited to, turning over garbage containers or damaging gardens, flowers, or vegetables.;
 - (0) Failure to maintain a dangerous animal in a manner other than that which is described as lawful in Section 5-416(c);
 - (0) Maintaining animals in an environment of unsanitary conditions which results in offensive odors or is dangerous to the animal or to the public health, welfare or safety:
 - (0) Maintaining animals in an environment of unsanitary conditions which results in offensive odors or is dangerous to the animal or to the public health, welfare or safety.:
 - (0) Maintaining his or her property in a manner that is offensive, annoying, or dangerous to the public health, safety, or welfare of the community because of the number, type, variety,, density, or location of the animals on the property.:
 - (0) Allowing or permitting an animal to bark, whine, or howl in an excessive, unwarranted, and continuous or untimely fashion, or make other noise in such a manner so as to result in a serious annoyance or interference with the reasonable use and enjoyment of neighboring premises;
 - (0) Maintaining an animal that is diseased and dangerous to the public health;
 - (0)—Maintaining an animal that habitually or repeatedly chases, snaps at, attacks, or barks at pedestrians, bicycles, or vehicles.
 - () An animal that has been determined to be a nuisance by the Animal Care

 Department may be impounded and may not be returned to the owner until

 said owner can produce evidence to demonstrate that the situation creating the
 nuisance has been abated.

- (m) Every female animal in heat shall be kept confined in a building or secure enclosure in such a manner as will not create a nuisance by attracting other animals.
- Sec. 5-9. Animal care, generally.
- (o)—It shall be unlawful for an owner to fail to provide his or her animal(s) with sufficient good and wholesome food and water, proper shelter and protection from the weather, veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering, and humane care and treatment.
- (p) It shall be unlawful for a person to beat, cruelly treat, torment, overload, overwork, or otherwise abuse an animal, or cause, instigate, or permit any dogfight or other combat between animals or between animals and humans.
- (q) It shall be unlawful for a person to dye or color artificially any animal or fowl, including but not limited to rabbits, baby chickens, and ducklings, or to bring any dyed or colored animal or fowl into the county.
- (r)b. It shall be unlawful for any owner to abandon an animal in the unincorporated area of the county.

Sec. 5-109. Sale of animals.

- (a) No person shall sell, trade, barter, auction, lease, rent, give away, or display for commercial purpose, anyan animal, on any roadside, public right-of-way, public property, commercial parking lot, or sidewalk adjacent thereto, or at any flea market, fair, or carnival. Licensed pet shops, commercial kennels, municipal and/or county animal care facilities, and licensed pet rescue organizations are exempt from the requirements of this subsection.
- (b) No person shall offer an animal as an inducement to purchase a product, commodity, or service.
- (c) No person shall sell, offer for sale, or give away anya pet under eight (8) weeks of age, except as to surrender to a municipal and/or county animal care facility or to a licensed pet rescue organization.
- (e)(d) This section does not apply to licensed pet shops, commercial kennels, municipal and/or county animal care facilities, and licensed pet rescue organizations.

Sec. 5-1110. Care of animals during transport.

During <u>the</u> transportation, of an animal, <u>the animal</u> must be provided <u>with</u> adequate space and ventilation, and must not be confined in one area for more than twenty-four (24) consecutive hours without being adequately exercised, rested, fed, and watered.

Sec. 5-11. Injured or diseased animals.

(a) Anyone striking a domestic or feral dog or cat with a vehicle shall notify the county

Animal Services Department who will then take action necessary to make proper
disposition of the animal. Vehicle, as defined in this section, includes all self-propelled
and non-self-propelled vehicles, such as motor vehicles and bicycles.

(b) AnyA domestic or feral dog or cat received by an animal care facility in critical condition from wounds, injuries, or disease may receive sustaining treatment by a licensed veterinarian until such time as the animal's owner, custodian, or veterinarian is contacted. Every effort shall be made to effectuate contact via information obtained from the animal's tag or microchip. Any such animal in critical condition, as described in this section, may be euthanized if the owner, custodian, or veterinarian cannot be contacted within two (2) hours of receipt of the animal. If the animal is in severe pain it may be euthanized immediately by agreement between the animal care facility superintendent and a licensed veterinarian.

Sec. 5-12. Removal of excrement.

The owner or custodian of every animal shall be responsible for the removal of excretions deposited by their animal on public property, in recreation areas, or on the private property of another.

Sec. 5-13. Prohibited, exceptions.

- (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall be unlawful for anya person to publicly display or exhibit, sell, keep, harbor, own, or act as custodian of:
 - (1) Non-domestic members of the cat family (Felidae);
 - (2) Wolf-dog hybrids, and/or a animal containing any percentage of wolf;
 - (3) Badgers, wolverines, weasels, skunks, and minks (in the family of Mustelidae);
 - (4) Raccoons (Procyonidae);
 - (5) Bear (Ursidae);
 - (6) Nonhuman primates which include apes, monkeys, baboons, macaques, lemurs, marmosets, tamarins, and other species of the order primates (Haplorrhini);
 - (7) Bats (Chiroptera);
 - (8) Semi-aquatic reptiles in the order of Alligators, crocodiles, and caimans (Crocodilia);
 - (9) Scorpions (Scorpiones);
 - (10) Constricting snakes of the following species: Reticulated Python (Python reticulatus), Burmese Python (Python bivittatus), Indian rock Python (Python molurus), African Rock Python (Python Sebae), and Anaconda (Eunectes murinus all types);
 - (11) Venomous reptiles;
 - (12) Lizards over two feet which is a member of the family carnivorous and frugivorous lizards (Varanidae);
 - (13) Non-domesticated members of the order placental mammals (Carnivora);

- (14) Other wildlife not listed;
- (15) Animals of mixed domestication and feral lineage; or
- (16) Other animals where its behavior, size, temperament, breed, or capacity for inflicting serious injury is or may be detrimental to the health, welfare, or safety of people or animals in the immediate surrounding area.
- (b) The prohibitions contained in subsection (a) shall not apply in the following circumstances:
 - (1) The keeping of such animals in a public zoo, a bona fide education or medical institution, by a humane society, or in a museum where they are kept as live specimens for the public to view or for the purpose of instruction, research, or study;
 - (2) The keeping of such animals for exhibition to the public by a bona fide traveling circus, carnival, exhibit, or show pursuant to properly obtained federal, state, and/or local licenses and/or permits;
 - (3) The keeping of such animals in a licensed veterinary hospital for treatment; or
 - (4) The keeping of such animals by a wildlife rescue organization with appropriate federal, state, and/or local licenses and/or permits obtained from applicable regulatory bodies.

Sec. 5-1214. Seizure and right of entry to protect abandoned, neglected, or cruelly treated animals.

- (a) If the owner or custodian does not give permission, the Animal Care Officer may obtain a search warrant to enter onto any privately owned premises of which an Animal Care Officer suspects a violation of this chapter exists thereonupon which it is suspected a violation of this chapter exists. Once upon the premises, the officer may examine such the animal and may take immediately seize custody of the animal when, in his or her the officer's sole opinion, it requires removal of the animal from the premises is necessary for the immediate protection of the animal or the public, and shall issue a uniform ordinance summons to the owner or custodian. If an Animal Care Officer witnesses an animal in distress and in need of immediate medical attention, the officer may exercise the authority to enter onto private property (yard only) and/or into an enclosed fenced yard to seize the animal. If the animal is not in need of immediate medical care, then a search warrant must be executed in order to enter onto private property (yard only) and/or into an enclosed fenced yard.
- (b) If the animal cannot be seized in a safe and efficient manner, the Animal Care Officer may tranquilize the animal by use of a tranquilizer gun.
- (c) The After the animal is seized pursuant to this section, the Animal Care Officer shall thereafter petition the appropriate magistrate for a civil hearing and order pursuant to Section 5-16.

- (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed as to prohibit the immediate euthanizing of an animal after the initial seizure and without regard to a civil hearing or the uniform ordinance summons criminal proceeding when:
 - (1) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be a danger to other animals or persons at the animal care facility, infectious to other animals, in pain, or near death; or
 - (2) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be critically injured or ill and must be euthanized for humane purposes.
- (a) , which shall be a civil proceeding. The hearing shall be set not more than ten (10) business days from the date of the seizure of the animal to determine whether the owner, if known, is able to adequately provide for the animal and is a fit person to own the animal until final disposition of the uniform ordinance summons (criminal proceeding). The Animal Care Officer shall cause to be served upon the owner, if known and residing within the jurisdiction wherein the animal is found, written notice at least five (5) business days prior to the hearing of the time and place of the hearing. If the owner is not known or cannot be found within the jurisdiction wherein the animal was found, the Animal Care Officer shall post a copy of the notice at the property where the animal was seized. The pet or animal shall remain in the custody and care of the Animal Care Department until conclusion of the civil hearing before the magistrate. During or after the final uniform ordinance summons proceeding, the magistrate shall make the final determination as to whether the animal is returned to the owner or whether title is transferred to the Animal Care Department whereby the animal may be put up for adoption or humanely destroyed. The court, in either proceeding, in determining whether the owner is able to adequately provide for the animal or is a fit person to own the animal, may take into consideration, among other things, the owner's past record of convictions under this chapter, or one similar thereto, and the owner's mental and physical condition.

If the magistrate, after conclusion of either the civil or criminal proceeding, orders the return of the animal to its owner, the animal care facility shall release the animal upon receipt from the owner of all redemption fees as described in Section 5-14, below. If the owner does not pay the redemption fees within five (5) business days of the magistrate's order of final disposition of the animal after conclusion of the criminal proceeding, the animal shall become the property of the Animal Care Department, shall not be released to the owner, and may be placed for adoption or euthanized.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the euthanization of a critically injured or ill animal for humane purposes at any time after the initial seizure of the animal.

Sec. 5-1315. Impounding, surrender.

(a) AnyAn animal found within the unincorporated area of the county as a result of a violation or alleged violation by the owner or custodian, whether known or unknown, of

the in violation of the provisions of this chapter may be caught or seized and impounded by an Animal Care Officercounty authorities. If an the animal cannot be caught or seized in a safe, and efficient manner, the Animal Care Officer animal care personnel may tranquilize the animal by use of a tranquilizer gun.

- The Animal Care Department may, thereafter, make available for adoption or humanely destroy impounded animals which are not positively identifiable and not redeemed within five (5) business days, except as provided in subsection (I) below, animals impounded at the animal care facility, which are deemed by the Superintendent of Animal Services, or his/her designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to constitute a danger to other animals or persons at the facility, or which are infectious to other animals, in pain or near death, may be humanely destroyed immediately.
- (a) When a person arrested is, at the time of the an arrest, in charge of an animal, the county Animal Care Department Animal Services Department may take charge of the animal and deposit the animal in a safe place of custody or impound the animal at its animal care facility.
- (a) The county may transfer title of all animals held at its animal care facility after the legal detention period has expired and its owner has not claimed the animal.
- (a) A positively identifiable animal is one which bears or wears a legible and traceable current permanent number, county license tag or rabies vaccination tag pursuant to Section 5-2; or traceable number, tattoo or microchip pursuant to S.C. Code 47-3-510 (Supp. 1999).
- The owner of a positively identifiable impounded animal shall be notified at the owner's last known address by registered mail if attempts by telephone are not successful. The owner has fourteen (14) business days from the date of mailing to redeem the animal from the animal care facility. Redemption costs will include the cost of mailing, plus any established costs, fines, fees or other charges. If the owner does not redeem the animal within fourteen (14) business days of the date of the mailing, the animal will be deemed abandoned and becomes the property of the animal care facility. For animals impounded at the animal care facility, the Superintendent of Animal Services, or his/her designee in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, shall either place the animal for adoption or have the animal humanely destroyed, pursuant to S.C. Code 47-3-540 (Supp. 1999).
- Notwithstanding the above and except as provided in subsection (f), below, positively identifiable animals impounded at the animal care facility, which are deemed by the Superintendent of Animal Services, or his/her designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian to constitute a danger to other animals or persons at the facility, or which are infectious to other animals, in pain or near death, may be humanely destroyed at any time.
- (d) Any animal found" at large" may be impounded by the Animal Care Officer and may not be redeemed by its owner unless such redemption is authorized by the county Animal

- Care Department, with assurance from the owner that proper care and custody will be maintained.
- (d) Any animal that has been determined by the Animal Care Department to be a dangerous or vicious animal, and is not properly confined as described in Section 5-16(c), below, or is otherwise in violation of this chapter, may be impounded by the Animal Care Department. Such animals shall not be euthanized unless the owner has surrendered the animal to the animal care facility and has completed and signed a surrender form or until a final uniform ordinance summons proceeding (criminal proceeding) is held before an appropriate magistrate and the magistrate has determined that the animal should be euthanized.
- If the owner does not give permission, the Animal Care Officer may obtain a search warrant to enter any premises upon which it is suspected a violation of this chapter exists. Once upon the premises, the officer may examine such animal and may take immediate custody of the animal when, in his or her opinion, it requires removal from the premises for the immediate protection of the animal or the public, and shall issue a uniform ordinance summons to the owner. The Animal Care Officer shall thereafter petition the appropriate magistrate for a hearing, which shall be a civil proceeding. The hearing shall be set not more than ten (10) business days from the date of the seizure of the animal to determine whether the owner, if known, is able to adequately provide for the animal, adequately confine the animal as defined in Section 5-16 (c), and is a fit person to own the animal until final disposition of the uniform ordinance summons (criminal proceeding). The Animal Care Officer shall cause to be served upon the owner, if known and residing within the jurisdiction wherein the animal is found, written notice at least five (5) business days prior to the hearing of the time and place of the hearing. If the owner is not known or cannot be found within the jurisdiction wherein the animal was found, the Animal Care Officer shall post a copy of the notice at the property where the animal was seized. The pet or animal shall remain in the custody and care of the Animal Care Department until conclusion of the civil hearing before the magistrate. During or after the final uniform ordinance summons proceeding, the magistrate shall make the final determination as to whether the animal is returned to the owner or whether title is transferred to the Animal Care Department whereby the animal may be put up for adoption or humanely destroyed. The court, in either proceeding, in determining whether the owner is able to adequately provide for the animal, adequately confine the animal as defined in Section 5-16 (c), or is a fit person to own the animal, may take into consideration, among other things, the owner's past record of convictions under this chapter, or one similar thereto, and the owner's mental and physical condition.

If the magistrate, after conclusion of either the civil or criminal proceeding, orders the return of the animal to its owner, the animal care facility shall release the animal upon receipt from the owner of all redemption fees as described in Section 5-14, below. If the

owner does not pay the redemption fees within five (5) business days of the magistrate's order of final disposition of the animal after conclusion of the criminal proceeding, the animal shall become the property of the Animal Care Department, shall not be released to the owner, and may be placed for adoption or euthanized.

(b)_

- (c) Nothing in this subsection (I) shall be construed <u>as</u> to prohibit the <u>immediate euthanizing</u> euthanization of <u>a critically injured or ill an</u> animal for humane purposes at any time after <u>impoundment impoundment of the animal and without regard to a civil hearing or the uniform ordinance summons criminal proceeding when:</u>
 - (1) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be a danger to other animals or persons at the animal care facility, infectious to other animals, or in pain or near death; or
 - (2) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be critically injured or ill and must be euthanized for humane purposes.
- (e) An owner or custodian may surrender its Any animal surrendered to the animal care facility upon the completion of a signed surrender form. Upon surrender, the animal shall become the property of the county Animal Services Department with title to ownership vested therein and may be adopted placed for adoption or euthanized at any time provided there is a completed and signed surrender form on file for the animal concerned.
- (f)(d) It shall be unlawful for anya person to furnish false information on the animal surrender form.

Sec. 5-1416. Civil hearing petition and hearing procedure.

- (a) Except as provided otherwise in this chapter, an Animal Care Officer may, upon its own initiative, petition the appropriate magistrate for a civil hearing when:
 - (1) A person suspected of violating any provision of this chapter is charged by an Animal Care Officer with such violation; or
 - (2) An Animal Care Officer finds an animal within the unincorporated area of the county as a result of a violation or alleged violation by the owner or custodian, whether known or unknown, of the provisions of this chapter.
- (b) The civil hearing will be held (prior to the uniform ordinance summons criminal proceeding) to determine physical custody of the animal and at the conclusion of that hearing, the magistrate shall issue an order with its determination of whether the animal remains with or is returned to the owner or custodian or whether title to ownership is transferred to the county Animal Services Department.

- (c) The civil hearing shall be set not more than ten (10) business days from the date the animal was impounded. The Animal Care Officer or its designee shall, at least five (5) business days prior to the civil hearing, serve written notice of the time and place of the civil hearing upon the owner or custodian if known and residing within the jurisdiction wherein the animal is found. If the owner or custodian is unknown or cannot be found within the jurisdiction wherein the animal was found, the Animal Care Officer shall post a copy of the civil hearing notice at the property where the animal was seized
- (d) In determining whether the owner or custodian is able to adequately provide for the animal or is a fit person to own or have custody of the animal, the magistrate may take into consideration the owner or custodian's convictions under this chapter and convictions similar thereto, the owner or custodian's mental and physical condition, and other applicable criteria; and
 - (1) Notwithstanding subsection (2), if the civil hearing is held in response to a violation or alleged violation of this chapter and the magistrate orders the animal to remain with or be returned to its owner or custodian, the animal care facility shall release the animal pursuant to Section 5-17, provided that all other redemption requirements are met; or
 - (2) If the civil hearing is held in response to a violation or alleged violation of Section 5-7 and the magistrate orders the animal to remain with or be returned to its owner or custodian, the magistrate is to include in its order that the animal is not to be released until the magistrate receives from the Animal Care Officer confirmation the owner or custodian has proper confinement for the animal as defined in Section 5-7, provided that all other redemption requirements are met.
- (e) If the owner or custodian does not redeem the animal within seven (7) business days of the issuance of the magistrate's order, the animal shall become the property of the county Animal Services Department and may be placed for adoption or euthanized.
- (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed as to prohibit the immediate euthanizing of an animal after seizure or impoundment and without regard to a civil hearing or the uniform ordinance summons criminal proceeding when:
 - (1) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be a danger to other animals or persons at the animal care facility, infectious to other animals, or in pain or near death; or
 - (2) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be critically injured or ill and must be euthanized for humane purposes.

Sec. 5-17. Redemption.

(a) The owner or keeper <u>custodian</u> of <u>anyan</u> animal that has been impounded <u>under pursuant</u> to the provisions of this chapter, and which has not been determined by the Animal Care

Department to be dangerous or vicious, shall have the right to redeem such pet animal at any time within the legal detention period outlined in Section 5-13 prior to the applicable redemption deadline upon payment of all fees, established and required by the Animal Care facility. No pet will be released without proof of inoculation vaccination, and without an implanted microchip, provided that all other redemption requirements have been met. The fees set forth shall be doubled for anya pet impounded twice or more within the same 12-month period. An animal attempted to be redeemed after the redemption deadline may not be released to the owner or custodian without due cause as determined solely by the Animal Services Director or its designee.

- (b) No fertile pet shall be redeemed unless one of the exceptions in Section 5-3(a) has been met. The requirements that a petImpounded animals must be spayed or neutered before being redeemed prior to redemption, unless the owner or custodian of the animal can provide:
 - (1) A statement from a licensed veterinarian that the animal, due to health reasons, could not withstand sterilization surgery;
 - (2) Proof of participation in a nationally recognized conformation or performance event occurring within the past twelve (12) months; or
 - (3) Proof the animal is currently being used for hunting purposes and has properly been registered with a nationally recognized organization which sanctions hunting tests and/or field trials.

(c) Positively identifiable animals:

- (1) A positively identifiable animal is one which bears or wears a legible and traceable current permanent number, county license tag or rabies vaccination tag, tattoo, or microchip pursuant to S.C. Code of Laws Annotated Section 47-3-510 (1999) or one which is known by the county Animal Services Department to belong to an owner or custodian positively identifiable by the county Animal Services Department.
- (2) With the exception of an animal to be released by a magistrate's order, the county Animal Services Department shall notify the owner or custodian of a positively identifiable impounded animal at the last known address by registered mail that the dog is in its possession. The owner or custodian has fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of mailing to notify the county Animal Services Department or the animal care facility that they will redeem the animal and (14) calendar days from that notification to redeem the animal from the animal care facility. The animal must be redeemed pursuant to Section 5-17, provided that all other redemption requirements are met.
- (3) Animals released pursuant to a magistrate's order must be redeemed within seven (7) business days after the issuance of the order, provided that all other redemption requirements are met.

- (d) Non-positively identifiable animals must be redeemed within five (5) calendar days of impound.
- (e) If the owner or custodian of an animal impounded at the animal care facility fails to redeem the animal within the prescribed time, the animal will be deemed abandoned, shall become the property of the county Animal Services Department with title to ownership vested therein, and may be placed for adoption or euthanized.
- (b)(f) shall not be waived pursuant to the exceptions in Section 5-3 (a) if If the animal has been impounded more than once for a violations of this chapter. In such instances, the pet-animal shall be spayed or neutered by the animal care facility, regardless of whether proof pursuant to subsection (b) is provided, and the costs of such shall be added to all other required redemption fees.
- The fees set out in this section shall be doubled for any pet impounded twice or more within the same 12-month period.

Sec. 5-1518. Adoption.

- (a) AnyAn animal impounded under the any provisions of this chapter, which is the property of the county Animal Services Department, may, at the end of the legal detention period, be adopted, provided the new owner will agrees to comply with the provisions contained herein and pays all applicable fees.
- (b) Any pet surrendered to the Animal Care Department or animal care facility may be adopted at any time provided there is a completed and signed surrender form on file for the animal concerned.
- (e)(b) Those iIndividuals adopting puppies or kittens too young to be neutered, or spayed, or receive rabies inoculations vaccinations at the time of adoption will pay the cost of these procedures at the time of adoption and be given an appointment for a later time date to have these procedures performed accomplished. In the event the The fees paid for these procedures will be refunded if the animal is deceased prior to the appointment date, the applicable portion of the adoption fee will be returned.

Sec. 5-16. Prohibited, exceptions.

- (a) Except as provided in subsection 5-16 (d), it shall be unlawful for any person to sell, own, keep, harbor, or act as custodian of a:
 - (0) Non-domestic member of the family felidae;
 - (0) Wolf-dog hybrid containing any percentage of wolf;
 - (0) Badger, wolverine, weasel, skunk and mink;
 - (0) Raccoon;
 - (0) Bear;

- (0) Nonhuman primate to include ape, monkey, baboon, macaque, lemur, marmoset, tamarin and other species of the order primates;
- (0) Bat;
- (0) Alligator, crocodile and caiman;
- (0) Scorpion;
- (0) Constricting snake of the following species: reticulated python, python reticulatus; Burmese/Indian rock python, python molurus; rock python, python sebae, and anaconda, eunectes murlnus;
- (0) Venomous reptile;
- (0) Any snake or other animal where the animal's behavior, size, temperament, breed, or capacity for inflicting serious injury is or may be detrimental to the safety and welfare of citizens in the immediate surrounding area;
- (0) Any lizard over two feet which is a members of the family varanidae;
- (0) Any non-domesticated member of the order Carnivora;
- (0) Any wild or feral animal; or
- (0) Any animal of mixed domestication and feral lineage.
- (a) It shall be lawful for any person to own, keep, harbor, act as custodian of any make not listed in subsection 5-16(a); provided, however, it shall be unlawful to expose such snake to public view or contact, or exhibit either gratuitously or for a fee, within the unincorporated areas of the county on public or private property, except as provided in subsection 5-16(d).
- (a) It shall be unlawful for a person owning or harboring or having the care or the custody of a dangerous or vicious animal to permit the animal to go unconfined. A dangerous or vicious animal is unconfined as the term is used in this section if the animal is not securely confined indoors or confined in a securely enclosed and locked pen or "run" area upon the person's premises. The pen or run area also must have either: 1) sides six (6) feet high, or 2) a secure top. If the pen or structure has no bottom secured to the sides, the sides must be embedded into the ground at a depth of no less than one (1) foot. However, the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any animal that is owned by a licensed security company and is on patrol in a confined area.
- (a) The prohibitions contained in subsections (a) and (b) above, shall not apply in the following circumstances:
 - (0) The keeping of such animals in a public zoo, bona fide education or medical institution, humane society, or museum where they are kept as live specimens for the public to view. or for the purpose of instruction, research, or study;

- (1) The keeping of such animals for exhibition to the public by a bona fide traveling circus, carnival, exhibit or show, properly licensed and permitted by state and local law;
- The keeping of such animals in a bona fide, licensed veterinary hospital for treatment:
- (2) The keeping of such animals by a wildlife rescue organization with appropriate permits from any state or local regulatory body.

Sec. 5-1719. Interference with animal care officers.

It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, hinder, or molest an Animal Care Officer in the performance of his or her their duty or seek to release anyan pet animal in the custody of an Animal Care Officer without such officer's consent.

Sec. 5-1820. Complainant's identification to remain confidential.

AnyA person reporting a violation of this chapter and/or requesting a summons be issued must provide identification to the Animal Care Officer. The identity, or information tending to reveal the identity, of anyan individual who in good faith makes a complaint or otherwise discloses information, which alleges a violation of this chapter, shall remain confidential, unless the complainant authorizes the release of his or hertheir identity.

Sec. 5-1921. Penalties.

- (a) AnyA person who violates the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment not exceeding thirty (30) days, or both. Each day's continuing violation shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.
- (b) The AnyAn owner or person having charge or custody custodian of an animal convicted of violating Section 5-4(a)(4) of this chapter cruelly used who is convicted of any violation of this chapter forfeits ownership, charge, or custody of the animal and at the discretion of the court, the person who is charged with or convicted of a such violation of this chapter must may be ordered to pay all costs incurred by the county Animal Services Department prior to the conviction to care for the animal and related expenses.

SECTION II. Severability. If any section, subsection, or clause of this ordinance shall be deemed to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, and clauses shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION III. Conflicting Ordinances. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION IV. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective from and after ________, 2024.

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

	<u>BY:</u>
	Jesica Mackey, Chair
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ATTEST THIS THE DAY	
OF , 2024.	
<u>, 2024.</u>	
Anette Kirylo	
Clerk of Council	
DICHI AND COUNTY ATTODNEY'S OFFICE	
RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE	
Approved As To LEGAL Form Only	
No Opinion Rendered As To Content	
First Reading:	
Second Reading:	
Public Hearing:	
(b) Third Reading:	

Richland County STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. -16HR

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RICHLAND COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 5, ANIMALS AND FOWL.

Pursuant to the authority granted by the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the General Assembly of the state of South Carolina BE IT ENACTED BY RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL:

SECTION I. The Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 5, Animals and Fowl, is hereby amended by the deletion of the language contained therein and the substitution of the followinglanguage:

CHAPTER 5: ANIMALS

Sec. 5-1. Definitions.

Whenever used in this chapter, unless a contrary intention is clearly evidenced, the following terms shall be interpreted as herein defined.

Abandon. The owner or custodian's failure to provide for its animal the necessities of life and well-being or to desert, forsake, or give up absolutely its animal without securing another owner or custodian. This section does not include the responsible release of community cats trapped, sterilized, and released back into the community.

Abuse. The act of an owner or custodian who deprives its animal of necessary sustenance or shelter, or of a person who inflicts unnecessary pain or suffering upon an animal, or of a person causing these things to be done.

Animal. In addition to dogs and cats, any organism of the kingdom of Animalia, other than a human being.

Animal Care Officer. A person employed by the county to enforce the animal care program or an official with legal enforcement authority thereof.

Animal Care Facility. A premise designated or selected by the county for the purpose of impound, care, adoption, or euthanasia of animals held under the authority of this chapter.

At large. Not under restraint or confinement.

Commercial pet breeder. A person, partnership, corporation, association, or establishment engaged in a business, occupation, profession, or activity in which one or more dogs are owned, kept, harbored, or boarded and used for a stud for which a fee is charged and/or used for breeding purposes for which a fee is charged for the offspring.

Community Cat, also called "free-roaming cat." A domestic cat that is no longer in a domesticated environment or one of its descendants and that lives outdoors full-time and has no known owner. Pets and/or house cats which are outdoors periodically are specifically excluded from this definition.

Custodian. A person who, regardless of the length of time, keeps, has charge of, shelters, feeds, harbors, or takes care of any animal, or is otherwise acting as the owner of an animal. A custodian is not necessarily the owner.

Dangerous or vicious animal.

- (a) Dangerous or vicious animal means:
 - (1) An animal which the owner or custodian knows, or reasonably should know, has the propensity, tendency, or disposition to, without provocation, attack, cause injury to, or otherwise endanger the safety of human beings, domestic animals, or livestock;
 - (2) An animal which bites or attacks a human being, domestic animal, or livestock one or more times without provocation, whether or not such bite or attack occurs on the premises of the animal's owner;
 - (3) An animal, while not under restraint or confinement, which commits one or more acts, without provocation, that causes a person to reasonably believe the animal will bite or attack and cause bodily injury to a human being, domestic animal, or livestock; or
 - (4) An animal kept or harbored by its owner or custodian primarily, or in part, for the purpose of animal fighting or which has been trained for animal fighting.
- (b) An animal shall not be deemed dangerous or vicious if:
 - (1) The animal bites, attacks, or commits an unprovoked act upon, as described in subsection (a):
 - a. A human being or animal assaulting its owner or custodian;
 - b. A human being or animal trespassing upon the property of its owner or custodian. For the purpose of this definition, trespassing means entering or remaining upon the property of another without permission or legal privilege; or
 - c. A human being or animal which has abused or tormented it;
 - (2) The animal is protecting or defending its offspring or another animal; or
 - (3) The animal is acting in defense of an attack upon its owner or custodian or other person.

Domestic. To share the genetic makeup and/or physical appearance of its ancestors which were historically domesticated for human companionship and service.

Feral animal. An animal which may be an individual domesticated animal who is no longer in a domesticated environment, or one of their descendants.

Fowl. Birds kept for domestic, or utility purposes including, but not limited to, chickens, hens, roosters, guineas, ducks, geese, turkeys, emus, and poultry.

Harboring. Allowing an animal to, regardless of the length of time, remain, be lodged, or be fed upon or within a premise which the person occupies or owns. Premises include, but is not limited to, dwellings, buildings, yards, and enclosures.

Impound. The humane confinement of the animal by an Animal Care Officer at an animal care facility.

Livestock. Cattle, sheep, horses, goats, swine, mules, asses, and other animals ordinarily raised or used on a farm.

Owner. A person who:

- (1) Has a property right in the animal;
- (2) Keeps or harbors the animal, has it in its care, or acts as its custodian; or
- (3) Permits the animal to remain on or about premises it owns or occupies.

Pet. Domestic dog (canis lupus familiaris) and/or domestic cat (felis catus). When applicable, pet shall also mean an animal kept lawfully for pleasure rather than utility or commercial purposes, including fowl.

Provocation. An act done towards an animal that a reasonable person would expect to enrage such an animal to the extent the animal would be likely to, or did, bite, attack, and/or cause bodily injury. Provocation includes, but is not limited to, teasing, harassing, beating, torturing, injuring, or intentionally causing pain to an animal. When an animal is attacked on the property of its owner or custodian by another animal off its owner's or custodian's property, the attack will be presumed unprovoked, absent clear evidence to the contrary. Provocation does not include actions on the part of an individual that pertain to reasonable efforts of self-defense, defense of others, or defense of another animal.

Seizure. The removal of an animal from an individual's property or possession, without the consent of the owner or custodian, by an Animal Care Officer as a result of a violation or alleged violation of the provisions of this chapter or to satisfy an order entered by the court.

Shelter. Unless stated otherwise, a structure reasonably expected to protect the animal from exposure to the elements of weather or adverse conditions where such exposure could cause the animal physical suffering or impairment.

Tether. To fasten, chain, tie, secure, or restrain an animal by a collar or harness to a dog house, tree, fence, or other stationary object or structure.

Under restraint or confinement. Under restraint or confinement shall mean an animal that is:

- (1) On the premises of its owner or custodian indoors;
- (2) On the premises of its owner or custodian outdoors on a leash or other similar restraining device or within a fenced-in area;

- (3) On the premises of its owner or custodian while accompanied by its owner or custodian; or
- (4) Off the premises of its owner or custodian while accompanied by its owner or custodian and is under physical control of such owner or custodian by means of a leash or other similar restraining device.

Unincorporated area of the county. The unincorporated area of Richland County and all areas located in municipalities with which Richland County has an agreement for animal services.

Sec. 5-2. License for dogs and cats; rabies vaccination tags.

- (a) For the purpose of this section, pet shall mean domestic dog and/or domestic cat.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of a pet to fail to obtain a current county pet license for a pet over four (4) months of age.
 - (1) The county Animal Services Department shall annually provide a sufficient number of durable tags suitable for pets, numbered from one (1) upwards, on which shall be stamped the year and the words "pet license." Such tags must be worn by all pets within the unincorporated area of the county at all times.
 - (2) The county Animal Services Department shall maintain the name and address of each party to whom a license and tag have been issued under the provisions of this section and shall keep the same on file in the offices of the department for the purpose of identification.
 - (3) It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of a pet over four (4) months of age to fail to vaccinate the pet and obtain a current rabies vaccination tag showing that such pet has been vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian. No license will be issued unless proof of vaccination is shown.
 - (4) A pet owner or custodian who moves into the unincorporated area of the county for the purpose of establishing residency shall have thirty (30) calendar days in which to obtain the license.

(c) License fees.

- (1) Annual license fees. Annual license fees for fertile and sterilized pets shall be established by the county council. Licenses will expire one (1) year after the date of issue and owners/custodians must renew the license prior to its expiration.
- (2) Exemptions from annual license fees. The following owner/custodian classifications of fertile pets shall be exempt from paying the higher license fee for fertile pets. These exempt persons shall be required to purchase a license for their fertile pet and will pay the same license fee as required for sterilized pets:

- a. A pet owner or custodian who can furnish a statement from a licensed veterinarian that the pet, due to health reasons, could not withstand sterilization surgery;
- b. An owner or custodian of a purebred pet who can furnish proof of participation in a nationally recognized conformation or performance event occurring within the past twelve (12) months; or
- c. An owner or custodian of a dog currently being used for hunting purposes who can furnish proof the dog has been properly registered with a nationally recognized organization which sanctions hunting tests and/or field trials.
- (3) An owner or custodian of a dog which is trained to be an assistance/service dog shall be required to obtain an annual license but shall not be required to pay a license fee.

Sec. 5-3. Permit for commercial pet breeding.

- (a) For the purpose of this section, *pet* shall mean domestic dog and domestic cat. A commercial pet breeder is permitted to operate in the unincorporated area of the county so long as the breeder obtains from the county Animal Services Department a commercial pet breeder permit and meets all other requirements established by federal, state, or local laws. The breeder permit application process should begin prior to a litter being delivered.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for a commercial pet breeder to fail to obtain a county commercial pet breeder permit from the county Animal Services Department. To obtain a commercial pet breeder permit:
 - (1) Before applying for a permit, the applicant must first have obtained:
 - a. A County Business License issued by the Richland County Business Service Center; and
 - b. County pet licenses and rabies vaccinations for all pets over four (4) months of age kept or harbored by the breeder as set forth in Section 5-2.
 - (2) The permit applicant must complete a commercial pet breeder permit application. An application is complete when filled out properly and accompanied by a copy of a valid County business license and proof of pet licensing and vaccination, where applicable. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
 - (3) The permit applicant must pass an inspection. The Animal Services Department, through its Animal Care Officers, shall conduct an inspection of the premise upon which the pets are primarily kept to ensure the following requirements, along with the requirements set forth in Section 5-4, are met:

- a. The enclosure or other area(s) where the pets are kept is constructed in such a manner that pets housed there will be adequately and comfortably kept in any season of the year;
- b. The enclosure or other area(s) where the pets are kept is able to be easily cleaned and sanitized and kept clean and free from accumulations of feces, filth, mud, and debris;
- c. Every pet on the premises has constant access to a clean and fresh water supply and an adequate amount of food appropriate to maintain each pet's normal condition of health;
- d. The premise where the pets are kept is set up in such a manner as to prevent pets from straying beyond their enclosed confines or other areas and prevents the public and stray animals from obtaining entrance thereto or making contact with the pets on the premise;
- e. Permits shall be displayed in a conspicuous place inside of the physical location shown on the application.
- f. The above-listed requirements must be maintained throughout the period of time for which the permit is issued and failure to maintain these requirements may result in a revocation of the permit.

(c) Restrictions:

- (1) A permit will not be issued to an applicant who has been previously found guilty of violating any federal, state, or local laws or regulations pertaining to animal cruelty within five (5) years of the date of application.
- (2) A permit will only be valid if there also exists a valid business license and only for the applicant and location listed on the application. The permit is non-transferable.
- (3) Any violation or alleged violation of this chapter shall be grounds for the revocation of the permit. The county Animal Services Department shall determine, in its sole discretion, whether the permit is to be revoked and shall communicate the revocation to the breeder in writing. Revocation means the breeder shall cease all commercial breeding activity until a new valid permit is issued or the revocation is rescinded and failure to do so will subject the breeder to penalties. The breeder may appeal the revocation by submitting to the Animal Services Director a writing setting forth the reasons for the appeal. Only what is submitted in writing will be considered. The written appeal must be received by the Animal Services Director within seven (7) business days of the revocation notice and the Animal Services Director will review the written appeal and issue its determination to rescind or uphold the revocation within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the appeal.

- (d) The annual fee for a commercial pet breeder permit is non-refundable and shall be established by county council. The permit shall expire one (1) year after the date of issue.
- (e) The county Animal Services Department shall maintain the name and address of each party to whom a permit has been issued under the provisions of this section and shall keep the same on file in the offices of the department for the purpose of identification.

Sec. 5-4. Animal care, generally.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for an owner or custodian to fail to provide its animals with:
 - (1) Necessary sustenance, such as sufficient good and wholesome food, in an adequate amount to sustain flesh or permit normal growth and an adequate amount of clean water that is not sour, filthy, or spoiled. Food and water should be of the appropriate amounts and type for the species;
 - (2) Proper protection from the weather;
 - (3) Veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering or care for a diseased, sick, or injured animal;
 - (4) Humane care and treatment. It shall be unlawful for a person to tease, molest, beat, cruelly treat, torment, overload, overwork, or otherwise abuse an animal, or cause, instigate, or permit dogfighting or other combat between animals or between animals and humans; or
 - (5) Proper shelter. Proper shelter for an animal primarily kept outdoors and unattended includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Dogs.
 - 1. The shelter should be of weatherproof construction, have a roof, enclosed sides, a doorway, and a solid level floor raised at least two inches from the ground. There shall be no cracks or openings other than the entrance except that rainproof openings for ventilation are acceptable in hot weather.
 - 2. The shelter shall be small enough to allow the dog to maintain warmth and body heat, but large enough to allow the dog to stand, turn around, and lie down.
 - 3. When the real or effective temperature is forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or below, a sufficient amount of dry bedding, such as cedar shavings or straw, must be provided to insulate against the cold and dampness.
 - 4. The following is not considered proper shelter: Storage buildings, sheds, crates, pet carriers, barrels, screened porches, patios, or balconies, nor the areas under lean-tos, covered porches, decks, vehicles, or houses.

b. Livestock.

- 1. The shelter should provide protection from heavy rain, snow, and high wind and provide sufficient shade in the summer.
- 2. The shelter for large livestock and healthy horses and cattle does not have to be manmade. Natural shelters, such as trees, are acceptable. However, a windbreak must be provided.
- 3. The shelter for small livestock and unhealthy horses and cattle must be in the form of a barn or pen of sufficient capacity and strength to properly accommodate the number of animals contained therein.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for a person to leave an untethered pet outdoors unattended for two (2) continuous hours or longer without access to fresh water and shelter, as defined in this chapter, regardless of temperature.
- (c) It shall be unlawful for a person to leave an untethered pet outdoors unattended for thirty (30) minutes or longer during a consecutive four (4) hour period when:
 - (1) The temperature is below forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit for a sustained four (4) hour period, unless adequate shelter, as defined in this chapter, is provided to protect the animal from the elements; or
 - (2) The temperature is above ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit for a sustained four (4) hour period, unless adequate shade is provided to protect the animal from the elements.
- (d) It shall be unlawful for a person to improperly collar or harness a pet. Collars and harnesses must be made of leather, nylon, or similar material and properly fitted for the pet's measurements and body weight so as to not choke or impede the pet's normal breathing or swallowing and to not cause pain or injury to the pet. Logger chains, towing chains, and similar items are not permitted to be used as collars or harnesses. Pet-safe metal collars, chain collars, prong collars, or choke collars are permitted to be used while the pet is accompanied by its owner/keeper or custodian.
- (e) It shall be unlawful for a person to expose an animal to a known poisonous substance, whether mixed with food or not, so that the same shall be reasonably expected to be eaten by the animal; EXCEPT that it shall not be unlawful for a person to expose on their own property pest or vermin deterrent substances to prevent the spread of disease or the destruction of crops, livestock, or property. In no instance shall a feral or community cat or domestic animal be considered vermin.
- (f) It shall be unlawful for a person to fail to remove from a shelter or confinement area excrement, debris, standing water, or mud. No person shall fail to keep a shelter or confinement area clean, odor-free, and free of bloodsucking insects that are carriers of disease.

- (g) No person, except a licensed veterinarian, shall perform an operation to crop, notch, or split an animal's ears and/or tail.
- (h) It shall be unlawful for a person to dye or color artificially an animal, including fowl, with products not identified as pet-safe or to bring such dyed or colored animal into the unincorporated area of the county.
- (i) It shall be unlawful for an owner or custodian to abandon an animal in the unincorporated area of the county.

Sec. 5-5. Running at large.

- (a) It is unlawful for an animal to be at large. All animals must be kept under restraint or confinement and an animal not so restrained or confined will be deemed unlawfully running at large. This section shall not apply to domestic cats that have been sterilized or community cats trapped, sterilized, and released.
- (b) Dogs participating in hunting events, obedience trials, conformation shows, tracking tests, herding trials, lure courses, and other events similar in nature shall not be considered at large.
- (c) Dogs properly within the enclosed boundaries of a dog park shall not be considered at large. A dog park shall mean an enclosed area, owned and/or operated by the county, a municipality, or private entity, designed, intended, and used for domestic dogs to play and exercise off-leash in a controlled environment under the supervision of their owners or custodians.
- (d) An animal found running at large may be impounded by an Animal Care Officer and may be redeemed pursuant to Section 5-17 only upon authorization by the county Animal Services Department, with assurance from the owner or custodian that proper care and custody will be maintained.

Sec. 5-6. Nuisance animals.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for an owner or custodian to keep an animal in such a manner so as to constitute a nuisance. The actions of an animal constitute a nuisance when the animal disturbs the rights of, threatens the safety of, or damages a member of the general public or interferes with the ordinary use and enjoyment of their property or public property.
- (b) By way of example, and not of limitation, the following acts or actions by the owner or custodian of an animal are hereby declared to be a nuisance and are, therefore, unlawful:
 - (1) Failure to exercise sufficient restraint necessary to control the animal as required by Section 5-5;
 - (2) Attracting stray and/or feral cats to an area by means of providing food, water, and/or shelter. This provision does not apply to citizens performing these acts to trap, sterilize, and release community cats;

- (3) Allowing or permitting an animal to damage the property of another including, but not limited to, turning over garbage containers or damaging gardens, flowers, or vegetables;
- (4) Maintaining an animal in a manner which could or does lead to the animal biting or attacking a human being, domestic animal, or livestock one or more times without provocation, whether or not such bite or attack occurs on the premises of the animal's owner.
- (5) Maintaining animals in an environment of unsanitary conditions which results in offensive odors or is dangerous to the animal or to the public's health, welfare, or safety;
- (6) Maintaining property in a manner that is offensive, annoying, or dangerous to the public's health, welfare, or safety because of the number, type, variety, density, or location of the animals on the property;
- (7) Maintaining an animal that is diseased and dangerous to the public's health, welfare, or safety;
- (8) Maintaining an animal that habitually or repeatedly chases, snaps at, or attacks pedestrians, bicycles, or vehicles; or
- (9) Failure to keep female animals in heat confined in a building or secured enclosure in such a manner as will not create a nuisance by attracting other animals
- (c) An animal determined to be a nuisance by an Animal Care Officer may be caught or seized and impounded pursuant to this chapter and may be redeemed pursuant to Section 5-17 only upon authorization by the county Animal Services Department, with evidence presented by the owner or custodian that the situation creating the nuisance has been abated.

Sec. 5-7. Dangerous or vicious animal.

- (a) The Animal Services Director or its designee shall have the authority to determine if an animal is dangerous or vicious. Upon determining an animal is dangerous or vicious, the Animal Services Director or its designee shall serve written notice of such determination upon the owner or custodian at their last known address.
- (b) The owner or custodian of a dangerous or vicious animal shall properly confine the animal at all times. Proper confinement is as follows:
 - (1) Dogs:
 - a. If the animal is indoors, the animal must be kept in such a manner as to prevent the animal from, without provocation, attacking, causing injury to, or otherwise endangering the safety of individuals or other animals also located indoors.

- b. If the animal is outdoors and attended, the animal shall be muzzled, on a leash or attached to a similar physical restraining device, and under the physical control of the owner or custodian at all times.
- c. If the animal is outdoors and unattended, in addition to the requirements set forth in Section 5-4(a), the animal must be confined in a locked pen or "run" area that consists of a secured top and at least four (4) sides which are at least six (6) feet high. The shelter floor must be concrete or the sides must be buried at least twelve (12) inches in the ground.
- d. Proper confinement provisions of this subsection shall not apply to an animal owned by a licensed security company while the animal is patrolling the premises at the direction of the company. However, when off of the patrolled premises, the animal shall be properly confined as set forth in this subsection.

(2) Other animals:

- a. If the animal is indoors, the animal must be kept in such a manner as to prevent the animal from, without provocation, attacking, causing injury to, or otherwise endangering the safety of individuals or other animals also located indoors.
- b. If the animal is outdoors and attended, the animal must be restrained on a leash or attached to a similar physical restraining device, and under the control of the owner or custodian at all times.
- c. If the animal is outdoors and unattended, the animal must be confined in a locked pen or "run" area that is set up in such a manner as to prevent the animal from straying beyond its enclosed confines and prevents the public and other animals from obtaining entrance into or making contact with the animal.
- d. The Animal Services Director may, at its discretion and dependent upon the type of animal, set forth other reasonable requirements in the interest of protecting the public's health, welfare, or safety. These additional requirements shall be communicated to the owner or custodian in writing.
- (c) The premises upon which a dangerous or vicious animal is kept or harbored must have posted a sign visible to the public cautioning the public to beware of the animal located on the premises. By way of example, and not limitation, a sign reading "Beware of Dog" or "Beware of Animals" is sufficient.

Sec. 5-8. Tethering.

- (a) It shall be unlawful to tether a pet outdoors for two (2) continuous hours or longer, unless:
 - (1) The pet is older than six (6) months;

- (2) The tether is a minimum of twelve (12) feet in length and has swivel-type termination at both ends and the tether weight does not exceed ten (10) percent of the pet's body weight. Logger chains, towing chains, and other similar tethering devices are not acceptable;
- (3) The tether must be attached to the pet with a buckle-type collar or a body harness. Logger chains, towing chains, and similar items are not permitted to be used as collars or harnesses. Pet-safe metal collars, chain collars, prong collars, or choke collars are permitted to be used while the pet is accompanied by its owner/keeper or custodian;
- (4) The pet is tethered so as to prevent injury, strangulation, or entanglement with objects, vegetation, or other tethered animals;
- (5) The pet has access to fresh water and shelter, as defined in this chapter;
- (6) The pet is not sick or injured;
- (7) Every female confined by a tether and unattended is sterilized; and
- (8) The temperature is above forty (40) degrees and less than ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit, EXCEPT:
 - a. If the temperature is below forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit for a sustained four (4) hour period, the animal may be tethered for thirty (30) minutes in a consecutive four (4) hour period so long as adequate bedding and shelter, as defined in this chapter, are provided to protect the animal from the elements; or
 - b. If the temperature is above ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit for a sustained four (4) hour period, the animal may be tethered for thirty (30) minutes in a consecutive four (4) hour period so long as shade is provided to protect the animal from the elements.

Sec. 5-9. Sale of animals.

- (a) No person shall sell, trade, barter, auction, lease, rent, give away, or display for commercial purpose, an animal, on any roadside, public right-of-way, public property, commercial parking lot, or sidewalk adjacent thereto, or at any flea market, fair, or carnival.
- (b) No person shall offer an animal as an inducement to purchase a product, commodity, or service.
- (c) No person shall sell, offer for sale, or give away a pet under eight (8) weeks of age, except to surrender to a municipal and/or county animal care facility or to a licensed pet rescue organization.
- (d) This section does not apply to licensed pet shops, commercial kennels, municipal and/or county animal care facilities, and licensed pet rescue organizations.

Sec. 5-10. Care of animals during transport.

During the transportation of an animal, the animal must be provided with adequate space and ventilation, and must not be confined in one area for more than twenty-four (24) consecutive hours without being adequately exercised, rested, fed, and watered.

Sec. 5-11. Injured or diseased animals.

- (a) Anyone striking a domestic or feral dog or cat with a vehicle shall notify the county Animal Services Department who will then take action necessary to make proper disposition of the animal. Vehicle, as defined in this section, includes all self-propelled and non-self-propelled vehicles, such as motor vehicles and bicycles.
- (b) A domestic or feral dog or cat received by an animal care facility in critical condition from wounds, injuries, or disease may receive sustaining treatment by a licensed veterinarian until such time as the animal's owner, custodian, or veterinarian is contacted. Every effort shall be made to effectuate contact via information obtained from the animal's tag or microchip. Any such animal in critical condition, as described in this section, may be euthanized if the owner, custodian, or veterinarian cannot be contacted within two (2) hours of receipt of the animal. If the animal is in severe pain it may be euthanized immediately by agreement between the animal care facility superintendent and a licensed veterinarian.

Sec. 5-12. Removal of excrement.

The owner or custodian of every animal shall be responsible for the removal of excretions deposited by their animal on public property, in recreation areas, or on the private property of another.

Sec. 5-13. Prohibited, exceptions.

- (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall be unlawful for a person to publicly display or exhibit, sell, keep, harbor, own, or act as custodian of:
 - (1) Non-domestic members of the cat family (Felidae);
 - (2) Wolf-dog hybrids, and/or a animal containing any percentage of wolf;
 - (3) Badgers, wolverines, weasels, skunks, and minks (in the family of Mustelidae);
 - (4) Raccoons (Procyonidae);
 - (5) Bear (Ursidae);
 - (6) Nonhuman primates which include apes, monkeys, baboons, macaques, lemurs, marmosets, tamarins, and other species of the order primates (Haplorrhini);
 - (7) Bats (Chiroptera);
 - (8) Semi-aquatic reptiles in the order of Alligators, crocodiles, and caimans (Crocodilia);

- (9) Scorpions (Scorpiones);
- (10) Constricting snakes of the following species: Reticulated Python (Python reticulatus), Burmese Python (Python bivittatus), Indian rock Python (Python molurus), African Rock Python (Python Sebae), and Anaconda (Eunectes murinus all types);
- (11) Venomous reptiles;
- (12) Lizards over two feet which is a member of the family carnivorous and frugivorous lizards (Varanidae);
- (13) Non-domesticated members of the order placental mammals (Carnivora);
- (14) Other wildlife not listed;
- (15) Animals of mixed domestication and feral lineage; or
- (16) Other animals where its behavior, size, temperament, breed, or capacity for inflicting serious injury is or may be detrimental to the health, welfare, or safety of people or animals in the immediate surrounding area.
- (b) The prohibitions contained in subsection (a) shall not apply in the following circumstances:
 - (1) The keeping of such animals in a public zoo, a bona fide education or medical institution, by a humane society, or in a museum where they are kept as live specimens for the public to view or for the purpose of instruction, research, or study;
 - (2) The keeping of such animals for exhibition to the public by a bona fide traveling circus, carnival, exhibit, or show pursuant to properly obtained federal, state, and/or local licenses and/or permits;
 - (3) The keeping of such animals in a licensed veterinary hospital for treatment; or
 - (4) The keeping of such animals by a wildlife rescue organization with appropriate federal, state, and/or local licenses and/or permits obtained from applicable regulatory bodies.

Sec. 5-14. Seizure and right of entry to protect abandoned, neglected, or cruelly treated animals.

(a) If the owner or custodian does not give permission, the Animal Care Officer may obtain a search warrant to enter onto privately owned premises of which an Animal Care Officer suspects a violation of this chapter exists thereon. Once upon the premises, the officer may examine the animal and may immediately seize the animal when, in the officer's sole opinion, removal of the animal from the premises is necessary for the immediate protection of the animal or the public, and shall issue a uniform ordinance summons to the owner or custodian.

- (b) If the animal cannot be seized in a safe and efficient manner, the Animal Care Officer may tranquilize the animal by use of a tranquilizer gun.
- (c) After the animal is seized pursuant to this section, the Animal Care Officer shall petition the appropriate magistrate for a civil hearing and order pursuant to Section 5-16.
- (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed as to prohibit the immediate euthanizing of an animal after the initial seizure and without regard to a civil hearing or the uniform ordinance summons criminal proceeding when:
 - (1) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be a danger to other animals or persons at the animal care facility, infectious to other animals, in pain, or near death; or
 - (2) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be critically injured or ill and must be euthanized for humane purposes.

Sec. 5-15. Impounding, surrender.

- (a) An animal found within the unincorporated area of the county as a result of a violation or alleged violation by the owner or custodian, whether known or unknown, of the provisions of this chapter may be caught or seized and impounded by an Animal Care Officer. If the animal cannot be caught or seized in a safe and efficient manner, the Animal Care Officer may tranquilize the animal by use of a tranquilizer gun.
- (b) When a person is, at the time of an arrest, in charge of an animal, the county Animal Services Department may take charge of the animal and deposit the animal in a safe place of custody or impound the animal at its animal care facility.
- (c) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as to prohibit the immediate euthanizing of an animal after impoundment and without regard to a civil hearing or the uniform ordinance summons criminal proceeding when:
 - (1) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be a danger to other animals or persons at the animal care facility, infectious to other animals, or in pain or near death; or
 - (2) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be critically injured or ill and must be euthanized for humane purposes.
- (d) An owner or custodian may surrender its animal to the animal care facility upon the completion of a signed surrender form. Upon surrender, the animal shall become the property of the county Animal Services Department with title to ownership vested therein and may be placed for adoption or euthanized. It shall be unlawful for a person to furnish false information on the animal surrender form.

Sec. 5-16. Civil hearing petition and hearing procedure.

- (a) Except as provided otherwise in this chapter, an Animal Care Officer may, upon its own initiative, petition the appropriate magistrate for a civil hearing when:
 - (1) A person suspected of violating any provision of this chapter is charged by an Animal Care Officer with such violation; or
 - (2) An Animal Care Officer finds an animal within the unincorporated area of the county as a result of a violation or alleged violation by the owner or custodian, whether known or unknown, of the provisions of this chapter.
- (b) The civil hearing will be held (prior to the uniform ordinance summons criminal proceeding) to determine physical custody of the animal and at the conclusion of that hearing, the magistrate shall issue an order with its determination of whether the animal remains with or is returned to the owner or custodian or whether title to ownership is transferred to the county Animal Services Department.
- (c) The civil hearing shall be set not more than ten (10) business days from the date the animal was impounded. The Animal Care Officer or its designee shall, at least five (5) business days prior to the civil hearing, serve written notice of the time and place of the civil hearing upon the owner or custodian if known and residing within the jurisdiction wherein the animal is found. If the owner or custodian is unknown or cannot be found within the jurisdiction wherein the animal was found, the Animal Care Officer shall post a copy of the civil hearing notice at the property where the animal was seized
- (d) In determining whether the owner or custodian is able to adequately provide for the animal or is a fit person to own or have custody of the animal, the magistrate may take into consideration the owner or custodian's convictions under this chapter and convictions similar thereto, the owner or custodian's mental and physical condition, and other applicable criteria; and
 - (1) Notwithstanding subsection (2), if the civil hearing is held in response to a violation or alleged violation of this chapter and the magistrate orders the animal to remain with or be returned to its owner or custodian, the animal care facility shall release the animal pursuant to Section 5-17, provided that all other redemption requirements are met; or
 - (2) If the civil hearing is held in response to a violation or alleged violation of Section 5-7 and the magistrate orders the animal to remain with or be returned to its owner or custodian, the magistrate is to include in its order that the animal is not to be released until the magistrate receives from the Animal Care Officer confirmation the owner or custodian has proper confinement for the animal as defined in Section 5-7, provided that all other redemption requirements are met.
- (e) If the owner or custodian does not redeem the animal within seven (7) business days of the issuance of the magistrate's order, the animal shall become the property of the county Animal Services Department and may be placed for adoption or euthanized.

- (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed as to prohibit the immediate euthanizing of an animal after seizure or impoundment and without regard to a civil hearing or the uniform ordinance summons criminal proceeding when:
 - (1) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be a danger to other animals or persons at the animal care facility, infectious to other animals, or in pain or near death; or
 - (2) The animal is determined by the animal care facility superintendent or its designee, in agreement with a licensed veterinarian, to be critically injured or ill and must be euthanized for humane purposes.

Sec. 5-17. Redemption.

- (a) The owner or custodian of an animal impounded pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall have the right to redeem such animal prior to the applicable redemption deadline upon payment of all fees, proof of vaccination, and an implanted microchip, provided that all other redemption requirements have been met. The fees set forth shall be doubled for a pet impounded twice or more within the same 12-month period. An animal attempted to be redeemed after the redemption deadline may not be released to the owner or custodian without due cause as determined solely by the Animal Services Director or its designee.
- (b) Impounded animals must be spayed or neutered prior to redemption, unless the owner or custodian of the animal can provide:
 - (1) A statement from a licensed veterinarian that the animal, due to health reasons, could not withstand sterilization surgery;
 - (2) Proof of participation in a nationally recognized conformation or performance event occurring within the past twelve (12) months; or
 - (3) Proof the animal is currently being used for hunting purposes and has properly been registered with a nationally recognized organization which sanctions hunting tests and/or field trials.
- (c) Positively identifiable animals:
 - (1) A positively identifiable animal is one which bears or wears a legible and traceable current permanent number, county license tag or rabies vaccination tag, tattoo, or microchip pursuant to S.C. Code of Laws Annotated Section 47-3-510 (1999) or one which is known by the county Animal Services Department to belong to an owner or custodian positively identifiable by the county Animal Services Department.
 - (2) With the exception of an animal to be released by a magistrate's order, the county Animal Services Department shall notify the owner or custodian of a positively identifiable impounded animal at the last known address by registered mail that

the dog is in its possession. The owner or custodian has fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of mailing to notify the county Animal Services Department or the animal care facility that they will redeem the animal and (14) calendar days from that notification to redeem the animal from the animal care facility. The animal must be redeemed pursuant to Section 5-17, provided that all other redemption requirements are met.

- (3) Animals released pursuant to a magistrate's order must be redeemed within seven (7) business days after the issuance of the order, provided that all other redemption requirements are met.
- (d) Non-positively identifiable animals must be redeemed within five (5) calendar days of impound.
- (e) If the owner or custodian of an animal impounded at the animal care facility fails to redeem the animal within the prescribed time, the animal will be deemed abandoned, shall become the property of the county Animal Services Department with title to ownership vested therein, and may be placed for adoption or euthanized.
- (f) If the animal has been impounded more than once for a violation of this chapter, the animal shall be spayed or neutered by the animal care facility, regardless of whether proof pursuant to subsection (b) is provided, and the costs of such shall be added to all other required redemption fees.

Sec. 5-18. Adoption.

- (a) An animal impounded under any provision of this chapter, which is the property of the county Animal Services Department, may be adopted, provided the new owner agrees to comply with the provisions contained herein and pays all applicable fees.
- (b) Individuals adopting puppies or kittens too young to be neutered, spayed, or receive rabies vaccinations at the time of adoption will pay the cost of these procedures at the time of adoption and be given an appointment for a later date to have these procedures performed. The fees paid for these procedures will be refunded if the animal is deceased prior to the appointment date.

Sec. 5-19. Interference with animal care officers.

It shall be unlawful for a person to interfere with, hinder, or molest an Animal Care Officer in the performance of their duty or seek to release an animal in the custody of an Animal Care Officer without such officer's consent.

Sec. 5-20. Complainant's identification.

A person reporting a violation of this chapter and/or requesting a summons be issued must provide identification to the Animal Care Officer. The identity, or information tending to reveal the identity, of an individual who in good faith makes a complaint or otherwise discloses information, which alleges a violation of this chapter, shall remain confidential, unless the complainant authorizes the release of their identity.

Sec. 5-21. Penalties.

- (a) A person who violates the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment not exceeding thirty (30) days, or both. Each day's continuing violation shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.
- (b) An owner or custodian of an animal convicted of violating Section 5-4(a)(4) of this chapter forfeits ownership, charge, or custody of the animal and at the discretion of the court, the person convicted of such violation may be ordered to pay all costs incurred by the county Animal Services Department prior to the conviction to care for the animal and related expenses.

SECTION II. <u>Severability</u>. If any section, subsection, or clause of this ordinance shall be deemed to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, and clauses shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION III. <u>Conflicting Ordinances</u>. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION IV. <u>Effective Date</u> . This ordinance shall be 2024.	effective from and after,
	RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
	BY:
	Jesica Mackey, Chair
ATTEST THIS THE DAY	
OF, 2024.	
Anette Kirylo	
Clerk of Council	

RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Approved As To LEGAL Form Only
No Opinion Rendered As To Content

First Reading: Second Reading:

Public Hearing: Third Reading:



Current Ordinance (2017)	Proposed Changes
• Sec. 5-1 Definitions	Additional definitions added
Sec. 5-2 Differential County License	 Pet Licenses and Commercial Breeder Permits have been separated. Sec. 5-2 License for dogs and cats; rabies vaccination tags Sec. 5-3 Permit for commercial pet breeding
Sec. 5-4 Community Cat Diversion Program	Removed
Sec. 5-5 Running at large - restraint	 Sec. 5-5 Running at large Addition of (c)
Sec. 5-6 Removal of excrement	Moved to Sec. 5-12
Sec. 5-7 Injured or diseased animals	 Moved to Sec 5-11 Separated into (a) and (b)
Sec. 5-8 Nuisance animals	 Sec. 5-6 Nuisance animals Separated (a) to (a) and (b) Addition of (b)(2) – cat provision Removal of (6) – Barking Move (c) to (b)(9) Addition of (c)
Sec. 5-9 Animal care, generally	 Sec. 5-4 Animal care, generally Section has been greatly expanded
Sec. 5-10 Sale of animals	Moved to Sec. 5-9
Sec. 5-11 Care of animals during transport	Moved to Sec. 5-10
Sec. 5-12 Seizure and right of entry to protect abandoned, neglected, or cruelly treated animals	Moved to Sec. 5-14Changes to (a)
Sec. 5-13 Impounding; surrender	Moved to Sec. 5-15Condensed
Sec 5-14 Redemption	Moved to Sec. 5-17Expanded
Sec. 5-15. Adoption	Moved to Sec. 5-18o Removed (b)
Sec. 5-16 Prohibited; exception	Moved to Sec. 5-13Removed section (c)
Sec. 5-17 Interference with animal care officers	Moved to Sec. 5-19

 Sec 5-18 Complainant's identification to remain confidential 	Moved to Sec. 5-20
Sec. 5-19 Penalties	Moved to Sec. 5-21
	Addition of Sec. 5-7 Dangerous or vicious animal
	Addition of Sec. 5-8 Tethering
	Addition of Sec. 5-16 Civil hearing petition and hearing procedures

Richland County Council Request for Action

Subject:

Authorizing the expansion of the boundaries of the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park jointly developed with Fairfield County to include certain property located in Richland County; the execution and delivery of a public infrastructure credit agreement to provide for public infrastructure credits to Silver Hills Huger LLC; and other related matters

Notes:

First Reading: Second Reading: Third Reading: Public Hearing:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. _____

AUTHORIZING THE EXPANSION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE I-77 CORRIDOR REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL PARK JOINTLY DEVELOPED WITH FAIRFIELD COUNTY TO INCLUDE CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED IN RICHLAND COUNTY; THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDITS TO SILVER HILLS HUGER LLC: AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

WHEREAS, Richland County ("County"), acting by and through its County Council ("County Council"), is authorized pursuant to the provisions of Article VIII, Section 13(D) of the South Carolina Constitution and the provisions of Title 4, Chapter 1 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended (collectively, "Act"), to (i) develop a multicounty park with counties having contiguous borders with the County; and (ii) include property in the multicounty park which inclusion under the terms of the Act (A) makes such property exempt from *ad valorem* property taxes, and (B) changes the character of the annual receipts from such property to fees-in-lieu of *ad valorem* property taxes in an amount equal to the *ad valorem* taxes that would have been due and payable but for the location of the property in such multicounty park ("Fee Payments");

WHEREAS, the County is further authorized by Section 4-1-175 of the Act, to grant credits against Fee Payments ("Public Infrastructure Credit") to pay costs of designing, acquiring, constructing, improving or expanding infrastructure serving the County (collectively, "Public Infrastructure");

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority provided in the Act, the County has developed with Fairfield County, South Carolina ("Fairfield"), the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park ("Park") and executed the Amended and Restated Master Agreement Governing the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park, dated September 1, 2018 ("Park Agreement"), which governs the operation of the Park;

WHEREAS, Silver Hills Huger, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company ("Company") desires to develop an approximately 247-unit multifamily project within the County ("Project"), consisting of taxable investments in real and personal property of not less than \$49,000,000 and the creation of approximately 10 full-time jobs;

WHEREAS, at the Company's request, the County desires to expand the boundaries of the Park and amend the Park Agreement to include the real and personal property relating to the Project ("Property") in the Park;

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia, South Carolina, the municipality in which the Property is located, must consent to the expansion of the boundaries of the Park to include the Property in the Park in accordance with Section 4-1-170(C) of the Act; and

WHEREAS, the County further desires to enter into a Public Infrastructure Credit Agreement between the County and the Company, the substantially final form of which is attached as <u>Exhibit A</u> ("Agreement"), to provide Public Infrastructure Credits against certain of the Company's Fee Payments with respect to the Project for the purpose of assisting in paying the costs of certain Public Infrastructure.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Council as follows::

- **Section 1.** *Statutory Findings.* Based on representations made by the Company to the County, the County finds that the Project and the Public Infrastructure will enhance the economic development of the County and promote the welfare of its citizens.
- Section 2. Expansion of the Park Boundaries, Inclusion of Property. The expansion of the Park boundaries and an amendment to the Park Agreement to include the Property in the Park is, contingent upon the City of Columbia's consent to such expansion in accordance with Section 4-1-170(C) of the Act, authorized. The Chair of County Council ("Chair"), is authorized to execute such documents and take such further actions as may be necessary to complete the expansion of the Park boundaries and the amendment to the Park Agreement. Pursuant to the terms of the Park Agreement, the expansion of the Park's boundaries to include the Property is complete on the adoption of this Ordinance by County Council, receipt of the consent of the City of Columbia as to the inclusion of the Property in the Park, and delivery of written notice to Fairfield of the inclusion of the Property, which written notice shall include a copy of this Ordinance and identification of the Property.
- **Section 3.** Approval of Public Infrastructure Credit; Authorization to Execute and Deliver Agreement. The Public Infrastructure Credits, as more particularly set forth in the Agreement, against the Company's Fee Payments with respect to the Project are approved. The form, terms and provisions of the Agreement that is before this meeting are approved and all of the Agreement's terms are incorporated in this Ordinance by reference as if the Agreement was set out in this Ordinance in its entirety. The Chair is authorized and directed to execute the Agreement in the name of and on behalf of the County, subject to the approval of any revisions or changes as are not materially adverse to the County by the County Administrator and counsel to the County, and the Clerk to County Council is hereby authorized and directed to attest the Agreement and to deliver the Agreement to the Company.
- **Section 4.** *Further Assurances*. The County Council confirms the authority of the Chair, the County Administrator, the Director of Economic Development and the Clerk to County Council, and various other County officials and staff, acting at the direction of the Chair, the County Administrator, the Director of Economic Development or Clerk to County Council, as appropriate, to take whatever further action and to negotiate, execute and deliver whatever further documents as may be appropriate to effect the intent of this Ordinance and the incentives offered to the Company under this Ordinance and the Agreement.
- **Section 5.** *Savings Clause*. The provisions of this Ordinance are separable. If any part of this Ordinance is, for any reason, unenforceable then the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance is unaffected.
- **Section 6.** *General Repealer*. Any prior ordinance, the terms of which are in conflict with this Ordinance, is, only to the extent of that conflict, repealed.
 - **Section 7.** *Effectiveness*. This Ordinance is effective after its third reading and public hearing.

RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

(SEAL) ATTEST:		Chair, Richland County Council
Clerk of Council,	Richland County Council	
RICHLAND COU	NTY ATTORNEY'S OFFI	CE
	EGAL Form Only cred As To Content	
First Reading: Second Reading: Public Hearing: Third Reading:	April 16, 2024 [] []	

EXHIBIT A

FORM OF AGREEMENT

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT AGREEMENT

by and between

RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

and

SILVER HILLS HUGER LLC

Effective as of: []

PPAB 10823149v2

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT AGREEMENT

This PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT AGREEMENT, effective as of [_____], 2024 ("Agreement"), is by and between RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, a body politic and corporate, and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina ("County"), and SILVER HILLS HUGER LLC, an Ohio limited liability company ("Company" together with the County, "Parties," each, a "Party").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the County, acting by and through its County Council ("County Council"), is authorized and empowered under and pursuant to the provisions of Article VIII, Section 13(D) of the South Carolina Constitution and the provisions of Title 4, Chapter 1 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended (collectively, "Act"), to (i) develop multicounty parks with counties having contiguous borders with the County; and (ii) include property in the multicounty park, which inclusion under the terms of the Act (A) makes such property exempt from *ad valorem* property taxes, and (B) changes the character of the annual receipts from such property to fees-in-lieu of *ad valorem* property taxes in an amount equal to the *ad valorem* taxes that would have been due and payable but for the location of the property in such multicounty park ("Fee Payments");

WHEREAS, the County is further authorized by Section 4-1-175 of the Act to grant credits against Fee Payments ("Public Infrastructure Credit") to pay costs of designing, acquiring, constructing, improving or expanding public infrastructure serving the County (collectively, "Public Infrastructure");

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority provided in the Act, the County has developed with Fairfield County, South Carolina, the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park ("Park") and executed the "Amended and Restated Master Agreement Governing the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park" dated September 1, 2018 ("Park Agreement"), which governs the operation of the Park;

WHEREAS, the Company has committed to establish an approximately 247-unit multifamily project known as Silver Hills at Huger in the County ("Project") on property more particularly identified by <u>Exhibit A</u> ("Land"), consisting of taxable investment in real and personal property of not less than \$49,000,000.00 and the creation of approximately 10 full-time jobs;

WHEREAS, by an ordinance enacted on [DATE] ("Ordinance"), the County authorized the expansion of the boundaries of the Park and an amendment to the Park Agreement to include the Land and other real and personal property relating to the Project ("Property") in the Park and the City of Columbia, South Carolina consented to such expansion of the Park boundaries by an ordinance enacted on [], 2024; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Ordinance, the County further authorized the execution and delivery of this Agreement to provide Public Infrastructure Credits against the Company's Fee Payments with respect to the Project for the purpose of assisting in paying the costs of certain Public Infrastructure invested by the Company at or in connection with the Project, subject to the terms and conditions below.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the respective representations and agreements hereinafter contained, the County and the Company agree as follows:

ARTICLE I REPRESENTATIONS

Section 1.1. *Representations by the County.* The County represents to the Company as follows:

- (a) The County is a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina;
- (b) The County is authorized and empowered by the provisions of the Act to enter into and carry out its obligations under this Agreement;
- (c) The County has duly authorized and approved the execution and delivery of this Agreement by adoption of the Ordinance in accordance with the procedural requirements of the Act and any other applicable state law;
- (d) The County is not in default of any of its obligations (contractual or otherwise) as a result of entering into and performing its obligations under this Agreement;
 - (e) The County has approved the inclusion of the Property in the Park; and
- (f) Based on representations made by the Company to the County, the County has determined the Project and the Public Infrastructure will enhance the economic development of the County and promote the welfare of its citizens. Therefore, the County is entering into this Agreement for the purpose of promoting the economic development of the County and the welfare of its citizens.
- **Section 1.2.** *Representations and Covenants by the Company*. The Company represents to the County as follows:
- (a) The Company is in good standing under the laws of the State of Ohio, has power to conduct business in the State of South Carolina and enter into this Agreement, and by proper company action has authorized the officials signing this Agreement to execute and deliver it;
- (b) The Company will use commercially reasonable efforts to achieve the Investment Commitment, each as defined below, at the Project;
- (c) The Company's execution and delivery of this Agreement, and its compliance with the provisions of this Agreement do not result in a default under any agreement or instrument to which the Company is now a party or by which it is bound; and
- (d) The Company covenants to complete the Public Infrastructure in a workmanlike manner and in accordance with all applicable codes and regulations.

ARTICLE II PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDITS

Section 2.1. *Investment Commitment.* The Company shall invest not less than \$49,000,000.00 in taxable property at the Project ("Investment Commitment") by the Certification Date, as defined below. The Company shall certify to the County achievement of the Investment Commitment by no later than December 31, 2029 ("Certification Date"), by providing documentation to the County sufficient to reflect achievement of the Investment Commitment, in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the County. If the Company fails to achieve and certify the Investment Commitment by the Certification Date, the County may terminate this Agreement and, on termination, the Company is no longer entitled to any further

benefits under this Agreement. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, the Certification Date shall not be later than, and may not be extended past, the last day of the year which is five years after the effective date of this Agreement.

Section 2.2. Public Infrastructure Commitment.

- (a) Prior to receiving the Public Infrastructure Credits under this Agreement, the Company shall make an investment in Public Infrastructure in the County which may be comprised of the following improvements and facilities benefitting the public or dedicated to public use: water sewer, or stormwater improvements, greenspaces, recreation or community facilities, pedestrian or transportation facilities, parking facilities, facade redevelopment, roadway improvements, and energy production or communications technology infrastructure. Public Infrastructure may also include expenditures on the eradication of blight.
- (b) The Company has committed to invest in the Public Infrastructure as described on Exhibit B. The Company shall certify its actual investment in the Public Infrastructure to the County by the Certification Date, by providing documentation, in forma and substance reasonably acceptable to the County, to the County's Economic Development Department sufficient to reflect the amount invested in the Public Infrastructure. If the Company fails to complete the Public Infrastructure by the Certification Date, then the Company may not be entitled to the full value of the Public Infrastructure Credits as provided by this Agreement.
- (c) Following the Certification Date, the County's Economic Development Department shall have 30 days ("Verification Date") to verify the Company's investment in the Public Infrastructure. The County has the right to exclude from the investment in Public Infrastructure certified by the Company any costs the County determines, in its sole discretion, to be ineligible costs. The County may also reject any Public Infrastructure investment as ineligible if the County determines, in its sole discretion, that it has not been completed in a workmanlike manner or in accordance with applicable codes or regulations. The County's Economic Development Department shall, on a date no later than the Verification Date, provide to the Company, by written notice, the County's determination of the verified amount of investment made by the Company in Public Infrastructure. Failure to provide a written verification by the Verification Date shall be deemed to be a determination by the County that all costs certified by the Company are verified as eligible costs.

Section 2.3. Public Infrastructure Credits.

- (a) To assist in paying for costs of Public Infrastructure, the County shall provide a Public Infrastructure Credit against certain of the Company's Fee Payments due with respect to the Project, commencing with the first Fee Payment following the Verification Date. The term, amount and calculation of the Public Infrastructure Credit is described in Exhibit C.
- (b) For each property tax year in which the Company is entitled to a Public Infrastructure Credit ("Credit Term"), the County shall prepare and issue the Company's annual Fee Payment bill with respect to the Project net of the Public Infrastructure Credit set forth in Section 2.3 (a) ("Net Fee Payment"). Following receipt of the bill, the Company shall timely remit the Net Fee Payment to the County in accordance with applicable law.
- (c) THIS AGREEMENT AND THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDITS PROVIDED BY THIS AGREEMENT ARE LIMITED OBLIGATIONS OF THE COUNTY. THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDITS ARE DERIVED SOLELY FROM AND TO THE EXTENT OF THE FEE PAYMENTS MADE BY THE COMPANY TO THE COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE ACT AND

THE PARK AGREEMENT. THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDITS DO NOT AND SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE A GENERAL OBLIGATION OF THE COUNTY OR ANY MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE MEANING OF ANY CONSTITUTIONAL OR STATUTORY LIMITATION AND DO NOT AND SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE OR GIVE RISE TO A PECUNIARY LIABILITY OF THE COUNTY OR ANY MUNICIPALITY OR A CHARGE AGAINST THE GENERAL CREDIT OR TAXING POWER OF THE COUNTY OR ANY MUNICIPALITY. THE FULL FAITH, CREDIT, AND TAXING POWER OF THE COUNTY OR ANY MUNICIPALITY ARE NOT PLEDGED FOR THE PROVISION OF THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDITS.

- (d) The County makes no representation or warranty with respect to the Public Infrastructure. The execution and delivery of this Agreement and the extension of the Public Infrastructure Credit do not constitute a commitment by the County to maintain the Public Infrastructure.
- **Section 2.4.** *Filings.* To assist the County in administering the Public Infrastructure Credits, the Company shall, for the Credit Term, prepare and file with the County such separate schedules or information with respect to the Property as may be necessary to distinguish the Property from any other property of the Company. Additionally, the Company shall, on or before January 31 of each year during the Credit Term, deliver to the Economic Development Director of the County the information required by the terms of the County's Resolution dated November 7, 2023, which is attached hereto as *Exhibit C*, as may be amended by subsequent resolution, with respect to the Company.
- **Section 2.5** *Cumulative Public Infrastructure Credit.* The cumulative dollar amount of the Public Infrastructure Credit shall not exceed the amount invested by the Company in Public Infrastructure, as verified, or deemed verified, by the County as of the Verification Date. The County Economic Development Department shall provide the verified investment amount to the County Auditor for purposes of applying the Public Infrastructure Credit in accordance with Section 2.3 of this Agreement.

ARTICLE III DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES

Section 3.1. Events of Default. The following are "Events of Default" under this Fee Agreement:

- (a) Failure by the Company to make a Net Fee Payment, which failure has not been cured within 30 days following receipt of written notice from the County specifying the delinquency in payment and requesting that it be remedied;
- (b) An abandonment or closure of the Project; For purposes of this Agreement, "abandonment or closure of the Project" means the failure of the Company to obtain a temporary certificate of occupancy for the Project on or before the Certification Date;
- (c) A representation or warranty made by the Company which is deemed materially incorrect when deemed made;
- (d) Failure by the Company to perform any of the terms, conditions, obligations, or covenants under this Agreement (other than those described in Sections 2.1 and 2.2 and under (a) above), which failure has not been cured within 30 days after written notice from the County to the Company specifying such failure and requesting that it be remedied, unless the Company has instituted corrective action within the 30-day period and is diligently pursuing corrective action until the default is corrected, in which case the 30-day period is extended to include the period during which the Company is diligently pursuing corrective action;

- (e) A representation or warranty made by the County which is deemed materially incorrect when deemed made; or
- (f) Failure by the County to perform any of the terms, conditions, obligations, or covenants hereunder, which failure has not been cured within 30 days after written notice from the Company to the County specifying such failure and requesting that it be remedied, unless the County has instituted corrective action within the 30-day period and is diligently pursuing corrective action until the default is corrected, in which case the 30-day period is extended to include the period during which the County is diligently pursuing corrective action.

Section 3.2. Remedies on Default.

- (a) If an Event of Default by the Company has occurred and is continuing, then the County may take any one or more of the following remedial actions:
 - (i) terminate the Agreement; or
 - (ii) take whatever action at law or in equity may appear necessary or desirable to collect amounts due or otherwise remedy the Event of Default or recover its damages.
- (b) If an Event of Default by the County has occurred and is continuing, the Company may take one or more of the following actions:
 - (i) bring an action for specific enforcement;
 - (ii) terminate the Agreement; or
 - (iii) in case of a materially incorrect representation or warranty, take such action as is appropriate, including legal action, to recover its damages, to the extent allowed by law.
- **Section 3.3.** Reimbursement of Legal Fees and Other Expenses. On the occurrence of an Event of Default, if a Party is required to employ attorneys or incur other reasonable expenses for the collection of payments due under this Agreement or for the enforcement of performance or observance of any obligation or agreement, the prevailing Party is entitled to seek reimbursement of the reasonable fees of such attorneys and such other reasonable expenses so incurred.
- **Section 3.4.** *Remedies Not Exclusive*. No remedy described in this Agreement is intended to be exclusive of any other remedy or remedies, and each and every such remedy is cumulative and in addition to every other remedy given under this Agreement or existing at law or in equity or by statute.
- **Section 3.5.** *Nonwaiver.* A delay or omission by the Company or County to exercise any right or power accruing on an Event of Default does not waive such right or power and is not deemed to be a waiver or acquiescence of the Event of Default. Every power and remedy given to the Company or County by this Agreement may be exercised from time to time and as often as may be deemed expedient.

ARTICLE IV MISCELLANEOUS

Section 4.1. Examination of Records; Confidentiality.

- (a) The County and its authorized agents, at any reasonable time on prior notice, may enter and examine the Project and have access to and examine the Company's books and records relating to the Project for the purposes of (i) identifying the Project; (ii) confirming achievement of the Investment Commitment; (iii) verifying the investment in Public Infrastructure; and (iv) permitting the County to carry out its duties and obligations in its sovereign capacity (such as, without limitation, for such routine health and safety purposes as would be applied to any other manufacturing or commercial facility in the County).
- (b) The County acknowledges that the Company may utilize confidential and proprietary processes and materials, services, equipment, trade secrets, and techniques ("Confidential Information") and that disclosure of the Confidential Information could result in substantial economic harm to the Company. The Company may clearly label any Confidential Information delivered to the County pursuant to this Agreement as "Confidential Information." Except as required by law, the County, or any employee, agent, or contractor of the County, shall not disclose or otherwise divulge any labeled Confidential Information to any other person, firm, governmental body or agency. The Company acknowledges that the County is subject to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, and, as a result, must disclose certain documents and information on request, absent an exemption. If the County is required to disclose any Confidential Information to a third party, the County will use its best efforts to provide the Company with as much advance notice as is reasonably possible of such disclosure requirement prior to making such disclosure and to cooperate reasonably with any attempts by the Company to obtain judicial or other relief from such disclosure requirement.
- **Section 4.2.** Assignment. The Company may assign or otherwise transfer any of its rights and interest in this Agreement on prior written consent of the County, which may be given by resolution, and which consent will not be unreasonably withheld.
- Section 4.3. Provisions of Agreement for Sole Benefit of County and Company. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, nothing in this Agreement expressed or implied confers on any person or entity other than the County and the Company any right, remedy, or claim under or by reason of this Agreement, this Agreement being intended to be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the County and the Company.
- **Section 4.4.** *Severability.* If any provision of this Agreement is declared illegal, invalid, or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions of this Agreement are unimpaired, and the Parties shall reform such illegal, invalid, or unenforceable provision to effectuate most closely the legal, valid, and enforceable intent of this Agreement.

Section 4.5. Limitation of Liability.

- (a) The County is not liable to the Company for any costs, expenses, losses, damages, claims or actions in connection with this Agreement, except from amounts received by the County from the Company under this Agreement.
- (b) All covenants, stipulations, promises, agreements and obligations of the County contained in this Agreement are binding on members of the County Council or any elected official, officer, agent, servant or employee of the County only in his or her official capacity and not in his or her individual capacity, and no recourse for the payment of any moneys or performance of any of the covenants and agreements under this Agreement or for any claims based on this Agreement may be had against any member of County Council or any elected official, officer, agent, servant or employee of the County except solely in their official capacity.

(c) The County is not responsible for the Public Infrastructure and disclaims all liability with respect to the Public Infrastructure.

Section 4.6. Indemnification Covenant.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (d) below, the Company shall indemnify and save the County, its employees, elected officials, officers and agents (each, an "Indemnified Party") harmless against and from all liability or claims arising from the County's execution of this Agreement, performance of the County's obligations under this Agreement or the administration of its duties pursuant to this Agreement, or otherwise by virtue of the County having entered into this Agreement.
- (b) The County is entitled to use counsel of its choice and the Company shall reimburse the County for all of its costs, including attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with the response to or defense against such liability or claims as described in paragraph (a) above. The County shall provide a statement of the costs incurred in the response or defense, and the Company shall pay the County within 30 days of receipt of the statement. The Company may request reasonable documentation evidencing the costs shown on the statement. However, the County is not required to provide any documentation which may be privileged or confidential to evidence the costs.
- (c) The County may request the Company to resist or defend against any claim on behalf of an Indemnified Party. On such request, the Company shall resist or defend against such claim on behalf of the Indemnified Party, at the Company's expense. The Company is entitled to use counsel of its choice, manage and control the defense of or response to such claim for the Indemnified Party; provided the Company is not entitled to settle any such claim without the consent of that Indemnified Party.
- (d) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Company is not required to indemnify any Indemnified Party against or reimburse the County for costs arising from any claim or liability (i) occasioned by the acts of that Indemnified Party, which are unrelated to the execution of this Agreement, performance of the County's obligations under this Agreement, or the administration of its duties under this Agreement, or otherwise by virtue of the County having entered into this Agreement; or (ii) resulting from that Indemnified Party's own negligence, bad faith, fraud, deceit, or willful misconduct.
- (e) An Indemnified Party may not avail itself of the indemnification or reimbursement of costs provided in this Section unless it provides the Company with prompt notice, reasonable under the circumstances, of the existence or threat of any claim or liability, including, without limitation, copies of any citations, orders, fines, charges, remediation requests, or other claims or threats of claims, in order to afford the Company notice, reasonable under the circumstances, within which to defend or otherwise respond to a claim.

Section 4.7. *Notices.* All notices, certificates, requests, or other communications under this Agreement are sufficiently given and are deemed given, unless otherwise required by this Agreement, when (i) delivered and confirmed by United States first-class, registered mail, postage prepaid or (ii) sent by facsimile, and addressed as follows:

if to the County: Richland County, South Carolina

Attn: Director of Economic Development

2020 Hampton Street

Columbia, South Carolina 29204

Phone: 803.576.2043 Fax: 803.576.2137 with a copy to Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP

(does not constitute notice): Attn: Ray E. Jones

1221 Main Street, Suite 1100 (29201)

Post Office Box 1509

Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Phone: 803.255.8000 Fax: 803.255.8017

if to the Company: Silver Hills Huger LLC

72 Wychwood Drive

Moreland Hills Ohio 44022 Attention: Seth Mendelsohn Email: sm@silverhillsre.com & rs.silverhills@gmail.com

The County and the Company may, by notice given under this Section, designate any further or different addresses to which subsequent notices, certificates, requests or other communications shall be sent.

Section 4.8. Administrative Fees. The Company will reimburse, or cause reimbursement to, the County for the Administration Expenses in the amount of not exceeding \$5,000. The Company will reimburse the County for its Administration Expenses on receipt of a written request from the County or at the County's direction, which request shall include a statement of the amount and nature of the Administration Expense. The Company shall pay the Administration Expenses as set forth in the written request no later than 60 days following receipt of the written request from the County. For purposes of this Section, "Administration Expenses" means the reasonable expenses incurred by the County in the negotiation, approval and implementation of the terms and provisions of this Agreement, including reasonable attorneys' fees. Administration Expenses do not include any costs, expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by the County (i) in defending challenges to the Fee Payments or Public Infrastructure Credits brought by third parties or the Company or its affiliates and related entities, or (ii) in connection with matters arising at the request of the Company outside of the immediate scope of this Agreement, including amendments to the terms of this Agreement. The payment by the Company of the County's Administration Expenses shall not be construed as prohibiting the County from engaging, at its discretion, the counsel of the County's choice.

Section 4.9. *Entire Agreement.* This Agreement expresses the entire understanding and all agreements of the Parties with each other, and neither Party is bound by any agreement or any representation to the other Party which is not expressly set forth in this Agreement or in certificates delivered in connection with the execution and delivery of this Agreement.

Section 4.10 Agreement to Sign Other Documents. From time to time, and at the expense of the Company, to the extent any expense is incurred, the County agrees to execute and deliver to the Company such additional instruments as the Company may reasonably request and as are authorized by law and reasonably within the purposes and scope of the Act and this Agreement to effectuate the purposes of this Agreement.

Section 4.11. Agreement's Construction. Each Party and its counsel have reviewed this Agreement and any rule of construction to the effect that ambiguities are to be resolved against a drafting party does not apply in the interpretation of this Agreement or any amendments or exhibits to this Agreement.

- **Section 4.12.** *Applicable Law.* South Carolina law, exclusive of its conflicts of law provisions that would refer the governance of this Agreement to the laws of another jurisdiction, governs this Agreement and all documents executed in connection with this Agreement.
- **Section 4.13.** *Counterparts.* This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and all of the counterparts together constitute one and the same instrument.
- **Section 4.14.** *Amendments.* This Agreement may be amended only by written agreement of the Parties.
- **Section 4.15.** *Waiver*. Either Party may waive compliance by the other Party with any term or condition of this Agreement but the waiver is valid only if it is in a writing signed by the waiving Party.
- **Section 4.16.** *Termination.* Unless first terminated under any other provision of this Agreement, this Agreement terminates on the expiration of the Credit Term and payment by the Company of any outstanding Net Fee Payment due on the Project pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.
- **Section 4.17.** *Business Day.* If any action, payment, or notice is, by the terms of this Agreement, required to be taken, made, or given on any Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday in the jurisdiction in which the Party obligated to act is situated, such action, payment, or notice may be taken, made, or given on the following business day with the same effect as if taken, made or given as required under this Agreement, and no interest will accrue in the interim.

[TWO SIGNATURE PAGES FOLLOW]
[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY BLANK]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Richland County, South Carolina, has caused this Agreement to be executed by the appropriate officials of the County and its corporate seal to be affixed and attested, effective the day and year first above written.

RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

(Chair, Richland County Council
(SEAL)	
ATTEST:	
Clerk to Council, Richland County Council	
DIGIN AND CONNEW A PEOPLE VIG OFFICE	
RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE	
Assessed As To LECAL Form Only	
Approved As To LEGAL Form Only	
No Opinion Rendered As To Content	

[SIGNATURE PAGE 1 TO PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT AGREEMENT]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, SILVER HILLS HUGER LLC, has caused this Agreement to be executed by its authorized officer(s), effective the day and year first above written.

SILVER HILLS HUGER LLC	
By:	
Name: Seth Mendelsohn	
Its: Manager	

[SIGNATURE PAGE 2 TO PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT AGREEMENT]

EXHIBIT A

LAND DESCRIPTION

The land referred to herein below is situated in the County of Richland, State of South Carolina, and is described as follows:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, BEING PARCEL NO. 1 ON 2.43 ACRES, 105,872 SQUARE FEET.

TOGETHER WITH THOSE EASEMENT RIGHTS AS MAY BE APPURTENANT ARISING UNDER THAT CERTAIN ACCESS EASEMENT FROM SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY TO KLINE HUGER, LLC, A SOUTH CAROLINA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, DATED AS OF AUGUST 22, 2008, AUGUST 29, 2008 AT 1:24 P.M., RECORDED IN BOOK R-1459, PAGE 1604. DEEDS FOR RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.

ALSO TOGETHER WITH THOSE EASEMENT RIGHTS AS MAY BE APPURTENANT ARISING UNDER THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT FROM STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA TO KLINE HUGER, LLC, DATED AS OF JULY 29, 2008, FILED FOR RECORD AUGUST 29, 2008 AT 1:24 P.M., RECORDED IN BOOK R-1459, PAGE 1611, AFORESAID RECORDS.

EXHIBIT B (See Section 2.2)

DESCRIPTION OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

The Public Infrastructure the Company expects to invest at the Project ("Company Public Infrastructure") includes a parking structure for residents of the development that will provide spaces dedicated to public parking on the ground floor. In addition to the parking deck, the Company Public Infrastructure will consist of general infrastructure benefiting the public, including, but not limited to, (i) enhanced streetscaping and landscaping along Huger Street and Washington Street, including surface parking spaces for public use, (ii) water, sewer and stormwater improvements, (iii) removal of power lines, and (iv) environmental cleanup in connection with the use of the Property previously as a steel mill.

The anticipated total cost of the Company Public Infrastructure is approximately \$12,201,250, and is further detailed below:

Company Public Infrastructure Budget Estimate		
Description	Budget	
Streetscape/Landscaping (incl. public parking)	\$650,000	
Water/Sewer/Stormwater Improvements	\$950,000	
Water/Sewer Impact Fees	\$750,000	
Parking Structure	\$8,000,000	
Removing Power Lines	\$350,000	
Environmental Cleanup	\$650,000	
General Conditions, General Requirements, Insurance, & Bonding	\$900,000	
Total Costs	\$12,201,250	

Notwithstanding anything above or in this Agreement to the contrary, the Company and the County acknowledge and agree that: (i) the Company Public Infrastructure shall, subject to the provisions of Section 2.2(c) of this Agreement, include, in addition to that described and delineated above, any Public Infrastructure invested in by the Company in connection with the Project and consisting of improvements or infrastructure included within the description of Public Infrastructure set forth in Section 2.2 of this Agreement; and, (ii) the specific line item budget amounts listed above are current estimates and the actual expenditures made by the Company with respect to each such line item may fluctuate as the Project develops.

EXHIBIT C (See Section 2.3)

DESCRIPTION OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT

The County shall provide a 35% Public Infrastructure Credit against the Fee Payments due and owing from the Company to the County with respect to the Project as provided in this Agreement, provided the cumulative total amount of the Public Infrastructure Credit shall not exceed the Company's investment in the Company Public Infrastructure.

The Company is eligible to receive the Public Infrastructure Credit against each of the Company's Fee Payments due with respect to the Project for a period of 10 consecutive years, beginning with the first such Fee Payment due with respect to the Project following the Verification Date and ending on the earlier of the 10th year or year in which the cumulative total amount of the Public Infrastructure Credit equals the Company's investment in the Company Public Infrastructure ("Credit Term").

EXHIBIT D (See Section 2.5)

RICHLAND COUNTY RESOLUTION REQUIRING CERTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY PRACTICES CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE COUNTY

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
)	A RESOLUTION
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)	

REQUIRING CERTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY PRACTICES CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN RICHLAND COUNTY

WHEREAS, Richland County Council adopted a resolution dated as of December 12, 2017 ("Prior Resolution"), which requires companies receiving economic development incentives from Richland County, South Carolina ("County") to submit annual reports to the Richland County Economic Development Office; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to reaffirm its desire to have companies submit such annual reports and to update certain information regarding the submission of the annual reports.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Richland County Council as follows:

- **Section 1.** The County affirms that each company awarded an incentive by the County in exchange for the location or expansion of a facility or facilities within the County shall submit an annual report to the Richland County Economic Development Office by no later January 31 of each year throughout the term of the incentives.
- **Section 2.** The Richland County Economic Development Office is authorized to create (and from time to time, if necessary, amend or recreate) and make available the form of the annual report; however, such form shall require, at a minimum, the following information, but may request such other information as the County may deem necessary or prudent:
 - a. Name of company;
 - b. Cumulative capital investment (less any removed investment) to date as a result of the project;
 - c. Net jobs created to date as a result of the project;
 - d. Age, race, gender, and county of residence of each employee at the facility or facilities in the County; and
 - e. Average wage of the jobs created as a result of the project.
- **Section 3.** A copy of the then-current form of the annual report may be obtained from the Richland County Economic Development Office. The annual report shall likewise be submitted to the following address (or at such other address or in such other format as may be communicated by the Richland County Economic Development Office) by the required date.

Richland County Economic Development Office Attention: Existing Industry Manager 1201 Main Street, Suite 1110 Columbia, SC 29201

- **Section 4.** Subject to Section 5 below, this Resolution amends and restates the Prior Resolution in its entirety and sets forth the County's requirements with respect to the annual reports to be submitted by each company awarded an incentive by the County as described in Section 1.
- **Section 5.** The substance of this Resolution shall be incorporated into any agreement between the County and a company with respect to the incentives granted by the County to such company with an effective date on or after January 1, 2024 ("Effective Date"). For any agreements dated before the Effective Date, the Prior Resolution shall be incorporated into the agreement between the County and a company with respect to the incentives granted by the County to such company.
- **Section 6.** In the event that any company shall fail to submit an annual report, or any portion thereof, such company may be required to return all incentives, or a dollar amount equal thereof, to the County. Such incentives, or the dollar amount equal thereto, shall be paid to the County within 60 days after the date upon which the information was originally due.

AND IT IS SO RESOLVED this 7th day of November 2023.

	RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
	Chair, Richland County Council
(SEAL)	
ATTEST:	
OKY.	
Clerk to County Council	

Approved As To LEGAL Form Only No Opinion Rendered As To Content

RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

SOUTH CAROLINA)	
)	A RESOLUTION
RICHLAND COUNTY)	

COMMITTING TO NEGOTIATE A FEE-IN-LIEU OF *AD VALOREM* TAXES AGREEMENT BETWEEN RICHLAND COUNTY AND PROJECT CHARGE; IDENTIFYING THE PROJECT; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

WHEREAS, Richland County, South Carolina ("County"), acting by and through its County Council ("County Council") is authorized pursuant to the provisions of Title 12, Chapter 44, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended ("Act") to encourage manufacturing and commercial enterprises to locate in the State of South Carolina ("South Carolina" or "State") or to encourage manufacturing and commercial enterprises now located in the State to expand their investments and thus make use of and employ the manpower, products, and other resources of the State by entering into an agreement with a sponsor, as defined in the Act, that provides for the payment of a fee-in-lieu of *ad valorem* tax ("FILOT Payments") with respect to economic development property, as defined in the Act;

WHEREAS, Project Charge, an entity whose name cannot be publicly disclosed at this time ("Sponsor"), desires to invest capital in the County in order to expand in the County ("Project");

WHEREAS, the Project is anticipated to result in an investment of approximately \$9,500,000 in taxable real and personal property and the creation of approximately 130 new, full-time equivalent jobs; and

WHEREAS, as an inducement to the Sponsor locate the Project in the County, the Sponsor has requested that the County negotiate an agreement ("Agreement"), which provides for FILOT Payments with respect to the portion of the Project which constitutes economic development property, as defined in the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council as follows:

- **Section 1.** This Resolution is an inducement resolution for this Project for purposes of the Act.
- **Section 2.** County Council agrees to enter into the Agreement, which provides for FILOT Payments with respect to the portion of the Project which constitutes economic development property. The further details of the FILOT Payments and the agreement will be prescribed by subsequent ordinance of the County to be adopted in accordance with South Carolina law and the rules and procedures of the County.
- **Section 3.** County Council identifies and reflects the Project by this Resolution, therefore permitting expenditures made in connection with the Project before the date of this Resolution to qualify as economic development property, subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement and the Act.
 - **Section 4.** This Resolution is effective after its approval by the County Council.

RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

(SEAL)	Chair, Richland County Council	
ATTEST:		
Clerk to County Council		
RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE	E	
Approved As To LEGAL Form Only No Opinion Rendered As To Content	-	

Richland County Council Request for Action

Subject:

Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Project Charge to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; authorizing certain infrastructure credits; and other related matters

Notes:

First Reading: Second Reading: Third Reading: Public Hearing:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. _____

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF *AD VALOREM* TAXES AND INCENTIVE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND PROJECT CHARGE TO PROVIDE FOR PAYMENT OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING CERTAIN INFRASTRUCTURE CREDITS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

WHEREAS, Richland County, South Carolina ("County"), acting by and through its County Council ("County Council") is authorized pursuant to the provisions of Title 12, Chapter 44, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended ("FILOT Act"), to encourage manufacturing and commercial enterprises to locate in the State of South Carolina ("South Carolina" or "State") or to encourage manufacturing and commercial enterprises now located in the State to expand their investments and thus make use of and employ the manpower, products, and other resources of the State by entering into an agreement with a sponsor, as defined in the FILOT Act, that provides for the payment of a fee-in-lieu of *ad valorem* tax ("FILOT Payments"), with respect to economic development property, as defined in the FILOT Act;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 13 of the South Carolina Constitution and Title 4, Section 1, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended (collectively, "MCIP Act"), the County is authorized to jointly develop multicounty parks with counties having contiguous borders with the County and, in the County's discretion, include property within the boundaries of such multicounty parks. Under the authority provided in the MCIP Act, the County has created a multicounty park with Fairfield County more particularly known as the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park ("Park");

WHEREAS, pursuant to the FILOT and MCIP Acts, the County is authorized to provide credits ("Infrastructure Credits") against FILOT Payments derived from economic development property to pay costs of designing, acquiring, constructing, improving or expanding (i) infrastructure serving a project or the County and (ii) improved and unimproved real estate and personal property used in the operation of a commercial enterprise or manufacturing facility ("Infrastructure");

WHEREAS, Project Charge ("Sponsor") desires to expand a manufacturing facility in the County ("Project") consisting of taxable investment in real and personal property of not less than \$9,500,000 and the creation of 130 new, full-time jobs; and

WHEREAS, at the request of the Sponsor and as an inducement to locate the Project in the County, the County desires to enter into a Fee-in-Lieu of *Ad Valorem* Taxes and Incentive Agreement with the Sponsor, as sponsor, the substantially final form of which is attached as <u>Exhibit A</u> ("Fee Agreement"), pursuant to which the County will provide certain incentives to the Sponsor with respect to the Project, including (i) providing for FILOT Payments, to be calculated as set forth in the Fee Agreement, with respect to the portion of the Project which constitutes economic development property; (ii) locating the Project in the Park; and (iii) providing Infrastructure Credits, as described in the Fee Agreement, to assist in paying the costs of certain Infrastructure.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Council as follows:

Section 1. *Statutory Findings.* Based on information supplied to the County by the Sponsor, County Council evaluated the Project based on relevant criteria including, the purposes the Project is to accomplish, the anticipated dollar amount and nature of the investment, employment to be created, and the anticipated costs and benefits to the County, and hereby finds:

- (a) The Project is anticipated to benefit the general public welfare of the County by providing services, employment, recreation, or other public benefits not otherwise adequately provided locally;
- (b) The Project gives rise to no pecuniary liability of the County or incorporated municipality or a charge against its general credit or taxing power;
- (c) The purposes to be accomplished by the Project are proper governmental and public purposes and the benefits of the Project are greater than the costs.
- Section 2. Approval of Incentives; Authorization to Execute and Deliver Fee Agreement. The incentives as described in this Ordinance ("Ordinance"), and as more particularly set forth in the Fee Agreement, with respect to the Project are hereby approved. The form, terms and provisions of the Fee Agreement that is before this meeting are approved and all of the Fee Agreement's terms and conditions are incorporated in this Ordinance by reference. The Chair of County Council ("Chair") is authorized and directed to execute the Fee Agreement in the name of and on behalf of the County, subject to the approval of any revisions or changes as are not materially adverse to the County by the County Administrator and counsel to the County, and the Clerk to County Council is hereby authorized and directed to attest the Fee Agreement and to deliver the Fee Agreement to the Sponsor.
- **Section 3.** *Inclusion within the Park.* The expansion of the Park boundaries to include the Project is authorized and approved. The Chair, the County Administrator and the Clerk to County Council are each authorized to execute such documents and take such further actions as may be necessary to complete the expansion of the Park boundaries. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement governing the Park ("Park Agreement"), the expansion of the Park's boundaries and the amendment to the Park Agreement is complete on adoption of this Ordinance by County Council and delivery of written notice to Fairfield County of the inclusion of the Project in the Park.
- **Section 4.** *Further Assurances.* The County Council confirms the authority of the Chair, the County Administrator, the Director of Economic Development, the Clerk to County Council, and various other County officials and staff, acting at the direction of the Chair, the County Administrator, or the Director of Economic Development, as appropriate, to take whatever further action and for the Chair, the County Administrator, and the Director of Economic Development to negotiate, execute and deliver whatever further documents, and for the Clerk to County Council to attest the same, as may be appropriate to effect this Ordinance and the incentives offered to the Sponsor under this Ordinance and the Fee Agreement.
- **Section 5.** *Savings Clause.* The provisions of this Ordinance are separable. If any part of this Ordinance is, for any reason, unenforceable then the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance is unaffected.
- **Section 6.** *General Repealer.* Any prior ordinance, resolution, or order, the terms of which are in conflict with this Ordinance, is, only to the extent of that conflict, repealed.
 - Section 7. Effectiveness. This Ordinance is effective after its third reading and public hearing.

RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

(SEAL) ATTEST:		Chair, Richland County Council
Clerk of Council, I	Richland County Council	
RICHLAND COU	NTY ATTORNEY'S OFFIC	CE
Approved As To L No Opinion Rende	EGAL Form Only red As To Content	_
First Reading: Second Reading: Public Hearing: Third Reading:	April 16, 2024	

EXHIBIT A

FORM OF FEE AGREEMENT

FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AND INCENTIVE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

PROJECT CHARGE

AND

RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

EFFECTIVE AS OF [______, 2024]

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FEE AGREEMENT

The parties have agreed to waive the requirement to recapitulate the contents of this Fee Agreement pursuant to Section 12-44-55 of the Code (as defined herein). However, the parties have agreed to include a summary of the key provisions of this Fee Agreement for the convenience of the parties. This summary is included for convenience only and is not to be construed as a part of the terms and conditions of this Fee Agreement.

PROVISION	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	SECTION REFERENCE
Sponsor Name	Project Charge	
Project Location	[to be provided]	
Tax Map No.	[to be provided]	
FILOT		
Phase Exemption Period	With respect to each Phase, the period beginning with the property tax year the Phase is placed in service during the Investment Period and ending on the Phase Termination Date	1.1
• Contract Minimum Investment Requirement	\$9,500,000	1.1
• Contract Minimum Jobs Requirement	130	1.1
Investment Period	The period beginning with the first day of any purchase or acquisition of Economic Development Property and ending five years after the Commencement Date, as may be extended pursuant to Section 12-44-30(13) of the Act. For purposes of this Fee Agreement, the Investment Period, unless so extended, is expected to end on December 31, 2029. The Sponsor anticipates that the first Phase of the Project will be placed in service during the calendar year ending December 31, 2024.	1.1 and 3.1
Assessment Ratio	6%	4.1
Millage Rate	476.6	4.1
Fixed or Five-Year Adjustable Millage	Fixed	4.1
Claw Back Information	Act Minimum Investment Requirement	1.1
Multicounty Park	I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park	1.1
Infrastructure Credit		
Brief Description	The Infrastructure Credits shall equal 45% of the FILOT Payments due for the first 5 payments hereunder, which are anticipated to be the payments for property tax years 2025-2029.	5.1, Exhibit D
Credit Term	The first 5 payments hereunder, anticipated to be property tax years 2025-2029.	5.1, Exhibit D
Claw Back Information	100% - Overall Achievement Percentage	6.1, Exhibit E
Other Information		

FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT

THIS FEE-IN-LIEU OF *AD VALOREM* TAXES AGREEMENT ("Fee Agreement") is entered into, effective, as of [______, 2024], between Richland County, South Carolina ("County"), a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina ("State"), acting through the Richland County Council ("County Council") as the governing body of the County, and Project Charge, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware ("Sponsor").

WITNESSETH:

- (a) Title 12, Chapter 44, ("Act") of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended ("Code"), authorizes the County to induce manufacturing and commercial enterprises to locate in the State or to encourage manufacturing and commercial enterprises currently located in the State to expand their investments and thus make use of and employ the manpower, products, and other resources of the State by entering into an agreement with a sponsor, as defined in the Act, that provides for the payment of a fee-inlieu of ad valorem tax ("FILOT") with respect to Economic Development Property, as defined below;
- (b) Sections 4-1-175 and 12-44-70 of the Code authorize the County to provide credits ("Infrastructure Credit") against payments in lieu of taxes for the purpose of defraying of the cost of designing, acquiring, constructing, improving, or expanding (i) the infrastructure serving the County or a project and (ii) for improved and unimproved real estate, and personal property, including machinery and equipment, used in the operation of a manufacturing facility or commercial enterprise (collectively, "Infrastructure");
- (c) The Sponsor has committed to expand a manufacturing facility ("Facility") in the County, consisting of taxable investment in real and personal property of not less than \$9,500,000 and the creation of 130 new, full-time jobs;
- (d) By an ordinance enacted on [______, 2024], County Council authorized the County to enter into this Fee Agreement with the Sponsor to provide for a FILOT and the other incentives as more particularly described in this Fee Agreement to induce the Sponsor to expand its Facility in the County.
- NOW, THEREFORE, AND IN CONSIDERATION of the respective representations and agreements hereinafter contained, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

- **Section 1.1.** *Terms.* The defined terms used in this Fee Agreement have the meaning given below, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- "Act" means Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code, and all future acts successor or supplemental thereto or amendatory of this Fee Agreement.
- "Act Minimum Investment Requirement" means an investment of at least \$2,500,000 in the Project within five years of the Commencement Date.
- "Administration Expenses" means the reasonable expenses incurred by the County in the negotiation, approval and implementation of the terms and provisions of this Fee Agreement, including reasonable attorney's and consultant's fees. Administration Expenses does not include any costs, expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by the County (i) in defending challenges to the FILOT Payments, Infrastructure Credits or other incentives provided by this Fee Agreement brought by third parties or the Sponsor or its affiliates and related entities, or (ii) in connection with matters arising at the request of the

Sponsor outside of the immediate scope of this Fee Agreement, including amendments to the terms of this Fee Agreement.

- "Code" means the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.
- "Commencement Date" means the last day of the property tax year during which the initial Economic Development Property is placed in service. The Commencement Date shall not be later than the last day of the property tax year which is three years from the year in which the County and the Sponsor enter into this Fee Agreement. For purposes of this Fee Agreement, the Commencement Date is expected to be December 31, 2024.
- "Contract Minimum Investment Requirement" means a taxable investment in real and personal property at the Project of not less than \$9,500,000.
- "Contract Minimum Jobs Requirement" means not less than 130 new, full-time, jobs created by the Sponsor in the County in connection with the Project.
- "County" means Richland County, South Carolina, a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State, its successors and assigns, acting by and through the County Council as the governing body of the County.
 - "County Council" means the Richland County Council, the governing body of the County.
- "Credit Term" means the years during the Fee Term in which the Infrastructure Credit is applicable, as described in Exhibit C.
 - "Department" means the South Carolina Department of Revenue.
- "Diminution in Value" means a reduction in the fair market value of Economic Development Property, as determined in Section 4.1(a)(i) of this Fee Agreement, which may be caused by (i) the removal or disposal of components of the Project pursuant to Section 4.3 of this Fee Agreement; (ii) a casualty as described in Section 4.4 of this Fee Agreement; or (iii) a condemnation as described in Section 4.5 of this Fee Agreement.
- "Economic Development Property" means those items of real and tangible personal property of the Project placed in service not later than the end of the Investment Period that (i) satisfy the conditions of classification as economic development property under the Act, and (ii) are identified by the Sponsor in its annual filing of a PT-300S or comparable form with the Department (as such filing may be amended from time to time).
- "*Equipment*" means all of the machinery, equipment, furniture, office equipment, and fixtures, together with any and all additions, accessions, replacements, and substitutions.
 - "Event of Default" means any event of default specified in Section 7.1 of this Fee Agreement.
- "Fee Agreement" means this Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes and Incentive Agreement, as may be supplemented or amended.
- "Fee Term" means the period from the effective date of this Fee Agreement until the Final Termination Date.
- "FILOT Payments" means the amount paid or to be paid in lieu of ad valorem property taxes as provided in Section 4.1 of this Fee Agreement.

- "Final Phase" means the Economic Development Property placed in service during the last year of the Investment Period.
- "Final Termination Date" means the date on which the last FILOT Payment with respect to the Final Phase is made, or such earlier date as the Fee Agreement is terminated in accordance with the terms of this Fee Agreement. Assuming the Phase Termination Date for the Final Phase is December 31, 2058, the Final Termination Date is expected to be January 15, 2060, which is the due date of the last FILOT Payment with respect to the Final Phase.
- "Improvements" means all improvements to the Real Property, including buildings, building additions, roads, sewer lines, and infrastructure, together with all additions, fixtures, accessions, replacements, and substitutions.
- "Infrastructure" means (i) the infrastructure serving the County or the Project, (ii) improved and unimproved real estate, and personal property, including machinery and equipment, used in the operation of a manufacturing or commercial enterprise, or (iii) such other items as may be described in or permitted under Section 4-29-68 of the Code.
- "Infrastructure Credit" means the credit provided to the Sponsor pursuant to Section 12-44-70 of the Act or Section 4-1-175 of the MCIP Act and Section 5.1 of this Fee Agreement, with respect to the Infrastructure. Infrastructure Credits are to be used for the payment of Infrastructure constituting real property, improvements and infrastructure before any use for the payment of Infrastructure constituting personal property, notwithstanding any presumptions to the contrary in the MCIP Act or otherwise.
- "Investment Period" means the period beginning with the first day of any purchase or acquisition of Economic Development Property and ending five years after the Commencement Date, as may be extended pursuant to Section 12-44-30(13) of the Act. For purposes of this Fee Agreement, the Investment Period, unless so extended, is expected to end on December 31, 2029.
- "MCIP Act" means Article VIII, Section 13(D) of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina, and Sections 4-1-170, 4-1-172, 4-1-175, and 4-29-68 of the Code.
- "Multicounty Park" means the multicounty industrial or business park governed by the Amended and Restated Master Agreement Governing the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park, dated as of September 1, 2018, between the County and Fairfield County, South Carolina.
 - "Net FILOT Payment" means the FILOT Payment net of the Infrastructure Credit.
- "*Phase*" means the Economic Development Property placed in service during a particular year of the Investment Period.
- "Phase Exemption Period" means, with respect to each Phase, the period beginning with the property tax year the Phase is placed in service during the Investment Period and ending on the Phase Termination Date.
- "Phase Termination Date" means, with respect to each Phase, the last day of the property tax year which is the 29th year following the first property tax year in which the Phase is placed in service.
- "*Project*" means all the Equipment, Improvements, and Real Property in the County that the Sponsor determines to be necessary, suitable, or useful by the Sponsor in connection with its investment in the County.

"Real Property" means real property that the Sponsor uses or will use in the County for the purposes that Section 2.2(b) describes, and initially consists of the land identified on Exhibit A of this Fee Agreement.

"Removed Components" means Economic Development Property which the Sponsor, in its sole discretion, (a) determines to be inadequate, obsolete, worn-out, uneconomic, damaged, unsuitable, undesirable, or unnecessary pursuant to Section 4.3 of this Fee Agreement or otherwise; or (b) elects to be treated as removed pursuant to Section 4.4(c) or Section 4.5(b)(iii) of this Fee Agreement.

"Replacement Property" means any property which is placed in service as a replacement for any Removed Component regardless of whether the Replacement Property serves the same functions as the Removed Component it is replacing and regardless of whether more than one piece of Replacement Property replaces a single Removed Component.

"Sponsor" means Project Charge and any surviving, resulting, or transferee entity in any merger, consolidation, or transfer of assets; or any other person or entity which may succeed to the rights and duties of the Sponsor under this Fee Agreement.

"Sponsor Affiliate" means an entity that participates in the investment or job creation at the Project and, following receipt of the County's approval pursuant to Section 9.1 of this Fee Agreement, joins this Fee Agreement by delivering a Joinder Agreement, the form of which is attached as Exhibit B to this Fee Agreement.

"State" means the State of South Carolina.

Any reference to any agreement or document in this Article I or otherwise in this Fee Agreement shall include any and all amendments, supplements, addenda, and modifications to such agreement or document.

The term "investment" or "invest" as used in this Fee Agreement includes not only investments made by the Sponsor, but also to the fullest extent permitted by law, those investments made by or for the benefit of the Sponsor in connection with the Project through federal, state, or local grants, to the extent such investments are or, but for the terms of this Fee Agreement, would be subject to *ad valorem* taxes to be paid by the Sponsor.

ARTICLE II REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

Section 2.1. *Representations and Warranties of the County.* The County represents and warrants as follows:

- (a) The County is a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State and acts through the County Council as its governing body. The Act authorizes and empowers the County to enter into the transactions that this Fee Agreement contemplates and to carry out its obligations under this Fee Agreement. The County has duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Fee Agreement and all other documents, certificates or other agreements contemplated in this Fee Agreement and has obtained all consents from third parties and taken all actions necessary or that the law requires to fulfill its obligations under this Fee Agreement.
- (b) Based on representations by the Sponsor, County Council evaluated the Project based on all relevant criteria including the purposes the Project is to accomplish, the anticipated dollar amount and nature of the investment resulting from the Project, and the anticipated costs and benefits to the County and

following the evaluation, the County determined that (i) the Project is anticipated to benefit the general public welfare of the County by providing services, employment, recreation, or other public benefits not otherwise adequately provided locally; (ii) the Project gives rise to no pecuniary liability of the County or any incorporated municipality and to no charge against the County's general credit or taxing power; (iii) the purposes to be accomplished by the Project are proper governmental and public purposes; and (iv) the benefits of the Project are greater than the costs.

- (c) The County identified the Project, as a "project" on by adopting an Inducement Resolution, as defined in the Act on [_______, 2024].
- (d) The County is not in default of any of its obligations (contractual or otherwise) as a result of entering into and performing its obligations under this Fee Agreement.
- (e) The County has located or will take all reasonable action to locate the Project in the Multicounty Park.
- **Section 2.2.** *Representations and Warranties of the Sponsor.* The Sponsor represents and warrants as follows:
- (a) The Sponsor is in good standing under the laws of the state of its organization, is duly authorized to transact business in the State (or will obtain such authority prior to commencing business in the State), has power to enter into this Fee Agreement, and has duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Fee Agreement.
- (b) The Sponsor intends to operate the Project as a manufacturing facility and for such other purposes that the Act permits as the Sponsor may deem appropriate.
- (c) The Sponsor's execution and delivery of this Fee Agreement and its compliance with the provisions of this Fee Agreement do not result in a default under any agreement or instrument to which the Sponsor is now a party or by which it is bound.
- (d) The Sponsor will use commercially reasonable efforts to achieve the Contract Minimum Investment Requirement and the Contract Minimum Jobs Requirement.
- (e) The execution and delivery of this Fee Agreement by the County and the availability of the FILOT and other incentives provided by this Fee Agreement has been instrumental in inducing the Sponsor to locate the Project in the County.
- (f) The Sponsor has retained legal counsel to confirm, or has had a reasonable opportunity to consult legal counsel to confirm, its eligibility for the FILOT and other incentives granted by this Fee Agreement and has not relied on the County, its officials, employees or legal representatives with respect to any question of eligibility or applicability of the FILOT and other incentives granted by this Fee Agreement.

ARTICLE III THE PROJECT

Section 3.1. *The Project.* The Sponsor intends and expects to (i) construct or acquire the Project and (ii) meet the Contract Minimum Investment Requirement and the Contract Minimum Jobs Requirement within the Investment Period. The Sponsor anticipates that the first Phase of the Project will be placed in service during the calendar year ending December 31, 2024. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Fee Agreement to the contrary, the Sponsor is not obligated to complete the acquisition of the Project. However, if the Contract Minimum Investment Requirement is not met, the benefits provided to the

Sponsor, or Sponsor Affiliate, if any, pursuant to this Fee Agreement may be reduced, modified or terminated as provided in this Fee Agreement.

Section 3.2 Leased Property. To the extent that State law allows or is revised or construed to permit leased assets including a building, or personal property to be installed in a building, to constitute Economic Development Property, then any property leased by the Sponsor is, at the election of the Sponsor, deemed to be Economic Development Property for purposes of this Fee Agreement, subject, at all times, to the requirements of State law and this Fee Agreement with respect to property comprising Economic Development Property.

Section 3.3. Filings and Reports.

- (a) On or before January 31 of each year during the term of this Fee Agreement, commencing in January 31, 2025, the Sponsor shall deliver to the Economic Development Director of the County with respect to the Sponsor and all Sponsor Affiliates, if any, the information required by the terms of the County's Resolution dated November 7, 2023, which is attached hereto as Exhibit C, as may be amended by subsequent resolution.
- (b) The Sponsor shall file a copy of this Fee Agreement and a completed PT-443 with the Economic Development Director and the Department and the Auditor, Treasurer and Assessor of the County and partner county to the Multicounty Park.
- (c) On request by the County Administrator or the Economic Development Director, the Sponsor shall remit to the Economic Development Director records accounting for the acquisition, financing, construction, and operation of the Project which records (i) permit ready identification of all Economic Development Property; (ii) confirm the dates that the Economic Development Property or Phase was placed in service; and (iii) include copies of all filings made in accordance with this Section.

ARTICLE IV FILOT PAYMENTS

Section 4.1. FILOT Payments.

- (a) The FILOT Payment due with respect to each Phase through the Phase Termination Date is calculated as follows:
 - (i) The fair market value of the Phase calculated as set forth in the Act (for the Real Property and Improvements portion of the Phase, the County and the Sponsor have elected to use the fair market value established in the first year of the Phase Exemption Period, multiplied by
 - (ii) An assessment ratio of six percent (6%), multiplied by
 - (iii) A fixed millage rate equal to 476.6 mills, which is the cumulative millage rate levied by or on behalf of all the taxing entities within which the Project is located as of June 30, 2024.

The calculation of the FILOT Payment must allow all applicable property tax exemptions except those excluded pursuant to Section 12-44-50(A)(2) of the Act. The Sponsor acknowledges that (i) the calculation of the annual FILOT Payment is a function of the Department and is wholly dependent on the Sponsor timely submitting the correct annual property tax returns to the Department, (ii) the County has no responsibility for the submission of returns or the calculation of the annual FILOT Payment, and (iii) failure

by the Sponsor to submit the correct annual property tax return could lead to a loss of all or a portion of the FILOT and other incentives provided by this Fee Agreement.

- (b) If a final order of a court of competent jurisdiction from which no further appeal is allowable declares the FILOT Payments invalid or unenforceable, in whole or in part, for any reason, the parties shall negotiate the reformation of the calculation of the FILOT Payments to most closely afford the Sponsor with the intended benefits of this Fee Agreement. If such order has the effect of subjecting the Economic Development Property to *ad valorem* taxation, this Fee Agreement shall terminate, and the Sponsor shall owe the County regular *ad valorem* taxes from the date of termination, in accordance with Section 4.7 of this Fee Agreement.
- **Section 4.2.** *FILOT Payments on Replacement Property.* If the Sponsor elects to place Replacement Property in service, then, pursuant and subject to the provisions of Section 12-44-60 of the Act, the Sponsor shall make the following payments to the County with respect to the Replacement Property for the remainder of the Phase Exemption Period applicable to the Removed Component of the Replacement Property:
- (a) FILOT Payments, calculated in accordance with Section 4.1 of this Fee Agreement, on the Replacement Property to the extent of the original income tax basis of the Removed Component the Replacement Property is deemed to replace.
- (b) Regular *ad valorem* tax payments to the extent the income tax basis of the Replacement Property exceeds the original income tax basis of the Removed Component the Replacement Property is deemed to replace.
- **Section 4.3.** Removal of Components of the Project. Subject to the other terms and provisions of this Fee Agreement, the Sponsor is entitled to remove and dispose of components of the Project in its sole discretion. Components of the Project are deemed removed when scrapped, sold or otherwise removed from the Project. If the components removed from the Project are Economic Development Property, then the Economic Development Property is a Removed Component, no longer subject to this Fee Agreement and is subject to ad valorem property taxes to the extent the Removed Component remains in the State and is otherwise subject to ad valorem property taxes.

Section 4.4. Damage or Destruction of Economic Development Property.

- (a) Election to Terminate. If Economic Development Property is damaged by fire, explosion, or any other casualty, then the Sponsor may terminate this Fee Agreement. For the property tax year corresponding to the year in which the damage or casualty occurs, the Sponsor is obligated to make FILOT Payments with respect to the damaged Economic Development Property only to the extent property subject to ad valorem taxes would have been subject to ad valorem taxes under the same circumstances for the period in question.
- (b) *Election to Restore and Replace*. If Economic Development Property is damaged by fire, explosion, or any other casualty, and the Sponsor does not elect to terminate this Fee Agreement, then the Sponsor may restore and replace the Economic Development Property. All restorations and replacements made pursuant to this subsection (b) are deemed, to the fullest extent permitted by law and this Fee Agreement, to be Replacement Property.
- (c) *Election to Remove*. If Economic Development Property is damaged by fire, explosion, or any other casualty, and the Sponsor elects not to terminate this Fee Agreement pursuant to subsection (a) and elects not to restore or replace pursuant to subsection (b), then the damaged portions of the Economic Development Property are deemed Removed Components.

Section 4.5. Condemnation.

- (a) *Complete Taking*. If at any time during the Fee Term title to or temporary use of the Economic Development Property is vested in a public or quasi-public authority by virtue of the exercise of a taking by condemnation, inverse condemnation, or the right of eminent domain; by voluntary transfer under threat of such taking; or by a taking of title to a portion of the Economic Development Property which renders continued use or occupancy of the Economic Development Property commercially unfeasible in the judgment of the Sponsor, the Sponsor shall have the option to terminate this Fee Agreement by sending written notice to the County within a reasonable period of time following such vesting.
- (b) *Partial Taking*. In the event of a partial taking of the Economic Development Property or a transfer in lieu, the Sponsor may elect: (i) to terminate this Fee Agreement; (ii) to restore and replace the Economic Development Property, with such restorations and replacements deemed, to the fullest extent permitted by law and this Fee Agreement, to be Replacement Property; or (iii) to treat the portions of the Economic Development Property so taken as Removed Components.
- (c) In the year in which the taking occurs, the Sponsor is obligated to make FILOT Payments with respect to the Economic Development Property so taken only to the extent property subject to *ad valorem* taxes would have been subject to taxes under the same circumstances for the period in question.
- **Section 4.6.** Calculating FILOT Payments on Diminution in Value. If there is a Diminution in Value, the FILOT Payments due with respect to the Economic Development Property or Phase so diminished shall be calculated by substituting the diminished value of the Economic Development Property or Phase for the original fair market value in Section 4.1(a)(i) of this Fee Agreement.
- **Section 4.7.** *Payment of* **Ad Valorem** *Taxes*. If Economic Development Property becomes subject to *ad valorem* taxes as imposed by law pursuant to the terms of this Fee Agreement or the Act, then the calculation of the *ad valorem* taxes due with respect to the Economic Development Property in a particular property tax year shall: (i) include the property tax reductions that would have applied to the Economic Development Property if it were not Economic Development Property; and (ii) include a credit for FILOT Payments the Sponsor has made with respect to the Economic Development Property.
- **Section 4.8.** *Place of FILOT Payments*. All FILOT Payments shall be made directly to the County in accordance with applicable law.

ARTICLE V ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES

Section 5.1. *Infrastructure Credits.* To assist in paying for costs of Infrastructure, the Sponsor is entitled to claim an Infrastructure Credit to reduce certain FILOT Payments due and owing from the Sponsor to the County under this Fee Agreement. The term, amount and calculation of the Infrastructure Credit is described in Exhibit D. In no event may the Sponsor's aggregate Infrastructure Credit claimed pursuant to this Section exceed the aggregate expenditures by the Sponsor on Infrastructure.

For each property tax year in which the Infrastructure Credit is applicable ("*Credit Term*"), the County shall prepare and issue the annual bills with respect to the Project showing the Net FILOT Payment, calculated in accordance with <u>Exhibit D</u>. Following receipt of the bill, the Sponsor shall timely remit the Net FILOT Payment to the County in accordance with applicable law.

ARTICLE VI CLAW BACK

Section 6.1. *Claw Back.* If the Sponsor fails to perform its obligations under this Fee Agreement as described in <u>Exhibit E</u>, then the Sponsor is subject to the claw backs as described in <u>Exhibit E</u>. Any amount that may be due from the Sponsor to the County as calculated in accordance with or described in <u>Exhibit E</u> is due within 30 days of receipt of a written statement from the County. If not timely paid, the amount due from the Sponsor to the County is subject to the minimum amount of interest that the law may permit with respect to delinquent *ad valorem* tax payments. The repayment obligation arising under this Section and Exhibit E survives termination of this Fee Agreement.

ARTICLE VII DEFAULT

Section 7.1. Events of Default. The following are "Events of Default" under this Fee Agreement:

- (a) Failure to make FILOT Payments, which failure has not been cured within 30 days following receipt of written notice from the County specifying the delinquency in FILOT Payments and requesting that it be remedied;
 - (b) Failure to timely pay any amount, except FILOT Payments, due under this Fee Agreement;
- (c) A Cessation of Operations. For purposes of this Fee Agreement, a "*Cessation of Operations*" means a publicly announced closure of the Facility, a layoff of a majority of the employees working at the Facility, or a substantial reduction in production that continues for a period of twelve (12) months;
- (d) A representation or warranty made by the Sponsor which is deemed materially incorrect when deemed made;
- (e) Failure by the Sponsor to perform any of the terms, conditions, obligations, or covenants under this Fee Agreement (other than those under (a), above), which failure has not been cured within 30 days after written notice from the County to the Sponsor specifying such failure and requesting that it be remedied, unless the Sponsor has instituted corrective action within the 30-day period and is diligently pursuing corrective action until the default is corrected, in which case the 30-day period is extended to include the period during which the Sponsor is diligently pursuing corrective action;
- (f) A representation or warranty made by the County which is deemed materially incorrect when deemed made; or

(g) Failure by the County to perform any of the terms, conditions, obligations, or covenants hereunder, which failure has not been cured within 30 days after written notice from the Sponsor to the County specifying such failure and requesting that it be remedied, unless the County has instituted corrective action within the 30-day period and is diligently pursuing corrective action until the default is corrected, in which case the 30-day period is extended to include the period during which the County is diligently pursuing corrective action.

Section 7.2. Remedies on Default.

- (a) If an Event of Default by the Sponsor has occurred and is continuing, then the County may take any one or more of the following remedial actions:
 - (i) terminate this Fee Agreement; or
 - (ii) take whatever action at law or in equity may appear necessary or desirable to collect amounts due or otherwise remedy the Event of Default or recover its damages.
- (b) If an Event of Default by the County has occurred and is continuing, the Sponsor may take any one or more of the following actions:
 - (i) bring an action for specific enforcement;
 - (ii) terminate this Fee Agreement; or
 - (iii) in case of a materially incorrect representation or warranty, take such action as is appropriate, including legal action, to recover its damages, to the extent allowed by law.
- **Section 7.3.** Reimbursement of Legal Fees and Other Expenses. On the occurrence of an Event of Default, if a party is required to employ attorneys or incur other reasonable expenses for the collection of payments due under this Fee Agreement or for the enforcement of performance or observance of any obligation or agreement, the prevailing party is entitled to seek reimbursement of the reasonable fees of such attorneys and such other reasonable expenses so incurred.
- **Section 7.4.** *Remedies Not Exclusive*. No remedy described in this Fee Agreement is intended to be exclusive of any other remedy or remedies, and each and every such remedy is cumulative and in addition to every other remedy given under this Fee Agreement or existing at law or in equity or by statute.

ARTICLE VIII PARTICULAR RIGHTS AND COVENANTS

- **Section 8.1.** *Right to Inspect.* The County and its authorized agents, at any reasonable time on prior written notice (which may be given by email), may enter and examine and inspect the Project for the purposes of permitting the County to carry out its duties and obligations in its sovereign capacity (such as, without limitation, for such routine health and safety purposes as would be applied to any other manufacturing or commercial facility in the County).
- **Section 8.2.** Confidentiality. The County acknowledges that the Sponsor may utilize confidential and proprietary processes and materials, services, equipment, trade secrets, and techniques ("Confidential Information") and that disclosure of the Confidential Information could result in substantial economic harm to the Sponsor. The Sponsor may clearly label any Confidential Information delivered to the County pursuant to this Fee Agreement as "Confidential Information." Except as required by law, the County, or

any employee, agent, or contractor of the County, shall not disclose or otherwise divulge any labeled Confidential Information to any other person, firm, governmental body or agency. The Sponsor acknowledges that the County is subject to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, and, as a result, must disclose certain documents and information on request, absent an exemption. If the County is required to disclose any Confidential Information to a third party, the County will use its best efforts to provide the Sponsor with as much advance notice as is reasonably possible of such disclosure requirement prior to making such disclosure, and to cooperate reasonably with any attempts by the Sponsor to obtain judicial or other relief from such disclosure requirement.

Section 8.3. Indemnification Covenants.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (d) below, the Sponsor shall indemnify and save the County, its employees, elected officials, officers and agents (each, an "*Indemnified Party*") harmless against and from all liability or claims arising from the County's execution of this Fee Agreement, performance of the County's obligations under this Fee Agreement or the administration of its duties pursuant to this Fee Agreement, or otherwise by virtue of the County having entered into this Fee Agreement.
- (b) The County is entitled to use counsel of its choice and the Sponsor shall reimburse the County for all of its costs, including attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with the response to or defense against such liability or claims as described in paragraph (a), above. The County shall provide a statement of the costs incurred in the response or defense, and the Sponsor shall pay the County within 30 days of receipt of the statement. The Sponsor may request reasonable documentation evidencing the costs shown on the statement. However, the County is not required to provide any documentation which may be privileged or confidential to evidence the costs.
- (c) The County may request the Sponsor to resist or defend against any claim on behalf of an Indemnified Party. On such request, the Sponsor shall resist or defend against such claim on behalf of the Indemnified Party, at the Sponsor's expense. The Sponsor is entitled to use counsel of its choice, manage and control the defense of or response to such claim for the Indemnified Party; provided the Sponsor is not entitled to settle any such claim without the consent of that Indemnified Party.
- (d) Notwithstanding anything in this Section or this Fee Agreement to the contrary, the Sponsor is not required to indemnify any Indemnified Party against or reimburse any Indemnified Party for costs arising from any claim or liability (i) occasioned by the acts of that Indemnified Party, which are unrelated to the execution of this Fee Agreement, performance of the County's obligations under this Fee Agreement, or the administration of its duties under this Fee Agreement, or otherwise by virtue of the County having entered into this Fee Agreement; or (ii) resulting from that Indemnified Party's own negligence, bad faith, fraud, deceit, or willful misconduct.
- (e) An Indemnified Party may not avail itself of the indemnification or reimbursement of costs provided in this Section unless it provides the Sponsor with prompt notice, reasonable under the circumstances, of the existence or threat of any claim or liability, including, without limitation, copies of any citations, orders, fines, charges, remediation requests, or other claims or threats of claims, in order to afford the Sponsor notice, reasonable under the circumstances, within which to defend or otherwise respond to a claim.
 - (f) The obligations under this Section 8.3 shall survive termination of this Fee Agreement.
- **Section 8.4.** No Liability of County Personnel. All covenants, stipulations, promises, agreements and obligations of the County contained in this Fee Agreement are binding on members of the County Council or any elected official, officer, agent, servant or employee of the County only in his or her official capacity and not in his or her individual capacity, and no recourse for the payment of any moneys under

this Fee Agreement may be had against any member of County Council or any elected or appointed official, officer, agent, servant or employee of the County and no recourse for the payment of any moneys or performance of any of the covenants and agreements under this Fee Agreement or for any claims based on this Fee Agreement may be had against any member of County Council or any elected or appointed official, officer, agent, servant or employee of the County except solely in their official capacity.

Section 8.5. *Limitation of Liability.* The County is not liable to the Sponsor for any costs, expenses, losses, damages, claims or actions in connection with this Fee Agreement, except from amounts received by the County from the Sponsor under this Fee Agreement. Notwithstanding anything in this Fee Agreement to the contrary, any financial obligation the County may incur under this Fee Agreement is deemed not to constitute a pecuniary liability or a debt or general obligation of the County.

Section 8.6. Assignment. The Sponsor may assign this Fee Agreement in whole or in part with the prior written consent of the County or a subsequent written ratification by the County, which may be done by resolution, and which consent or ratification the County will not unreasonably withhold. The Sponsor agrees to notify the County and the Department of the identity of the proposed transferee within 60 days of the transfer. In case of a transfer, the transferee assumes the transferor's basis in the Economic Development Property for purposes of calculating the FILOT Payments.

Section 8.7. No Double Payment; Future Changes in Legislation. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Fee Agreement to the contrary, and except as expressly required by law, the Sponsor is not required to make a FILOT Payment in addition to a regular *ad valorem* property tax payment in the same year with respect to the same piece of Economic Development Property. The Sponsor is not required to make a FILOT Payment on Economic Development Property in cases where, absent this Fee Agreement, *ad valorem* property taxes would otherwise not be due on such property.

Section 8.8. Administration Expenses. The Sponsor will reimburse, or cause reimbursement to, the County for Administration Expenses in the amount of \$5,000. The Sponsor will reimburse the County for its Administration Expenses on receipt of a written request from the County or at the County's direction, which request shall include a statement of the amount and nature of the Administration Expense. The Sponsor shall pay the Administration Expense as set forth in the written request no later than 60 days following receipt of the written request from the County. The County does not impose a charge in the nature of impact fees or recurring fees in connection with the incentives authorized by this Fee Agreement. The payment by the Sponsor of the County's Administration Expenses shall not be construed as prohibiting the County from engaging, at its discretion, the counsel of the County's choice.

ARTICLE IX SPONSOR AFFILIATES

Section 9.1. Sponsor Affiliates. The Sponsor may designate Sponsor Affiliates from time to time, including at the time of execution of this Fee Agreement, pursuant to and subject to the provisions of Section 12-44-130 of the Act. To designate a Sponsor Affiliate, the Sponsor must deliver written notice to the Economic Development Director identifying the Sponsor Affiliate and requesting the County's approval of the Sponsor Affiliate. Except with respect to a Sponsor Affiliate designated at the time of execution of this Fee Agreement, which may be approved in the County Council ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of this Fee Agreement, approval of the Sponsor Affiliate may be given by the County Administrator delivering written notice to the Sponsor and Sponsor Affiliate following receipt by the County Administrator of a recommendation from the Economic Development Committee of County Council to allow the Sponsor Affiliate to join in the investment at the Project. The Sponsor Affiliate's joining in the investment at the Project will be effective on delivery of a Joinder Agreement, the form of which is attached as Exhibit B, executed by the Sponsor Affiliate to the County.

Section 9.2. Primary Responsibility. Notwithstanding the addition of a Sponsor Affiliate, the Sponsor acknowledges that it has the primary responsibility for the duties and obligations of the Sponsor and any Sponsor Affiliate under this Fee Agreement, including the payment of FILOT Payments or any other amount due to or for the benefit of the County under this Fee Agreement. For purposes of this Fee Agreement, "primary responsibility" means that if the Sponsor Affiliate fails to make any FILOT Payment or remit any other amount due under this Fee Agreement, the Sponsor shall make such FILOT Payments or remit such other amounts on behalf of the Sponsor Affiliate.

ARTICLE X MISCELLANEOUS

Section 10.1. *Notices.* Any notice, election, demand, request, or other communication to be provided under this Fee Agreement is effective when delivered to the party named below or when deposited with the United States Postal Service, certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, addressed as follows (or addressed to such other address as any party shall have previously furnished in writing to the other party), except where the terms of this Fee Agreement require receipt rather than sending of any notice, in which case such provision shall control:

IF TO THE SPONSOR:

Projec	t Charge		
Attn:			

WITH A COPY TO (does not constitute notice):

Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A. Attn: Will Johnson P.O. Box 11889 Columbia, South Carolina 29201

IF TO THE COUNTY:

Richland County, South Carolina Attn: Richland County Economic Development Director 2020 Hampton Street Columbia, South Carolina 29204

WITH A COPY TO (does not constitute notice):

Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP Attn: Ray E. Jones 1221 Main Street, Suite 1100 (29201) Post Office Box 1509 Columbia, South Carolina 29202-1509

Section 10.2. *Provisions of Agreement for Sole Benefit of County and Sponsor.* Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Fee Agreement, nothing in this Fee Agreement expressed or implied confers on any person or entity other than the County and the Sponsor any right, remedy, or claim under or by reason of this Fee Agreement, this Fee Agreement being intended to be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the County and the Sponsor.

- **Section 10.3.** *Counterparts.* This Fee Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and all of the counterparts together constitute one and the same instrument.
- **Section 10.4.** *Governing Law.* South Carolina law, exclusive of its conflicts of law provisions that would refer the governance of this Fee Agreement to the laws of another jurisdiction, governs this Fee Agreement and all documents executed in connection with this Fee Agreement.
- **Section 10.5.** *Headings.* The headings of the articles and sections of this Fee Agreement are inserted for convenience only and do not constitute a part of this Fee Agreement.
- **Section 10.6.** *Amendments.* This Fee Agreement may be amended only by written agreement of the parties to this Fee Agreement.
- **Section 10.7.** Agreement to Sign Other Documents. From time to time, and at the expense of the Sponsor, to the extent any expense is incurred, the County agrees to execute and deliver to the Sponsor such additional instruments as the Sponsor may reasonably request and as are authorized by law and reasonably within the purposes and scope of the Act and this Fee Agreement to effectuate the purposes of this Fee Agreement.

Section 10.8. Interpretation; Invalidity; Change in Laws.

- (a) If the inclusion of property as Economic Development Property or any other issue is unclear under this Fee Agreement, then the parties intend that the interpretation of this Fee Agreement be done in a manner that provides for the broadest inclusion of property under the terms of this Fee Agreement and the maximum incentive permissible under the Act, to the extent not inconsistent with any of the explicit terms of this Fee Agreement.
- (b) If any provision of this Fee Agreement is declared illegal, invalid, or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions of this Fee Agreement are unimpaired, and the parties shall reform such illegal, invalid, or unenforceable provision to effectuate most closely the legal, valid, and enforceable intent of this Fee Agreement so as to afford the Sponsor with the maximum benefits to be derived under this Fee Agreement, it being the intention of the County to offer the Sponsor the strongest inducement possible, within the provisions of the Act, to locate the Project in the County.
- (c) The County agrees that in case the FILOT incentive described in this Fee Agreement is found to be invalid and the Sponsor does not realize the economic benefit it is intended to receive from the County under this Fee Agreement as an inducement to locate in the County, the County agrees to negotiate with the Sponsor to provide a special source revenue or Infrastructure Credit to the Sponsor (in addition to the Infrastructure Credit explicitly provided for above) to the maximum extent permitted by law, to allow the Sponsor to recoup all or a portion of the loss of the economic benefit resulting from such invalidity.
- **Section 10.9.** *Force Majeure.* The Sponsor is not responsible for any delays or non-performance caused in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, by strikes, accidents, freight embargoes, fires, floods, inability to obtain materials, conditions arising from governmental orders or regulations, war or national emergency, acts of God, and any other cause, similar or dissimilar, beyond the Sponsor's reasonable control.

Section 10.10. Termination; Termination by Sponsor.

(a) Unless first terminated under any other provision of this Fee Agreement, this Fee Agreement terminates on the Final Termination Date.

- (b) The Sponsor is authorized to terminate this Fee Agreement at any time with respect to all or part of the Project on providing the County with 30 days' notice.
- (c) Any monetary obligations due and owing at the time of termination and any provisions which are intended to survive termination, including specifically the obligations arising under Section 8.3 of this Fee Agreement, survive such termination.
- (d) In the year following termination, all Economic Development Property is subject to *ad valorem* taxation or such other taxation or payment in lieu of taxation that would apply absent this Fee Agreement. The Sponsor's obligation to make FILOT Payments under this Fee Agreement terminates to the extent of and in the year following the year the Sponsor terminates this Fee Agreement pursuant to this Section.
- **Section 10.11.** *Entire Agreement.* This Fee Agreement expresses the entire understanding and all agreements of the parties, and neither party is bound by any agreement or any representation to the other party which is not expressly set forth in this Fee Agreement or in certificates delivered in connection with the execution and delivery of this Fee Agreement.
- **Section 10.12.** *Waiver*. Either party may waive compliance by the other party with any term or condition of this Fee Agreement only in a writing signed by the waiving party.
- **Section 10.13.** *Business Day.* If any action, payment, or notice is, by the terms of this Fee Agreement, required to be taken, made, or given on any Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday in the jurisdiction in which the party obligated to act is situated, such action, payment, or notice may be taken, made, or given on the following business day with the same effect as if taken, made or given as required under this Fee Agreement, and no interest will accrue in the interim.
- **Section 10.14.** *Agreement's Construction.* Each party and its counsel have reviewed this Fee Agreement and any rule of construction to the effect that ambiguities are to be resolved against a drafting party does not apply in the interpretation of this Fee Agreement or any amendments or exhibits to this Fee Agreement.

[Signature pages follow]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County, acting by and through the County Council, has caused this Fee Agreement to be executed in its name and on its behalf by the Chair of County Council and to be attested by the Clerk of the County Council; and the Sponsor has caused this Fee Agreement to be executed by its duly authorized officer, all as of the day and year first above written.

RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

(SEAL)	By:
	County Council Chair
	Richland County, South Carolina
ATTEST:	
By:	_
Clerk to County Council	
Richland County, South Carolina	
RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE	Έ
	_
Approved As To LEGAL Form Only	

[Signature Page 1 to Fee in Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes and Incentive Agreement]

No Opinion Rendered As To Content

PROJECT C	CHARGE
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D		
By:		
Its:		

[Signature Page 2 to Fee in Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes and Incentive Agreement]

EXHIBIT A PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

[INSERT LEGAL DESCRIPTION]

EXHIBIT B (see Section 9.1) FORM OF JOINDER AGREEMENT

	Reference is hereby made to the Fee-in-Lieu of <i>Ad Valorem</i> Taxes Agreement, effective [, 4] ("Fee Agreement"), between Richland County, South Carolina ("County") and Project Charge ponsor").
1.	Joinder to Fee Agreement.
be I [except the Aff and Aff	[], a [STATE] [corporation]/[limited liability company]/[limited partnership] norized to conduct business in the State of South Carolina, hereby (a) joins as a party to, and agrees to bound by and subject to all of the terms and conditions of, the Fee Agreement as if it were a Sponsor cept the following:]; (b) shall receive the benefits as provided under Fee Agreement with respect to the Economic Development Property placed in service by the Sponsor iliate as if it were a Sponsor [except the following]; (c) acknowledges agrees that (i) according to the Fee Agreement, the undersigned has been designated as a Sponsor iliate by the Sponsor for purposes of the Project; and (ii) the undersigned qualifies or will qualify as a party to, and agrees to provide the sponsor for purposes of the Project; and (ii) the undersigned qualifies or will qualify as a party to, and agrees to provide the sponsor for purposes of the Project; and (ii) the undersigned qualifies or will qualify as a party to, and agrees to provide the sponsor for purposes of the Project; and (ii) the undersigned qualifies or will qualify as a party to, and agrees to provide the sponsor for purposes of the Project; and (ii) the undersigned qualifies or will qualify as a party to, and agrees to provide the sponsor for purposes of the Project; and (ii) the undersigned qualifies or will qualify as a party to, and agrees to provide the sponsor for purposes of the Project; and (ii) the undersigned qualifies or will qualify as a party to, and agrees to provide the sponsor for purposes of the Project; and (ii) the undersigned qualifies or will qualify as a party to, and agrees to provide the party to provide the project to provide the party to provide th
2.	Capitalized Terms.
fort	Each capitalized term used, but not defined, in this Joinder Agreement has the meaning of that term set h in the Fee Agreement.
3.	Representations of the Sponsor Affiliate.
	The Sponsor Affiliate represents and warrants to the County as follows:
the	(a) The Sponsor Affiliate is in good standing under the laws of the state of its organization, is duly norized to transact business in the State (or will obtain such authority prior to commencing business in State), has power to enter into this Joinder Agreement, and has duly authorized the execution and very of this Joinder Agreement.
	(b) The Sponsor Affiliate's execution and delivery of this Joinder Agreement, and its compliance with provisions of this Joinder Agreement, do not result in a default, not waived or cured, under any element or instrument to which the Sponsor Affiliate is now a party or by which it is bound.
	(c) The execution and delivery of this Joinder Agreement and the availability of the FILOT and other entives provided by this Joinder Agreement has been instrumental in inducing the Sponsor Affiliate to with the Sponsor in the Project in the County.
4.	Governing Law.
prir	This Joinder Agreement is governed by and construed according to the laws, without regard to aciples of choice of law, of the State of South Carolina.
5.	Notices under Section 10.1 of the Fee Agreement shall be sent to:
	[]

Date	Name of Entity
	By: Its:
	REOF, the County acknowledges it has consented to the addition of the above-
	r Affiliate under the Fee Agreement effective as of the date set forth above.
	r Affiliate under the Fee Agreement effective as of the date set forth above.

EXHIBIT C (see Section 3.3)

RICHLAND COUNTY RESOLUTION REQUIRING CERTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY PRACTICES CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE COUNTY

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
)	A RESOLUTION
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)	

REQUIRING CERTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY PRACTICES CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN RICHLAND COUNTY

WHEREAS, Richland County Council adopted a resolution dated as of December 12, 2017 ("Prior Resolution"), which requires companies receiving economic development incentives from Richland County, South Carolina ("County") to submit annual reports to the Richland County Economic Development Office; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to reaffirm its desire to have companies submit such annual reports and to update certain information regarding the submission of the annual reports.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Richland County Council as follows:

- **Section 1.** The County affirms that each company awarded an incentive by the County in exchange for the location or expansion of a facility or facilities within the County shall submit an annual report to the Richland County Economic Development Office by no later January 31 of each year throughout the term of the incentives.
- **Section 2.** The Richland County Economic Development Office is authorized to create (and from time to time, if necessary, amend or recreate) and make available the form of the annual report; however, such form shall require, at a minimum, the following information, but may request such other information as the County may deem necessary or prudent:
 - a. Name of company;
 - b. Cumulative capital investment (less any removed investment) to date as a result of the project;
 - c. Net jobs created to date as a result of the project;
 - d. Age, race, gender, and county of residence of each employee at the facility or facilities in the County; and
 - e. Average wage of the jobs created as a result of the project.
- **Section 3.** A copy of the then-current form of the annual report may be obtained from the Richland County Economic Development Office. The annual report shall likewise be submitted to the following address (or at such other address or in such other format as may be communicated by the Richland County Economic Development Office) by the required date.

Richland County Economic Development Office Attention: Existing Industry Manager 1201 Main Street, Suite 1110 Columbia, SC 29201

- **Section 4.** Subject to Section 5 below, this Resolution amends and restates the Prior Resolution in its entirety and sets forth the County's requirements with respect to the annual reports to be submitted by each company awarded an incentive by the County as described in Section 1.
- **Section 5.** The substance of this Resolution shall be incorporated into any agreement between the County and a company with respect to the incentives granted by the County to such company with an effective date on or after January 1, 2024 ("Effective Date"). For any agreements dated before the Effective Date, the Prior Resolution shall be incorporated into the agreement between the County and a company with respect to the incentives granted by the County to such company.
- **Section 6.** In the event that any company shall fail to submit an annual report, or any portion thereof, such company may be required to return all incentives, or a dollar amount equal thereof, to the County. Such incentives, or the dollar amount equal thereto, shall be paid to the County within 60 days after the date upon which the information was originally due.

AND IT IS SO RESOLVED this 7th day of November 2023.

	RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
	Chair, Richland County Council
(SEAL)	
ATTEST:	
OKIV.	
Clerk to County Council	

RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Approved As To LEGAL Form Only No Opinion Rendered As To Content

EXHIBIT D (see Section 5.1) DESCRIPTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT

45% of the first 5 FILOT Payments hereunder (anticipated to be FILOT Payments for property tax years 2025 through 2029)

EXHIBIT E (see Section 6.1) **DESCRIPTION OF CLAW BACK**

The Repayment Amount shall be determined as of the end of the Investment Period. Further, any Infrastructure Credits applicable after the expiration of the Investment Period shall be reduced by the Claw Back Percentage, provided that in any year after the expiration of the Investment Period, either the Company or the County may request a redetermination of the Claw Back Percentage based on the investment and jobs achieved and maintained as of the last day of the prior fiscal year of the Company.

Repayment Amount = Total Received x Claw Back Percentage

Claw Back Percentage = 100% - Overall Achievement Percentage

Overall Achievement Percentage = (Investment Achievement Percentage + Jobs Achievement Percentage) / 2

Investment Achievement Percentage = Actual Investment Achieved / Contract Minimum Investment Requirement [may not exceed 100%]

Jobs Achievement Percentage = Actual New, Full-Time Jobs Created / Contract Minimum Jobs Requirement [may not exceed 100%]

In calculating the each achievement percentage, only the investment made or new jobs achieved up to the Contract Minimum Investment Requirement and the Contract Minimum Jobs Requirement will be counted.

For example, and by way of example only, if the County granted \$500,000 in Infrastructure Credits, and \$7,600,000 had been invested at the Project and 117 jobs had been created by the end of the Investment Period, the Repayment Amount would be calculated as follows:

Jobs Achievement Percentage = 117/130 = 90%

Investment Achievement Percentage = \$7,600,000/\$9,500,000 = 80%

Overall Achievement Percentage = (90% + 80%)/2 = 85%

Claw Back Percentage = 100% - 85% = 15%

Repayment Amount = $$500,000 \times 15\% = $75,000$

The Sponsor shall pay any amounts described in or calculated pursuant to this <u>Exhibit E</u> within 30 days of receipt of a written statement from the County. If not timely paid by the Sponsor, the amount due is subject to the minimum amount of interest that the law may permit with respect to delinquent *ad valorem* tax payments. The repayment obligation described in this <u>Exhibit E</u> survives termination of this Fee Agreement.

RICHLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION 2020 Hampton Street, Suite 40

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069 Columbia, SC 29204 803-576-2050



Informational Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Lori Thomas			: :	Assistant County Administrator		
Department:	Administration			Division:			
Date Prepared:	April 10, 20	24	Mee		g Date:	April 16, 2024	
Approved for consideration:		County Administrator		Leonardo Brown, MBA, CPM		rown, MBA, CPM	
Meeting/Committee	g/Committee Community Impact Grants						
Subject:	FY 2025 Competitive Grant Application Recommendations						

On April 9, 2024, the Community Impact Grants Committee met to discuss and make recommendations for consideration by Council for competitive grants. The proposed funding available for this classification of grants for FY 2025 is \$658,800. Attached are the Committee's recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. FY 2025 Competitive Application Committee Recommendations

FY 2025 CIG Competitive Application Committee Recommendations

Application ID	Applicant	Project Title	Amount Requested	Eligible Amount	Community Partner / Competitive	Area of Impact	Geography	Total Score	Committee Award
460014	Healthy Learners	Increasing Access to Health Care for Underserved Children in Richland County	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	84	\$ 50,000
462925	Goodwill Industries of Upstate/Midlands South Carolina, Inc.	Career Pathways Training Program	\$ 50,000.00	\$50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	81	\$ 50,000
462522	Harvest Hope Food Bank	Creating Healthy Food Access and Choice	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	80	\$ 50,000
460009	SC UpLift Community Outreach	Improving Financial and Homeownership Education in Richland County	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Education	Countywide	78	\$ 50,000
463011	Latino Communications CDC	Food For Your Heart/Comida Para Tu Corazon	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Food Insecurity	Countywide	75	\$ 50,000
460502	Communities In Schools of South Carolina	School-based Community Services for Underserved Low-Income Students	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Education	Multiple	73	\$ 50,000
463546	Serve and Connect	Mobilizing Change through Unity in the Decker Blvd Corridor	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	70	\$ 50,000
463385	Koinonia Foundation/Youth & Teens Ministry	Koinonia Foundation KF- Youth Education Recovery Project	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	66	\$ 50,000
462332	Reconciliation Ministries SC	Beatty Downs Community Playground	\$ 43,800.00	\$ 43,800.00	Competitive	District 1	Multiple	69	\$ 43,800
459773	Sistercare, Inc.	Sistercare's Woman's Counseling Program for Underserved Richland	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 26,000.00	Competitive	Health & Safety	Countywide	86	\$ 26,000
	, , ,	County Residents Experiencing Domestic Violence				,	,		, ,,,,,,
462701	Alston Wilkes Society	Reentry Supports for Former Offenders	\$ 50,000.00		Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	95 79	\$ 25,000 \$ 25,000
462398 463341	Epworth Children's Home YMCA of Columbia	Independent Living Program at Epworth Children's Home YMCA Youth Development Programs	\$ 50,000.00 \$ 50,000.00		Competitive Competitive	Multiple Multiple	Countywide Multiple	69	\$ 25,000
463424	Career Development Center at Saint John, A Division of Community Development Corporation	Career Development Center/Workforce Readiness	\$ 50,000.00		Competitive	Multiple	District 4	77	\$ 20,000
461629	The Cooperative Ministry	Financial Empowerment: Education for Life	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Education	Countywide	73	\$ 20,000
463420	The Therapy Place	Family Support Services	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	72	\$ 15,000
460330	Mary L. Jacobs Life Center	Enhancing Community Through Education and Wellness	\$ 50,000.00		Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	63	\$ 15,000
463501	South Carolina Philharmonic, Inc.	Arts Capacity Prison Project	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	80	\$ 14,000
460169	Greenview Swim Team	COMMUNITY SAFETY DAY FREE SWIM LESSON	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	77	\$ 10,000
461696	Greater Waverly Foundation	Community Garden	\$ 15,000.00		Competitive	Food Insecurity	District 5	75	\$ 10,000
460640	Olympia Granby Historical Foundation	Identify, Beautify, Celebrate Olympia!	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	District 10	58	\$ 10,000
459259	Olympia Community Educational Foundation	Changing Persistent Negative Perceptions of the Mill District Through Strategic Planning and Marketing	\$ 50,000.00		Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	55	
460409	Able South Carolina	Promoting Access to Safe Services (PASS)	\$ 38,769.00		Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	81	
463468	Animal Mission	High Volume TNVR Program	\$ 30,000.00		Competitive	Health & Safety	Countywide	90 51	+
463166 459550	Benedict College Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands	2025 Harambee Festival Project Learn - Power Hour	\$ 50,000.00 \$ 10.000.00		Competitive Competitive	Multiple Youth Services & Programs	District 3 Countywide	68	+
459477	Brookland Center for Community Economic Change (dba Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center)	The Brookland Center for Community Economic Change Community Food Table Program	\$ 50,000.00		Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	78	
460184	Captain' s Hope Inc	PYD Programming for Richland County Youth	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Competitive	Youth Services & Programs	Countywide	65	
463429	Cola Town Bike Collective	Reliable Transportation Initiative	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	81	
463535	Columbia Film Society DBA The Nickelodeon Theater	The Nick's Community Outreach	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	71	
462523	Columbia International University	Community Impact Initiative	\$ 49,665.00	\$ 49,665.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	79	
463406	Five Points Association	Philosophy of Five Points	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	28	
462581	Hand to Hand Connect to Richland County Homebound	Hand to Hand Connect to Richland County Homebound	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	64	
462248	Harmony Christian Community	Harmony Independence Academy	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 44,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	80	
462113	Home Works of America	Critical home repairs for low-income elderly, disabled, Veterans	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 43,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	73	
462771	Indian Waters Council, Boy Scouts of America	ScoutReach: Positive Youth Development for Boys & Girls	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	56	
463370	Junior Achievement of Greater SC	Inspiring students in Richland County to break the poverty cycle by preparing them for financial and career success	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Education	Countywide	80	
462562	Kemetic Institute for Health and Human Development	KIHHD 2025 Health and Wellness Expo	\$ 13,900.00	\$ 13,900.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	72	
462488	Kindred Hearts South Carolina	Kinship Circles- Caring For the Caregiver	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	71	
461858	Lexington/Richland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council	Richland County IMPACT Project	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Education	Countywide	66	
461711	Living Wright Foundation	Farm at Chestnut	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 43,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	75	
462386	Midlands Community Development Corporation	Midlands Community Development Corporation	\$ 50,000.00		Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	56	
463149	Midlands Education and Business Alliance	The Entrepreneurial Spirit in the Midlands	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	66	+
459868	Mother DeVeaux Adult Daycare	Technology Adaption	\$ 6,808.09		Competitive	Multiple	District 1	72	+
458973	NoMa STEAM	Building a Brighter Future	\$ 20,520.00	\$ 20,520.00	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	73	
463503	One-Eighty Place	One80 Place Affordable Housing Assistance	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	73	
463541	Palmetto Place Children and Youth Services	Unaccompanied Youth Program	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Countywide	Youth Services & Programs	72	
460661	Reach Out and Read, Inc.	Reach Out and Read - SC - Richland County Initiative	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Countywide	Countywide	71	

461322	Richland County Public Education Partners	Parents as Partner Leaders	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	Competitive	Education	Countywide	64	
461880	South Carolina Ballet	Joint Performance of South Carolina Ballet and SC Philharmonic	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	63	
463557	South Carolina Research Foundation (FoodShare)	Community Cooks: Food Security through Nutrition Education	\$ 49,254.00	\$ 35,315.00	Competitive	Food Insecurity	Countywide	65	
463538	South Carolina State Museum Foundation	Accessibility Saturdays	\$ 24,400.00	\$ 24,400.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	69	
462817	Straight Road International	StraightAge Institute: Health and financial literacy training for older adults and their caregivers	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	60	
462151	The 180 Community Center	The 180 Community Center After School Program	\$ 24,500.00	\$ 24,500.00	Multiple	Multiple	Multiple	75	
463002	Top Ladies of Distinction - COLA City Chapter	Top Teens of America, COLA City Chapter	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 3,550.00	Competitive	Youth Services & Programs	Countywide	57	
462558	Virginia Wingard Memorial United Methodist Church	Broad River Arts Center Pilot Year	\$ 44,940.00	\$ 44,940.00	Competitive	Multiple	District 4	71	
463581	Early Education Career Institute	ECE APPRENTICESHIP PROJECT	\$ 360,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	Ineligible	
463551	Girl Scouts of South Carolina Mountains to Midlands	Girl Scouting in Richland County	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Youth Services & Programs	Countywide	Ineligible	
462276	HOOP-OLOGY BASKETBALL CAMPS & CLINICS	HOOP-OLOGY BASKETBALL'S GEORGE GLYMPH FALL LEAGUE	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	Ineligible	
463537	Ly-Ben Dance Alliance	CDP-Community Dance Project	\$ 51,404.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	Ineligible	
463545	Midlands Area Food Bank	Richland County Food Distribution Program	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Food Insecurity	Countywide	Ineligible	
463516	North Columbia Community Enrichment Foundation	Sacks of Love	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	Ineligible	
462513	Range Fore Hope Foundation	Fore The Community	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	Ineligible	
461744	Richland County Recreation Commission	Aquatic Hydraulic Lift Purchase	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	District 1	Ineligible	
463363	Ridge View High School/The Bash	The Bash	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	Countywide	Ineligible	
462355	Round Top Baptist Church	Round Top Community Center Renovation Project Expansion	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Food Insecurity	Countywide	Ineligible	
463523	The National Association For Black Veteran (NABVETS)	MILITARY VETERAN PLAZA RENOVATION PROJECT	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	District 5	Ineligible	
463564	Tri-City Visionaries, INC	JUMPS Community Development Initiative	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	Ineligible	
463453	Tri-City Visionaries, INC	Tri City Neighborhood Housing Project	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	Competitive	Multiple	Multiple	Ineligible	
	Totals		\$ 2,924,510.09	\$ 2,086,667.09		Available \$658,800			\$ 658,800

Richland County Council Request for Action

Subject:

Award of Construction - Atlas Road Widening

Notes:

March 26, 2024 – The Transportation Ad Hoc Committee recommended that Council award the construction contract for the Atlas Road Widening project to Palmetto Corp of Conway based on the bid received in the amount of \$44,246,299.20, to include a 5% construction contingency, for a total approved amount of \$46,458,540.66.

April 9, 2024 – Item was deferred to April 16, 2024 Council meeting.

RICHLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069 Columbia, SC 29204 803-576-2050





Prepared by:	Michael Maloney, P.E.		Title:		Director	
Department:	Transportat	Transportation		Division:		
Date Prepared:	March 6, 20	March 6, 2024		Meeting Date: March 26, 2024		March 26, 2024
Legal Review	Patrick Wri	Patrick Wright via email		Di	ate:	March 7, 2024
Budget Review	Maddison \	Maddison Wilkerson via email		Di	ate:	March 11, 2024
Finance Review	Stacey Ham	Stacey Hamm via email		Di	ate:	March 8, 2024
Approved for consideration: Assistant County Administrat		ator J	John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM, SCCEM			
Meeting/Committee	Meeting/Committee Transportation Ad Hoc					
Subject	oject Award of Construction - Atlas Road Widening					

RECOMMENDED/REQUESTED ACTION:

Staff recommends award of the construction contract for the Atlas Road Widening project to Palmetto Corp of Conway based on the bid received in the amount of \$44,246,229,20, to include a 5% construction contingency, for a total approved amount of \$46,458,540.66.

Request for Council Reconsideration: \boxtimes	Yes
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FIDUCIARY:

Are funds allocated in the department's current fiscal year budget?	\boxtimes	Yes	No
If not, is a budget amendment necessary?		Yes	No

ADDITIONAL FISCAL/BUDGETARY MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

The project budget amount of \$36,300,000 was presented to Council in 2020 with a de-scope plan. The amount required for the project is \$55,400,000. The remaining \$19,100,000 is requested from the project reserve.

Project Reserve: Original:	\$52,500,000
Approved Resurfacing Withdrawal:	\$5,000,000
This Request:	\$19,100,000
Balance:	\$28,400,000

Applicable department/grant key and object codes: Key:13320001, object:532200

OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING FEEDBACK:

Please see Attachment 2.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FEEDBACK/POSSIBLE AREA(S) OF LEGAL EXPOSURE:

There are no legal concerns regarding this matter.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

MOTION OF ORIGIN:

There is no associated Council motion of origin.

STRATEGIC & GENERATIVE DISCUSSION:

The Atlas Road (S-50) Widening Project scope includes the reconstruction of a two-lane roadway to a five-lane roadway with four 12' travel lanes separated by a 15' center lane, from Shop Road (SC 768) to Garners Ferry Road (US 76), including a 4-foot bike lane and 5-foot concrete sidewalks in each direction. The project includes the construction of curb and gutter, closed drainage installation, hot mix asphalt paving, culvert construction, demolition, grading, earthwork, signing, pavement markings, traffic control, signal installation and erosion control activities. The project also relocates utilities and upgrades the two signalized railroad crossings.

There were two bidders out of the ten plan holders. The two bids received differed by about \$1.5 million dollars which is a 3.4% spread. Those who did not bid indicated they were busy with other work.

Staff has analyzed the remaining projects, and by utilizing both the Project Reserve and the Program Reserve, there will be funds remaining to complete the approved projects of the 2012 referendum.

ASSOCIATED STRATEGIC GOAL, OBJECTIVE, AND INTIATIVE:

Goal 4:Plan for growth through inclusive and equitable infrastructure

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Project Plan Overview
- 2. Procurement Department Letter of Recommendation



RICHLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 3064, Columbia, SC 29204 T 803-576-2130 | F 803-576-2135 richlandcountysc.gov



March 5, 2024

To: Mr. Michael Maloney, Interim Director of Transportation From:

Deramus Forrester, Contract Analyst

CC: Mrs. Jennifer Wladischkin, Procurement Director, Mr. Jeffrey McNesby, Project Manager

Re: RC-647-B-24 Atlas Road Widening Project

A bid opening was conducted at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, January 18, 2024, via the County's online procurement portal. Procurement has reviewed the (2) two submitted bids for the Atlas Road Widening Project which was submitted via Bonfire and found no discrepancies. The bids received were as follows:

Atlas Road Widening Project - BID RESULTS SUMMARY			
BIDDER SUBMITTED BID			
Palmetto Corp of Conway	\$44,246,229.20		
McClam and Associates Inc	\$45,793,659.57		

Further review shows that Palmetto Corp of Conway is duly licensed in South Carolina to perform this work. A copy of their license is attached.

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference was held at 10 a.m. on February 6, 2024, during which attendees gained information and bidding directives for the project. See the attached sign-in log.

Attached is a final bid tab sheet for your reference which indicates Palmetto Corp of Conway's bid is 57.4% higher than the Engineer's Estimate of \$28,097,781.29, dated February 7, 2024. The SLBE goal for this project is 11% which Palmetto Corp of Conway also committed to.

Provided that Transportation can provide the additional funding, it is Procurement's recommendation that a contract be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Palmetto Corp of Conway.

Deramus Forrester Contract Analyst

DocuSigned by:

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Efficiency · Effectiveness · Equity · Integrity

RICHLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING 2020 HAMPTON STREET, SUITE 3064, COLUMBIA, SC 29204-1002

Project #: RC-647-B-24	Project Name: Atlas R	Date: 2/6/2024 Time: 10 am	
COMPANY NAME	REPRESENTATIVE	EMAIL ADDRESS	TELEPHONE/FAX
McClam & Associates	Scott Nolff		803-345-9194
	Alex Burton		
Palmetto Corp of Conway	Lou Almonte	bids@palmettocorp.com	843-365-2156
Cox and Dinkins	Mac Atkins	MAtkins@coxanddinkins.com	
AOS Specialty Contractors	Mike La Cola	mlacola@aossc.org	803-798-6831
Hussey Gay Bell	Rebecca Connelly	rconnelly@husseygaybell.com	803-799-0444
C.R. Jackson	Austin Sarokas	ASarokas@crjackson.com	
FME Consultants	Jeff Kinard	jkinard@fmeconsultants.com	803-2379586
Davis & Floyd	W. Kevin Sheppard	ksheppard@davisfloyd.com	843-554-8602
FME Consultants	Andy Whitfield	ccounts@fmeconsultants.com	803-237-9586
MattLane Construction - Concrete Construction	Lauren Matthews	Mattlaneconstruction@gmail.com	803-673-4623
Complete 7 Trucking	Lester Johnson	agloverautogroup@yahoo.com	803-477-5593
Taylor Brothers Construction	Ryan Taylor	whitney@taylorbrotherssc.com	803-776-5113
Taylor Brothers Construction	Collier Taylor	whitney@taylorbrotherssc.com	803-776-5113
Dominion Energy	Daniel Hernandez	d.hernandez@dominionenergy.com	
HDR Inc	Henry Alfaro	Henry.Alfaro@hdrinc.com	980-337-5014
L-J Inc	Wendell	wmccoy@l-jinc.com	
	Woody Moore		
TG Trucking	Veronica Johnson	tgtrucking2@gmail.com	803-800-9084
HDR Inc	Eric Hampton	Eric.Hampton@hdrinc.com	
	Rhett Loudenback		

Richland County	Jeffrey Mcnesby	mcnesby.jeffrey@richlandcountysc.gov	803-766-5614
Richland County	Pamela Green	green.pamela@richlandcountysc.gov	803-576-7548
Richland County	Margaret Jones	jones.margaret@richlandcountysc.gov	803-576-1551
Richland County	Michael Green	green.michael@richlandcountysc.gov	803-576-5607
Richland County	Lasasha Breland	breland.lasasha@richlandcountysc.gov	
Richland County	Tamar Black	black.tamar@richlandcountysc.gov	803-576-2132
Richland County	Deramus Forrester	forrester.deramus@richlandcountysc.gov	803-576-2133

^{*****} PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY! IF THE INFORMATION IS NOT LEGIBLE YOUR ATTENDANCE MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED! *******

RC-647-B-24 Atlas Road Widening Project Due Date 2/29/2024 2:00 pm McClam and Associates Inc.

Palmetto Corp of Conway

Total Cost

\$45,793,659.57

\$44,246,229.20

RICHLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069 Columbia, SC 29204 803-576-2050

REQUEST OF ACTION



Subject: FY24 - District 2 Hospitality Tax Allocations

A. Purpose

County Council is being requested to approve a total allocation of \$5,000 for District 2.

B. Background / Discussion

For the 2023 - 2024 Fiscal Year, County Council approved designating the Hospitality Discretionary account funding totaling \$82,425.00 for each district Council member. The details of these motions are listed below:

Motion List (3rd reading) for FY17: Hospitality Tax discretionary account guidelines are as follows: (a) Establish a H-Tax discretionary account for each Council District; (b) Fund the account at the amount of \$164,850.00; (c) Council members will recommend Agencies to be funded by their allocation. Agencies and projects must meet all of the requirements in order to be eligible to receive H-Tax funds; (d) All Council recommendation for appropriations of allocations to Agencies after the beginning of the fiscal year will still be required to be taken back to Council for approval by the full Council prior to the commitment of funding. This would only require one vote.

Motion List (3rd reading) for FY24, Regular Council Meeting – June 6, 2023: Establish Hospitality Tax discretionary accounts for each district in FY24 at the amount of \$82,425. Move that all unallocated district specific H-Tax funding for FY22-23 be carried over and added to any additional funding for FY23-24.

Pursuant to Budget Memorandum 2017-1 and the third reading of the budget for FY24 each district Council member was approved \$82,425.00 to allocate funds to Hospitality Tax eligible organizations of their own discretion. As it relates to this request, District 2 H-Tax discretionary account breakdown and its potential impact is listed below:

2020 Hampton Street • P. O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202 Phone: (803) 576-2050 • Fax (803) 576-2137 • TDD: (803) 748-4999

Equity

Integrity

Initial Discretionary Account Fund	ing	\$ 82,425
FY2023 Remaining		\$ 33,350
	Black Pages International	\$ 5,000
	C	
Total Allocation		\$ 5,000
Remaining FY2024 Balance		\$ 57,775

C. Legislative / Chronological History

- 3rd Reading of the Budget June 8, 2017
- Regular Session May 15, 2018
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY19- June 21, 2018
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY20- June 10, 2019
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY21- June 11, 2020
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY22- June 10, 2021
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY23- June 7, 2022
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY24- June 6, 2023

D. Alternatives

- 1. Consider the request and approve the allocation.
- 2. Consider the request and do not approve the allocation.

E. Final Recommendation

Staff does not have a recommendation regarding this as it is a financial policy decision of County Council. The funding is available to cover the request. Staff will proceed as directed.

RICHLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069 Columbia, SC 29204 803-576-2050

REQUEST OF ACTION



Subject: FY24 - District 8 Hospitality Tax Allocations

A. Purpose

County Council is being requested to approve a total allocation of \$4,500 for District 8.

B. Background / Discussion

For the 2023 - 2024 Fiscal Year, County Council approved designating the Hospitality Discretionary account funding totaling \$82,425.00 for each district Council member. The details of these motions are listed below:

Motion List (3rd reading) for FY17: Hospitality Tax discretionary account guidelines are as follows: (a) Establish a H-Tax discretionary account for each Council District; (b) Fund the account at the amount of \$164,850.00; (c) Council members will recommend Agencies to be funded by their allocation. Agencies and projects must meet all of the requirements in order to be eligible to receive H-Tax funds; (d) All Council recommendation for appropriations of allocations to Agencies after the beginning of the fiscal year will still be required to be taken back to Council for approval by the full Council prior to the commitment of funding. This would only require one vote.

Motion List (3rd reading) for FY24, Regular Council Meeting – June 6, 2023: Establish Hospitality Tax discretionary accounts for each district in FY24 at the amount of \$82,425. Move that all unallocated district specific H-Tax funding for FY22-23 be carried over and added to any additional funding for FY23-24.

Pursuant to Budget Memorandum 2017-1 and the third reading of the budget for FY24 each district Council member was approved \$82,425.00 to allocate funds to Hospitality Tax eligible organizations of their own discretion. As it relates to this request, District 8 H-Tax discretionary account breakdown and its potential impact is listed below:

2020 Hampton Street • P. O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202 Phone: (803) 576-2050 • Fax (803) 576-2137 • TDD: (803) 748-4999

Equity

Integrity

Initial Discretionary Account Fund	ing	\$ 82,425
FY2023 Remaining		\$135,125
	Delta House, Incorporated	\$ 4,500
	-	
Total Allocation		\$ 4,500
Remaining FY2024 Balance		\$170,800

C. Legislative / Chronological History

- 3rd Reading of the Budget June 8, 2017
- Regular Session May 15, 2018
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY19- June 21, 2018
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY20- June 10, 2019
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY21- June 11, 2020
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY22- June 10, 2021
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY23- June 7, 2022
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY24- June 6, 2023

D. Alternatives

- 1. Consider the request and approve the allocation.
- 2. Consider the request and do not approve the allocation.

E. Final Recommendation

Staff does not have a recommendation regarding this as it is a financial policy decision of County Council. The funding is available to cover the request. Staff will proceed as directed.

RICHLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069 Columbia, SC 29204 803-576-2050

REQUEST OF ACTION



Subject: FY24 - District 9 Hospitality Tax Allocations

A. Purpose

County Council is being requested to approve a total allocation of \$2,500 for District 9.

B. Background / Discussion

For the 2023 - 2024 Fiscal Year, County Council approved designating the Hospitality Discretionary account funding totaling \$82,425.00 for each district Council member. The details of these motions are listed below:

Motion List (3rd reading) for FY17: Hospitality Tax discretionary account guidelines are as follows: (a) Establish a H-Tax discretionary account for each Council District; (b) Fund the account at the amount of \$164,850.00; (c) Council members will recommend Agencies to be funded by their allocation. Agencies and projects must meet all of the requirements in order to be eligible to receive H-Tax funds; (d) All Council recommendation for appropriations of allocations to Agencies after the beginning of the fiscal year will still be required to be taken back to Council for approval by the full Council prior to the commitment of funding. This would only require one vote.

Motion List (3rd reading) for FY24, Regular Council Meeting – June 6, 2023: Establish Hospitality Tax discretionary accounts for each district in FY24 at the amount of \$82,425. Move that all unallocated district specific H-Tax funding for FY22-23 be carried over and added to any additional funding for FY23-24.

Pursuant to Budget Memorandum 2017-1 and the third reading of the budget for FY24 each district Council member was approved \$82,425.00 to allocate funds to Hospitality Tax eligible organizations of their own discretion. As it relates to this request, District 9 H-Tax discretionary account breakdown and its potential impact is listed below:

2020 Hampton Street • P. O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202 Phone: (803) 576-2050 • Fax (803) 576-2137 • TDD: (803) 748-4999

Equity

Integrity

Initial Discretionary Account Fund	ing	\$ 82,425
FY2023 Remaining		\$222,325
	Delta House, Incorporated	\$ 2,500
	<u>-</u>	
Total Allocation		\$ 2,500
Remaining FY2024 Balance		\$242,935

C. Legislative / Chronological History

- 3rd Reading of the Budget June 8, 2017
- Regular Session May 15, 2018
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY19- June 21, 2018
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY20- June 10, 2019
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY21- June 11, 2020
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY22- June 10, 2021
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY23- June 7, 2022
- 3rd Reading of the Budget FY24- June 6, 2023

D. Alternatives

- 1. Consider the request and approve the allocation.
- 2. Consider the request and do not approve the allocation.

E. Final Recommendation

Staff does not have a recommendation regarding this as it is a financial policy decision of County Council. The funding is available to cover the request. Staff will proceed as directed.