



COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY
BEAUFORT COUNTY PLANNING DIVISION

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SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

5:30 p.m.

Executive Conference Room, Administration Building
100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, South Carolina

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, all local media was duly notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 P.M.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. REVIEW OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT ([backup](#))
4. OTHER BUSINESS
 - A. Next Meeting – Tuesday, July 14, 2015, at 5:30 p.m.
5. ADJOURNMENT



7

Beaufort County Comprehensive Plan Economic Development

Updating the Economic Development Element of the Comprehensive Plan will focus on the following.

- Remove references to the Lowcountry Economic Network as the agency responsible for implementing economic development policies in Beaufort County.
- Update economic, income, and employment data to current figures.
- Recognize changes to the ownership of the Beaufort Commerce Park
- Revise information on State and Local incentives to reflect current information.
- Revise information on the Jasper Port, airports and military installations to reflect current information.

Below is a summary of the tasks necessary to revise the Economic Development Element arranged by the headings of the chapter.

Introduction – Replace photograph with reference to Lowcountry Economic Network.

OVERVIEW – No revisions.

HISTORY – Remove.

MISSION – Remove.

GOALS – Remove.

Economic Analysis – No revisions.

INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT – Revise data in Figures 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4 and 7-5.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS – Update if more recent data is available.

UNEMPLOYMENT – update with more recent data.

CONCLUSIONS – No revisions.

Current Business Climate – No revisions.

EXISTING BUSINESS – No revisions.

EXISTING BUSINESS OWNERS – No revisions.

BUSINESS LICENSE FEES – No revisions.

AVAILABLE PRODUCT – update to recognize new ownership of the Beaufort Commerce Park.

CONCLUSIONS – No revisions.

Developing Business Climate – Update sidebar if more current data is available.

REGIONAL FOCUS – Update to recognize the dissolution of the Lowcountry Economic Alliance.

TARGET INDUSTRIES – Remove references to the Lowcountry Economic Network and Alliance. Change references to the F-35 B Joint Strike Fighter to present tense rather than future tense.

CONCLUSIONS – No revisions.

Incentives – No revisions.

EXISTING STATE LEVEL INCENTIVES – No revisions.

EXISTING LOCAL LEVEL INCENTIVES – Remove references to development agreement.

CONCLUSIONS – No revisions.

Workforce – No revisions.

EXISTING WORKFORCE – Update military workforce data if available.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES – No revisions.

EDUCATION – No revisions.

EMERGING WORKFORCE GROUPS – No revisions.

WORKFORCE HOUSING – No revisions.

CONCLUSIONS – No revisions.

Land and Infrastructure – Revise to remove references to Lowcountry Economic Network.

JASPER PORT TERMINAL – Revise to remove references to the Lowcountry Economic Alliance.

AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE – Meet with Jon Rembold and update this section as necessary.

CONCLUSIONS – Revise to remove references to the Lowcountry Economic Alliance.

Recommendations

Recommendation 7-1: Current Business Climate – Part of this recommendation has been implemented by allowing more light industrial uses in commercial zoning districts in the Community Development Code. Recommendation should be revised to eliminate reference to Lowcountry Economic Network.

Recommendation 7-2: Developing Business Climate – Target Industries - This recommendation is partially implemented through adoption of Community Development Code which encourages mixed-use developments; and annual funding of the Arts Council of Beaufort County. Recommendation is still relevant.

Recommendation 7-3: State Level Incentives – Recommendation is still relevant.

Recommendation 7-4: Workforce – This recommendation is partially implemented through adoption of Community Development Code which encourages mixed-use developments. Recommendation is still relevant.

Recommendation 7-5: Regional Economic Development Strategies – Recommendation should be revised to remove references to the Lowcountry Economic Network and Lowcountry Economic Alliance.

Recommendation 7-6: Airport Infrastructure – Meet with Jon Rembold and update this recommendation as necessary.