

THE PALMETTO PLANNER



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South Carolina Chapter
Making Great Communities Happen

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Presidents Message

It is strange to consider that over 8 months have passed since I assumed the office of President. Wow! Time really does fly! Many things have been accomplished by the Executive Committee during these preceding months. These include maintaining a fiscally conservative budget while meeting or exceeding some of the 2011 Goals and Objectives such as increasing participation in the AICP Exam Prep Course, recruiting new sponsors and vendors for programs, and marketing SCAPA services to the membership and local government planning officials. I am proud to say that this marketing effort has extended to include other organizations and APA Chapters. Examples of this include this year's joint SCAPA/SCARC Conference and reciprocal conference registrations with NCPA. In addition, I am working with other South Atlantic Chapters and Schools to host a reception at the APA National Conference in Los Angeles next April that could potentially involve sponsors from Virginia, NC, SC, Georgia and Florida.



Council meetings. Attendance at the APA leadership meeting will contribute to our knowledge base of issues facing APA members, the performance of the South Carolina chapter and overall service to the planning profession. In addition to the leadership meetings, there will be several education sessions where we will hear from lawmakers and leading administration officials about critical issues and new initiatives and how decisions made on Capitol Hill affect local planning. There will also be an opportunity for an advocacy day that will allow me to meet face to face with our representatives. Meetings will be arranged by APA who will also give me the tools to convince them to support good planning and understand the issues that matter to our state.

There are several issues before Congress that will have direct effect on South Carolina. One of these is the Transportation Reauthorization Bill. This is a top priority as we are struggling to balance pressing infrastructure needs while strengthening our economy. A component of the latest version of the Bill from the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee recommends setting a minimum population threshold of 200,000 for Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). This could result in consolidation of smaller MPOs into larger regional consortiums. This would be devastating for our state as some local MPOs would be lost unless there is a grandfather status in the bill.

Fall is just around the corner and with it our annual multi-day Fall Conference. The SCAPA Fall Conference will be held at Hilton Garden Inn Destination Point Center in Anderson on October 19-21. The annual Chapter Business Meeting will be conducted during the Conference and I urge you to attend. Action items will include a By-laws change to incorporate financial policies as Section 7. Additional program and business information is contained in this edition of the *Palmetto Planner* and will be found on the website within the next few weeks. Again, make plans to attend this event as it is always insightful and a great place to network with your colleagues.

Fall is also the time that the APA Leadership meets in Washington, DC in conjunction with the Federal Policy and Program Briefing on September 17-20. As your President, I plan to attend and represent South Carolina during the Chapter President's

CU IN THE UPSTATE

2011 SCAPA
FALL CONFERENCE
October 20-21

Hilton Garden Inn
Destination Point
Event Center
Anderson, SC

Information on page 5

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Executive Committee

Cont. President's Message

Local elected officials are the MPO. Removing the decision-making authorities from the local level will take away the voice of the local government, its citizens, and people in the regions. Citizens elect their local public officials to reflect the unique nature of their region.

Citizens and voters need to be heard and participate in transportation decisions that impact their daily lives. Removing the MPOs' connection to public participation will lead to decisions made without actual citizen involvement. It will only increase the distance between the average citizen and the policy-maker.

Should Congress elect to change the population threshold without including **grandfather provisions, States will lose MPOs.** In fact, with the possible elimination of MPOs in areas with populations lower than 200,000, 8 states potentially *will not have a MPO.* In all, the 200,000 threshold would eliminate approximately 220 of the 385 MPOs. Some current MPOs have existed since 1962. Decades of an open table for the operators, public agencies, state officials, local elected officials and citizens will disappear.

If you have any thoughts or suggestions to share on any of the items addressed in my message please pass them on to me. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you in October.

Susan Britt



PRESIDENT: SUSAN BRITT, AICP

CITY OF TEGA CAY
 P.O. Box 3399
 7675 TEGA CAY DRIVE
 TEGA CAY, SC 29708
 (803) 548-3513 EXT. 120
SBRITT@TEGACAY.COM

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

PHIL LINDLER, AICP

GREENWOOD CITY/COUNTY
 PLANNING
 528 MONUMENT STREET
 GREENWOOD, SC 29646
 (864)-942-8636
PLINDLER@GREENWOODSC.GOV

PRESIDENT ELECT:

ROBERT MOODY, AICP

CATAWBA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
 PO Box 450
 Rock Hill, SC 29731-6450
 (803)-327-9041
RMOODY@CATAWBACOG.ORG

SECRETARY/TREASURER:

ANDREA PIETRAS, AICP

CHARLESTON COUNTY ZONING AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT
 4045 BRIDGEVIEW DRIVE
 NORTH CHARLESTON, SC 29405
 (843)-202-7219
APIETRAS@CHARLESTONCOUNTY.ORG

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OFFICER: WAYNE SHULER, AICP

CENTRAL MIDLANDS COG
 236 STONERIDGE DRIVE
 COLUMBIA, SC 29210
 (803)-376-5390
WSHULER@CENTRALMIDLANDS.ORG

CLEMSON STUDENT CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE: MORGAN MALLEY

MMALLEY@G.CLEMSON.EDU

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:

TYSON SMITH, ESQ., AICP

WHITE AND SMITH, LLC
 PLANNING AND LAW GROUP
 255 KING STREET
 CHARLESTON, SC 29401
 843-937-0201

TSMITH@PLANNINGANDLAW.COM

JEAN POOL

CITY OF GREENVILLE
 PO Box 2207
 GREENVILLE, SC 29602
 864-467-4495

JPOOL@GREENVILLESC.GOV

LEAH YOUNGBLOOD, ESQ.

TOWN OF LEXINGTON
 111 MAIDEN LANE
 LEXINGTON, SC 29072
 803-951-4655

LYOUNGBLOOD@LEXSC.COM

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE: ;

BARRY NOCKS, PH.D, AICP

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
 124 LEE HALL
 CLEMSON, SC 29634

(864)-656-3260

NOCKS2@CLEMSON.EDU

WEBPAGE:

ERNIE BOUGHMAN, AICP

BP BARBER
 101 RESEARCH DRIVE
 COLUMBIA, SC 29203
 803-254-4400

EBOUGHMAN@BPBARBER.COM

Membership Minute

Job Postings

If you would like to post a job to the SCAPA website, please send it to our

[website administrator](#).

A 3-month posting is only \$50.00

[Environmental Planner](#)
[Town of Hilton Head Island, SC](#)
(updated August 9, 2011)

[Planner](#)
[Sumter City-County Planning Department, SC](#)
(updated July 8, 2011)

[City Planner](#)
[City of Clemson, SC](#)
(updated July 7, 2011)

For more information go to scapa.org

2011 DEBBIE LIEU SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Morgan Malley, the 2011 Debbie Lieu Scholarship recipient. Morgan is a second year student in the Planning Studies Program at Clemson University. She is also the current President of the Clemson Student Chapter of SCAPA.

Does APA have your correct information?

SCAPA distributes all informational materials electronically. In order to ensure receipt of these materials you need to make sure that your email address in the APA record is up to date. All members can access their APA profiles and make changes online. These changes become effective immediately (mailed or faxed changes requiring manual entry will take longer to appear). To access your APA profile go to www.planning.org/myprofile. Enter your APA ID (from the Planning magazine mailing label or invoice) and password (click on "create new password" if you have forgotten it or do not have one). If you need assistance contact Webmaster@planning.org.

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY PLANNING STUDIES REUNION RESCHEDULED

The Clemson University Planning Studies Program Reunion that was originally scheduled to be held in conjunction with the 2011 SCAPA Fall Conference has been rescheduled for the Spring of 2012. We will be keeping alumni and faculty posted on plans for the upcoming event through emails and postings on our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Clemson-University-MCRP-Reunion-2011/159443720779279>. If you are a graduate of the Program or a current or past faculty member and have not been receiving emails about the Reunion, please send your current email address to Patty McNulty at the CU Planning Studies program at pmcnult@clemson.edu so that she can add it to her database.

Go Tigers!

Chapter Only Memberships

Chapter Only memberships are available through APA. Join SCAPA without joining APA for \$35.00 annually. To become a chapter only member please go to the APA website under membership.

Benefits of a chapter only membership include:

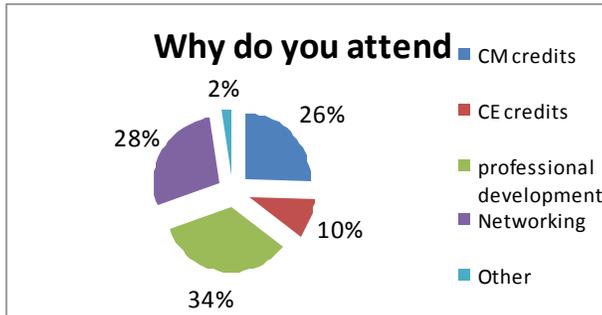
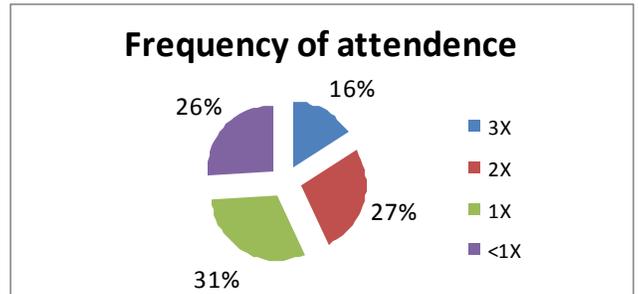
- Reduced rates to all SCAPA conference
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Training Workshops
- Participation on SCAPA committees

Membership Conference Survey Results

The SCAPA Programs Committee conducted a 10-question survey a few of months ago to help us better plan future conferences based on the needs of the membership. We offer our sincere thanks to those of you who took the time to provide your feedback.

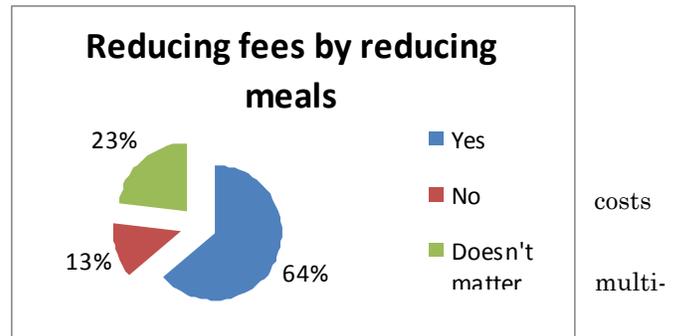
Since we used the free version of Survey Monkey, only the first 100 responses were available for viewing and analysis. The total number of surveys completed was 128 (out of approximately 500), so we feel pretty confident that the responses reflect our membership as a whole. Following are a few highlights from the survey.

How often do you attend? SCAPA sponsors three conferences annually, so the rate of attendance helps us determine if we are responding properly to our market’s demand. The survey showed that 84% attend at least once a year. Since we purposefully move the location of the conferences to ease travel time and costs, thereby making the conferences more accessible, the responses seem to fall in line with our current practice. Conversely, a similar question asked about local appointed officials’ attendance patterns. Those responses show that most citizen planners attend much less frequently, with 77% attending less than one time per year. This is a trend we’d like to reverse.

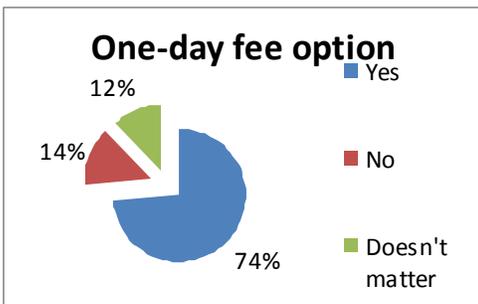


Why do you attend? Respondents had the ability to select multiple answers and most chose professional development, networking and obtaining CM (certificate maintenance) credits for certified planners. These responses confirm that the majority of conference attendees are professional planners.

Reducing fees by reducing meals? A majority of folks responded that reducing conference fees by holding the line on food was an acceptable approach.



One-day fee? If we offered a one-day registration fee for a day conference, an overwhelming majority indicated an increased likelihood of attending. Similarly, we asked if local appointed officials would be interested in a three-hour session to help them meet the state-mandated continuing education requirement and 93% responded favorably.



Evening social activity? Because networking is a key benefit of attending a SCAPA conference and one that is highly regarded by our members, we asked about types of activities to include at future conferences. Multiple answers were allowed, and “reception at the conference” was the top response.

Clearly, SCAPA is the first, best source for planning training in the Palmetto State for professional planners. We also have a real opportunity to help our citizen planners by tailoring conference schedules, locations, and topics to meet their needs. The Programs Committee will begin testing some of these ideas at our upcoming fall conference in Anderson. We hope that these changes will result

in a stronger and more beneficial organization.

Robby

Robby Moody, AICP
President-Elect / Programs Chair

Leah

Leah Youngblood
Programs Co-chair

CONFERENCE CORNER

SCAPA Summer Conference – July 29, 2011

Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter hosted our summer conference in late July. South Carolina is fortunate to have a rich military heritage and continues to support a variety of national and global missions through the each military branch. Among the topics discussed, we learned about the important impacts —economic, transportation, security, etc. — to the local communities that military installation have across the state.

My patriotism also received a boost after Colonel Moore’s luncheon address.

Thanks again to Gary Hallmark for coordinating the speakers and arranging access to the base, and to George McGregor and the City of Sumter for their hospitality.



George McGregor, Planning Director for the Sumter City/County Planning Commission and Gary Hallmark, AICP, Base Community Planner, Shaw AFB



Carolina Skies Club, Shaw AFB



SCAPA Fall Conference – October 20-21, 2011

The conference theme – *CU in the Upstate* – has multiple meanings. Because Clemson University’s City and Regional Planning program continues to make lasting impacts in communities across the state and nation, we’ve devoted an entire track to learning more about Clemson-specific projects. Secondly, the Upstate Region has become an economic development model for South Carolina over the last two decades and frequently sets the bar for other communities. Finally, as a SC native (Greer is my hometown), I can think of fewer places better suited to usher in the cooler fall weather than in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The three primary tracks include economic development, professional development and Clemson University related projects. In addition, legal and ethics sessions will be included for our AICP members, and a chapter business meeting. We’ll also feature a Spirit Night reception Thursday evening at the conference center



Main Street Downtown Anderson

If you are interested in highlighting your firm as a sponsor, please contact Pat Collins at 864.221.1433 or jpcol44@bellsouth.net for specifics. Sponsorship opportunities range from \$250 to \$1,000.



Anderson Arts Center Warehouse



Ashtabula Historic House

Pendleton



Lake Hartwell

Proposed Amendments to SCAPA By-Laws to Incorporate Financial Policies

By Andrea N. Pietras, AICP, SCAPA Secretary/Treasurer

The SCAPA Executive Committee is proposing to amend the SCAPA By-Laws to incorporate financial policies as Section 7 of the By-Laws (Section 7 is currently blank). The SCAPA By-Laws have never included financial policies, which are important to guide the planning/budgeting, financial activity, and asset protection strategies of the organization. The proposed financial strategies are included on the following pages.

The SCAPA By-Laws require that all By-Law amendments be approved by a majority vote of eligible voting members at a Chapter meeting and by a majority of those voting by written or electronic ballot. The ballot for these amendments is included below.

These amendments will be voted on at the SCAPA annual conference business meeting scheduled for Friday, October 21, 2011 at 8:30 AM at the Hilton Garden Inn, 115 Destination Boulevard, Anderson, SC 29625. If you wish to vote by written or electronic ballot, you must submit the ballot below to Pat Collins no later than 5:00 PM on October 14, 2011 by e-mail (jpcol44@bellsouth.net) or mail to: PO Box 683, Clemson, SC 29633

Andrea

Andrea N. Pietras, AICP

SCAPA Secretary/Treasurer

2011 Ballot: Amendments to SCAPA By-Laws to Incorporate Financial Policies

Name: _____

Organization: _____

E-mail address: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone number: _____

Check one of the following:

_____ **I approve** the amendments to the SCAPA By-Laws to incorporate the proposed financial policies

_____ **I do not approve** the amendments to the SCAPA By-Laws to incorporate the proposed financial policies

Return to Pat Collins by e-mail at jpcol44@bellsouth.net or mail to: PO Box 683, Clemson, SC 29633 no later than 5:00 PM on October 14, 2011

Proposed Amendments to SCAPA By-Laws

7.0 FINANCIAL POLICIES

7.1 Financial Policies: General

- 7.1.1 At the final SCAPA Executive Committee meeting of each fiscal year, the Secretary/Treasurer shall present a proposed budget for the next fiscal year for the review and approval of the Executive Committee.
- 7.1.2 The adopted budget shall be updated throughout the year as necessary. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for informing the Executive Committee of all changes to the adopted budget.
- 7.1.3 The financial report for the previous (or most recent) fiscal year shall be submitted to APA staff and the CPC Executive Committee annually. This report shall include the identification of all sources of income as well as expenditures.

7.2 Financial Policies: Planning/Budgeting

The President's financial planning for any fiscal year shall not deviate materially from the Executive Committee's priorities/policies, risk fiscal jeopardy, or fail to be derived from a multi-year plan.

Further, without limiting the scope of the foregoing by this enumeration, he or she shall not:

Fail to include credible projection of revenues and expenses, separation of capital and operational items, cash flow, and disclosure of planning assumptions.

Plan the expenditure in any fiscal year of more funds than are projected to be available or received in that period.

Reduce the cash and cash equivalents at any time to less than 5% of the total operating budget.

7.3 Financial Policies: Financial Condition and Activities

With respect to the actual, ongoing financial condition and activities, the President shall not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy or a material deviation of actual expenditures from Executive Committee priorities/policies.

Further, without limiting the scope of the foregoing by this enumeration, he or she shall not:

- 7.3.1 Expend more funds than have been received in the fiscal year to date unless the debt guideline (below) is met.
- 7.3.2 Indebt the organization in an amount greater than can be repaid by certain, otherwise unencumbered revenues within 90 days.
- 7.3.4 Fail to settle payroll and debts.
- 7.3.5 Allow tax payments or other government ordered payments or filings to be overdue or inaccurately filed.
- 7.3.6 Make a single purchase or commitment of greater than \$7,500. Purchases over \$7,500 must have authorization from the Secretary/Treasurer. Splitting orders to avoid these limits is not acceptable.
- 7.3.7 Acquire, encumber or dispose of real property.
- 7.3.8 Fail to aggressively pursue receivables.

Proposed Amendments to SCAPA By-Laws – cont.

7.4 Financial Policies: Asset Protection

The President shall not allow corporate assets to be unprotected, inadequately maintained, or unnecessarily risked.

Further, without limiting the scope of the foregoing by this enumeration, he or she shall not:

- 7.4.1 Fail to insure against theft and casualty losses.
- 7.4.2 Allow unbounded personnel access to material amounts of funds.
- 7.4.3 Subject plant and equipment to improper wear and tear or insufficient maintenance.
- 7.4.4 Unnecessarily expose the organization, its Executive Committee or staff to claims of liability.
- 7.4.5 Make any capital purchase without a stringent method of assuring the balance of long-term quality and cost.
- 7.4.6 Fail to protect intellectual property, information and files from loss or significant damage.
- 7.4.8 Invest or hold operating capital in insecure instruments or in non interest-bearing accounts except where necessary to facilitate ease in operational transactions.
- 7.4.9 Endanger the organization's public image or credibility, particularly in ways that would hinder its accomplishment of mission.



Aging and Livable Communities: an APA Division Initiative

APA Divisions are helping to guide the critical conversation on creating communities that are livable for all, especially, for a rapidly aging America.

Please join us in this transformation by sharing best practices, success stories, tools and other resources available from your communities that can enrich the discussion and be highlighted on the Division Initiative web pages: <http://www.planning.org/leadership/divisions/initiatives/aging/index.htm>

Email your contributions to: ramonamullahey@hawaiiantel.net *Thank you*



If You Build It, They Will Come: How planners can help sports tourism succeed as an economic development catalyst. By Leah Youngblood Esq., AICP

The big business of tourism

Tourism is big business in South Carolina. More than 30 million people visit destinations in South Carolina each year, and they spend \$17 billion here annually. The industry generates \$1.2 billion annually in taxes for state and local governments, which is the equivalent of \$727 per household in property taxes, and another 300 million annually in state sales/use tax. The industry employs 200,000 people—10% of the state's workers.

Perhaps the best news, though, is that the industry is growing—at an annual rate of 4.5% worldwide.

If your municipality is fortunate enough to boast beaches or mountains, you have probably been capitalizing on tourism dollars for decades. Conversely, if your municipality does not have natural resources to which people flock, you probably need to work a little harder to identify ways to tap into the tourism market.



This article will look at how one municipality—the City of Rock Hill—has used sports tourism to promote economic development. It also will provide some suggestions about how planners might help with local sports tourism efforts.

History of sports tourism in Rock Hill

The City of Rock Hill got its start in sports tourism in 1985 when Cherry Park opened, according to Tourism and Administrative Supervisor Mark Sexton. The issue was quite controversial at the time because the park sat on 68 acres of prime developable land on a major commercial corridor. Over time, however, community members came to embrace the park as they saw its effect on the City.

The idea was for citizens to use the park during the week and for baseball and softball tournaments to take place there on the weekends. City staff members started recruiting such tournaments, and the park has hosted national, state, and local tournaments ever since then. The tournaments can range from 30 teams to more than 700 teams, with the larger ones using Rock Hill as a hub and spreading out into the greater Charlotte region for games.

The attendance at Cherry Park sports events in 2010 topped 51,900 people, with 91% coming from outside of York County. They came for 34 tournaments, and hotels saw more than 10,000 rooms filled as a result. The direct economic impact of Cherry Park last year was more than \$8.1 million.

The City calculates direct economic impact conservatively, using a method that has been validated by Clemson University and the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism. City staff polls tournament participants about how they arrived (whether they drove or flew), where they are staying and how much they are spending on the hotel rooms, where they are eating, whether they filled up their gas tanks while in the City, where they are shopping while at the tournament, and so forth. This conservative approach is different than the more commonly used method of estimating both direct and indirect economic impact. While other municipalities often include the indirect impact of jobs created and the number of times a dollar given to a local sandwich shop turns over in the community into their analyses of economic impact, the City prefers instead to use actual numbers of dollars spent in its calculations.

Cont. If You Build It

Because Cherry Park was so successful as an economic development engine, City leaders began adding other parks to foster even more sports tourism, this time to much less controversy. Manchester Meadows, formerly a wastewater treatment facility, transitioned into a 70-acre soccer and lacrosse facility in 2006. By 2010, nearly 52,000 people visited the park during 28 tournaments, which resulted in 3,200 hotel room nights being filled. The direct economic impact last year was more than \$7.1 million.

The City recently announced that it will host next year's U.S Youth Soccer National Championship at Manchester Meadows. Sixty teams from around the country will compete during the six-day tournament. The estimated direct economic impact from this event alone is more than \$3 million.

The Rock Hill Tennis Center also contributes to sports tourism in the City, although to a lesser extent. Last year it had a direct economic impact of \$135,000.

These three facilities—Cherry Park, Manchester Meadows, and the Tennis Center—have had a cumulative direct economic impact of \$50 million over the past five years. The benefit of these facilities to the community has greatly surpassed the cost to build and operate them. “These are tourism tax dollars that are paying for these facilities, which help build nice facilities for the local community without an increase in property taxes,” Sexton said. “Our citizens can enjoy the parks throughout the week, and we can use the facilities for tourism purposes on the weekends.”

	Cherry Park	Manchester Meadows	Tennis Center
Construction cost	\$4.6 million	\$12.6 million	\$1.2 million
Construction funding sources:			
Federal revenue sharing	\$2.1 million	None	None
Hospitality tax	None	\$11.7 million	\$961,000
Accommodations tax	None	\$104,000	\$60,000
General Fund	\$2.5 million	\$118,000	\$179,000
Annual operating costs (2010)	\$640,000	\$490,000	\$93,000
Annual revenue (2010) (concessions, shelter rentals, field rentals, pro-shop and gate receipts)	\$237,000	\$71,000	\$37,000
Estimated annual economic impact (2010)	\$8.1 million	\$7.1 million	\$135,000

Future of sports tourism in Rock Hill

The City constantly looks for ways to build on the successes of its existing sports tourism efforts. “The purpose is to create economic development through sports tourism—to have a sustainable financial impact to our community through sports,” Sexton said.

impact. While other municipalities often include the indirect impact of jobs created and the number of times a dollar given to a local sandwich shop turns over in the community into their analyses of economic impact, the City prefers instead to use actual numbers of dollars spent in its calculations.

Cont. If You Built It

One exciting new sports tourism opportunity for the City of Rock Hill is cycling. Competitive cycling is a large specialized niche in the world of sports that Rock Hill wants to embrace. The City is hopeful that becoming a center of cycling for the United States will bring economic success to the area.



Plans are under way for an Olympic-caliber track cycling velodrome, Olympic-caliber supercross BMX facilities, a cyclocross track (one of only three in the nation), and competitive mountain biking trails. These are all scheduled to open in the spring of 2012. Ground has already broken on the velodrome, which has been sponsored by Gita Sporting Goods and named after one of its clothing lines as the Giordana Velodrome.

These facilities will be located the Rock Hill Outdoor Center—approximately 250 acres of green space that will be dedicated to the City by a private developer. In addition to the cycling facilities, the Outdoor Center will include athletic complexes, hiking trails, and access to the Catawba

River for water sports.

The Outdoor Center is located in a \$600 million, 1,000-acre mixed-use project along the Catawba River called Riverwalk. Over the next few years, the site of a former industrial plant will be transformed into a dynamic riverfront community. It will include an array of neighborhoods, complete with different housing types, retail stores, riverfront restaurants, and industrial projects. At build-out, Riverwalk will include more than 1,500 residential units, 600,000 square feet of commercial space and 3 million square feet of industrial space. This will make it one of the largest redevelopment projects in the region.

Riverwalk is the vision of the Assured Group of Companies, which specializes in restoring distressed properties. The Assured Group and the City of Rock Hill forged a public-private partnership to facilitate the development. “Our vision would not be possible without our public-private partnership with the City of Rock Hill,” said Dave Williams, a partner with the Assured Group.

The vision of the Assured Group was “to create a one-of-a-kind development that will offer an unparalleled number of public amenities,” Williams said. “Our goal was to create a compelling reason for individuals and businesses to invest in Riverwalk. By offering a riverfront lifestyle and world-class amenities, we are able to bring a distinctive and unique project to the market that appeals to most everyone. The amenities will catalyze the overall development which will accelerate new investment and tax base for the City.”

The community will be designed to “celebrate active outdoor living,” Williams said. In addition to its unique focus on biking, it will provide new access to the Catawba River for the Rock Hill area.

Because of this new access on the Catawba River, another new sports tourism opportunity has opened up. Right now, public access to the river is limited to only one park—River Park. If a person wanted to canoe or kayak down the Catawba River in the Rock Hill area, he or she would have to make a long trip because of the limited entrance and exit points along the way. All of that is changing, as not only Riverwalk but two other new projects will provide entrance and exit points for canoers and kayakers. As interest in outdoor recreation continues to grow, the City wants to be able to provide opportunities for people to come visit the natural resources of the area—and to spend their money in the City’s restaurants, shops, and hotels.

A velodrome is an arena for track cycling. It features oval bends and two straights. The facility in Rock Hill will consist of a 250-meter track with an infield reminiscent of automobile race tracks.

BMX (bicycle motor cross) involves dirt tracks, jumps, and heavy bicycle equipment.

Cyclocross involves many laps around a short course (approximately 1.5 to 2 miles each). Cyclists travel over pavement, wooded trails, grass, and steep hills. They dismount and carry their bikes around several obstacles.

Cont. If You Built It

How planners can help

Because it is a rare Parks and Recreation Department that has a parks planner, planners from other traditional planning departments need to coordinate with their colleagues to aid in sports tourism efforts.

Planners can help develop Parks Master Plans so that the organization as a whole can know where to put its resources and talent into developing the next park or facility. Even in the absence of a Parks Master Plan, planners can help identify potential land for parks that is large enough to serve specialized needs.

Planners can support active lifestyles generally by promoting Complete Streets resolutions, bike paths, sidewalks, trail systems, and other concepts that enhance biking and pedestrianism. The more active people the community has, the more likely the community is to support sports tourism efforts.

Planners can help troubleshoot transportation issues related to sports events that may bring thousands of people to one place at the same time. If traffic is too heavy in an area to accommodate this influx of travelers, the citizenry is unlikely to support future sports tourism efforts and the event participants are unlikely to return in subsequent years. Sometimes alternative transportation for sports events participants may be useful, such as a trolley or dedicated bus system that runs between the parks, hotels, and other local attractions or tourism destinations during events.

Planners can create special flexible regulations in the Zoning Ordinance that relate to parks, making certain before including any regulation that it is practical given the particular nature of each sport.

Planners can provide Parks and Recreation staff members with GIS maps that show the location of area hotels, restaurants, museums, and nightlife. The Parks and Recreation staff can in turn include these maps in marketing and welcome packets that encourage sports participants and fans to spend their money locally.

Summary

Tourism is an extremely large part of the South Carolina economy, and all communities should strive to identify ways to tap into the market. Sports tourism can be one such way. Because sports tourism often generates unique planning challenges and opportunities, planners should offer to help their Parks and Recreation Department colleagues plan for future sports tourism facilities and programs.

References

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For Your Information

Invitation to Exhibit & Awards Program

Successful Designs for HEALTHY INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

49th International Making Cities Livable Conference

Portland, OR, May 20 – 24, 2012

Urban designers, landscape architects, architects, planners, developers and cities are invited to submit proposals for an exhibit of **Successful Designs for Healthy Inclusive Communities**.

Projects in design or construction phase (eligible for inclusion in the Exhibit) must be real projects commissioned with the intention to build.

Completed projects (eligible for inclusion in the Exhibit, AND the Awards Program) must already exist and be in use, having been completed or restored within the last ten years.

Three categories of exhibits are eligible:

- 1) NEW & RESTORED URBAN PLAZAS
- 2) NEW & RESTORED MIXED USE
- 3) NEW & RESTORED WALKABLE NEIGHBORHOODS

APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 1, 2011

The Exhibit Awards Committee will pay special attention to projects that fulfill the following criteria:

In the “Urban Plazas” category:

- A place (plaza, town square, marketplace, etc.) designed for social life in public, bringing together varied groups, fostering social life & civic engagement
- Located in a mixed use area, surrounded by multi-functional buildings
- A substantial residential population within 10 minute walking distance
- A multifunctional space for varied activities & events

Hospitable for sustained use

In the “Mixed Use” category:

- Designs that are 3-6 stories, mixed-use including residential
- Designs that contain street level uses that add vitality, & interest to the street
- Designs that provide commercial or service facilities to support the daily life of local inhabitants

Reflect appropriate regional architectural styles

In the “Walkable Neighborhoods” category:

- Walkable streets and a hospitable traffic-free or traffic calmed public realm
- A compact area within a 10 minute walking radius, with mixed use urban blocks at the heart
- Integrated commercial, work space, and services, with housing above in mixed use buildings
- Housing for varied population groups (old and young, singles and families, varied ethnic groups and income levels), helping to create “a complete community”
- A neighborhood that helps to create a “city of short distances”.

All selected projects in all categories will be exhibited at the conference. Awards will be made in all categories for outstanding completed projects already in use. Winning projects will be promoted on the IMCL website, www.LivableCities.org.

Please note that there is a limit to the number of exhibits that can be accepted. Early submissions will receive priority. This is a blind peer review process. Please see the guidelines and apply on line at <http://www.livablecities.org/conferences/49th-conference-portland/special-exhibit>

For more information contact: info@LivableCities.org

Benchmark CMR, Inc.

118 South Main Street
 Kannapolis, North Carolina 28081
 phone: (800) 650-3925
 email: info@benchmarkplanning.com



Clark Patterson Lee

912 S. Main Street, Suite One
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601
 phone: (800) 274-9000
 email:



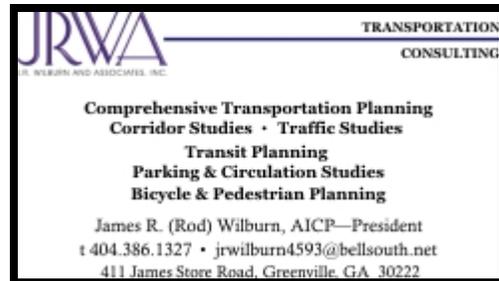
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 Columbia, South Carolina 29201
 phone: (803) 376-6034
 email:



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 phone: (404) 386-1327
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The Lawrence Group

108 South Main Street, Suite B
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 Davidson, North Carolina 28036
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 email: info@thelawrencegroup.com



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 phone: (843) 937-0201
 email: tsmith@planningandlaw.com



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101 Research Drive
 Columbia, South Carolina 29303
 phone: (803) 254-4400
 email: eboughman@bpbarber.com



SCAPA
 PO Box 683
 Clemson, South Carolina 29633

Chapter Administrator
 Pat Collins

Phone: 864-221-1433
 Fax: 864-914-7577
 E-mail: jpcol44@bellsouth.net

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