

ORANGEBURG COUNTY
SUSTAINABILITY PLAN



Smart Growth Summit Report

December 2024



Table of Contents

Executive Summary 1

Introduction 3

Public Engagement 4

 Smart Growth Summit Events..... 4

 Smart Growth Summit Survey 5

 Engagement Satisfaction and Representativeness..... 6

Key Themes 9

 Orangeburg County’s Strengths..... 9

 Role Model Communities 9

 Fostering Economic Development10

 Transportation, Water/Wastewater, and Broadband 11

 Quality of Life 11

 Geographic Feedback.....13

Short-Term Priorities 15

Conclusion 17

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments.....18

Executive Summary

On October 28, 2024, Orangeburg County government, business, and community leaders gathered, along with interested citizens, to discuss the future of Orangeburg County. The event, called the **Smart Growth Summit**, involving in-person and online survey engagement opportunities, yielded a wealth of information and opinions about growth opportunities and challenges in Orangeburg County. This Summit served as a kick-off event for a new project that is now underway, preparation of an Orangeburg County Sustainability Plan.

This Smart Growth Summit Report describes in detail the issues that were discussed at the Summit, along with compilations of participant comments and opinions. The key takeaway from this event: Consensus that Orangeburg County is at a unique point in its history, experiencing a confluence of circumstances—being at the geographic center of major transportation corridors, with proximity to a major east coast port and economically vibrant cities, and fast-increasing development interests coming from businesses and industries. There is an opportunity here to take advantage of the significant economic growth potential that is at the County's doorstep, while also taking care to preserve key components of county character and the well-being of existing residents.

Several key themes emerged at the Summit:

- **Orangeburg County has many strengths and sources of pride.** Participants described the county's strategic location, relative affordability, growth potential, recreational amenities, and friendly and close-knit community as strengths that make Orangeburg County a good place for people to live, work, or own a business.
- **Potential role model communities had vibrant and revitalized downtowns, diversified economies, thriving cultural life, and recreational offerings for all ages.** Participants mentioned communities like Dorchester County, Aiken County, Greenville County, Lexington County, Sumter County, Charleston, Summerville, Lake City, the City of Greenville, and the City of Rock Hill.



Executive Summary

- **Fostering economic development was important to many participants.** Community members want development in a diverse array of industries, and generally jobs with higher wages. Many agreed on the need for a central economic hub and the redevelopment of vacant spaces.
- **Several key infrastructure improvements were mentioned by participants.** Desired transportation improvements included better public transportation, road infrastructure, pedestrian options, and bike trails and bike lanes. Water supply capacity, wastewater capacity, and broadband access were also important infrastructure improvements described by community members.
- **Many participants stressed the need for quality-of-life improvements.** Suggested improvements included increased recreational opportunities, improved educational opportunities, and better access to essential services, like healthcare and grocery stores, in rural parts of Orangeburg County.

These themes are presented and discussed in the full Smart Growth Summit Report below, along with identification of ideas that could be implemented within a short-term time horizon, while work on long-term issues goes forward as part of work on the new Orangeburg County Sustainability Plan. An Appendix to the Report presents a full list of public comments offered at the Summit.

Introduction

Orangeburg County has launched a major planning effort to establish a cohesive, countywide vision for the County's future growth and an actionable strategy to achieve it. This planning process will result in the Sustainability Plan, a policy document that will guide growth in the County for years to come. This plan will be informed by public engagement, stakeholder interviews (conducted concurrently with the Smart Growth Summit public engagement; see the Stakeholder Interview Summary Document for details), and analysis of existing conditions. The Smart Growth Summit in-person and online engagement opportunities were the first window for community engagement that will inform the final Sustainability Plan.



Public Engagement

Smart Growth Summit Events

The Smart Growth Summit was a set of two events held on October 28, 2024, at the Orangeburg County Conference Center. The purpose of the Smart Growth Summit was to inform community members about existing growth efforts and to solicit their input on future growth in Orangeburg County. Each event had two parts: County partner presentations, and tabling and engagement.

Eight County partners presented updates on growth and development. Orangeburg County livestreamed the presentations on their Facebook page. In the order they presented, the speakers were:

- Orangeburg County School District: Dr. Shawn Foster
- Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College: Dr. Walt Tobin
- Claflin University: Dr. Cletra Peters
- South Carolina State University: Col. (U.S. Army Retired) Alexander Conyers
- Orangeburg County Economic Development: Merle Johnson
- MUSC-Orangeburg: Walter Bennett, III, FACHE
- City of Orangeburg: Sidney Evering, Esquire
- Orangeburg County Community Development: Stewart Haig



Public Engagement

There was also a brief presentation about the Sustainability Study, and attendees were encouraged to participate in in-person and online engagement.

Additionally, over a dozen community partners set up informational tables for attendees to learn about their projects and services:

- City of Orangeburg
- City of Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities
- Claflin University
- Council on Aging
- County of Orangeburg
- Lower Savannah Council of Governments
- MUSC-Orangeburg
- Orangeburg-Calhoun-Allendale-Bamberg Community Action Agency (OCAB)
- Orangeburg County Broadband
- Orangeburg County Library
- Orangeburg County School District
- Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College
- Tri-County Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse
- USDA-Rural Housing
- YMCA-Orangeburg

Attendees had the opportunity to provide feedback for the Sustainability Study through interactive boards and mapping activities. From these in-person activities, we received six responses to our main questions (questions 1-7 of the survey below) and 34 exit questionnaires.

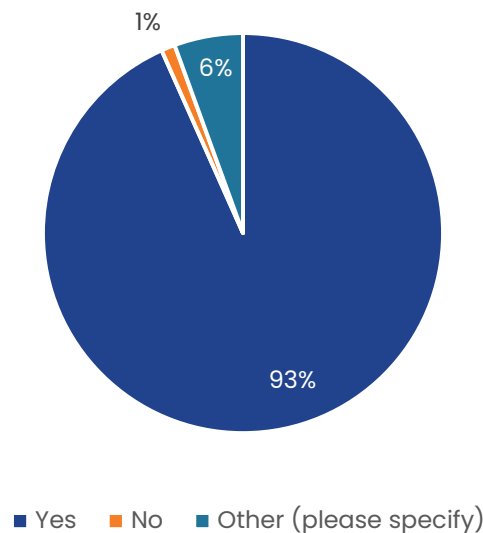
Smart Growth Summit Survey

Those unable to attend the Smart Growth Summit in person were still able to share their feedback through an online survey. Including both in-person and online responses, the survey received 99 responses to its main questions (questions 1-7) and 61 exit questionnaires.

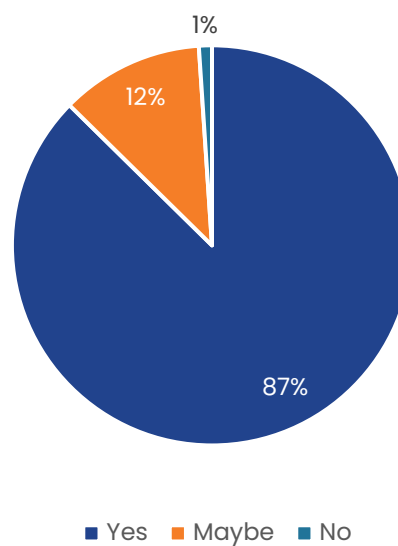
Engagement Satisfaction and Representativeness

Based on the feedback from the exit questionnaires from both the in-person and online engagement, respondents were largely comfortable sharing their input and were willing to participate in similar events in the future.

Were you comfortable sharing your input today?



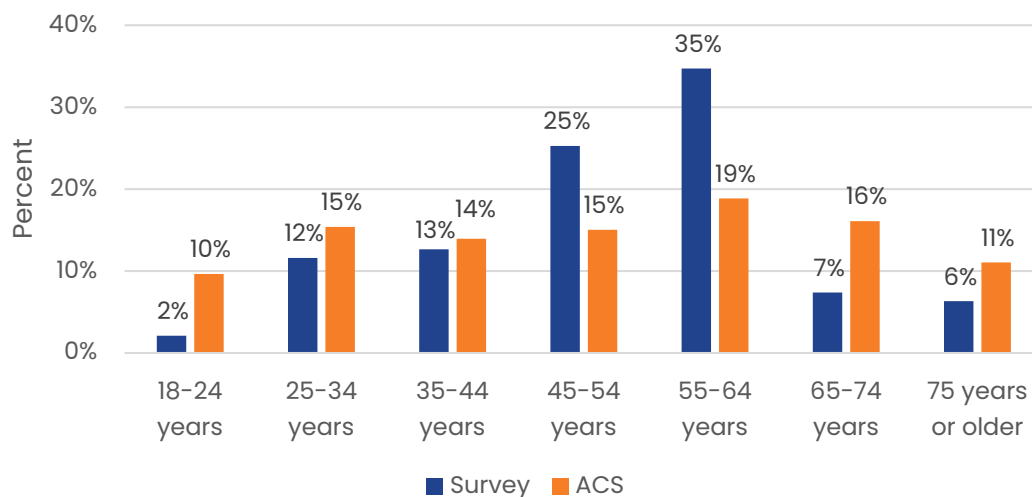
Will you participate in future surveys or events?



Public Engagement

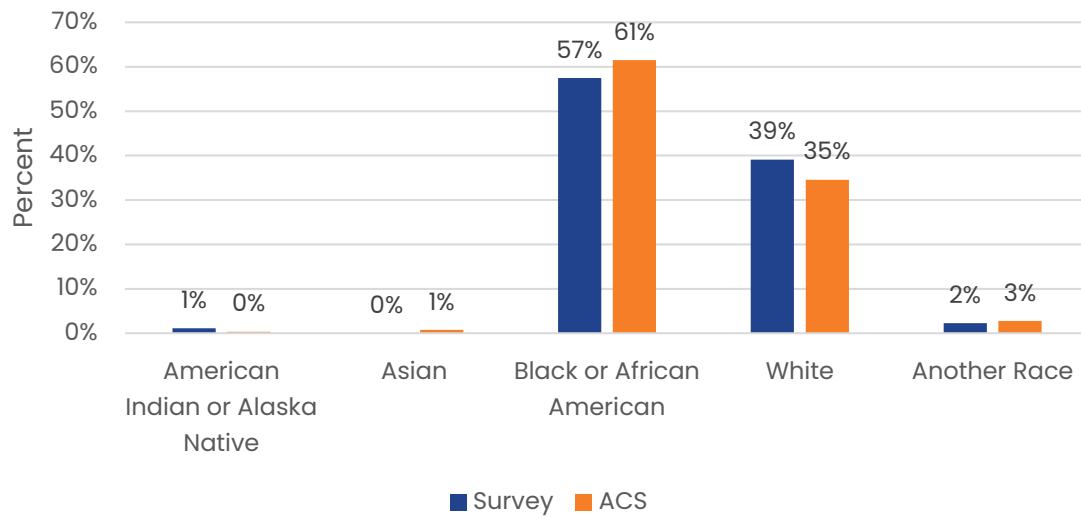
Based on the feedback from the exit questionnaires, participation in the summit and the survey was somewhat reflective of the county as a whole. The survey had respondents from every age group, and from every racial demographic that represents at least 5% of the County's population, according to 2022 data from the American Community Survey (ACS). However, some groups were under-represented in the public engagement results. Residents ages 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 65-74, and 75+ participated at lower rates than residents ages 45-64. Black and African American residents participated at slightly lower rates than white residents. American Indian residents and residents of another race also participated, at rates similar to their percentage of the population. No Asian residents participated. Additionally, no participants identified their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino, though the ACS reports that about 2% of Orangeburg County residents fall into that category.

Age: Survey vs. ACS





Race: Survey vs. ACS



Key Themes

The points listed below are themes that emerged in the public input from the Smart Growth Summit in-person event and the online survey.

Orangeburg County's Strengths

When asked about what makes Orangeburg County a good place for people to live, work, or own a business, participants described several key strengths that the County has to offer. Orangeburg County is in a **strategic location** due to its proximity to Columbia and Charleston and its position along I-26 and I-95. This location is great for potential residents who want access to amenities and employment opportunities in those areas, as well as for potential businesses who want access to major corridors. Compared to many other parts of the state, housing and land in Orangeburg County is **relatively affordable**, making it attractive to middle-income families and to industry. Orangeburg County has significant **growth potential**, which many see as a strength. **Recreational amenities** including fishing, parks, and festivals make Orangeburg County a great place to live. Finally, many responses mentioned the county's residents themselves; the **friendly and close-knit community** is an important part of what makes Orangeburg County great.

Role Model Communities

Participants listed several other counties and cities that Orangeburg County could look to as role models for its future. **Dorchester County, Aiken County, Greenville County, Charleston, and Summerville** were all recommended for their vibrant downtowns, diversified economies, and thriving cultural life. Many participants mentioned the need to rejuvenate downtown Orangeburg and other municipalities, and highlighted **Lake City and the City of Greenville** as role models for their success in revitalizing older downtown areas by attracting businesses, arts, culture, and hosting community events, attracting locals and tourists alike. Finally, participants suggested using **Lexington County, Sumter County, and the City of Rock Hill** as role models for their ability to blend rural/suburban lifestyles with cultural and recreational offerings for all ages, especially outdoor recreation opportunities.

Fostering Economic Development

Many participants stressed the importance of supporting economic development in a **diverse array of industries**. While some suggested recruiting more manufacturing jobs, many expressed a desire for recruitment beyond Orangeburg's typical manufacturing and agricultural jobs. Participants wanted to have more white-collar and technology-based jobs available in the county, and generally jobs with **higher wages** than what is currently available. Participants also suggested economic development through supporting restaurants, retail establishments, and entertainment venues like movie theaters, bowling alleys, and other family-friendly activities. These local amenities could provide jobs directly and indirectly by helping to attract more employers to the area.

Participants did not agree on where to concentrate economic development efforts. Many agreed that a **central economic hub** is needed, but some envisioned a hub in the City of Orangeburg, while others wanted hubs in the eastern and western parts of the county as well, or instead. For those that mentioned Orangeburg, many discussed the need to **redevelop vacant spaces** and generally breathe life back into the downtown area.



Transportation, Water/Wastewater, and Broadband

Participants expressed numerous transportation needs. Many advocated for improved **public transportation options**—more bus routes, more options for rural residents, more options for seniors, and more options specifically geared toward health care access (rides to doctor’s offices and the hospital that do not require EMS). **Improved road infrastructure** and more paved roads, especially in rural areas, was a need emphasized in many responses. The need for **more safe pedestrian options** was also highlighted, including the need for more streetlights, more sidewalks, and more crosswalks. The need for safe pedestrian options was specifically mentioned for downtown Orangeburg, locations near major public facilities like the hospital and the colleges, and even rural areas with relatively high numbers of pedestrians. Some also noted the need to fill in gaps in the existing sidewalk network. Finally, numerous responses mentioned the need for more **bike trails and bike lanes**.

Some participants expressed concern about **water and wastewater capacity**. With the planned and potential growth, both residential and industrial, investments in water and wastewater infrastructure to accommodate this growth will be necessary.

Many participants also expressed the importance of **broadband access**. Rural areas in particular struggle with slow and limited internet access, which hinders remote work, education, and telehealth opportunities. High speed internet options are needed to assist these areas.

Quality of Life

Numerous participants described the need for more **recreational opportunities** in Orangeburg County. Generally, participants would like more opportunities for socializing, more cultural opportunities, and more entertainment options. Recreational opportunities and extracurricular activities are particularly important for the youth in Orangeburg County. Specifically, participants suggested **revamping community centers** and **upgrading parks** by adding benches, picnic shelters, and restrooms. Participants described the need for more **high-quality, sit-down restaurants** in the county. Some responses also suggested that the **Edisto River** is underutilized and could offer opportunities for recreation, tourism, and development. Overall, developing

Key Themes

cultural attractions and improving amenities could both draw visitors and enhance the quality of life for Orangeburg County residents.

Participants are highly aware of the need for affordable, decent **housing**. While there are many new developments coming into Orangeburg County, they are not affordable to many residents. High-quality apartments and other dense residential developments were generally supported, if they are in the right locations.

Many responses also mentioned the importance of **education**. Some residents are dissatisfied with the quality of education available and want a plan for the long-term improvement and strengthening of the schools. Participants also suggested that South Carolina State University, Claflin University, and Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College could be better leveraged to build a more highly-educated workforce.

A few participants described the need for more **access to essential services** in the rural parts of Orangeburg County. In particular, responses highlighted the importance of access to healthcare and access to grocery stores. These comments correspond with the comments above about the need for better transportation options for people in rural areas; better transportation options can lead to a better quality of life.



Geographic Feedback

Some feedback was tied to specific areas of the county. Most of the feedback was focused on the greater Orangeburg area, though there were comments added throughout the county. Below are the key themes that emerged for each area.

On the **eastern** side of the county, several participants highlighted Santee State Park and the Lake Marion Shoreline as important areas for preservation. In and near Ellore, there is general support for growth, including industry, activities for residents, and better infrastructure. In the Santee area, several participants expressed support for more commercial activities (including grocery stores) and entertainment options to support the growing population, as well as growth to support the tourism industry (including restaurants). However, some expressed concern about the amount of residential growth without accompanying commercial growth or infrastructure support, including water/wastewater and streets. In and near Vance, there was general support for growth.

In the **central** part of the county, participants focused on the need to improve Orangeburg's downtown. Many responses expressed support for more entertainment and restaurant options in downtown Orangeburg. Multiple participants described how the western areas of the city need growth and change but feel left out. Several participants also described the need for improvements in pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit infrastructure in Downtown Orangeburg and the areas near SCSU and Claflin University, including Highway 301 and Russel Street. The area could be safer for students and other pedestrians to shop locally, and could be developed into a walkable entertainment district, especially with streetscape. More broadly, there was support for better pedestrian, bicycle, and transit options throughout the City, connecting the downtown area, important institutions, and neighborhoods; Magnolia Street (Highway 601) and the connection between downtown, OCtech, and the hospital was a particular area of focus.

Outside of Orangeburg, participants expressed support for change and residential growth in Cope, support for retail growth in the Cordova area, and better walking and biking safety in areas just south of Orangeburg. The Edisto River also came up several

Key Themes

times as a place to be protected, maintained as safe and clean, and potentially marketed for recreation and tourism.

On the **western** side of the county, participants generally described support for retail and residential growth in the Neeses area. Utilities in the area need improvement, however, especially for attracting growth.



Short-Term Priorities

Some of the feedback received from the Smart Growth Summit event and survey has a short-term time horizon and could potentially be implemented more quickly than the long-term focus of the Sustainability Plan, in strategic plans or other more immediate efforts. Some of the short-term priorities identified from the survey include:

Strengthen resources for small businesses and local startups. Small businesses can form the backbone of a strong local economy, and could create more opportunities in sectors that respondents identified as areas of long-term growth, including technology and other white-collar jobs. Strengthening resources and incentives for these startups and small businesses could retain more young people graduating from local schools and universities.

Focus on better public services. Several respondents voiced a need for more law enforcement and first responders, as well as for better maintenance of public spaces.

Improve road conditions. Some roads are damaged and require immediate attention, including repaving.

Organize or facilitate community events. Family-friendly events and attractions can bring interest and life to an area and support long-term growth.

Retain and attract high-quality educators. Some residents are dissatisfied with the quality of education available, and want more action taken to ensure that good teachers come to and stay in Orangeburg County.

Work with utilities and state partners to address pricing, payment, and customer service concerns. Many residents mentioned high utility costs and poor customer service from utility companies. Many would like better pricing, especially for seniors, more flexible payment options, and more forgiveness for occasional late payments if the account has otherwise always been fully paid on time.

Maintain water and sewer systems. The current water and sewer systems need to be maintained and upgraded to handle any immediate capacity issues.



Short-Term Priorities

Explore trash, recycling, and compost collection options. A few respondents mentioned that trash collection services, as well as more recycling and compost options, would be appreciated.

Conclusion

Orangeburg County community members shared useful information and provided direction for the County's approach to future growth. This feedback will be used as a guide for the rest of the Orangeburg County Sustainability Plan process, including the guiding principles for sustainable growth, the framework for sustainable growth, the funding priorities, and the Sustainability Plan draft. There will be further community engagement once the Sustainability Plan is drafted, tentatively scheduled for fall 2025 or winter 2026.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Below are all the public comments received from the in-person and online engagement.

Question 1: If you were promoting Orangeburg County to people interested in living, working, or owning a business here, what would you share with them?

I would promote the proximity to the interstate, Charleston, beach, mountains, colleges and universities.
Orangeburg offers a criminally underrated quality of life including a close community, diverse history, and outdoor recreation opportunities. Moderately sized population – a small town with logistical advantages offering high potential for industrial and residential growth. Sufficient food and hospitality offerings, but an easy drive to Columbia or Charleston for weekend fun.
Orangeburg County is both rural and exiting and things are getting more progressive , it is a great county to live in...
What attracted me moving to Orangeburg almost fifteen years ago were the honesty and friendliness of the people in the county .
Orangeburg County is an affordable place to live where it has affordable housing, great job opportunities and is located between Columbia and Charleston.
Access to (2) Local College Universities and (1) Technical college. Accessibility to Parks & Recreation. Housing & Industrial development potential.
.I would share the locations for local transit transportation and the numerous of plant industries.
It's in a nice location. Halfway between Columbia and Charleston.
Orangeburg county is growing.
I like Orangeburg. Just like every other place, they do face some challenges and have areas of improvement, but whatever your intent is, you can have a good life here. it is rural, so don't expect city amenities, but there is a sense of community that is unmatched.
Small town feel with charm and endless potential.
Santee lakes, golf courses, a state park, boat landings, fishing tournaments, bass fishing, catfishing. Edisto Gardens with an annual festival. Town festivals, Christmas parade.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

We are the perfect middle ground to, two of the most well-known larger cities (Columbia and Charleston) and we are home to 3 well-known colleges (Claflin, State and Southern Methodist). We are expanding every day when it comes to trying to draw in younger generations.
That the County of Orangeburg is a great place to live and work. Friendly environment that is ready and willing to assist with getting new businesses started.
The lack of law enforcement presence
How quickly Orangeburg is growing
I would simply say, "It's a nice town but could be better. Come join us and help to be the change that is needed here."
Orangeburg County needs more business development and opportunities in order to improve the quality of life. Businesses such as restaurants so there's more dining options, businesses such as entertainment opportunities like the movies, bowling, etc. are needed for the youth, and so that you don't have to travel 45 minutes from home to have family entertainment opportunities. Retail businesses are also needed so that there is a plethora of options available for consumers.
The local landmarks and attractions to be seen in Orangeburg County. The relatively calm atmosphere in many areas around the County and access to services that are slowly improving.
Good interstate access, Plenty of space.
As a business owner in the State and in this County. I would promote patience and people. Post Covid, the speed of this county's offices have declined but with patience, it will get done. I love the people of Orangeburg and the support here is amazing.
HUNTING FISHING BOATING GREAT PEOPLE GREAT RECREATION GREAT WORKFORCE
Orangeburg County has the potential for business growth depending on your location.
That Orangeburg County is growing fast, and is a very nice place to live and begin a business
We have a lot of different cultures and varieties of colleges, businesses, and locations to live.
I would never promote anyone to live or work on Orangeburg County
Orangeburg County is on the cusp of being great. This is a great place to live and raise a family.
Orangeburg county has the Edisto Gardens, good jobs and good places to open for business.
The many open opportunities possible in orangeburg county, the willingness of the people and community leaders to assisting.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

There is no traffic issues so come on Charleston people!! Mostly uneducated people with no manners so be prepared and you must over look ignorance. Plenty of room for a restaurant. Must cater to bamberg Calhoun western towns.
Great place to raise a family.
Orangeburg County is a neat County that is growing rapidly. The County currently has 4 institutions of higher education.
Orangeburg Is Beautiful and it's growing especially, the new ball parks it's so Beautiful. and a lot of new restaurants. We have the university and a beautiful Edisto Gardens and a lot of nice Churches and activities for our youth - YMCA water park and a lots of eatery.
The taxes are high and the services are horrible. If you are in need of medical attention, get in your car and drive across the county line for help. Do not send your children to any of the schools in the Orangeburg District. Homeschool or send to out of county school.
Orangeburg County has a lot of caring and friendly people. Orangeburg County has The Edisto Gardens, Santee State Park, YMCA, festivals, Colleges/Universities and other amazing fun and family-oriented adventures to offer. You can go anywhere from Orangeburg County. Orangeburg County is located close to Charleston and Columbia, and the commute to major cities like Atlanta, Charlotte, and Jacksonville is not far away.
I would share that Orangeburg is growing but not at the pace of other counties. Taxes are high, and resident need to see more improvement on a faster scale.
They pay scale sucks.
The advancement of technology and building upgrades
Lake Marion
Beauty of the County (except the trashy roads), closeness to the Coast and Mountains, proximity of two major interstates
The convenient location to I-26, I-95 interstate for travel. Three college and university here for employment training and job opportunities. Population growth with competitive salaries and job opportunities.
Edisto Gardens, Edisto River, Lake Marion, State Parks around Santee, Interstate 26/95 travel routes, central location in the state, multiple industrial plants to work at.
I'm unsure
Growing area with lots of potential if the county would build the area
I would share that Orangeburg county shows great potential for businesses and the public if the right things are focused on. As we sit now there is not much in this area to attract people.
I would definitely share that there is plenty of open space/property in certain areas not being used. There are businesses/buildings closing and are currently empty and are not being used.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Our community is a very tight knit community, we look out for each other and lend a helping hand when someone is in need.
great place to be.
I would share with them that the cost of living in Orangeburg is not as expensive as some other surrounding counties. That if you work in Orangeburg County, don't expect a high salary, and if you own a business here, don't expect to have a good amount of quality staff to employ at your business.
The opportunity for growth. Orangeburg county is becoming a melting pot of different ethnicities.
Don't move here, property taxes are high, new businesses do not flourish here, no change in the 20 years to the county. Not a great move
Great location
Orangeburg is able to offer small town charm. It is Nestled between Columbia and Charleston Orangeburg has access to two major interstates. I26 and I95 Orangeburg is a one-hour drive to a beach in Charleston. Charleston is steeped in a rich history and culture. It is a short, two hours from Myrtle Beach. Orangeburg has a lot of growth potential. And if done properly it will not have a negative impact on the natives. Orangeburg is the home of two HBCUs, South Carolina State University, Claflin University, and Orangeburg Technical College.
I-26 and I-95 run through Orangeburg County. Orangeburg County has 2 four year colleges and 1 technical college. It has great schools, and it provides lots of places where families can have fun.
More affordable events for families
We have a long way to go. If a community is judged by a way we treat animals. Then we need to be ashamed
It's a great place for starters with money. Find a great church
Friendly
Property is very affordable, but amenities, businesses, and nice restaurants are scarce, and downtown is not attractive.
No one is going to have the desire to move here
Keep going and move to the Up State. No one seems to support local businesses.
We have competent workers,,,good schools,,musc,,,great touch down club for sports lovers
The library system. Especially downtown. But the Holly hill branch is really great, too.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Need to drive to do anything is crucial! I did not know that before moving here and really struggling, I'm in Santee and there is NOTHING I need within 20 minutes and I hate it! More health care options and shopping in the Santee/Eloree area, more events, even food trucks and farmer's markets. It seems there is a lot of vacant land and empty stores being misused (do we really need another hotel on Hwy 6? and more housing that's not affordable, or apartments)? All growth needs to be done in coordination. The just build it and they will come theory does NOT work well, as they will come and then leave without having all their important needs met.
There is great potential for all types of investments in Orangeburg County. The high schools have invested staff and we have Drs. lawyers, Actors, Entertainers and others who received their education in our small rural high schools. We also have Claflin University, SC State University and OC Technical College.
Close proximity to the port in Charleston as well as several interstate connections; Overall low cost of living; Friendly people/residents.
Rural living with quick access to employment
Family Oriented, lots of room for development and upcoming businesses, cost of living is cheaper here.
Potential for growth. Improved school system is critical.
small retirement and college community
The improvements of the last 10 years have been amazing. More industry and jobs available. Good number of chain food establishments coming.
Excellent place to raise a family. Not too big and not too small. Excellent schools and family oriented. Very strong community.
The fact that there is a lot of room for growth and development.
The rural areas are great to live in.
They Orangeburg has little traffic and a hometown feel. We can enjoy fancy dining in Charleston or Columbia but a close knit community is available here.
Orangeburg is a growing diverse community with a lot of potential.
The feasible cost of living. The low crime rate. The combination of suburban and rural living.
Orangeburg is easy to get to due to its proximity to I 20 and 95. Lots of land to be developed.
There is room for growth and innovation.
The Rose Gardens, and the multiple colleges!
That it's growing and potential for great opportunities
Orangeburg is a GREAT place to live, raise a family and start a business.
Space.
We are on the longest Black River in the US. Families who live in the county are hard working and enjoy family activities.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

How can we promote when Orangeburg is not doing enough by giving the people a platform to be informed and output to better the community like I did in New York we put out flyers and posts them in businesses and mail boxes as well at the post offices! Alot of my family and friends don't know the people that are running for office and involvement with town hall meetings!
A chance to live in a mostly rural area giving you the ability to live a relaxed lifestyle
Some caution as to where you live and/or locate your business!! Consider the NE which has begun to emerge after years of decline, but then will your type of business be welcome or meet needs of that area!!
We have great potential. We house two four year universities and 1 two year. We are also home to many young adults who don't like the hustle and bustle of city life, but enjoy being close enough to Columbia and Charleston.
The city is building but we still have plenty of work to do.
More jobs coming back to orangeburg (manufacturing)
Family Resource Center that's located here in Orangeburg
OC is a community with lots of opportunity for growth and development.
Shopping Restaurants Things to do
Colleges and universities
great centralized location, cost of living is decent.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 2: To improve the quality of life in Orangeburg County, what opportunities do we need to create for current or future residents?

Increase paths or walkways for bikes and walking. More law enforcement patrol. Increase lights. Incentives and plans for small business opportunities that are unique. Repurpose old buildings and homes for businesses such as bookstores, coffee shops, ice cream shops, gift shops and other innovative and unique ideas. Partner with the colleges in hiring the students.
Create a long term plan to continue developing the downtown district and stick to it. It's a nice stretch, with colleges on one end and the gardens and river wall on the other. City and county investments along with DORA's efforts have been greatly appreciated. Additional, create a plan to improve the school district.
Transportation is the keep to growth, I know in my area county district 3, that not having transportation keeps my people from job opportunities
Larger stores such as Walmart, Target, or a quality grocery store in Santee
Improve roadways for ease of travel. And of course, more entertainment options across the whole county.
Create or bring more restaurants to the Orangeburg County that are price affordable. We have a lot of fast food places, but need more than Ruby Tuesday, Cracker Barrel and Chestnut Restaurants.
Stronger job market, community engagement, public gathering spaces, bike trails and safety.
More transit routes to reach more opportunities.
1. More diverse employment opportunities outside of factories. 2. Keep housing affordable. 3. A Central Economic Hub needs to be created in the Western County. Do not under estimate the convience of being able to drive only a minutes for shopping, essential needs instead of driving 16 miles to Orangeburg or further to Aiken or Columbia.
We need to clean up the gangs and drugs in Orangeburg County.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Invest in recreational outlets such as indoor parks, arcade, bowling alley and movie theater. The quantity and quality of restaurants should be studied. There are very few options for a nice dinner with your family, or to take colleagues for lunch. The Prince of Orange mall needs a serious renovation and additional stores. I know this is managed by a property group, but this is a serious loss of revenue for the County and owners. The mall could be revamped to include a movie theatre, restaurant and additional level and 20+ stores. Water and Wastewater should be priority for residents. Riverbank drive has different areas that should have access to sewer, but DPU seems to have limited access. I'm not sure if this is quality of life, but for those who don't want to buy, where are the nicer apartment complexes? The YMCA could be expanded to include additional basketball courts which can be used a site for basketball tournaments. It's close to the interstate, and would be a great location. Also, the YMCA could host camps in response to the school calendar (Summer and spring break camps, etc.) The Orangeburg County Fairgrounds is underutilized. There could be holiday events or concerts held there which gives citizens something to do on the weekends.
Resources to help citizens help themselves to improve. Things like the library, parks, proper healthcare, etc.
Jobs.
We definitely need to try to bring in more things to do for younger crowds. Bring in more stores that cater to younger crowds.
more jobs for all ages that is able to work. Affordable houses, recreational activities.
To improve the quality of life, the county needs to not be number 1 in violent crime per capita for the state of SC
Having the availability for our kids to have things to do in Orangeburg.
More needs to be done to form a partnership with the colleges. Offer the students discounts to shop here. Allow them to use their student cash card to purchase at certain businesses. College merchandise should be available at most major department stores here. Horry County supports Coastal Carolina faithfully! Our colleges are major for this county financially. We should do more for them!
Better housing
In order to improve the quality of life in Orangeburg County, the opportunities that need to be created for current or future residents is a safer community. The crime rate in Orangeburg County is very high. In order to do this, some important changes i would focus on would be, more first responder personnel, such as firefighters, police officers, EMTs, as well as dispatchers. Alongside that, more training for them to ensure that they are ready and fully equipped for almost any job they face.
Access to care and services in rural areas and outlying regions of the County. Assess to veterinary services for local residents; affordable and efficient services. A local spay and neuter clinic to help with population control of cats and dogs in the community.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Address crime problem. Start with a greatly increased routine traffic enforcement. The utter disregard for traffic laws and rampant crime are closely correlated.
The focus should be on the schools. The success of schools bring more people to Orangeburg County. More extra curricular activities and parent/teacher/student involvement programs.
INCREASE TAX BASE WITH INDUSTRY TO INSURE LOWER TAXES FOR THE AVERAGE HOMEOWNER
Affordable housing and descent apartments.
Improves infrastructure and schools
a movie theatre and a better selection of mall stores
We need to be paid more. Everything is so high. Maybe build more AFFORDABLE homes
Growth within areas that keep tax dollars in Orangeburg County. Attractions, better restaurants, a more vibrant mall, better shopping for wives. People leave every Saturday and Sunday to go spend their money in Columbia or Charleston simply because Orangeburg lacks those things.
Better places
To give them a chance to improve the lot or the family, better pay etc.
Clean up. We have become use to being a filthy town. Roads are littered, stores are nasty and we have gotten use it. There will be no new residents if we don't. With growth all around us we still can't admit the problems!!!!!! Why are we declining? Look at the decline in bamberg Denmark. What's the reason?? Schools have gone to shit!! Separate the dumb and smart kids.
Better white collar jobs.
Movie theaters, more shopping malls and parks.
Orangeburg needs more recreational Facilities Movie Theater bowling upgrading the current mall and other shopping centers with new diverse stores
Quality Jobs. Less taxes.
I believe people want to feel safe living here. The customer service is not always pleasant when visiting fast food restaurants. I believe safety and customer service are two problems we need to address in Orangeburg County. Possibly, there can be more collaboration with the officers/deputies and additional training/resources for retail and restaurants on customer service. Also, I hear a lot of citizens talk about Orangeburg County having more things to do here.
I believe that Orangeburg County needs to attract different forms of industry other than agricultural and manufacturing. Giving a broader scope for different opportunity to entice people to want to work and live here.
Pay the people a decent salary.
More activities for the children and shelters for the homeless
more available Veteran targeted health care providers



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Get the communities involved and vested in their County. Improve programs with the Arts and other cultural aspects.
To improve the quality of life in Orangeburg County we must invest in Public Safety. Need to add more 24/7 ambulances and 24/7/365 fire fighters.
More jobs with competitive pay rates to keep employees in Orangeburg County.
New Housing, Apartments, Restaurants, Increased Sewage Services across the County.
More variety of shopping and dining
Build downtown. More events for families. More events for the younger crowd. Variety of restaurants to include fast food and sit down.
Better outdoor activity spaces, more things to do in the area - any time my wife and I want to do something an activity of some sort or going to eat at better restaurants we travel to the Summerville or Charleston area. I would also suggest that if Orangeburg wants to attract more residents to the area the EMS system needs continued improvement to support the population growth.
There needs to be more spaced out facilities in the county. There is too much dependency on just the city of Orangeburg and not enough in the rural areas of the county. Space/property is being wasted over time.
We need to have more activities, like a movie theater, a bowling alley, and restaurants. I lived her my entire life and when I was in my teens we had those options
movie theater bowling alley and real mall
Actual careers that have decent salaries. More entertainment and more quality food establishments. We don't need anymore drive thru car washes and dollar stores. Those establishments just show the quality of life in Orangeburg.
Unfortunately we continue to open up the same type of business. We desperately need a change
get rid of the entire county council members and start over. We need new and fresh eyes to move this county forward and out the dark ages
Better shopping and food experiences also something fun for kids and adults to do
Taxes too high



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

The community doesn't need just a face lift. It needs to be lifted inside out. The hospital has a new name, but the reputation has been horrible for years. An aggressive approach needs to be taken to get the ranking up. Where are the entertainment outlets ie Movie theaters Bowling Allies Urban Art Nightlife Outlets (Jazz Scenes (not clubs), Open mics, art galleries, niche coffee shops) Arcades Nerd specific gathering spots (Magic of the gathering locations and such) Content creation locations I've read the restaurant business is touchy, but we've lost some quality franchise. Niche restaurants. Something with Michelin stars We need to get some quality sit in franchise back in Orangeburg. We need to improve the city by making sure the influx or domestic migration doesn't drive cost so much that drives current residents out or make it impossible to live. We need to keep poachers out. More often than not, northerners come to the south and drive-up cost.
Better paying jobs and affordable housing.
More things for the elderly
Hope!!! for our youth
Better education. More job opportunities that require intelligence. Respect for others.
Recreation: movies, bowling, arcade, theme park
Quality Education
Offer incentives to businesses to move into downtown and revitalize it. Follow the plan that Greenville used.
Better schools, grocery stores, and restaurants
Get safe and quality public schools
jobs, affordable housing, better dining options, better shopping options (target; home goods); vibrant community life;
Good medical close by,,,,recreational activities
Better housing. Better schools. Lower crime. Safer neighborhoods.
More MEDICAL/health care options in Santee/Elloree area. More transportation options, like a bus or shuttle service in this area, Some more entertainment options for teenagers and people who don't drink or drive, like a bowling alley or movie theater, reopen the mall off of hwy 6, bigger chain restaurants in the Santee area (I feel like we're the forgotten step child), just more commercial development on this end, but include traffic/road repair and expansion first. Roads in Santee are horrible.
Better healthcare opportunities. There should be a facility in the farthest western and eastern parts of the county. Persons in North and Woodford go to Lexington Family Practice in Swansea and person's in Eutawville go to MUSC in Charleston. They need local grocery stores. We have too many areas that are food deserts. They only have Dollar general or Family Dollar and some of them have no transportation to travel to other areas. They need a place for everyone to be able to exercise and gather for socialization. Especially the seniors.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Improved public schools/charter schools
Higher paying jobs
Improve the crime rate, More entertainment and activities for people of all ages, be open to listen to ideas and feedback from younger people (millennials and younger). If there is nothing to do but eat, work and sleep here what are you offering to those who are thinking about bringing businesses here or moving here.
Top quality school system, beginning in lower grades, with qualified teachers.
More restaurants (not fast food), movie theater, large mall
More shopping that we want to visit. Things are better but the businesses downtown are not viable. Both malls are eyesores with very little quality. We will never be a the city/county we could be until we fix the public school system. We were told by real estate agents that we could not put our children in public schools here. That was 15 years ago. Not much has changed there.
Better restaurants and more entertainment for children.
More dining options and recreational opportunities.
To ensure the needs of the people are protected with more firefighters and law enforcement officers.
Soft skills training for those in the restaurant and hotel industry and growth of businesses downtown to maximize the beautiful spot on the Edisto river and the gardens
1. Affordable quality housing. 2. Housing codes that are enforced. 3. Modes of public Transportation 4. Broadband capability in all areas of the county. (Do recognize that there is a plan in place but it could move swifter. 5. Variety of restaurants 6. More activities that are family oriented. More retail geared towards all but especially our youth. There are too many college students in Orangeburg who have no where to shop. This is revenue that continues to leave Orangeburg county. Healthcare education and partnerships with other Healthcare agencies. Food banks accessible to all.
Address the abandoned, blighted and condemned buildings and houses throughout the county. The "Broken Window Theory". If bad conditions aren't corrected, they will get worse.
Local shops - more vegan and vegetarian choices. More quaint choices like the Broughton Street Sandwich Shop
We need more for the children. We need more programs and recreational activities. We need the school system to offer more. The school system offers no more now than it did 30 years ago.
There has to be a reason for young families to stay. Quality housing; dining and entertainment experiences.
Jobs and Increased salaries.
More health care, more entertainment and a lot more community event.
Restaurant n stop with all the fast foods. Not healthy



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Jobs making a descent salary for person to live off of.
You need a community center for the youth to participate in like a recreational activity program like basketball and pool tables games and a afternoon program for tutoring making it a safe haven for them to not get in trouble or join a gang!
Attract businesses that entertain our citizens
A lot more youth activities and technology education!!
Definitely support for small businesses trying to integrate the downtown area. For us to have three colleges in the town and nowhere for the college students to hang out is ridiculous. We need more restaurants and entertainment.
Better and more housing options, another homeless shelter, a fresh food store or publix
Better jobs more recreation more department stores so we can keep our tax dollars here instead of going out of town
Child care centers
leadership development for youth
Jobs
Downtown retailers
More activities for children



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 3: What other counties or cities should Orangeburg County look to as possible role models for what we want to achieve in the future? What about those communities makes them a good role model?

Summerville and Florence.
Seneca, SC. Specifically their approach to developing their downtown by concentrating businesses to a short block, and hosting events like Jazz on The Alley in the summer. Another one is Sumter, where a small hotel is located near a brewery and an event center.
Activities, like they have in Lexington County, which still maintains a rural area feel. but fun festivals are still happening.
Cane Bay area of Berkeley County. More options for Santee. There is so much potential since it is right off the interstate.
Every county has their own uniqueness. More services and actual attention outside of City Orangeburg is needed. Also, five-year or ten-year plans need to be developed for each community.
Dorchester County is more suburban and Orangeburg is more rural. Orangeburg should look having more attractions for the citizens and tourists.
Charleston County Richland County
Lexington or Columbia area. They have the amenities that we are lacking. Youth sporting events, variety of shopping, and entertainment.
Greenwood, SC. is smaller in population, and incomes are similar to that of Orangeburg. They are able to sustain a movie theater, other restaurants, etc.
I don't think another county or city can be a role model for Orangeburg. Orangeburg is unique. I just think it will take a lot to clean up these old buildings and crime rate.
Greenville, SC is a good mode because of the growth and destination title the city has acquired over the past few years. Russell St. in Orangeburg needs revitalization, as I believe it should be a smaller version of King Street in Charleston. Parking meters can be installed to help revenue and create jobs, while encouraging local businesses to setup shop there.
Lake City. Their downtown is vibrant, boasts art and culture.
Lexington, Charleston, Greenwood, Pickens, etc to see how they highlight their water attractions. Parks, restaurants, etc
Columbia, Charleston, Aiken, Greenville, Spartanburg. They all have so many things to go to and to go see. They also are geared towards younger crowds.
Dorchester County/ Lexington salary
Greenville and Lexington



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Charlestown and Columbia There are all sorts of things to keep our kids busy and out of trouble in these cities.
Sumter, Beaufort, Horry
Aiken n augusta
I believe a good county to role model would be Dorchester County. Dorchester County is a county that flourishes in many different areas. Additionally, there are a lot of opportunities for the community of Dorchester County to expand, and live local.
Lexington County and Richland County. Dorchester County and Berkeley County
N/A for South Carolina. There are many rural NC communities that successfully transitioned from agriculture to other economies. Key feature traffic enforcement.
Berkeley County (Nexton Community) is a great role model. The schools and people there are excelling at a faster rate. Bringing in and advertising their community to bring in more family restaurants, fun venues for adults and children and offering other activities for children such as swimming and karate classes.
NONE COME TO MIND
Rock Hill, SC. They are a small city with a booming variety of businesses such as lots of restaurants and a movie theater.
Although the upstate has more residents that this county, but are expanding rapidly and including their residents in the planning phases
columbia and charleston come to mind other than the traffic. They have a wide variety of things to do and places to shop
Calhoun County and Richland County
Lake City is a fantastic model to look at for downtown revitalization. That was a special circumstance with a very wealthy benefactor in Darla Moore but things could happen here. Lake City took a downtown area much like we have in Orangeburg and helped give it a facelift and brought in local stores and helped places succeed. This may fall under the City of Orangeburg's purview
Some places in Columbia,SC., family places in Sumter and Summerville.
Summerville,
Sumter did a good job with downtown but their hospital is downtown with a lot of foot traffic. Buy a D10 bulldozer and dump trucks and start cleaning up down town area. Those old buildings are beyond repair. Clean up the criminals, drug dealers and watch your city grow. Sumter has a swat team it activates when their idiots act crazy. Their police don't take crap off the criminals. Look at some of the mountain towns and how clean they are. People want clean safe downtown areas. We must invest in a badass police force. Leroy is a good man but he has zero to work with. We need badass cops. Figure out who's got the guns. Woodys has a list!!
Aiken



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Aiken County. New restaurants and businesses are coming into the area.
Charleston, Columbia
Berkeley County. Dorchester County. The taxes are not as high and the school system has a much better education.
Rock Hill has a nice downtown and there are a lot of things to do. Rock Hill has a museum, park, and lake area. Richland County has a lot of events going on in their community like the Soda City Market which businesses can market their products, the citizens can receive fresh produce, and overall it's just a great community event.
I personally like the vibe of the County of Greenville. The reason i like Greenville is because of the beautiful areas, diverse industry, night life for all ages and the city is not to busy. I think Orangeburg has the ability to update downtown and make it a social area for all groups.
Greenville County.
Calhoun and Berkley, Calhoun has their paramedics go once a month to check in on the known ill or ailing patients just to show presence and provide support free of charge
Clarendon County. Affordable taxes and resources.
Aiken & Travelers Rest
Dorchester County recently took over all the individual fire departments and put them all under the newly created Dorchester County Fire Rescue. They have grown and are now an elite fire service provider.
Not sure
Sumter has a similar demographic/population but seems to be doing a little better off. They have one of the biggest city/county parks departments in the entire state. They are utilizing wetland / flood areas as walking/biking trails like shot pouch greenway connecting parks and promoting businesses near the path.
Lexington, aiken, and Clarendon. Better use of recreation areas. More shopping and food choices. Cleaner city areas with a drive to bring people in.
Fuquay-Verina, NC Winston-Salem, NC
Charleston and Summerville. They provide more activities for the community and offer good support services such as public transportation.
Dorchester and Charleston counties are definitely renovating with their increase in population and Orangeburg County needs to follow.
charlotte police dept.
Dorchester, Lexington, Berkley
Aiken, Richland county.
Richland and Berkeley Counties
Orangeburg is a small city in its self. Recruit different eateries and shopping business. Let's keep our money in our city



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Every County, they get paid disaster time off, they do not have to use their personal time when a natural disaster occurs. Pay the employees!
Columbia and Charleston
Aiken greenwood
This is almost a scary question. We can take bits and pieces from many cities, but for every good comes a bad. I like the recycling practices of European countries. Orangeburg could try enforcing and incentivizing recycling. I've seen an African engineer that's been turning recycled plastics in the bricks. With so many houses going up within the next 20 years. I see a golden opportunity to build a neighborhood with recycled material. Could even incorporate a repurposed container home community. Hamer, SC has "South of the Boarder". I think on I26 at exit 139 there maybe space to create something of a theme park of sorts or between exit 139 to 177. I do recall someone in the growth summit mention someone enjoying themselves so much at the Diamond Baseball game, that they'd be willing to pay Orangeburg a visit. Could Orangeburg become a place of Tourism
Dorchester, Richland, and Lexington Counties. Better paying jobs, affordable housing, and recreational facilities.
Lake City. Arts, community spaces
Columbia library serves as a hub for the community
Charleston Water, Dorchester Master Greenbelt Plan, Folly Beach Master Pla
We don't need role models we are unique and need our own SWOT. Not someone else's
Dorchester County's Greenbelt Program
Greenville
Summerville and Columbia
Hartsville, South Carolina they have a vibrant downtown with a lot of community support
Greenville,,Charleston,,Aiken,,,,Their down town developments Their industries
Anderson County
Manning. They have a very nice, quaint Main Street that could be duplicated here in Elloree especially. If I could find an investor I have TONS of ideas for the empty stores in Elloree. They seem to be hard to sell even at a low price (I don't have any money to invest or I would buy one) so they shouldn't be empty.
Dorchester and or Lexington because there is plenty of land for future growth. We need to begin to envision God size dreams and not ours.
Greenville's downtown is beautiful and vibrant; Summerville also has a nice downtown historical area for people to gather, eat and shop.
Aiken



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Richland County & Greenville County. They are diverse, innovative, have great leadership and when making decisions. They have housing for senior living to accommodate those 60+ and also have more housing options for people who are not in school or on a restricted income.
Manning, Mt. Pleasant,
Richland, Lexington, and Charleston counties. The counties offer growth and opportunities for all ages.
Summerville Chaplin Lexington Simpsonville- very similar situation to Greenville as we are to Columbia
Summerville, SC and Columbia SC. More affordable Residential housing are being developed.
Tega Cay, SC and Augusta, GA.
Sumter is similar but way ahead on the basis of the fire departments there.
Summerville Georgetown !! Lake city
Summerville, Moncks Corner
None. Be uniquely Orangeburg!!!
Summerville SC - make sure that the growth plan is smart.
Charlotte NC The growth and attraction for families.
Walterboro is about the same size, but has a more attractive downtown and habitat. Greensboro is probably larger, but look at how it has built to welcome and maintain college student graduates.
Dorchester county as far as pay. And the jobs they offer as well as more to do community wise.
None. I feel Orangeburg needs to find out what we are good at and what make us unique and capitalize on it.
Charleston. More historical cultures n events
Summerville, SC has a great downtown area. People go there every weekend during the summer months.
Summerville SC and New York
Aiken. They have many restaurants and shopping locations
Charleston, Savannah, Greensboro, Hilton Head
We should look a little like Summerville. Its a growing community but they have a few options for everything like shopping stores and eatery.
Lexington
Greenville
Rock Hill Sc; growing and expanding
Lexington Versitility



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Aiken has a vibrant downtown
Aiken

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 4: What physical and land use aspects of Orangeburg County need improvement? (e.g., schools, parks, transportation infrastructure, water/sewer, etc.)

Infrastructure such as streetlights and pavement of roads. Increase security cameras.
The school district would benefit from a plan for long term improvement. Housing is a need.
Dirt roads are also a bad transportation issues for folks that can least afford it. We must address this issue immediately
Santee restaurants. With the amount of travelers and vacationers the options for food are limited. Residents have to wait extended amounts of time at the few options we have. The numerous abandoned buildings like the old Burger King could be of use.
Definitely water/sewer for whole county and following second, transportation infrastructure,
Building are being built and Orangeburg County should be processing the old buildings. It makes the county not look so good.
Parks, boat landings need more focus. Parks & Recreation Department would be advantageous for future growth and well-maintained parks.
Parks and more outside recreations.
1. The area off of 301 out near Edisto High School needs development. Families looking to relocate to Orangeburg needs another option for school other than Orangeburg Wilkinson. I am an African American I would look past Orangeburg if O-W was my only option. With that saying, you need to create options. 2. The main highway entrances into Orangeburg needs cleaning up. 601 coming into Orangeburg with the run down homes, tire shops, car repair shops with abandoned cars out front. 3. More street lighting. Orangeburg is very dark at night. Especially Whitaker Parkway as soon as you turn from HWY 301. 4. Designated parking paved parking spots for homes and businesses should be required. Cars parking on lawns only tears down properties values. You will be fined if found parking on lawns within the City of Charlotte. 6. Limit Mobile Homes. Push more for Modular homes as an alternative 7. Desperate need of Sidewalk and maintenance of the ones that we do have. 8. The Hotel Area at 601 needs to be beautified! This is the entryway. Overgrown lots between the hotels, no sidewalks, Truckers parking in the area, etc.
I like that you are trying to remodel the old buildings. But I believe we can remodel the schools and not try to make more schools.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

I can only speak on my experience with OCSD and there is a lot of room for improvement. A lot of good teachers have left the school district to work in Columbia because of better pay and support from leadership. The bulk of tax dollars go to the school district so I'm not sure why quality educators are not being retained, but definitely needs to be looked into. The new schools that are being built may not ever reach capacity to keep it open. If I moved from Orangeburg County, it would be because of the subpar educational resources. I personally think a year-round calendar should be adopted, and the school day extended until 3:30. Kids are not reading on grade level, and besides lack of parental support and guidance, the short school days could also be a factor. Add a reading period where that is the sole purpose of the time. As far as physical, landscaping and exterior cleaning of the schools. The parks seem to be okay, but it would be nice to have at a minimum, a restroom, benches with water fountains and covered shelter at all of them. Transportation needs improvement. There is not enough sidewalks or public transportation options. The Comet in Columbia would be a good example. With students in close proximity, this could be utilized by them and others who need the transportation. Traffic lights should be place at busy intersections (Lidl on North Road, HSHP/DSS office, etc.)
Increase water and wastewater capacities in eastern and western parts of the county. Increase public transportation routes.
Roads. Prior to the washed away roads, their condition is average at best.
We need better public transportation in the county as a whole. Our county is one of the largest in South Carolina and residents from either outer lying region sometimes struggle with their transportation.
Parks, Transporation infrastructure, water/ sewer
no response
All of the above
Fix the roads. Stop patching up the roads. Use real asphalt to pave the roads.
Roads
Infrastructure.
Transportation for local residents, better housing affordability with apartments and downtown areas to help with low-cost housing.
The disaggregated and number of small underperforming water and sewer systems impact growth. No economies of scale currently exist.
I believe we have all of this. Just make sure upkeep and expansion for the betterment of the community is key.
NONE
Downtown can be a start. Sell the abandon houses and businesses at a low price to help promote new housing and new businesses.
Schools and Parks should always be an attraction



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Traffic is getting pretty hectic but that is be expected with growth. I would love to see more family friendly activities to do
The roads are horrible!
Parks and recreation is something that needs improvement. We have a fantastic new baseball park but this caters to a small population. Tennis or pickleball courts could be a good draw for the the population. Water and sewer are are adequate for a county this size. Some rural communities will never have sewer and that's just the nature of such a large county
Schools
water/sewer Schools (instructional outcomes)
No idea. Everyone knows the failure of the schools is the reason no industry will come here. When you have 99 % of the schools black and most are dumb no one will send their kids there. So they move to Lexington!!!! When I was at Willington Academy we had the A and B class. I was in the B class and it didn't offend me. Do the same on a grander scale. The dumb kids go to this school and the smart one to another, across town. We let a couple of idiots run this town. Stand up and hurt feeling is ok. It's not racist to speak the truth. How about the new city hall? Great view!! New school should make a big difference!! Hahaha. Wait whe the tax bills hit. Mass exodus will happen!!! And no industry because yall let Gregg robinson go to Florence.
Schools and quality restaurants
Parks
we need more streetlight especially in the country
EVERYTHING.
Downtown Orangeburg on Russell and Broughton Street should be beautiful, break taking, and lively. I don't believe the people feel any of that when they are riding on those streets. It's a lot of abandoned stores downtown. Also, I would like to see more stores in the Prince of Orange Mall that cater to most demographics in Orangeburg County.
Downtown needs to be updated. We may need to invest in bike lanes, update and improve to make it Edisto Gardens a major center point.
All the above.
roads
We need more INDOOR youth targeted activities that would perhaps give our youth something better to do than "run the streets". ie, bowling, movies, fun park, etc.
Clean up of what we have. The river which is a huge asset is totally under utilized. Parks need to be kept clean and in locations accessible to all (a nice park in the Gardens).



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Any new water lines being added that are funded in any way by Orangeburg County MUST include fire hydrants to address future growth. If possible an ordinance should be created to mandate this with in the County. The current state of our roads and bridges is on the top of the list due to the recent flooding event in Orangeburg. The County was devastated by all the roads/bridges that were washed out. Main emergency routes for fire and EMS was cut off causing huge delays in response times.
Infrastructure, water/sewer,
Everything listed above.
Water/sewer, roads are horrible, need more parks
Better schools, more public transportation, addition of parks, walking trails
I believe that all physical land aspects of Orangeburg county need improvement. Schools are falling apart and need updating. There is not enough public transportation. And parks are old and outdated. Roads and bridges need improvement so support increased usage as well as the sewer systems.
Transportation is the most needed improvement based on recent weather events. The roads are poor in nature in the county based on the resources used to develop them. Cheap products produce cheap results. Of course, more funds have to be used to fix the roads then creating new atmosphere from the start.
I think the Edisto River is under-utilized. Our beautiful gardens and the river offer a unique opportunity for development. Our school system needs to improve.
All above
Everything!
Our homeless community is growing daily. More shelters and opportunities are needed. Works two fold education and assistance while lowering our crime rate
everything!!! all these old buildings utilize them. Open up the bowling alley because wait for someone to buy it use the money to rebuild the communities.
Downtown
River area
The new consolidated highs school looks nice. I just hope it is not overcrowded. A contingency plan needs to be put in place to keep up with all the houses that are being built. I think Orangeburg is ready for a theme park of sorts. I'd like to spearhead a project like that.
A transit system, taxi service, water and sewer,
Litter. Recycling
Everything start with leadership
Water *Wastewater Roads Love gardens & Lake Edisto Park!
Many of the clear-cut lands need to be either replanted, or graded. They look horrible as you drive the country roads.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

It doesn't matter how you dress a pig a pig is still a pig
infrastructure; schools; neighborhood parks
Public parks Orbg district 5 new constructions will help
Schools, transportation, better internet, more libraries that are open longer
Transportation, especially going to Santee area! Fixing roads in Santee area (from Elloree to Santee on Hwy 6 and the overpass on 6 going toward the hwy entrances need repaving)
Open parks, provide transportation, improve water/sewer and provide it to all.
We need bike lanes and trails! Also, underground utilities - power goes out every time it storms.
All of it
Schools, roads (in neighborhoods as well), have underground power lines, definitely need more ways of transportation for those who do not have reliable transportation and also have transportation for the elderly because sometimes the Medicare or family transportation fall through.
Infrastructure in small towns, quality education, opportunities for employment at living wage
The schools
The Edisto Dig Park is nice. However, the equipment was installed incorrectly. It cannot be used by average height people. Try it. You'll see.
Infrastructure and transportation
All of the above
More hydrants are needed. The school are getting older and they don't maintain them enough.
Litter is out of control
Schools, more positive support from community. Schools need more accountability for events that occur. Stop "sweeping things under the rug" and hiring friends/family
Improve roadway conditions. Ensure water/sewer quality will be maintained to accommodate county growth. Entertainment Venues: bowling alley, movie theater, skating ring, fine dining/upscale restaurants and Harris Teeter/Kroger/Publix supermarkets.
Creating walking trails, infrastructure such as burying utility and cable lines, more sidewalks, leash laws especially in the city.
The schools are awful. Influential individuals move here and send their children to private schools in neighboring counties (Heathwood Hall, Hammond)
A welcoming downtown would be nice.
Parks, infrastructure (demolition or reconstructing old buildings, water/sewer (too many boil water alerts)
Transportation



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Our shopping mall need more stores need more up scale restaurant
Park equipment being updated and more inviting to use.
Transportation for the people on the main road in Orange burg like Chestnut Street to different places that the people who do not drive or owns a vehicle can get needed services you will have less car theft!
Infrastructure
Definitely schools. I have. 4 children, 3 of which attend schools in the county and they are lacking basic things.
Transportation, road repairs and more parks.
Transportation and parks need more polices working in communities
Transportation
Public transportation
Orangeburg Dist 5 schools
Bikeable areas would be nice
Schools, nice open parks, water/sewer

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 5: What water, sewer, internet, or energy utility concerns do you have related to future growth within the County?

Water drainage and sewage
None at this time.
Broadband is very slow coming to rural areas, many people want to work from home but can't because of broadband issues...
I know the eastern part of the county needs improvement. I am not familiar with the needs of the western part of the county
The prices for internet with Broadband should provide discounts to senior citizens.
No suggestion.
None at this time.
Water should be available to everyone. Sewer should be available to those in heavily populated areas, as I know it is expensive, but helps the most people out. Internet should be a staple for everyone in Orangeburg County by at least 2 providers. When it is only 1, the service is poor, or the bill is extremely high
Internet for the more outlying areas. Very important for students and telehealth. Water and waste water capacities as our county continues to grow and adds much needed housing.
Not well-versed on the topic.
There are so many utility companies that service the county because it is so vast. Could a possible consolidation happen OR could the county utilize just one or two if those companies expand.
better internet service
all of them
Monthly bills are too high
Control the flooding
Internet
That the prices would go up considerably with basic utilities and necessities.
With expansion, you would need to ensure that the local residents have access to these services and are able to afford them which will in turn help with them having the ability to pursue jobs and better living opportunities.
Lack of coordination and parochial self-preservation of small systems at the extreme expense of long-term opportunities.
Just make sure upkeep and expansion for the betterment of the community is key.
NONE



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

I'm concerned that O'burg County only has one electric company which means they can inflate pricing.
n/a
I just hope the costs dont triple due to growth
None.
Again this may fall under the City of Orangeburg but I live on Broughton Street and the internet options are bottom of the barrel. Sometimes the hotspot on my phone is better than what AT&T and Spectrum can provide. Work with those providers to increase options.
Cheap Internet, lower light bills, and more groceries stores with lower prices.
all of the above need to be expanded.
If you want industry you must have sewer. Clyburn needs to get us federal money like he did Berkeley county for sewer. I have T Mobile for interne and it works great. \$55 a month!! Not sure why we are runnig miles and miles of cable???? I'm very concerned w DPU and who's running it and their spending. It's OVER whenDPU is over !!
Na
The cost factor
noon
We cannot service the population we have now. Why would you bring more people in and you cant cover the entire county with EMS or internet.
At this time, I do not have any.
We need to be proactive in development. We need to have preventive measure in place that when stuff happens, there will be faster and more efficient ways to downsize inconveniences to the public.
All the above.
energy bills are ridiculously high especially in reference to the Christmas lights display
Internet service providers seem to be an ongoing issue. With pretty much EVERYTHING going in the direction of technology, we need to do better.
DPU needs better customer service. I realize this is a City problem but they also serve County customers.
The future will require more usage of all utilities and these utilities must be brought to the table as plans are made. Require fire hydrants on all new installed water mains.
All of these services need to be extended out into our rural areas in orangeburg county. We have a lot of adults and children with a lot of talent that could help orangeburg county grow but don't have the means to do so(internet)
Most of the sewer infrastructure is at max capacity.
Sewer
Fiber internet should be available in more areas.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

My main concern is that our water and sewer systems can not handle more growth due to being outdated as they are. Internet capabilities need to be expanded as more people are working from home since Covid.
I know our County is growing tremendously in the Holly Hill, and Santee areas. With that being said, with so many new houses being built, we need to make sure we are able to accommodate all the needs that will be associated with an influx of people to our community.
the county has its own electric company? be for real
Too much money spent by government
Net neutrality
Again all needs upgrading
Wastewater capacity. Internet availability to rural areas (affordable)
Better cell service in rural areas
DPU& Rural electric coops are good Tri county electric offers affordable broad ban
Not enough police to monitor the population we currently have. The city and other areas have major flooding issues. Too many places don't have reliable internet.
better communication/alert system for when something happens (2x there was an issue with no water that I didn't know about) and NOTICE to new residents about cost to start service, I didn't know I had to put a deposit down on water (I was out of state still) and was never told irrigation system is separate from house water system. After a year I can't get irrigation now because that deposit is not optional and I can't afford it now, I'm on a tight budget, so can't use my irrigation system because of a lack of communication. Same with information on electricity company that services the area. I had to call several people and had to waste a whole day trying to figure it out. I didn't have helpful neighbors or a good realtor to tell me that (or who picks up garbage) so having that all on a website would be helpful. For newcomers. And of course the obvious one is to make sure that infracture is done BEFORE building more houses! They have to go together, roads, water/electricity etc. ALL need to be in place before more people move in. They are still building like crazy, new housing development and Hotel on Hwy 6 is going to take a lot of resources. And the people who already live here shouldn't have to pay for it.
Internet is still a problem and it needs to be affordable to all. DPU needs to set-up a monthly payment plan based on electrical usage just like Dominion.
Internet and cell service is still sketchy in the rural areas of our county.
Western part of county is underdeveloped in all aspects
The internet services in the county areas are kind of spotty at times. If there is some way to improve and have faster service that would be great and also allowing internet companies to reach further out in the communities.
Small towns struggle to develop sustainable infrastructure.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

A wider variety of internet services
None. DPU does a good job.
Better internet in the rural areas
All of the above.
None
DPU prices are ridiculous. I don't agree with new policy that punishes you for making late payments. I think they should consider case by case basis. If the person is habitually late at more than residence then yess that's an issue. Bill paid every month and maybe late but paid then why penalize. As a person unable to work on a fixed income and navigating current economy is hard. It's not fair to add additional fee to bill.
Ensure water/sewer quality will be maintained to accommodate county growth. Water pressure and sewage collection isn't loss.
Bandwidth and the putting utility wires underground.
Let's do more with solar.
The cost of utilities
Internet access for rural areas.
The prices. Differently the internet
Power not going out for so long during a storm.
The internet broadband service is poor why do service providers have to come from Columbia or Charleston to fix this problem! Promote and open up the service in Orangeburg wake up people!
Western Orangeburg is underdeveloped in all aspects
Sewer would be number 1. Further Internet in areas that lack fiber optic connections is #2. More use of existing structures for youth activities in an effort to reduce Gang involvement..
The internet availability is lackluster.
None
More sewer lines in the suburbs of orangeburg counties
Connecting internet
Broad band is needed
Internet options are limted in most rural areas.
City sewer needed further out in county areas

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 6: What transportation elements would you like to see Orangeburg County focus resources on? (e.g., sidewalks, bike trails and bike lanes, public transit, crosswalks and intersection safety, etc.)

side walks, bike trails, more utilization of turning signals on the stoplights especially between the hours of 7:00 am - 6:00pm.
Sidewalks in many areas need improvement.
public transportation for rural areas, sidewalks on rural roads for safety
Public transit such as a local bus service
Actually, walking and hiking trails are needed.
Side walks.
Bike trails, lanes would be great. Definitely sidewalks and crosswalks.
Public Transit, Sidewalks, and walking trails.
1. No one knows Orangeburg has a bus system. Whenever I travel to difference cities, you can tell there is a bus system because you easily identify the bus stop usually with a sign and bench. 2. Sidewalks are desperately needed. Especially out near hospital/601 area. There is no sidewalk if i want to walk or use a mobility scooter from the hospital or OC Tech to go get a cup of coffee from Starbucks.
Anything to help people be safe if they are walking or on a bike.
Sidewalks, public transit and crosswalks. Orangeburg isn't very pedestrian friendly, if at all. There are a lot of kids leaving the universities to go to Dollar General/Cookout, etc. that must maneuver traffic and a railroad crossing. A pedestrian overpass would help with this
More sidewalks (especially on US601 near I-26) where EV owners walk to other destinations while their vehicles charge. Safer intersections and crosswalks. More public transportation.
Create walking trails. The opposite side of the Edisto Gardens could be a spot. I'm not into it. But a lot are.
SAFETY as a whole.
public transit and sidewalks
none
bike trails and bike lanes
Public Transit (that runs consistently)
Intersection safety us important to focus on because a lot of accidents are reoccurring in the same areas.
More sidewalks, bike trails, public transits systems and crosswalks to help with improving mobility through the County and downtown.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Enhanced traffic enforcement. The first and most critical need is basic safety on the roads and in the community.
Just make sure upkeep and expansion for the betterment of the community is key.
NONE
All of the above.
I would love to see more buses going to different areas around the community
Better sidewalks and well kept sidewalks
Intersection safety at some of the busier intersections.
Walking trails where you would feel safe at.
sidewalks public tranist that fits the needs of the citizens
Everyone is too lazy to ride bikes or walk. They ride 4 wheelers all over the roads now. We do t need to spend another penny on recreational.
crosswalks and intersection safety
all of above.
Public transit. Less round-a-bouts in the middle of corn fields..... (hwy 310 was a waste of tax payers dollars.)
Bike trails and Bike lanes, crosswalks and intersection safety
All of the over. I believe this will help people with socializing and improving their health, making Orangeburg County a community that believe in bringing people together.
Bike trails, Bike Lanes, and Sidewalks throughout the County.
Tesla charging stations, public transportation,
Public transit THROUGHOUT the County, not just in the city.
Bike trails would be nice. Enforcement of people running red lights - which is intersection safety.
Crosswalks and intersection safety. Those crosswalk gadgets that are up now do not work.
Sidewalks need to be implemented with wider walkways to prevent pedestrian accidents. Crosswalks are a great idea.
More side walks, bike trails
All of the above
I would like to see more public transportation and improved lighting so that sidewalks can be better utilized.
sidewalks, bike trails and bike lanes, public transit, crosswalks and intersection safety, etc should be more of a focus to the city not the county. The county needs to focus on rural!
I would like to see more walking/hiking trials and public transit in rural areas more accessible.
Public transit



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Focus on everything!
Sidewalks would be a plus. With the population explosion we need to accommodate the city by spending our money towards safety and accessible
Roads! they are horrible.
intersection safety and more sidewalks
Bike lanes public transportation
More sidewalks for sure that connect and make sense. For instance, there should be sidewalk continuation at the sports complex on the North Road at the entrance closer to the Lowes. Sidewalks, Dedicated bike trail promotes more physical activity and people safely getting around by foot. Bike lane, and not the bike lanes that coincide with the roads. Dedicated bike trails. I would like to see a walking path installed on the Kennerly Road (and other rural roads) without major disruption to the community if possible. Lined with solar powered safety lights and cameras. Fruit trees can be installed. This could encourage physical activity. The second and third order impacts help people's physical health targeting high blood pressure, diabetes obesity. It could also bring the community closer together.
All of those listed above.
Bike trails, walk trails
Sidewalks, crosswalks & intersection safety
Bike Trails
Bike trails would be great, just not sure where you would build them
sidewalks, bike trails, and lanes;
I think the public transportation system could be completely redesigned in a way that makes it more efficient and useful to the public. I put together a detailed look at this idea a year ago: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sWGb824ZLxiE3a9k8i5tD2Obk6vMafT-/view
All of the above are adequate,,,would a Taxi cab company survive ?
Public transit, sidewalks, too much speeding. No body seems to care because they never get stopped for it.
PUBLIC transportation especially to hospital and doctors offices from Santee! If I'm too sick to drive but not sick enough for an ambulance that's a serious issue. Not everyone has family friends or neighbors they can rely on for a ride to healthcare appointment. Or improve services and hours at the urgent care here, or open another one. Some areas need more traffic lights for safety, one area needs one less (2 are too close to each other and not coordinated, I almost went through a red light the first time I was in that area and didn't know that).
County wide transportation for people to be able to meet their needs.
Bike trails and lanes as well as pickle ball courts! I think we have good crosswalks now as well as intersection safety.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Get Dot to level our roads.
More lanes, have crosswalks especially downtown, fix the roads because they are in bad shape from years of wear and tear and also semi trucks that come through. Definitely need more public transportation for seniors and others without transportation. There should be more charging stations for EVs.
Bike lanes, bike trails, intersection safety, public transit, sidewalks
Sidewalks are needed
NA
Public transit, bike trails
Sidewalks and bike trails.
Sidewalks are needed in all neighborhoods
Improve roadway conditions. (pavement, marking & stripping) Road debris clean-up after traffic accidents.
Side walks, crosswalks, public transportation for those that need it.
public transit
Sidewalks and bike lanes! Plan around these!
Public transit, bike lanes
Public transit.
More sidewalks
Rides on boats going down Edisto River
Yes sidewalks public transportation all of that you got three colleges and you're not providing for the students much needed services shameful
Paved roads that are level
Several parks with walking trails and exercise opportunities are here but one rarely sees them utilized other than Spray Parks!!
Crosswalks would be ideal and more knowledge on public transportation. College students who don't drive could benefit from this.
Sidewalks, public transit, uber
Public transportation going in rural areas and suburbs
Public transit
Public transit
Bike lanes
Bike trails, bike side, sidewalks, public transportation,

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 7: Do you have any other ideas or aspirations for the future of Orangeburg County?

Yes, for the community to have a diverse group of goodwill ambassadors to welcome new residents so that they will feel welcomed.
Branding! Orangeburg suffers from a perception problem. In spite of all its geographic advantages, citizens in Orangeburg are quick to complain about Orangeburg. It's as if everything bad that happens here is the natural curse of the region. E.g. if a restaurant closes, "that's just Orangeburg;" or, if a violent crim takes place, "only in Orangeburg." But for every bad thing, there are 100 great things that get ignored. Not unlike many places, the racial and class divides in Orangeburg are often frustrating, too. This is a complex problem, but it might be worth investing in a county and city rebrand, that shows a new and inclusive direction, focused on family life, business opportunities, and the advantages of a rich cultural history.
more festivals, more events, better roads, more transportation for rural areas
Santee area is growing with the addition of new homes. A grocery store would be awesome. The one semi-quality Food Lion is often out of stock of many items. The population is growing but resources are not.
The City of Orangeburg needs to expand their city limits. It's very misleading. I always mention to my friends local and out of state that City of Orangeburg is biggest city of fifteen thousand. Also, old, depilated buildings and structures need to be repaired or torn down.
Not at this time.
Need more industrial growth.
Trash collections or pick-ups would be good addition.
1. Widen HWY 321 between Norway and Neeses. And improve the hwy between Springfield and Neeses. This is needed for better connectivity in that area in order to create a cohesive economic hub for the Western County, preferably in Neeses since it is centrally located between Norway, North, Springfield. The hub will include doctors office, a fitness center, autoparts store, dry cleaners, fast food such as McDonalds, kfc, subway, and also encourage developers to invest in building new subdivisions in that area. I would like to see the same done in the triangle from the Edisto Drive area all the way down HWY 601 to Edisto High School, then from Legrand Smoak Rd to Shillings Bridge road, crossing over Norway Rd, to reach North Rd. Focus on growth and development within that triangle with the shopping and retail Hub being centered around the intersection of Legrand Smoak Rd and Hwy 601.
We have a lot of industry which should help us with these taxes. The taxes are going up more than I think they should.
Not right now.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

It would be nice for our citizens to have more pride in their own community. Maybe a public campaign to plant the seed?
Have more festivals?
I want this county to explode with new buildings and draw in people the way Charleston and Columbia do.
no
yes
More economic growth
I know that there are steps to make a city great but we need to put more effort into bringing more businesses into Orangeburg. Not more of the SAME! New businesses where we don't feel like we MUST go to Columbia/Charleston/Aiken to shop. Create an ordinance where we are not inundated with the same businesses (Dollar General, Car Wash, etc...)
N/A
Low-cost spay and neuter clinic; promoting affordable animal services for community and residents; improving on services already within the County to help staff, employees and the community.
n/a
More activities for our children. Swimming, trails and safe places for children to socialize and develop in other areas outside of social media.
TO BECOME AN ALTERNATICE TO THE FAST PACED LIFESTYLE OF COLUMBIA AND CHARELTON
Continuing adding new businesses, not the same ones we already have. We don't need anymore Dollar Generals, Family Dollar or Dollar Stores. Add major restaurants and some grocery stores such as Publix.
I just want us to grow and succeed as a community in the best way possible.
Need new county and city administrators and council members. More younger ones.
I believe our chamber of commerce needs to do a better job of recruitment and which businesses they are recruiting. We don't need 7 subways, 3 bojangles, and 6 vape shops. The development near the ballpark could have been better served with a mixed used development area instead of a Mavis Tire.
educate the citizens in the current status of the County.for a better understanding of the need to improve the community.
Plenty! Give me a call. Start w decriminalizing the town.
Make Orangeburg County the place where people want to be/go at all times.
More hotels and stores and more lights on Highways
Lower tax bills get better schools FUND YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY!!!!
I really see Orangeburg County prospering and being a County on the forefront in SC for business, family, and local community initiatives and advancement.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Better restaurants, more attractions, and better wages.
Hurry up and build the Orangeburg County Courthouse because this one is horrible!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Quicker public safety response for service
Focus less on needless flower beds and more on resources for your citizens. ie, more emergency services coverage for ALL areas of the county.
We would like to see organizations throughout the City and County to work together and promote each other. This would be a huge step in making the Community aware of events that are offered.
Not at this time
Promote Parks, Increase Sewer, Promote Industrial Growth / Subdivisions near Interstate.
Need to be more open to change, better use of recreation areas, need to provide things for people to do. Movies, bowling, put put actual activities
It's a shame that orangeburg is still as underdeveloped as it is. We have four colleges/universities here and nothing for them to do. Crime is high also and the part of the reason is that there is nothing here for the children to do. So much money leaves the county due to not having any activities available here. We have the potential to do so much in this county. Let's make it happen.
Please remember to strive in better upkeep of the rural parts in the county of Orangeburg.
no
Our County is growing and we must have the leadership in place to move us into the future. We need a fresh approach to keep our young people here instead of moving away.
Movie theater, bowling alley, skating ring
This is a college town with hardly anything to do for young adults. Please focus on improving the downtown area.
refer back to the answer for question number two
Positivity
I see big things for Russell Street. Bring back the 5 and Dime. Urban fabulous apartments/office spaces in the upstairs of those abandon buildings. Cute little boutiques, shops, markets, and restaurants in the lower levels. Getting the theater back to a full schedule. Starting community gardens. Getting children back outside and away from their devices as well as adults. Hosting athletic events that rival with Cooper River bridge run.
I would light to see a housing authority located here in Orangeburg County. I would like to see more college stay in Orangeburg County after they have graduated.
urban arts community
Free recycling: glass, plastic, old oil, compost
Don't be so anxious to develop that you destroy the rural quality of life that many of us cherish!



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

improve illiteracy
Unity of community
A caring and compassionate community. One where color isn't see first.
Government transparency
I would ask that the county focus on revitalizing the downtown district and not spend money on frivolous projects. For example: If you build a civil rights museum, it won't draw enough people to offset the cost. It's focused on a certain class of people and not everyone in the community will benefit from it.
I have lived in Orangeburg County for over 40 years and I love the people in Orangeburg however we really don't have any places to eat. We have to pay to send our children to school and until we have our schools fixed it doesn't matter what kind of bike trails, Or crosswalks until we get our schools fixed you'll never have anybody here that will use it.
.An inland port for the Santee area,,more visits to our parks continuing to attract more industry
That it finally be safe enough for my kids to play outside and for college students to feel safe without all the violence.
MANY! I don't know whom to talk to directly and I can't the meetings because I can't drive 35 minutes and especially not at night. If someone is interested in getting more of my ideas for stores in Elloree, they may email me at @liawriter@aol.com
Separate Rehabilitation homes for men and women. Make housing more affordable by working with Habitat for Humanity. Condemn old buildings and tear them down if the owner do not comply and make them pay for the removal. I would love to see more facilities who concentrate on physical activities especially our rural areas.
Tear down old buildings and houses that are eyesores and havens for the homeless. Invest in bringing a variety retail, restaurants and other businesses downtown. Bike lanes/trails through out the down town area and more parking.
Revamp scope of penny sales tax



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

There have been plenty of complaints of the motels in Orangeburg and the terrible conditions that they are in some even have bedbugs. This needs to be addressed and also more hotels are needed. Also the ridiculous price gouging that is done during homecoming by the hotels. There is not one hotel and especially not a motel that is worth almost \$500 or more a night. This definitely needs to be addressed because they are not being kept clean and the service is subpar. Also the Orangeburg mall is a ghost town. I know it is owned by the Hull Storey Gibson Companies but maybe a negation can be done to get better attractions in the mall besides the "urban stores" that are in there. Back in the day there was an arcade, a hair salon, music store and toy store. I'm not saying those need to return but an upgrade is definitely needed considering that is the only mall in Orangeburg. Also, there are enough fast food, chicken and Chinese restaurants in Orangeburg, can we get some fine dining establishments. Chestnut grill is the only one that offers that, we need other restaurants like Blu Fin, California Dreaming. We could even use some sports bars like KiKis chicken and waffles, Top Dawg Tavern or Blue Marlin. There needs to be a better variety of choices so that we can stay in town and support our community.
Improved race relations, improved local shopping, movie theaters
Select more leaders that have a vision
Would love to see the downtown vibrant and the old houses in that area renovated and occupied.
Movie theater, steakhouse
No.
Downtown beautification
Continued growth is imperative. We need to work on keeping our high school and college graduates in Orangeburg county.
Ensure First Responders staffing is conducive to county growth to maintain adequate services.
Give incentives to small business to purchase properties as well as corporations.
Family restaurants like Long Horn, Red Lobster, Carabbas, Steak House, Sports Bar
Orangeburg county has a large 75+ age population, which I suspect will grow. We need the transportation infrastructure to support them.
More businesses and things for families to do to make them see our county as a place they'd like to stay or visit
developing the rural areas more.
Remove old buildings n houses also the litter
It does not feel that safe in Orangeburg. You can hear gun shots on weekends and sometimes during the week. More of a police presence is needed. Offer incentives to get more qualified officers.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

I would asked retiring people especially teachers healthcare professionals to devote their time to tutoring children that are having problems in academic studies that's why Orangeburg needs a community center like the other cities and please cleanup downtown with abandon buildings! Put or built a substation for the police in business areas instead of having one
Penny sales tax needs to be revamped
Not currently
Bring more businesses to the county. Get rid of the people who don't want to see growth.
We need more sit-down restaurant options like Longhorn, or Red Lobster.
More jobs in orangeburg
Support non profits more
Recreational activity for youth
Safe night life, third places,

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 8: Did you add a pin to the 'Identifying Areas of Change, Growth, and Protection' map?

37 respondents said yes, 36 said no, and 18 said that they wanted to, but could not figure out how.

Question 8a: Geographic comments on areas for growth, change, and protection

Growth, Change, and Protection	Growth, Change, and Protection Comment	Longitude	Latitude
Support_Change	Change.	0	0
Support_Change		0	0
Support_Change		0	0
Support_Change		0	0
Support_Change	Interested in seeing water/sewer service in this area; opportunity for upscale lodging or residences	-80.389	33.43242
Support_Change	Change and Growth needs to happen	-80.844	33.48462
Support_Change	A partnership is needed between the City, County, and SC State to extend streetscaping along Russell Street all the way to the corner of Whitaker where it meets Chestnut. SC State plans to build the Clyburn Transportation Center facing Russell, the are also seeking funding for a new Acadome/Basketball Arena. They should be encouraged to build the Arena facing Russell as well and as close as possible to the Rail Road Corner, creating a walkable entertainment district so to speak.	-80.8469	33.49664
Support_Change	Change the perception of this area. Stop all of the 'hanging out' at the gas station.	-80.8501	33.50716
Support_Change	Too much money is being spent on needless ""beautification efforts"" and not creating safer and more entertaining environments.	-80.8585	33.49131
Support_Change		-80.9693	33.31106



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Support_Change		-81.0081	33.3775
Support_Change		-81.1805	33.47308
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_		0	0
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_		-80.475	33.48586
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_	I've listed most ideas in previous questions, have too many suggestions. Please email me with whom is the best person to contact at Liawriter@aol.com But especially for the Santee/Elloree/Vance side, there's NOTHING here yet they are building another hotel and more houses. The roads and infrastructure and other needs for locals should either come with the houses and hotel or before they are built for responsible growth.	-80.4838	33.47811
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_	I put comments in other questions regarding what this area needs more of. Medical care, restaurants, a big box store somewhere closer to this area, maybe a Target or Walmart could possibly go where the old mall was, and in Elloree to fill up those stores and make it a nice little main St. for locals and visitors, like a Sweet Frog, or cafe with ice cream or sandwiches (like in Manning). Near the park or on the Santee could use a chain restaurant or different options than what's already here, a food truck park or even a farmer's market. This side feels like it's really still just geared for tourists, but they are building even more houses and another hotel when a Publix or chain restaurant with more food options would help both locals and tourists.	-80.4855	33.48887
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_		-80.5264	33.37947
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_	I can't emphasize enough how Orangeburg needs to incentivise businesses to invest and build in the downtown area. Greenville is an excellent example of how growth and change should be managed.	-80.865	33.48949



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_	Bulldoze the Prince of Orange Mall. What an eye sore. Barely anyone goes there. it's such a waste of prime real estate. Develop an outdoor shopping area that would include small businesses and restaurants. 178 is a major thoroughfare and that mall is not attracting anyone or encouraging anyone to stop.	-80.8813	33.5231
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_		-80.8907	33.52813
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_		-80.8997	33.479
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_	Support	-81.0047	33.52584
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_	Main street North is a dump. I'm embarrassed to even drive down there. The town offers nothing. No grocery store, no restaurants. Everything is dilapidated or burned down.	-81.1017	33.61524
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_	Denmark needs more. Two colleges are located there with no attractions for the youth.	-81.3571	33.52646
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection	I support growth, change and protection for Orangeburg county I think we are in a position to be one of the best counties in South Carolina, but as I said before, until we have public schools that are safe and productive, everybody is gonna move to other counties we may have the business, but we have other people from other counties coming to work here	0	0
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection	entire Orangeburg	0	0
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection		0	0
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection		0	0
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection	I don't have a specific area. I would like to see change, growth and protection throughout the county.	0	0



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection	Protect the historical downtown, change and grow outward any and everywhere you can.	0	0
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection		0	0
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection	Better infrastructure, water/sewer, streets, shopping and entertainment for local residents other than golf.	-80.4815	33.49149
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection		-80.4952	33.49378
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection		-80.5172	33.45483
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection	Better water/sewer system, streets, activities for the residents. More direct route to City of Orangeburg.	-80.5337	33.53042
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection	Drug users and dealers living in homes that does not belong to them. Internet should be less expensive and the residents needs law enforcement protection.	-80.8373	33.51288
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection		-80.8386	33.34477
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection		-80.8413	33.48233
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection		-80.851	33.5128
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection	Growth, change, and protection for this area because of high levels of crime/one of the "bad" parts of town.	-80.8609	33.49847
Support_Change,Su pport_Growth_,Sup port_Protection	Change: our school system needs to improve. Growth: City of Orangeburg's downtown needs to grow.	-80.872	33.48535



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

	Protect: the Edisto River, a greatly underutilized asset in the county. It should be marketed for tourism, and safe clean landings and access points should be maintained.		
Support_Change,Support_Growth_,Support_Protection	<p>Change: the school systems in Orangeburg need significant improvement.</p> <p>Growth: the City of Orangeburg's downtown district needs to grow, and become the anchor of commerce and hospitality in the county.</p> <p>Protect: the Edisto River is an incredible asset for tourism. Build and maintain clean landings and access points, then market it as such.</p>	-80.872	33.48535
Support_Change,Support_Growth_,Support_Protection	<p>Change/Growth: Revitalization of Downtown Orangeburg. So much potential!</p> <p>Growth: near the new City Baseball Park.</p> <p>Protect: the Edisto River, the Memorial Gardens and Caw Caw Creek.</p>	-80.8729	33.48397
Support_Change,Support_Growth_,Support_Protection		-80.8829	33.52905
Support_Change,Support_Growth_,Support_Protection		-80.9072	33.56704
Support_Change,Support_Growth_,Support_Protection	<p>Retail Hub is needed for this area. Those who are looking to relocate to this area needs another option than Orangeburg Wilkinson. People also like the convience or being able to run around the corner to grab something from a grocery store, grab fast food, etc. Encourage housing developments in this area. Having school options and also living in an area thats convenient is important.</p> <p>This is also a preference for the Nesses area in the Western County.</p>	-80.9488	33.45036
Support_Growth_	I'm unsure what I am supposed to do here	0	0
Support_Growth_	No Map	0	0
Support_Growth_		0	0



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Support_Growth_	I think we need all three.	0	0
Support_Growth_	Growth in Orangeburg is important as this will serve as the "metro" area for the county.	0	0
Support_Growth_	growth is needed	0	0
Support_Growth_		0	0
Support_Growth_		-80.3936	33.42733
Support_Growth_	Growth Needed	-80.4554	33.48805
Support_Growth_	The Santee area has potential for growth in the tourism trade. The Burger King closed because of bad staffing. McDonald's isn't much better. That is on the company or franchise. But it reflects on the county.	-80.465	33.47545
Support_Growth_	There are ENOUGH restaurants and hotels in Santee. Make the area more desirable for FAMILIES looking to move to the area. ie, youth activity facilities, shopping facilities, etc	-80.4838	33.47811
Support_Growth_	Santee needs resources to accommodate the growing population. Homes are continually being built with no commercial resources	-80.4984	33.40926
Support_Growth_	Santee population increasing with no commercial resources added such as grocery stores	-80.4985	33.40899
Support_Growth_	Need infrastructure in place to attract more industry and people to the area.	-80.5625	33.53042
Support_Growth_	Need infrastructure in place to attract more industry and people to the area.	-80.5742	33.53013
Support_Growth_	What are the odds that Orangeburg would be a great place for a Costco?? Currently, we are 50 minutes from Columbia and 90 minutes from West Ashley. If you can draw a Costco to the area, the growth will take care of itself.	-80.7407	33.46035
Support_Growth_		-80.7969	33.39447
Support_Growth_	Transit route extension.	-80.8136	33.52734
Support_Growth_		-80.8166	33.25804



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Support_Growth_	People are moving to this area from Summerville/Charleston. We must plan ahead for that growth in our infrastructure(internet, water/sewer, electric)	-80.8522	33.50327
Support_Growth_	More affordable housing development	-80.8557	33.49183
Support_Growth_	Movie theater, steak house, and more entertainment for children	-80.8639	33.48741
Support_Growth_	I believe that my side of town is left out. When it comes to Growth or Change.	-80.8641	33.49235
Support_Growth_		-80.8688	33.44108
Support_Growth_	Growth near the new City Recreational Complex.	-80.8894	33.52126
Support_Growth_		-80.9011	33.56087
Support_Growth_	Cope could be a bedroom or retirement community	-81.0068	33.37816
Support_Growth_		-81.107	33.54988
Support_Growth_	Not enough electricity and lack of sewer	-81.1208	33.52699
Support_Growth_	The schools are shrinking in this area. North and HKT already has a combined marching band and football team. Only one grocery store serves the entire western county!	-81.1297	33.53271
Support_Growth_		-81.1388	33.5411
Support_Growth_,S upport_Protection		0	0
Support_Growth_,S upport_Protection	Edisto River	0	0
Support_Protection		0	0
Support_Protection	Protection for the kings rd.Also removing of stray dogs that attack people as you walking	0	0
Support_Protection	More police officers visibility.	0	0
Support_Protection		0	0
Support_Protection	More protection in all areas.	0	0



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Support_Protection	More protection in all areas. Where people will feel safer and where Children and elderly will be checked on.	0	0
Support_Protection		0	0
Support_Protection	and again	0	0
Support_Protection	third time	0	0
Support_Protection	This is a Swampy Area that FLOODS when it RAINS, any time. Building anymore on this land would ensure faulty decisions.	-80.3415	33.39885
Support_Protection	Better Emergency Services coverage is desperately needed in the Eastern end of the county.	-80.3428	33.40201
Support_Protection	already submitted	-80.4101	33.32641
Support_Protection	fourth time, cannot get out of here I will try to escape	-80.4156	33.3333
Support_Protection		-80.4553	33.37453
Support_Protection	Protect: Edisto Memorial Gardens, Santee State Park, Lake Marion Shoreline, Caw Caw Creek and other tributaries.	-80.4929	33.52942
Support_Protection	I do not see what I am looking to Change or Protect. I live out toward Cope area. it does not look like anything is happening our way. They have been building a bridge for 2 years or more.	-80.8555	33.49292
Support_Protection	Near the YMCA I support protection for the neighborhoods.	-80.8605	33.54873

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 9: Did you add a pin to the 'Visions for Transportation' map?

22 respondents said yes, 42 said no, and 15 said that they wanted to, but could not figure out how.

Question 9a: Geographic comments on transportation needs

Visions for Transportation	Other - Visions for Transportation	Visions for Transportation Comment	Longitude	Latitude
other	Try to connect both halves of the county a little better to the middle		0.00000	0.00000
other		Denmark needs more everything.	-81.14143	33.32246
What_streets_or_corridors_would		N/A	-80.42235	33.43395
What_streets_or_corridors_would		Increase public transportation throughout city and outer cities, (including Charleston and Columbia.	-80.84355	33.48891
What_streets_or_corridors_would		Magnolia between CVS and the hospital needs better sidewalks	-80.84907	33.51074
What_streets_or_corridors_would			-80.85596	33.49493
What_streets_or_corridors_would		This area needs to be safer for students to shop locally. Some of them don't have transportation and walking is their only means for getting what is needed for their dorm room.	-80.85598	33.49536



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

What_streets_or_corridors_would		Bike lanes throughout the downtown area and connecting to in town neighborhoods.	- 80.86628	33.48954
What_streets_or_corridors_would			- 80.90859	33.54153
What_streets_or_corridors_would,Where_do_you_feel_unsafe_walking		In the Goff Avenue Areas throughout the side streets and down to King Builders	- 80.84474	33.50627
What_streets_or_corridors_would,Where_do_you_feel_unsafe_walking,Where_would_you_like_to_see_imp,Which_roadway_corridors_could_b		entire Orangeburg	0.00000	0.00000
What_streets_or_corridors_would,Where_do_you_feel_unsafe_walking,Where_would_you_like_to_see_imp,Which_roadway_corridors_could_b		HWY 601 needs added sidewalks that extends from the hotel area all the way into the city. Sidewalks area also needed in the Walmart area along North Rd. Identifiable designated bus stops, benches, and signage are needed.	- 80.83020	33.54750
What_streets_or_corridors_would,Where_do_you_feel_unsafe_walking,Where_would_you_like_to_see_imp,Which_roadway_corridors_could_b			- 80.84857	33.49120
What_streets_or_corridors_would,Where_do_you_feel_unsafe_walking,Where_would_you_like_to_see_imp,Which_roadway_corridors_could_b			- 80.85462	33.49164
What_streets_or_corridors_would,Where_would_you_like_to_see_imp,Which_roadway_corridors_could_b			- 80.89573	33.48662



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

What_streets_or_corridors_would_you_like_to_see_imp,Which_roadway_corridors_could_b,other	public transportation route connecting Santee area to hospital and healthcare offices	Desperately need public transportation (bus, shuttle, taxi) from Santee area to MUSC and doctors' offices. Not enough here so if someone is too sick to drive but not sick enough for an ambulance that's a dangerous situation. The roads need repairing, especially on the hwy 6 corridor from Elloree to the overpass going to the highway entrances.	-80.49372	33.48710
Where_do_you_feel_unsafe_walkin			-80.77351	33.40383
Where_do_you_feel_unsafe_walkin		The entire county does not feel safe.	-80.84080	33.48204
Where_do_you_feel_unsafe_walkin		Just a bad area.	-80.87908	33.48150
Where_do_you_feel_unsafe_walkin		Biking on Cannon Bridge to Orangeburg is more dangerous than it should be.	-80.88629	33.44808
Where_would_you_like_to_see_imp			0.00000	0.00000
Where_would_you_like_to_see_imp			-80.66150	33.37587
Where_would_you_like_to_see_imp,Which_roadway_corridors_could_b			-80.96932	33.31084
Which_roadway_corridors_could_b		Columbia Rd Chestnut St John C Calhoun Rd	0.00000	0.00000
Which_roadway_corridors_could_b		There are a lot of accidents on 301.	-80.69164	33.45447
Which_roadway_corridors_could_b		US HWY 321 is our major highway. Needs improvement	-81.11889	33.49679
		Need our roads redone before we worry about that.	0.00000	0.00000
		Until you take an honest look at us and take your blinders off. None of this matters. Dialogue is needed with law enforcement and high school and colleges.	0.00000	0.00000



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

		The New Brookland area, The Brookdale area	0.00000	0.00000
		I live in Eutawville, so whatever goes on in the city, I am BLISSFULLY unaware. I know that it won't be too long before the crime and addicts come beating on my peaceful door.	0.00000	0.00000



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 10: If you were unable to add your pins and comments to the mapping questions, you may write your comment below. Please include the nearest intersection and town in your response.

This is not clear
I don't have a specific area. All of the County can use some upgrades.
I think our rural areas need access to public transportation that is dependable and punctual
I could not fully figure out the mechanics of the mapping or what I was being asked. So I'll have to submit a not comment at this time. Hopefully it comes up again and I'll be able to address it.
Spend your money on education then you can start dressing up the county there's nowhere in Orangeburg that safe to walk
North and Eutawville
Improve roadway conditions on Columbia Rd. (also widen), Chestnut St. and John C Calhoun Rd.
Na



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 11: Do you have a few minutes to answer a few anonymous questions about yourself? This will help us ensure we are reaching a broad set of voices in Orangeburg County.

97 respondents said yes, and 15 said no.

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 12: How did you hear about this survey?

A colleague shared the link with me.
I am a County Council Member
Facebook
Work email, Orangeburg County email system.
From Orangeburg County
Administration
Reading the Times & Democrat
It was sent to me.
Facebook
From the County Growth Summit. I learned about that from Facebook and the Times & Democrat.
I'm a county employee.
Administration team
From the County of Orangeburg
emailed to me
Through job
Work
Email.
County of Orangeburg email
I'm a County worker and I received the email to participate.
Through the County.
Employer
Im a county employee
County employee sent to me
T and D
Work email
I received a email
The survey was posted on the Orangeburg County Facebook page.
Work
By email.
Email
email
Was emailed
Via email invitation



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Work
Facebook
Email
County Website
Through my employer
It was sent to me by someone
County employees
Oburg council on aging
I attended the Growth Summit at the Orangeburg County Library.
The county of Orangeburg
CO-WORKERS
word of mouth
Email
Invite from the County
work
The T & D/WLTX/OCSD website
Newspaper
friend & T & D
word of mouth
Invitation
On line notification
Orangeburg County Development Commission
Work
Mrs. Angel Howell
Invited
TV News Report
My employer - participated in the summit
Handout from Kenneth Middleton
Orangeburg Public Library
word of mouth
Chariman Wight
The Times and Democrat
Was part of the initial planning via The Development Commission and "Orangeburg County"
On committee



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

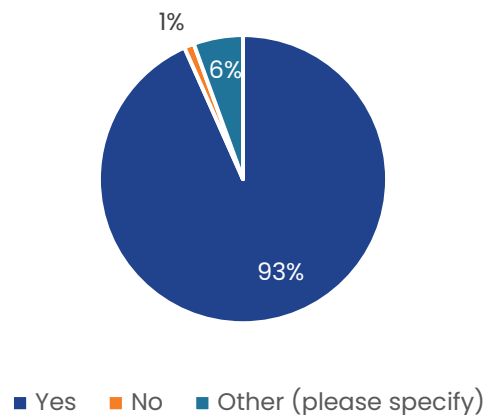
T & D
Mildred Green
Through my supervisor @ the library
Orangeburg County Administration
Mon Ken Middleton
Realtor
E-mail
T & D NEWSPAPER
Following Orangeburg on Facebook
A friend sent it to me
Local news
On Facebook
WLTX news
Work
From County
I attended the meeting at the library on Monday.
Civic organization
I attended the Orangeburg Growth Summit.
Rotary Club of Orangeburg Morning
Internet
Text link from employee
The news
Facebook
Email
Newspaper

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 13: Were you comfortable sharing your input today?

84 respondents said yes, 1 said no, and 5 specified 'other.'

Were you comfortable sharing your input today?



'Other' responses:

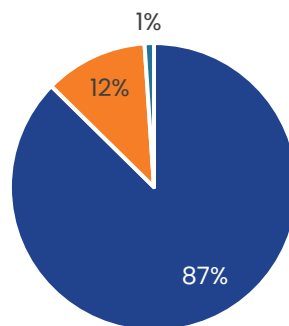
n/a
Didn't have opportunity.
SOMEWHAT
Not given a chance to share input
The pin activity was not easy because I was not sure where I am on the county map.

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 14: Will you participate in future surveys or events?

83 respondents said yes, one said no, and 11 said 'maybe.'

Will you participate in future surveys or events?

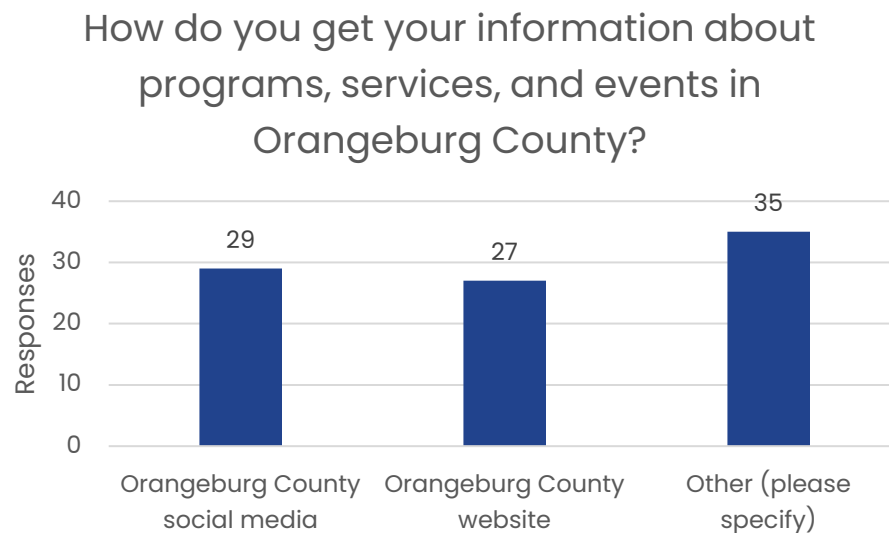


■ Yes ■ Maybe ■ No

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 15: How do you get your information about programs, services, and events in Orangeburg County?

27 respondents said they get their information from the Orangeburg County website, 29 said they get their information from Orangeburg County social media, and 35 specified 'other.'



'Other' responses:

Orangeburg County website, social media and Chamber
email
I work for the county
Happenstance
Notified through email and other coworkers
Emails; I'm a County employee.
Through the County email
Word of Mouth
T & D Digital Newspaper
County employee email
Usually unaware of many events until after they have occurred
First Hand
Talking with people
Social media



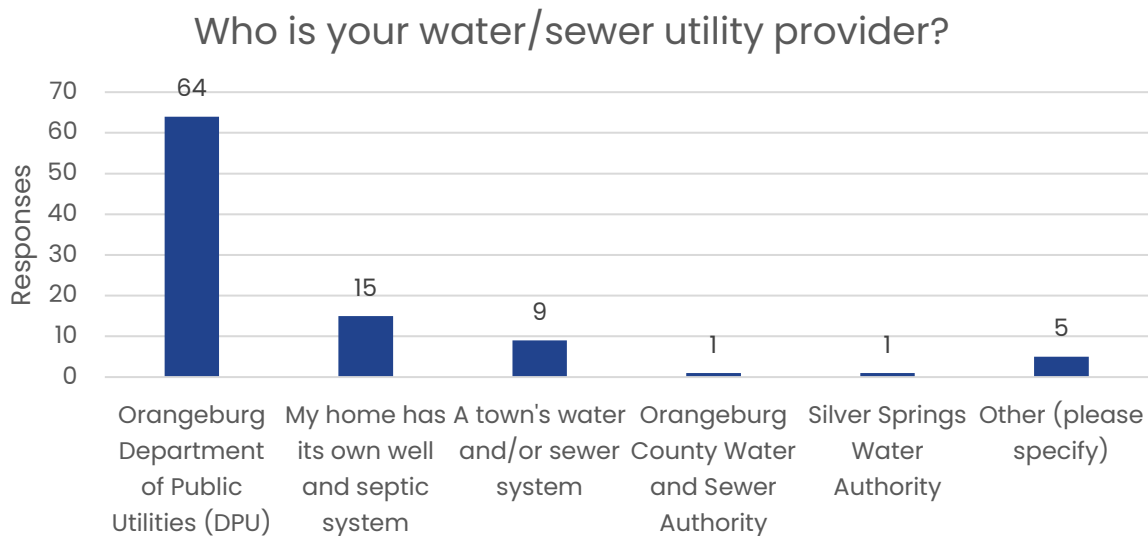
Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

FB
Newspaper
T & D
Word of Mouth
Invited through Employer
County staff
The Times & Democrat
Personally involved
T & D
All options in this question were selected + Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce
Word of Mout
MASC
T & D BEWSPAPER/WIS TV/RADIO
News media online
tv news and the Orangeburg leader, although I get that paper late so miss out on a lot of information
On OCDC board
Word of mouth since no newspaper
TV News
Community word of mouth
Newspaper

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 16: Who is your water/sewer utility provider?

64 respondents said that Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities (DPU) was their water/sewer provider, 15 said their home has its own well and septic system, 9 said they use a town's water and/or sewer system, one said their provider is Orangeburg County Water and Sewer Authority, one said their provider is Silver Springs Water Authority, and five specified 'other.'



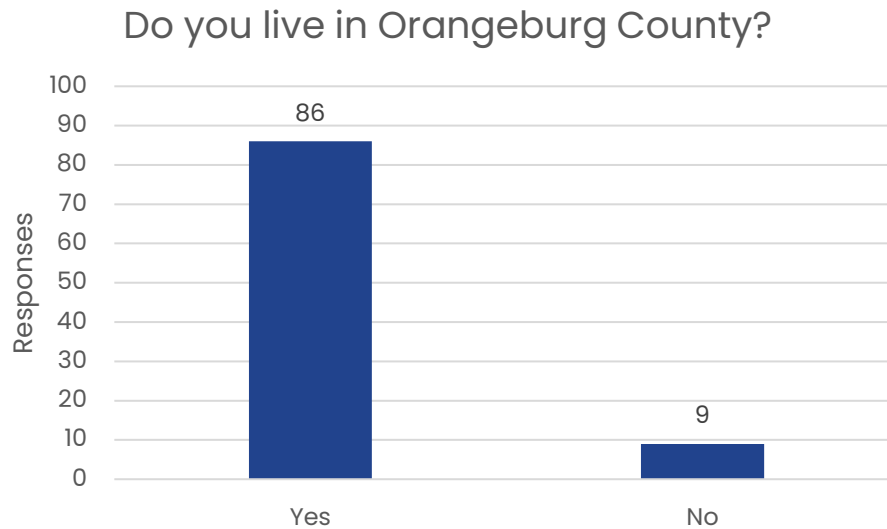
'Other' responses:

Live in another county.
Tric County Electric
I don't live in Orangeburg County.
Dominion
I am from Charleston County so none of these apply

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 17: Do you live in Orangeburg County?

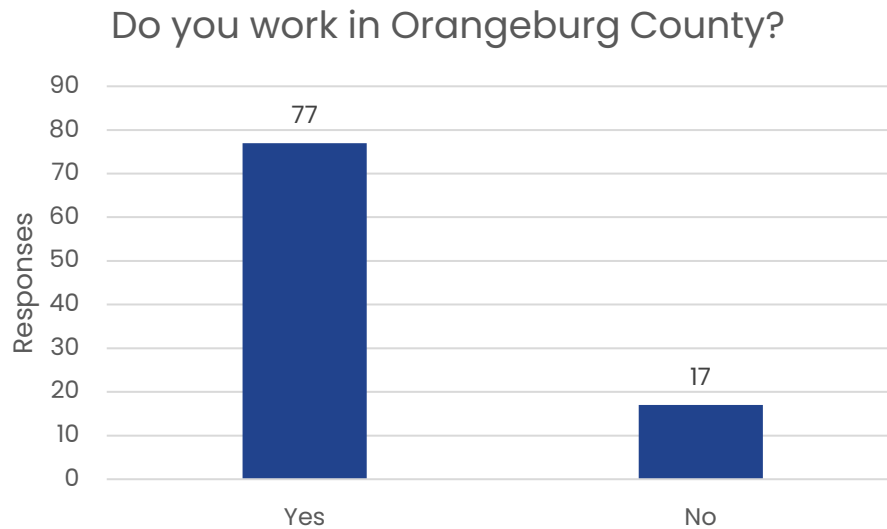
86 respondents said they live in Orangeburg County, while 9 said that they do not.



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

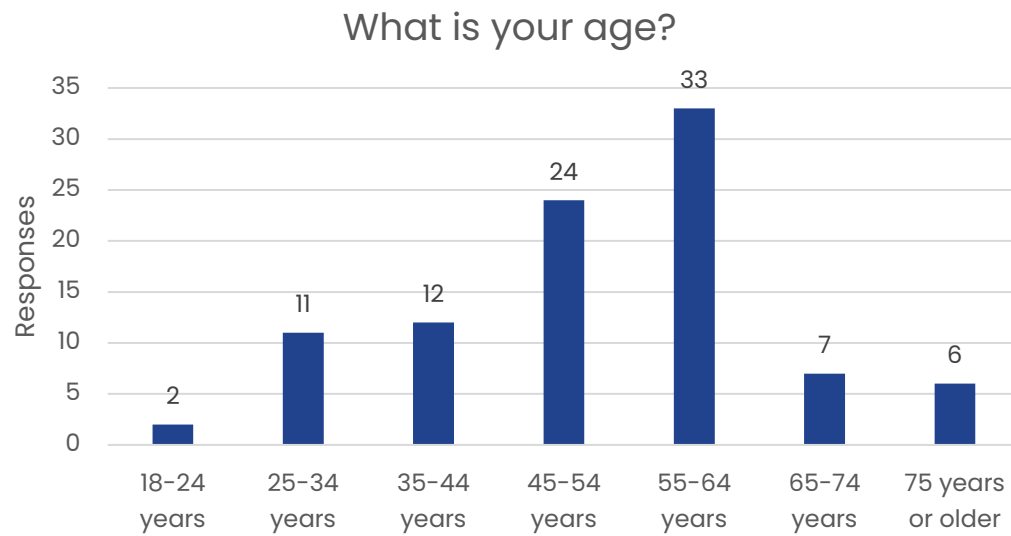
Question 18: Do you work in Orangeburg County?

77 respondents said they work in Orangeburg County, while 17 said that they do not.



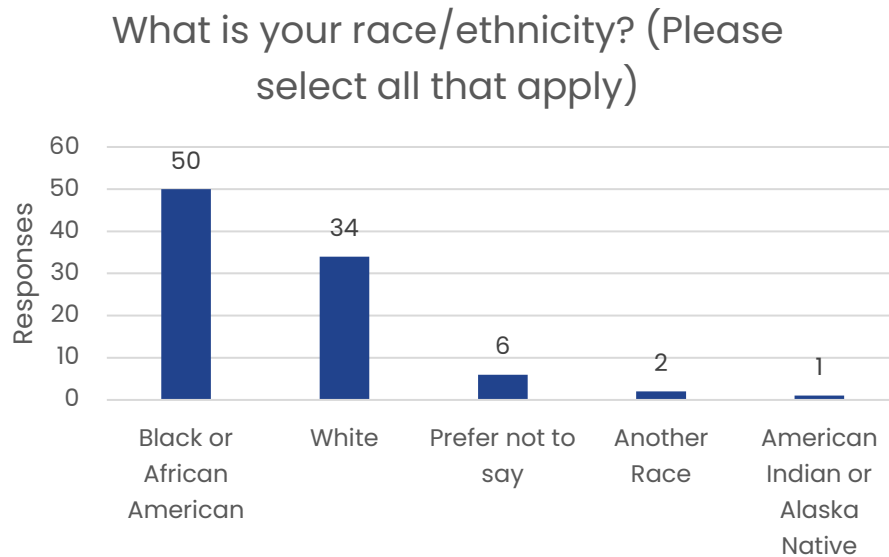
Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 19: What is your age?



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 20: What is your race/ethnicity? (Please select all that apply)



'Other' responses:

Italian and German
Not Hispanic/Latino

Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Question 21: Is there anything else you'd like to share with us?

I love living in Orangeburg with my wife and son, and I am thrilled that this survey exists. I am excited to see what the plan looks like. Keep up the great work!
Please consider adding the necessary resources to Santee. There are several housing communities being constructed but no additional resources for necessities such as groceries. Before the added population we only had two grocery stores. Now the Food Lion, the only semi-decent store is constantly out of stock on items. We need additional commercial stores if the town will continue to grow.
I am glad that I retired in Orangeburg County
Not at this time
I am a Orangeburg County native and a graduate of SC State University. I currently live in Maryland but own property in Orangeburg County. Orangeburg is "home" and I am there often and offer a different perspective to the issues that "pops" out at you when coming back to the area to visit.
Not at this time.
Thank you for putting in the effort to collect the citizens input.
I want the county to make the step into a more modern world
No
Something needs to be done to make citizens more aware of what's going on in Orangeburg County. We should not have to find out what's going on by riding by and asking questions or seeing the AFTER pictures posted on social media. Create a monthly newsletter, What's Happening Now social media, phone number for events in the area, etc...
N/A
The County is a great place to live. Improvements are needed and necessary to advance and be attractive to families and businesses to relocate here.
no
Orangeburg is on the cusp of greatness. As a whole we need to improve workforce to be able to recruit quality business and industry to the area. These companies talk to each other. If one place can't keep staff or can't keep friendly staff then another company is likely not going to want to come. I'm not sure that's something Orangeburg County can fix, but I think it plays a big impact on the growth here. The rumor mill within the County is that if Chairman Wright were to ever retire then we take a 10 year step back, I don't know how we use that information to make this a better place but we are all in this together.
Call me anytime for input. David Stewart 803.682.5341



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

I been in Orangeburg since 1997 I really see the growth I love it here, but we really need to improve on this dark country site roads, need more lights better paving especially dirt Roades. and more stores, and up great the mall.
No
Please hurry up and build the NEW Courthouse because the one I work in NOW is HORRIBLE!!!
no
This County has much to offer. It is a large rural county which makes continuity throughout very difficult. However, it seems the County will take on projects that effect a small percentage of the population. Seems I remember reading the County redoing an old school because some county members went there and wanted to preserve. Not sure this was in the best interest of the taxpayers. Heck, the school I went to in the 60s was old and is still being used; however, if it becomes unfeasible to use as a school not sure it needs to be memorialized.
Make Orangeburg County a place where our young generation would like to stay.
We have many beautiful and natural resources, Lake Marion & the Edisto River—we need to develop those areas for tourism dollars
I do plan to move away from Orangeburg County in the near future as there are no opportunities for advancement here.
Not at this time.
Not at thus time.
#15 Orangeburg County Social Media
#15 T & D
#16 Tri-County Electric
#20 Asian
#16 Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities & My home has its own well and septic system
#15 News Report (retired)
#15 Local Newspaper – Times & Democrat
#15. Print Media Retired from Orangeburg County
Very valuable infirmation
HAVE SEPTIC SYS. Need BETTER communications on ALL PROJECTS!!
Call me at 803-347-5754 william
This was awesome. We need this more
I live in Calhoon County. Citizens should speak positive about the things of the county.
ADD to EMAIL. EDISTODMUECHURCHOFGOD@GMAIL.COM AND WWJK102.9FM@gmail.com
Unbelievable That I Did Not Know So Much Was Happening and will be Happening Here in Orangeburg County!!!



Appendix: Full List of Public Comments

Great info for County looking forward to work starting in our Town of North
TO DRAW NEW LARGE INDUSTRY WE NEED MORE APARTMENTS LARGE SCALE, MORE SIT DOWN EATERIES, AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR OUR YOUTH, COLLEGE STUDENTS AND ADULT RESIDENTS.
Like I said earlier, I have lived here for 40 years and they are a lot of great people that live in Orangeburg County and there's a lot of beautiful places and a lot of stuff to do in Orangeburg county but a lot of people have ignored our education and I just don't think there's a lot of people that are willing to pay for education when you can go down the road to Lexington County or in Somerville and centers kids to school for free once we get that fixed I think Orangeburg County would be unlimited with the quality of life everybody could have
I am from Charleston County but put together a broad redesign of the Orangeburg bus system last year. I thought it would be worth providing it as public input here. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sWGb824ZLxiE3a9k8i5tD2Obk6vMafT-/view
I Love our county
I'd like a contact person so I could give more details. There is a lot of potential for this side (Santee) of Orangeburg. I feel like this area is forgotten about.
Towns are getting too much of penny sales tax
Young adults need to be more involved in civic activities
No
I am glad that this is being done. Keep using Civic organizations to get the word out and keep those of us interested in our community engaged.
I was born and raised in Orangeburg county. As a teenager we had more to do than may children did. We had a movie theatre with 3 and 4 screens; skating rink, country club, etc. There are not enough safe activities in the county. There are also not enough jobs that make a descent wage.
No
No