



RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

**JANUARY 6, 2009
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER THE HONORABLE VALERIE HUTCHINSON, VICE-CHAIR

INVOCATION THE HONORABLE JOYCE DICKERSON

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE THE HONORABLE JOYCE DICKERSON

Election Of Chair

1.

Election Of Co-Chair

2.

Selection Of Seats

3.

Citizen's Input

Adoption Of The Agenda

Report Of The Attorney For Executive Session Items

4.
 - Columbia Downtown Airport - Contractual Matter
 - King vs. Richland County

Report Of The County Administrator

5.
 - Columbia Downtown Airport - Contractual Matter
 - Project Pet Update
 - Joint City/County Ad Hoc Transportation Committee Update
 - NE Recreation/Entertainment Complex Update
 - Richland County Magistrates Pay Appeal
 - Treasurer and Auditor Compensation

Report Of The Clerk Of Council

6.
 - Retreat Reminder

Report Of The Chairman

Open/Close Public Hearings

7.
 - An Ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Fire Prevention and Protection
 - Alternative Dirt Road Paving Program/Ordinance to permit adoption of countywide dirt road paving program standards
 - Eastover Sewer Budget Amendment

Approval Of Consent Items

8.
 - An Ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Fire Prevention and Protection [**THIRD READING**]
 - Ordinance allowing the reassessment of the business license fee structure each year during the budget process [**THIRD READING**]

Third Reading Items

9. Alternative Dirt Road Paving Program/Ordinance to permit adoption of countywide dirt road paving program standards [**PAGES 13-17**]
10. An Ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Fire Prevention and Protection [**CONSENT**] [**PAGES 19-22**]
11. Eastover Sewer Budget Amendment [**PAGES 24-25**]
12. Ordinance allowing the reassessment of the business license fee structure each year during the budget process [**CONSENT**][**PAGES 27-29**]

Second Reading Items

13. An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 General Fund Annual Budget to decrease Business License revenue by one million five hundred and thirty-six thousand (\$1,536,000) due to fee adjustments and appropriate undesignated General Fund Balance of one million five hundred and thirty-six thousand (\$1,536,000) to offset [**PAGES 31-32**]

Other Items

14. Preliminary Approval of the Richland County Strategic Plan [**PAGES 34-44**]

Old Business

Citizen's Input

Executive Session

15.

16. Personnel Matter

Motion Period

17.

- 18.
- Bobby Gist Resolution [**JETER**]
 - Guidelines for Special Called Meeting agendas [**MALINOWSKI**]

Adjournment



Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item

No

On Agenda For Public Hearing

No

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item

No

On Agenda For Public Hearing

No

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

- Columbia Downtown Airport - Contractual Matter
- King vs. Richland County

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

- Columbia Downtown Airport - Contractual Matter
- Project Pet Update
- Joint City/County Ad Hoc Transportation Committee Update
- NE Recreation/Entertainment Complex Update
- Richland County Magistrates Pay Appeal
- Treasurer and Auditor Compensation

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

- Retreat Reminder

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item

No

On Agenda For Public Hearing

No

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

- An Ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Fire Prevention and Protection
- Alternative Dirt Road Paving Program/Ordinance to permit adoption of countywide dirt road paving program standards
- Eastover Sewer Budget Amendment

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

- An Ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Fire Prevention and Protection
[THIRD READING]
- Ordinance allowing the reassessment of the business license fee structure each year during the budget process
[THIRD READING]

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

Alternative Dirt Road Paving Program/Ordinance to permit adoption of countywide dirt road paving program standards [**PAGES 13-17**]

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY
ORDINANCE NO. ____-09HR**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RICHLAND COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 21, ROADS, HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES, SO AS TO ADD NEW LANGUAGE RELATED TO ROAD PAVING.

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

SECTION I. The Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 21, Roads, Highways and Bridges; Section 21-3, Definitions; is hereby amended by the addition of the following language:

(m) *Alternative Maintenance Paving.* A County paving program by which qualifying light duty/low volume unpaved public roads may be paved using non standard paving or treatment methods.

(n) *Light Duty/Low Volume Unpaved Road.* Unpaved roads with average daily traffic limited at 400 vehicles per day.

SECTION II. The Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 21, Roads, Highways and Bridges; Section 21-20, Road paving program; is hereby amended by the addition of the following language:

(i) The Alternative Maintenance Paving Program shall consist of two categories, Pave-In-Place and Alternative Surface Treatment, which are defined as follows:

(1) The Pave-In-Place Program shall allow for the placement of hot mix asphalt on low volume/light duty dirt roads that meet the following criteria:

- a) The paving section would be over the existing, road bed only.
- b) The existing road bed/width must be a minimum of 22 feet to allow for two 11 foot travel lanes.
- c) The road must be less than or equal to one half (1/2) mile in length.
- d) The road must not have horizontal or vertical curve alignment problems and must meet American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guidelines.
- e) Roads up to one mile may be considered at the discretion of the Public Works Director if they meet all criteria except c).

(2) Alternative Surface Treatment allows for the placement of materials other than asphalt as the travel surface for road ways. Types of Alternative Surface Treatment may include:

- Triple treatment Surface course
- Rubberized Asphalt
- Milled Asphalt

Alternative Surface Treatment may be used on low volume/light duty dirt roads that meet the following criteria:

- a) The paving section would be over the existing, road bed only.

- b) The existing road bed/width must be a minimum of 22 feet to allow for two 11 foot travel lanes.
- c) The road must be less than or equal to one half (1/2) mile in length.
- d) The road must not have horizontal or vertical curve alignment problems and must meet American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guidelines.
- e) Roads up to one mile may be considered at the discretion of the Public Works Director if they meet all criteria except c).

(3) Roads in the Alternative Maintenance Paving Program maybe improved by geographical location in lieu of the priority list referenced in the aforementioned section of this ordinance to reduce mobilization cost. The decision shall be at the discretion of the Director of Public Works.

(4) In order to incorporate community input before roads are paved, DPW will Contact property owners on roads known to have right of way to determine interest in the improvement. If 80% concur (conforms to Section 21-5 (h)) proceed with improvements. Roads where owners do not support the improvement will be reported to council.

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

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

SECTION V. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be enforced from and after _____, 2009.

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

BY: _____
Valerie Hutchinson, Acting Chair

ATTEST THIS THE _____ DAY
OF _____, 2009

Michielle R. Cannon-Finch
Clerk of Council

RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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

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



RICHLAND COUNTY
Department of Public Works
C. Laney Talbert Center
400 Powell Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29203



Voice: (803) 576-2400 Facsimile (803) 576-2499

<http://www.richlandonline.com/departments/publicworks/index.asp>

January 5, 2009

Response to the Major Concerns Raised by County Engineer David R. Hoops, PE

Comments/recommendations have been consolidated into major categories:

A. Right of Way

1. Community involvement would be enhanced by contacting property owners on roads known to have right of way to determine interest in the improvement. If 80% concur (conforms to Section 21-5 (h) of County Code) proceed with improvements. Roads where owners do not support the improvement will be reported to council.
2. Evaluate roads known to have right of ways and determine level of effort necessary to improve.
3. Start an evaluation of all other dirt roads. Roads found to have adequate right of way will be considered for immediate action. Roads requiring right of way would be placed in a process where property owners would be contacted to determine their interest in the improvement and their agreement to donate right of way. Upon acquiring right of way roads would be moved to section will be considered for immediate action Roads where owners are not interested *in* the improvement or unwilling to donate right of way would be reported to council. This process could take two years or more if performed in-house, Consulting services would be necessary if faster progress is directed by Council and or if the goal is to complete this program in 3 years.

B. Drainage

1. Improve in place roads with adequate drainage and road base. Road base may be expanded if roadside drainage is properly located. This work would be performed by Public Works.
2. Prepare scope of service for engineering services (and or Design-Build) for roads requiring major drainage or grading improvements. This work would be performed by contractors with the exception that Public Works would select projects when work load allows.

C. If Major funding acquire for short duration completion of projects.

1. Prepare scope of service for consulting services to include sections roadway and drainage design and right or way acquisition as needed.
2. Consultant to prepare project list and scope for projects that can proceed to construction or design-build.
3. When right of way has been acquired on additional roads consultant will prepare project list and scope for follow up projects.
4. Public works will provide over-site, contract management and reporting to Council as resources allow with support from Consultants if need.

Immediately pave all public dirt roads in the County

Public Works responses to Councilman Jackson's comments Included

- a. Pave all "qualifying" public maintained dirt roads in the County Not just a small percentage of short roads.

Paving all "qualifying roads" will be a function of funding, to be determined by council.

- b. Remove the 1/2 mile restriction rule. Pave all qualifying dirt roads. Especially the long roads.

The recommendation to limit roads to be paved under this program to 1/2 mile is based upon the potential of longer roads to exceed the traffic limitations recommended by the report. The 1/2 mile length recommendation covers approximately 66% of the existing dirt roads. Our recommendation is to improve the few roads longer than 1/2 mile to the present minimum standard with the anticipation that higher traffic volumes will be generated in the future.

- c. Amend requiring full AASHTO design in Ordinance. Choice of AASHTO ought to be a policy issue, not an Ordinance mandate. Instead, allow DPW to establish design and perhaps 'reference' a standard such as applicable portions of AASHTO to give some flexibility. Richland County should not be bound to rigid, full AASHTO standards across the board. There are a number of very good, low volume standards, and AASHTO is not the only authority. Ordinance needs to provide some flexibility to DPW; full AASHTO is just like adopting SCDDOT standards. Only portions dealing with pavement thickness and road traffic volume is needed.

AASHTO is the nationally recognized standard for roadway design. It takes into account traffic volumes and speeds so we are not applying freeway design standards to local county roads. It is the minimum standard that we many times exceed based upon our engineering judgment. Due to the potential liability DPW would not recommend designing roads to anything less than this standard

- d. Refer to the paving program as "**maintenance**" and make sure the program falls entirely under "maintenance". This will limit or mitigate liability and provide flexibility in roadway signage.

This is a legal question. My non-legal opinion would be that defining a program as maintenance rather than improvements would not reduce the county's exposure to liability.

- e. Avoided statutory mandate that curves and sight distance meet stringent AASHTO standards. Cover the curve hazards by placing a sign ordinance that warns motorists of sharp curves, steep grades and reduced speed. We can always improve any safety hazard...and this can be at discretion of DPW Director.

Many motorist drive at the speed that is comfortable for the situation and not the posted speed limit. We normally design roads to exceed the standard to accommodate this tendency. This is again a legal question, but we would doubt that placing warning signage would relieve the county of liability when knowingly creating an unsafe situation.

- f. Maintenance of old, existing dirt roads should not require adherence to a new code for storm water management. New dirt roads would have to, but provide language for a maintenance exemption to new storm water regulations. What we want to avoid is massive drainage studies and massive, expensive permitting to carry out drainage work. Call the program maintenance paving and call the drainage "incidental."

Item# 8

If asphalt pavement is applied, it is considered an improvement and the new code language would apply even if it is under a maintenance program because it would be an increase in impervious surface that would increase the amount of storm water runoff and increase the velocity of the storm water thereby increasing the probability of erosion. At a minimum increased erosion control measures would be required.

- g. Outsource all design works to private consultant. Impose CTC as having say in the selection process and oversight of progress.

We agree that much of this work must be performed by contract services if it is to be performed in a short time frame. With present staffing, public works may not have adequate staff for over-site of contracted services.

- h. Remove schedule of 8 to 12 short ¹/₂ mile roads per year. This is woefully inadequate; remember we want to pave all dirt roads in three years.

This is a function of funding

- i. Design-build is as ok option if this drags on a year. To start paving in 2009 it must be outsourced to private consultant ASAP. DPW cannot handle this project and should only oversee the project by inspections and doing the duties they do at present.

We agree that design build can be an option if time is taken to develop a very detailed scope and specifications. If this becomes a multi millions dollar project the county will want to maintain a very tight over-site on the contractors. As stated in comment (g.) present staffing may be inadequate for even this over-site.

- j. Roads with dedicated Right of Way will be the first to pave regardless of the position on the ranking list. If roads on the ranking list do not have Right of Way then it would not be paved in the first place, therefore this would not have any effect to the ranking list.

We agree that only roads with right of way should be improved

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

An Ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Fire Prevention and Protection
[CONSENT] [PAGES 19-22]

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY
ORDINANCE NO. _____-08HR

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RICHLAND COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 10, FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION.

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

SECTION I. The Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Fire Prevention and Protection; is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 10-1. Compliance with chapter provisions.

No person shall kindle or maintain any open burning or authorize any such fire to be kindled or maintained within the unincorporated areas of the county, except as stated in this article.

Sec. 10-2. Open burning on the premises of private residences.

Open burning of leaves, tree branches and yard trimmings originating on the premises of private residences and burned on those premises shall be permitted within “rural” zoning districts, as defined under the Richland County Land Development Code, provided that any fire must be located not less than 75 feet from any structure, road, or property line and adequate provision has been made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 75 feet of any such structure, road or property line. Open burning of leaves, tree branches, and yard trimmings shall be prohibited on the premises of private residences within any “residential” zoning district, as defined under the Richland County Land Development Code.

Sec. 10-3. Open burning in undeveloped areas for the purpose of land clearing or right-of-way maintenance.

Open burning in undeveloped areas, including undeveloped areas within “residential” zoning districts, as defined under the Richland County Land Development Code, for the purpose of land-clearing or right-of-way maintenance shall be permitted, provided that such burning is conducted in accordance with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) Air Quality Regulations 61-62.2 and 61-62.4 and S.C. Code 1976, § 48-35-10 et seq.. Open burning for the purpose of land clearing and right-of-way maintenance shall be prohibited during the ozone season (April 1 through October 30).

Sec. 10-4 Attendant and fire extinguishing equipment required; notice to state forester; adherence to state law.

The burning must be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is extinguished. Such person shall have a garden hose connected to a water supply, or other

fire extinguishing equipment readily available for use. Proper notification shall be given to the state forester or his duly authorized representative or other persons designated by the state forester. The notice shall contain all information required by the state forester or his representative. The burning must be conducted in accordance with related state laws and regulations including, but not limited to, DHEC Air Quality Regulations 61-62.2 and 61-62.4 and S.C. Code 1976, § 48-35-10 et seq.

Sec. 10-5. Fires shall be prohibited as follows.

a. The county Fire Marshal may prohibit open burning when atmospheric conditions, local circumstances or other conditions exist that would make such fires hazardous.

b. The following materials shall not be burned in an open fire: Asphalt and asphaltic materials, paint, plastics, metals, treated wood, paper, petroleum products, demolition debris, dead animals, construction debris, household chemicals, household garbage, tires, trade waste and cardboard.

Sec. 10-6. Criteria for determining hazards.

Reasonable criteria shall be established by the county council to assist in determining when outdoor fires may be hazardous. These criteria may include air quality standards as well as various fire danger indexes.

Sec. 10-7. Prohibited on county roads, drainage rights-of-way and adjacent areas.

Open burning shall be prohibited on all county roads and drainage rights-of-way, or within an area that may cause damage to such areas.

Sec. 10-8. Exemptions.

a. This article does not apply to vegetative debris burning related to forestry, wildlife and agricultural burns, as authorized by the state forestry commission.

b. This article is not meant to restrict open burning in the connection with the preparation of food for immediate consumption, or campfires and fires used solely for recreational purposes, ceremonial occasions or human warmth that are done in a safe manner.

Sec. 10-9. Restrictions; exceptions.

Smoke production must be ended and no combustible material may be added to the fire between official sunset of one day and official sunrise of the following day with the exception of fires in the connection with the preparation of food for immediate consumption, or campfires and fires used solely for recreational purposes, ceremonial occasions, or human warmth and fires where time parameters are already regulated by the Department of Environmental Control Regulation 61-62.2.

Sec. 10-10. Hazardous or toxic materials.

Hazardous or toxic materials shall not be burned.

Sec. 10-11. Permit for organized public fireworks displays--Fee.

A charge of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be made for the issuance of the public fireworks display permit required by the fire prevention code adopted in Article V of Chapter 6, to cover administrative costs.

Sec. 10-12. Same--Disposition of fee.

All fees required by section 10-2 shall be deposited in the county general fund, in accordance with the receipts and deposits policies established by county council.

Sec. 10-13. Same--Penalties.

Any person holding a fireworks display in the county without obtaining a permit as provided in the fire prevention code adopted in Article V of Chapter 6, shall be deemed in violation of S.C. Code 1976, § 23-35-60, as amended, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished according to law.

Sec. 10-14. Burning of structures for fire-fighting training.

A vacant, dilapidated and unsafe structure may be burned by personnel of a legally constituted fire department for fire-fighting training purposes. Before such training is commenced, the appropriate fire department official will present proof to the county building official that approval for burning the structure has been obtained, if so required, from the state department of health and environmental control and the owner of the structure. Upon presentation of the required proof, the building official will issue a permit for the burning of the structure. When the burning/training is completed, the fire department which conducted the training will remove or cause to be removed debris, burned or unburned, lying within ten feet of the perimeter wall of the structure. Necessary and appropriate seeding will be accomplished to establish vegetation to prevent transporting of soil to other people's property by way of erosion. On completion of the removal of debris and necessary seeding, the fire department official will notify the building official, so that an inspection will be made for compliance with this section and the closing out of the permit.

Sec. 10-15. Civil and criminal liability.

The authorization to conduct an open burn does not relieve the individual responsible from civil or criminal liabilities resulting from the burning.

Sec. 10-16. Conflicts of article with state law.

The provision of this chapter shall prevail and be controlling over provisions of state law if such is allowed by state law. Otherwise, if any conflict arises between the provisions of this chapter and any state law, the provisions of state law shall prevail and be controlling.

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

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

SECTION IV. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be enforced from and after March 1, 2009.

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

BY: _____
Joseph McEachern, Chairperson

ATTEST THIS THE ____ DAY

OF _____, 2009

Michielle R. Cannon-Finch
Clerk of Council

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

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

Eastover Sewer Budget Amendment [**PAGES 24-25**]

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY
ORDINANCE NO. __-09HR

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 LOWER RICHLAND SEWER SYSTEM BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$185,567) TO LOWER RICHLAND'S DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET.

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

SECTION I. That the amount of one hundred eighty-five thousand five hundred and sixty-seven dollars (\$185,567) be appropriated to the Lower Richland Sewer Budget. Therefore, the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Lower Richland Sewer Budget is hereby amended as follows:

REVENUE

Revenue appropriated July 1, 2008 as amended:	\$ 92,430
Loan from Broad River Sewer undesignated fund balance	<u>185,567</u>
Total Lower Richland Sewer Budget Revenue as Amended:	\$ 277,997

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures appropriated July 1, 2008 as amended:	\$ 92,430
Increase to Lower Richland's Department Budget:	<u>185,567</u>
Total Lower Richland Sewer Budget Expenditures as Amended:	\$ 277,997

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

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

SECTION IV. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be enforced from and after _____, 2008.

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

BY: _____
Joseph McEachern, Chair

ATTEST THIS THE ____ DAY

OF _____, 2008

Michielle R. Cannon-Finch
Clerk of Council

RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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

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

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

Ordinance allowing the reassessment of the business license fee structure each year during the budget process
[CONSENT][PAGES 27-29]

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No

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**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY
ORDINANCE NO. ___-08HR**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RICHLAND COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES; CHAPTER 16, LICENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS REGULATIONS; ARTICLE 1, IN GENERAL, SO AS TO ADD AND DELETE PROVISIONS RELATING TO BUSINESS LICENSE RATES.

SECTION I. The Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 16, Licenses and Miscellaneous Business Regulations; Article I, In General; Section 16-5 is hereby amended as follows:

Section 16-5. Classification and Rates.

(1) The County Council shall, by ordinance and in conjunction with the passage of the yearly budget ordinance, establish and approve a Business License Fee Schedule providing a business license rate for each Class of businesses subject to this article. If the County Council fails to fix such rates for a particular calendar year, the rates previously adopted by the County Council shall continue to govern until new rates are fixed. County Council, at its discretion, may also amend, at any time, by ordinance, the Business License Fee Schedule to establish new rates, to be effective and payable for the following calendar year.

(2) The sectors of businesses included in each Rate Class are listed with the United States North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes. The alphabetical index in the Business License Fee Schedule is a tool for classification, not a limitation on businesses subject to a license fee. The License Official shall determine the proper class for a business according to the applicable NAICS manual or website, whether or not the business is listed in the alphabetical index.

(3) Any business license covering a year prior to 2008 but obtained on or after January 1, 2008 will be calculated based on the rate structure established in the Business License Fee Schedule and with the rates in the Business License Fee Schedule in effect at the time the business license is obtained.

(4) (a) One decal shall be required for each vehicle used by contractor companies for going to and from job sites to identify their business as being properly licensed. Decals shall cost no more and no less than the cost to produce the decal, rounded up to the nearest quarter value.

(b) Taxis, limos, and shuttles shall post one taxi or shuttle decal on each vehicle. Vehicles registered in Richland County shall be charged \$110 per decal; vehicles not registered in Richland County shall be charged \$165 per decal.

(5) (a) All rates, including the cost of decals and stickers, shall be automatically adjusted every three years by July 1, to be effective the following January 1, to account for changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The adjustment shall be made in the following manner: the

DRAFT

CPI, using the CPI calculation used by the County in other contexts, for the previous three years shall be determined and averaged together. The rates described in the Business License Fee Schedule shall be increased by the sum of the three-year average CPI for each of the last three years. (Rates shall be rounded up to the nearest nickel value; fees for decals and stickers shall be rounded up to the nearest quarter value.)

(b) If County Council increases the rates independent of the automatic CPI increases, the next CPI increase shall not be calculated until the third year, by July 1, following the County Council increase.

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

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

SECTION IV. Effective Date. All sections of this ordinance shall be effective on and after _____, 2008.

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

BY: _____
Val Hutchinson, Acting Chair

ATTEST THIS THE _____ DAY

OF _____, 2008.

Michielle R. Cannon-Finch
Clerk of Council

RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

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

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

DRAFT

Item# 11

Attachment number 1
Page 3 of 3

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 General Fund Annual Budget to decrease Business License revenue by one million five hundred and thirty-six thousand (\$1,536,000) due to fee adjustments and appropriate undesignated General Fund Balance of one million five hundred and thirty-six thousand (\$1,536,000) to offset
[PAGES 31-32]

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY
ORDINANCE NO. __-09HR

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 GENERAL FUND ANNUAL BUDGET TO DECREASE BUSINESS LICENSE REVENUE BY ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND (\$1,536,000) DUE TO FEE ADJUSTMENTS AND APPROPRIATE UNDESIGNATED GENERAL FUND BALANCE OF ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND (\$1,536,000) TO OFFSET.

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

SECTION I. That the amount of one million five hundred and thirty-six thousand (\$1,536,000) be reduced for business license fees in the FY 2008-2009 General Fund Budget and one million five hundred and thirty-six thousand (\$1,536,000) be appropriated from undesignated General Fund balance. Therefore, the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 General Fund Annual Budget is hereby amended as follows:

REVENUE

Revenue appropriated July 1, 2008 as amended:	\$ 138,135,934
Reduction in Business License Fees	(1,536,000)
Appropriation of General Fund undesignated fund balance	<u>1,536,000</u>
Total General Fund Revenue as Amended:	\$ 138,135,934

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures appropriated July 1, 2008 as amended:	\$ 138,135,934
Change to Budget:	<u>0</u>
Total General Fund Expenditures as Amended:	\$ 138,135,934

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

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

SECTION IV. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be enforced from and after _____, 2008.

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

BY: _____
Val Hutchinson, Vice Chair

ATTEST THIS THE _____ DAY

OF _____, 2008

Michielle R. Cannon-Finch
Clerk of Council

RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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

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

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

Preliminary Approval of the Richland County Strategic Plan [**PAGES 34-44**]

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No



Richland County

Bringing Citizens and Government Together

MISSION

Richland County Government is dedicated to providing services that are accessible to all residents and improve the quality of life in our community.

VISION

Richland County will be a model community for the state and nation. Our county will be a safe, diverse, and sustainable community, with a thriving economy that provides opportunities for all residents to live, work, learn, and grow.

VALUES

- Accessibility** Richland County Government will ensure that services are available and accessible to all residents. We will foster an environment that promotes openness and welcomes participation from all members of the community.
- Accountability** Richland County Government is committed to providing efficient, effective, and responsible public services. We strive to be proactive in our approach, and accountable for our results.
- Diversity** Richland County Government values the uniqueness of every citizen. We will embrace diversity by promoting an inclusive, multi-cultural environment that serves and respects all residents equally.
- Excellence** Richland County Government is dedicated to exceeding the expectations of our residents. We will demonstrate our commitment to excellence by providing the highest quality services to all residents on a daily basis.
- Vision** Richland County Government will be guided by a shared vision for our community. We will learn from our past, but remain focused on our future.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Manage Growth | Improve Transportation Infrastructure | Enhance Public Safety | Promote Economic Opportunities | Engage the Community |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|



Richland County Strategic Plan

The Richland County Strategic Plan will serve as a broad policy outline to guide council’s priorities over the next five fiscal years: July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2014. The overall goals and strategies of the plan will be implemented through a series of **annual action plans** developed by council each year (during the annual council retreat) and funded through the county’s annual budget process. The plan will be carried out and evaluated annually by the county administrator and members of Richland County staff to ensure progress toward meeting the council’s desired goals and objectives.

Richland County Council

Bill Malinowski
District 1

Gwendolyn Kennedy
District 7

Joyce Dickerson
District 2

Jim Manning
District 8

Damon Jeter
District 3

Val Hutchinson
District 9

Paul Livingston
District 4

Kelvin Washington
District 10

Kit Smith
District 5

Norman Jackson
District 11

L. Gregory Pearce
District 6

J. Milton Pope
County Administrator

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: MANAGE GROWTH

GOAL: Richland County will develop and maintain a well-planned and attractive community that protects the investment of existing residents and businesses while balancing the need for smart, sustainable, and environmentally-responsible growth.

STRATEGY #1: Minimize the impact of growth on existing residents by ensuring that the costs associated with new development will result in the smallest possible impact to existing residents and businesses.

STRATEGY #2: Protect and revitalize established communities by promoting and investing in neighborhood redevelopment.

STRATEGY #3: Identify distressed commercial corridors and develop strategies for encouraging the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure.

STRATEGY #4: Improve collaboration among local jurisdictions to ensure a coordinated approach to planning, growth management, and investment in infrastructure needs.

STRATEGY #5: Ensure the conservation and protection of natural resources, including green space, air, and water quality.

DESIRED OUTCOMES: By implementing the strategies above, Richland County expects to achieve the following objectives by June 30, 2014:

- A method will be developed to assess the net financial impact of new residential and commercial development, and a plan will be implemented to ensure that all new residential and commercial growth pays for itself to the fullest extent possible.
- The coordination of resources among county departments will be enhanced in order to facilitate the identification, protection, and revitalization of established residential neighborhoods.
- A method of identifying high-priority commercial corridors will be developed, and a comprehensive plan to promote and revitalize targeted corridors will be implemented.
- Land-use planning and growth management efforts will be consolidated among jurisdictions within Richland County, including the pursuit of a unified planning ordinance.
- A minimum of one meeting per year will be conducted between the county and representatives from Richland County School Districts One & Two and Lexington-Richland School District Five to discuss opportunities for coordinating school planning and growth management efforts.

- The county will expand the availability of water and sewer infrastructure to serve the Lower Richland community.
- Richland County will progress toward meeting all state and federal standards for air and water quality.
- A system for measuring green space within Richland County will be developed.
- The amount of targeted lands set aside for conservation purposes will be increased.
- The county's performance on citizen satisfaction surveys will increase for growth management practices, environmental stewardship, and overall county appearance.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

GOAL: Richland County will promote an efficient and sustainable multi-modal transportation network that improves public safety, minimizes congestion, reduces travel times, and provides access to economic opportunities.

STRATEGY #1: Improve Richland County's transportation infrastructure by investing in capital improvements to the county's roadway network and ensuring the adequate maintenance of county-maintained roads.

STRATEGY #2: Ensure the long-term viability of a safe, accessible, and efficient regional mass transit system.

STRATEGY #3: Promote the availability of alternative modes of transportation, such as greenways, bike lanes, and sidewalks.

STRATEGY #4: Strengthen the link between growth management and transportation infrastructure.

STRATEGY #5: Actively pursue state and federal funds for transportation projects in Richland County.

DESIRED OUTCOMES: By implementing the strategies above, Richland County expects to achieve the following objectives by June 30, 2014:

- The county's mean travel time to work (21.7 minutes) will be maintained or improved.
- A plan and timeline will be developed to pave a majority of county-maintained dirt roads.
- A comprehensive resurfacing program will be developed to ensure the adequate maintenance of county-maintained roads.
- All roads in the county labeled as "failing" will be identified and a plan will be developed and implemented to remedy their failing status.
- A congestion management plan will be developed and implemented to improve the free-flow of people and products in Richland County.
- A long-term funding source for the regional transit system will be identified and implemented.
- The county will support regional efforts to expand transit service to 75% of transit-dependent areas, and accessibility in transit-supportive areas will also be increased.

- A study will be completed to determine the feasibility of developing light rail infrastructure in Richland County within the next 20 years.
- A “Complete Streets” initiative will be implemented to ensure that alternative modes of transportation, such as bike lanes and sidewalks, are integrated into all new major transportation improvements.
- The amount of state and federal dollars available for transportation improvements will be increased.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY

GOAL: Richland County will reduce the incidence of criminal activity and prevent the loss of life and property through enhanced public safety and emergency services.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure that the availability of public safety services (including law enforcement, emergency medical, and fire suppression services) continue to meet the needs of our growing community.

STRATEGY #2: Plan for and invest in safety-related buildings and infrastructure to support expansion of public safety services.

STRATEGY #3: Support crime prevention and community policing efforts to ensure that residents are kept informed of issues related to public safety.

STRATEGY #4: Promote efficiency and eliminate duplication by maximizing the coordination of public safety services with neighboring jurisdictions, schools, and other service providers.

DESIRED OUTCOMES: By implementing the strategies above, Richland County expects to achieve the following objectives by June 30, 2014:

- The incidence of violent and non-violent criminal activities per 100,000 residents in Richland County will be decreased.
- Richland County's ranking among the seven largest counties in South Carolina for crime rates per 100,000 residents will be improved.
- The average daily inmate population at the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center will not exceed the facility's capacity.
- The county will compare officer-to-population ratios annually and will consider adjustments to personnel levels as necessary.
- A long-range plan for locating, financing, and constructing new public safety buildings and infrastructure will be completed. This plan will also consider the replacement of existing buildings and infrastructure, including the Richland County Judicial Center.
- The availability and accessibility of public information materials, including reports and crime prevention tips, will be increased.
- The number of neighborhood watch organizations will be increased.
- The county will eliminate instances where duplication of first responders occurs.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #4: PROMOTE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

GOAL: Richland County will contribute to the prosperity of all residents by fostering a climate that is conducive to the creation of new jobs and continued expansion and diversification of the local economy.

STRATEGY #1: Continue to identify and pursue opportunities for industrial recruitment, retention, and expansion, with a special emphasis on emerging “green” and knowledge-based industries.

STRATEGY #2: Create an environment that encourages the startup, growth, and expansion of homegrown, small, and minority-owned businesses.

STRATEGY #3: Ensure that economic opportunities are spread throughout all regions of the county.

STRATEGY #4: Identify, protect, and develop product at potential industrial development sites in order to facilitate the recruitment and expansion of targeted industries.

STRATEGY #5: Increase Richland County’s competitiveness as a destination for businesses and employees by continuing to promote good schools, strong neighborhoods, diverse cultural and recreational activities, and an exceptional quality-of-life.

STRATEGY #6: Promote regional cooperation by strengthening partnerships with neighboring jurisdictions, major employers, state and local economic development agencies, and non-profit organizations.

STRATEGY #7: Contribute to workforce readiness by partnering with school districts and educational institutions to maximize student achievement.

DESIRED OUTCOMES: By implementing the strategies above, Richland County expects to achieve the following objectives by June 30, 2014:

- The median household income in Richland County will increase at a rate equal to or above the rate of inflation.
- The number of new jobs created will exceed the rate of population increase.
- The number of announced economic development projects and capital investment will increase each year.
- Access to employment opportunities will be improved in each part of the county.
- A program to assist in the incubation and development of small, minority-owned, “green,” and knowledge-based companies within Richland County will be developed and implemented.

- An inventory of potential industrial development sites will be created, and a plan to protect such sites from residential or commercial development will be developed and implemented.
- Product (including shovel-ready sites and spec buildings) will be developed at sites targeted for economic development.
- Academic performance in each of the county's school districts will increase, and high school drop out rates will decrease.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY #5: ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY

GOAL: Richland County will increase citizen satisfaction, encourage participation, and improve regional cooperation by engaging the community through a comprehensive public outreach and communications strategy.

STRATEGY #1: Utilize internal and external resources (including print, video, electronic, and social networking media) to efficiently and effectively disseminate information about county programs, services, and events.

STRATEGY #2: Improve outreach efforts to inform citizens of tax and budget related issues.

STRATEGY #3: Bring county government “closer to the people” by engaging in face-to-face contact with county residents, neighborhoods, and community organizations, and by continuing to expand successful education and outreach programs, such as Richland 101.

STRATEGY #4: Maximize convenience for residents and businesses by expanding and promoting access to online services, such as public documents, forms, and payment options.

STRATEGY #5: Participate in regional cooperation efforts by improving communications with policy makers from neighboring jurisdictions and the county’s legislative delegation.

STRATEGY #6: Assess citizen satisfaction and customer service quality through the ongoing solicitation and analysis of feedback from county residents.

STRATEGY #7: Establish creative partnerships to leverage county resources and maximize efforts to engage multiple demographics, including youths, seniors, and non-English speaking communities.

STRATEGY #8: Capitalize on the innovation and success of county programs by recognizing achievements and participating in local, state, and national award programs.

DESIRED OUTCOMES: By implementing the strategies above, Richland County expects to achieve the following objectives by June 30, 2014:

- A redesigned and more user-friendly county website will be unveiled.
- A monthly newsletter will be created to promote county programs, events, and services.
- A county television station will be established and content will be developed for dissemination to residents.
- Staff will continue to produce and promote the county’s weekly television show, *Richland Revealed*.

- The number of press releases promoting county news and information will be tracked and increased.
- The county will reach out to new demographics by expanding its presence on social networking sites such as *Twitter*, *Facebook*, and *MySpace*.
- The county will continue to expand upon its successful Richland 101 program to include potential new programs such as Richland 101 for Businesses, Richland 101 En Español, and Richland 101 Online.
- Council will reestablish regular regional community meetings (Fifth Tuesday meetings).
- A speakers bureau will be established to provide community groups with easy access to county leaders and experts in various county-related fields.
- The county will continue to build on existing relationships and will continue to pursue new relationships with outside organizations, neighborhood groups, and the business community.
- Residents' knowledge about where their tax money is going and how it is being spent will be increased by including additional information with county tax bills.
- The number of public documents accessible through the county's website will be increased.
- All county forms will be posted on the county's website.
- The number of transactions completed through the county's website, including the electronic payment of taxes and fees, will increase each year.
- A system will be implemented to enable the online submission and tracking of citizen service requests, questions, and complaints through the Richland County Ombudsman's Office.
- Council members will meet regularly with regional policy makers and members of the legislative delegation.
- A uniform process for handling and tracking Freedom of Information Act requests will be established and implemented.
- The county's performance on citizen surveys will increase for access to information, value for taxes paid, regional cooperation, and overall citizen satisfaction.

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item

No

On Agenda For Public Hearing

No

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject

- Bobby Gist Resolution [**JETER**]
- Guidelines for Special Called Meeting agendas [**MALINOWSKI**]

Purpose

Committee Recommendation

Council Action (First Reading)

Council Action (Second Reading)

Public Hearing

On Agenda As A Consent Item No

On Agenda For Public Hearing No