

## CHAPTER 5 – COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Community facilities provide the infrastructure of public administration, safety, health, sanitation, recreation, education, and other public services supported by both public and private institutions. These include public buildings, police and fire stations, and the public rights of way for streets, paths, water, sewer, and utility lines. These facilities also include public and private schools, parks, hospitals, churches, power plants and transmission lines, water treatment and waste treatment facilities, solid waste disposal, and other facilities necessary to support the public health, safety and welfare.

This element of the Comprehensive Plan provides an inventory and evaluation of existing and programmed community facilities and public services and discusses continuing and the City's projected needs for these facilities.

For purposes of this study, community facilities are divided into the following categories and sub-categories:

- *Public Safety (Police, Fire, Emergency Services, and Court Facilities)*
- *Public Administration (Courts, Public Health, Housing, and Social Services)*
- *Public Utilities (Water, Wastewater, Stormwater, Solid Waste, and Power)*
- *Education (Primary, Secondary, Technical, and Universities)*
- *Cultural Resource Facilities (Libraries, Arts Centers, Recreation and Parks)*
- *Transportation (see Chapter 8: Transportation)*

Not all community facilities are provided by or under direct control of the City Council, requiring inter-agency cooperation and coordination to ensure the orderly extension and development of community facilities.

### 5.1 PUBLIC SAFETY

**The City of Orangeburg Department of Public Safety** is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. The stated mission of the Public Safety Department is *"to create and maintain an atmosphere of mutual cooperation with our community through innovative partnerships directed toward a common goal of protecting life and property through professional law enforcement and fire protection services. We will remain pro-active and diligent in our efforts to enhance the quality of life in our community through professional development, supported by loyalty, courage, commitment, and integrity with equitable and dignified treatment for all citizens we serve."*

The Orangeburg Public Safety Department employs 85 sworn public safety officers and 27 civilians to serve a population of nearly 16,000 persons. This equals about 5.35 officers/1,000 persons (The ratio in 2006 was approximately 6.2 officers/1,000 population). The Department



identified the area of service in the 2013 Annual Report as 8.30 square miles, and reported 45,792 total calls for service and 974 reported crimes. The annual budget for that year was approximately \$7.5 Million.

An United States Department of Labor report (dated October 2016) identified the national average number of full time officers per 1,000 population in 2012 was between 2.84 and 3.43 total full-time officers and 2.19 and 2.39 sworn full-time officers per 1,000. The City has larger numbers of public safety officers-to-population than in most communities of comparable size. This reflects the consolidated functions of fire and police protection into a single Public Safety Department, and cross-training firemen and policemen. All Orangeburg public safety officers are cross trained in both law enforcement and the fire service, with all non-civilian employees expected to obtain and maintain proficiency in both roles as public safety officers. The Public Safety Department is accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA).

The Director of Public Safety oversees three divisions: Patrol; Investigations; and Special Operations. The Patrol Division provides uniformed law enforcement and fire protection officers, and includes the Special Response Team and the Canine Unit. Approximately 44 uniformed officers are assigned into four geographic sectors patrolled 24-hours every day. The Investigations Division has the responsibilities to investigate crimes and support juvenile and victim services, forensics, and narcotics. The Special Operations Division manages recruitment, training, policy development, records, evidence and property control, accreditation, planning, grants management, crimes analysis, court security, fire and arson inspections, animal control, and communications.

**The Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office** is mandated by South Carolina State law to serve the State and county courts and routinely assist in serving legal documents such as subpoenas, summons, liens, claims, writs, judgments, and warrants on a countywide basis and in providing detention for suspects and convicted persons. The Office of County Sheriff is located at 1520 Ellis Avenue and a substation is located at the Prince of Orange Mall (2390 Chestnut Street). The Sheriff's Department also assists other law enforcement agencies upon request and responds to situations anywhere in Orangeburg County when deemed necessary to ensure public safety. The Sheriff and Deputies do not enforce city ordinances within the limits of a municipality unless that ordinance has been adopted as a County ordinance.

The County Sheriff also operates the **Orangeburg-Calhoun Regional Detention Center** used by the jurisdictions of Orangeburg County to confine inmates for short periods while awaiting trial or processing. The Detention Center is located at 1529 Ellis Avenue, and is classified as a medium security facility. The building is solid concrete with limited access to fresh air, and designed in "pods" with a large common area where the tables are affixed to the floor along with attached seats.

The Detention Center holds short-term inmates awaiting sentencing, trial or transfer (usually less than one year), and has a heavy guard-to-inmate ratio. Amenities include bathroom facilities, three square meals per day, and limited access to recreation and telephones, a library, a commissary, a chapel, a barber shop, and recreation facilities. Inmates do not leave the holding pod unless they are escorted by unarmed correctional officers.

Many new detainees are delivered daily with a considerable number of people arriving at jail that are actively or recently drunk or high, injured from fights/assaults that led to their arrest, and/or are mentally ill with no other place for law enforcement to deliver them. Some

detainees may stay less than one or only a few days until released in a court proceeding after putting up bail when they may be released to a pretrial services caseload, placed under supervision by the probation office, or released on their own recognizance pending a court appearance.

The headquarters of the South Carolina Department of Public Safety's Highway Patrol Troop Seven is located in an office at 1391 Middleton Street in Orangeburg along with the Post B Headquarters for Calhoun and Orangeburg Counties. The Highway Patrol operates with a mission to "create a safe and secure environment for South Carolina citizens and visitors as they travel the state's public roads and highways".

### **FIRE PROTECTION AND EMS**

Fire services were merged into the Public Safety Department in 1987. The Orangeburg Fire Department was created in 1920 when four independent volunteer fire companies were joined into a city owned and operated volunteer fire department. The City bought its first fire truck the following year (The City still owns this 1921 American LaFrance fire engine although it no longer runs) and built a new fire station, City Hall and the Carolinian (now the Stevenson) Auditorium in 1927. The fire-fighters became a professional department in 1949

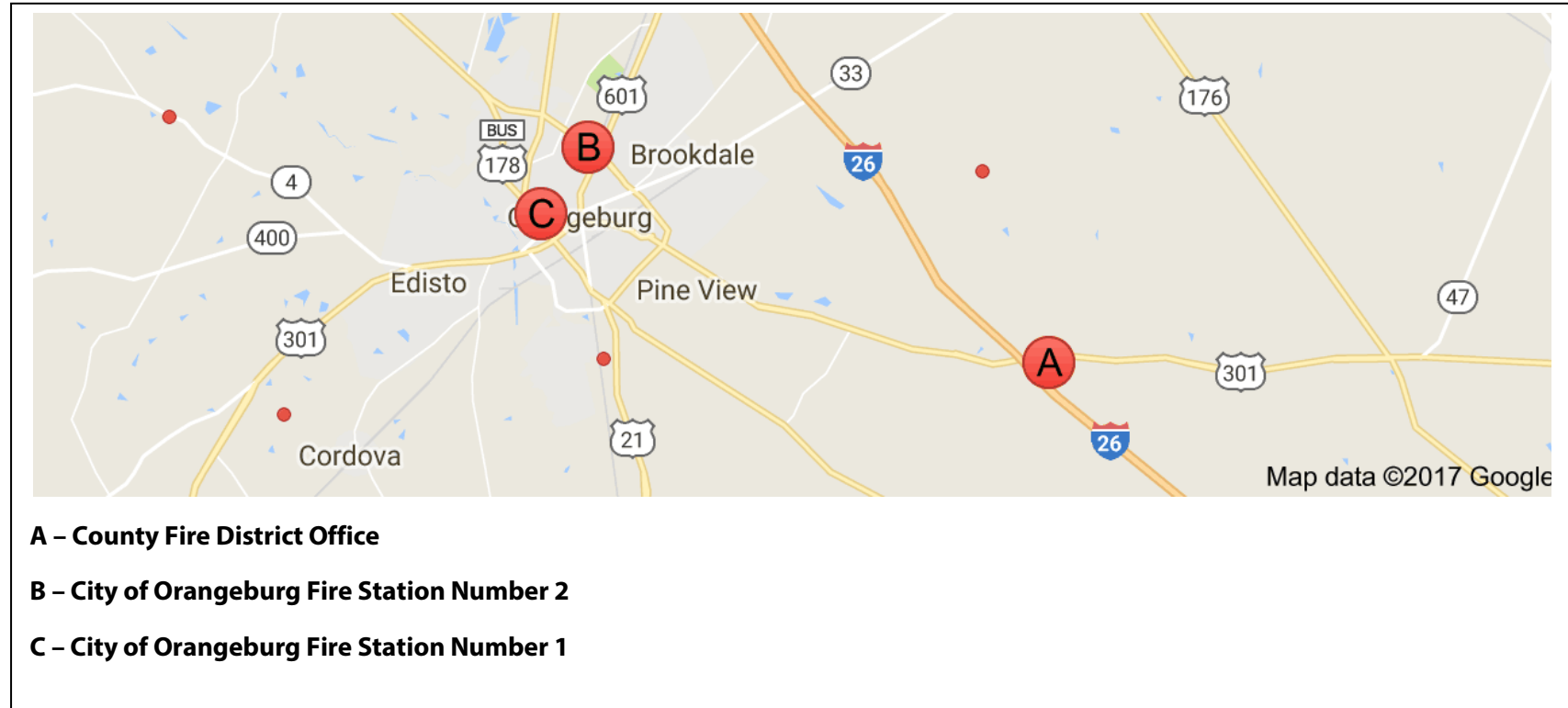
The City Public Safety Department maintains a low ISO rating within the City's fire district which encompasses approximately 87 square miles of the Greater Orangeburg area. The rating recently improved from a Class 3 to a Class 2 rating early in 2017.

The Orangeburg Public Safety Headquarters at 1320 Middleton Street was opened in April 2006. Operations for manning the fire stations uses a 24/48 schedule (firefighters on duty for 24 hours, then off-duty for 48 hours). Excellent communication with the local hospitals allows for the crews to alert them of incoming medical and trauma emergencies. Protocols are in place for stroke alert and cardiac arrest. Air transport for the most severe trauma cases that need to be taken to a level 1 trauma center is available via a local helicopter, Life Net, stationed at the rear of the hospital. Each ambulance is staffed with a paramedic and EMT-I or EMT-B and the service runs all ALS units when possible. The department operates three fire stations:

- City of Orangeburg Fire Station 2 (835 Chestnut Street), includes Medic 2,
- City of Orangeburg Fire Station 3 (4098 Kennerly Road), includes Medic 3, and
- City of Orangeburg Fire Station 4 (201 Prosperity Road)

Public safety vehicles are replaced as needed, usually conforming to a schedule based on time of use, maintenance, and ability to accomplish the tasks assigned. The apparatus replacement schedule is essential as equipment ages and becomes worn. Public Safety identifies a 10-year lifetime of active service and an additional term (years) for reserve status for key equipment. A strategic plan for upgrades and replacement of fire and police vehicles and equipment is managed within the department. The schedule assumes that a schedule of approximately five-years and/or 100,000 miles is appropriate for replacement depending on wear and tear (accidents) that may affect the schedule.

**Map 5.1: Fire Stations**



#### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Emergency calls to 911 in Orangeburg County are currently directed to the appropriate law enforcement or emergency services agency for dispatch based on the nature and area of the call's origination. The large number of municipalities and volunteer fire departments in the County has led to discussions to upgrade the digital messaging system and make it easier to process the calls. A proposed new system called **"Active911"** is a digital messaging system that instantly sends critical information to responders and allows monitoring in real time. The new system is in the process of being set up by the Orangeburg County Fire Commission.

**The Orangeburg County Office of Emergency Services (OES)** was created in 1988 as the Emergency Preparedness Department and has evolved to improve management, coordination, and response to natural or man-made threats or emergencies throughout the county. Orangeburg County Emergency Operations Planning provides integration of multiple agencies to respond to a natural disaster with pre-defined roles for response team coordination with the South Carolina Operations Plan (SCOP) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The County coordinates warnings and emergency alerts and evacuation and shelter plans. The County resources also include a Mobile Command Center to provide field communications, and an Emergency Operations Center within the Office of Emergency Services.

As the responsible agency, Orangeburg County identifies potential problems and prepares appropriate risk assessment analyses and mitigation plans to lessen potential impacts. The County manages this process in the County's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (MNP) which is prepared for a five-year update cycle and includes input from the City. The County also supports the Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) training program, the Hazardous Materials Response Team, the Search and Rescue Team (SARTAC), and the Special Tactics and Rescue (STAR) resources using assets from throughout the County with volunteers drawn from throughout the county.

**The Orangeburg County Office of Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS)** program provides acute medical care and transport to definitive care for patients with illnesses and injuries. First responders (police and firefighters) are trained in CPR and basic first aid skills to provide care until an ambulance can arrive on scene. OCEMS maintains a fleet of customized ambulances and mobile data terminals equipped with state-of-the-art software to process and handle their unique requirements. Protocols are in place for stroke alert and cardiac arrest, and air transport is available for the most severe trauma cases that need to be taken to a level 1 trauma center via the local Life Net helicopter stationed at the rear of the hospital.

OCEMS operates five stations in the County with medical resources for response. These include resources at the City of Orangeburg Public Safety Station 2 and Public Safety Station 3. The office for OCEMS is located at 1558 Ellis Avenue in Orangeburg.

**The Orangeburg County Animal Control** office works with the City's Public Safety Department to protect and educate the public regarding animal control-related laws, and respond to animal conditions of danger and cruelty. Officer patrols pick up and receive surplus or stray animals that could cause human injury, automobile accidents, property damage or spread disease. They issue citations to owners when they are found in violation of the law and respond to citizen complaints. The County's Animal Control facility also handles pet adoptions. The County Animal Control facility is a separate entity from the SPCA which also provides for pet intake and adoptions.

## 5.2 PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES

Public administration services include city government offices and courts, including offices for the management of public health, public housing, and social services. Major facilities include:

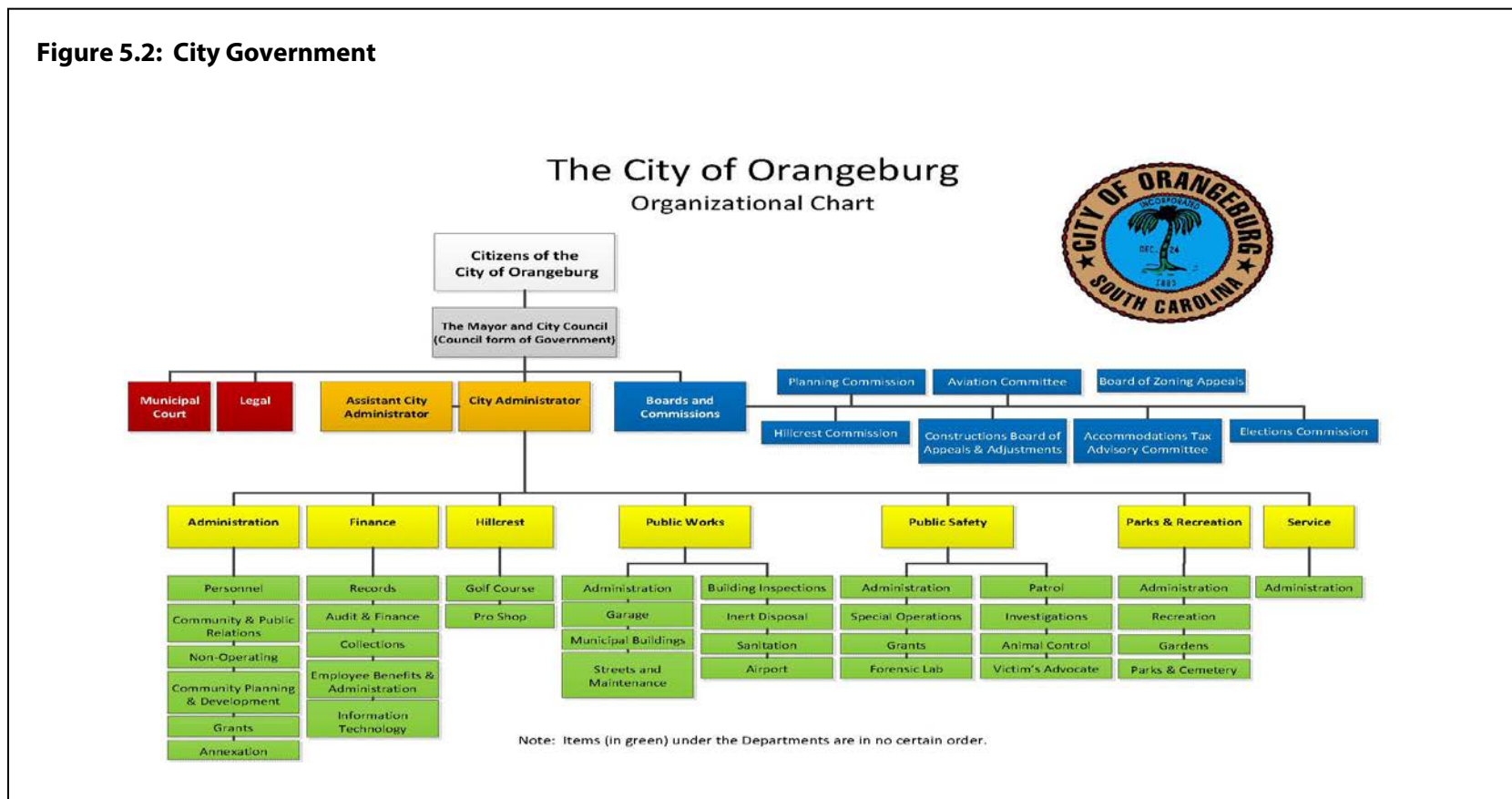
- City Hall (979 Middleton Street) provides the offices of the City Administrator, Finance, Human Resources, and Community Planning. City Hall also includes the historic Stevenson Auditorium. The building is identified on the National Register of Historic Places.
- City Council Chambers (933 Middleton Street) adjacent to City Hall provides meeting space for the City Council, the Planning Commission and other boards, and other meetings that may be scheduled by City officials.
- Orangeburg Municipal Court (1320 Middleton Street) provides the venue for handling misdemeanor arrests within the city and traffic tickets issued by the Department of Public Safety. The Court handles thousands of cases every year, and operates Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm. Municipal Court Bench Trials are held beginning at 9:00 AM each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Bond hearings are held between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm daily. Jury Trials are held the second full week of each month and Criminal Domestic Violence Court is held the last Wednesday of each month. All court is handled by the city's one judge, and traffic tickets may be paid at that location during normal business hours.
- Orangeburg Department of Public Works (152 Market Street) is composed of eight divisions: Administration, Airport, Building Inspection, Garage, Municipal Buildings, Parking Facilities, Sanitation, and Streets and Maintenance. These divisions exercise their responsibilities under the Director of Public Works. The Administrative Division, headed by the Director of Public Works, administers and monitors the implementation of the Department's budget to provide quality services to the citizens of Orangeburg. The Building Inspection Division enforces the zoning, building codes and housing codes for the City through the Building Permit and Inspection process. The Garage Division provides service, maintenance and repair of City owned equipment (excluding equipment owned by the DPU). The Municipal Buildings Division is responsible for maintaining City Hall, the Stevenson Auditorium, and other buildings assigned by City Council. The Parking Facilities Division maintains on-street parking spaces and all City-owned and rented off-street parking lots. The Street and Maintenance Division maintains the City Street System, storm sewer system and open ditch drainage.
- The Airport Division operates and maintains the Orangeburg Municipal Airport and other facilities the City may lease, acquire or construct for airport purposes.
- The Sanitation Division collects and disposes of solid waste within the City Limits. This is accomplished by a Solid Waste Collection Team going into a neighborhood on the assigned day each week for the collection of household garbage, recyclable materials and yard trash.
- Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities (1016 Russell Street) is the largest municipal electric utility in South Carolina. DPU owns and operates 22 electric substations, with service available at 115KV; 46KV; 25KV; 8.3KV; and 480V for large customers.



- A modern dispatch center monitors and controls the electric system 24 hours a day through a state of the art fiber optic network. Serving a geographic area of approximately 340 square miles, DPU offers a multi-utility approach. Virtually a one stop shop for utilities.
- Orangeburg City Services Department (1099 State Road S-28-94)
- Orangeburg Park Operation Center (550 Seaboard Street, NW))
- Downtown Orangeburg Revitalization Association (

The City of Orangeburg organization chart illustrates the organization of the city government:

**Figure 5.2: City Government**



**Orangeburg County** government offices located in Orangeburg include administrative offices, courtrooms, and administration support facilities. The County Administration Centre is located at 1437 Amelia Street, and houses the County Board of Commissioners and administration offices.

The Office of Voter Registration and Election Commission provides the opportunity for all qualified citizens to register to vote, maintains an accurate database of registered voters, and acts as the absentee voting precinct in all Federal, State, and local elections held in the County. The Election Commission oversees the general conduct of all elections held in the County including recruitment and training of all poll workers, printing and distribution of all ballots, hearing of certain protested elections, and certification of all elections. The mission of the Orangeburg County Voter Registration and Election Commission is to ensure every eligible citizen has the opportunity to register to vote, participate in fair and impartial elections, and have the assurance that their votes will count.

The Veterans Affairs (VA) Office assists veterans and their dependents in filing applications to determine their basic eligibility and conditions of benefit entitlement as administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. This includes research, preparation, development, presentation, and prosecution of claims submitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Other Orangeburg County facilities:

- **The Orangeburg Area Development Center (OADC)** is a multi-purpose community center located at 1060 Pineland Street. The OADC was designed to meet the recreational, social, and cultural needs of people of all ages with emphasis placed on the needs of youth. Programs include a child development program for 3 year olds, after school program for children 5 to 12 years old, organized basketball for youth and adults, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, a summer education and recreational program for children 5 to 12 years old, an exercise program for adults, and a STAR program (designed to teach teens responsibility).
- Orangeburg County Emergency Services (1558 Ellis Avenue)
- Orangeburg County Fire Services (131 Firefighter Lane)
- Orangeburg County Tax Assessors Office (1437 Amelia Street)
- Orangeburg County Department of Probation (1146 Church Street)
- Orangeburg County Juvenile Justice (303 Summers Avenue)
- Orangeburg County Jail House (1520 Ellis Avenue)

The Orangeburg County Courthouse at 1406 Amelia Street provides offices, courtrooms, meeting rooms, and administrative support for local County and State court functions. The Clerk of Court for the 1st Judicial Circuit Court is elected Countywide and serves a four-year term, and the Clerk of Court's Office provides administrative support for the 1st Judicial Circuit Court and Family Court. This office maintains dockets of the court, receives and disburses child support fees, fines and costs, maintains court records, and handles reporting requirements. The office



also processes legal actions of a civil nature in which the demand of value of property involved is greater than \$7500. The Clerk of Court office is responsible for maintaining records of cases heard in the Court of Common Pleas and Court of General sessions, which involve civil disputes between two or more parties. Records of Family Court, including juvenile, domestic relations, child support, interstate custody, abuse and neglect, domestic abuse, adoptions, divorce proceedings, and bond issues are also maintained at the Clerk of Court Office. Civil Jury, Non-Jury trials, Family Court, and Circuit Court are scheduled by the Clerk of Court's office.

The Regional Magistrates serve the county for which he or she is appointed and are appointed by the Governor upon the advice and consent of the Senate for four year terms. They have criminal trial jurisdiction over offenses subject to the penalty of a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding 30 days, or both. Magistrates may also hear cases transferred from general sessions upon petition by the solicitor and agreement by the defendant.

Generally, magistrates have civil jurisdiction when the amount in controversy does not exceed \$7,500. Magistrates hear civil cases concerning money owed to others, defaulted credit payments, landlord-tenant disputes, property wrongfully withheld from the rightful owner, magistrate sales, and restraining orders. In addition, magistrates are responsible for setting bail, conducting preliminary hearings, and issuing arrest and search warrants. Unlike circuit courts and probate courts, magistrate courts are not courts of record. Proceedings in magistrate's court are summary.

The Orangeburg County Central Region Magistrate Office and Central Region Traffic Court Office are located in Orangeburg. These courts include Traffic Court, Criminal Domestic Violence Court, Jury Trial Court, and Preliminary Hearing Court located at the Central Region Office. Traffic Court hears all traffic cases for South Carolina Highway Patrol, South Carolina Transport Police, and County Law Enforcement Agencies. The offices include the Magistrate Court responsible for managing and issuing arrest warrants, the Central Traffic Court responsible for providing management and payment of traffic tickets, and the Orangeburg County Probate Court which manages the filing of a will, coordinating a guardianship or a conservatorship, and the procurement of a marriage license;

Orangeburg County Bond Court is located in the Orangeburg County Law Complex at 1520 Ellis Avenue. Bond hearings are held daily from 9:00am to 2:30 pm.

Victim's Assistance Coordinators are available through the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office and are located at 1032 Chestnut Street. The Victim's Assistance Coordinators help assist the Magistrate's Bond Court as liaisons with victims appearing at Bond Court Hearings or Preliminary Hearings.

### **Hospitals and Health Care**

The primary resource for serving the Orangeburg community needs for health care is the Regional Medical Center of Orangeburg and Calhoun Counties (TRMC). Established in 1919, the Medical Center is a comprehensive healthcare service provider owned by Orangeburg and Calhoun counties and governed by a 17-member Board of Trustees from both counties.

The Medical Center is an acute-care regional facility with 286 beds that opened in 1992 to serve a six-county area. TRMC provides a full range of quality services including cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), radial keratotomy, respiratory therapy, sleep studies, and nutritional counseling. More than 90 physicians, representing most specialties are members of the medical staff, and more than 40 other physicians in outlying areas refer patients to TRMC.

TRMC's campus also houses the Health Plus wellness program, and the associated H. Filmore Mabry Center for Cancer Care offers chemotherapy, radiation oncology, psychological counseling and patient support services, with the most advanced equipment available for the treatment of cancer.

The Orangeburg Family Center offers comprehensive healthcare services under one roof, including pediatrics, preventive care, primary care, obstetrics, adult medicine, dental services, and a pharmacy. The Family Health Center is a private, not-for-profit corporation with a governing board made up of users of these health services.

Orangeburg's The Methodist Oaks is an all-inclusive retirement home, offering retirement living on a 700-acre site next to the Edisto River. Methodist Oaks offers 450 cottages, duplexes, apartments, private and semi-private rooms for independent lifestyles, and rehabilitation, Alzheimer's, and dementia care patients.



**Regional Medical Center**

### **5.3 PUBLIC UTILITIES**

The City of Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities (DPU) owns and operates four basic utilities: water, sewer, electricity and natural gas. These utility services are provided throughout the city and much of the surrounding urban area. Electricity and water are the most widely extended services. Due to cost, sewer services are the most restricted. Rates vary by location within or outside the city limits and the cost to deliver the service. All in-city areas are charged a lower rate for water and sewer services. Areas outside the City are charged a higher rate based on distance and difficulty to serve. The added cost-of-service charge averages about 45% higher than the in-city rate. These rates are constantly reviewed by DPU to adequately set fair charges. Sewer rates are based on a similar formula. The cost of electricity and natural gas is uniform throughout the urban area, based on consumption.

Sewer system expansions in the City are financed by the City. The primary costs associated with the installation of new water and sewer systems are usually paid by the developer. To a lesser extent developers also may pay for the extension of natural gas service lines. Financial participation by the City (Department of Public Utilities) generally occurs where oversized facilities are needed to make system expansions or certain shared cost formula items. Developers and potential customers are not charged for the installation of new electrical service lines by the City.

Although complete utility services for water, sewer, natural gas and electricity are not provided to every resident or business in the urban area, it is generally available and the utility infrastructure throughout the urban area places the community in a positive position to support growth with capabilities to react quickly to new development opportunities. The biggest obstacle to a comprehensive services package is the cost associated with the installation of sanitary sewer facilities. However, all services, including sewer are being expanded by the DPU to cover more of the developed urban areas beyond the City, and some of the expansion costs are being covered by the 1% County Capital Projects Sales Tax.

### **WATER SUPPLY, TREATMENT, AND DISTRIBUTION**

The Orangeburg DPU Water Division serves over 60,000 customers with high quality potable water. Three raw water intake structures located on the North Fork Edisto River in the picturesque Edisto Memorial Gardens provide water to the John F. Pearson Water Treatment Plant. Originally built as a water softening plant in 1937 with five wells and a capacity of One Million Gallons per Day (MGD), the plant was converted in 1941 to a surface water plant to process water for the City of Orangeburg Water System.

The water plant expanded to 2 MGD in 1948 and to 4 MGD in 1954, and the plant capacity was doubled again in 1964, with a new 8.5 MGD raw water pump, a chemical mixing unit, a liquid chemical storage building, chemical feed equipment, a laboratory and four sand filters capable of filtering 1 million gallons each. Additions in the 1970's and 1980's included raw water pumps and finished water storage, and in 1991 the plant capacity was expanded to 19 MGD. Other additions included five filters, chemical mixing and storage, control room, laboratory and solids handling facility. The DPU Centennial Park was constructed atop the storage facility and dedicated to the citizens of Orangeburg in commemoration of DPU's 100 year anniversary.

River water is pumped to the plant into one of two mixing chambers. Chemical addition of aluminum sulfate (alum) for color removal, liquid lime for pH adjustment, and chlorine and ammonia for disinfection of disease-causing organisms is achieved during the initial mixing process. The water then is dispersed into thirteen flocculations where slow agitation occurs to form larger "floc" particles. The water then enters 16 sedimentation basins where the floc is allowed to settle and be removed by an automated solids removal system. The solids or alum sludge is sent to a membrane recycling system where the water is separated and returned to be retreated and the solids are discharged to the wastewater treatment plant for disposal. The water exits the settling basins and enters 16 filters which consist of gravel, sand, and anthracite media. The filtration process removes microscopic material and any remaining particulate matter. Final chemical addition takes place in the post mixing chamber with the addition of lime for pH adjustment, chloramines for disinfection, phosphates for corrosion control, and fluoride for the prevention of dental caries. The water plant is staffed 24/7 by highly trained and state certified personnel. Frequent sampling and testing are performed hourly to insure that all processes meet and exceed all state and federal drinking water regulations. For three consecutive years our water has received state recognition for excellence in optimization of water treatment performance.

To promote and sustain continued growth, the Orangeburg DPU recently completed the process of expanding the water plant once more from 19 MGD to 30 MGD to support an equivalent of supply for 75,000 households.

Water provided to the water system customers meets, and in most cases exceeds, all State (South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control) and Federal (United States Environmental Protection Agency) drinking water standards.

Finished water is stored in three reservoirs with a total capacity of 8.3 million gallons. The water is pumped into the distribution system consisting of nearly 500 miles of pipe ranging in size from 2" to 36" covering approximately 300 square miles in Orangeburg and Calhoun County. Eight storage tanks provide local storage capacity to maintain water pressure throughout the system.

The City of Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities provides water, water treatment, sewer and wastewater treatment for the City and for portions of unincorporated Orangeburg County and Calhoun County at some of the lowest rates in the State of South Carolina. The water system is illustrated in Map 5.3 below:

**Map 5.3: City of Orangeburg Water Service Area**



### **WASTEWATER COLLECTION SEWER AND TREATMENT SERVICES**

The City's wastewater collection system dates back to as early as 1906 when it served an area of approximately three square miles. The service area has grown to approximately 22 square miles and includes a variety of residential, commercial, and industrial customers, approximately 10,700 customers in all. The wastewater sewer collection system consists of gravity lines ranging from 4" to 42" diameter pipes and pressure force mains ranging from 4" to 16" in diameter. The force mains are fed by 19 pump stations in the outlying area.

The treatment process begins with industrial customers whose discharges meet established regulatory requirements. These discharges, along with wastewater from domestic sources, are treated at the Wastewater Treatment Plant using a biological process. The biosolid materials that remain after treatment are the excess organisms that are produced during the treatment process and organic and inorganic material that cannot be further broken down during treatment. The standards for Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge, 40 CFR Part 503, were signed into law and became effective in 1994. The purpose of these standards is to establish numerical, management, and operational standards for the use or disposal of biosolids that are applied to land or placed on a surface disposal site. Regulatory compliance at the industry level and the dedication of wastewater treatment personnel make possible the production of Class A "EQ" (exceptional quality) biosolids that are safe for a wide variety of crops.

A wastewater biosolids dryer was installed at the Orangeburg Wastewater Treatment Plant in 1997 to allow the removal of water to concentrate nutrients in addition to destroying potential pathogens. The thermal process produces a dried product suited for land application as a natural soil amendment that contains essential plant nutrients and organic matter and a beneficial soil conditioner useful in forestry and landscaping and allowing recycling and conservation of landfill space. The application of biosolids to agricultural land for crop production has become a common practice for decades.

### **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The Sanitation Division of the Orangeburg Department of Public Works collects and disposes of solid waste within the City Limits. This is accomplished by a Solid Waste Collection Team that collects household garbage, recycled materials, and yard trash from city-provided rolling cart containers at curbside in each neighborhood on an assigned day each week. Yard trash includes separated curbside piles of lawn/grass clippings, old appliances, construction materials, and tree limbs, branches or stumps.

The City of Orangeburg collects recyclables from residences and businesses in the city. Orangeburg County provides 21 Recycling Centers around the county, including the following locations:

- 400 Glover Street
- 221 Ruf Road
- 4028 North Road
- 580 Bozard Road
- 866 Sturkie Road



Items accepted for recycling include aluminum cans, appliances, lead-acid batteries, cardboard, cooking oil, farmer oil, glass, newspapers, plastic bottles, scrap metal, textiles, used motor oil, and yard trimmings. The Orangeburg County Landfill is located at 310 Endicott Court on the northeast side of I-26. Hours for the landfill are 7:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday and 8:00 am to 12:30 pm on Saturdays.

Residential customers need to use take back programs from the retailer/manufacturer for computers, computer monitors, printers, televisions, and components per the requirements of SC. Code of Law 48-60-90. If the take back programs cannot be used, Orangeburg County provides drop off sites (for residents only) at the Orangeburg County Landfill (310 Endicott Court) and at 4028 North Road. Commercial customers have to recycle these items with a bonafide recycler or take back program from the retailer/manufacturer.

### **ELECTRIC UTILITIES**

Orangeburg DPU is the largest municipal electric utility in the state of South Carolina and provides electric service to approximately 70,000 customers in the City and adjacent portions of Orangeburg and Calhoun Counties. DPU owns and operates 22 electric substations, with service available at 115KV; 46KV; 25KV; 8.3KV; and 480V for large customers. A modern dispatch center monitors and controls the electric system 24 hours a day through a state of the art fiber optic network.

DPU is part of the two-thirds of public power systems that do not generate their own electricity, but buy it on the wholesale market for distribution to their customers. DPU must secure competitively priced and reliable wholesale power to provide reliable power to the customers within the 340 square miles that make up the DPU's geographic electric service area.

### **NATURAL GAS UTILITIES**

The Orangeburg DPU Natural Gas Division markets and sells natural gas to approximately 10,000 residential, commercial, and industrial customers in the city and in adjacent areas of the County, including Cordova and Rowesville. The natural gas distribution system consists of more than 323 miles of 2" to 10" diameter mains and distributes more than 2.3 billion cubic feet of natural gas per year. The 12 employees of the DPU Natural Gas Division also maintain the natural gas lines to the customer's meter.

The natural gas purchased by the Department of Public Utilities comes from Louisiana, Texas, the Gulf of Mexico and LNG Importation Terminal at Elba Island near Savannah, GA. It travels over approximately 1500 miles of interstate pipeline and is delivered to Orangeburg by Carolina Gas Transmission. The Gas Division also owns and operates a propane-air peak shaving plant. At this facility liquid propane is stored to be used on cold winter nights when natural gas is curtailed or purchases are limited.

Pipelines within the City are marked above ground at road crossings and other locations. Any digging, excavation, or utility projects along a pipeline, or the installation of sidewalks, driveways, fencing, sprinkler systems, or other projects that could cause damage to the pipeline requires coordination with pipeline owners to accurately identify the pipe's location and assess any potential impacts.



## 5.4 EDUCATION

Three separate school districts serving more than 16,000 students operate in Orangeburg County. The City is located within the service area of Orangeburg County School District 5. District 5 is primarily located east of the North Fork of the Edisto River with several portions that extend west of the river to include the area around the Town of North and immediately west of the unincorporated Edisto community near Orangeburg. Orangeburg County School District 4 is located south and west of District 5, and Orangeburg County School District 3 is located in the eastern quarter of the County near Lake Marion and Holly Hill.

### ORANGEBURG COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Orangeburg Consolidated School District Five (OCSD-5)** maintains five secondary schools and eight elementary schools serving approximately 7,000 students in the Orangeburg, North, and Bowman communities. The School District office is located at 578 Ellis Avenue in Orangeburg. The North Middle/High School and Dover Elementary School serve the northern portion of the district and the Bethune-Bowman Middle/High School and Bethune-Bowman Elementary School serve the southern third of the district.

**Map 5.4: Orangeburg County Schools**

The public schools serving the City of Orangeburg and adjacent unincorporated areas include:

- ❑ 6 Elementary Schools – Brookdale, Marshall, Mellichamp, Rivelon, Sheridan, and Whitaker;
- ❑ 2 Middle Schools – William J. Clark and Robert E. Howard;
- ❑ 3 High Schools – Orangeburg-Wilkinson, OCSD-5 Technology Center, and OCSD-5 Chartered High School for the Health Professions.

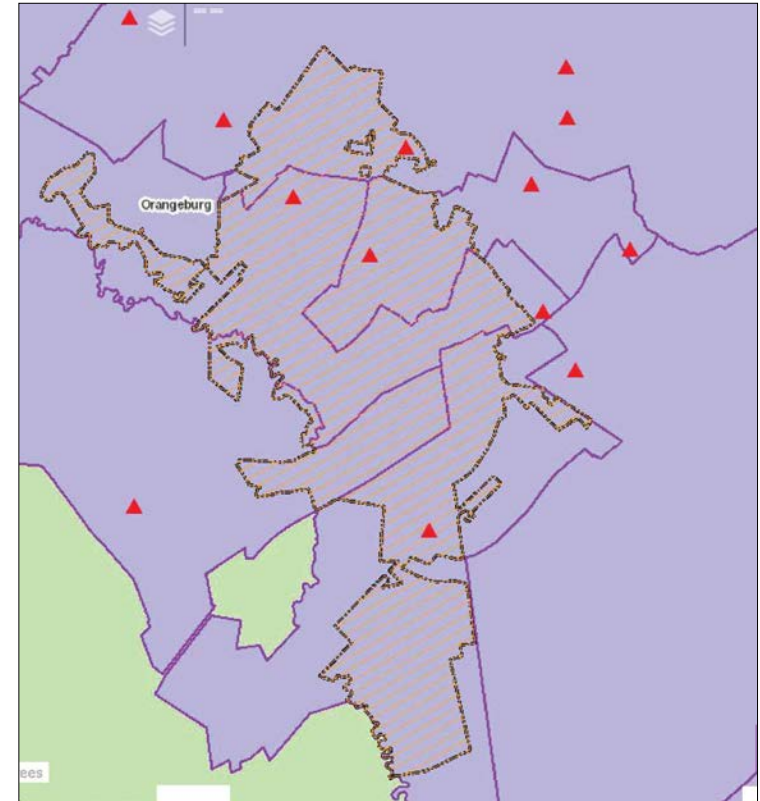


Table 5.1 shows the enrollment of the Orangeburg Consolidated School District Five schools for the 2016-17 school years.

**Table 5.1: Orangeburg Consolidated School District Five Facilities**

<b>Enrollment – Orangeburg Consolidated School District Five</b>				
<b>SCHOOL / YEAR</b>	<b>Grades</b>	<b>2016-2017 Enrollment</b>	<b>2017-2018 Enrollment</b>	<b>Student/Teacher Ratio</b>
Brookdale ES (394 Brookdale Drive)	PK-5	393	376	13
Felton Laboratory School	K-8	125	250	N/A
Marshall ES (1441 Marshall Street)	PK-5	828	621	13
Mellichamp ES (350 Murray Road)	PK-5	489	300	11
Nix ES (770 Stilton Road)	PK-4	N/A	306	12
Rivelon ES (350 Thomas Eklund Circle)	PK-4	245	264	13
Sheridan ES (1139 Hillsboro Road)	PK-4	522	530	16
Whittaker ES (790 Whittaker Parkway)	PK-5	562	573	15
<b>TOTAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (PreK-5<sup>th</sup>)</b>		<b>3,039</b>	<b>3,220</b>	
Robert E. Howard MS	5-8	373	619	13
William J. Clark MS	5-8	684	1,030	16
<b>TOTAL MIDDLE SCHOOLS</b>		<b>1,057</b>	<b>1,640</b>	
Orangeburg Wilkinson HS	9-12	1,163	1,762	17
OCSD-5 Technology Center	9-12	N/A	N/A	N/A
Orangeburg Consolidated Chartered HS for the Health Professions	9-11	279	300	N/A
<b>TOTAL HIGH SCHOOLS</b>		<b>1,442</b>	<b>2,062+</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>TOTAL (Orangeburg Schools Only)</b>	<b>PK-12</b>	<b>5,538</b>	<b>6,931+</b>	

Source: OCSD 5 and Schoolbug.org

The OCSD-5 district benefits from numerous partnerships with three institutions of higher learning: South Carolina State University, Claflin University, and Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College. These institutions enhance the educational opportunities of district students and the professional development of faculty and staff. The Felton Laboratory Charter School, located on the campus of South Carolina State

University, provides K-8<sup>th</sup> grades. The enrollment in 2016-2017 was 125 students. The school was established in 1920 and became a charter public school in 2014. Operations as a charter school began in September 2015 with a mission to provide a rigorous, creative and a diverse learning environment through Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics (*STEAM*).

The District offers Programs for Academically Talented Students (PATS) beginning in elementary school. All special students are given the chance to develop their potential with extensive programs for the gifted, as well as the handicapped.

At the middle school level, parallel block scheduling has been implemented. This program gives students double blocks of time to further develop skills in a small group setting. The William J. Clark Middle School is located at 919 Bennett Avenue and serves about 700 students. The Robert E. Howard Middle School, located at 1255 Belleville Road serves approximately 400 students. The Student: Teacher ratio is 16:1, about seven percent higher than the State average of 15:1. Minority enrollment is 97%. The state average minority enrollment is 48%.

At the high schools, curricula are based on the personal or career goals of individual students. Advanced Placement classes and partnerships with the area technical colleges give students the chance to earn college credit while still in high school. Early communication and computer skills begin in kindergarten with The Writing to Read program, which instructs children to write their thoughts and stories directly into a computer.

The School to Work Transition Act requires a relevant curriculum for all students, career guidance in grades K-12, and worked-based learning opportunities such as mentoring, shadowing, internships, and youth apprenticeships. There are numerous partnerships between the public schools and area businesses, industry and agencies. Students have opportunities to gain work experience to help them with career choices.

The primary public high school serving the City of Orangeburg and the surrounding unincorporated area is the Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School, located at 601 Bruin Parkway. Enrollment in the 2016-2017 school year was approximately 1,450 students.

An alternative school has been established that offers students experiencing behavioral difficulties an opportunity in a controlled environment to be inspired by a technical related curriculum. The OCSD-5 Technology Center is located at 3720 Magnolia Street and provides academic instruction in association with hands-on technical knowledge to support student engagement with the real-world work environment and the acquisition of valuable work skills as part of the education system.

The OCSD-5 Chartered High School for the Health Professions, located at 3720 Magnolia Street, provides academic instruction, interactive learning, and mentoring to support student achievement throughout high school and prepare them for advanced education and professional careers.

Orangeburg County School District Five spent approximately \$13,504 per pupil in 2015-16. The average expenditure per pupil in South Carolina was \$12,368. Local funds provided approximately 38% of the amount in District 4. Estimates for 2016-17 and 2017-18 show an increase of about 1.5%.

**Orangeburg Consolidated School District Four (OCSD-4)** is located southwest of the North Fork of the Edisto River. Albeit outside the city, four schools in OCSD-4 are identified here due to their proximity to the City of Orangeburg: Edisto Primary School (239 Cordova Road, Cordova, SC), Edisto Elementary School (136 Woodolive Lane, Orangeburg), Edisto Middle School (2018 Carver School Road, Cope, SC) and Edisto High School (500 RM Foster Drive, Cordova) are located in. The Primary School accommodates 797 students in grades PK-2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

The Elementary School houses 560 students in grades 3 -5, the Carver-Edisto Middle School is attended by 551 students in grades 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup>, and the High School serves 759 students in 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades. OCSD-4 spent approximately \$11,723 per pupil in 2015-16. About 40% of this funding was provided locally. Estimates for 2017-18 show a projected increase of about 6%.

### SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

Table 5.2 reports the average SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) scores in OCSD-5 and OCSD-4 over the last seven years. SAT scores are only one measure of student performance, but are one indicator of high school performance over time as most colleges and universities use SAT scores to evaluate applicants. Historically, Orangeburg County student test scores have been below the state and national averages.

Orangeburg County School District Five ranks at about the middle of South Carolina’s 85 public school districts. However, South Carolina is consistently one of the lowest performing states in the nation, and only the top school districts in the State perform above the national average.

**Figure 5.2: Average SAT Scores by Year**

District	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Orangeburg Consolidated School District #5 (Orangeburg-Wilkinson HS)</b>	1239	1250	1199	1255	1255	1264	1218
<b>Orangeburg Consolidated School District #4 (Edisto HS)</b>	1250	1246	1230	1190	1190	1239	1200
<b>South Carolina Average</b>	1443	1436	1431	1436	1429	1428	1446
<b>National Average</b>	1497	1500	1498	1498	1471	1462	1453

Source: South Carolina Department of Education

**Consolidation of Orangeburg’s three Public School Districts** has been discussed at several points, including Senate bill 662, passed by the South Carolina General Assembly on June 6, 2017. The bill was an act to consolidate the three districts into a single district by July 1, 2019 with an elected board of nine trustees. The Act was vetoed by the Governor on June 9, 2017 for constitutional grounds regarding budgetary control. Future action to consolidate the public school systems is considered likely, pending future legislative actions at local and/or state levels to accommodate the consolidation and the required transition with minimal disruptions to the existing schools and education programs.

### **ORANGEBURG PRIVATE SCHOOLS:**

The private schools in Orangeburg offer an alternative in education. There are 12 private schools dispersed throughout the County: five kindergartens, three grade schools (1-8), and four schools with grades 1-12. A quick review of private schools includes the following:

- Orangeburg Preparatory Schools, Inc. (2561 North Road) is the largest private school, housing a daycare and 774 students in grades PK-12. Students begin their learning through basic skills and most conclude with a college prep curriculums.
- Orangeburg Christian Academy (1842 Joe Jeffords Highway) serves 174 students in grades PK-12.
- Wesley Christian School (492 Broughton Street) provides classes for PK-12<sup>th</sup> grades and serves 28 students.
- Garden Prep for Boys (908 Willington Road) 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades supports 45 students.
- Vanard Mendinghall Junior Academy at 1204 Decatur Street provides 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade for seven students.
- Andrew Chapel Christian Academy (PO Box 531, Orangeburg) PK-5<sup>th</sup> grade serves 20 students.
- St. Andrews Methodist Kindergarten (1980 Columbia Road) serves PK-K students.
- Greater Faith Baptist Church Child Development Center (203 Dorchester Road) serves PK-K children.
- Kid's House (1073 Eutaw Street) provides PK-K classes.
- Kidz Konnection Day Care (1166 State Road S-38-751) is a PK provider.
- Orangeburg Area Development Center (1060 Pineland Street) provides PK classes.
- Elloree Head Start Center (PO Box 710 Orangeburg) provides PK classes.
- Pecan Grove Child Development Center at 1202 Decatur Street provides PK classes.

### **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

Opportunities for higher learning in the area contribute to the lives of students, business leaders, and the community as a whole. The Community has one state university, two private colleges, one technical college, and two vocational schools. These learning institutions open the doors to post-secondary education for high school students, and adult members of the community. Continuing education courses, music concerts, and sporting events are just a few of the collegiate activities available throughout the year.

**South Carolina State University (SCSU)** is the largest of the area colleges, with 2003-04 enrollments of 3,585 full and part time students. Scholastic majors at South Carolina State are offered in engineering technology, agribusiness, health sciences, and the arts and sciences.

At the graduate level, Master's degrees in teaching, agriculture and business administration are a few of the programs available. Doctoral degrees are available in educational administration.



**Claflin University**, founded as Claflin College in 1869, is a private, four-year, co-educational, career-oriented liberal arts college affiliated with the Methodist Church. It had an enrollment of 1,577 in school year 2003-04. The college is accredited by the Commission of Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and approved by the South Carolina board of Education and the University Senate of the United Methodist Church.



**Claflin University Campus**

The mission of Claflin is "to educate students of diverse backgrounds without regard to gender, race, religion or ethnic origin, and to provide each student with a professional liberal arts education designed to produce graduates who understand themselves, as well as the historical and social forces which impact their world".

Claflin is the oldest historically black college or university in South Carolina, and the first institution of higher learning in the state to welcome all students regardless of gender or race. It has 59 full-time instructors and a student-faculty of 15 to 1.

The university is located on a 32-acre campus with several buildings listed on the National Historic Register. It offers Bachelor degrees in American studies, art, biology, Black studies, business administration, chemistry, computer science, education, English, French, history, management physical education, religion, philosophy, social science, and sociology. Graduate level courses are offered in Business Administration and Education. Pre-professional programs also are available in medicine, dentistry and law.

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**The Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College**, Calhoun-Orangeburg Vocational Education Center, and Cope Area Vocational Center prepare prospective employees to meet the challenges of today's working environment. Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College is a public two-year college offering 18 associate degrees, four diplomas and 23 certificates in the areas of business and computer technology, health science and nursing, industrial technology, and public service. The OCTC University Transfer program enables students to take the first two years of course



work required for a baccalaureate degree and then transfer to a four-year college or university. OCTC's enrollment was 2,491 in school year 2003-04, including both full and part time students

OCTC also offers customized training for local industry through the Continuing Education Division, which led to the development of the Center for Community and Economic Development. The Center houses the occupational training programs and South Carolina's first JTPA college-center based one-stop center, the National Workplace Literacy Program, and several customized employee preparation programs.

**The Calhoun-Orangeburg Vocational Education Center** offers instructional courses in electricity, metal fabrication, computer-aided design (CAD), and computer-aided manufacturing (CAM).

**Southern Methodist College** is a small private four-year institution, with fewer than 100 students. Southern Methodist offers students postsecondary education in a Christian setting. The overall structure of the College programs and activities seek to develop general education, intellectual abilities, Bible knowledge, spiritual maturity, and ministry skills through the processes of academic instruction, experiential learning, and career development.

## 5.5 CULTURAL ARTS FACILITIES

### LIBRARIES

The Orangeburg Branch of the Orangeburg County Library System is located at 510 Louis Street, and is discussed in Chapter 6: Cultural and Historic Resources. The Orangeburg County Library system is governed by a seven member Library Board of Trustees appointed by the Orangeburg County Council. Additional support is provided by the State of South Carolina through federal grants for specific projects and from private donations. Other branches are located in Elloree, Holly Hill, North, Springfield, and Santee, and the system also operates a bookmobile and book deposits for senior citizens at locations around the county.

The Orangeburg Main Library Branch operates six days a week (Monday – Saturday) with variable hours during the day. The existing Library had several problems with flooding after heavy rains over the past several years. A new library facility is proposed (the site and design are yet to be determined) to enhance the ability of the library to provides enhanced services.

### CULTURAL CENTERS AND THE ARTS

**The Orangeburg County Fine Arts Center**, located just outside the Edisto Memorial Gardens in the old River Pavilion is home to the performing arts, visual arts and literary arts. A terrace garden overlooks the river. Exhibits located in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor gallery feature local and regional art, pottery, needlework, miniatures, and other presentations. The Fine Arts Center also supports local arts organizations and schools through sub-grants, and "arts and education" programs through the center's broad range of activities, workshops, exhibits, seminars, plays, concerts, arts and crafts, performances, luncheons, and tours. The Arts Center facility is owned by the City and leased to the Arts Council, a chartered non-profit organization founded to provide facilities for the enjoyment and participation of individuals in the Arts and Historical Heritage. The two-story building was last renovated in 1984 and is adequate for most functions.

In addition to the Fine Arts Center, a local performing group, the **Orangeburg Part-Time Players**, secured and renovated the old Edisto Theatre downtown (renamed **Blue Bird Theatre**) for live performances.

**Stevenson Auditorium** is located in the City office complex on Middleton Street in downtown Orangeburg. Built in 1927, this complex was designed to serve as the cultural and administrative center of town. The auditorium has seating for 613, following major renovation in 2000, and inclusion of handicapped accessible modifications designed to meet ADA requirements. It is used about 200 days out of the year.

**The Edisto Memorial Gardens** provide 110 acres of flowering plants and trees on the Edisto River. Centennial Park, the Azalea Garden, and the Rose Garden pond area are frequently rented for weddings and receptions. Other sites throughout the gardens, such as the Sensory Garden, may be rented and used as well. The Chapel of Hope provides a small non-denominational structure for intimate events of a solemn nature.

**South Carolina State University** adds considerably to the inventory of cultural facilities and resources available to the Community. Among these are the **Martin Luther King Auditorium** (the largest cultural auditorium facility in the City with seating capacity for 1,000); the **Henderson-Davis Theatre** in Turner Hall (provides a seating capacity for 400); and the **Fine Arts Building in the Barbara A. Vaughn Recital Hall** which houses the FAB gallery exhibition space for professional and student exhibitions and the Visual Arts program studios on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors. These facilities are available for community use and present a variety of performances including concerts, plays, lectures, poetry reading, etc. The University also has a symphony orchestra, concert choir, gospel choir and the Henderson-Davis Players, among other performing groups, including the South Carolina State University Marching 101 Band.

**Claflin University** cultural resources available to the arts community include the 800-seat capacity **W.V. Middleton Fine Arts Center** hosts and the **Performing Arts Center** at the Living and Learning Center which provides space for about 150 people in a renovated historical building.

## 5.6 RECREATION AND PARKS

### CITY PARKS AND COMMUNITY CENTERS

In 2006, the City of Orangeburg had a total of 490.3 acres of recreation and open space in 24 parks, including Hillcrest Recreational Park, which is located outside the City. Approximately 60% of the existing parks and recreation acreage was devoted to active recreation, and 40% was devoted to passive recreation or open space. Park and recreation demand for land is theoretical. However, based on the County's population of 92,000, an estimate based on National Recreation and Park Association standards would recommend 575 and 966 acres of parklands county-wide.


Orangeburg Downtown Square



Table 5.3 below provides an inventory of the public parks, recreation fields, and community centers in the City planning area along with the amount of acreage each facility provides:

**Table 5.3: City of Orangeburg Parks**

Park	Type	Acres	Notes
Adden Street Field	Girls Softball Field		Adden Street
Albergotti Field	Baseball Field		Seaboard Street
Albergotti Park	Tennis Courts, Playground, Picnic Shelter		Riverside Drive
Arts Center Shelter	Picnic Shelter and River Stage		Riverside Drive
Azalea Gardens	Shelter		Edisto Gardens Wedding Venue
Berry Park			
Boswell Street Playground	Basketball Court/Playground		Boswell Street
Brookdale Elementary	Basketball Gym		394 Brookdale Drive
Canteen and Adden Street Park	Community Center and Playground		120 Middleton Street
Chapel of Hope	General Building and Grass Area		Highway 301
City Gym	Basketball Gym (Red and Green Gyms) and Multi-Purpose Meeting Rooms		410 Broughton Street
Clark Middle School	Basketball Gym		919 Bennett Street
Culler Playground			
Duncan Street Playground	Picnic Shelter, Swings, Basketball Court		Off Magnolia Street
Edisto Memorial Gardens	Public Gardens and Events Venue	175	Azalea Gardens Wedding Venue
Ellis Avenue Playground	Basketball Court, Playground		Summer Street
Evergreen Park			
Future multi-purpose city park			
Glover Street Shelter	Shelter Rental		Glover Street
Hedgepeth Ball Field	General		759 Peasley Street
Hillcrest	Soccer/Football Fields, Tennis Courts, Baseball Fields, Golf Course	186	367 Green Street (jointly programmed with Orangeburg County / Land leased from SCSU )
Horne Wetlands Park			
Howard Middle School	Basketball Gym		1255 Bellville Road
Jennings Court Playground	Basketball Court, Playground		Jennings/Rowe Street
Maxcy Street Playground			
Memorial Plaza			

Mirmow Field	American Legion, Claflin University, Dixie Pre-Majors Baseball Field		Whaley Street/Rowe Street
Moss Heights			
North Road (Future)	Ballfields, Trails, Lake, Future YMCA	80(+)	
Palmetto Major and Palmetto Youth	Baseball and Softball Fields		
Pecan Terrace Playground	Playground , Basketball Court		Stuart Street
Raysor Park			
Riggs Street Playground	Basketball Court, Playground		Glover Street
Spray Park	Water Park and Parking Lot		Riverside Drive
Summers Street Playground			
Sunnyside Playground			
Webster Woods			
Zimmerman Community Center and Peasley Street Park	Community Center and Baseball Field		759 Peasley Street
<b>Total</b>	<b>24 parks</b>	<b>490.3</b>	



Map 5.5 illustrates public park and recreation locations within the City of Orangeburg. In addition, there are numerous public and private golf courses, boat landings, and school, church, community, and shared facilities:

National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards generally suggest a range between 6.25 and 10.5 acres of park space per 1,000 persons. Based on the 2015 ACS estimate of city population, 13,650, the City should strive for approximately 85 to 143 acres of park and recreation space to meet the NRPA standards for the City population. However, the City also serves as the County' seat and the center of the

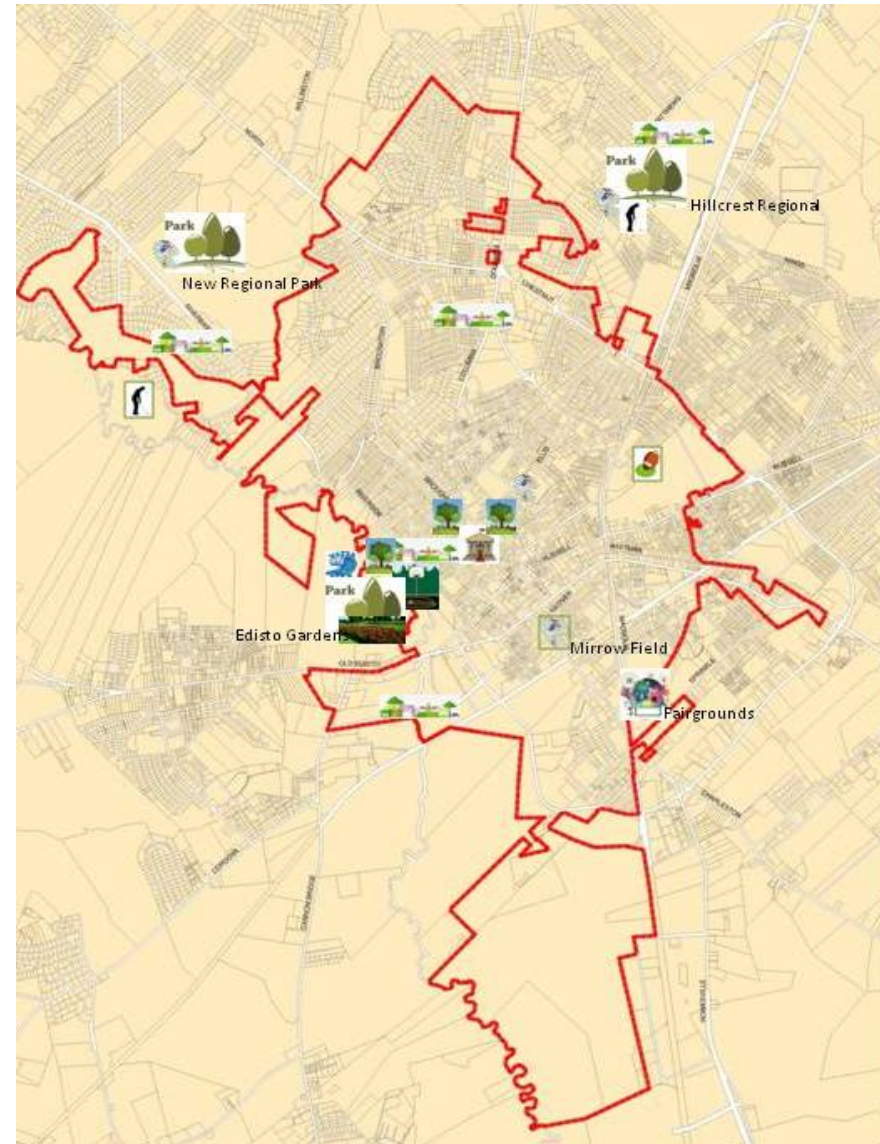
### City Parks Summary

The distribution of parks and recreation facilities is highly desirable to ensure public accessibility and use. The City has worked over the past 10 years to enhance the balance of park facilities although the distribution in parts of the City does not appear to be in balance and there are apparent deficiencies in the number and distance to public recreational facilities for some elements of the City.

The most significant residential areas that lack adequate neighborhood parks are some of the fairly densely populated, lower-income areas near the Central Business District and south of Calhoun Street to the CSX Railroad. The facilities in these areas appear to be inadequate to satisfy the needs of the nearby population. Neighborhood facilities also are lacking in the larger residential area northwest of Columbia Road.

According to most recreation standards such as the NPRA, the City of Orangeburg has sufficient acreage to meet its recreational needs. But in the absence of a County recreational program, the City has the added responsibility of serving the larger urban area, calling into question the adequacy of its park inventory.

**MAP 5.5: PARKS AND OPEN SPACE**



Source: Robert and Company, 2017

In 2006, five parks were in need of improvements:

- *Boswell Street Playground*
- *Jennings Court Playground*
- *Pecan Terrace Playground*
- *Duncan Street Playground*
- *Sunnyside Playground*

Additionally, a minimum of two small parks were needed as additions to the City's inventory in the northern part of the City, where recreational facilities are essentially non-existent. Short-range plans by the City included:

- a. Development of a 132 acre city park to include, ball fields, walking trails, picnic areas and other facilities,
- b. Development of parking lot and restrooms at Arts Center, and
- c. Development of an amphitheatre behind the Arts Center.
- d. Improvement to existing or construction of new boat ramp on the North Fork of the Edisto River.
- e. Improvements to Hillcrest Golf Course- greens and bunkers.
- f. New City Gym and improvements to tennis courts.

Long-range plans call for the expansion of Horne Wetlands Park to the west side of the river.

**Table 5.4: City of Orangeburg Park Acreage by Park Type**

TYPE	NUMBER	TOTAL ACREAGE
Mini-parks	9	4.7
Playgrounds	3	6.5
Neighborhood parks	4	19.6
Community parks	2	262.0
Passive parks	6	197.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>490.3</b>

Source: City of Orangeburg, Recreation Department.



## ORANGEBURG COUNTY PARKS

Orangeburg County is an active partner with the City in supporting the Hillcrest Recreational Park. The County does not maintain a separate system of park facilities.

## STATE AND NATIONAL PARKS AND FORESTS

Although there are State and National Parks and National Forests within accessible driving distances, none are located within the city of Orangeburg. Santee State Park is located on the western side of Lake Marion in the southeastern portion of Orangeburg County approximately 15 miles from Orangeburg. The Santee State Park provides 2,500 acres with two campgrounds, restrooms, hiking trails, and boating, canoeing, kayaking, birding and fishing resources. Poinsett State Park to the north in Sumter County, Barnwell State Park to the south, and Aiken State Park to the west are each located about 20-25 miles from the City. State Park information is available online at: <https://southcarolinaparks.com/>. Each State Park facility has unique resources such as walking trails, interpretative markers, and passive recreation opportunities for visitors.

The old growth forest in Congaree National Park is located 20 miles to the north. The Harry Hampton Visitor Center is open 7 days a week, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and is closed on all federal holidays. Trail maps and brochures, as well as restroom facilities and water are available in the Visitor Center breezeway 24 hours a day. Information about the Congaree National Park is available at <https://www.nps.gov/cong/index.htm>.



Canoeing on Cedar Creek

Congaree National Park, Hopkins, SC

## 5.7 COMMUNITY FACILITY GOALS AND POLICIES

GOAL	POLICY	ACTION	STATUS
<b>Goal 5.1/Public Safety:</b> Reduce crime rates, especially murder and other violent crimes.	<i>Policy 5.1.1: Provide Optimum Response to Public Safety Calls.</i>	Provide permanent community resource officers in areas of highest criminal activity.	
		Promote community-based crime watch organizations.	
	<i>Policy 5.1.2: Insure individual readiness to respond to all critical incidents.</i>		
	<i>Policy 5.1.3: Establish a citywide information delivery network that will inform victims of their constitutional rights.</i>		
	<i>Improve the City's ISO rating to Class 3, if economically feasible.</i>		
	<i>Increase the time that sworn officers are able to be out in the Community by providing technology that will decrease time spent on acquiring information from a dispatcher.</i>		
	<i>Improve the Department's capability to respond more effectively to critical incidents.</i>	Provide foreign language training to police officers and other city staff on a voluntary basis.	
	<i>Make Orangeburg a Safer Community---in the Minds of the People, in the Streets, in the Neighborhoods, During the Day and During the Night.</i>		
	<i>Reduce the crime rate and fear of crime.</i>	<i>Increase conviction rate and insure proper reporting.</i>	
	<i>Demonstrate a commitment to the Community by striving for the utmost professionalism.</i>	<i>Maintain a fully accredited agency conforming to the Commission on Law Enforcement Accreditation Standards.</i>	
	<i>Enhance the Department's professional standards (recruitment, FTO and basic training).</i>		
	<i>Develop and coordinate crime prevention and problem solving programs in identified high-risk areas</i>		

	<i>Continue to work with Claflin University to develop a fully functioning Forensic Lab to include analysis of DNA evidence as well as ballistic analysis</i>		
	<i>Re-establish an aggressive traffic control unit to reduce number and severity of traffic accidents.</i>		
<b>Goal 5.2/Public Safety: Provide adequate, cost-effective fire protection and emergency services throughout city</b>	Policy 5.2.1: Maintain high level fire protection throughout all areas of Orangeburg Fire Services District	Action: Identify appropriate locations for future fire stations.	
		Resolve any gaps in fire service response times.	
		Add fire hydrants where lacking.	
	<i>Improve the City's ISO rating to Class 3, if economically feasible.</i>	Continuing improvements have achieved Class 2 as of 2017	Done
	Policy 5.2.2: Maintain efficient coordination of EMS and 911 services with the county.		
<b>Goal 5.3/Public Safety: Education: Provide a high-quality education and a good learning environment for all</b>	Policy 5.3.1: Provide public safety at schools to ensure a safe learning environment	<i>Maintain highly visible law enforcement figures on local school campus to secure a safe environment conducive to an educational atmosphere and</i>	
	Policy 5.3.2: Take measures to reduce the educational disadvantages for Charleston County School students.	Increase social service resources for underprivileged students.	
		Support Head Start or similar programs in low-income areas	

GOAL	POLICY	ACTION	STATUS
<b>Goal 5.4/City Administration &amp; Courts:</b>			
City Courts		Continually monitor and improve existing facilities when needed.	
County Administration Facilities		Continually monitor and improve existing facilities when needed.	
Healthcare and Social Services	Policy 5.4.1/Healthcare: Provide Comprehensive Quality Healthcare Services Which Meet Community and Individual Needs and Expectations		
Housing	Policy 5.4.2/Housing: Support housing choices within the city	Revise City Zoning and Development Codes to encourage housing	
<b>Goal 5.5/Public Utilities:</b> Maintain Quality Utility Services at Lowest Possible Rates.	Policy 5.5.1: Build and renovate public facilities with energy-efficient design (LEED or similar)		
	Policy 5.5.2: Reduce capital expenditures through shared public facilities and energy-efficient design standards.	Seek additional opportunities for shared use of schools, libraries, auditoriums, classrooms, recreation facilities for multiple functions.	
<b>Goal 5.6/Public Utilities:</b>	Policy 5.6.1: Expand Utilities to Meet the Growing Needs of the Community.		
	Policy 5.6.2: Maintain Competitive Rates for Industrial Development.		
<b>Goal 5.7.1/Education:</b> Orangeburg Consolidated School District No. 5	Policy 5.7.1: Empower all students to be problem solvers, users of technology, effective communicators, and lifelong learners in a rapidly changing world	Expand Technology and Tech Programs	
	Policy 5.7.2: Provide challenging experiences in a safe, caring, supportive & cooperative environment.	Safety Officers	
<b>Goal 5.7.2/Education:</b> Orangeburg Countywide Schools	Policy 5.7.3: Train a competent work force with capable graduates able to move into higher education or technical training & jobs	Address consolidation issues	

<b>Goal 5.8/Education:</b> Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College	<i>Train a competent work force and provide university transfer courses and training in job specific skills.</i>		
<b>Goal 5.9.1/Education:</b> South Carolina State University	<i>Equip students with the personal and professional skills needed to excel in today's global society.</i>		
<b>Goal 5.9.2/Education:</b> Claflin University	<i>Educate students of diverse backgrounds, and provide each student with a professional liberal arts education designed to produce graduates who understand themselves, as well as the historical and social forces which impact their world.</i>		
<b>Goal 5.9.3/Education:</b> Southern Methodist College	<i>Develop general education, intellectual abilities, Bible knowledge, spiritual maturity, and ministry skills through the process of academic instruction, experiential learning, and career development.</i>		
<b>Goal 5.10/Cultural Arts: Enhance cultural arts programs and venues in all parts of the city</b>	Policy 5.10.1: Provide additional libraries, performance spaces, and other cultural facilities in Planning Areas 2, 3, and 4.		
	Policy 5.10.2: Provide a high-quality civic and cultural arts complex that will be a source of community pride		
<b>Goal 5.11/Libraries and Arts Centers</b>	Policy 5.11.1: Support modernization of the library system	Plan for location and design, and construction of new library facility	
<b>Goal 5.12/Recreation &amp; Parks : Provide an adequate and equitable system of parks and recreation facilities</b>	Policy 5.12.1: Ensure equal opportunity of all Orangeburg citizens to enjoy quality open space and recreation facilities	Continually monitor and improve existing facilities when needed.	
		Provide a system of smaller, neighborhood pocket parks distributed throughout the city.	
		Continue working deals with schools and churches to share recreation facilities.	
	Policy 5.12.2: Increase use of underutilized parks by increasing safety, lighting and security.	Ensure parks provide for all age groups with safe environs	

	Policy 5.12.3: Maintain and Further Develop Quality Recreational Facilities and Programs, and Promote the Community's Parks and Recreational Assets as an Economic Development Tool.	Update Master Development Plan for Edisto Memorial Gardens.  Further develop the Horne Wetlands Park with educational programs, planting, and signage.	
	Policy 5.12.4: Develop an athletic complex and multi-purpose indoor facility.		
	Policy 5.12.5: Retain and nurture partnerships with the Arts Council, Keep America Beautiful, Downtown Revitalization, other non-profit organizations and governmental entities.	Work with the S.C. Dept. of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism to ensure the City's involvement in the National Heritage Corridor program.  Continue to pursue governmental grants for recreational programs and facilities.	
	Policy 5.12.6: Develop canoe docks and a formal trail.		
	Policy 5.12.7: Work to become a Tree City.		
	Policy 5.12.8: Work to develop a Visitors Center and Museum to capitalize on National Heritage Corridor.		