

## **Charleston County News Release**

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## **Public Input Requested on Possible Closing of Edisto Island Magistrate Court**

Residents can provide comments on Tuesday, May 21 to Charleston County Council

In an effort by <u>Charleston County Government</u> to reduce costs and maintain countywide efficiencies, the Edisto Island Magistrate Court located at 8070 Indigo Hill Road will be considered for closure by <u>Charleston County Council</u>.

The public will have an opportunity to provide comments to County Council on the proposed closure of the Edisto Island Magistrate Court **at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 21** in Council Chambers at the Lonnie Hamilton Public Service Building (4045 Bridge View Drive; North Charleston, SC 29405).

This meeting was originally scheduled for 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, but Council voted to reschedule it due to requests from citizen groups on Edisto Island.

If County Council decides to close the facility, Citizens on Edisto Island who need court services would be required to use the Ravenel/Hollywood Magistrate office in the George Tumbleston, Jr. Satellite Building located at 5962 Highway 165, Suite 200, in Ravenel. Upon closure, personnel assigned to the Edisto Island court would be reassigned to another court facility.

## **SIDEBAR:** information on the Edisto Island Magistrate Court

- Court is conducted in a facility leased from Edisto Island Self-Development of People, Inc. for a term of 25 years.
- Charleston County paid \$15,000 toward construction of the building in lieu of future rent costs.
- The current 25-year lease ends March 16, 2012. If Council decides to close the facility, the County could save \$45,000 over the remaining three years in costs for security, custodial services, utilities, taxes and insurance.

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