

Charleston County News Release

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SEE MORE ON THE CHARLESTON COUNTY GREENBELT PROGRAM:

http://www.smallchangeforbigchange.org/greenbelt.html

Greenbelt Advisory Board Meets Twice in March and April

The public is invited to attend meetings on March 9, March 23, April 13 and April 27

Charleston County's <u>Greenbelt Advisory Board</u> (GAB) meet more often than usual in the next two months.

Upcoming meetings will be held on the following dates:

- March 9, 2010
- March 23, 2010
- April 13, 2010
- April 27, 2010

The GAB meetings will take place at 3 p.m. in County Council's Committee Room located on the 2nd floor of the Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Service Building (4045 Bridge View Drive, N. Chas.). There will be time allowed for public comments at each meeting, and the GAB encourages members of the public to attend and provide input on the Greenbelt Program.

The GAB is currently in the process of reviewing the <u>Comprehensive Greenbelt Plan</u>. The initial step in the process has been completed with <u>Charleston County Council's</u> Feb. 16 affirmation of the Plan's fundamentals (e.g., greenbelt definition, vision and goals).

The next step for the GAB is to review specific portions of the Plan to determine if any changes are needed. The additional meetings will be held in the next two months to ensure that the GAB has sufficient time to review the Greenbelt Plan and to formulate specific recommendations for County Council by May of 2010.

Below is the current list of issues the GAB will be considering:

- 1. Outreach to small landowners
- 2. Urban allocation to beach islands
- 3. Funding for urban unincorporated areas
- 4. Amending rural criteria to give prioritization for easement projects that:
 - a. Provide for green buffers to local, county or state roads so they are viewable by the public
 - b. Allow for public access, whether full or limited access
 - c. Include uses such as farming when the protection of the property will allow the landowner to continue to farm
 - d. Are contiguous to other protected lands
- 5. Using additional tools in Conservation Toolbox
- 6. Greenway Corridors Goal
- 7. Marketing campaign
- 8. Updated greenspace inventory

The current GAB members are:

- Chair: Louise Maybank recommended by Charleston County Councilmember Schweers
- Raymond H. Anderson, Jr. City of North Charleston

- Charles Bennett, Jr. recommended by Charleston County Councilmember Pryor
- Curtis Bostic Rural South
- Eric DeMoura Town of Mount Pleasant
- Diane Derry recommended by Charleston County Councilmember Condon
- Eileen Duffy recommended by Charleston County Councilmember Rawl
- George Freeman Rural North
- Thomas Johnson recommended by Charleston County Councilmember Inabinett
- Warwick Jones recommended by Charleston County Councilmember Darby
- Jim Koenig recommended by Charleston County Councilmember McKeown
- Gerald Lahm recommended by Charleston County Councilmember Summey
- Jeremy Read recommended by Charleston County Councilmember Thurmond
- Lawrence O. Thompson City of Charleston

The Greenbelt Projects is funded by Charleston County's Transportation Sales Tax.

Contact Cathy Ruff by phone at (843) 202-7204 or by e-mail at cruff@charlestoncounty.org for more information about the upcoming meetings, or visit the Transportation Sales Tax Web site at www.smallchangeforbigchange.org to review the Comprehensive Greenbelt Plan and learn about greenbelt initiatives.