



HC**Government**



Horry County Government South Carolina

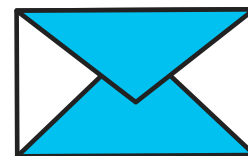
FY 21 POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

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A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Horry County Government is pleased to present its first Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. This report serves as a financial snapshot of our organization and our local economy in FY2021.

Despite the continued challenge of COVID-19, the County's financial position remains strong, due in large part to conservative projections, prudent investment in reserve funds, and continued cost control measures. We remain committed to providing excellent service, investing in the future of our community, and responsibly managing public funds. Our organization was assertive in recouping eligible COVID-19 related expenditures through the CARES Act.



We provided our full-time employees with 80 hours of COVID-19 leave and incentivized that leave to maximize the strength of our workforce during a challenging season. We made upgrades to our facilities to improve safety and to our online services to increase efficiency for our residents.

Overall, our revenues were up approximately 9.61% while expenditures were down by 12.34% compared to the annual budget. We experienced an unprecedented demand increase in the local housing market, driving up revenues in our Register of Deeds and Code Enforcement offices.

As we move into FY2022, we continue to prioritize investments in necessary infrastructure, personnel, and services to support our rapidly growing community. Impact Fees, an increase in the County Stormwater Fee and grant funding, including the ARPA, will allow us to bring on additional personnel, particularly in our public safety division, fast track projects on our existing capital improvements plan, and make upgrades to existing technologies.

From all of us at Horry County Government, I thank you for your continued support. We achieved a great deal in FY2021 and as we continue to work for you, we look forward to the bright future ahead.

ABOUT US

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the government of Horry County, South Carolina is to provide a community environment in which the citizens and visitors of Horry County can enjoy the highest quality of life.

MOTTO "COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE"



Horry County County Council



Johnny Gardner
Chairman



Danny Hardee
District 10



R. Mark Causey
District 9



Harold Worley
District 1



Bill Howard
District 2



Dennis DiSabato
District 3



Cam Crawford
District 6



Tyler Servant
District 5/Vice Chair



Gary Loftus
District 4



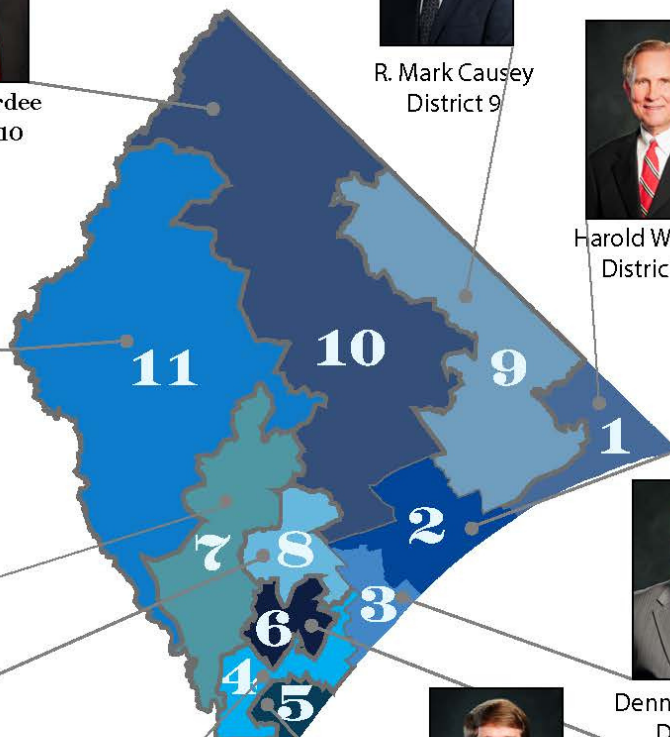
Johnny Vaught
District 8



Orton Bellamy
District 7



Al Allen
District 11



ABOUT US

3 DIVISIONS

Administration



Public Safety



Infrastructure & Regulation



40+ DEPARTMENTS

Assessor
Auditor
Business License &
Hospitality
Clerk of Court
Community Development
County Council
Delegation
Finance
Human Resources
Information Technology
Legal

Library
Master-In-Equity
Medically Indigent
Assistance
Museum
Probate Judge
Procurement
Public Information
Register of Deeds
Registration & Elections
Treasurer
Veteran's Affairs

911 Communications
Animal Care Center
Central Jury Court
Central Processing
(DSS) Central Summary
Court
Clerk of Court
Coroner
Detention

Emergency Management
Fire/Rescue
Magistrates
Police
Public Defender
Sheriff
Solicitor

Airport
Code Enforcement
Engineering
Fleet Maintenance
Maintenance
Parks & Recreation
Planning & Zoning
Public Works
Solid Waste Authority
Stormwater

**2,800+
EMPLOYEES**

ABOUT US

Members of County Council

Johnny Gardner, Chairman

Tyler Servant, Vice Chairman

Harold Worley, Member, District 1

Bill Howard, Member, District 2

Dennis DiSabato, Member, District 3

Gary Loftus, Member, District 4

Tyler Servant, Member, District 5

Cam Crawford, Member, District 6

Orton Bellamy, Member, District 7

Johnny Vaught, Member, District 8

Mark Causey, Member, District 9

Danny Hardee, Member, District 10

Al Allen, Member, District 11



Elected Officials

Beth Calhoun, Auditor

Renee Elvis, Clerk of Court

Robert Edge, Jr., Coroner

Kathy Ward, Judge of Probate

Philip E. Thompson, Sheriff

Jimmy A. Richardson II, Solicitor Fifteenth Circuit

Angie Jones, Treasurer



Administrative Officials

Steve Gosnell, County Administrator

Barry Spivey, Assistant County Administrator, Administration

Randy Webster, Assistant County Administrator, Public Safety

David Gilreath, Assistant County Administrator, Infrastructure & Regulation

Arrigo Carotti, County Attorney

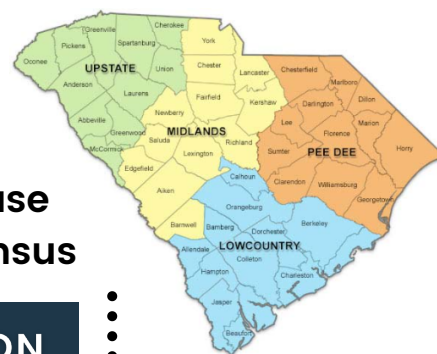
COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Population 2020

351,029

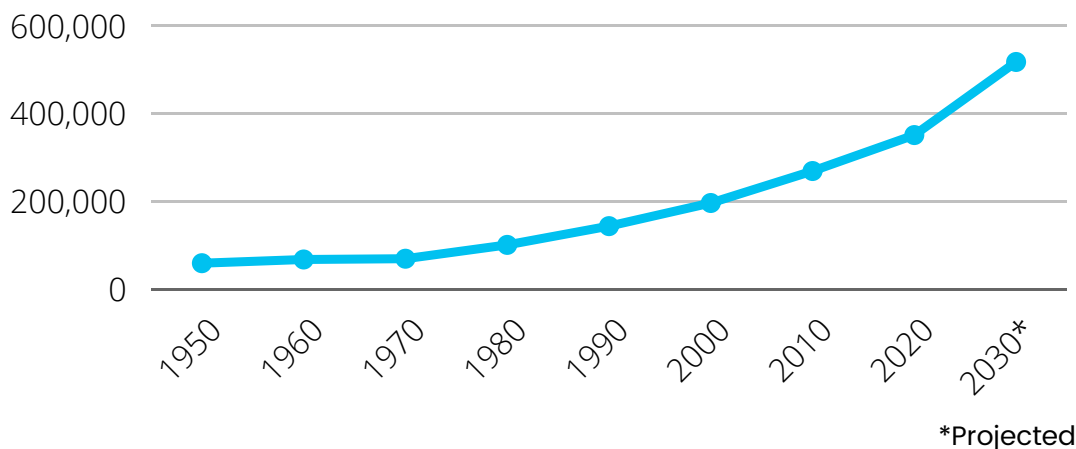


**30.4% increase
from 2010 Census**

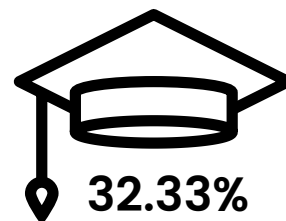
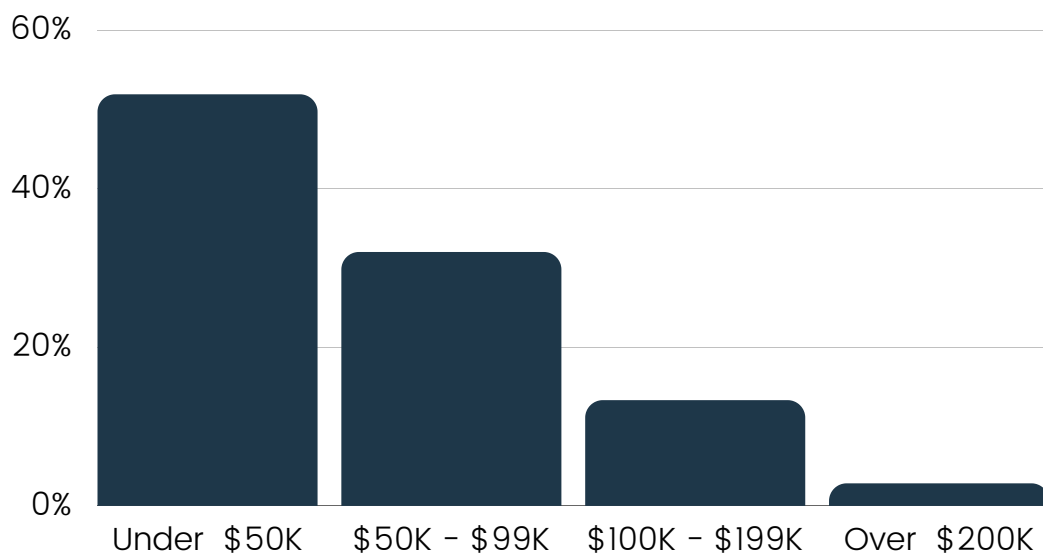


**5TH LARGEST COUNTY IN S.C. BY POPULATION
AND LARGEST BY SQUARE MILES**

POPULATION TRENDS



MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



32.33%

% with Associate's degree or higher.



\$41,964

Average per capita annual wage



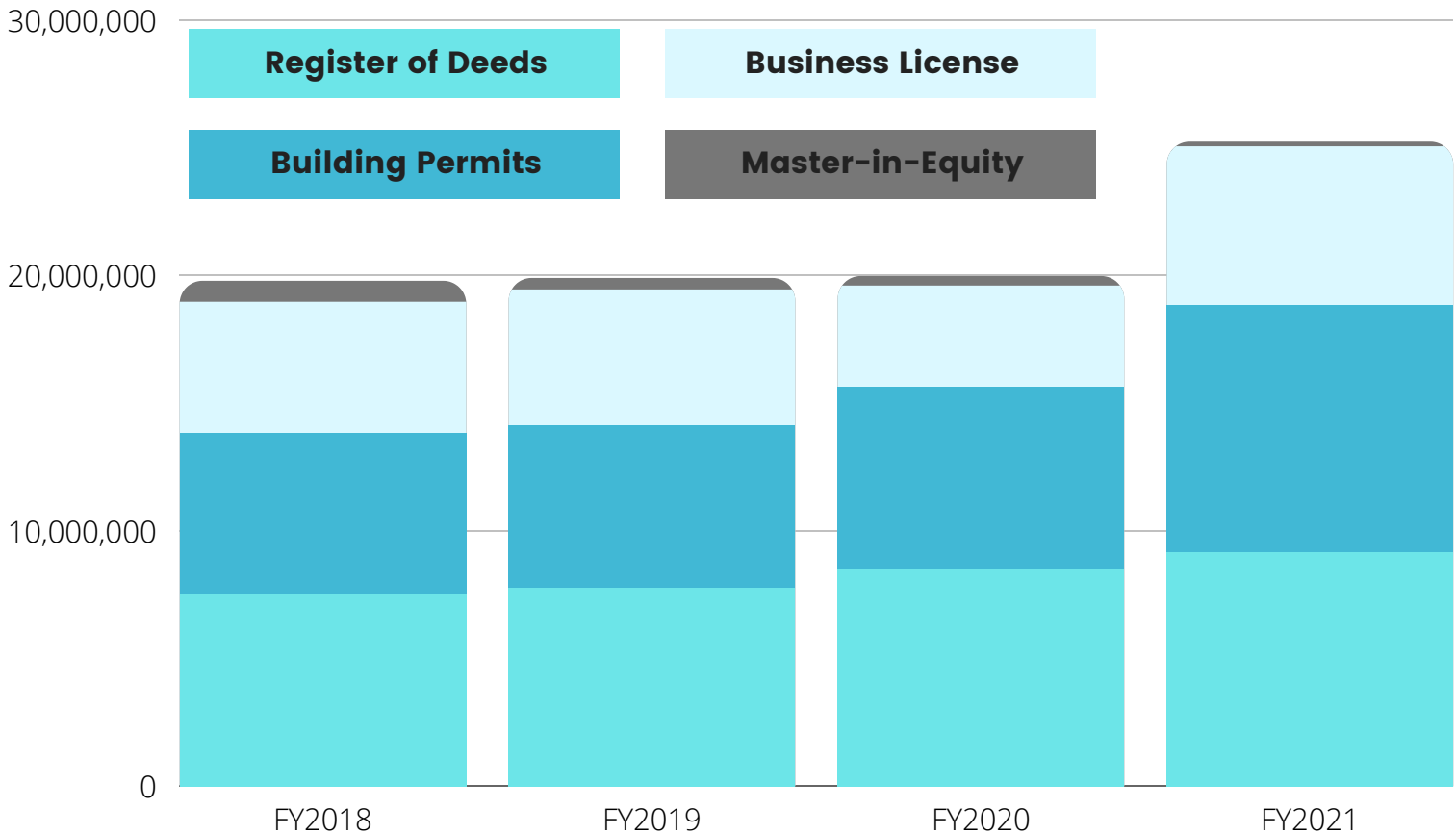
154,864

Labor Work Force

5.4%

Unemployment Rate

FAVORABLE ECONOMIC TRENDS



RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP

HORRY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
 Angie Jones • County Treasurer
 M. Lois Eargle • County Auditor
 Lawrence Roscoe • County Assessor
REAL ESTATE TAX NOTICE

REAL ESTATE
 [Barcode]

USPS REQUIRED AREA

THIS IS A TAX BILL IN THE AMOUNT OF:
\$176.34

PAY THIS AMOUNT BY JANUARY 15, 2021

NO PARTIAL PAYMENTS

This is a copy - the original has been mailed to your mortgage company

Make Check Payable To:
 Horry County Treasurer
 PO Box 260107
 Conway, SC 29528

PAY BY PHONE: 1-866-830-3582
PAY ONLINE: www.horrycounty.org

TAX YEAR: 2020
NOTICE #: 000178-19-5
PIN #: 324-09-03-0032
City of Conway Dist 110

Description	Amount
VLG @CONWAY COUNTRY CLB LOT 42	
Appraised Value (Taxable):	\$32,177.00
Residential	\$000.00
Farm	\$000.00
Other	\$000.00
PRIOR YEAR TAX ON THIS PROPERTY	\$450.07
TAX AMOUNT	\$328.69
LESS:	
STATE SCHOOL CREDIT	-\$152.35
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION	-\$000.00
CREDIT #2	-\$000.00
CREDIT #3	-\$000.00
CREDIT #4	-\$000.00
TOTAL DUE NOW-----	\$176.34

Do You Know Your Zone?
YOUR PROPERTY IS IN ZONE: A
 All areas east of U.S. Business 17 (Kings Hwy), up to intersection with U.S. 17 (Kings Hwy) and then all areas east of US 17 (Kings Hwy) to the Northern county line.

Breakdown of your taxes on back of form.

PENALTY AMOUNTS AND DATES BELOW

Plus 3% Jan. 16 Thru Feb. 3, 2021	\$181.63
Plus 10% Feb. 4 Thru March 16, 2021	\$193.97
Plus 15% After March 16, 2021	\$202.79

HORRY COUNTY REAL ESTATE TAX BILL
TAX YEAR: 2020 NOTICE NUMBER: 000178-19-5 PIN #: 324-09-03-0032
PAY ONLINE: www.horrycounty.org
TOTAL TAX DUE NOW \$176.34
TOTAL DUE NOW-----\$176.34
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: HORRY COUNTY TREASURER
PAY BY PHONE: 1-866-830-3582
PAY ONLINE: www.horrycounty.org

In an effort to reduce cost and paper, the offices of the Horry County Treasurer, Assessor and Auditor created a new tax notice that included less paper inserts and bold fonts to emphasize important information. This change saved the County over \$50,000 in postage costs.

In addition to this update, the Treasurer's office started a new decal/registration program. After a customer pays their vehicle renewal bill, the Treasurer's office can now print and provide each customer with their decal and registration. Customers no longer have to wait for the DMV to mail the items.

PAYROLL TOTAL

\$ 118,718,570.97

*In addition to the regular annual salaries, the total above includes employee expense reimbursements, leave, overtime pay, emergency pay, etc.

BUDGETED POSITIONS

	FULL-TIME	PART-TIME	TOTAL
General Fund	1,645	40	1,685
Fire Fund	182	19	201
Airport	148	6	154
Component Unit – Solid Waste Authority	95	53	148
County Recreation Fund	35	88	123
Solicitor Fund	107	3	110
Stormwater Management Fund	37	0	37
Tourism & Promotion Fund	24	2	26
Public Defender Fund	26	0	26
Fleet Maintenance Fund	21	0	21
Road Maintenance Fund	12	0	12
Victim Witness Fund	9	1	10
911 Emergency Telephone Fund	8	0	8
Economic Development Fund	4	0	4
P25 Radio System Fund	2	0	2
TOTAL	2,355	212	2,567

COUNTY NET POSITION

NET POSITION

\$1.7 Billion



\$188.9 Million
increase from
FY2020

ASSETS

\$2.2 Billion

LIABILITIES

\$518 Million

Including deferred inflows and outflows

COUNTY RATINGS AND FINANCIAL AWARDS

AWARDS

Government Finance Officers Association:

- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (ACFR): 34 years
- Distinguished Budget Presentation Award Program (Budget Document): 32 years

RATINGS

S&P Global Ratings: AA+

Fitch: AA+

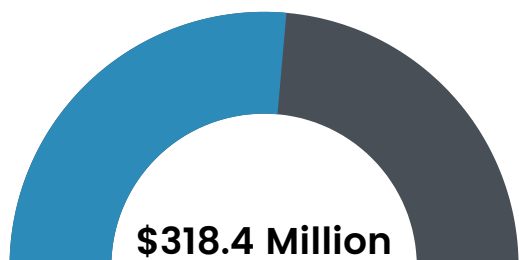
Moody's: Aa1



FUND BALANCE

\$ 603.5 Million

Fund balance is the financial resources available to the County. Some funds are unrestricted, but many of these dollars are restricted.



\$318.4 Million

RIDE Capital Project Sales Tax
A One-Cent Capital Projects Sales Tax for roads. By law, these funds are restricted only to certain uses.



\$72.6 Million

Restricted Programs
This includes special revenue funds, grant funds, & other sources of revenue that are restricted to certain uses.



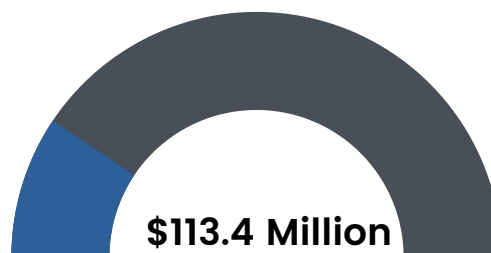
\$7.4 Million

Unassigned Fund Balance
These are revenues that have not been assigned. County Council will allocate these funds as a part of the budget process.



\$91.7 Million

Fiscal Reserves
This portion of the fund balance is set aside as a buffer against future risk. For example, a natural disaster or economic downturn.



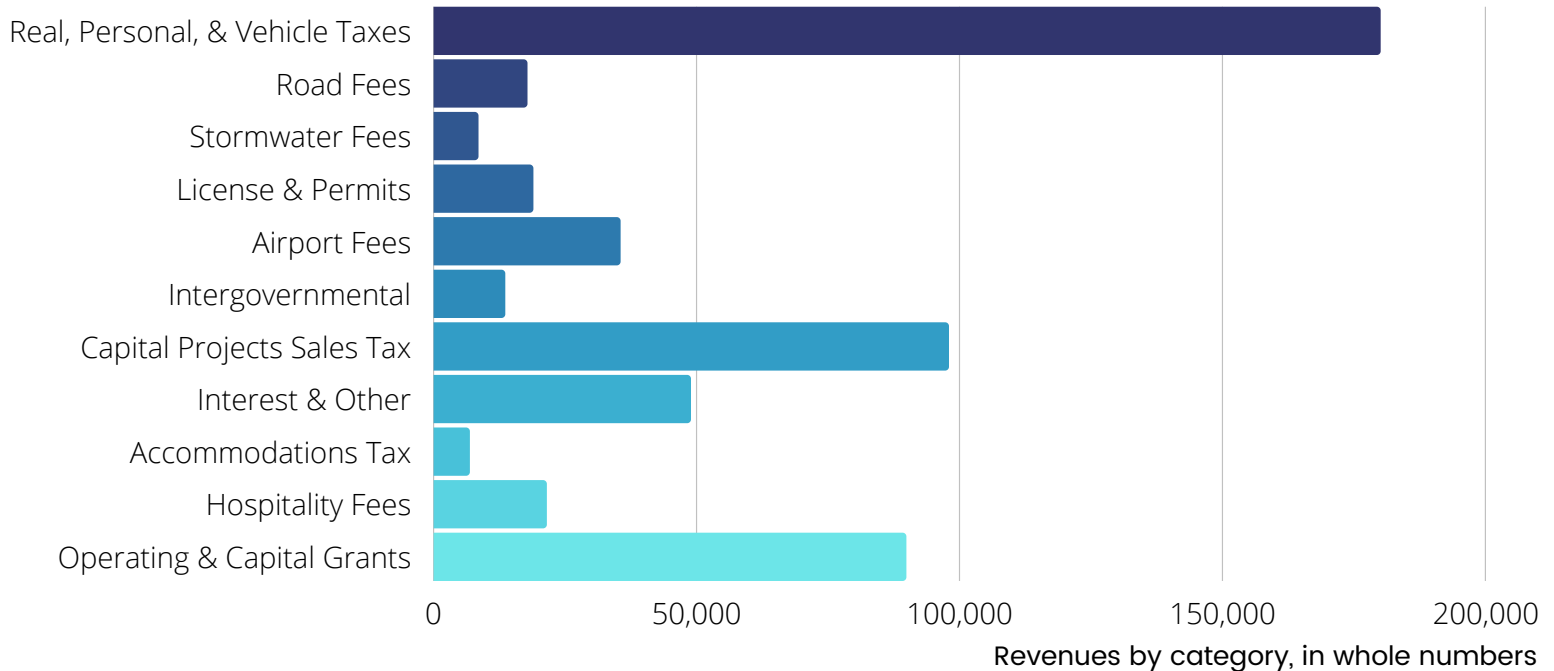
\$113.4 Million

Capital Projects
These funds are allocated by County Council for projects that improve services like new facilities and technologies.

REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

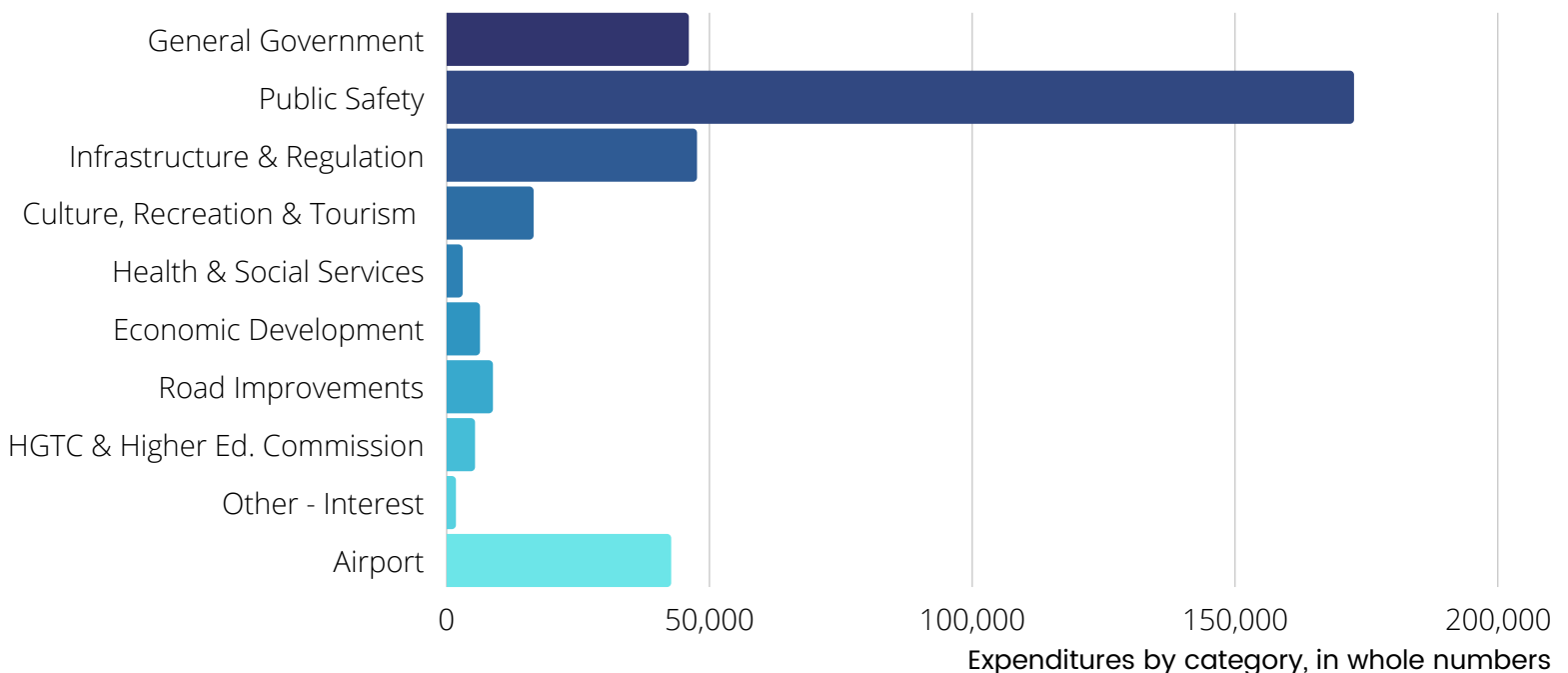
TOTAL REVENUES: \$538,700,000

Local Government entities are provided by law with a variety of mechanisms to collect revenue in order to provide critical services to the community.



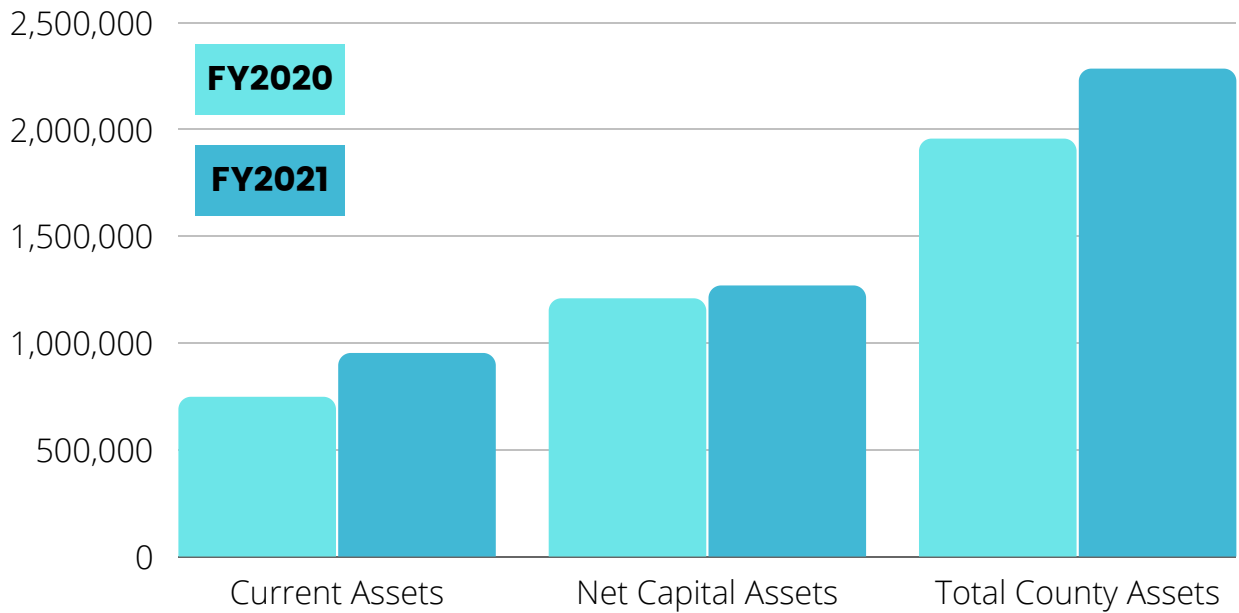
TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$349,820,000

Horry County provides direct services to all residents and our visitors. The largest expenditure is personnel. Many of those services are mandated by law.

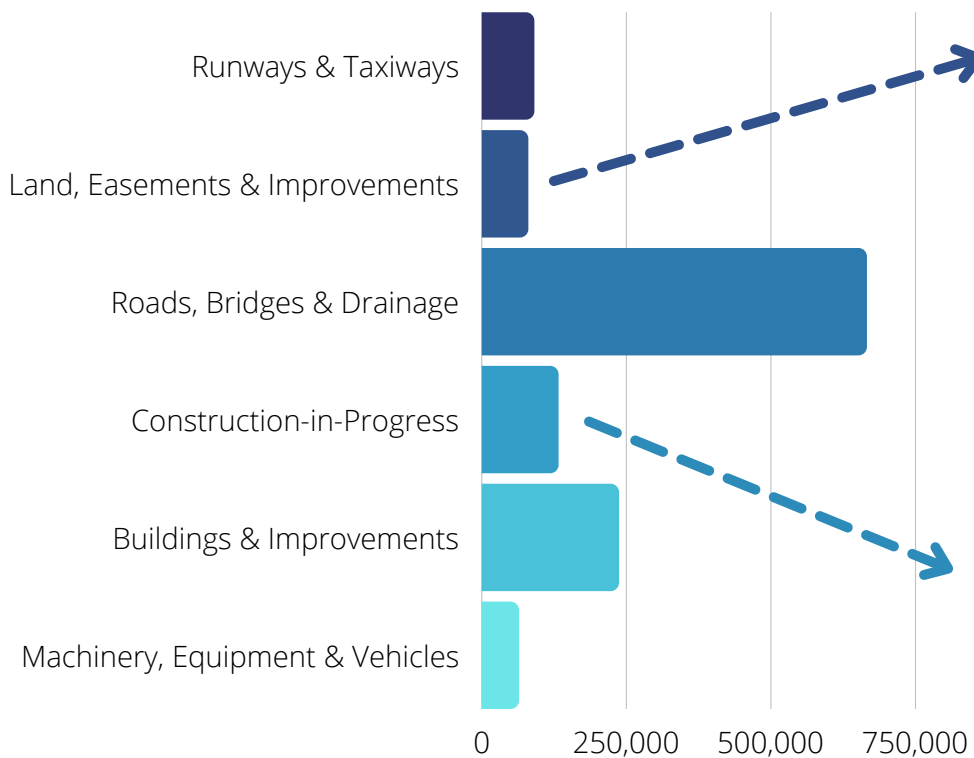


ASSETS

TOTAL ASSETS: \$2.2 BILLION



TOTAL CAPITAL ASSETS: \$1.2 BILLION

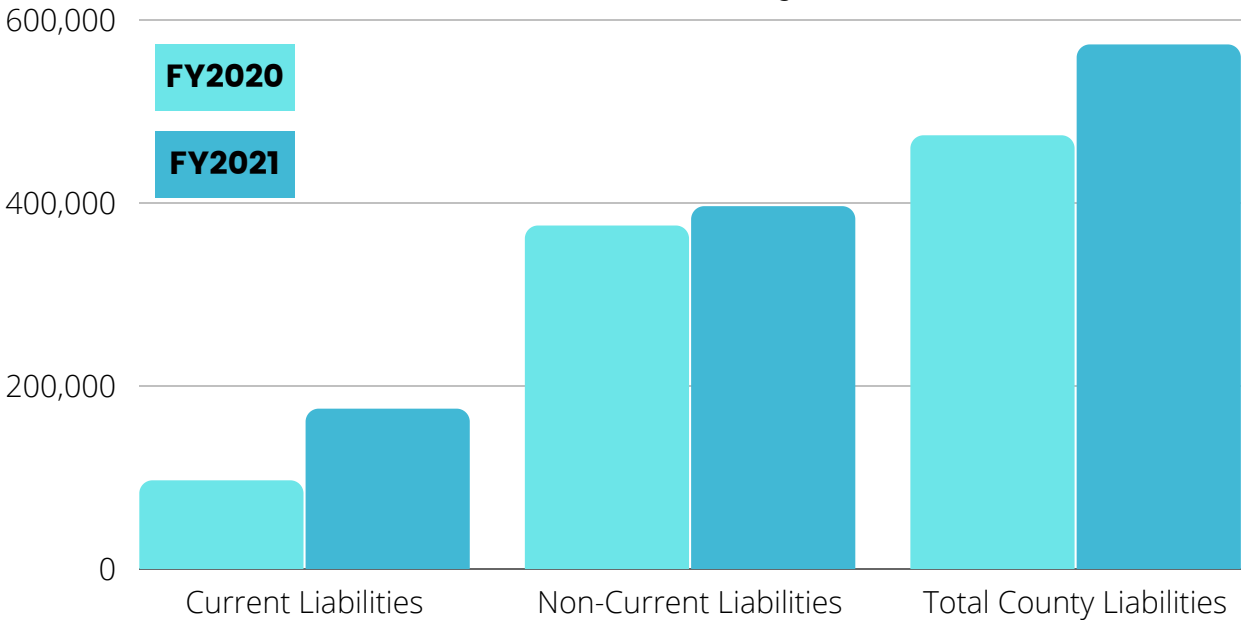


Note: Asset numbers in millions

LIABILITIES

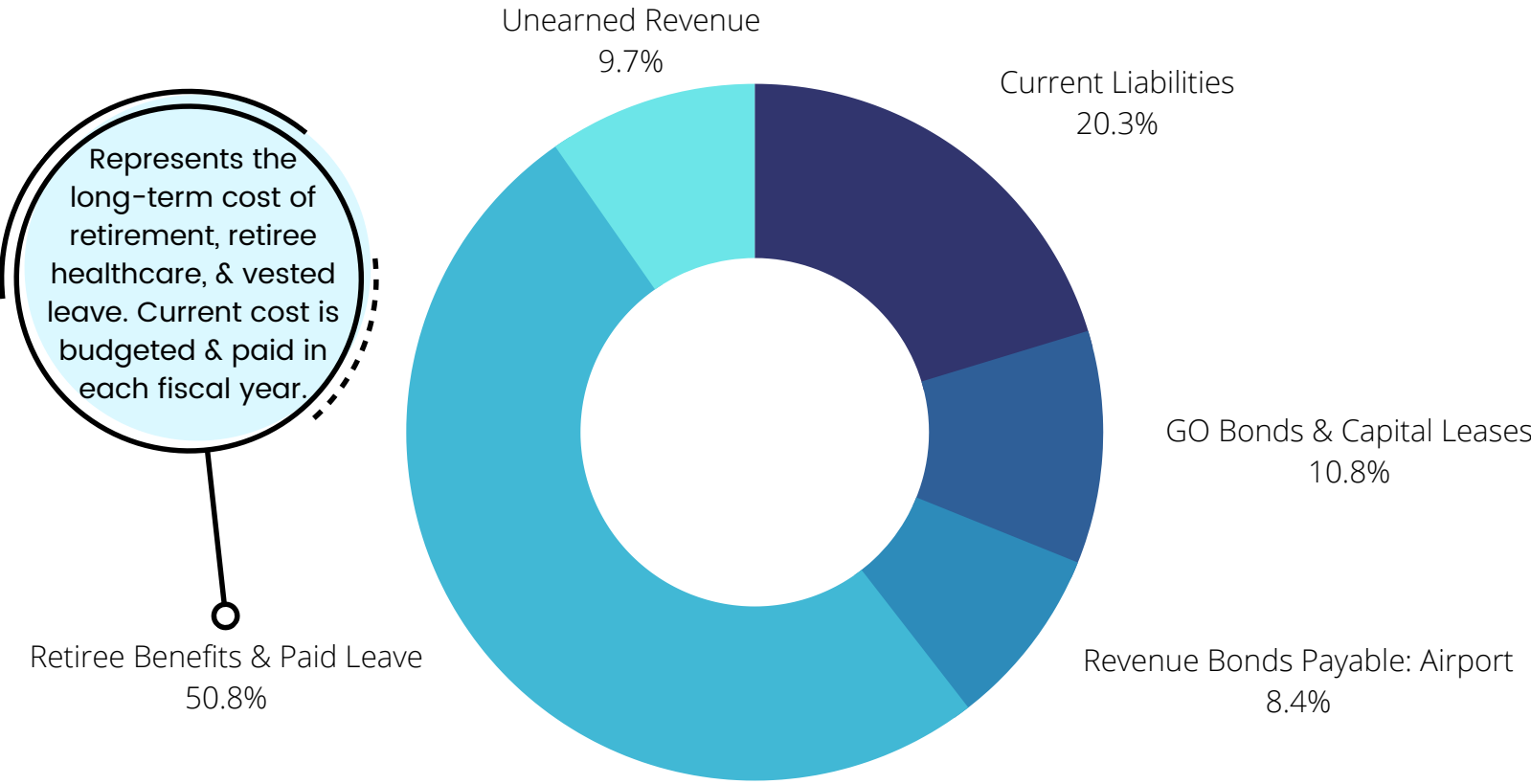
TOTAL LIABILITIES: \$518 MILLION

Including deferred inflows and outflows



Note: Liability numbers in thousands

WHAT DO WE OWE?



REVENUE SOURCES

PROPERTY TAX REVENUE

The County's source of tax revenue is the real, personal and vehicle taxes levied against the citizens. Taxes are **fifty-nine** percent of the total General Fund revenue source and are based on the assessed value of property.

The County's estimated assessed value for all real property, personal property and vehicles as of June 30, 2021 is \$2,601,189,011.



PROPERTY TAX REVENUE

Total Number of Parcels

280,775

Rentals & Second Homes

161,624

Primary Residence

97,506

Vehicles and Personal Property

358,553



Largest amount of campers in the state

WHAT DO MY PROPERTY TAXES SUPPORT?



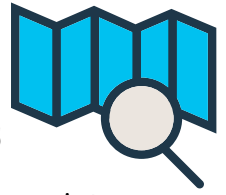
\$40.70

Invested in solid waste, including waste and recycling collection.

Invested in health including Veteran Affairs, MIAP, community development grants and senior care services through Horry County Council on Aging.

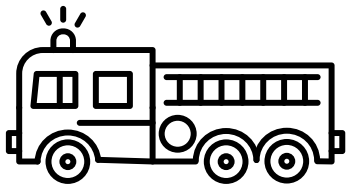


\$6.25



\$9.83

Invested in maintenance and operation of 10 libraries, 1 bookmobile, the Horry County museum and L.W. Paul Living History Farm.



\$147.08

Invested in rural fire protection, safety education, & maintenance and operations of 39 stations, 56 fire trucks and related apparatus.



\$33.56

Invested in debt service to repay general operation bonds used to build facilities and fire stations.



\$17.14

Invested in debt payments for the Higher Education Commission and Horry-Georgetown Tech Education Center, maintenance and tuition assistance.

In the unincorporated area of the County, a home with a value of \$178,500 will pay \$549.78 in taxes*.



\$177.82

Invested in public safety including police, EMS, sheriff & detention center, civil and criminal courts, animal care center and overall welfare covering 1,134 square miles in the County.



\$11.42

Invested in recreation and afterschool programs, maintenance and operations for 39 ball fields, 34 parks, 29 boat landings, 31 soccer fields, 14 tennis courts and 6 recreation centers.

\$63.01



Invested in general government in 6 building complexes. Includes council, legal, revenue collections, IT/GIS, land transfers, probate, elections, finance, purchasing, human resources, and overall county administration of more than 2,800 employees and 375,000+ citizens.



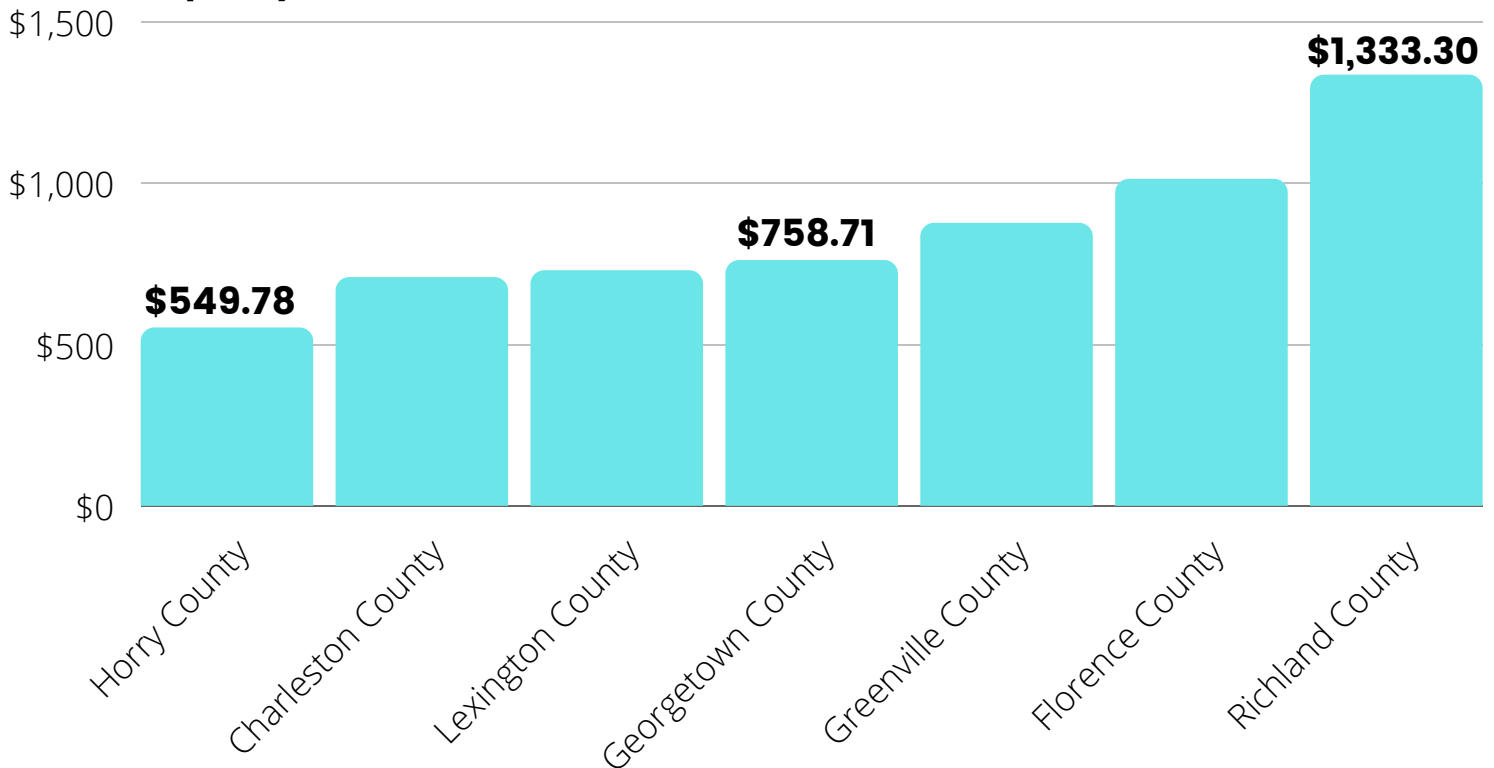
\$42.97

Invested in infrastructure and regulation including road maintenance of 1,507 miles, upkeep of 200+ items of heavy equipment, code enforcement, planning, zoning, mosquito spraying and maintenance of 67 County facilities.

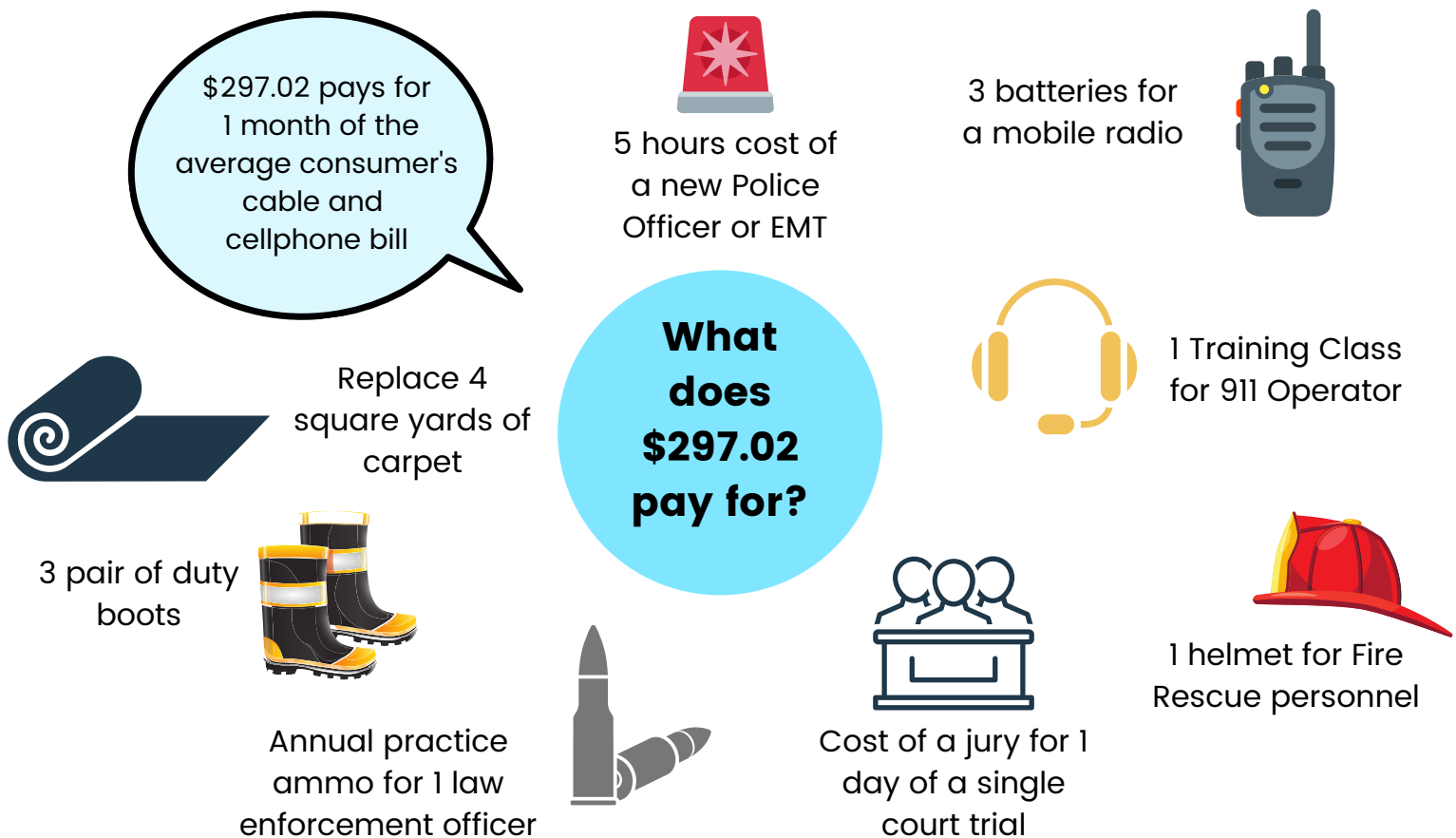
*The average home value in unincorporated Horry County in 2021 was \$178,500. This figure represents total County Taxes on a primary residence for the unincorporated area (excluding properties in Murrells Inlet/Garden City Fire District and other Special Tax Districts).

HOW DOES HORRY COUNTY COMPARE?

Property Taxes on a \$178,500 home in other S.C. Counties



General Fund Portion of the average residential property is \$297.02



BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES

Horry County owns and operates the largest airport system in South Carolina with one commercial service airport serving the greater Myrtle Beach Region and three general aviation airports – Grand Strand, Conway and Loris Twin Cities.

Myrtle Beach International Airport (MYR) is a county facility located on approximately 2,000 acres within the City of Myrtle Beach and provides air service for the Grand Strand and surrounding counties. As of June 30, 2021, MYR had the following direct and indirect carriers: Allegiant Air, American, Delta, Frontier, Porter, Southwest (added in 2021), Spirit, Sun Country and United. MYR has over 50 nonstop destinations and in FY21, MYR had a total of 1,945,760 passengers.



Voted "Best Small Airport" in the U.S. in 2021
(USA Today – Readers' Choice)

MYR offers a variety of dining options, such as Aviator's, Boardwalk Cafe, Caribou Coffee, Chick-Fil-A, Cinnabon, Nacho Hippo Cantina Maxima, Pavilion Bar & Grill, Subway and Steak N' Shake. Included in the FY 21 budget was the addition of Salt & Tide beer & wine bar and Starbucks. Salt & Tide opened in June 2021 and Starbucks opened in July 2021.

REVENUE SOURCES

TOURISM FUNDS



#1 in South Carolina for Tourism

Hospitality Fee

A 1.5 % hospitality fee and a 1.0% local hospitality fee is collected within the unincorporated area of the County on the sale of food and beverages, admissions and accommodations.

Local Accommodations Tax

A 0.5% local accommodation fee is collected on all accommodations in the unincorporated area of the County.

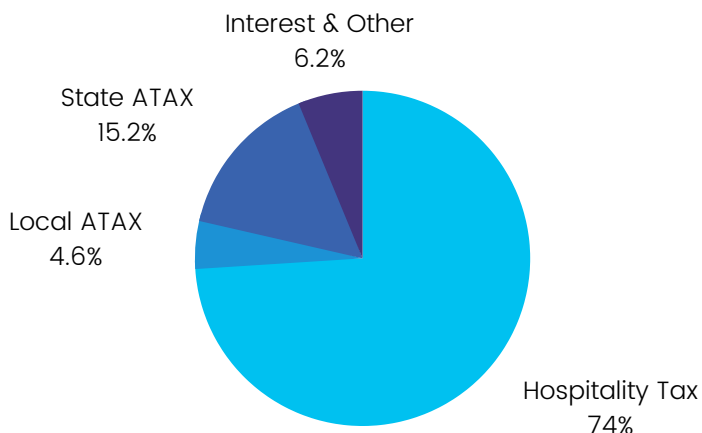
State Accommodations Tax

A 2% state accommodation fee is collected on accommodations in the unincorporated area of the County.

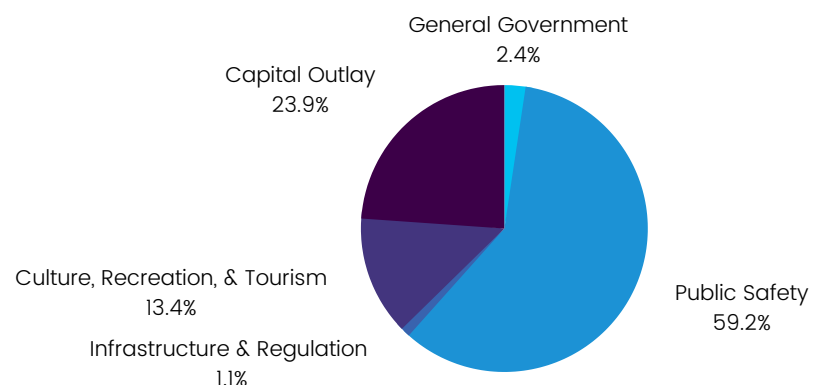
Other

Other tourism revenues include a \$10 per passenger surcharge fee from casino cruises, season parking meters, and license revenues to permit alcohol sales on Sundays.

Tourism Revenues: \$28,958,151

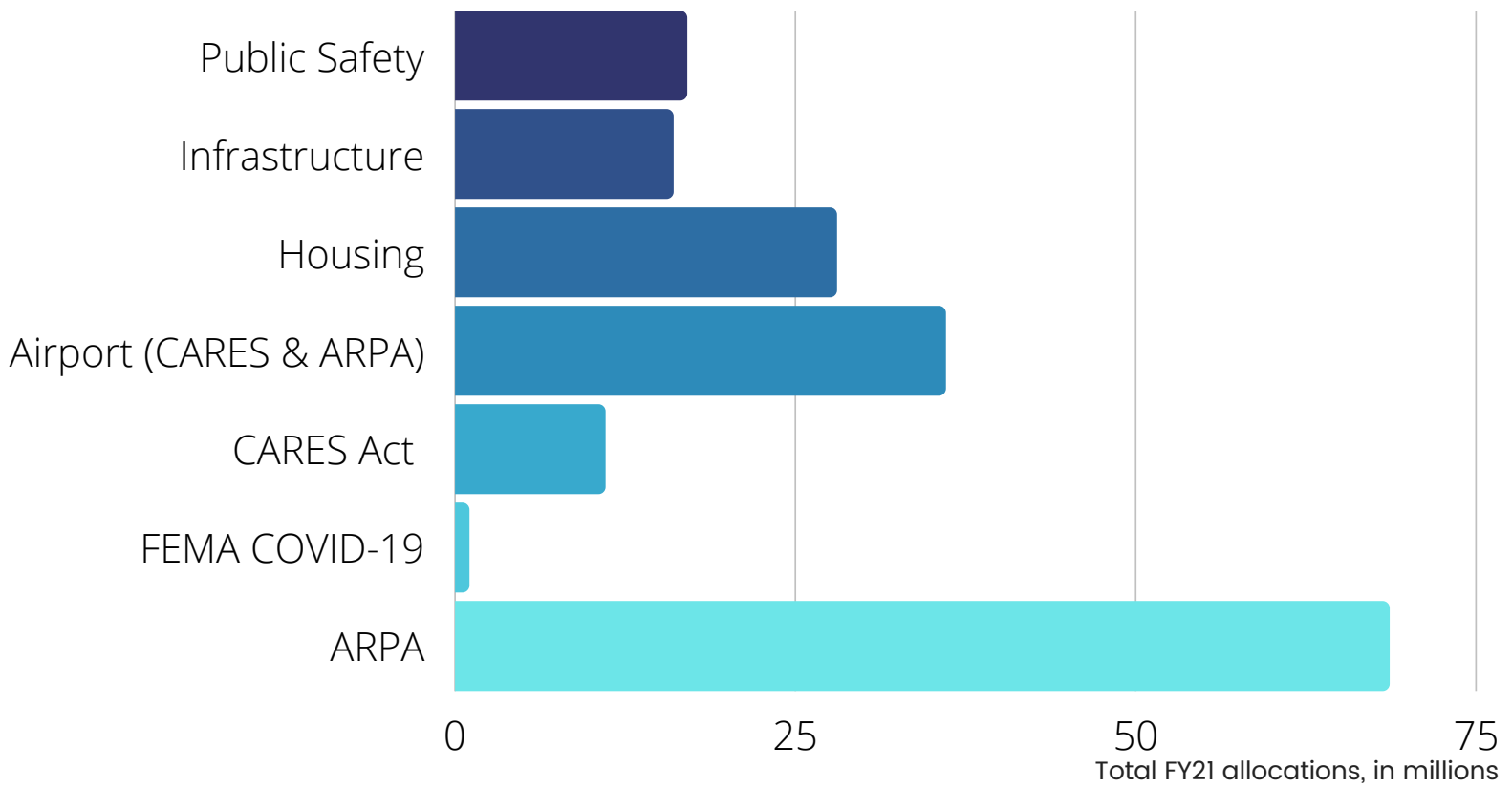


Tourism Expenses: \$21,707,715



REVENUE SOURCES GRANTS & OTHER FUNDING

TOTAL: \$188.6 MILLION



REVENUE SOURCES GRANT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PUBLIC SAFETY

- COPS – 15 new entry-level positions, 3 years
- SAFER – 30 new firefighter positions, 3 years
- Assistance to Firefighters Grant – source capture exhaust systems in 24 fire stations
- COVID-related protective equipment for Fire/EMS
- Domestic Violence Investigators – 2 positions, 3 years
- 26 air handler disinfection units at J. Reuben Long Detention Center



INFRASTRUCTURE

- TIGER Railroad Infrastructure Improvements
- Ascott Valley Industrial Park
- Bucksport Water Infrastructure – Northern Treatment Facility
- Flood Mitigation Projects in Bucksport:
 - Big Bull Landing Road Raising and Cowford Swamp Tributary Channel
- Grier Crossing Drainage Improvements



SERVICES

- Emergency Rental Assistance Program
- Home Rehabilitation Program
 - Approximately 30 homes per year rehabbed
- Small Business Relief Grant Program
- Socastee Buyouts (61 homes)



RECOVERY GRANT FUNDING

CARES ACT Funding: \$11 Million in Reimbursements

The CARES Act funding helped to stabilize local government budgets during the economic uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic. Horry County used these funds to reimburse expenditures for personal protective equipment, overtime and personnel costs, upgrades to technology, and critical facility updates to help keep our employees and our community safe and healthy.

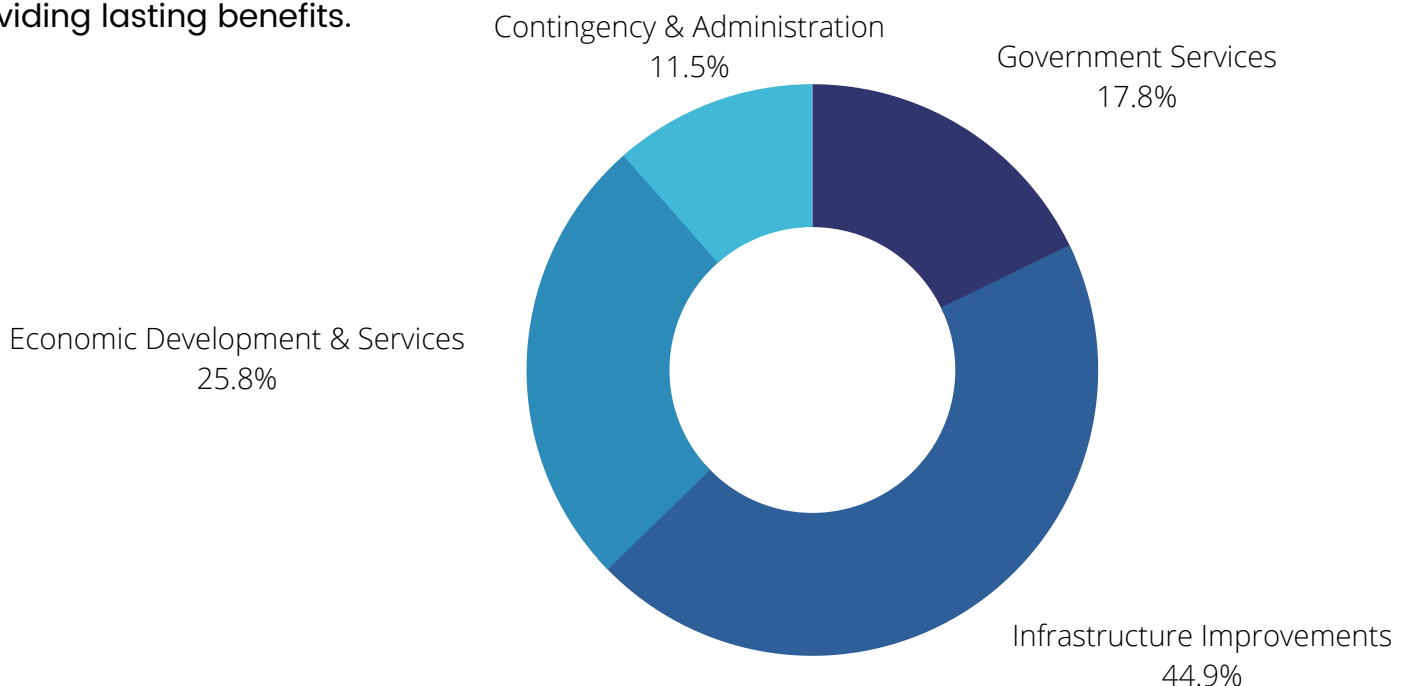
CARES Act funding, in combination with CDBG and U.S. Treasury Emergency funds, were used to support rental and small business assistance programs.



ARPA FUNDING: \$68.6 Million in State & Local Recovery

The American Rescue Plan Act Funding gives local governments a unique opportunity not only to support financial recovery, but to help build the local economy, invest in critical infrastructure, and bolster programs that aid disproportionately impacted communities. The County received the first disbursement of \$34.3 million in FY21 and anticipates receiving the second disbursement of funds in FY22.

County Council will review proposals submitted by local organizations, including utility providers, and make decisions for allocating the funds for services based on a number of criteria. The investment by the State and Federal government in these local activities is expected to make substantial improvements in our local economy and quality of life, providing lasting benefits.



RESILIENCY INITIATIVES

FLOOD RESILIENCE PLAN

The goal of the Horry County Flood Resilience Plan is to identify long-term strategies that will reduce flood risks and vulnerabilities along the Waccamaw and Pee Dee Rivers and the Intracoastal Waterway in unincorporated Horry County. Funded through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, the Resilience Plan will serve as an annex to the Horry County's Multijurisdictional All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, and identifying priorities for future mitigation initiatives.

BUYOUT PROGRAM

South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office approved \$13 million of CDBG-mitigation funding to be used to buy out properties from flood victims in the Socastee area of Horry County. Approximately 60 homes were purchased.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

The Horry County Emergency Operations and Communications Center will be a \$26 million facility designed to withstand a number of hazards that can impact Horry County. The 43,600 sq. ft. facility will house Emergency Management and 911 and serve as the main point for county operations during disasters. It is expected to open in the spring of 2022.



RIDE III PROGRAM

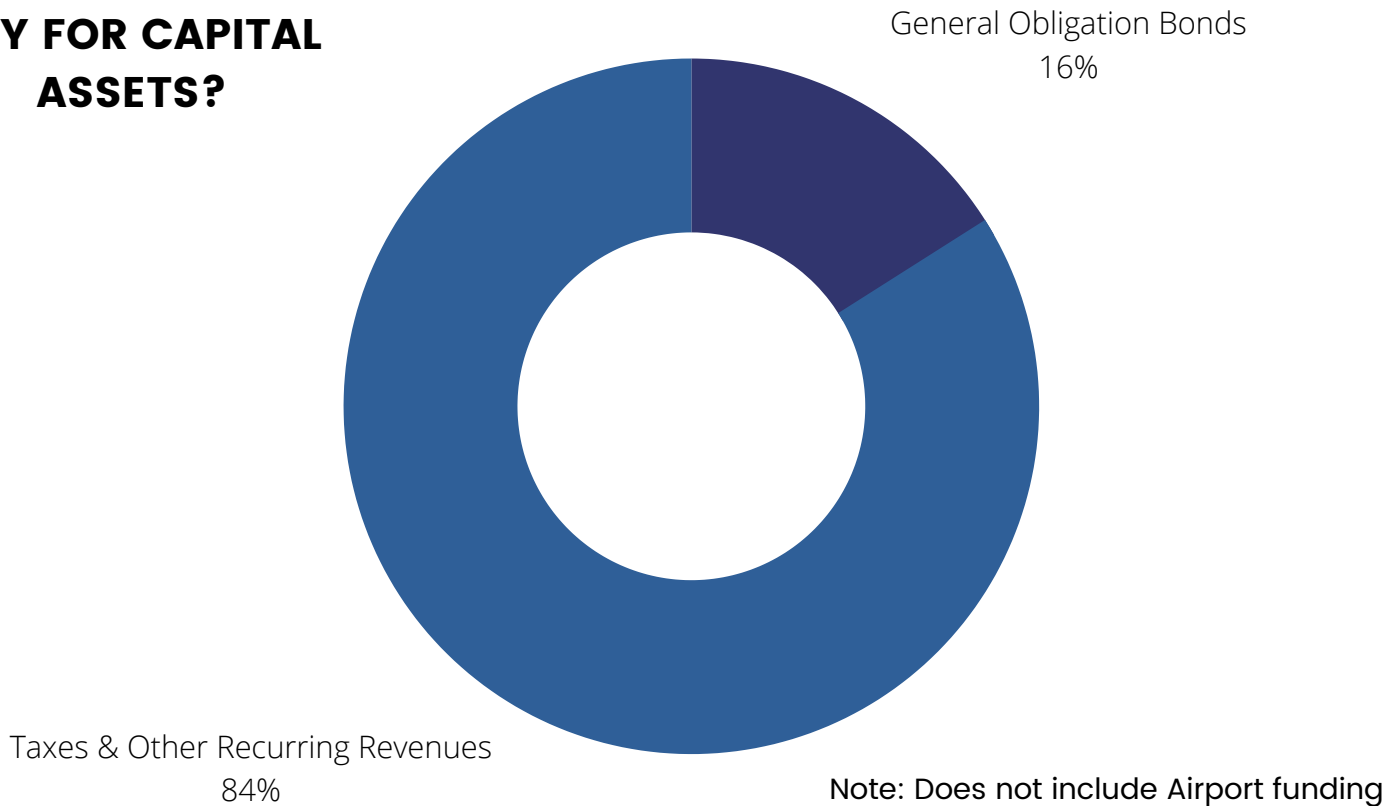
Starting May 1, 2017, sales taxes in Horry County on retail sales, accommodations and prepared food/beverages were increased by one penny to fund the RIDE (Ride Improvement & Development Effort) program. This tax will expire on April 30, 2025. Below is a list of the projects in the program.



- \$5,000,000 Resurface 33.87 miles County roads
- \$5,000,000 Resurface 33.13 miles of City roads
- \$7,500,000 US Hwy. 701 Widening – North to Loris
- \$13,900,000 US Hwy. 501 Realignment from Broadway Street to 7th Avenue North
- \$15,000,000 Pave 25 miles County dirt roads – Group 2
- \$15,000,000 Pave 25 miles County dirt roads – Group 3
- \$15,000,000 Pave 25 miles County dirt roads – Group 4
- \$18,400,000 Conway Perimeter Road Phase II
- \$19,300,000 Fred Nash Blvd. connection to Harrelson Blvd. – Myrtle Beach
- \$19,800,000 US Hwy. 17 Business Intersection Improvements – Garden City
- \$21,700,000 SC Hwy. 9 East Widening (Loris)
- \$25,000,000 Southern Evacuation Lifeline (SELL)
- \$50,000,000 U.S. Hwy. 501 Corridor improvements – SC Hwy. 31 to SC 544
- \$54,700,000 Carolina Forest Boulevard Widening
- \$65,100,000 US Hwy. 701 N Widening (North Conway)
- \$89,100,000 Forestbrook Road Widening
- \$125,000,000 SC Hwy. 31 (Carolina Bays Parkway) Extension To SC/NC State line

ENHANCEMENTS: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

HOW DOES THE COUNTY PAY FOR CAPITAL ASSETS?



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Horry County Fire Rescue Station 13: Located off of Hwy 9 in Longs

Estimated cost: \$1.75 million



ENHANCEMENTS: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

STORMWATER & DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE



Funded by FY 21 Stormwater fees:

- \$50,000: Spring Lakes – Covington Lake Outfall
- \$60,946: Castlewood Outfall Upgrade
- \$73,105: Balsa Drive (211) Outfall Project
- \$79,906: Lamplighter Outfall Court
- \$73,392: Gates Conflict Box
- \$65,000: Yaupon Outfall Project
- \$58,000: Osprey Cove/Tern Hall Drive
- \$61,850: Southwood Drive Outfall Pipe Replacement
- \$458,461: Grier Crossing Project
- \$40,000: Moss Creek Wetland Cleaning
- \$95,000: Folly Road Drainage Improvements
- \$113,267: Tom E. Chestnut Outfall

TOTAL: \$1,228,929



LOOKING AHEAD: IN FY22, THE COUNTY IS PROJECTED TO COLLECT \$16.2 MILLION IN STORMWATER FEE REVENUES

CENTRAL COAST COMPLEX

The Central Coast Complex is a new facility that will include office space for a variety of county functions, including a fifth police precinct. The property is located on Hinson Drive behind McCleod Regional Medical Center off of International Drive in the Carolina Forest area. The purchase of the property cost approximately \$2 million and the total project cost is currently estimated at \$25 million. The project is expected to go out for bids in the middle of 2022, and after that process is complete, the County will have a projected construction timeline.

AUGUSTA PLANTATION

This new interchange along Carolina Bays Parkway (SC 31) connecting Augusta Plantation to Revolutionary War Way is expected to help alleviate congestion and improve traffic in the area. In December of 2021, the County purchased approximately 23.36 acres of land for the roadway at \$1.15 million. The design phase is anticipated to begin in Spring 2022.

HORRY COUNTY MULTI-USE SPORTS COMPLEX

Horry County is working to build a multi-use sports complex that will drive economic development and recreational opportunities in a rural portion of the county. Several elements are being considered, including equestrian facilities. The project is supported in part by Economic Development funds from Horry Electric. They have contributed \$2 million to the project as of June 30, 2021 and anticipate an additional \$400,000 annually. County Council has committed \$25 million from hospitality fees to the first phase of the project. The land purchase is expected to take place in 2022.



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