



The Horry Planner

The quarterly Electronic Newsletter of the Horry County Planning and Zoning Department

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3

AUTUMN 2013

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

"Unofficial Historian" Leaving	1
Highways and Byways	2
Highways and Byways cont...	3
Community Planning Areas	4
Boards and Committees	5
Upcoming meetings; One last note	6

Horry County Planning and Zoning Department

1301 Second Ave.,
Suite 1D09
Conway, SC 29526
Phone: (843) 915-5340
Fax: (843) 915-6340



The Planning Department Loses Its "Unofficial" Historian!

On February 21st 1985, Cynthia Thorpe was hired by the County as a Drafting Technician for the Planning Commission. There was no planning department at that time. Her office was located in what is now the IT Building. At the end of June that same year the office was moved to the building now occupied by the Solicitor's Intervention Program. It was here that the Planning Department was born. "We even got a time clock then." Cynthia stated. There were no zoning laws at this time and the subdivision regulations had only been passed in January the year before she started working. Her immediate duties were to color code by hand the soil conservation maps from DHEC. This allowed recommendations to the Commission to be made for where to put developments. For example, not allowing areas to be residential that would not support septic systems.

Her duties changed with the purchase of an Intergraph System. Cynthia describes it as a GIS system that was very rudimentary. The work station, was a stand alone system and took up half a room. To learn to operate the system she went to Huntsville, Alabama for nine weeks of training and had additional training here. This system was used to make maps and illustrations for the department.

Her first promotion came in 1991 when Cynthia earned a Bachelors Degree in Political Science with a minor in Computer Science. She officially became a Planner. Her main duties were reviewing minor plats. However Cynthia also recalls that she did field work for addressing. The staff members would go into the field and hand draw the maps used for addressing.

In 1997 Cynthia received her last promotion to Senior Planner. Through the years she had worked at "what ever needed to be done." This gave her skills in zoning, grant work, planning commission support, addressing, plans reviewing and customer contact.

Today Cynthia works on both the Zoning and Planning sides of the office. Her duties include zoning reports, board of appeals board orders, street naming including notifications, reviewing minor plats, reviewing some major developments, handling customers calls and working with clients directly. In addition, she still has original copies of the Subdivision Regulations from 1984 and the First Zoning Ordinances from 1987. "You'd be surprised. On occasion we still use these for various reasons," she says. For instance today's zoning districts can be compared to what they first were, showing how much the districts have changed through the years by the amendments added to them. And Cynthia still gets the occasional question of "Do you remember when ...and how did we do things then?"

Cynthia's official retirement date is October 4th. What will she do next? Her plans are to take lapidary classes starting next year. Our best wishes to you Cynthia and thank you for all your years of service.

Highways and Byways...

Two Roadway Face Lifts

Garden City US 17 Business Streetscape Beautification Photos



The finished product....



The last piece of this project was put into place with the installation of two "Welcome to Garden City Beach" signs on US 17, placed north and south of the city.



Highways and Byways continued...

501 Beautification Photos

Another finished project....



Improvements run from Rhoda Loop to Waccamaw Pines Drive.



And a Boat Landing

Highways 17 & 22

The addition of a boating facility completed....



If you haven't visited these areas lately, you should!



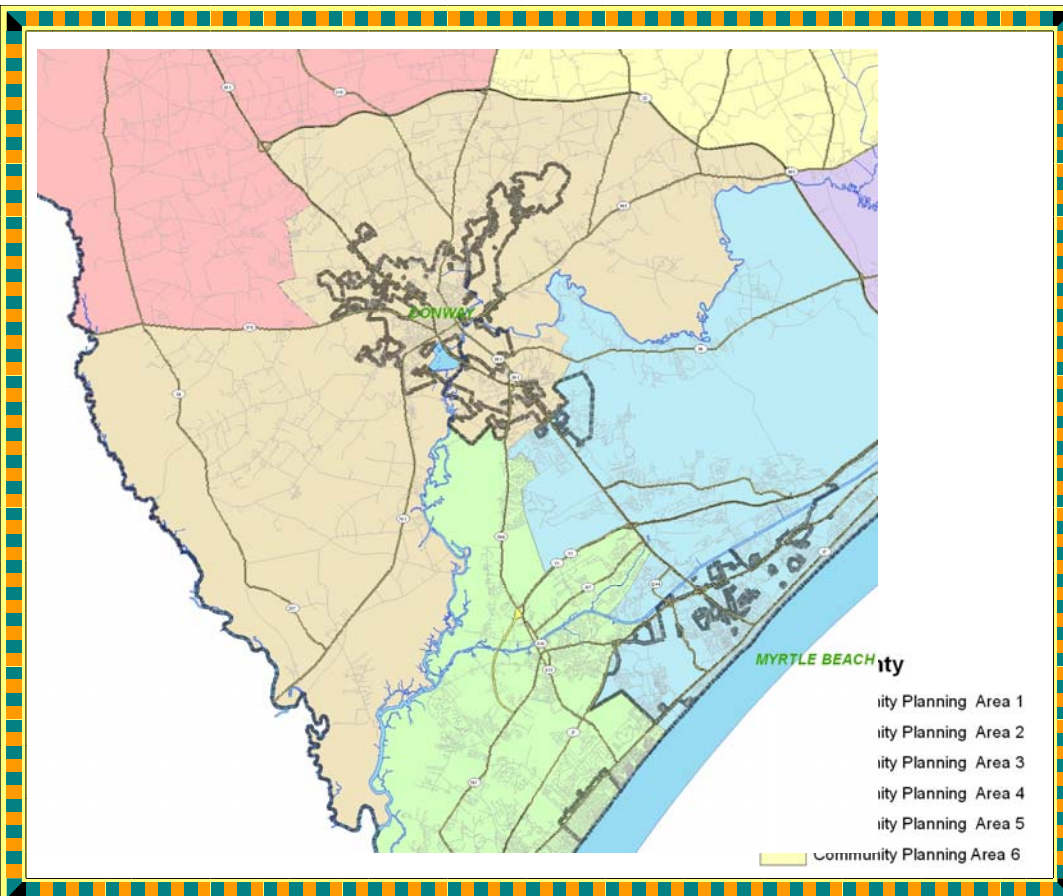
Community Planning Area 4



Community Planning Area 4 includes the communities of Adrian, Brownway, Cedar Grove, Conway, Four Mile, Hickory Grove, Homewood, Horry, Inland, Jamestown, Maple, Pawleys Swamp, Port Harrelson, Racepath, Red Bluff, Red Hill #1, Salem, Shell, Toddville and Wild Wing. It encompasses an area of 227.28 square miles, and based on the 2010 Census, is home to 40,263 people. The following Horry County Councilmen represent Community Planning Area four: James R. Frazier (District 7), Carl Schwartzkopf (District 8), Jody Prince (District 10), and Al Allen (District 11).

A grant from Palmetto Pride enabled new landscaping to be installed in the gateways to Conway. The three areas to receive landscaping from this funding were four median cut outs on US 501 bypass between Lake Busbee and Economic Opportunity, the Lake Busbee merge from Hwy. 701 and the intersection of US 501 Business and Depot Rd. Plants include Sabal Palms, Magnolias, Crape Myrtles, Knock Out Roses, Yaupon Holly, Loropetalum, Forsythia, Spirea, Muhly Grass, Blue Rug Juniper, and Daylillies. All work was completed last fall on the beds.

Community Planner: Lou Conklin, Senior Planner; Phone: **915-7892**;
Email: conklinL@horrycounty.org



Contacts for all Community Planning Areas:

• **Planning Area One:**
Adam Emrick, Senior Planner -
Phone: (843) 915-7897
Email:
emricka@horrycounty.org

• **Planning Area Two :**
John Danford, Senior Planner -
Phone: (843) 915-7909
Email:
danfordj@horrycounty.org

• **Planning Area Three:**
Leigh Wood, Senior Planner -
Phone: (843) 915-7034
Email:
woodL@horrycounty.org

• **Planning Area Five:**
David Schwerd, Principal Planner
Phone: (843) 915-7896
Email:
schwerdD@horrycounty.org

• **Planning Area Six:**
Vacant
Phone: main line—(843) 915-5340
Email:



The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board will have its next meeting on October 9th at 1 pm at the Horry County Government and Justice Building in Conway. The Parks and Open Space Board has four openings in County Council Districts 5, 6, 9, and 10. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on this board, please contact Leigh Wood for more information at 915-7034 or woodL@horrycounty.org. For more information on this board, visit <http://www.horrycounty.org/Boards/ParksandOpenSpace.aspx>



Keep Horry County Beautiful has had a spectacular year with numerous beautification projects and over 40 cleanup events to boast about. Year-to-date, over 500 Keep Horry County Beautiful volunteers have cleaned up over 19,000 lbs of trash! Together, volunteer groups are helping to protect our County's natural beauty. This fall, KHCB is teaming up with the Waccamaw Riverkeeper and local Community Cleanup groups to pilot and establish a community service program for non-violent offenders involved in the Solicitor's Pretrial Intervention Program. KHCB is a subcommittee of the Parks and Open Space Board and is a local affiliate of Keep America Beautiful and Palmetto Pride. Volunteers are always welcomed to participate in our events and attend our board meetings. To learn more about this committee, visit the <http://www.horrycounty.org/Boards/KeepHorryCountyBeautiful.aspx>



The Horry County Board of Architectural Review

The Horry County Board of Architectural Review (BAR) & Historic Preservation is working with local Garden Clubs. Planning and Zoning, Horry County BAR & Historical Preservation have teamed up with local Garden Clubs on a county wide project. One thousand historic trees will each be named after a civil war soldier. This is to be done by attaching a QR code tag to each identified tree. At any tree location, a person can scan the tag with their phone and the life and history of the civil war soldier the tree has been named after, will be downloaded onto the users phone. This is a way to combine local history with the 21st century user. (Not to mention the preservation of historic trees.) As of yet the project does not have an official name but the Garden Clubs are working on it.



Horry County Affordable and Workforce Housing Commission

The Horry County Affordable and Workforce Housing Commission elected Mr. Henry Nichols as Chairman for the 2nd time in as many years. Mr. Cliff Rudd was also elected for a 2nd Vice Chairman term. The Commission inked a Resolution to County Council supporting the adoption of the Racepath Neighborhood Revitalization Plan at their September meeting. The Plan addresses current issues in the community via strategic recommendations under the headings of: Public Safety; Code Enforcement and Zoning; Housing; and, Public Infrastructure. The Plan and Resolution will no go to the I&R Committee.

Also at the September meeting, the Housing Commission was briefed on the 2013 – 2018 Horry County Consolidated Plan (ConPlan). As a designated HUD Entitlement Community, the County receives annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funding. The ConPlan is the framework to assist Horry County in determining where future federal funds will be allocated. Homelessness, affordable housing, assisting disadvantaged populations, and fighting poverty are just some of the areas where the County will focus funding. The Strategic Plan section of the ConPlan prioritizes spending in specified "Geographic Priority Areas". The Community Development Department is responsible for the implementation of the ConPlan, but the Housing Commission is specifically mentioned as a partner in the execution of the Plan. Over 42,500 household are currently defined as "cost burdened", meaning housing costs exceed 30% of Area Median Income (AMI) for those households. Additionally, over 1,100 households lack complete plumbing or kitchen facilities. The Housing Commission, in partnership with Community Development, seeks to rectify this situation.

2013 Meeting Calendar

<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
<p>1 County Council; 6:00PM</p> <p>3 Planning Commission; 5:30PM</p> <p>8 Parks and Open Space Board; 1:00PM</p> <p>14 Zoning Board of Appeals; 5:30PM</p> <p>15 County Council; 6:00PM</p> <p>15 Board of Architectural Review; 2:30PM</p> <p>16 Affordable Workforce Housing Commission; 1:00PM</p> <p>22 Keep Horry County Beautiful; 2:30PM</p> <p>31 Planning Commission Workshop; 3:00PM</p>	<p>4 Zoning Board of Appeals; 5:30PM</p> <p>7 Planning Commission; 5:30PM</p> <p>11 Veteran’s Day — Offices Closed</p> <p>12 County Council; 6:00PM</p> <p>19 Board of Architectural Review; 2:30PM</p> <p>20 Affordable Workforce Housing Commission; 1:00PM</p> <p>26 Keep Horry County Beautiful; 2:30PM</p> <p>28-29 Thanksgiving — Offices Closed</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>	<p>2 Planning Commission Workshop; 3:00PM</p> <p>5 Planning Commission; 5:30PM</p> <p>9 Zoning Board of Appeals; 5:30PM</p> <p>10 County Council; 6:00PM</p> <p>24-25-26 Christmas — Offices Closed</p> <p>30 Planning Commission Workshop; 3:00PM</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>

One last note:

Ice Machines Need a Permit Before Placement

Ice machines are popping up all over the county and while this is a convenience for both consumer and vendor, it is against the law to put them just anywhere. The placement of ice machines is restricted under law and each and every ice machine needs to be permitted. A plan should be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Department for approval before placement of machines.

Owners of illegally placed machines will be issued a warning ticket to bring them into compliance. This may mean a total relocation of the machine with the cost to be absorbed by the owner. If a person fails to heed the warning ticket a citation will be issued.

For more information concerning ice machines contact William Martin of the Planning and Zoning Department at 915-8733



This illegally placed ice machine is too close to two streets and has the potential to cause a stoppage in traffic when someone leaves their car on the street and walks over to get ice.