



Executive Director's Report

FEBRUARY 2010

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Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester
Council of Governments**

Listed below is a sampling of some of the activities that staff has been involved in during the last month.

Special points of interest:

- *BCDCOG Internet Mapping website available: <http://bcdcog.binarybus.com>*
- *2008 Traffic Count Maps are currently available.*
- *BCDCOG's Revolving Loan Fund Program currently has funds available. Contact the COG office for more information.*
- *1998-2008 Traffic Count Publication now available.*
- *The BCDCOG Trident Rideshare website is now active. Go to www.TridentRideshare.org to register!*

1. Staff has been continuing to attend various business fairs and company events to promote the rideshare website www.TridentRideshare.org.
2. Staff continues to process 208 Water Quality Management Plan sewer and septic permit applications. 15 applications were processed in January.
3. Staff continues to provide planning support to the City of Hanahan. This includes staffing the Planning Commission, Design Board, and briefing Council in regards to planning & zoning. Staff is also assisting the City with their official Zoning map. Staff presented Council with recommended revisions.
4. Continued work on the Minority Business Development Committee. Steve Love is currently working to form the Minority Business Council and coordinate efforts around the region.
5. Staff is continuing work with all three Counties, and the Charleston Regional Development Alliance to update the current list of available properties. Staff added new properties to the CRDA searchable database. Staff is working with CRDA to determine next steps for data purchases & improvements to the searchable web-based mapping tool.
6. Staff has continued work on the Town of Moncks Corner and Berkeley Habitat for Humanity Affordable Housing Project. Staff submitted and received approval for a project extension to allow Habitat time to complete construction of the fourth and final house.
7. We continue to provide established supportive services to the following agencies:
 - Financial management and procurement services for the Tri-County Link Agency (RTMA).
 - Financial and Grant Management services for the Lake Marion Water Agency.
 - Mapping and data management services for the Charleston Regional Development Alliance.
8. Community Development staff continued to work on the Town of Harleyville's Sewer Pump Station Upgrade project. Staff submitted the final contractor application for payment.
9. Community Development staff continued work on the Town of Summerville Habitat Hometown Investment project. Construction of the final house is complete. Staff is compiling final financial information and preparing the project for close out.
10. Staff continued work on the Town of Ravenel's Archies Drive Sewer Line Project. Staff is continuing to work with Charleston County on clarification of conflict of interest ruling.
11. Staff continued work on the Town of Ridgeville's Treeland Lane Water Line upgrade. Staff held a pre-construction conference and executed the Notice to Proceed for construction.
12. Community Development staff finalized work on the Town of Hollywood's walking path project. Delivery and installation of exercise stations is complete. Staff is preparing the project for CDBG close out.
13. Staff continued to coordinate and support the consultants on the Folly Beach Traffic Study, Commuter Rail Study, and the mode split module upgrade to the Travel Demand Model.
14. Staff continued work on Berkeley County's Wassamassaw Community water line project. Staff is securing easements at the intersection of Highway 176 and Cooper Store Road.
15. Staff continued work on the City of Folly Beach Comprehensive Plan. Staff is preparing a supplement to the 2005 Plan. Staff completed and submitted the draft Comp Plan to the Planning Commission.
16. Staff continued work on the QuickJobs Development Center in Dorchester County. Staff continues to attend regular progress meetings. Staff has conducted one-on-one interviews with laborers as part of Davis-Bacon.
17. Staff will continue hosting a series of webinars focusing on a variety of planning-related issues. The sessions will fulfill AICP credits for planning professionals and commissioners. Contact Kathryn Basha for schedule.
18. Staff continued work on the Town of Ravenel Depot Railroad Museum project. Staff is coordinating with the Town of Ravenel to complete the engineered drawings required for the construction permit. Staff provided the Town with a sample plan.

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19. Staff continued working on the Town of Hollywood's Baptist Hill Road Affordable Housing Infrastructure Grant. Staff is preparing the project for CDBG close out.
 20. Staff continued work on the Air Quality Coalition. A Coalition Meeting will be held on February 10th at 10am.
 21. Staff continued to monitor the Federal Register, E-Civis.org, and grants.gov for potential funding sources.
 22. Staff continued to error check and validate base year socio-economic data for the travel demand model update.
 23. Staff assisted the Town of Awendaw with their Comprehensive Plan update mapping. Staff prepared draft future land use map and provided data on protected land acreages in the study area.
 24. Staff is continuing work on updating the CHATS Long Range Transportation Plan. A series of public meetings were held throughout the region. More information can be found at www.bcdco.com or contact our office.
 25. Staff prepared and published a survey for freight providers to be included in the CHATS Long Range Transportation Plan update.
 26. Staff continued work on the Berkeley County Comp Plan. Staff has developed the Economic Development, Transportation, and Community Facilities Goals with the Planning Commission at their workshops. Staff is preparing a Community VIZ model to support the Comp Plan.
 27. Staff continued working with CARRI staff to transition the Resilient Communities project to the BCDCOG for facilitation.
 28. Staff began work on the St. George Library Rehabilitation and Expansion project. Staff compiled the Environmental Review record information and started the 30 day comment period. Staff also prepared and submitted a Request for Release of Funds and compiled and submitted project material for SC Commerce project start up checklist.
 29. Staff attended a meeting of the Charleston County Economic Development Committee to discuss the transportation impact of the Boeing site.
 30. Staff continued work on the Town of St. Stephen Sewer Line Upgrade project. Staff received approval of the engineering contract from SC Department of Commerce.
 31. Staff continues working with Dorchester County and EDA on the new EDA project awarded for water & sewer infrastructure to the new industrial park at East Edisto. Staff has submitted the 3rd quarter ARRA and EDA reports for approval.
 32. Staff continued work on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants. Staff has forwarded all applications and supporting documentation to the State Energy Office .
 33. Staff completed the second draft of the Berkeley Dorchester Hazard Mitigation Plan and submitted it to the SC EMD. The draft report can be found at www.bcdco.com.
 34. Staff coordinated with the local Census representatives to promote the Census Road Tour and complete count committees.
 35. Staff coordinated with SCDOT staff on policy, project status, transit planning, ARRA funding, and TIP updates.
 36. Staff continued work on the Dorchester County Zoning Ordinance update. Staff attended several workshops about form-based codes in Summerville sponsored by and hosted by the Charleston Trident Association of Realtors.
 37. Staff continued work on the City of Goose Creek's Comp Plan. Staff has participated in the Steering Committee's workshop and participated in Council's Strategic Plan discussion.
 38. Staff met with the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce's Environmental Committee chair to discuss air quality issues.
 39. Community Development staff continued work on the Town of Summerville's Brownsville Water Upgrade. Staff processed the final contractor application for payment for Phase I. Staff held a pre-construction conference and executed a Notice to Proceed for construction of Phase II.
 40. Staff updated the Neck Area Master Plan RFQ and met with the steering committee.
 41. Staff continued participating in PlaceMatters Creating Resilient Communities project. Staff attended the monthly teleconference.
 42. Staff continued to market the Revolving Loan Fund and manage the current loans. There are funds available, please send referrals to the COG office.
 43. Staff attended a SCDOT public meeting for the College Park Road improvement project.
 44. Staff continued to participate in DHEC's Lawnmower Exchange Program committee meetings.
 45. Staff met with and discussed potential CDBG projects with several units of local governments.
 46. Staff participated in "Meeting Clean Air Challenges at our Ports: The Future of National Goods Movement Policy" webinar.
 47. Staff completed and published on the COG website the CHATS annual list of obligated projects.
 48. Staff provided support and oversight to the FTA Section 5316/5317 subrecipient.
 49. We of course continue to provide demographic information, water quality permit data, traffic count data, and maps to realtors, member governments and members of the public. Some examples include the following:
 - Provided data on Hispanic population growth in the BCD Area to a market analyst.
 - Provided a map of the continental US with statewide unemployment rates to the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce.
 - Provided data on commuting patterns for Summerville workers to Comcast.
 - Provided data/map on traffic count (SCDOT) trends on Betsy Kerrison Parkway to a Seabrook Island resident.
 - Provided the future land use map of Dorchester County to MeadWestvaco.
 - Provided the Coastal Conservation League with a population density map of Jasper County.
 - Prepared a construction activity report for 2008 for the Town of Mt. Pleasant Planning Department and a Columbia area Realtor.
 - Provided a demographic report/map for St. Paul's tax district to Trident Tech's Grant Administration.
 - Provided data on forecasted volumes on Cosgrove Avenue, between Azalea Drive and Rivers Avenue to a traffic count data sub-consultant for SCDOT.
 - Provided a map of Hollywood area showing Petersfield development to a consultant.
 - Provided a map showing major employment centers in the BCD region for a realtor.
 - Created several maps for Dorchester County Economic Development Department showing libraries locations and population density for the Dorchester area.
 - Created maps for the Town of Mt. Pleasant showing archeological, wetlands and soil types for a proposed community center location.
 - Created maps showing senior citizens population density for the West Ashley area by zip codes.
 - Created a map showing county population change and unemployment rates for South Carolina.
 - Prepared maps showing demographic data for the CARTA Board Meeting.