

## CHAPTER 7 – COMMUNITY FACILITIES

### INTRODUCTION

Public services and community facilities may include a wide range of police, fire, health, sanitation, education, economic, and protective services supported by public and private institutions such as schools, parks, utilities, water, sewer, waste treatment, solid waste disposal, power plants, transmission lines, and public safety facilities and rights of way. This chapter discusses these elements as they relate to the Comprehensive Plan.

### 7.1 PUBLIC SAFETY

#### POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

The North Charleston Police Department received national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies in 2007. The stated mission of the North Charleston Police Department is to provide professional law enforcement services in partnership with local citizens “to identify, prevent and solve the problems of crime, social disorder, and neighborhood decay, thereby improving the quality of life ...”.

The North Charleston Police Department employs 340 sworn police officers and 85 civilians to serve 97,000 residents and a daytime population in excess of 200,000. The City is divided into twelve zones patrolled 24-hours every day. Administrative offices are located at City Hall and support is provided from three bureau offices:

- ❑ South – 3401 Rivers Avenues (843) 308-4718
- ❑ Central – 2500 City Hall Lane (843) 740-2812
- ❑ North – 7272 Cross Country Road, (843) 207-0666

Emergency calls to 911 are automatically directed to the appropriate law enforcement agency based on the area of the call’s origination.

#### SHERIFF’S OFFICES

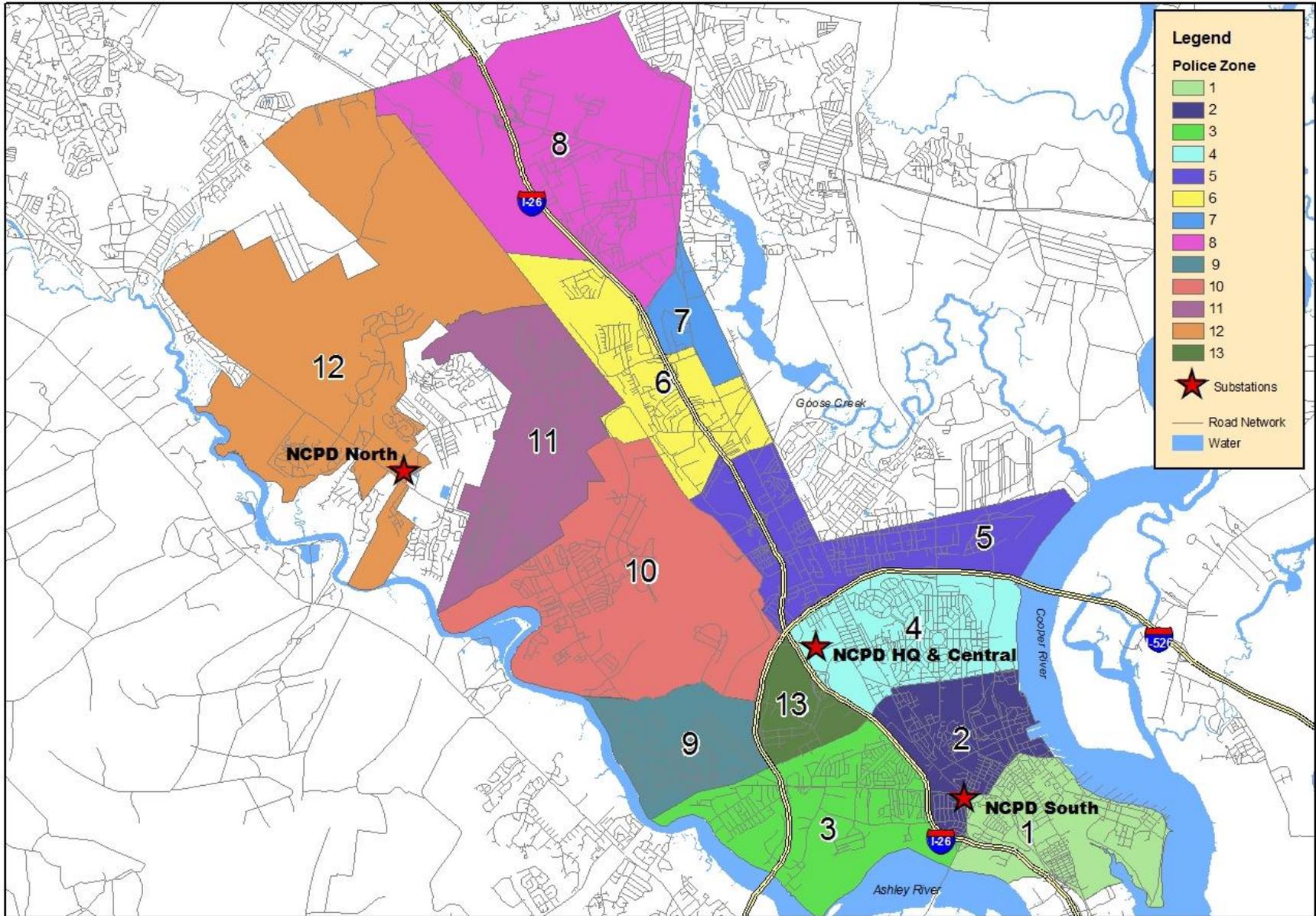
The Office of County Sheriff is mandated by South Carolina State law to serve the State and county courts and routinely assist in serving legal documents such as subpoenas, summons, liens, claims, writs, judgments, and warrants on a countywide basis and in providing detention for suspects and convicted persons.

The Sheriff also has the authority to enforce state law throughout the County, including incorporated areas. Deputies do not enforce city ordinances within the limits of a municipality unless that ordinance has been adopted as a County ordinance. The boundaries of the City of North Charleston cross three County lines, each with a different County Sheriff.

The Charleston County Sheriff’s Office, (843) 202-1700, is responsible for assisting other law enforcement agencies upon request and responding to situations anywhere in Charleston County when deemed necessary to ensure public safety. The Charleston County Sheriff’s office is located at 3505 Pinehaven Drive in Charleston Heights.

The Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center at 3841 Leeds Avenue maintains secure jail operations and facilities for Charleston County. Originally built in 1996 with a third expansion completed in 2010, the facility is designed to hold up to 1,917 total inmates. Average daily inmate population counts for 2014 were 1,266, including 1,075 males and 123 females (68 were not identified by gender).

MAP 7.1: POLICE ZONES



The Dorchester County Sheriff's Office, (843) 832-9300, is located at 212 Deming Way in Summerville and serves the area of North Charleston in Dorchester County. The Dorchester County Detention Center at 101 Sears Street in St. George is a County Jail used by Dorchester County jurisdictions to confine inmates for short periods while awaiting trial or processing. The facility is classed as a medium security detention and includes a wide range of work and treatment programs.

The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, (843) 719-4465, is located in Moncks Corner and provides similar court, detention and law enforcement responsibilities. The Hill-Finklea Detention Center is located in Moncks Corner.

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

North Charleston's Fire Department provides services from 12 fire stations. However, a new station is under construction at the Chicora Tank Farm site and will replace two existing stations (#2 and #8). The department is accredited by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) since August 2013, one of only 187 agencies worldwide (six in South Carolina). The department is divided into two sections: Operations and Administration.

Operations works on a 24/48 schedule, with firefighters on duty for 24 hours, then off-duty for 48 hours. Nine battalions work in three divisions under the Operations Deputy Chief. A Special Operations Chief manages the Hazardous Materials and Medical Coordination groups.

The department's Administration Deputy Chief manages the Fire Marshal, responsible for inspections and fire education; the Training Division with facilities at Station 4 on Cross County Road; and the Logistics Chief is responsible for logistics and support.

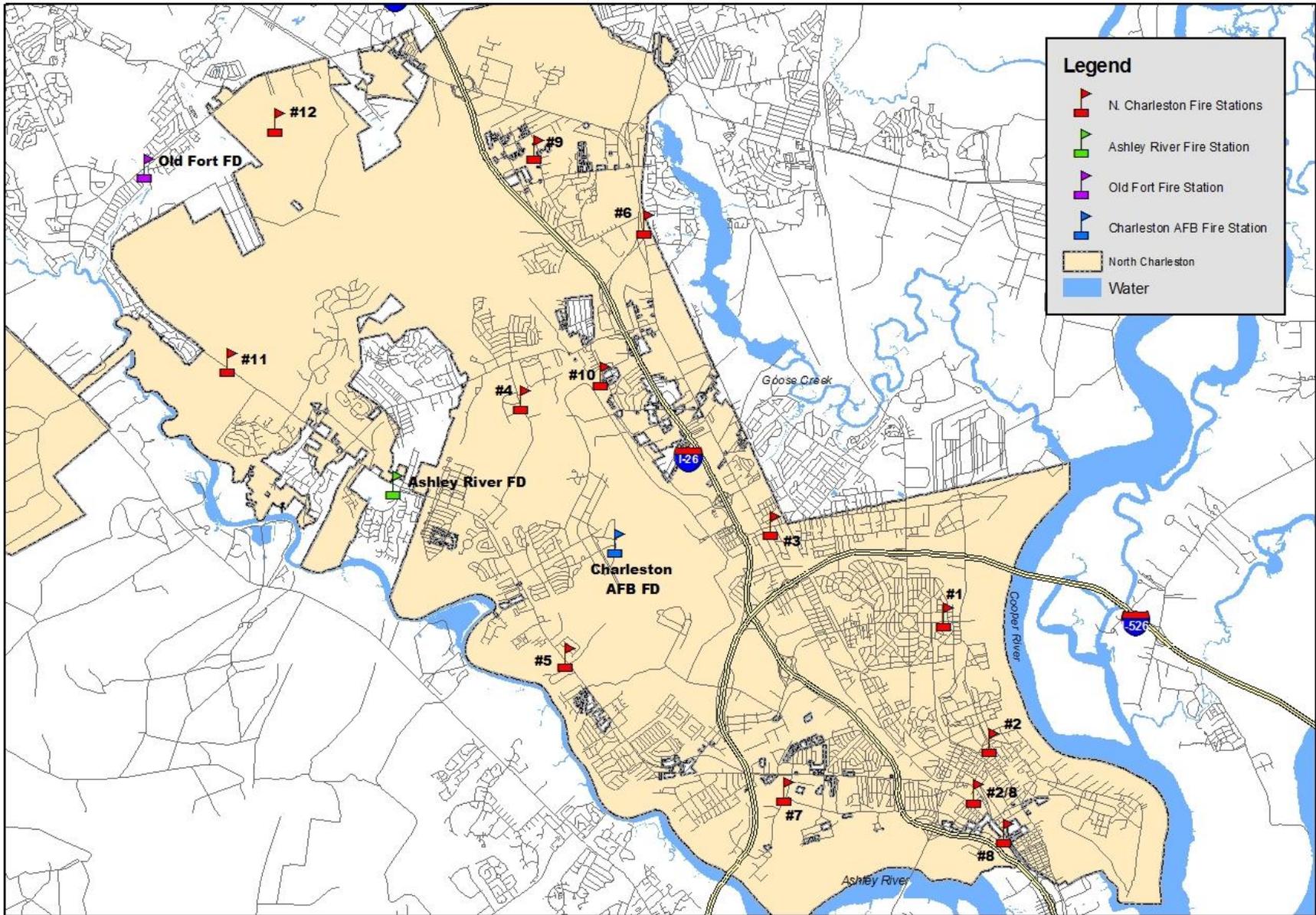
Currently, NCFD operates with 250 staff, and the following equipment:

- ❑ 11 engine companies (+ one reserve engine, one training engine, and one "Brenda, the pink engine")
- ❑ Two ladder companies
- ❑ Two tower companies
- ❑ Two heavy rescue companies
- ❑ One marine company

The Fire Department drafted a community driven Strategic Plan with seven goals, 30 objectives and 115 critical tasks in 2011. Updated in March 2014, the strategic plan sets the direction for the department's managers and personnel. A new Station 2 will replace existing Stations 2 and 8, and the relocations of Stations 6 and 9 are being considered to provide better coverage. Two new stations are proposed to serve Centre Point and Ingleside Plantation. The next Strategic Plan is expected to support the years: 2016-2021.

The apparatus replacement schedule is essential as equipment ages and becomes worn. The department has identified a 10-year lifetime of active service and an additional five years for reserve status for key equipment. On delivery of the 2014 replacement equipment, the department noted that all key equipment is nine or fewer years old. The Strategic Plan's replacement schedule identifies the need to replace three engines, a ladder/tower vehicle and one heavy rescue truck over the next three years (2015-2017). Other staff vehicles are replaced as needed on a five-year/100,000 mile replacement schedule.

MAP 7.2: FIRE STATIONS AND ZONES



Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and 911 for North Charleston are provided by the respective counties, supplemented by the Fire Department which responds to medical calls as available. Many firefighters have received medical technician training (EMT) certification.

As shown above, Planning Area 3 is also supported by three combination paid/volunteer fire fighter stations. The Ashley River Fire Department is located at 8045 Dorchester Road, and serves

the Dorchester Road corridor. The Old Fort Fire-Department supports a 120 square mile area in south eastern Dorchester County with seven stations. Old Fort Fire-Rescue Station 1 at 4214 Ladson Road and Old Fort Fire-Rescue Station 3 at 10410 Dorchester Road serve the communities in and around Summerville, including unincorporated areas of Planning Area 3.

Joint Base Charleston is served by the Joint Base Charleston Fire Station at the Air Force Base.

## 7.2 SCHOOLS

### PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Two public school districts serve North Charleston. The portion of the city in Berkeley County is commercial property and generates no students. The Charleston County Schools District serves the Charleston County areas of North Charleston (Planning Areas 1, 2 & 4), and Dorchester County School District 2 serves Planning Area 3, which includes North Charleston's upper Dorchester corridor and the Watson Hill area. The two school districts differ greatly in demographic makeup and economic levels of their students, and face differing challenges in providing a quality education to their students.

### DORCHESTER COUNTY SCHOOLS

North Charleston Planning Area 3 citizens lauded the reputation of Dorchester County Schools in the public participation process, and suggested that many residents choose to live in North Charleston's upper Dorchester corridor to allow their children to attend Dorchester County District Two schools. Performance in Dorchester 2 Schools remains well above state averages. However,

recent residential growth has created some pressure to create some additional school facilities and concern the ability of the school district to maintain the high quality of education as significant resources are focused on capital improvements. Dorchester County Schools currently serving North Charleston include Fort Dorchester and Ashley Ridge High Schools, the Rollings Middle School for the Arts, Oakbrook and River Oaks Middle Schools, and Fort Dorchester, Oakbrook, Joseph Pye, Windsor Hill, and Eagle Nest Elementary Schools.

Dorchester County School District Two continues to work with the challenge to successfully accommodate growing student populations. The opening of Ashley Ridge High School in 2008 on the west side of the Ashley River helped reduce overcrowding at Fort Dorchester High School. The national slow down in residential construction also provided some temporary relief over the past seven years, and an approved bond referendum in 2012 identified funding for three new 1000-student elementary schools, a 750 student Middle School of the Arts and a new Aquatic Center along with additions at 10 existing schools. Dorchester School

District Two investment in district schools is expected to top \$180 Million by 2018.

Table 7.2.1 shows the enrollment of each of North Charleston’s Dorchester County schools for 2001, 2007, and 2014. An adequate facilities ordinance was adopted in Dorchester County in 2007, requiring large developments to show the impacts of

development projects on schools, roads and other public services prior to issuing permits. This, and the slower recession economy have helped keep Dorchester County Schools from being overwhelmed by local population growth. Ashley Ridge is expected to serve future populations within North Charleston’s Watson Hill tract, and any future annexations by the city adjacent to Watson Hill.

**Table 7.2.1: Dorchester School District 2 Enrollment**

Enrollment - Dorchester School District Two							
YEAR	2001-2002	2007-2008	2013-2014	% Change 2007-2014	Building Capacity	Capacity, w/ Trailers	Enrollment Over Building Capacity
Eagle Nest ES	0	761	830	+09%	800	850	<b>30</b>
Windsor Hill Arts Infused ES	1,039	877	847	-03%	975	1,025	No
Ft. Dorchester ES	0	1,045	1,000	-04%	975	1,200	<b>25</b>
Oakbrook ES	858	1,097	810	-26%	835	950	No
Joseph Pye ES	0	0	762	N/A	1,050	1,050	No
<b>TOTAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS</b>	<b>1,897</b>	<b>3,780</b>	<b>4,249</b>	<b>+12%</b>	<b>4,635</b>	<b>5,075</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Oakbrook MS	1,032	943	950	+01%	850	1,050	<b>100</b>
River Oaks MS	0	730	863	+18%	900	900	No
Rollings MS of the Arts	598	602	660	+10%	475	625	<b>185</b>
<b>TOTAL MIDDLE SCHOOLS</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>2,473</b>	<b>+09%</b>	<b>2,225</b>	<b>2,575</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Ft. Dorchester HS	1,918	2,550	2,100	-18%	1,950	1,950	<b>150</b>
Ashley Ridge HS	0	0	1,929	N/A	1,950	1,950	No
<b>TOTAL HIGH SCHOOLS</b>	<b>1,918</b>	<b>2,550</b>	<b>4,029</b>	<b>+58%</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,445</b>	<b>8,605</b>	<b>10,751</b>	<b>+25%</b>	<b>10,760</b>	<b>11,550</b>	<b>n/a</b>

Dorchester County Schools, District 2

## CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

The Charleston County Schools District (CCSD) has seen a mix of increasing and decreasing enrollments at the schools within the city of North Charleston since the 2001-2002 school year.. Like much of the public infrastructure, Charleston County schools in the older sections of North Charleston are much older than the facilities in the Dorchester County portion of the city. Therefore, much of the school facilities planning in the Charleston County area of the city must deal with expansions, renovations, and upgrades to existing schools to improve capacity or infrastructure. The CCSD has created a building program that works on 5-year cycles. In the 2000-2004 cycle, the focus was on critical infrastructure needs – replacing roofs, plumbing, HVAC, and other systems. During this period, the most deteriorated elementary schools were replaced or renovated. The 2005-09 program focused on renovating or expanding middle and high schools, and purchasing land for the Jerry Zucker Middle School off Dorchester Road and a new location for Stall High School on Ashley Phosphate Road. The Phase III (2010-2014) Capital Programs provided continued property acquisitions and construction.

Charleston County Schools District facilities in North Charleston include:

- ❑ 16 Elementary Schools – Burns, Chicora, A.C. Corcoran, Dunston, Mary Ford, W.B. Goodwin, Hunley Park, Malcolm Hursey, Ladson, Lambs, Meeting Street at Brentwood, Midland Park, North Charleston, North Charleston Creative Arts, Pepperhill, and Pinehurst;
- ❑ 3 Middle Schools –Jerry Zucker, Morningside, and Northwoods;

- ❑ 3 High Schools – Garrett Academy of Technology, North Charleston and R.B. Stall

Charleston County Schools also has seven specialty schools located in North Charleston that serve the entire county:

- ❑ Academic Magnet High School
- ❑ The School of the Arts Magnet Middle & High School,
- ❑ Military Magnet Middle & High School,
- ❑ Liberty Hill Academy (K-12),
- ❑ Daniel Jenkins Academy (Middle School), and
- ❑ Greg Mathis Charter High School.

Table 7.2.2 shows that a few of the Charleston County schools have experienced declining student enrollment, and others have seen a large increase. Others saw a dip in 2007 and recovery by 2015. Very few schools are at or above the capacity of either the building or the campus (main building + trailers). During the 2013-2014 school year, Corcoran, Chicora, Dunston, Goodwin, Hunley Park, Lambs, Ladson, and Pepperhill Elementary Schools were close to or above building capacity. Dunston, Goodwin, Ladson, and Pepperhill Elementary were enrolled beyond campus capacity. Charleston County District 4 must deal with similar capacity issues as the Dorchester 2 School District and faces an even tougher challenge in serving several schools located within areas with high amounts of poverty.

**Table 7.2.2: Charleston County District 4 Neighborhood Schools Enrollment**

<b>Enrollment - Charleston County Schools District</b>							
<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>2001-2002</b>	<b>2006-2007</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>	<b>% Change 2007-2014</b>	<b>Building Capacity</b>	<b>Capacity, w Trailers</b>	<b>Enrollment Over Building Capacity</b>
A.C. Corcoran ES	494	521	635	+22%	650	650	No
Chicora ES Current (New)	383	318	405	+27%	414 (600)	(600)	No
Edmund A. Burns ES	633	508	410	-19%	479	615	No
Hunley Park ES	509	531	490	-08%	478	535	<b>12</b>
Lambs ES	526	439	398	-09%	385	616	<b>13</b>
Ladson ES	574	488	850	+74%	563	563	<b>287</b>
Malcolm C. Hursey ES	360	294	295	-00%	410	445	No
Mary Ford ES	401	426	371	-13%	414	516	No
Matilda F. Dunston ES	452	257	371	+44%	233	249	<b>138</b>
Meeting Street (at Former Brentwood MS)	n/a	n/a	120	N/A	500	500	No
Midland Park Primary School (PK-1 <sup>st</sup> )	528	571	297	-48%	398	657	No
North Charleston ES	500	530	522	-02%	659	659	No
North Charleston Creative Arts ES Current (New)	n/a	n/a	254	N/A	257 (500)	(500)	No
Pepperhill ES	563	542	589	+09%	517	666	<b>72</b>
Pinehurst ES	n/a	n/a	328	N/A	405	405	No
W.B. Goodwin ES	685	608	693	+15%	499	674	<b>194</b>
<b>TOTAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS</b>	<b>6608</b>	<b>6033</b>	<b>7028</b>	<b>+16%</b>	<b>7261 (7690)</b>	<b>6650</b>	<b>n/a</b>

Source: Charleston County School District + individual school websites

School Enrollment (Continued) - Charleston County Schools District							
SCHOOL	2000-2001	2006-2007	2013-2014	% Change 2007-2014	Building Capacity	Capacity, w Trailers	Enrollment Over Building Capacity
Daniel Jenkins Academy*	n/a	n/a	91	n/a	128	128	No
Jerry Zucker MS of Science *	999*	429*	522	+22%	525	525	No
Liberty Hill Academy*	n/a	n/a	125	N/A	111	111	<b>14</b>
Morningside MS	712	484	524	+08%	582	601	No
Northwoods MS*	1073*	684*	800	+17%	969	969	No
<b>TOTAL MIDDLE SCHOOLS*</b>	<b>2784</b>	<b>1597</b>	<b>1846</b>	<b>+16%</b>	<b>1912</b>	<b>2486</b>	
North Charleston HS	1379	939	522	-44%	833	1674	No
R.B. Stall HS	995	919	984	+07%	1227	1351	No
Garrett Academy of Technology	n/a	n/a	740	n/a	848	848	No
<b>TOTAL HIGH SCHOOLS</b>	<b>2374</b>	<b>1858</b>	<b>1506</b>		<b>2908</b>	<b>3873</b>	
Academic Magnet HS	n/a	n/a	617	n/a	603	603	14
Military Magnet MS & HS	n/a	n/a	462	n/a	885	885	No
School for the Arts MS & HS	n/a	n/a	1093	n/a	1008	1008	<b>88</b>
Greg Mathis Charter HS	n/a	n/a	63	n/a	100	100	<b>37</b>
<b>TOTAL MAGNET MS &amp; HIGH SCHOOLS</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>2235</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>2596</b>	<b>2596</b>	<b>n/a</b>

**\*Notes:** Daniel Jenkins was the CCSD discipline alternative school until 2008 and limited to Middle School students in 2010; Jerry Zucker MS statistics prior to 2013 are for Brentwood MS (now closed); Liberty Hill Academy is located at Carolina Youth Development Center; and Northwoods MS statistics prior to 2013 are for Alice Birney MS.

**Source:** Charleston County School District and individual school websites

The CCSD’s Phase IV Capital Programs Master Plan, prepared in 2014 continues to improve facilities by funding the demolition of inadequate properties, construction of new schools, and cyclical maintenance programs to better maintain the existing and new school facilities. The CCSD’s school buildings and grounds represent more than \$1.6 Billion of taxpayer investments requiring an annual maintenance stream of \$32 Million per year. The focus for the six year CCSD Phase IV planning period to 2020 is committed to life safety, growth, and programmatic support. Specific goals include ensuring that two-story school buildings meet the International Building Code for Seismic Zone 4.

**SCHOOL PERFORMANCE**

Table 7.2.3 reports average SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) scores in each of the two districts over the last five years. SAT scores are only one measure of student performance, but are an important indicator of performance as most colleges and universities use SAT scores to evaluate applicants. Historically, Charleston County student test scores have been consistently below the state and national averages while Dorchester District Two students consistently scored higher than the state average but below national averages. In 2014, the Dorchester District 2 Schools equaled the national average.

Charleston County scores rank at about the middle of South Carolina’s 85 districts, However, South Carolina is consistently one of the lowest performing states in the nation, and only the top school districts in the State perform above the national average.

**Figure 7.2.3: Average SAT Scores by School District,**

District	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Charleston County</b> (North Charleston area high schools)	1361	1356	1340	1351	1376
<b>Dorchester District Two</b> (Partial – North Charleston area high schools)	1467	1444	1473	1461	1471
<b>South Carolina Average</b>	1443	1436	1431	1436	1429
<b>National Average</b>	1497	1500	1498	1498	1471

South Carolina Department of Education

The Charleston County specialty schools in North Charleston consistently have excellent performances that are on par with, and in some cases better than, Dorchester County Schools. Charleston County Schools located in more affluent areas of the county tend to perform at higher levels, indicating that the poor performance of District 4 schools is more a result of location and socioeconomic conditions rather than the school district itself. In addition to the low performance scores that apparently created by higher poverty levels and unstable learning environment, schools in high-poverty areas require more school district resources to be spent on them. Charleston County School District Four spent \$9,233 per pupil in 2013-14, compared to only \$6,946 per pupil in Dorchester County School District Two in the same school year. This shows that lower performance in the Charleston County Schools District does not appear to be due to a lack of funding.

### SCHOOL PERFORMANCE AND POVERTY

The differences in school performance between Dorchester County and Charleston County schools are believed to reflect the socioeconomic struggles in North Charleston's older core city (Planning Areas 1 and 2). Many performance problems in the Charleston County portion of the City are considered to be related to poverty, lower income and disadvantages that come along with them.

Both public school districts serving the city offer free or reduced priced lunches to students from low-income households. Table 7.2.4 shows the income eligibility criteria for Charleston County Schools' Free & Reduced Lunch Program. The table also shows regional income levels that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) determines as "Low", "Very Low", and "Extremely Low" Income. The income levels that qualify for free or reduced lunch do not match up exactly with HUD's levels for Low, Very Low and Extremely Low Income households, but the comparison shows that families that are eligible for reduced lunch prices are considered Low Income or worse by HUD standards.

The Charleston County Schools District estimates that 84% of the students in the North Charleston portion of the district get free or reduced lunch. Only 33% of Dorchester County District Two students receive free or reduced meals, indicating that although southern Dorchester County is not devoid of poverty, the concentration is much less severe. The most severe area of poverty appears to be focused in Planning Area 1 and Planning Area 2 where approximately 90% of the students receive free or reduced lunches. This included: Brentwood Middle (now closed), Burns Elementary, Chicora Elementary, Dunston Elementary, Hursey Elementary, Mary Ford Elementary, and North Charleston Elementary Schools.

These numbers indicate that the income gap in the city is significant and pervasive. Dorchester 2 schools draw from a predominately white population in Planning Area 3, while District 4 is comprised of 75% black students, and only 20% white students reflecting the general population demographics between the Dorchester County and Charleston County areas in North Charleston (especially Planning Areas 1 and 2).

The reduced and free lunch programs provided the basis for Title I schools designated as low income and eligible to receive funding through the national *No Child Left Behind Act*. Schools with at least 35% of its students on free or reduced lunch programs are considered Title I schools and are eligible for funding on a competitive basis. Schools that are in areas where 75% of the population is low-income are Title I schools that **must** be funded under the *No Child Left Behind Act*. In the Charleston County Schools District, 14 schools are in areas with at least 75% low income and receive mandatory Title I funding. With the exceptions of the Academic Magnet High School and the School of the Arts, all are Title I schools. However in the Dorchester County area of the city, only one school (Windsor Hill Elementary) is a Title I school.

High crime rates are certainly contributors to school quality in some areas of North Charleston. An unsafe or unstable home environment fails to produce a proper learning environment for school aged children. The city has made efforts to combat crime with programs such as Weed & Seed Program, but must continue to improve the social and physical environment in order to create a student body that is focused on learning.

Children that come from a stable home, have proper nutrition, and have a safe learning environment at home are going to have an advantage over those who do not. Without a stable home and proper learning environment, only the most driven or resourceful children are likely to excel in school. Head Start programs help children of low-income families overcome the disadvantages of poverty, giving them a better chance to succeed in school.

The Charleston County Schools District Early Head Start program was begun in 1995 to provide comprehensive child and family development services for low-income pregnant women and families with infants and toddlers (ages Birth – 2½) as part of the national program to promote school readiness. Each child attends at no cost and received center-based services focused on literacy, progress assessments, and dental, health, nutrition, mental health, disability, and family support.

The CCSD Head Start Program extends resources to enhance child physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development and support parents by providing curriculum assistance, health and nutrition, social services, and parental involvement support for low income families with children aged 2½ to pre-kindergarten.

The current Head Start Programs in North Charleston are at:

- ❑ A.C. Corcoran Elementary School

- ❑ Burns Elementary School
- ❑ Chicora Elementary School
- ❑ Child & Family Services on Thomasina McPherson Blvd.
- ❑ Dunston Elementary School
- ❑ Goodwin Elementary School
- ❑ Midland Park Elementary School
- ❑ R.B. Stall High School

Additional Head Start programs should be pursued as needed to serve lower income populations as they may relocate. Charleston County Elementary Schools that have available space are likely to be favored locations for Head Start Programs for the foreseeable future.

Head Start can only produce moderate benefits without improvements in the community environment, reduction in crime, increases in homeownership, and a more active community. These are necessary societal improvements that continue to greatly affect the ability of children to succeed in school. A continued cycle of poverty is likely to lead to continued poor school performance, poverty, and low income that would persist in North Charleston. Three-strong efforts are needed to provide (1) improved school facilities, (2) student readiness, and (3) better learning environments to break the cycle.

#### **PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS COMMUNITY CENTERS**

Schools are valuable real estate and when used as community centers, can help provide safer surroundings and a better learning environment for kids and adults in conjunction with and after school hours. Children can benefit from recreation fields that are open after school hours and during school holiday periods to get

the proper exercise they need. They can also use the libraries as a place to study if their home is too disruptive. Adults benefit from the use of the library as a learning resource, and classrooms can be used at night for continuing education or support group meetings. In general, active schools, available and used after hours, can help create a closer-knit community.

The Noisette Community Master Plan proposed that the Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District set aside 25% of projected funds for improvement to schools. To be eligible for the funds, new schools or school renovations must meet LEED standards. These requirements have not yet come to fruition, but would be worthy steps towards creating high quality schools that create closer-knit neighborhoods and provide constructive outlets for at-risk youth after school hours. LEED design for schools sets higher standards for energy efficiency, as well as providing better air quality and more natural lighting. It has been argued that better air and light quality in classrooms improves students' school performance. Reductions in energy costs can help schools spend less money on building operations, and more money on teacher salaries, cafeteria food, or classroom resources – aspects that have more impact on the students. Additionally, schools must function as neighborhood centers, sharing their facilities (recreation fields, assembly halls, libraries, etc.) for community functions. This provides numerous benefits to the community, and helps the city save its resources by reducing the need to purchase land and build new recreation fields, libraries, performance venues, or community centers. Even school buses can be used as local public transportation during nights and weekends.

North Charleston donated \$1 million towards the construction of the athletic facilities at two Dorchester County schools: Eagle Nest Elementary and River Oaks Middle School. The city also provides maintenance for the schools' recreation facilities, and in return, the recreation facilities are open to use by North Charleston residents.

Charleston County schools also provide use of school facilities for the community at several facilities, and the city is hoping to create additional opportunities in both districts. North Charleston Elementary School was constructed to LEED standards, and although the facilities were not designed specifically for community use, several of the facilities are shared with the public. As shared facility agreements between the city and the school districts prove to be successful and beneficial to the community, it is hoped that numerous future opportunities are sought out and created throughout the North Charleston.

The use of school facilities as community centers is especially important in the neighborhoods with the worst crime rates or economic levels. Providing after-hours programs, especially for at-risk youth, provides safe, constructive outlets for kids and helps them avoid the negative influences of blighted neighborhoods. If the students cannot achieve a conducive learning environment at home, they should at least have an opportunity to seek it elsewhere in their community. North Charleston should work with Dorchester and Charleston County School Districts to ensure that all schools serve some sort of community function or share facilities, with a high priority for this to occur in schools that are in high poverty and/or high crime neighborhoods.

It is recommended that the city partner with the counties and school districts, especially Charleston County School District, to formulate a 5 or 10-year plan for school related capital improvements, initiative programs, public safety, and community improvements that help address the needs and challenges of providing quality education. This would identify future capacity needs, as well as identify, prioritize, and coordinate funding for shared facility opportunities. Perhaps more importantly, this plan would formulate strategies for, and coordinate community resources towards reducing the societal ills that foster a

disadvantaged learning environment for students from low-income areas.

### **Charleston County Private Schools:**

Charleston County has numerous private schools located throughout the county that offer education services. Approximately 35% of the private schools are accredited by the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA). An accredited elementary school uses a course of study appropriate to the students, textbooks approved by appropriate personnel or SCISA accreditation standards, and qualified teacher and school staff.

The following private schools are located in North Charleston:

- Cathedral Academy – Grades: K4-12; Location: 3790 Ashley Phosphate Road, North Charleston;
- Northwood Academy - Grades: PK – 12; Students: 1,690 at two Locations: 8717 Rivers Avenue, North Charleston and 2263 Otranto Road; North Charleston;
- Northside Christian School - Grades: PK - 12; Students: 439; Location: 7800 Northside Drive; North Charleston (Note: a new campus is proposed to open outside the city in 2016);
- Riverbend Christian Academy - Grades: PK - 12; Students: 170; Location: 7035 Dorchester Road; North Charleston;
- Ferndale Baptist School - Grades: PK - 12; Students: 138; Location: 4870 Piedmont Avenue; North Charleston;
- St. John Catholic School - Grades: 1 - 8; Students: 61; Location: 3921 Saint John Save; North Charleston;
- Wando Woods Baptist Church Kindergarten - Grades: PK– KG; Students: 6; Location: 4123 Dorsey Avenue; North Charleston.

### **Dorchester County Private Schools:**

The following schools are located in Dorchester County and offer education services for students that live in the City of North Charleston:

- [The Oaks Christian School](#) – Grades: PK-6; Location: 505 Gahagan Road, Summerville
- [Pinewood Preparatory School](#) - Grades: PK – 12; Location: 1145 Orangeburg Road, Summerville
- [Summerville Catholic School](#) – Grades: PK-8; Location: 226 Black Oak Boulevard, Summerville
- [Trinity Classical Academy](#) – Grades: 1-8; Location: 4218 Buck Creek Court, Summerville

### **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

#### TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Trident Tech is a public, two-year, multi-campus college with a 255-acre campus located off Rivers Avenue near Ashley Phosphate Road. Trident Tech’s enrollment has grown by more than 50% since 2000, and in 2014, there are approximately 10,000 traditional and nontraditional; curriculum students at the main campus, 3,300 at other area campuses, and another 7,800 students in off campus programs. Approximately 7,200 students attend full-time and 9,000 attend part time making TTC the largest technical college in South Carolina. In 2015, the school is expanding by developing a proposed \$79 million aeronautical training center on 25 acres adjacent to its main North Charleston campus.

Trident Tech’s growth is expected to continue, and may create further demands on traffic given that there is no on-campus housing. Therefore, efforts to provide multi-family housing within

a walking commute of Trident Tech are suggested to reduce potential negative impacts on traffic in and around the campus. North Charleston should consider working with Trident Tech to explore opportunities to house students closer to campus. Trident Tech's mission emphasizes 2-year and shorter term education and technical training programs that make it unlikely to provide on-campus housing. However, the campus should continue to work with the city to support affordable student housing off-campus.

#### CHARLESTON SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Charleston Southern (formerly Baptist University) is located on the north side of University Boulevard just east of the I-26 interchange, across from Trident Medical Center. The school sits on a 300-acre campus and provides accredited programs in business, education, nursing, health, sciences, mathematics, humanities, and Christian studies with a faculty of more than 160. Enrollment is currently 3,400 students and expected to grow to 4,000 students by 2020 according to the Charleston Southern University Strategic Transformation Plan. Recent development projects included the 16,100 square foot Derry Patterson Wingo Hall expansion and a skills lab in the University's expanded College of Nursing and Allied Health. Six residence halls are identified on the campus.

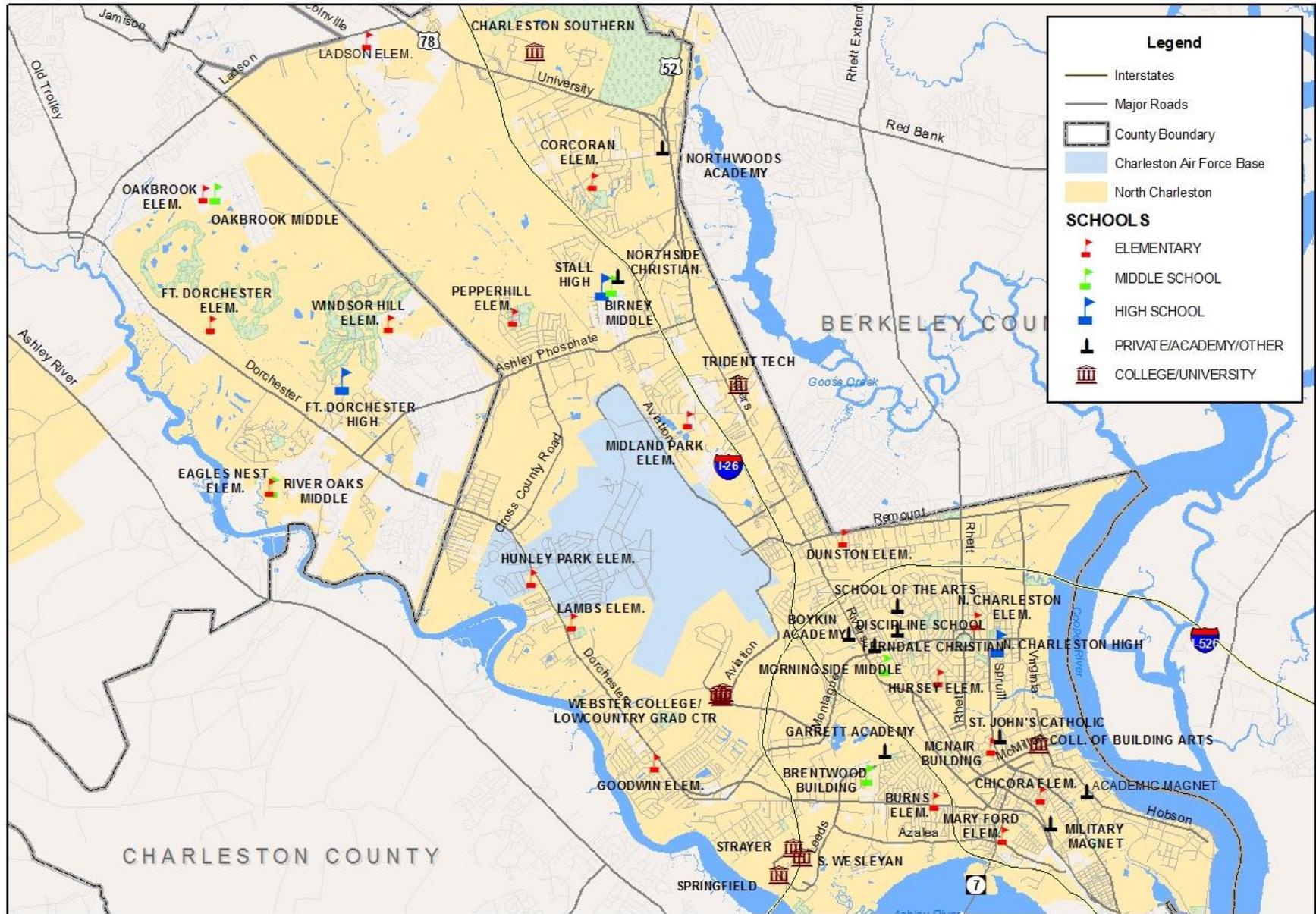
In addition to CSU and Trident Tech, North Charleston is also home to several additional specialty and satellite colleges (Map 7.3).

- ❑ Lowcountry Graduate Center, located off Paramount Drive near I-526, is an institution that was created through a partnership of the College of Charleston, the Citadel, and the Medical University of South Carolina. The University of South Carolina and Clemson University subsequently joined the local institutions to provide a variety of graduate programs at the LGC.
- ❑ The College of Charleston North Campus shares facilities with the Lowcountry Graduate Center and provides graduate programs on a campus ½ mile from I-26.
- ❑ Webster University Charleston provides graduate programs in human resources, counseling, information technology management, business administration, and health administration, and undergraduate degrees in management and psychology at Webster's Charleston and Joint Base Charleston locations. The school is a satellite campus of Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri.
- ❑ Southern Wesleyan University is a four-year and graduate college with a main campus in Central, SC. Enrolling approximately 1900 students, the Regional Learning Center in North Charleston, along with similar centers in several other SC cities, offers small classes dedicated to adults that try to fit their education into a busy working life. The Center is located on Faber Drive Place.
- ❑ Clemson University Restoration Institute (CURI), located on Supply Street in the former Navy Yard, includes the Warren Lasch Conservation Center and its state-of-the-art laboratory for analyzing metal, wood, textiles, polymers, glass and ceramic artifacts. It also houses the 1860s submarine H.L. Hunley. The Institute offers six programs of study including Renewable Energy and Resilient Infrastructure.
- ❑ Strayer University has a local campus on Wetland Crossing near the I-26 and I-526 interchange. Strayer provides programs in accounting, business, health services administration, information systems, and public administration.
- ❑ Springfield College School of Human Services, located on Belle Oaks Drive, provides bachelors and masters degrees in human services weekend programs.
- ❑ Limestone College, Charleston Extended Campus is located on Leeds Avenue and provides Associates and Bachelors degrees

in business management/administration, liberal studies, and social work.

- ❑ ECPI College of Technology, located on Northside Drive, provides Associates and Diploma programs in Network Security, Electronics Engineering, Medical Administration and Medical Assistant programs.
- ❑ Miller-Motte Technical College , located on Rivers Avenue, is a for-profit technical school providing Medical Assistance and Surgical Technology Associates degree programs.

MAP 7.3: SCHOOLS



### 7.3 PARKS & RECREATION

#### CITY PARKS AND COMMUNITY CENTERS

In 1996, North Charleston reported a total of 220 acres of city parks and recreation fields. In 2008, the total had grown to 285 acres of public park and recreation space. In 2015, planners identified 1,316 acres in 47 community centers, parks, athletic fields, and public open areas in the city are managed by the North Charleston Recreation Department. In addition, there are numerous public and private golf courses, boat landings, and school, church, community, and shared facilities.

National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards generally suggested a range between 6.25 and 10.5 acres of park space per 1,000 persons. Based on a city population (2010 census) of 126,392, the City should strive for 790 acres of park and recreation space. Tables 7.3.1 through 7.3.4 below list the parks, recreation fields, and community centers within each planning area along with the amount of acreage each facility provides. Three Planning Areas appear to be short and one Planning Area exceeds the minimum acreage recommended for park land.

#### Planning Area 1

The 2010 population from the US Census for the planning area included both city and unincorporated parcels, and showed a population total of 31,478, a loss of 1,676 (5%) since Year 2000. Two properties formerly used (North Park Village and Park South) totaling 21 acres are no longer available within this planning area. There are approximately 5.7 acres of park space for every 1,000 persons. This is 16.2 acres shy of the recommended 6.25 acres of park space per 1,000 of population ratio recommended by the NRPA.

Table 7.3.1: Planning Area 1 Park Acreage

Park	Type	Acres
Park Circle	Recreation/Playground	13.0
Danny Jones/Armory	Recreation/Playground/Pool	13.5
Russelldale	Comm. Center/Recreation	2.5
Persephone Moultrie	Comm. Center/Recreation	2.5
Felix Pinckney	Comm. Center/Recreation	5.0
Whipper Barony	Comm. Center/Recreation	2.0
Highland Terrace	Recreation/Playground	3.5
Gussie Green (Live Oak)	Passive/Playground	2.0
Ferndale	Comm. Center/Recreation	1.0
Ceramics House	Comm. Center/Recreation	2.0
O'Hear	Passive/Playground	0.5
Quarterman Lake	Passive/Playground	16.0
Westvaco Park	Recreation/Playground	15.0
Ralph Hendricks Park	Passive/Playground	10.0
Triangle Park	Passive/Playground	0.5
Pump House Park	Passive/Playground	0.5
Mosstree Park	Passive/Playground	4.0
Naval Base/Sterrett Hall	Comm. Center/Recreation	20.0
Gethsemani	Comm. Center/Recreation	2.5
Accabee	Comm. Center/Recreation	2.5
Liberty Hill	Comm. Center/Recreation	3.5
Charleston Farms	Comm. Center/Recreation	1.5
Four Poles Park	Passive Open Space/Fishing Dock	27.0
Riverfront Park	Passive Open Space/Playground	24.0
Horizon Village	Recreation/Playground	2.0
Midland Park	Comm. Center/Recreation	2.0
Cooper River Marina	County Marina	2.0
<b>PLANNING AREA 1</b>		<b>180.5</b>

Planning Area 1 did not grow, as was suggested by the number of permitted housing units in the 2008 Comprehensive Plan. However, the amount of park space actually shrank and the acreage in 2015 is considered more inadequate than in 2008. In addition, the land zoned and permitted for residential growth is still available and expected to be developed as urban “live, work, play” lifestyle communities for middle-class families. New park land is essential to provide the desired facilities to maintain and grow the population in Planning Area 1 and proposed parks near Filbin Creek (16 acres off East Dolphin Street), and north of the GARCO site are potential opportunities to help provide additional park space in this area.

**Planning Area 2**

The 2010 population in Planning Area 2 was 32,102, a loss of 7% since 2000. Even so, the 44.5 acres of local parks remains short of appropriate open recreation and park acreage for the area.

**Table 7.3.2: Planning Area 2 Park Acreage**

Park	Type	Acres
Collins Park	Recreation/Playground/Pool	15.0
Cooper River	Recreation/Playground	3.5
Miner Crosby	Comm. Center/Recreation	5.0
Mary Ford	Recreation/Playground	3.0
Murray Hill	Recreation/Playground	6.0
Bernie Varnadore	Recreation/Playground	2.0
Wye Lane	Passive/Open Space	3.0
Ferrara Drive	Passive/Open Space	3.0
Thomas Evans	Community Center	2.0
W.O. Thomas Landing	County Boat Landing	2.0
<b>PLANNING AREA 2</b>		<b>44.5</b>

In addition to the above park land, the Coliseum and the Convention Center are located within Planning Area 2, but are

regional entertainment facilities by nature and are not included in the Area assessment.

Based on the 6.25 acres/1000 population ratio, approximately 210.5 acres of park space are needed to adequately meet the population’s needs. The city hopes to acquire park land along the Ashley River near the intersection of Michaux Parkway and Dorchester Road, and expects some park space will be provided as part of the Ashley River Center development. However, this is still short of meeting the needs for the area. Joint use of school and/or church recreational facilities is recommended in this Planning Area to help provide parks in this district.

**Planning Area 3**

As recently as 2007, Planning Area 3 had no established local or regional parks other than private golf courses in the area. In that year, the city began the shared use of the new Eagle Nest Elementary and River Oaks Middle School recreational fields in partnership with Dorchester County School District Two. Two more practice fields were built behind Riverbluff Baptist Church and off of Park Forest Parkway in 2008.

North Charleston recognized that additional facilities were needed in the planning area and acquired a 25 acre property behind the Dorchester Road fire station near Wescott Plantation to provide sports fields and park space. Wescott Park opened in 2013 to acclaim as a unique facility with three ball fields patterned to look like major league stadiums in Atlanta, Boston, and San Francisco. A patented Ripken Training Facility complements the fields, and an outdoor amphitheater, green spaces, multi-purpose fields, walking trails through the wetlands, and enclosed and open air shelters complete the facility.

**Table 7.3.3: Planning Area 3 Park Acreage**

Park	Type	Acres
Eagle Nest	Recreation/Playground	2.0
River Oaks	Recreation/Playground	2.0
Riverbluff	Recreation/Ball fields	3.0
Wescott Park	Recreation/ Ball Fields	25.0
<b>PLANNNG AREA 3</b>		<b>32.0</b>

The growth of Planning Area 3 (more than 38% between 2000 and 2010) indicates that the number of additional facilities in the area needs to continue growing. A population of 41,397 needs as much as 270 acres in open space based on the assumed criteria.

**Planning Area 4**

Planning Area 4 is fortunate to be home to Charleston County Wannamaker Park, which totals 1,015 acres of woodlands, wetlands, and active and passive recreation activities and open space. The County Park includes a seasonal water park, two miles of paved trails, bicycle and boat rentals, covered shelters and meeting facilities, playgrounds, an off-leash dog park, and more than seven acres of grassy open meadows that fulfill and exceed the local planning area needs for park facilities.

With the addition of 44.5 acres of city parks, including recent renovations and improvements at Pepperhill Park, Planning Area enjoyed 25.6 acres per person for the 2010 population of 21,415. However, the County Park represented 95% of the area total. New park space, including facilities at Ingleside Plantation, are recommended to help ensure that all areas of Planning Area 4 have reasonable access to local parks and recreation.

**Table 7.3.4: Planning Area 4 Park Acreage**

Park	Type	Acres
Three Oaks	Recreation/Playground	3.5
Pepperhill	Comm. Center/Recreation	10.0
Northwoods Estates Park	Recreation/Playground/Pool	20.0
Vistavia Park	Comm. Center/Recreation	4.0
Simmons	Recreation/Playground	7.0
Wannamaker County Park	Regional Park	1,015.0
<b>PLANNING AREA 4</b>		<b>1,059.5</b>

In its most recent publications, the NRPA suggests a movement away from a national standard of a set amount of acreage based on population. Instead, it suggests that communities involve the public and assess specific needs for space for each unique population of a local community. NRPA still provides detailed guidelines for different types of parks and recreational facilities, but discourages simple ratios to judge the adequacy of a local park system. Additionally, a network of bicycle and multi-use trails do not constitute acreage per se, but do provide a valuable addition to recreation. Chapter 8 includes a detailed plan for a recreational trail network in North Charleston.

North Charleston needs to identify and acquire more park space; however, an in-depth park and recreation plan should be performed on a regular basis every few years to assess the city’s needs, determine what type, how much, and where park space can be provided, and produce a plan to acquire land and develop park or recreational facilities.

## COUNTY PARKS

The Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission (CCPRC) manages 32 properties located throughout the county, including three parks located within North Charleston. Wannamaker County Park is located on the north side of University Boulevard, near the intersection of US-78 and US-52. Wannamaker is a 1,015-acre regional park with nature trails, playgrounds, picnic areas, wetlands, a pond, and the Whirlin' Waters Adventure Water Park.

The W.O. Thomas Jr. Boat Landing (formerly known as County Farm Landing) is a small boat landing on the Ashley River that provides access to the Ashley River with a ramp, benches, and picnic tables. This facility is located off Bridgeview Drive near the Mark Clark Expressway crossing over the Ashley River.

The Cooper River Marina is located two miles north of the Arthur Ravenel, Jr. Bridge on Juneau Avenue between the Cooper and Shipyard Creek. The Marina includes an office/store, picnic tables, restrooms, recycling facilities, vehicle parking, 160 local and 12 transient boat slips.

Dorchester County prepared the first Dorchester County Parks and Recreation Master Plan in 2009 to identify needs and an action plan for parks and recreation development. The Dorchester County Parks and Recreation Department (DCPRD) operates one public park, the 70-acre, Richard A. Rosebrock Park, on the Ashley River at Cooke Crossroads (near the intersection of State Highways 165 and 61). Current facilities include picnic shelters and the Like Oak Trail for hiking. Other DCPRD facilities include the Faith Sellers Senior Center in Summerville and the David Sojourner Senior Center in St. George.

In addition, DCPRD purchased an 83-acre tract on Bacons Bridge Road in 2012 to create the (future) Ashley River Park. This site is located just north of the Watson Hill tract on the west side of the Ashley River, and is expected to offer significant opportunities for

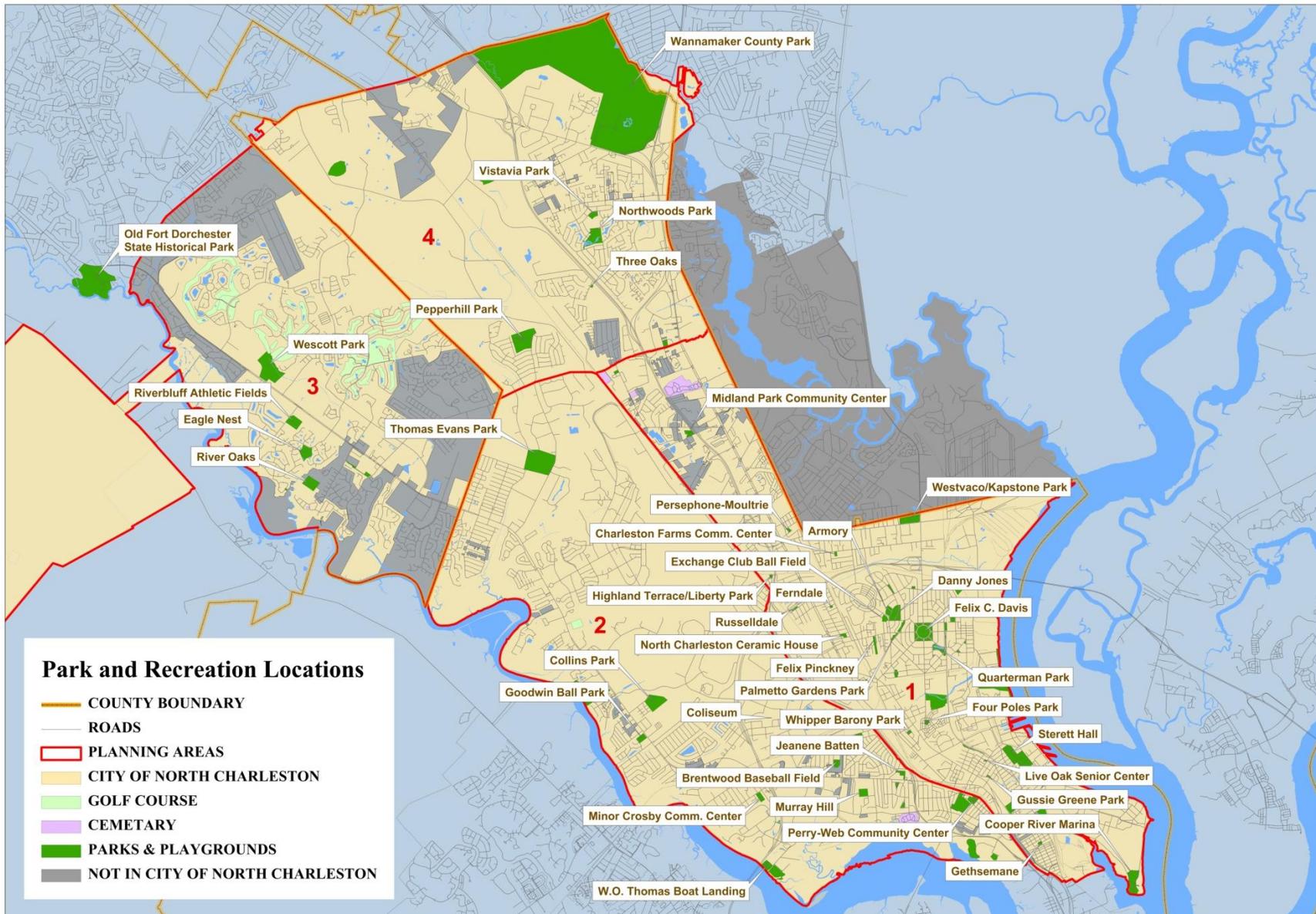
residents of Planning Areas 3 and 4 when additional recreation amenities are constructed. In 2015, DCPRD is completing an update to the County's Park and Recreation Master Plan, and is expected to identify an action plan to acquire and develop additional park and recreation facilities to meet the needs of Planning Area 3 and the rest of the county.

## STATE AND NATIONAL PARKS AND FORESTS

Although there are State and National Parks and National Forests within accessible driving distances, none are located within the city of North Charleston. The Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site is a protected Park managed by the South Carolina State Park Service approximately one mile north of Ladson Drive. Facilities include walking trails and interpretative markers.

Map 7.4, on the next page, illustrates public park and recreation locations within the city of North Charleston.

MAP 7.4: PARKS AND OPEN SPACE



## 7.4 WATER AND SEWER

Water and sewer services are provided to the city of North Charleston by other authorities.

### WATER SUPPLY

The primary provider for water in North Charleston is the Charleston Water System (formerly Charleston Commissioners of Public Works). Charleston Water System (CWS) provides water directly to areas of North Charleston within Charleston County, and provides wholesale water to the Joint Base Charleston and the Dorchester County Water and Sewer systems serving the North Charleston area. In 2013, the CWS system provided over 55 Million gallons of treated water to more than 110,000 retail water accounts. Raw water is taken from the Edisto River and the Bushy Park Reservoir in Goose Creek and treated at the Hanahan Water Treatment Plant. The current CWS Capital Improvements Program includes replacement of the 1950's era settling basin at the Hanahan Water Treatment Plant with more efficient plate settler basins.

### SEWER SERVICE

The North Charleston Sewer District provides sewer and wastewater treatment for North Charleston, excluding the Dorchester County areas of the city. The district primarily serves North Charleston, but also portions of unincorporated Charleston County, Ladson, Lincolnville, Summerville, and a small portion of the City of Charleston within the Charleston County boundaries. As of 2014, the Sewer District serviced a population of 115,495 with 448 miles of sewer lines and 61 pump stations. Treatment is provided at the 27 MGD (million gallon per day) Felix C. Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant located off Herbert Street within the City of Charleston near the confluence of Shipyard Creek and the Cooper River.

### FELIX C. DAVIS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The NCSD began construction in 2007 to increase its treatment capacity to 32 million gallons per day. The district's average daily influent flow as of 2010 was 14.93 million gallons per day. The peak daily flow event was 26.1 MGD. The BCD Water Quality Management Plan estimated that NCDS facilities are adequate to meet the demand through 2020.



Dorchester County Water & Sewer services North Charleston's Planning Area 3. The Dorchester Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) is located off of Appian Way, adjacent to Coosaw Creek, just upstream from where the tributary flows into the Ashley River. According to the Dorchester County Water & Sewer Department Wastewater Capacity Analysis prepared in 2008, the current capacity of the plant is 8 MGD, but actual flow is not expected to reach 8 MGD until 2032. The County has an agreement with South Carolina DHEC to permit flows up to 12 MGD at the plant, but the upgrade is not expected before 2021.

## 7.5 - WASTE MANAGEMENT

### SOLID WASTE

The Sanitation Division of the North Charleston Public Works Department is responsible for residential garbage and trash collection, which is done curbside within the city limits. Collection is done on different days in different areas of the city, but trash and garbage collection are performed in the same areas on the same day. Garbage is considered household waste that is collected in city-provided rolling cart containers. Trash includes separated curbside piles of lawn/grass clippings, old appliances, construction materials, and tree limbs, branches or stumps.

### RECYCLING

The City of North Charleston collects recyclables from residences in city areas of Dorchester County, and provides recycling bins for participating recyclers.

The Charleston County recycling program administers recycling services in North Charleston areas of the county. Charleston County provides curbside pickup of Cans (aluminum, steel), plastic bottles and jugs (#1, #2), glass (brown, green and clear), paper (office paper, brown paper bags, magazines, mixed paper, newspapers and inserts, paperboard, telephone books), and motor oil bottles. Charleston County also has drop sites for recycling at throughout North Charleston. These locations are on the City's website.

## 7.6 ENERGY AND OTHER PUBLIC UTILITIES

### ELECTRIC UTILITIES

South Carolina Electric & Gas Company is an investor-owned utility with corporate headquarters located in Columbia, SC. It provides electric service to approximately 700,000 customers in 24 counties in the central and lower half of the state, which included service to 121 municipalities. The electric distribution system consists of

13,300 miles of overhead lines and 4,500 miles of underground lines.

The City of North Charleston is a part of the Metro Charleston District, which has 1,800 miles of overhead lines and 1,350 miles of underground power lines in the area, extending from Edisto Beach to McClellansville, and inland to US 78 and I-26. SCE&G's local office, provides electric operations and maintenance to the area including the city of North Charleston. There are 13 substations and 42 circuits with a total of 400 miles of overhead line and 310 miles of underground lines located in the general boundaries of the municipality. SCE&G has approximately 40,000 residential meters, 7,500 commercial meters and 90 industrial electric meters in the City of North Charleston.

### NATURAL GAS UTILITIES

South Carolina Electric & Gas Company provides natural gas service to the North Charleston area. The SCE&G Southern Division manages the business operations of the Gas SBU in five southern and coastal counties of South Carolina with division offices located on Aviation Ave in North Charleston. The division served by this office includes the three regional counties of Dorchester, Berkeley and Charleston. In addition to operating and maintaining their natural gas system, SCE&G also markets and sells natural gas to residential, commercial, and industrial customers. SCE&G operates and maintains approximately 2,400 miles of gas main in the Southern Division, and has approximately 16,000 residential meters, 1,700 commercial meters and 40 industrial gas meters in the City of North Charleston.

## **DEFENSE FUEL PIPELINE**

The Defense Fuel Support Pipeline (DFSP) carries jet fuel from the DFSP terminal along the Cooper River to the Air Force facilities portion of Joint Base Charleston for use in aircraft, vehicle, and equipment operation. Jet fuel is necessary to carry out AFB operation, and the pipeline system ensures that the fuel is carried to its destination safely. Jet fuel is highly toxic, explosive and flammable both in liquid or vapor form, so it is imperative that the pipeline's location is protected from damage by accident or intent.

The pipeline begins at the DFSP terminal at the former South Annex of the Naval Weapons Station. It runs south approximately in line with North Rhett Avenue, then west along Remount Road, across I-26 and onto the Air Force Base property. The pipeline is marked above ground at road crossings and other locations.

Any digging, excavation, or utility projects along this pipeline, or installation of sidewalks, driveways, fencing, sprinkler systems, or other projects could cause damage to the pipeline and create jet fuel leaks. Therefore, any public or private development or infrastructure project in the vicinity of the pipeline should involve coordination with the U.S. Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) to accurately identify the pipe's location and assess any potential impacts.

7.7 COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOALS AND POLICIES

GOAL	POLICY	ACTION	STATUS
<b>Goal 7.1: Reduce crime rates, especially murder and other violent crimes.</b>	Policy 7.1.1: Increase community involvement between law enforcement and neighborhoods.	Provide permanent community resource officers in areas of highest criminal activity.	
		Promote community-based crime watch organizations.	
	Policy 7.1.2: Continue police and code enforcement priority in highest crime areas.		
	Policy 7.1.3: Increase the number of bilingual, Spanish-speaking officers	Provide foreign language training to police officers and other city staff on a voluntary basis.	
<b>Goal 7.2: Provide adequate, cost-effective emergency services throughout city</b>	Policy 7.1.1.4: Maintain high level fire protection throughout all areas of North Charleston	Action: Identify appropriate locations for future fire stations.	
		Resolve any gaps in fire service response times.	
		Add fire hydrants where lacking.	
	Policy 7.2.2: Maintain efficient coordination of EMS and 911 services with the counties.		
<b>Goal 7.3: Provide a high-quality education and a good learning environment for all</b>	Policy 7.3.1: Provide public safety at schools to ensure a safe learning environment		
	Policy 7.3.2: Take measures to reduce the educational disadvantages for Charleston County School students.	Increase social service resources for underprivileged students.	
		Support Head Start or similar programs in low-income areas of North Charleston	

GOAL	POLICY	ACTION	STATUS
<b>Goal 7.4: Provide cultural arts venues and programs in all parts of the city</b>	Policy 7.4.1: Provide additional libraries, performance spaces, and other cultural facilities in Planning Areas 2, 3, and 4.		
	Policy 7.4.2: Provide a high-quality civic and cultural arts complex that will be a source of community pride		GARCO site identified
<b>Goal 7.5: Provide an adequate and equitable system of parks and recreation facilities</b>	Policy 7.5.1: Ensure equal opportunity of North Charleston’s citizens to enjoy quality open space and recreation facilities	Provide a large, signature public park for each planning area	1 – Park Circle 2 –Coliseum/Convention Ctr. 3 – Wescott Park 4 – Wannamaker County Park
		Provide a system of smaller, neighborhood pocket parks, evenly distributed throughout the city.	
	Policy 7.5.2: Increase the amount of public park and recreation space in Planning Areas 2 and 3	Prioritize park space acquisition and development in Planning Areas 2 and 3	
		Continue working deals with schools and churches to share recreation facilities.	
	Policy 7.5.3: Increase use of underutilized parks by increasing safety, lighting and security.		
	Policy 7.5.4: Provide more public access to North Charleston’s waterfronts.		
<b>Goal 7.6: Provide quality water and sewer services throughout North Charleston</b>	Policy 7.6.1: Ensure that adequate water and sewer infrastructure is available to support anticipated growth and development.		

GOAL	POLICY	ACTION	STATUS
<p><b>Goal 7.7: Reduce capital expenditures through shared public facilities and energy-efficient design standards.</b></p>	<p>Policy 7.7.1: Seek additional opportunities to use school or church facilities (libraries, auditoriums, classrooms, recreation facilities) for multiple community functions.</p>		
	<p>Policy 7.7.2: Build and renovate public facilities with energy-efficient design (LEED or similar)</p>		