

IMPLEMENTATION



ACTION PLAN

Goals and strategies identifying capital improvements, initiatives, ordinance updates, and other projects included in this Plan are proposed for implementation according to a relative schedule of short-, mid-, and long- term action items. Short-term actions are identified for implementation within the next two (2020-2022) years, mid-term within the next five (2020-2025) years, and long-term actions are identified for implementation within the next twenty years (2020-2040). Targeted years of implementation, responsible departments or agencies, potential funding sources and current cost estimates are provided where possible.

LIVABILITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE:

As the City grows, ensure a high quality of life city-wide by enhancing and connecting existing communities and building well-designed neighborhoods, encouraging infill and redevelopment and providing accessible gathering places throughout the City.

GOAL 1: PROMOTE THE STABILITY AND MAINTENANCE OF ESTABLISHED RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS				
	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
LQ-1A	Continue to support neighborhood organizations		Ongoing	Neighborhood organizations/ Planning
LQ-1B	Provide for a “Property Maintenance Inspector” position to address housing issues, including but not limited to, board ups, tear downs and blight removal and continue investment in building and code enforcement	*	Short-term	Building/Code Enforcement/ Planning City Administration
LQ-1C	Encourage continuation of the Police Department’s landlord registration program		Ongoing	Police Department
LQ-1D	Identify resources to assist in funding infrastructure improvements in older neighborhoods		Ongoing Short-term	City Administration/Planning Public Works/Grants
LQ-1E	Establish standards to encourage preservation and rehabilitation of existing housing, and encourage reuse of existing, vacant housing (by, for example, allowing re-establishment of legally constructed duplexes, etc. and/or multiple independent units on a single lot regardless of zoning with sufficient proof of legal establishment)	*	Short-term	Building/Planning
LQ-1F	Support implementation of housing initiatives outlined in the 2010 Lowcountry Alliance for Model Communities (LAMC) Plan		Ongoing	LAMC/Charleston Community Research to Action (CCRAB)/ Planning

GOAL 2: FOSTER A SENSE OF SECURITY AND COMMUNITY PRIDE IN NEIGHBORHOODS AND PUBLIC SPACES

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
LQ-2A	Continue police outreach efforts and programming that improve communications between neighborhoods and police and foster neighborhood pride, such as RECAP, roll calls, and CAPS		Ongoing	Police
LQ-2B	Support after-school and other programs which provide youth with constructive activities		Ongoing	City Administration//CDBG, CCSD, DD2, Metanoia/Recreation
LQ-2C	Work with neighborhoods to identify infrastructure needs, including lighting and pedestrian improvements	*	Short-term	Public Works/Planning
LQ-2D	Evaluate crime prevention techniques that can be achieved through environmental design, such as lighting design, landscaping, increasing pedestrian traffic, and street design		Mid-term	Planning/Police
LQ-2E	Continue and enhance the City's investment in code enforcement		Ongoing	Building/Planning/Code Enforcement

GOAL 3: SUPPORT INVESTMENT IN SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS, INCLUDING EXPANSION OF HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND INFILL DEVELOPMENT

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
LQ-3A	Identify appropriate areas for infill development of affordable housing and amend regulations to incentivize the development	*	Short-term	City Administration/Planning
LQ-3B	Accommodate and incentivize higher-density housing in appropriate areas to increase the potential for additional supply, through use of accessory dwelling units, allowing attached housing in traditionally detached Single-family areas, and other applicable incentives	*	Short-term	City Administration/Planning
LQ-3C	Collaborate with housing interests, including the North Charleston Housing Authority and regional housing groups, to find incentives and resources to increase homeownership, financial literacy and ownership retention		Ongoing	North Charleston Housing Authority/ United Way/ Metanoia/ NeighborWorks America
LQ-4A	Establish gateways and districts and develop a cohesive branding program for each gateway, district, major commercial node and/or corridor including, but not limited to, wayfinding, gateway planning, and neighborhood branding		Mid-term	Neighborhood organizations/ Planning/City Administration
LQ-4B	Develop and prioritize a list of improvements to public spaces, including streets and parks, which can serve to enhance visual character and improve the pedestrian environment		Mid-term	Neighborhood organizations/ Planning/City Administration/ Recreation

GOAL 4: ENHANCE THE CHARACTER, DESIGN, AND IDENTITY OF NEIGHBORHOODS AND CORRIDORS

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
LQ-4C	Continue to work with neighborhoods on the installation and maintenance of neighborhood identification signs		Ongoing	Public Works/Neighborhood organization
LQ-4D	Update the Zoning Regulations to have a consistent sign code throughout the City, with branding for commercial corridors	*	Short-term	Planning
LQ-4E	Encourage use of design guidelines or performance requirements for new development, including but not limited to, minimum requirements and materials, as appropriate, and consider establishment of a commercial corridor design review board	*	Short-term	Planning
LQ-4F	Invest public funding in signage, streetscape improvements, etc. to spur private investment		Ongoing/ Short-term	Public Works/Planning/City Administration
LQ-4G	Establish small area/neighborhood plans for traditional neighborhoods where fragmented land uses exist to develop a framework for future development, redevelopment, and public investment		Mid-term	Planning/Neighborhood organizations

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND RESILIENCY

Balance growth impacts with the needs of the environment to ensure sustainability and resiliency.

GOAL 1: MAINTAIN A BALANCE BETWEEN THE NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT TO ALLEVIATE THE EFFECTS OF GROWTH ON THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
SG-1A	Study and revise residential zoning districts to accommodate growth where there are existing resources and infrastructure, especially along transportation corridors, including development of vacant lots, assessing nonconforming provisions to encourage reuse and redevelopment, and incentivizing opportunities for redevelopment	*	Short-term	Building/Public Works/ Planning/Water and Sewer/Utilities
SG-1B	Continue collaborative efforts to identify and plan for redevelopment of brownfields, including grant funding to mitigate costs that potentially impede redevelopment of brownfields/gray fields		Ongoing	City Administration/ BCDCOG
SG-1C	Revise Zoning regulations to include incentives for greater conservation of green spaces, increase requirements for accessible open spaces within new developments, and reduce permitted impervious lot coverage in certain districts	*	Short-term	Planning/Floodwise Action Committee
SG-1D	Update development regulations to strengthen stormwater management (SWM) requirements, limit fill in flood zones, provide consistent riparian buffers, mitigate impacts of flooding, re-evaluate tree canopy and preservation requirements and develop standards to allow previous sidewalks and roadways and other methodologies to better utilize infrastructure in multi-faceted ways	*	Ongoing/ Short-term	Building/Planning/ Public Works/ Floodwise Action Committee
SG-1E	Re-evaluate Disaster Plan to ensure streamlined permitting requirements for post-disaster construction and incorporate regulations to accommodate temporary housing post-disaster		Ongoing	Building/Planning/ Floodwise Action Committee

GOAL 2: ENHANCE NATURAL RESOURCES AS GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE TO BUILD RESILIENCY AND PROTECT WATER QUALITY BY MINIMIZING IMPACTS OF STORMWATER AND NUISANCE FLOODING

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
SG-2A	Develop and adopt a Green Infrastructure Plan for the City that addresses SWM requirements, encourages Low-Impact Development standards, limits fill in flood zones, and expands buffers to mitigate impacts of flooding		Mid-term	SC Forestry/American Forests/ Planning/Public Works
SG-2B	Work with various partners to identify, maintain, and conserve larger tracts of natural resources while requiring accessible open spaces within new developments		Ongoing	Planning/Charleston County greenbelt program/ Grants
SG-2C	Continue protecting scenic corridors and natural viewsheds along the Ashley and Cooper Rivers, through use of a 50-foot citywide wetland/riparian buffer, while allowing for stormwater facility and utility penetrations where appropriate	*	Short-term	Planning
SG-2D	Revise parking requirements and provide for reductions as an incentive to encourage larger open spaces, less impervious surface, and densities of development	*	Short-term	Planning
SG-2E	Encourage eco-friendly and neo-traditional development design to promote low-impact design, energy efficiency, and reduce sprawl	*	Ongoing/ Short-term	Planning

GOAL 3: USE THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN TO SERVE AS THE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE LAND USES AND DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS, INCLUDING MIXED USE, DENSE DEVELOPMENT

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
SG-3A	Reduce use of Planned Developments by establishing multi-layered, mixed use zoning districts to implement land use designations on the Future Land Use Map	*	Short-term	Planning
SG-3B	Evaluate areas to accommodate mixed use nodes/corridors and mixed-use pedestrian-oriented communities through use of overlay zoning that incorporate transit-oriented development guidelines and use of performance or form-based codes, conditional uses, and/or special exceptions	*	Short-term	Planning
SG-3C	Refine policies and land development regulations to consider requirements for pedestrian accessibility and connectivity within new developments in accordance with Complete Street design principles	*	Short-term	Planning/Public Works
SG-3D	Adopt an “Official Map” that displays potential future roads, parks, and public facilities in line with S.C. Code Section 6-29-340(B)(2)(c)	*	Short-term	Planning/Public Works/City Council

GOAL 4: ENABLE THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE EXISTING AND FUTURE POPULATION THROUGH COORDINATION OF LAND USE PLANNING WITH THE AVAILABILITY OF RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
SG-4A	Create and adopt a Facilities Master Plan/Capital Improvements Plan that addresses both the existing inventory of publicly-owned assets and future needed capital improvements	*	Short-term	City Departments
SG-4B	Continue to work with neighboring jurisdictions and applicable agencies to coordinate land development approvals with availability of infrastructure and reduce duplication of services		Ongoing	Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties/ Summerville/ Hanahan/ Goose Creek/
SG-4C	Develop an Annexation Policy for evaluation of potential annexations, associated impacts of concern, and reasonable geographic connectivity as well as planning for provision of services and infrastructure	*	Short-term	City Administration/Planning
SG-4D	Continue to seek grants and consider alternative revenue sources to fund infrastructure improvements		Ongoing	Planning/Public Works/ Grants Administration
SG-4E	Continue utilizing existing revenue sources, such as the City's sidewalk bank funding or tree mitigation bank, to fund infrastructure improvements, such as pedestrian connectivity between communities and park areas and streetscaping		Ongoing	Planning/City Administration/ Public Works
SG-4F	Continue use of TIFs and other public funding to spur private capital investment		Ongoing	Planning/ City Administration

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY:

Expand a vibrant and diversified economic climate that provides a range of employment opportunities, retains existing businesses and attracts new businesses

GOAL 1: ENCOURAGE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY THAT CAPITALIZES ON NORTH CHARLESTON'S LOCATIONAL ADVANTAGES AND ECONOMIC ASSETS				
	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
EO-1A	Continue to encourage the revitalization of North Charleston's commercial corridors and nodes by improving public infrastructure		Ongoing	Public Works/Planning
EO-1B	Continue coordinating with the SC Ports Authority, Palmetto Railways, and the SC Department of Transportation in long range planning, including intermodal infrastructure advances and improvements, to support the City's role in the maritime industry		Ongoing	Planning/City Administration/ Economic Development/ Ports Authority
EO-1C	Capitalize on opportunities for additional port-related investment, including recruitment of import-export firms		Long-term	City Administration/ Economic Development/
EO-1D	Coordinate long range planning with universities, colleges, and medical institutions to attract spinoff investment in research and development and provide opportunities for training		Long-term	City Administration/ Economic Development/ Charleston County Economic Development
EO-1E	Support and promote North Charleston as a business and cultural center of the region through continued marketing and recruitment activities		Ongoing	City Administration/ Economic Development/ Cultural Arts
EO-1F	Develop a plan to ensure the vitality of the former Navy Base, capitalizing on its potential as an economic catalyst, including defining the southern base area for port supportive activities and creating a small area master plan for the northern area of the base to guide and direct public and private investment to implement the vision for a future downtown North Charleston	*	Short-term	Planning/City Administration
EO-1G	Continue support of airport expansion and supporting industries		Ongoing	City Administration/ Economic Development
EO-1H	Position the City to be competitive in future federal and state economic incentives and programs, such as brownfield funding, opportunity zones and small business incubation		Ongoing	City Administration/ Economic Development

GOAL 2: LOCATE INTENSIVE COMMERCIAL AND/OR INDUSTRIAL USES WHERE SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE EXISTS AND IMPACTS ON NEIGHBORHOODS CAN BE MITIGATED

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
EO-2A	Develop a program of incentives to foster infill development of commercial and employment uses along transportation corridors that are easily accessible to residents, employees, and customers		Ongoing Short-term	Planning/ Economic Development/ City Administration
EO-2B	Enhance economic viability of commercial corridors as shown on the Future Land Use Map	*	Short-term	Planning
EO-2C	Invest in existing infrastructure to attract and retain businesses		Ongoing	City Administration/ Public Works/ Planning
EO-2D	Evaluate the impact of City processes on doing business, including permitting, business licensing and other requirements, and modify where appropriate to support business investment		Ongoing	Planning/Public Works/Building/ City Administration

GOAL 3: ATTRACT BUSINESSES THAT WILL PROVIDE INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR NORTH CHARLESTON'S CITIZENS TO WORK WITHIN THE CITY, THEREBY CREATING A STRONG LOCAL EMPLOYMENT BASE

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
EO-3A	Continue to support and work with the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, the Charleston Regional Development Alliance, the counties' economic development departments and other regional business organizations to retain existing businesses and recruit new employment opportunities		Ongoing	Metro Chamber, CRDA, Charleston County Economic Development
EO-3B	Work with the Charleston County School District, the Dorchester School District Two, Trident Technical College, Charleston Southern University, Ready SC and the State Department of Education to improve education and development of a skilled labor force		Ongoing	City Administration/ Economic Development/ School Districts
EO-3C	Identify and adopt incentives for small businesses and work with partners to create "incubator" spaces or business districts for new commerce		Ongoing	City Administration/ Economic Development

GOAL 4: UTILIZE NORTH CHARLESTON'S CULTURAL ASSETS AS A GENERATOR FOR THE LOCAL ECONOMY

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
EO-4A	Identify funding sources to continue providing support for local arts organizations and establish a permanent cultural arts center/art gallery/museum to celebrate the City's diverse history and promote the arts	*	Mid-term	Grants Administration/ Cultural Arts
EO-4B	Integrate public arts at all future bus rapid transit stations for branding and display purposes		Mid-term	Neighborhood organizations/ BCDCOG/ Cultural Arts/
EO-4C	Conduct and maintain an updated Historical and Architectural Survey		Mid-term	Grants/ City Historian/ SC Department of Archives and History
EO-4D	Expand farmer's markets to other areas within the City		Short-term	Cultural Arts

MOBILITY AND CONNECTIVITY:

Connect residents and visitors with employment, shopping, educational institutions, and activity centers through safe and efficient multi-modal regional transportation systems

GOAL 1: PROMOTE A SAFE AND RELIABLE MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM				
	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
MO-1A	Support and promote use of transit for improved mobility within the City, including the Lowcountry Rapid Transit (LCRT) and CARTA's traditional bus system		Ongoing	Planning/ CARTA/ City Administration
MO-1B	Collaborate with DOT and CHATS to prioritize safety improvements based on accident data and utilize congestion management techniques such as traffic demand and management modeling, signal timing, access management and other technological advances to optimize operations		Ongoing	Planning/ Public Works/ CHATS Safety Committee
MO-1C	Work with CHATS to implement prioritized transportation improvements in the CHATS 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan		Ongoing	Public Works/SCDOT/ CHATS/ Planning
MO-1D	Coordinate with CARTA on enhancement of current and future transit service and facilities		Ongoing	Public Works/SCDOT/ CHATS/ Planning
MO-1E	Require traffic impact analyses based on expected peak-hour trips for each development and establish a policy for traffic impacts and multi-modal connectivity	*	Short-term	Planning/ Public Works
MO-1F	Establish a traffic and transportation department and/or position to coordinate with various entities sponsoring \$3.4 billion in transportation projects under construction in the City over the next ten years	*	Short-term	Planning/Public Works
MO-1G	Continue seeking state and federal funds to improve and expand the existing transit network		Ongoing	CARTA/BCDCOG

GOAL 2: ENCOURAGE CONNECTIVITY OF NEIGHBORHOODS AND INCREASED MOBILITY OPTIONS WHILE INCREASING SAFETY MEASURES				
	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
MO-2A	Adopt policies that support development of Complete Streets and evaluate regulations for design standards to require interconnectivity of roads, sidewalks and bike lanes		Short-term	Planning/Public Works
MO-2B	Provide safe connections to transit corridors through the use of sidewalks, multi-use paths, crosswalks, etc.		Ongoing	Planning/ Public Works
MO-2C	Prioritize safety improvements near schools, bus stops and commercial corridors, including opportunities for Safe Routes to Schools grants		Ongoing	Planning/ Public Works
MO-2D	Pursue opportunities for making non-vehicular improvements and connections across the City, including, but not limited to, reuse of former rail lines' right-of-way for trails		Ongoing	Planning/ Public Works

GOAL 2: ENCOURAGE CONNECTIVITY OF NEIGHBORHOODS AND INCREASED MOBILITY OPTIONS WHILE INCREASING SAFETY MEASURES

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
MO-2E	Coordinate with the State Ports Authority, CSX, Norfolk Southern, Palmetto Railways (Department of Commerce), and trucking associations on development of facilities/ improvements to mitigate impacts of freight on neighborhoods/traffic flows		Ongoing	Planning/ Public Works/ CHATS Freight Committee
MO-2F	Annually update and continually enforce the truck routing plan, including through the posting of truck prohibitions and police monitoring and enforcement		Short- term	Planning/ Public Works
MO-2G	Evaluate and implement traffic calming strategies such as pedestrian bump outs, speed bumps, lowering neighborhood street speed limits, and stop signs where appropriate in conjunction with transportation improvements or spot efforts to protect residential areas from impacts of inappropriate volumes of through-traffic and/or excessive speed		Ongoing	Planning/ Public Works/ SCDOT
MO-2H	Improve access to neighborhoods and employment centers with traffic signage and signal enhancements, as well as roadway condition and intersection improvements		Ongoing	Planning/ Public Works/ SCDOT

GOAL 3: ENCOURAGE LAND USE PATTERNS DESIGNED TO SUPPORT TRANSIT, INCLUDING COMPACT, WALKABLE, MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENTS

	ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS
MO-3A	Develop and adopt regulations, including overlay districts and design standards, to facilitate transit corridors and incentivize redevelopment along principal corridors, including reduction in required parking	*	Short-term	Planning
MO-3B	Evaluate principal corridors for opportunities and develop streetscape plans for safety as well as aesthetic and functional improvements, including lighting, crosswalks, sidewalks, improved pavement quality, wayfinding signage, etc.	*	Short-term	Planning
MO-3C	Implement projects identified in the 2017 WalkBike BCD plan, including those that address safety and connectivity issues		Ongoing	Planning/ Public Works/ CHATS
MO-3D	In coordination with development of the Capital Improvements Plan, identify streets to take over from SCDOT for maintenance and fund streetscape improvements to catalyze reinvestment		Ongoing	Planning/ City Administration/ Public Works
MO-3E	Revise subdivision regulations as needed to require connectivity between neighborhoods and to abutting commercial centers	*	Short-term	Planning/Public Works