

FLORENCE COUNTY

November 11, 2008

NOMINAL GROUP SURVEY RESULTS

Background

On Tuesday, November 11, 2008 members of the Florence County Joint County/Towns Planning Advisory Committee took part in a Nominal Group Process at the Florence Natural Resources Center in order to produce a list of issues and concerns regarding the future of the County. The following is an explanation of the Nominal Group Process and the final list of issues and concerns as they were ranked and voted on by the group.

The list is important to the planning process as it will be used in formulating goals and objectives for the Florence County Comprehensive Plan. In addition, the issues identified will be used as a checklist to ensure that they are addressed within the plan, and discussed by the Planning Committee during the planning and research phase.

Nominal Group Process

The Nominal Group Process is a technique intended to facilitate a comprehensive exploration of ideas within a group by providing mechanisms to ensure that all participate, whether they are inclined to be vocal or not. This is achieved by having ideas evolve from each individual within the group (thus the term nominal) and prohibiting the group from debating or ridiculing any idea. The group action takes the form of voting to decide which of the ideas have the greatest merit in the eyes of the entire group.

The following list identifies every issue or concern that was brought up by the group and voted on in rank order.

Votes	Issue
7	Appearance of community maintained and improved
4	More economic development to maintain younger population
4	Road system – need improvement – less funds, greater costs
3	Encourage timber harvest using best management practices
3	Fix declining school population; fix declining volunteer fire department
3	Plans on where we want commercial development to be (Florence Town)
3	Road improvements needed (county and town)
2	Maintain and provide new sidewalks and curbing
2	Maintain rural nature of town
2	Population growth needed (young people)
2	Promote Florence County as a good place to live
2	Regulate subdivision of land to benefit developers and towns
1	Better beaches at parks
1	Control noise from industrial park
1	Improve commercial area (Aurora)
1	Larger parcels to maintain rural character
1	More concerned citizen involvement in towns and county
1	Park improvements bathrooms, swings etc.
1	Provide education opportunities to control, identify, & eradicate AIS and terr.
1	Septic disposal – where dispose
1	Support the use of farm property (active use)
1	Utilization of TIF
	Cooperation between county, town and school is essential
	County recreation and public signage needs improvements
	County-wide press campaign (+ image promotion)
	Find a way to reduce or maintain taxes
	Generate more year-round residents
	Keep traffic light out
	List of services and businesses that residents need and county can support (demographics)
	Lots of seasonal residents we need more year-round
	More cooperation between county and towns to promote economic development
	More volunteer and support for organization
	Need attractions that get people to stop as they are passing through
	Non-productive county forest should be sold
	Opportunities for higher education
	Quality of lakes are declining
	Roads in Homestead have improved
	Tax incentives to attract new residents
	Theatres, bowling, opera houses in addition to rec.
	Towns are cooperating better
	Work to get rail back into county