

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF DORCHESTER)

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DORCHESTER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION AND TO REPEAL ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

Be it Ordained by the County Council of the County of Dorchester, South Carolina, in order to guide and accomplish a coordinated and harmonious development of the County which will, in accordance with existing and future needs, best promote the public health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, and the general welfare, as well as efficiency and economy in the process of development, that the Dorchester County Planning Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Planning Commission, is hereby created and established as authorized by Act 487, South Carolina Acts of 1967, as amended, and governed by the following provisions:

SECTION 1. DORCHESTER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION CREATED

There is hereby created the Dorchester County Planning Commission, to be composed of seven residents of the County who shall be appointed by the majority of County Council with one from each of the seven council districts. The terms of the members shall be for four (4) years and until their successors are appointed, and qualify and shall expire the 30th of June of the year immediately subsequent to the expiration of the County Council District Seat which the member represents. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the unexpired portion of the term only. The members of the Commission may be removed for cause and members shall be compensated as appropriated by Council.

The Planning Commission shall also consist of non-voting, ex officio members to include, but not limited to, the Director of Public Works and the Director of Planning for Dorchester County as well as a representative from the Dorchester County Health Department.

SECTION 2. ORGANIZATION, MEETINGS, RULES, STAFF AND FINANCES

The Planning Commission shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from among its members. The terms of the Chairman and other officers shall be one year with eligibility for re-election. It shall appoint a secretary who may be an officer or an employee of the governing authority or of the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission shall adopt rules for the transaction of business and shall keep a record of its recommendations, transactions, findings and determinations; and shall meet at least monthly as determined at their annual January meeting, at the call of the Chairman and at such times as the Chairman or Commission may determine. All meetings of the Planning Commission at which official action is taken shall be open to the public and all records of

the Commission shall be a public record. The Commission may appoint such employees and staff as it may deem necessary for its work and may make expenditures for salaries of any employees and staff, contracts with consultants, and for the purchase of required equipment and supplies. The expenditures of the Commission, exclusive of gifts, shall be within the amounts appropriated for said purpose by the County Council.

SECTION 2. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES

From and after the time when the Planning Commission shall have organized and selected its officers and shall have adopted its rules of procedure, then said Commission shall have all the powers, duties, responsibilities and jurisdiction set forth in Act 487, South Carolina Acts of 1967, as amended.

In general, the Planning Commission shall have the power to:

1. Prepare and revise periodically a comprehensive plan and program for the development of its jurisdiction.
2. Prepare and recommend for adoption to the appropriate governing authority or authorities as a means for implementing the plan and program:
 - (a) Zoning ordinances or resolutions, and maps and appropriate revisions thereof for its jurisdictions.
 - (b) Regulations for the subdivision of land and appropriate revisions thereof within its jurisdiction, and to administer the regulations that may be adopted.
 - (c) An official map and appropriate revision thereof showing the exact location of existing or proposed public building sites, together with regulations to control the erection of buildings or other structures or changes in land use within such rights-of-way, building sites or open spaces within its political jurisdiction or a specified portion thereof.
 - (d) A capital program for its jurisdiction based on the comprehensive plan and the capital program shall include proposed projects and the means of financing them. The Commission shall submit the capital program, including the capital budget, to the governing authority or authorities as directed.
3. Establishing principles and policies for guiding action in the development of the area.

4. Preparing and recommending to the County Governing Body for adoption of regulations, other than those previously mentioned, promoting orderly development in accordance with the comprehensive plan.
5. Determining whether specific proposed developments conform to the principles and requirements of the comprehensive plan for the growth and improvement of the area.
6. Reviewing and recommending to the County Governing Body any needed changes in the zoning regulations and the map of the County of Dorchester, as well as the subdivision regulations, the official map, and other codes, ordinances, and control related to the County's development.
7. Keeping the County Governing Body and the general public informed and advised as to these matters.

SECTION 4. REPEAL AND DATE OF EFFECT

All Ordinances and/or Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed, and this Ordinance shall take effect January 1, 1980, the public welfare of the County of Dorchester, South Carolina, demanding it.

SECTION 5. VALIDITY

Should any section, provision of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof which is not specifically declared to be invalid or unconstitutional.


KENNETH F. WAGGONER, CHAIRMAN
DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL

1st Reading: Nov. 18, 1979
2nd Reading: Dec. 3, 1979
3rd Reading: Dec. 17, 1979

ATTEST:


INEZ C. MCALHANY, CLERK