



UPPER SAVANNAH

Council of Governments

ACTIVITY REPORT

JUNE 2022

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

USCOG
SUBMITTED

THREE

CDBG grant
applications
in spring
round

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

There are

11

active CDBG
projects in region,
totaling more than
\$7 million

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LCWSC
receives
\$2 MILLION

EDA

grant award
to upgrade
industrial
sewer facility

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

RLF

CARES Act
Revolving
Loan Fund
has closed
21 loans

AGING

More than

30,000

meals served
to seniors
in Region over
last two months

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

ASSISTED

towns of
Due West,
Trenton
and Edgefield
with various
projects

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Approximately
2,000 seniors receive
booklets listing
companies which
might hire them

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Workforce staff
acquires grant
to provide free

RIDES

to SC Works
Center
in Greenwood

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

CARES Act
**CDBG-CV
PROJECTS**

moving forward
in various stages
across Region

See

DETAILS
on these and
other activities
in this report



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ACTIVE PROJECTS:

APPLICANT	PROJECT NAME	GRANT AMOUNT
City of Abbeville.....	Structure Demolitions.....	\$221,564
City of Clinton.....	Fire Truck Purchase.....	\$500,000
Town of Saluda.....	N. Main/W. Church Streetscape.....	\$721,212
Greenwood County.....	Mathews Mill Village Sewer Upgrade.....	\$1,000,000
Town of McCormick.....	N. Main/Augusta Streetscape.....	\$750,000
City of Clinton.....	Clinton Mill Sewer Upgrade.....	\$1,460,000
Greenwood County.....	Baptist Avenue Sewer Upgrade.....	\$947,271
Laurens County.....	Highway 56/76 Sewer Upgrades.....	\$899,795
Town of Johnston.....	Fire Truck Purchase.....	\$454,545
City of Greenwood.....	Structure Demolitions.....	\$177,571
Greenwood County.....	Regional Planning.....	\$50,000
TOTAL.....		\$7,181,958

CDBG GRANT APPLICATIONS

SUBMITTED IN APRIL 2022 SPRING INFRASTRUCTURE ROUND

Town of Ridge Spring Sewer Rehab

CDBG funds requested to rehabilitate three major sections of the town's main sewer trunkline. A study completed in 2005 indicated excessive inflow and infiltration within the Town's system. Recent inspections indicate the conditions have significantly worsened. The proposed project includes approximately 2,541 LF of 8" gravity sewer, 2,151 LF of 10" gravity sewer, 200 LF of 16" steel encased pipe (bore), 3,361 LF of CIPP and installation of approximately 42 manholes. The proposed project costs are estimated to be \$2,086,090. Project is considered a town-wide benefit. Ridge Spring has an estimated population of 920 of which 68.47% are LMI.

Clinton-Joanna WWTP Upgrade

CDBG funds requested to upgrade Clinton-Joanna Wastewater Treatment Plant located at Treatment Plant Rd., Kinards. Proposed improvements include removing existing drying beds and upgrading the WWTP process by installing two large sludge holding tanks, aeration, mixers, pumps, controls, and other necessary fittings for liquid land application of the digested sludge. Project cost is estimated to be \$3,026,000. Proposed project will benefit the City of Clinton, Joanna and neighboring communities which utilize the sewer service. The project will benefit an estimated 8,078 people of which 64.88 %, are estimated to be LMI.

Mathews Mill Phase II Sewer Upgrade

CDBG funds were requested to provide continued sewer improvements to the Mathews Mill area. Proposed improvements include installation of approximately 825 ft of 12-inch and 5,200 ft of 8-inch gravity sewer line, 23 new precast concrete manholes and reconnection of 109 structures. Construction is proposed on Georgia St, Bolt Ave, Bond Ave, Stevens Ave, and Cross St. Acquisition is anticipated. Total project costs are estimated to be \$3,103,399. This project will benefit approximately 303 people, of which 92% are considered LMI.

There are **11** active CDBG projects in the region, totaling **\$7,181,958**

City of Abbeville: Demolition Project. The city received \$221,564 in CDBG funding in November 2021 to demolish and clear 17 vacant and condemned houses located on 102 Brooks St. East, 106 Brown St., 412 Cambridge St. West (Lots 3, 4, 7 & 9), 110 Gip Edwards Rd., 403 Poplar St.; 100, 208 and 209 Raymond Rd.; 102 Secession Ave; and 101, 103, 106, 109 and 112 Wilson St., in the City of Abbeville. The project is currently in start-up phase.

City of Clinton: Fire Truck Purchase. The city received \$500,000 in CDBG funding in November 2021 for the purchase of a new fire truck to replace a 2008 model currently used by the city. The project is currently in start-up phase. The bid package is currently being assessed.

Town of Saluda: North Main and West Church Streetscape. The town received \$721,212 in CDBG funding in November 2021 for streetscape. The project focuses on beautification throughout downtown in hopes of providing a welcoming atmosphere for economic development, while improving and providing accessibility for all. Improvements would encourage foot traffic, potentially stimulating business opportunities within the available storefronts. The project will include the intersection of Main and Church streets. The project is currently in the engineering phase.

Greenwood County: Mathews Mill Village Sewer Upgrade. The project was awarded in June 2021 with \$1 million in CDBG funds. Greenwood Metro pursued funding through Greenwood County to improve infrastructure within the LMI area of Mathews Mill Village in multiple phases. The project is expected to provide improved sewer service to 174 units of the Mathews Mill Village, an LMI community located in Greenwood. Improvements are to include Florida Avenue, Truett Avenue, Holloway Avenue, Grier Street, Kirksey Drive West, and Palmer Street. Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) funds have been secured. Project costs are estimated to be \$2,966,636. Engineering for the project is currently underway. Project is expected to go to bid in June 2022.

Town of McCormick: Main Street Streetscape II, N. Main, and Augusta Streets. A total of \$750,000 in CDBG funds were requested to continue the Town's streetscape efforts by improving intersections, restriping parking stalls and crosswalks, landscaping, ADA accessible parking and fencing along the railroad. Improvements will include North Main and Augusta streets. Cameras will be installed as a public safety element. The project provides a safe pedestrian route for LMI residents who seek goods and services within the Town. The project was awarded in November 2020 and is currently in the Engineering phase, SCDOT permitting has been approved and project is currently open for bids.

City of Clinton: Clinton Mill Sewer Upgrade. The project was awarded in September 2020, with \$750,000 in CDBG funds, \$500,000 from the Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) and a \$149,720 local match for a total project cost of \$1,399,720. The project involves upgrading sewer lines in the Clinton Mill Village area, an LMI neighborhood in the City of Clinton. The City is currently under a Consent Order from SCDHEC due to sanitary sewer overflows in its collection system. The project will aid in reduction of inflow and infiltration to the City's collection system. It will benefit an estimated 180 units. The bids were opened on July 22, 2021, and all bids were over budget. USCOG worked with the Department of Commerce to secure an additional \$710,000 and the City of Clinton will contribute an additional \$250,000 to continue with the entire project which will be approximately \$2,359,720. The project is under construction.

Greenwood County: Baptist Sewer Upgrade. The project was awarded in September 2020, with \$750,000 CDBG funds and \$262,317 in local match for a total project cost of \$1,012,317. It involves upgrading sewer lines in the Baptist Avenue Area in Greenwood. Area includes Gilliam Avenue, Baptist Avenue, Evans Street, Percival Avenue, Singleton Street, Byrd Street, Tanyard Avenue, Bay Street and Milwee Avenue. The project will benefit an estimated 90 units and is currently in the engineering phase. The project came in over budget by \$450,000 and staff has secured \$197,271 in additional funding, working on contract approval.

Laurens County: Highway 56/76 Sewer Upgrades. The project was awarded in September 2020, with \$715,000 in CDBG funds, \$120,000 local match for total project cost of \$835,000. The project involves repairing two major sections of trunk line at intersections of Hwy 76/Springdale Drive and Hwy 56/Springdale Drive. Improvements to intersections would include installing new lines, casings, manholes and reconnection of force mains. The project will benefit an estimated 2,300 households and businesses, approximately half of the City of Clinton’s population. The pre-construction meeting was held on February 16, 2022, with construction to begin in October 2022, due to delays in materials.

Town of Johnston: Fire Truck Purchase. The town received \$454,545 in CDBG funding in November 2019 for the purchase of a new fire truck to replace a 1973 model currently used by the Town. The fire truck is on order and due for delivery July 6, 2022.

City of Greenwood: Demolition Project. City received \$177,571 in CDBG funding in November 2019 to demolish and clear 10 vacant and condemned houses located on Owens Street, Park Alley, Park Avenue, and Washington Avenue in the City of Greenwood. Demolitions completed, working on monitoring the project and then closing out.

Regional Planning Grant: The Community Development staff is continuing to provide assistance to local governments in project development, needs assessments and technical assistance in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

Projects completed in 2021:

Greenwood County College Heights Sewer Upgrade.....	\$260,000
Laurens County Lydia Mill Sewer Upgrade - Phase II.....	\$750,000

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ACTIVE PROJECTS:

APPLICANT	PROJECT NAME	GRANT AMOUNT
Laurens County Water & Sewer Commission.....	Laurens County Industrial Sewer.....	\$2,000,000
Greenwood County.....	Greenwood East Rail Park Feasibility Study.....	\$208,000
Laurens County Water & Sewer Commission.....	Water system upgrades (water tank, water lines).....	\$3,100,000
TOTAL.....		\$5,308,000

Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission has been awarded a \$2,000,000 grant to upgrade the sewer facilities serving the Fibertex manufacturing facility in Gray Court. Specifically, the existing pump station and existing sewer line serving the plant will be replaced providing additional capacity to accommodate the increased flow. The infrastructure improvements will help the company create 50 jobs and leverage \$50,000,000 in private investment. The total estimated project cost is \$2,735,000.

Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission has received a letter of further consideration from EDA to fund water system improvements to serve Malouf Companies and generally upgrade water services in the area around the Interstate 385 and US 221 interchange. The water system improvements grant amount receiving further consideration is \$5,422,800 and the total project cost is \$6,778,500. A further consideration letter requires the submission of additional documents that weren't requested in the application. While it is not guaranteed, the further consideration letter usually indicates EDA's intention to make a grant award.

Greenwood County has been awarded a \$208,000 Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant to fund three studies to determine the feasibility of certain infrastructure improvements at a major industrial site known as the Greenwood East Rail Park. The project will study transportation access, the feasibility of raw water line to serve the site, and a safe yield study to model and recommend water withdrawal limits on Lake Greenwood.

Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission was awarded a \$3,100,000 grant to upgrade a waterline along Stagecoach Road and to construct a water tank at Milam Road. Both project components will enhance the water system operations and help maximize the benefits of the new water plant. The damage and impacts of Hurricane Irma resulted in a presidentially declared disaster in South Carolina which made this project eligible. Total project cost is \$3,875,000. Two reimbursement requests have been paid by EDA. Project is approximately 99 percent complete.



Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program has closed 64 loans totaling \$4,543,620 as of December 31, 2021. The RLF has helped create or retain 715 jobs and leveraged \$34,346,948 in private and other public investment. The RLF is a locally controlled source of capital used to assist in financing start-up and expanding businesses. To be eligible, a potential borrower's project must result in the creation of permanent jobs and leverage private sector investment.

CARES Revolving Loan Fund (CARES RLF) Program has closed 21 loans totaling \$804,096. These loans have helped create or retain 78 jobs, leverage \$1,450,450 in private investment and \$14,470 in other public investment. Funded by the CARES Act, this locally controlled source of small business capital was established to help the region recover from the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

REVOLVING LOAN FUND:

MAY 31, 2022				JUNE 30, 2021		
	NUMBER	AMOUNT	BALANCE	NUMBER	AMOUNT	BALANCE
Current	8	\$425,500	\$313,092	8	\$425,500	\$349,020
Delinquent	1	\$25,000	\$8,273	1	\$25,000	\$8,273
Default	1	\$10,000	\$9,177	1	\$10,000	\$9,177
Active Loans	10	\$460,500	\$330,542	10	\$460,500	\$366,520
Written off	13	\$1,138,250	\$639,693	13	\$1,138,250	\$639,893
Repaid	41	\$2,944,878	-	41	\$2,944,878	-
TOTAL	64	\$4,543,620	-	64	\$4,543,620	-

CARES REVOLVING LOAN FUND:

MAY 31, 2022				JUNE 30, 2021		
	NUMBER	AMOUNT	BALANCE	NUMBER	AMOUNT	BALANCE
Current	20	\$754,096	\$636,944	12	\$423,700	\$405,537
Delinquent	0	0	0	0	0	0
Default	0	0	0	0	0	0
Active Loans	20	\$754,096	\$636,944	12	\$423,700	\$405,537
Written off	0	0	0	0	0	0
Repaid	1	\$50,000	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	21	\$804,096	-	12	\$423,700	-

AGING

Upper Savannah Area Agency on Aging/Aging & Disability Resource Center Activity Report April 1, 2022 - May 31, 2022

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	CLIENTS
Assessments	Determine client eligibility and needs for Aging services	201
Caregiver Supplemental Services	Assists with supplies, supplements, assistive technology	40
Assistive Technology	Provides Lifeline monitoring for seniors at risk	19
Home Care	Helps seniors with light housekeeping, chores, personal care	42
Minor Home Repair	Provides ramps, handrails, grab bars, safety upgrades	3
Seniors Raising Children Supplemental Services	Assists with school supplies, clothing, and miscellaneous	7
Transportation	Trips to congregate meal sites, medical, essential shopping	236
Legal Assistance	Provided by SC Legal Services	10
Caregiver Respite	Offers a break for daily caregivers	78

Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals Report | April 1, 2022 - May 31, 2022

MEALS BY COUNTY	CLIENTS	NUMBER OF MEALS
Abbeville	118	5,474
Edgefield	114	3,321
Greenwood	362	11,757
Laurens	164	4,988
McCormick	88	2,423
Saluda	96	2,754
TOTALS	942	30,717

More than **30,000** MEALS served to seniors in Region over last **TWO MONTHS**

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

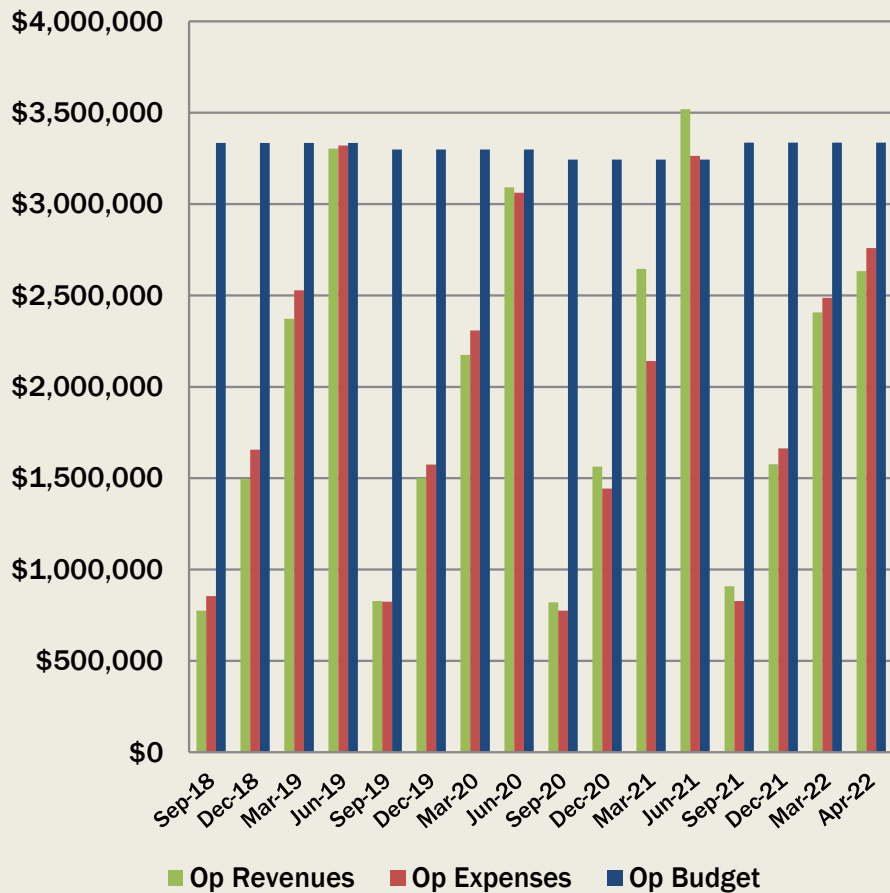
- Continued work on the Town of Due West Comprehensive Plan update.
- Continued work on Economic Development Administration (EDA) grants administration on current grants.
- The CDBG-CV Public Facilities projects in the City of Abbeville are underway. Project is scheduled to be completed by late July.
- The CDBG-CV Public Services project for air purifiers for Laurens School District 55 has been completed. Close out will occur when other CV Public Services projects have been completed. The Home Delivered Meals project is beginning its fourth month. The Public Transit Contact project Memorandum of Understanding is being drafted. Once that is approved and signed, along with the contract, Public Transit will commence for Saluda County. That State's CV consultant was contacted about expanding the scope of work for the Public Transit project to include transit to SCWorks centers and work locations.
- Continued working on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). This plan is required to be updated every five years and keeps the region eligible for Economic Development Administration (EDA) funds.
- Presented the Resiliency Plan to the USCOG Board in April. The plan was approved and will be blended into the updated CEDS document to be presented to the USCOG board later this year.
- Presented a draft of the CEDS goals to the regional Workforce Development Board for their review and input.
- Participated in a conference call with SCDOT Division of Public Transit to discuss future transit needs in the Upper Savannah COG region.
- Participated in a national online USDOT meeting to discuss data needs for rural and small governments. This meeting was sponsored by the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO).
- Assisted the Town of Edgefield with a zoning ordinance text update.
- Assisted the Town of Trenton with an American Recovery Plan reporting document submission.
- Continued work on environmental reviews for CDBG projects.
- Assisted the City of Abbeville in locating data sources for their plan update.
- Attended a regional meeting of the area Small Business Development Center board. Attended meetings of The Brew in Abbeville and Greenwood to support small businesses. Plans are to attend The Brew in Clinton later this month.
- Hosted a Regional Transportation Workshop with SCDOT on April 20. Approximately 40 people attended the meeting to learn about all areas of transportation planning in the region.
- Participated in online workshops on statewide transportation issues such as truck parking, bike and pedestrian planning, and electric vehicle infrastructure. These meetings will continue online and in-person through the summer.
- Met with municipal clerks in Edgefield, Saluda, and McCormick on April 18 to discuss business license reporting issues with Jeff Shacker of the Municipal Association of SC (MASC). There will be follow-up meetings on this topic later this year.
- Attended the ribbon cutting for a walking track in the Promised Land community of Greenwood County on April 23. USCOG assisted the Promised Land Association in applying for a grant to fund a rubberized surface on the track.
- Provided state-mandated training for 32 planning commissioners, Board of Zoning Appeals members, and staff in the Town of McCormick and the City of Abbeville. More training is scheduled at the end of June in Clinton and Edgefield County.
- Attended a presentation on the updated map-making platform InfoMentum in Greenville.
- Began meeting with interested individuals seeking to start a "Friends" group to help the Ninety Six Historic Site promote the park and apply for development funds as needed.
- Attended a Housing Summit sponsored by the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce.
- Continued assisting the Upper Savannah Land Trust with various planning activities including coordinating the annual meeting held in March.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Secured grant from Duke Energy Foundation to offer free door-to-door transportation for Greenwood residents to get to the SC Works Center through the McCormick Area Transit (MAT) program. The new service was featured on WSPA-TV. Mat Trans trips to the SC Works Center must be requested in advance.
- Published a job search guide for graduating high school seniors, which was recently delivered to more than 2,000 students across Upper Savannah region.
- Continued to work with FUJIFILM to coordinate services for 400 associates. So far more than 200 workers have received resume assistance.
- Midway through recruiting and training 100 emergency medical technicians and paramedics for a federal Rural Health grant.
- Held outreach event for Lakelands Homebuilders Association at the Boys and Girls Club. The event featured the Be Pro Be Proud Bus.
- Five SC workforce areas were awarded a \$2.8M grant to offer On-the-Job training and other services for more than 260 dislocated workers. Upper Savannah is coordinating outreach campaign and providing technical assistance.
- Exploring the needs of youth aging out of foster care to offer job training and employment.
- Held job fair for Saluda County highlighting Saluda County jobs.
- Worked with Laurens Economic Development Corporation and the Department of Commerce to host a job fair for graduating seniors and the public.
- Met with expanding industry in Saluda County to discuss outreach ideas.
- Upper Savannah workforce staff wants to help job seekers. Anyone looking for a job and or considering training can call 864.229.8826 or email [WIOArecruitment@gleamsnhrc.org](mailto:WIOAreruitment@gleamsnhrc.org) to get more assistance

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Operating Actual vs. Budget



Pass Through Budget

