



UPPER SAVANNAH

*Council of Governments*

# ACTIVITY REPORT

AUGUST 2022

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**USCOG  
AWARDED  
THREE**

CDBG grant  
awards  
in spring  
round totaling  
almost  
\$5 million

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

There are  
**14**  
active CDBG  
projects in region,  
totaling almost  
**\$12 million**

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LCWSC  
receives  
**\$5.4 million**  
**EDA**  
grant award  
to upgrade  
water system

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**RLF**

CARES Act  
Revolving  
Loan Fund  
has closed  
21 loans

## AGING

More than  
**1,000**  
seniors  
receiving meals  
in Region over  
last two months

## GOVERNMENT SERVICES

**ASSISTING**  
local  
governments,  
water and sewer  
providers with  
infrastructure  
applications

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**FUJI**  
Upper Savannah  
workforce staff  
has assisted  
approximately  
300 workers

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Workforce staff  
assisted with  
**JOB  
FAIRS**  
in Newberry and  
Saluda counties

## GOVERNMENT SERVICES

CARES Act  
**CDBG-CV  
PROJECTS**  
moving forward  
in various stages  
across Region,  
two completed

See  
**DETAILS**  
on these and  
other activities  
in this report



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## ACTIVE PROJECTS:

APPLICANT	PROJECT NAME	GRANT AMOUNT
Town of Ridge Spring.....	Town of Ridge Spring Sewer Rehab.....	\$1,700,000
Laurens County.....	Clinton-Joanna WWTP Upgrade.....	\$1,500,000
Greenwood County.....	Mathews Mill Phase II Sewer Upgrade.....	\$1,600,000
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
<b>TOTAL</b> .....		<b>\$11,981,958</b>

## CDBG GRANT APPLICATIONS AWARDED

### APRIL 2022 SPRING INFRASTRUCTURE ROUND

#### Town of Ridge Spring Sewer Rehab

**\$1,700,000**

CDBG funds to help 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 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 project costs are estimated to be \$2,086,090, including \$386,090 from the Town. Ridge Spring has an estimated population of 920 of which 68.47 percent are LMI.

#### Clinton-Joanna WWTP Upgrade

**\$1,500,000**

CDBG funds will help upgrade Clinton-Joanna Wastewater Treatment Plant located in Kinards. 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, including \$1 million from State Revolving Fund (SRF) and \$526,000 from Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission. Project will benefit an estimated 8,078 people of which 64.88 percent are considered LMI.

#### Mathews Mill Phase II Sewer Upgrade

**\$1,600,000**

CDBG funds will help provide continued sewer improvements to the Mathews Mill area in Greenwood County. 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 to include Georgia Street, Bolt Avenue, Bond Avenue, Stevens Avenue, and Cross Street. Acquisition is anticipated. Total project costs are estimated to be \$3,103,399, with \$1,503,399 from Greenwood Metro District. This project will benefit approximately 303 people, of which 92 percent are considered LMI.

There  
are

**14**

active CDBG  
projects in the  
region, totaling

**\$11,981,958**

**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 bid package is being assembled.

**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. The project is currently out for bidding.

**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 September 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. Bids have been opened and the contract package is being assembled for the Department of Commerce to review.

**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 and is expected to be completed in September 2022.

**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. The project came in over budget by \$450,000 and staff has secured \$197,271 in additional funding. The contract has been approved and will be signed in August 2022.

**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 new truck (pictured) was delivered Aug. 5, 2022. Project in close-out phase.



**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 would include installing new lines, casings, manholes and reconnection of force mains. Project will benefit an estimated 2,300 households and businesses, approximately half of the City of Clinton's population. Construction to begin October 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 (pictured are before and after at 105 Park Alley), 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 Metric Rd. Water Upgrades.....	\$5,422,800
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
<b>TOTAL .....</b>		<b>\$10,730,800</b>

**Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission** has been awarded grant 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 grant amount is \$5,422,800 and the total project cost is \$6,778,500. The grant will fund 29,500 linear feet of 16-inch water line and a 500,000-gallon elevated water tank on Metric Road.

**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.

**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 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 102.5 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:

JUNE 30, 2022				JUNE 30, 2021		
	NUMBER	AMOUNT	BALANCE	NUMBER	AMOUNT	BALANCE
Current	7	\$407,500	\$309,813	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
<b>Active Loans</b>	10	\$460,500	\$327,263	10	\$460,500	\$366,520
Written off	13	\$1,138,250	\$639,693	13	\$1,138,250	\$639,893
Repaid	42	\$2,962,870	-	41	\$2,944,878	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>\$4,543,620</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>\$4,543,620</b>	<b>-</b>

## CARES REVOLVING LOAN FUND:

JUNE 30, 2022				JUNE 30, 2021		
	NUMBER	AMOUNT	BALANCE	NUMBER	AMOUNT	BALANCE
Current	20	\$754,096	\$644,668	12	\$423,700	\$405,537
Delinquent	0	0	0	0	0	0
Default	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Active Loans</b>	20	\$754,096	\$644,668	12	\$423,700	\$405,537
Written off	0	0	0	0	0	0
Repaid	1	\$50,000	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>\$804,096</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$423,700</b>	

# AGING

## Upper Savannah Area Agency on Aging/Aging & Disability Resource Center Activity Report June 1, 2022 - July 31, 2022

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	CLIENTS
Assessments .....	Determine client eligibility and needs for Aging services .....	223
Caregiver Supplemental Services .....	Assists with supplies, supplements, assistive technology .....	44
Assistive Technology .....	Provides Lifeline monitoring for seniors at risk .....	18
Home Care .....	Helps seniors with light housekeeping, chores, personal care .....	39
Minor Home Repair .....	Provides ramps, handrails, grab bars, safety upgrades .....	8
Seniors Raising Children Supplemental Services .....	Assists with school supplies, clothing, and miscellaneous .....	4
Transportation .....	Trips to congregate meal sites, medical, essential shopping .....	225
Legal Assistance .....	Provided by SC Legal Services .....	7
Caregiver Respite .....	Offers a break for daily caregivers .....	66

## Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals Report | June 1, 2022 - July 31, 2022

MEALS BY COUNTY	CLIENTS	NUMBER OF MEALS
Abbeville .....	139 .....	4,763
Edgefield .....	114 .....	3,362
Greenwood .....	375 .....	12,495
Laurens .....	184 .....	5,917
McCormick .....	82 .....	2,563
Saluda .....	116 .....	3,344
<b>TOTALS .....</b>	<b>1010 .....</b>	<b>32,444</b>

More than

# 1,000

SENIORS

receiving meals  
in Region over last

# TWO MONTHS

# GOVERNMENT SERVICES

- Continued work on Economic Development Administration (EDA) grants administration on current grants.
- The CDBG-CV Public Facilities projects in the City of Abbeville were completed. CDBG-CV funds were used for the purchase and installation of a new HVAC system, as well as new UVC light purification at the Abbeville Civic Center. Funds were also used to purchase and install new UVC lights in the existing HVAC system at the Abbeville Opera House. Payment and closeout processes have begun.
- The CDBG-CV Public Services projects are underway. The Home Delivered Meals project is beginning its sixth month. A total of 10,145 meals have been delivered with this program so far. The Public Transit for Saluda County project scope of work was amended to include transit to SC Works centers and places of employments. Contract and Memorandum of Understanding will likely be signed and effective September 1.
- Provided state-mandated training for 46 planning commissioners, Board of Zoning Appeals members, and staff in City of Clinton and Edgefield County.
- Completed work on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and put it out for public comment and review. This plan is required to be updated every five years and keeps the region eligible for Economic Development Administration (EDA) funds.
- Attended SC Department of Transportation Planners Academy in Columbia.
- Attended National Regional Transportation Conference in Kansas City.
- Continued 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.
- Continued work on environmental reviews for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects.
- Attended grant workshops for the SC Infrastructure Improvement Program (SCIIP) in both Aiken and Duncan. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) awarded funds to each state to address the negative impacts of the coronavirus. In South Carolina, part of those funds are being awarded to the Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) to improve drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater management. RIA created SCIIP to distribute grant funds to all utility providers. The state legislature encouraged RIA to focus grant funds into rural and small water and sewer providers. In order to do that, each Council of Governments in SC is being asked to help local entities develop projects, write applications, and administer projects as needed. Began helping local governments and water/sewer providers which are needing assistance with the applications.
- Attended a workshop on stormwater planning funds from the SC Office of Resilience. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds are being made available through the SC Office of Resilience to address stormwater and drainage needs. Applications will be ready in September and grant awards should be made by the end of the calendar year. The Office of Resilience is offering assistance in managing the engineering portion of the awarded projects for those local governments that might need that help.
- Began meeting with engineers from Federal Highways Administration to help address the high number of roadway departure fatalities in our region and across the state.
- Hosted a lunch meeting for all the County and Municipal Clerks in the region.
- Continued assisting the Upper Savannah Land Trust with various planning activities including coordinating the annual meeting held each spring. The Land Trust is helping protect more than 54,000 acres of land with 140 easements spread across Abbeville, Aiken, Anderson, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, Oconee and Saluda counties.



# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Continued to work with FUJIFILM to coordinate services for 400 associates. So far nearly 300 workers have received resume assistance.
- Coordinated with Greenwood Chamber on job fair for Fuji associates. Opened job fair to public for last two hours. It was attended by approximately 200 people.
- Midway through recruiting and training 100 emergency medical technicians and paramedics for a federal Rural Health grant.
- 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.
- Held job fair for Newberry County, sponsored by The Comet. Job fair was attended by approximately 100 people.

- Held job fair in Saluda County, August 17. Dominion Energy was sponsor.

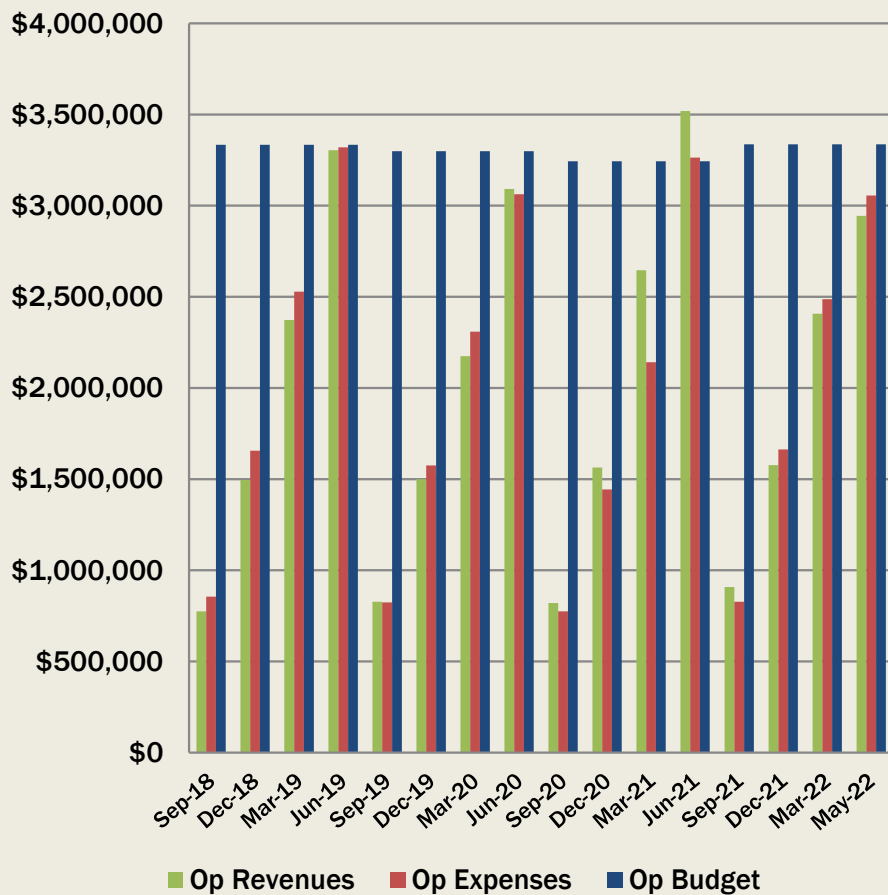


Job fair (pictured) was attended by approximately 40-45 people.

- Upper Savannah workforce development staff wants to help job seekers find employment or training. Anyone looking for a job and or considering training can call (864) 229-8826 or email [WIOAreruitment@gleamsnhrc.org](mailto:WIOAreruitment@gleamsnhrc.org) to get more assistance.
- Met with a new employer in Greenwood County to provide assistance with start-up employment.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## Operating Actual vs. Budget



## Pass Through Budget

