



2025 OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL PRIORITIES



County Council Priorities

Each year, County Council and Administration hold a Strategic Planning Retreat to review the previous year's accomplishments, establish goals for the upcoming year, and prioritize longer term goals in preparation for the future. The strategic planning initiatives, below, are ranked based on Council members' commitment to a specific matter, and further discussion.

Priority Initiatives:

For the first time since we began conducting strategic planning meetings, County Council members unanimously identified several core initiatives. The following priorities were supported by all five members during the Strategic Planning Retreat. This extensive list indicates Council's commitment to planning for a better Oconee County.

1. Cost of Living – Employee Wages

Strategy: Implementation of a Cost-of-Living Adjustment of 2.25% [consistent with state] for all County staff and Elected Officials exempting only Council.

Timeline: September – October 2025

Cost: *\$565,000*

2. Golden Corner Commerce Park Industry Occupant

Strategy: Utilizing strong Economic Development partnerships, Jamie Gilbert, Oconee County Economic Development Director shall focus on, and prioritize, submitting GCCP to potential industrial partners as well as continue advertising the site through various marketing materials.

Timeline: Unknown

Cost: *None known*

Notation: County staff are diligently working on necessary storm damage mitigation actions. This mitigation process should not impact recruitment for the site.

3. Maintain Momentum on Exit 4 Sewer Expansion

Strategy: Consistently work with our Engineering partners and continue onto next-steps regarding permit approvals from SC DES and the OJRSA. Remaining items (treatment letter; operational agreement, etc.) are currently being worked on by all involved parties.

Timeline: Documentation completion & permitting – 4 to 6 months [estimated]

Bidding process – 30 to 45 days (site visit included) [estimated]

Construction – 6 to 8 months [estimated]

Cost: *3.1 – 3.5 million* [engineering estimation]

4. Implementation of County Paving Crews / Road Maintenance

Strategy: In addition to the current paving and patching crew of five staff, implement an additional five-man paving crew. Equipment needs include: crew-cab pick-up truck; 3 tri-axle dump; milling machine; broom tractor; finish roller, break down roller and a water truck.

Timeline: Spring / Summer 2026

Cost: *Equipment: \$2.9 million*

Recurring: [staff, equipment maintenance, fuel, etc.]: \$567,000

Materials cost: Dependent on market costs

5. **Increase Quarry Production / Stabilize Stockpiles**

- Strategy:** 1. Determine metric or standard tonnage for production / sale [daily/ weekly/ or monthly]
2. Investigate permitting and costs requirements for second cone, crusher and belt for specific stone types and return to Council for discussion.
3. Address options for down equipment / increase equipment rental budget
4. Develop a land acquisition plan for future quarry needs
- Timeline:** Investigation period: 3 months
Purchase timeline: Unknown [controlled by manufacturer]
- Cost:** *Land Acquisition [as not to deplete quarry to premature closure]: unknown*
Equipment: \$4 – \$5 million
Staff: \$334,000 [recurring]

6. **Development of a Capital Improvement Plan [*indicates items below that would fall into the scope of implementation of a CIP]**

- Strategy:** Utilizing County staff, begin process of identifying all current county-owned properties; fully inspect all properties weighing in factors such as age, size, utility, and need for future services (expansion, relocation, etc.). Develop both short- and long-range plans for growth.
- Timeline:** 18 – 24 months
- Cost:** *None known*

7. ***Removal of Documents from former Health Dept. Building / Clemson Rural Health Expansion**

- Strategy:** Utilize County staff and low-impact financial resources, either recycle, shred or relocate existing records and furnishings to short term storage to a secure location and eventually identify a permanent document storage locale for legally required record retention.
- Timeline:** 3 to 4 months [dependent on staff availability, if existing staff is used]
- Cost:** *\$25,000 for relocation and short-term (rental) storage; additional funds will be required based on identification of permanent location.*
- Notation:** If County staff are the only resources utilized for this priority, the timing may be varied based on staff commitment to their regular duties, and overtime could impact the cost estimation.

8. ***Sewer Plant Planning for Southern Oconee to Address Future Capacity**

- Strategy:** Utilize information and data extracted from various studies and plans to identify the most cost-effective and sustainable location for a future sewer facility in or around the Fair Play area; begin feasibility of locale and permitting requirements, cost estimates, and timeline.
- Timeline:** 3 to 5 years to begin meaningful momentum
- Cost:** *\$20M per million GPD [regional average] in addition to due diligence, land acquisition, engineering and permitting.*
- Notation:** Additional County staff would be necessary for successful implementation.

9. ***Expansion of Fire and Emergency Services / Reimplement Local Training Options**

- Strategy:** Development of regionalized fire stations in the counties primary quadrants that are future focused for anticipated growth and emergency service needs. Annually add staffing and equipment to maintain consistent efforts.
- Timeline:** *FY 2026-2027 for station*
- Cost:** *Station construction, equipment and apparatus: \$3.4 million*
Staff: \$637,850 [recurring]

10. *Solid Waste Planning – Transfer Station, Landfill and Recycling Centers

Strategy: Fund equipment needs for effective and efficient operations. Relocation of haul road at Landfill will help alleviate backups and traffic conflicts. Relocation of the ‘wall’ will separate residential and commercial users for enhanced safety. Begin due diligence for new Transfer Station site and construction. Identify Recycling Centers that need to be expanded or relocated. Add two CDL drivers.

Timeline: Ongoing

Cost: *Landfill capital equipment: \$3.3 million*
Transfer station: \$5 million [due diligence, permitting & construction estimate]
Staff: \$122,000 [recurring]

11. *Pine Street Security – Continue Implementation Efforts

Strategy: *Proceed as discussed with Council members [Due to risks, this information is confidential.]*

Timeline: Ongoing

Cost: *\$125,000 [estimated, recurring]*

Tier Two Priority Initiatives:

1. Alignment of Chapters 32 and 38 / Ordinance Revisions for Consistent BZA Approvals

Strategy: Working through Ordinance language on a routine and regular basis to resolve conflicting information. Planning staff and Commission are working on this presently, having discussions regarding retaining walls within setbacks as of last evening.

Timeline: Ongoing

Cost: *None known*

2. *Address Shelter Spatial Needs / Improve Animal Control Response

Strategy: Identify spatial limitation causes at the Animal Shelter and working closely with the Humane Society, identify potential site location for a second facility if the current acreage will accommodate expansion.

Timeline: One year

Cost: *TBD based on assessment of property*

3. *Oconee Regional Airport Hangar Construction / Expansion

Strategy: Construct T-Hangars on non-FAA funded property. Seek grant funding for needed taxiways to new hangar location.

Timeline: 2 years

Cost: *\$4.5 million [estimate]*

4. Former Fair Play School Demolition

Strategy: Identification of potential grant funding for demolition of former school facility.

Timeline: Ongoing

Cost: *None known*

5. Implementation of Municipal Overlays

Strategy: Strategically identify areas around municipalities where overlays would be designated areas identified by both the cities and the county as suitable for supporting more intensive development. These overlays would aim to address growth by requiring development to meet the regulatory standards of both the county and the respective city. The goals of the overlay would be to promote consistency in planning, infrastructure expansion, and land use policies, ensuring that development aligns with the broader goals of both jurisdictions. This would foster coordinated urban growth, enhance land use efficiency, and provide greater flexibility for future development while maintaining local character and community needs.

Timeline: One Year

Cost: *None known*

Tier Three Priority Initiatives:

1. Municipal / County Recreation

Strategy: Because this was not a priority of a majority of Council (two of five), this matter will not receive staff priority. This matter may be discussed in future meetings, in which case, staff action would be initiated.

Timeline: None

Cost: *None*

DRAFT

Oconee County Rock Quarry

Date	County Use Tons	County Use Dollars	In County Tons	In County Dollars	Out of County Tons	Out of County Dollars
January 2024	2391.69	30508.37	36798.27	495223.57	17450.77	267131.76
February	4022.99	49638.48	39361.76	529720.17	17220.17	258968.32
March	2397.27	36109.14	37410.87	554250.25	18626.89	236373.93
April	3109.11	45306.38	45504.87	658007.22	18805.30	301358.68
May	2131.05	31387.94	39989.83	577379.24	14205.38	225145.43
June	2232.10	32487.20	33853.85	482787.38	15826.83	239630.84
July	2594.64	37355.50	30220.86	439268.60	18201.78	290683.38
August	2779.71	45815.09	33680.76	560916.33	7720.15	160587.34
September	1646.8	27206.04	20399.87	334815.14	5478.48	116339.25
October	901.74	15947.79	32659.05	558829.58	10532.62	234975.05
November	704.45	11666.96	28183.16	457432.94	6804.02	144829.09
December	1120.52	17632.02	32014.40	541516.26	10900.39	242495.18
2024 Totals	26,032.07	\$381,060.91	410,077.55	\$6,190,146.68	161,772.78	\$2,718,518.25
January 2023	1310.66	16523.55	47880.38	594692.76	22522.06	259126.42
February	3448.51	36348.63	50492.41	612652.76	17773.78	208087.09
March	8576.38	68547.04	48601.7	615451.44	15553.39	206898.87
April	2910.79	37187.16	46757.49	615572.04	13452.82	189118.52
May	2975.69	37311.24	40753.52	535283.49	16725.49	229214.96
June	1642.88	20011.15	44185.30	590839.24	16034.97	222421.59
July	2130.12	27004.11	46038.86	580539.81	13505.93	184342.14
August	1324.8	16610.76	41935.44	536211.94	16709.62	231969.46
September	2799.81	36110.32	47363.09	620220.66	13820.36	199578.93
October	4011.79	46931.73	44500.42	654952.49	17311.18	280120.34
November	3533.19	39212.78	34020.72	486420.58	14816.72	237807.61
December	1236.71	17932.44	31722.56	416893.16	14310.13	213681.12
2023 Totals	35,901.33	\$399,730.91	524,251.89	\$6,859,730.37	192,536.45	\$2,662,367.05
January 2022	611.21	6501.64	37877.6	444988.72	11850.63	153920.3
February	1148.45	13204.39	35166.05	459247.41	10836.45	153069.65
March	1957.69	24423.45	53064.49	674317.03	15963.14	223730.46
April	1735.78	22452.25	30114.36	359543.64	8050.56	109029.76
May	1672.98	20528.89	32629.20	403536.14	11667.56	159146
June	1697.95	20821.08	43975.07	556322.38	14732.44	204557.65
July	2277.74	28121.65	34821.87	434613.54	10945.65	154061.16
August	1898.08	22662.09	49180.63	616555.98	14747.9	210183.71
September	3237.44	40330.19	39076.72	510902.7	22085.48	254432.66
October	1058.84	12276.76	39536.3	507765.53	16104.72	211763.42
November	1474.94	20899.3	39327.79	508830.88	11650.56	163532.23
December	1973.22	25191.73	43180.34	543456.35	22632.39	266827.37
2022 Totals	20,744.32	\$257,413.42	477,950.42	\$6,020,080.3	171,267.48	\$2,264,254.37

THE JOURNAL

PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF OCONEE

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

IN RE:

BEFORE ME the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State and County above named, This day personally came before me, Hal Welch, who being first duly sworn according to law, says that he is the General Manager of THE JOURNAL, a newspaper published Tuesday through Saturday in Seneca, SC and distributed in **Oconee County, Pickens County** and the Pendleton area of **Anderson County** and the notice (of which the annexed is a true copy) was inserted in said papers on


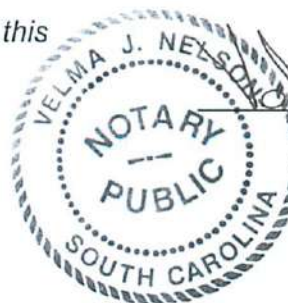
January 11, 2025

the rate charged therefore is not in excess of the regular rates charged private individuals for similar insertions.



Hal Welch
General Manager

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
1/11/2025



Velma J. Nelson
Notary Public
State of South Carolina

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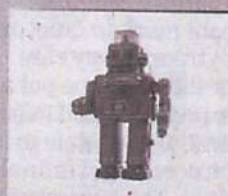
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Personal Representative: PEGGY J BREAZEALE
Address: 124 LOLA DRIVE FAIR PLAY, SC 29643
Estate: EDWARD TATE ZEIGLER SR
Date of Death: 9/22/2024
Case Number: 2024ES3700851
Personal Representative: EDWARD T ZEIGLER JR
Address: 38 LANNEAU DRIVE GREENVILLE, SC 29605

The Oconee County Council will meet in 2025 on the first and third Tuesday of each month with the following exceptions: July, August, and November meetings, which will be only on the third Tuesday of each of these months; March, June and December meetings, which will be only on the first Tuesday of each of these months. All Council meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, South Carolina. Oconee County Council will also hold a Planning Retreat beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2025 to establish short- and long-term goals. This meeting will be held off-site in the Tri-County Technical College, Oconee Campus, conference room located at 552 Education Way, Westminster, South Carolina. Oconee County Council will also meet on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 in Council Chambers at which point they will establish their 2026 Coun-

cil and Committee meeting schedules. Additional Council meetings, workshops, and/or committee meetings may be added throughout the year as needed. Oconee County Council Committees will meet in 2025 prior to County Council meetings on the following dates/times in Council Chambers located at 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, South Carolina unless otherwise advertised. The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health, & Welfare Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 18, May 20, July 15, & September 16, 2025. The Transportation Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 18, May 20, July 15, & September 16, 2025. The Real Estate, Facilities, & Land Management Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 1, June 3, August 19, & October 21, 2025. The Planning & Economic Development Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 1, June 3, August 19, & October 21, 2025. The Budget, Finance, & Administration Committee at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates: February 20 [Strategic Planning Retreat] and 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: March 4 [4 p.m.], April 15, & May 6, 2025.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
Notice is hereby given that Ash

South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and On Premises consumption of Beer, Wine and Liquor at 671 Highway 123 Bypass Seneca SC 29678. To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than January 26, 2025. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information:
(1) The name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest;
(2) The specific reasons why the application should be denied;
(3) That the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant);
(4) That the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and,
(5) The name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed. ent of Revenue, ABL SECTION, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, SC 29214-097.

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Oconee County Council

Oconee County
Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Phone: 864-718-1023
Fax: 864 718-1024

E-mail:
jennifercadams@oconeesc.com

John Elliott
District I

Matthew Durham
Chairman
District II

Don Mize
Vice Chairman
District III

Thomas James
District IV

J. Glenn Hart
Chairman Pro Tem
District V



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Sec. 2-61. - Access to and conduct at county meetings, facilities and property.

(a) *Purpose.* The county council has determined that it is necessary to regulate access to county facilities, grounds and property in order to ensure the safety and security of the public who visit these areas or the county employees who serve them. **The conduct of persons who visit county facilities and/or who have contact with county employees must also be regulated to preserve public order, peace and safety.** The regulation of access and conduct must be balanced with the right of the public to have reasonable access to public facilities and to receive friendly, professional service from county employees. These regulations apply to all county facilities and meetings, as defined below, for and over which county council exercises control and regulation, and to the extent, only, not pre-empted by state or federal law.

(b) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Facility means any building, structure, or real property owned, leased, rented, operated or occupied by the county or one of its departments, offices or agencies.

***Meeting* means any assemblage of persons for the purpose of conducting county governmental business, operations or functions or any assemblage of persons within a county governmental facility.** The term "meeting" includes, but is not limited to, county council meetings, county board and committee and staff meetings, trials, hearings and other proceedings conducted in the courts of general sessions and common pleas, family court, master-in-equity, probate court and magistrate's court; and other meetings by entities duly authorized by the county council.

(c) *Prohibited acts.* It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- (1) **Utter loud, obscene, profane, threatening, disruptive or abusive language or to engage in any disorderly or disruptive conduct that impedes, disrupts or disturbs the orderly proceedings of any meeting,** or operations of any department or function of the county government, including, without limitation, speaking when not explicitly recognized and authorized to do so by the presiding official in such meeting.
- (2) Bring, carry, or otherwise introduce any firearm, knife with blade longer than two inches or other dangerous weapon, concealed or not concealed, into any facility or meeting. This prohibition does not apply to law enforcement personnel or any other person whose official, governmental duties require them to carry such firearm, knife, or other weapon.
- (3) Engage in partisan political activity, including speech, in any meeting not authorized and called for the purpose of partisan political activity and explicitly authorized for such purpose in the facility in which such activity is to be conducted, or refusing to cease such activity when

the presiding official of the meeting in question has ruled that the activity in question is partisan political activity and has directed that such activity stop.

- (4) Interfere with, impede, hinder or obstruct any county governmental official or employee in the performance of his duties, whether or not on county government property.
- (5) Enter any area of a county government facility, grounds or property when such entry is prohibited by signs, or obstructed or enclosed by gates, fencing or other physical barriers. Such areas include rooms if clearly marked with signs to prohibit unauthorized entry.
- (6) Enter by vehicle any area of a county governmental facility, grounds or property when such area is prohibited by signs or markings or are obstructed by physical barriers; or park a vehicle in such restricted areas; or park in a manner to block, partially block or impede the passage of traffic in driveways; or park within 15 feet of a fire hydrant or in a fire zone; or park in any area not designated as a parking space; or park in a handicapped parking space without proper placarding or license plate; or park in a reserved parking space without authorization.
- (7) Use any county governmental facility, grounds or other property for any purpose not authorized by law or expressly permitted by officials responsible for the premises.
- (8) Enter without authorization or permission or refuse to leave any county governmental facility, grounds or other property after hours of operation.
- (9) Obstruct or impede passage within a building, grounds or other property of any county governmental facility.
- (10) Enter, without legal cause or good excuse, a county governmental facility, grounds or property after having been warned not to do so; or, having entered such property, fail and refuse without legal cause or good excuse to leave immediately upon being ordered or requested to do so by an official, employee, agent or representative responsible for premises.
- (11) Damage, deface, injure or attempt to damage, deface or injure a county governmental property, whether real property or otherwise.
- (12) Enter or attempt to enter any restricted or nonpublic ingress point or any restricted access area, or bypass or attempt to bypass the designated public entrance or security checkpoint of a facility without authorization or permission.
- (13) Perform any act which circumvents, disables or interferes with or attempts to circumvent, disable or interfere with a facility's security system, alarm system, camera system, door lock or other intrusion prevention or detection device. This includes, without limitation, opening, blocking open, or otherwise disabling an alarmed or locked door or other opening that would allow the entry of an unauthorized person into a facility or restricted access area of the facility.
- (14) Exit or attempt to exit a facility through an unauthorized egress point or alarmed door.

(d) *Penalty for violation of section.* Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished in accordance with section 1-7. In addition, vehicles that are improperly parked on any county property, facility, or other premises may be towed at the owner's expense.

(Ord. No. 2003-04, §§ 1—4, 4-15-2003; Ord. No. 2012-06, § 1, 4-3-2012)