

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN**  
*of the*  
**FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

1. **Statement of Purpose:** This Citizen Participation Plan of Fairfield County seeks to provide for and encourage the participation of Fairfield County Citizens in the development of the Consolidated Plan, any substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan, and the associated annual performance report. The Plan also provides for the participation of citizens in the development of local applications for the State Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and throughout the implementation of funded CDBG projects. Fairfield County especially aims to encourage participation by low and moderate income person, residents of low and moderate income areas as determined by the State, the homeless, persons with disabilities, persons living with AIDS, and representative organizations of these groups. This Citizen Participation Plan has been designed to meet the requirements of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and the Consolidated Submission for Community Planning and Development Programs Final Rule of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as published on January 5, 1995.
  
2. **Effective Date:** This Citizen Participation Plan is a revision of the original 1997 and will become effective September 26, 2011.
  
3. **Consolidated Plan Development:** During the development of the Consolidated Plan, Fairfield County shall:
  - A.) Make available to citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties information that includes the amount of assistance that Fairfield County expects to receive from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), and the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) programs and the range of activities that may be undertaken using these funds, including the estimated amount that will benefit persons of low and moderate income; and the plans to minimize displacement of persons and to assist any persons displaced. This information will be made available before the adoption of the Consolidated Plan.
  
  - B.) Publish the proposed Consolidated Plan in a manner that affords citizens, units of general local governments, public agencies, and other interested parties a reasonable opportunity to examine its contents and to submit comments. This information will be summarized and published in one or more newspapers of general circulation across the state. The summary will include a description of the contents and purposes of the proposed Consolidated Plan and a list of the locations where copies of the entire proposed Consolidated Plan may be examined.
  
  - C.) Make available free of charge to interested citizens and groups copies of the proposed and final Consolidated Plan. Copies will be available from the central offices of Fairfield County. Copies of the proposed plan will also be available for review at the main public library.
  
  - D.) Hold at least one public hearing on housing and community development needs before the proposed Consolidated Plan is published for comment.

- 1.) The County shall give adequate advance notice of the hearing to citizens by: publishing notices in newspapers of general circulation which includes information on the purpose, time and location of the hearing; posting notice of the hearing at the main public library and providing other notice as determined by Fairfield County. Fairfield County will strive to notify persons of proposed Community Development activities and projects through neighborhood-based methods. These methods include direct contact of local civic leaders; posting of notices in commercial establishments, neighbor business and post offices; and informing radio and television stations of upcoming meetings and activities.
  - 2.) Fairfield County shall hold the hearing at a time and location convenient to potential and actual beneficiaries and with accommodation for persons with disabilities. Fairfield County shall hold this hearing at times and in locations convenient access to residents living in all regions of the County and to those who are potential or actual beneficiaries. No meetings will be held before 6:00 p.m. on weekdays or 2:00 p.m. on Sundays, or scheduled to begin after 8:30 p.m. Fairfield County shall select a time and date for holding the hearing at each location which will attempt to maximize the participation of interested Fairfield County Citizens. The location if such meetings will be accessible to the handicapped or accommodate the special needs of handicapped persons.
  - 3.) Prior to the development of any application for Community Development funding, Fairfield County will assess the community development and housing needs, particularly those of low and moderate income residents. This process is known as the Community Development Needs Assessment. The participation of citizens will be encouraged as part of the determination of the community's needs. The results of the Needs assessment will be presented at one or more public hearings. Citizen's comments and suggestions will be considered.
  - 4.) In the case where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate, Fairfield County will provide a qualified interpreter at the public hearing to accommodate the needs of these residents.
- E.) Fairfield County will receive comments on the proposed Consolidated Plan from citizens and units of general local government for a period of not less than thirty (30) days.
- F.) Consider any comments or views of citizens and units of general local government received in writing or orally at the public hearing when preparing the final Consolidated Plan. A summary of these comments or views and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and reasons therefore shall be attached to the final Consolidated Plan.

IV. Substantial Amendments to the Consolidated Plan: When considering substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan, Fairfield County shall:

- A.) Amend the Consolidated Plan if any one of the following actions are proposed:
- 1.) A change in the State's allocation priorities or change in the method of distribution of funds covered by the Consolidated Plan;
  - 2.) Implementation of an activity using funds from any program covered by the

Consolidated Plan (including program income) not previously described in the action plan; or,

- 3.) A change in the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of a program funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) or Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) programs as listed in the Action Plan section of the adopted Consolidated Plan.
- 4.) A transfer of a significant percentage of allocated funds from an established program funded through the CDBG or HOME programs. A significant percentage will equal 25% for programs funded through the CDBG program, and 50% for programs funded through the HOME program.

Any one of the actions listed in Section IV (A) (1-3) shall constitute a "substantial amendment" to the Consolidated Plan.

- B.) Provide citizens and units of general local government with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan. Reasonable notice must include a summary of the proposed change and its potential effect on households of low and moderate income. The summary must be published in newspapers of general circulation across the state and include an opportunity for written comment by interested citizens and groups for a period of not less than thirty (30) days before the amendment is implemented. The published summary must indicate that written comments must be submitted by a specified date to Fairfield County.
- C.) Consider any comments or views of citizens and units of general local government received in writing or orally at public hearings, if held, in preparing the substantial amendment of the Consolidated Plan. Fairfield County shall attach to the substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan a summary of comments or views accepted and a summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons therefore.

V. Performance Reports Associated with the Consolidated Plan: When preparing performance reports associated with the Consolidated Plan, Fairfield County shall:

- A.) Provide citizens and units of general local government with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports associated with the Consolidated Plan. Reasonable notice must include a summary of the accomplishments and their effect on households of low and moderate income. The summary must be published in newspapers of general circulation and include an opportunity for comment by interested citizens and groups for a period of not less than fifteen (15) days before the performance report is submitted to HUD. The published summary must indicate that written comments must be submitted by a specified date to Fairfield County.
- B.) Consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing or orally at public hearings, if held, in preparing the performance report. Fairfield County shall attach a summary of these comments or views to the performance report.

- VI. Availability of the Consolidated Plan and Related Documents to the Public: Fairfield County shall make available to the public free of charge and upon request the final Consolidated Plan as adopted, any substantial amendments, and any associated performance reports. Copies of the final Consolidated Plan will also be available for review at the main public library. Upon request Fairfield County will also make available the final Consolidated Plan as adopted, any substantial amendments, and any associated performance reports in a form accessible to persons with disabilities.
- VII. Access to Records Associated with the Consolidated Plan: Fairfield County will provide reasonable and timely access to information relating to the Consolidated Plan and the State's use of assistance under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) programs during the preceding five years.
- VIII. Complaints Associated with the Consolidated Plan and Related Documents: Fairfield County will provide a timely, substantive written response within fifteen (15) working days to every written citizen complaint related to the Consolidated Plan, substantive amendments and associated performance reports.
- IX. Citizen Participation Requirements for Local Governments: Applicants for and recipients of State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds shall be required to certify that they are following a detailed citizen participation plan that meets the requirements outlined in Items 1 - 11 of Subsection IX (A) and the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended. Fairfield County will review recipients for compliance with this section as part of the normal CDBG recipient monitoring process.

A.) Each applicant for or recipient of CDBG assistance shall provide for and encourage citizen participation in the planning, implementation and assessment of local CDBG programs, with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low and moderate income. To achieve these goals, applicants and/or recipients must meet, at a minimum, the requirements set forth in Items 1 - 11 of this subsection.

- 1.) At least one (1) public hearing must be held in the locality prior to submission of an application to Fairfield County. In cases where a preliminary application is required (i.e. the Employment Incentive or the Innovative Grant programs) the hearing shall be held prior to submission of the final application. The purpose of the hearing(s) will be to obtain citizen views and to respond to proposals and questions concerning previous CDBG funded projects (if any) and to obtain citizen participation in the development of new proposals, including the identification of community needs.
- 2.) At least one (1) public hearing must be held to discuss the approved activities within sixty (60) days after acceptance of the grant award; the hearing must include the estimated amount to be used for activities that will benefit low and moderate income persons, the recipient's plans for minimizing the displacement of persons as a result of CDBG funded activities and to assist persons actually displaced as a result of such activities.

- 3.) At least one (1) public hearing must be held if a grantee proposes a substantive amendment to the program, as defined in the Recipient's Manual published by Fairfield County.
- 4.) At the completion of the project, the recipient shall hold a public hearing on its performance and accomplishments and shall prepare a detailed report in the format required by Fairfield County which describes the accomplishments of the project. The recipient shall make the report available to the public and solicit comments on performance prior to grant close out.
- 5.) The public hearings required by this subsection shall be held only after publication of a notice not less than five (5) days prior to said hearing in the non-legal section of a local newspaper of general circulation. Local governments are encouraged to take other actions to provide adequate notice to persons potentially interested in the project.
- 6.) Hearings must be held at times and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries and with accommodation for the needs of the disabled.
- 7.) The needs of non-English speaking residents must be met in the case of public hearings where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate.
- 8.) Recipient files must contain evidence that the actions listed above have been taken, including copies of actual notices, and minutes of hearings.
- 9.) Applicants and recipients must provide assistance to groups representative of persons of low and moderate income that request such assistance in developing proposals, with the level and type of assistance to be determined by the local unit of government.
- 10.) Citizens must be provided with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information and records relating to the local government's proposed and actual use of CDBG funds as required by HUD regulations and state law.
- 11.) This subsection (A) may not be construed to restrict the responsibility or authority of the local government for the development and execution of its CDBG program.

B.) If Fairfield County receives a citizen complaint concerning the CDBG program of a non-entitlement unit of local government, the following procedure will be followed:

- 1.) Fairfield County shall only respond to written complaints, and then only if evidence indicates that relief has previously been sought at the local level.
- 2.) Upon receipt of a complaint, Fairfield County shall transmit a copy of the complaint to the local government and request a response within fifteen (15) calendar days.
- 3.) If the response indicates that the local government is in noncompliance with law or regulation, Fairfield County shall require corrective action and advise the complainant of its decision.

- 4.) If noncompliance with law or regulation by the local government has not occurred, Fairfield County shall advise both the local government and complainant of its decision.

C.) Although recipients may designate the location of the program records, Fairfield County must be officially informed of their location. In addition, in order to insure citizen access to CDBG program records and if the location of the records is different from the recipient's normal place of business, the following minimum information must be on file in a designated place within the locality and available for public inspection during normal office hours:

- 1.) The application (including any amendments);
- 2.) The standard performance/financial reports, including quarterly reports;
- 3.) Other pertinent information deemed appropriate by the recipient, such as engineering plans; and,
- 4.) The environmental review record.

- X. Public Review of Citizen Participation Plan: Fairfield County will make the Citizen Participation Plan public and will provide citizens and units of general local government a reasonable opportunity to comment for a period of not less than 15 days on the original Citizen Participation Plan and on any substantial amendments to the Citizen Participation Plan.

--END--

FAIRFIELD COUNTY  
~~COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM~~  
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

The Fairfield County Community Development Block Grant Citizen Participation Plan outlines ways in which the citizens of Fairfield County can participate in the Community Development Block Grant Program. Its purpose is to encourage public participation in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) process, as well as to meet the requirements of Section 104(a)(2) and (a)(3) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended through 1987.

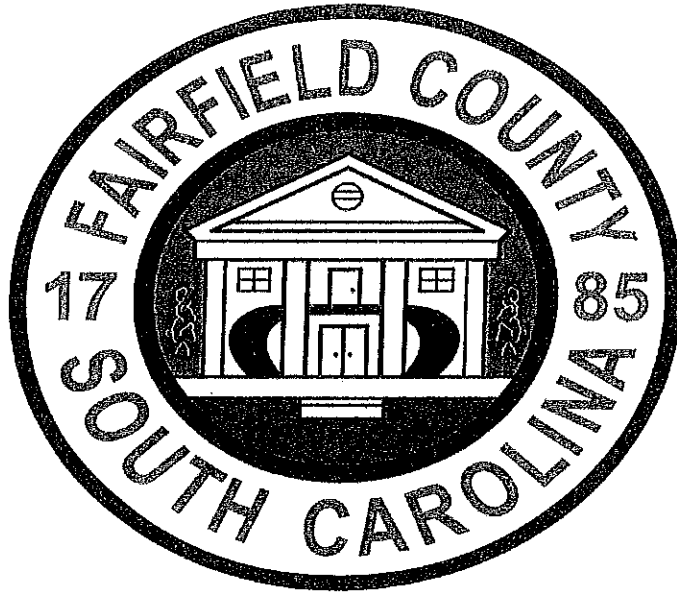
1. The Fairfield County Community Development Block Grant Citizen Participation Plan is available for public review at any time. Copies of the plan may be obtained through the County Administrator's Office, Fairfield County Administration Building, Winnsboro, South Carolina. At this time this plan is initially adopted for use, the public will be informed of its availability through a notice in a newspaper of general local circulation. This process will be repeated at any point where the plan is updated or this process is required by federal or State law. If this plan is being adopted or updated at the same time Fairfield County is undertaking a Community Development Needs Assessment, then notice to the public will be given at least seven days prior to the notice given for a public hearing regarding the Community Development and Housing Needs Assessment required for participation in the CDBG program.
2. All notices of public hearings will be published in a newspaper of general local circulation at least seven days prior to the public hearing. Such notices will be prominently advertised in an appropriate section of the newspaper and will not appear in the legal notices section or classified section of the newspaper.
3. In addition to notices in newspapers, Fairfield County will strive to notify persons of proposed Community Development activities and projects through neighborhood-based methods. These methods may include direct contact of local civic leaders; posting of notices in commercial establishments, neighborhood business and post offices; and informing radio and television stations of upcoming meetings and activities.
4. All public meetings concerning the Community Development Block Grant Program will be held at times and in locations convenient to citizens, particularly those who are potential or actual beneficiaries. No meetings will be held before 6:00 p.m. on weekdays or 2:00 p.m. on Sundays, or scheduled to begin after 8:30 p.m. The location of such meetings will be accessible to the handicapped or the announcement of such meetings will indicate what assistance will be provided to accommodate the special needs of handicapped persons.
5. Prior to the development of any application for Community Development funding, Fairfield County will assess the community's development and housing needs, particularly those of low and moderate income residents. This process is known as the Community Development Needs Assessment. The participation of citizens will be encouraged as part of the determination of the community's needs. The results of the Needs Assessment will be presented at one or more public hearings. Citizen's comments and suggestions will be considered.

6. At public hearings where the community Needs Assessment is presented, Fairfield County will ~~Grant Program, including the amount of Community Development funds available,~~ State funding guidelines, and the range of activities that may be undertaken with such funds, particularly in relation to identified community needs.
7. Fairfield County will provide technical assistance to individuals and representatives of groups of low and moderate income persons who request such assistance in developing proposals for Community Development Block Grant funding. This technical assistance shall consist of meetings to discuss community needs, possible projects, and the Community Development Program, as well as the sharing of information and materials relevant to applying for Community Development funds. In order to receive this technical assistance, activities which a group proposes to apply for must be consistent with identified community development and housing needs as well as State CDBG program guidelines. Community Development funds must be available for funding such activities as may be involved. The provision of technical assistance is contingent upon the Fairfield County Council giving approval for providing technical assistance. Fairfield County will consider any proposals developed by representatives of low and moderate income groups for community development funding. However, the determination to submit a proposal or application to the State for funding consideration is the prerogative of County Council.
8. After the development of an application for Community Development Block Grant funding and prior to submission of the application to the State, a public hearing will be held to review and solicit public comment for the proposed activity. The public hearing will be held consistent with the guidelines contained in this document.
9. Federal regulations governing the Community Development Program require that the Citizen Participation Plan address the needs of non-English-speaking residents. Census figures for Fairfield County indicate that less than ten percent of the population of the community is non-English-speaking and there are no significant concentrations of non-English-speaking residents within the County as determined by the most currently available Census data. If ten percent or more of the potential or actual beneficiaries of a Community Development project are determined to be non-English-speaking, provisions will be made at the appropriate public hearings for translation of comments and documents into the native language of the majority of the non-English-speaking residents affected.
10. Written complaints and grievances concerning Fairfield County's Community Development Block Grant program will be responded to in writing within 15 working days where practicable. Such written grievances should be submitted to the County Administrator, Fairfield County Administration Building, P. O. Drawer 60, Winnsboro, SC 29180. Telephone number (803) 635-1415. The public is advised that before Fairfield County will respond to any written complaint or grievance which involves State law or policy, State CDBG Program Guidelines, or Federal regulations governing the CDBG program, the community will provide the written grievance and its proposed response to the Division of Economic Development, Governor's Office, which will review and approve Fairfield County's response. The submission of this information to the Governor's Office and their response may significantly extend the 15 working days timetable. Persons who wish to appeal the response of Fairfield County to their written complaint or grievance may do so first to the County Council. The County Council will have 45 days to respond to any such appeal. Persons who wish to appeal the response of the County Council may do so directly to the Governor's Office,



Division of Economic Development. Citizens are advised that the Governor's Office, Division of Economic Development, will deny those appeals which involve the consistent application of the community's local program policies. Those persons who may wish to appeal the response of the Governor's Office, Division of Economic Development, may do so in the appropriate court of law.

11. Citizens of Fairfield County will be provided with reasonable access to records concerning any project undertaken with Community Development Block Grant funds. Any such request for access to records should be made so in writing to the County Administrator, Fairfield County Administration Building, P.O. Drawer 60, Winnsboro, SC 29180. Telephone number (803) 635-1415. Fairfield County may charge reasonable fees for the duplication and provision of material. Confidential information normally protected under State and federal Freedom of Information laws may not be made available for public review.
12. Fairfield County will conduct one or more public hearings to review program performance and accomplishments. At least one public hearing will be held when all activities are completed and prior to the submission of the final close-out report to the Governor's Office, Division of Economic Development.
13. Prior to making any substantial change in a Community Development Block Grant funded project, Fairfield County will hold one or more public hearings to inform its citizens, particularly those who might be affected by the proposed change, and to solicit public comment. Examples of a substantial change would be any substantial change in the number of beneficiaries, any increase or decrease of more than 10% in a budget line item, and any addition or deletion of activities. Any modifications to approved Community Development projects are at the discretion of the State.



# Fairfield County

2011 Needs Assessment

Prepared by:

Steven Gaither  
Grant Coordinator

## Survey Purpose

There are several reasons why citizen groups, public officials, and local government staff should secure accurate information about the needs of a community. All communities are in a continual state of change -- through births and deaths of citizens, through people moving out and new people moving in, and through the natural growth and development of the community over time. As a consequence, what once may have been an appropriate policy or program can eventually become inappropriate. The character or attitude of a community can shift as a result of the interplay of social, cultural, and economic changes.

The needs of different groups of people in a community are difficult to identify -- and frequently interrelated. In many instances, people are not inclined to express their attitudes and feelings openly; sometimes community needs and opinions are not revealed until a crisis occurs, such as the loss of a major employer. This makes priority setting and long range planning essential; however, planning and action cannot be carried out effectively without accurate and up-to-date information about citizen needs and desires.

The 2011 Fairfield County Needs Assessment serves as a consumer report card for Fairfield County by providing residents the opportunity to rate the quality of life in the county, as well as the community's amenities, service delivery and their satisfaction with local government. The assessment is to identify community and economic needs of the population of Fairfield County so that resources of the federal, state and local governments can be efficiently and effectively targeted to improve the lives and to afford opportunities for advancement for Fairfield County Citizens, with emphasis on the low and moderate income citizens of the county. The survey also permits residents to provide feedback to government on what is working well and what is not, and to communicate their priorities for community planning and resource allocation.

## Methods

The process used to identify community development needs for Fairfield County consists of the review of current studies, census information, economic figures, citizens' input, and other related data. The public hearing was duly advertised in the Fairfield Herald-Independent on September 16, 2011. The public hearing was held on September 26, 2011.

Studies referenced for the Needs Assessment include EDA regional priority lists prepared by Central Midlands Council of Governments; 2010 Census data, the *2006 South Carolina Statistical Abstract* prepared by the South Carolina Division of Research and Statistic Services; and the *South Carolina Workforce Trends July 2008*, by the South Carolina Employment Security Commission. An *Economic Opportunity Plan for Low and Moderate Income Residents of the Central Midlands Region of South Carolina, 1997*, was used and also employed was the *Consolidated Plan for Housing and Economic Development in the Central Midlands Region* prepared by the Central Midlands COG in 1995. In 1995 CDBG regional planning funds were used to complete *A Planning Study of Fifteen Neighborhoods in Newberry and Fairfield Counties* (HPG and Company).

The community development needs assessment survey was emailed to the Fairfield County School District, Fairfield Memorial Hospital, Fairfield County Sheriff Department, Fairfield Diabetes Education Center, Fairfield EMS, and the Midlands Fatherhood Coalition, Fairfield County Transit, Council on Aging, Fairfield Department of Social Services, Good Samaritan House, TruVista, Fairfield County Board of Disabilities and Special needs, City of Winnsboro, along with the 4 local water purveyors. A copy of the survey instrument, an excel tabulation of responses and Resident and local Community Organizations Comments are attached at the end of this final document.

## Demographics

Table 1 below shows Census 2010 race and ethnicity population estimates. Total Population: 23,482

Table 1-A  
Population by Race and Ethnicity – 2010

	Number	Percentage
Hispanic	374	1.5%
White, Not Hispanic	9,236	.39%
Black or African American	14,167	.59%
American Indian and Alaskan	50	0.21%
Asian	55	0.23%
Pacific Islander	2	.01%
Some Other Race	182	.76%
2 or More Races	264	1.09%
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,956</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 1-B below shows Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Population based on 2005-2009 population data;

Table 1-B  
Low and Moderate Income (LMI) – 2005-2009

Age of Population	Number	Percentage
Under 5 years	1,459	6.2
5 to 9 years	1,753	7.5
10 to 14 years	1,380	5.9
15 to 19 years	1,631	6.9
20 to 24 years	1435	6.1
25 to 34 years	2,484	10.6
35 to 44 years	3,080	13.1
45 to 54 years	3,761	16.0

55 to 59 years	1,906	8.1
60 to 64 years	1,303	5.5
65 to 74 years	1,749	7.4
75 to 84 years	1,162	4.9
85 years and over	379	1.6

Sex		
Male	11,254	47.9
Female	12,228	52.1

## Community Outreach

A community needs assessment process is an excellent means of involving the public in problem solving and developing local goals. There is a tendency for people to resist change, frequently because they have inadequate information, or because they have not been involved in making decisions. A needs assessment can be viewed as a process of citizen involvement to allow people not only to learn more about the current situation, but most importantly, to feel that they have had a voice in the outcome.

Fairfield County recognizes the importance of encouraging citizen participation, especially for low and moderate income residents. Applications, needs assessments and citizen participation plans are available for citizen review and comments. Upon request, CDBG documents are made available in a format to persons with disabilities.

Fairfield County encourages citizen participation throughout the process of developing a CDBG application and assessing housing and community development needs. In particular, participation by low and moderate-income (LMI) residents of projects service areas, residents of assisted housing developments, and resident of slum and blight neighborhoods are encouraged.

The County informs citizens of public hearings and other meetings and provides opportunities for participation in CDBG application development through methods that include:

- Program information may be communicated in a variety of ways including:
- Surveys are used to solicit the participation of citizens.
  - County's Web Site.
  - Local television Access.
  - Posting of public hearing advertisements in prominent locations in public areas around the county.
  - Announcements of local community organization meetings.
  - Announcements through local churches, non-profit organizations serving LMI residents, disabled, non-English speaking and other participating entities (stores and businesses) located in LMI and proposed project areas and,
  - Distribution of flyers in County buildings, library, senior centers, community centers, neighborhood centers, homeless shelter organizations, LMI areas and in the proposed service area.

## Needs Assessment Technique

The quality of information about a community is only as good as the techniques used to gather the information. A single technique may be too narrow in the information it provides; using too many methods may be costly in terms of time and dollars. Different information-gathering techniques are appropriate for different needs. Analyze the situation and the most significant questions being asked, then weigh the advantages and disadvantages of several techniques. Sometimes a combination of several techniques will provide a reasonable picture of what your community is like; characteristics of people, types of organizations, values, attitudes, goals, concerns, and problems or what is unique about your community. The procedures described in this section were used to carry out the proposed study, specifically to determine if there are significant differences between the geographic locations within the county. It discusses Fairfield County's needs, as identified by citizens, public service agencies, and government officials through stakeholder consultation, public meetings, and a resident survey.

### Data Collection:

- There are approximately 24,000 citizens that live in Fairfield County
- A list was generated from the tax assessor office based on primary owner/occupied residents
- This created a base-line of roughly 7000 homeowners
- Based on a random selection of every fifty (50) primary owner, there were 150 primary owner/occupied homeowners identified.
- After a careful review of random selection process, it was noted that within lower population density, that some areas would not receive any community needs assessments and those with a high density would receive several.
- An additional 200 primary homeowners were added to the list to include those areas/districts that fell outside the random selection.
- This gave a total of 350 surveys
- Each primary owner/occupied resident was mailed 1 Community Development Needs Assessment which included a self-stamped envelope to be returned with 30 days.
- To increase community participation, a Web Base Needs Assessment, through Survey Monkey was provided on the County's Web Site.
- A default setting was used to allow multiple surveys to be complete on the same system (e.g. a public: Library, Department of Social Services, Workforce Investment, etc.)
- In order to get an unduplicated sample the system required an address of the owner.
- Additionally the survey was emailed to each County Council member. They were asked to please forward the survey to their constituents or businesses in their district.
- This could have been at one of their monthly community meetings; church activity, etc.
- Needs Assessment Public Hearing Conducted.

## Program Accessibility

Communication is an important component of program accessibility. Disabilities involving impairments to hearing, vision, speech or mobility may affect communication. Members of the community who have disabilities must be able to access and enjoy the benefits of a program or activity receiving CDBG funds; therefore, the County may take various approaches to assure effective communication and information dissemination.

Specifically, the County is receptive to the requests and needs of the disabled person(s) within the community when determining which auxiliary aids or services are necessary. For the purposes of compliance; hearing impaired, visually impaired, mobility impaired, developmentally disabled, and those persons requiring in-home care or institutional care. The County will furnish auxiliary aids and services, as necessary, which may include:

- For persons with hearing impairments:
  - Qualified sign language interpreters;
  - Note takers;
  - Telecommunication devices for deaf persons (TDDs);
  - Telephone handset amplifiers;
  - Assertive listening devices (devices that increase the sound in large group settings);
  - Flashing lights (where aural communication is used, such as warning bells);
  - Video text displays (devices that display text that is simultaneously being spoken can be used where a public address system provides information);
  - Transcription services; and
  - Closed and open captioning.
- For persons with vision impairments:
  - Qualified readers;
  - Written materials translated into alternative formats (e.g., Braille, audio tape, large print);
  - Aural communication (e.g., Bells or other sounds used where visual cues are necessary)

Additionally, in order to solicit input from persons who are not likely to participate without special outreach, particularly those persons with limited English proficiency the County will take reasonable measures to accommodate their needs. Where an estimate five percent (5%) or more of the public hearing participants are expected to be non-English speaking residents the County will provide materials in the language the group is most familiar and provide a contact person who can answer questions in the language primarily spoken by the target group to participate in the CDBG program processes.

## Community Needs

Housing: Housing statistics during to the County for year 2000:

Year	2000
Total Household	415
Owner Occupied	331
Renter Occupied	84
Vacant Year Round Units	41
Total Housing Units	456
Average House Size of Owner Occupied	2.52
Average House Size of Renter Occupied	2.46
Female Head Of Household	81

**Housing:** Decent, safe, and affordable housing continues to be a major need in Fairfield County. The 2000 Census of Population and Housing records that there were 8,774 occupied housing units within Fairfield County. Of this number, nearly 77% were owner occupied while 23% were renter occupied.

In Fairfield County, there were approximately 5,846 units built before 1980. Historically, a measure of housing substandard condition has been the absence of complete plumbing facilities within a dwelling unit. However, through aging and demolition, housing units without complete plumbing facilities numbered fewer than 200 in 2000. A better measure of the number of units in the County that need minor or major rehabilitation could be reflected in the income distress of the occupants who may not be able to adequately maintain housing units.

In Fairfield County in 2000, there were a total of 1,096 families below the poverty rate. Sixty three percent of the housing in Fairfield County is single-family, and seven percent is designated multi-family. Almost thirty percent of the housing in Fairfield County is designated as mobile homes or manufactured housing. A building slow-down combined with an economic recession and increasing building and land acquisition costs have created an affordability gap for low and moderate-income persons. Therefore, there is a need within Fairfield County to increase housing opportunities.

### **Economic Development:**

Fairfield County is located in the central part of South Carolina on I-77 with five major interstates within an 85-mile radius. It is uniquely positioned halfway between New York and Miami, within 24-hour ground access to more than 70 percent of the U.S. market. Additionally, one of the nation's most effective and productive deepwater ports, the Port of Charleston, is an easily accessible 138 miles away. Connectivity to major North/South and East/West interstates allows for easy market access, making Fairfield County the premier location for business.

Fairfield County has the very unique advantage of being located within close proximity to urban areas and their amenities, while offering all of the benefits of a rural county. Fairfield is less than one hour's drive from the Douglas International Airport and upscale shopping offered in Charlotte, NC and less



than one half hour's drive to South Carolina's capitol city of Columbia and the State's flagship University, the University of South Carolina. However, with a total area of 687 square miles, two recreational lakes encompassing more than 20,700 acres, 11,080 acres of the Sumter National Forest and a County Seat with small town charm and historical significance during the Revolutionary War, Fairfield County offers a tranquil, less congested environment in which to conduct business.

Since the decline of the US automotive industry and the most recent economic slowdown, many small towns across the country have faced considerable economic development challenges. Over the past decade, millions of U.S. manufacturing jobs have moved overseas. Fairfield County was not excluded from the mass exodus of corporate businesses. Fairfield County experienced severe hardships when the flagship industries, which include manufacturing, mining, and auto-related manufacturing, fell off or completely collapsed. It has continuously lost jobs since 2002 due to the closing of three major plants: Mack Truck, Plastech Engineered Products and Perry Ellis Distribution. In the case with Perry Ellis and Plastech, the workforce was local, was older than average and had limited skill sets. Between these two companies, entire families were employed and in 2008 found themselves without jobs – and without the skills to pursue other employment opportunities. At the time the unemployment rate skyrocketed to 13%, job growth was negative and the County lagged behind its neighboring counties in economic growth.

According to the Employment Security Commission's, Department of Employment and Workforce, Fairfield County's civilian labor force was 10,914 for FY 2010 .Fairfield County had a 13.5% unemployment rate for July 2010 compared to an unemployment rate statewide of 10.9% in the same month. Fairfield County's unemployment rate was ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> in the state.

**Table below shows the nine (9) major employers of Fairfield County.**

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Number of Employees</b>
V.C. Summer Nuclear Station	926
Fairfield County School District	650
Ben Arnold Beverage Co.	426
Fairfield County Government	265
Performance Fibers	225
Isola	170
Lang Mekra	153
Guardian Fiberglass	108
Elite Electronic Systems	70

The one of goals of this assessment is to develop a working plan which could guide economic development activities throughout the region and well into the future. Economic development encompasses the process, policies and activities by which a community improves the long-term economic and social well-being of its people. Fairfield County's objective of economic development is a sustainable increase in living standards, including per capita income, education, health and environmental protection.

Fairfield County strategy focuses on enhancing competitiveness, increasing sustainable growth and ensuring that growth is inclusive with approaches that include:

- Ensuring that the local investment climate is functional for local businesses.

- Support small and medium enterprises.
- Encouraging the formation of new enterprises
- Investing in physical infrastructure
- Investing in educational and workforce development
- Supporting the growth of particular of businesses and,
- Targeting and assisting certain disadvantaged groups.

## **E**conomic **C**ompetitiveness:

As a part of this assessment process, a consistent concern expressed was a lack of understanding as to the importance of commercial sectors to the overall health of the community. It is believed that this lack of understanding has led to misguided focuses and impediments to development. As the problems are identified, appropriate comprehension will need to implement a cohesive strategy of education to create a more conducive environment for development.

### Problem:

- a. Public Perceptions-Better understanding of economic development issues in the community needed to gain more public support for business issues.
- b. NIMBY'ism (not in my back yard) prevents needed development.
- c. Public lacks understanding of transportation needs (disconnect between desire for services and products and need to transport goods to market).

Solution: Public Education – Building public support will promote appreciation of the benefits to public balanced with an understanding of regulatory effects on the ability to have sustainable with community and its citizens.

Problem: The ready availability of housing in all price ranges impacts the attractiveness of the County to new businesses and employees of existing businesses considering staying in or relocating to the County. The pattern of growth outside the historical villages that has occurred in the past is also a concern. The County's rural landscape considered to be significant attraction to economic growth. The County's quality of life, typically by its open space and agricultural landscape, is seen as a significant asset. If open space is subdivided into unplanned, land-intensive development a component of this quality of is compromised.

Additionally a barrier in meeting the underserved is limited availability of resources. The economic recession has dramatically impacted federal, state and local funding.

## **W**orkforce **D**evelopment:

The Workforce Development Department at Fairfield County Job & Family Services is dedicated to helping job seekers find good jobs and employers find qualified candidates. Fairfield County's commitment is to link eligible Adult and Dislocated Worker gain employment or career advancement leading to economic self-sufficiency. The strategy of the program is to assist customers in becoming employed, maintaining employment, achieving earnings gains that leads to self-sufficiency and obtaining employment or enhancing credentials as appropriate to the customer's needs.

Citizens who are interested in WIA services attend schedule pre-orientation at the Winnsboro One-Stop to determine whether they might benefit from more intensive services offered by WIA, or other non-WIA funded partner services. To assist in the client, a self-assessment is completed, the WIA staff will coordinate with other partners that may render services in which will be more helpful to the customer with a successful completions of goals and objectives for long-term employment.

Additional, Fairfield County also has built a QuickJobs Center to be the *role model* for community college through dedication to high standards, a nurturing environment, community alliances and innovative leadership. Fairfield County has constructed an approximately 12,000 SF state-of-the-art training facility that will provide specific skills training in information technology, industrial and electronics technology, healthcare programs as well as providing job readiness and high school equivalent course training.

The entire County's population, including low to moderate income individuals, under- or unemployed adults and high school students, has or will benefit from this new training center. The purpose of the facility is to provide access to skills training for all residents so they can compete for new or higher paying jobs available in the community. Specifically, this center is breaking barriers by extending education's reach to an increasingly diverse, challenged population. This will present opportunities that for success to people who never thought they would have the chance.

- the QuickJobs courses offered qualify for Workforce Investment Act funds, which are available to qualified unemployed and underemployed individuals. These funds offset the cost of the courses, making skills training available for all of the population, regardless of income;
- the Adult Education program utilizes the facility to provide GED training to adults and once completed they are then able to pursue additional education and training;

In addition to providing a benefit to the local population, the facility is also a resource for local businesses and industry. Fairfield County recognizes that in order to compete, businesses need the best employees with the best training, and is working to provide that environment through the QuickJobs Center. The Economic Development Department works directly with eligible new or expanding companies to identify needed employees. Instead of offering a menu of generic training programs, local businesses are engaged and are encouraged to participate in curriculum development, resulting in programs that work and programs the organizations appreciate.

## **Infrastructure:**

Infrastructure needs require significant investment to meet currently identified projects. While it is clear that we need to continue the upgrading of traditional transportation avenues, i.e., roads that support commerce and rail that can be effectively utilized, it is unlikely that any major projects will be started in the immediate future. Several communities have taken steps to upgrade wastewater treatment and water systems to provide for commercial growth. The upgraded infrastructure of municipal services is critical, not only for commercial growth, but for expansion of our residential inventory. Telecommunications upgrades and the expansion of available services do provide improved opportunities for the development of information-based industries. Information technology and financial

services both provide opportunities for in-fill of our village centers with traditionally high-wage jobs. The necessary telecom infrastructure is available and competitively priced in some parts of the region, while being unavailable or overly costly in others. A principal goal for this region in the near term is the support of further expansion of telecommunications services and support for a competitive market.

## **P**ublic **S**afety:

Public Works and Development Facilities Program: Grants to provide help distressed communities attract new industries, encourage business expansion, diversify local economies, and generate long-term, private-sector jobs. Projects funded include water and sewer facilities primary serving industry and commerce, access roads to industrial parks or sites and business incubator facilities. A proposed project must be located within or provide a substantial direct benefit to an area in severe economic distress, that is, one that is experiencing high unemployment, low per capita income or sudden economic changes.

## **W**ater **S**upply

An adequate supply of water is critical to strong economic development. Water is a necessary for potable needs, various types of manufacturing and food processing and fire protection. Fairfield County is served by a number of public water systems of various size and capacity. These systems of course have limitations and must be continually improved, upgraded and expanded to meet demand and to have the infrastructure available for new and growing businesses. An important component of the County's continues economic growth is the development of water capacity. Depending on the area of the county and the individual water system, this could involve improvements to supply and pumping capacity, fire flows or expansions into growth centers and industrial/commercial parks.

## **N**eighborhood and **D**owntown **R**evitalization:

Downtown development and village centers are a recurring focal point of visioning sessions. Creation of vibrant economic and resident clusters will serve to maintain our rural working landscape. To this end, the future development of infrastructure and services, as well as the funding sources to provide for this need to be identified. Collaborative efforts from all sectors, public and private, need to be engaged and play an active role in the development.

## **P**riorities and **P**lanned **A**ctions:

Fairfield County feels that all of the activities that follow are of equal importance and need to the community. The County identifies its priority of low to moderate needs as followed based on the past planning efforts, citizen and community input. However, due to the requirement that needs be ranked in importance, activities planned to be undertaken to meet identified needs are prioritized as follows:

- 1) To provide safe, decent and affordable homeownership opportunities for low and moderate income families.
- 2) To provide infrastructure improvements including new waterlines and services, sewer lines, street, sidewalk, flood drainage systems and rehabilitation of existing building or construction in low and

moderate income neighborhoods.

3) To provide infrastructure improvements in the older, predominantly low and moderate income neighborhoods and prevent or eliminate slum or blight in the County.

4) To expand economic opportunities.

## **O**bjective and **O**utcomes:

The Outcome Performance Measurement System offers possible objectives for each activity. These are based on the broad statutory purposes of the programs and include:

1) To provide accessibility improvements as a means to help low-and-moderate income households with disabilities maintain existing housing. This objective focuses on housing activities whose purpose is to meet individual family or community housing needs.

2) The extension of water lines to serve residential customers in the community has been a much requested by residents. A number of residents in the area have wells with poor water quality. This objective applies to activities that make services, infrastructure, public services, public facilities, housing, or shelter available or accessible to low and moderate-income people, including persons with disabilities.

3) To provide activities that are aimed at improving communities or neighborhoods, helping to make them livable or viable by providing benefit to persons of low-and-moderate-income or by removing or eliminating slums or blighted areas including but not limited to: acquisition and clearance of blighted properties, renovation and reuse of abandoned buildings, commercial revitalization through facade improvements, and/or removal of environmental contamination on property to enable.

4) To provide economic opportunities activities to commercial revitalization, or job creation.

## **P**roposed **U**se of **F**unds with **O**bjectives and **O**utcomes

1) **Activity:** To improve safe, decent and affordable homeownership opportunities for low and moderate income families.

**Rationale:** Promote the rehabilitation of existing owner-occupied housing as a means to maintain affordable housing. Improvements in the older, predominantly low and moderate income neighborhoods and prevent or eliminate slum or blight in the County.

2) **Activity:** To improve infrastructure improvements in the County, particularly in the older, predominantly low and moderate income neighborhoods.

### **Rationale:**

a) Middlesix Community - install the first of three-phase sewer facility project to serve the Middlesix community southeast of Winnsboro. Sewer lines and laterals will improve the livability and address a long-standing need of this neighborhood.

- b) Areas west and south of Winnsboro – These areas have been requesting service in past several years. This area would be served by the Mid-County Water Company. The proposed improvements would include new waterlines and services.
- c) Ridgeway – Residents along Hwy 34 and other surrounding roads are in need of waterline upgrades as well as waterline extensions. The areas in need of upgrade are currently served by a 1” line which provides little to no pressure. Other areas are without public water service and have been requesting water.
- d) Greenbrier – Water system upgrades in the form of a water tank. Mid-County Water Company serves this area. Since connecting to Jenkinsville and providing assistance to the Jenkinsville system, pressure has decreased in the Mid County system. In order to alleviate pressure issues in the system, a new water tank is needed.
- e) Mitford – Extension of water lines to serve residential customers in the community has been much requested by residents. A number of residents in the area have wells with poor water quality.
- f) Jenkinsville – The Jenkinsville Water Company’s system has experienced a number of problems in the past several years with water pressures and capacity of its supply.
- g) Other areas to be addressed are: Dawkins, Blackjack, Blackstock, Mood-Harrison, Shelton and South Winnsboro.
- h) Rehabilitation of existing building or construction of new fire stations to prevent, protect, respond and recover from both terrorist attacks and catastrophic natural disasters. These stations will improve response times the ability to protect lives and property in the community.
- i) According to the 2011 EMS/Fire Needs Assessment it is recommended that the county should prepare to replace three (3) EMS stations. These stations will the ability to protect live in the community.

3) **Activity:** To improve safe, decent and affordable homeownership opportunities for low and moderate income families. The

**Rationale:** Promote the rehabilitation of existing owner-occupied housing as a means to maintain affordable housing. Improvements in the older, predominantly low and moderate income neighborhoods and prevent or eliminate slum or blight in the County. Provide needed minor home repairs and home safety and accessibility modifications for low-income homeowners, elderly and disabled residents.

4) **Activity:** To support small business development with a wide array of direct and indirect tools

- a) Economic development projects that will include water and sewer projects and direct assistance to businesses through JEDA and other loans on an as-needed basis and to implement the list of economic development projects outlined in the *Overall Economic Development Plan for the Central Midlands Region, Annual Update of 1997 and in the I-77 Corridor Utilities Study of 1994.*

**Rationale:** Future CDBG funds may be used to provide water and sewer to new industries that may locate in the interchange impact zone created by development of the new interchange at Peach Road and I-77.

- b) To undertake small business assistance as special economic development activities

**Rationale:** Acquiring; constructing; reconstructing; rehabilitating or installing commercial or industrial buildings; structures and other real property; equipment and improvements, including railroad spurs or similar extensions. Such activities may be carried out by the recipient or public or private nonprofit sub-recipients, assisting a private, for-profit business (e.g., loans, grants, interest subsidies, and technical assistance) and providing economic development services in connection with other eligible CDBG special economic development activities.

- c) Phase II of QuickJobs, expansion/or construction of to the new facility to house an extension of an institute of higher education in the community.

**Rationale:** This would allow workforce training opportunities to be available to residents of Fairfield County in a more convenient location and would also allow for attendance of classes by residents that do not have access to transportation to Columbia. The expansion of a satellite facility from an institute of higher education, Midlands Technical College, is a tremendous asset to the community's future and its ability to attract business and industry.

## Fairfield County 2011 Community Development Needs Assessment

**1. APPLICANT NAME:**

**2. DATE OF NEEDS ASSESSMENT:**

**3. PERCENT OF LOW & MODERATE INCOME (LMI) PERSONS IN THE APPLICANT'S JURISDICTION (CITY/COUNTY):**

Please complete all sections of this document except D, E, and part of G (which may be completed using census data) at the time of application based on required public hearing and any subsequent meetings the community feels necessary to compile a representative response for the community. The responses should best reflect the consensus of the participants as a whole. There are no right or wrong responses. The assessment should honestly reflect the public's opinion and perception. If the elected officials disagree with any majority answer, an explanation should be offered.

**QUALITY OF FACILITIES AFFECTING  
ENTIRE JURISDICTION (Check one)**

<b>A. PUBLIC WORKS INFRASTRUCTURE (Address &amp; complete at public hearing)</b>	<b>DOESN'T EXIST</b>	<b>GOOD</b>	<b>FAIR</b>	<b>POOR</b>
1. Water Source	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Water Treatment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Water Distribution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Sanitary Sewer Treatment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Sanitary Sewer Collection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Storm Sewer Collection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Other Drainage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Streets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Sidewalks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Parks/Recreation Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. List Specific Locations Of Problem Areas:				

**B. PUBLIC SERVICES (Address & complete at public hearing)**

1. Fire Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Police Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Code Enforcement/Planning/Zoning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Education And Job Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Health Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Recreational/Cultural Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Emergency Medical Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Trash Removal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Street Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. List Specific Locations Of Problem Areas				



**Fairfield County 2011  
Community Development Needs Assessment**

<b>C. COMMUNITY FACILITIES (Address &amp; complete at public hearing)</b>	<b>DOESN'T EXIST</b>	<b>GOOD</b>	<b>FAIR</b>	<b>POOR</b>
1. Community Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Senior Citizen Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Historic Preservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Hospital(s)/Healthcare	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Day Care Centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Teen/Youth Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Workforce Development Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. List Specific Locations Of Problem Areas:				
<b>D. HOUSING (Required by all applicants - may be completed using census data rather than public hearing.)</b>	<b>SINGLE FAMILY</b>	<b>MULTI-FAMILY</b>	<b>OWNER</b>	<b>RENTAL</b>
1. Number Of Occupied Housing Units				
2. Number Of Substandard Housing Units				
3. Vacancy Rate (%)				
4. Number Of Dilapidated Units Requiring Demolition				
5. Number Of Occupied Dilapidated Units				
6. Average Age Of Housing Units				
7. Number Of Units With Presumed Lead Based Paint (Determined By Age Of Unit)				
8. New Housing Units Needed To Provide Housing For New Employment				
9. Number Of Housing Units Needed To Replace Housing To Be Demolished				
10. Number Of Affordable Housing Units Available				
11. Number Of Rent-Subsidized Units				
12. Number Of Units Needing Rent Subsidies				
13. Number Of Units Available For Persons With Special Needs (Physically Or Mentally Challenged)				
14. Number Of Housing Units Needed For Persons With Special Needs				
15. List Specific Locations Of Problem Areas:				

## Fairfield County 2011 Community Development Needs Assessment

E. HOUSING MARKET WITHIN COMMUNITY (may be completed using census or local housing data rather than at public hearing)	AVAILABILITY (Check one)				
	LOW				HIGH
1. Duplexes For Rent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Medium To Large Apartments (2+ Bedrooms)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Low Priced Single Family Homes (Under \$40,000)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Medium Priced Single Family Homes (\$40,000 To \$90,000)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. High Priced Single Family Homes (Over \$90,000)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. List Additional Information/Specifics:					
F. Community Social Services	1=No Problem	2=minor Problem	3=moderate Problem	4=Serious Problem	
1. Child Abuse					
2. Juvenile Crime					
3. Drunk Driving					
4. Homelessness					
5. Runaway Youth					
6. Alcohol/Drug Use					
7. Hunger					
8. Teen Pregnancy					
9. Transportation					
10. Sexual Assault					
11. Shortage of daycare					
12. Family/Domestic Violence					
13. Lack of after school care					
14. Inadequate Housing					
15. Improper Healthcare/Safety					
16. Lack of help and/or special care for the elderly					
17. Lack of programs for behavioral and/or emotional problems					
18. Lack of programs for the mentally ill and/or physically handicapped					
19. Uncertainty of where to call or go for help					
20. List Specific Locations Of Problem Areas:					

## Fairfield County 2011 Community Development Needs Assessment

F. EDUCATION PROFILE (Address & complete at public hearing)	AVAILABILITY (Check one)						
	LOW			HIGH			
1. Preschools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Public Schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. Technical Colleges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4. Colleges/Universities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5. Continuing Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6. Employer-Based Skills Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
7. Cooperative School-Business Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
8. Shared School Facilities (Recreation, Library, Etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
9. Entrepreneurship Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
10. Children's Groups (4-H, Scouts, Etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
11. Other (List):							
<b>G. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (may be completed using local data.)</b>							
1. Unemployment For The County For The Past Month (Percentage):				%			
2. Average Rate Of Unemployment For The County For The Past Year (Percentage):				%			
3. Average Work Force Age (Example -- 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, 50-60, 60+):							
4. Education Level For Most Of The Work Force (Check The One That Best Represents The Community)							
<input type="checkbox"/> High School		<input type="checkbox"/> College/University		<input type="checkbox"/> Specialty/Vocational			
5. Does The Community Currently Have An Enterprise Zone? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No							
6. Does The Community Currently Have An Industrial Park? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Parks							
7. If The Answer Is "Yes" To Item 6, Please Indicate If It Is <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both							
8. Describe The Following Conditions Of Any Present Industrial Park(S): (Please Check The Appropriate Box)				Doesn't Exist	Good	Fair	Poor
A. Roads				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Sewer				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Water				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Electric				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Gas				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Lighting				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G. Rail				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Describe Any Actions Proposed To Stimulate Employment And Private Investment:							

## Fairfield County 2011 Community Development Needs Assessment

H. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES (Address & complete at public hearing)	AVAILABILITY (Check one)				
	LOW			HIGH	
1. Skilled Jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Non-Skilled Jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Job Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>I. IDENTIFY THE COMMUNITY'S TOP THREE PRIORITY NEEDS IN THIS ASSESSMENT – LIST IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE AND INTENTION TO ADDRESS AND DESCRIBE WHY</b>					
1.					
2.					
3.					

**J. WHAT ARE THE PRIMARY OBSTACLES TO COMPETITIVENESS:**

WHICH PROBLEMS AFFECT LMI AND LIST SPECIFIC LOCATIONS:

**K. PLANNED ACTIVITIES TO ADDRESS NEEDS:**

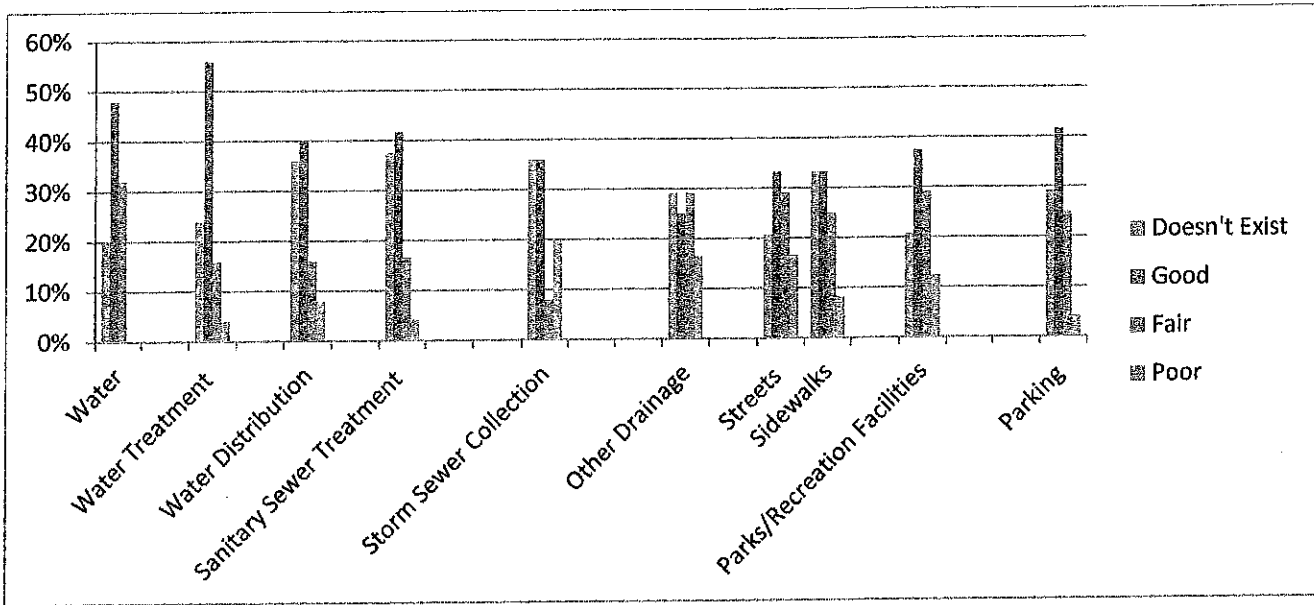
*This Document Was Completed By Consensus (Where Required) Of The Participation Of A Pre-Application Public Hearing Held On \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, And Subsequent Meetings Held On \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. Supportive Documentation Of All Meetings (Minutes, Sign In Sheets) Is Attached.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

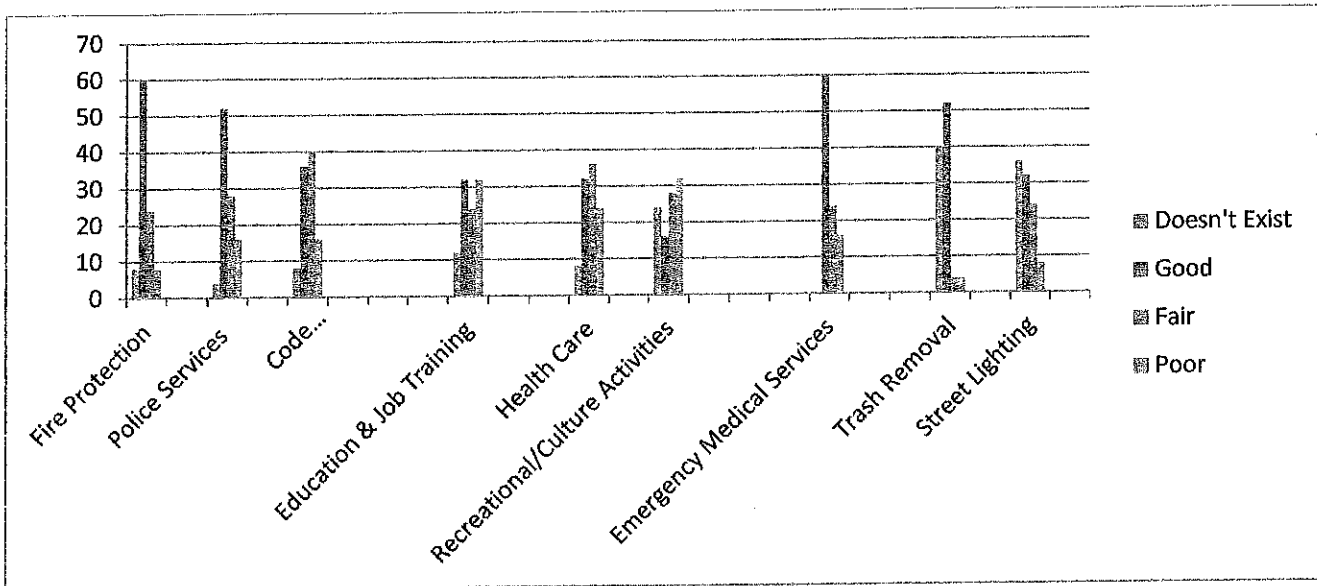
\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

# Fairfield County Community Needs Assessment 2011

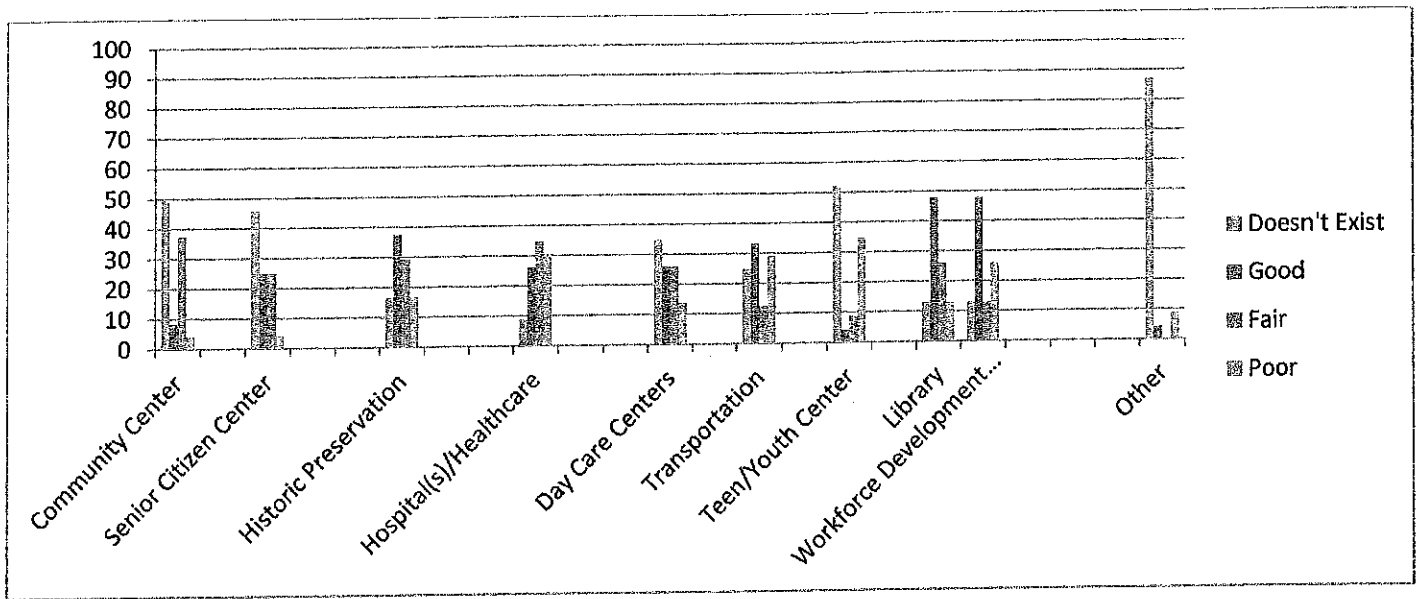
## A) Public Works infrastructure



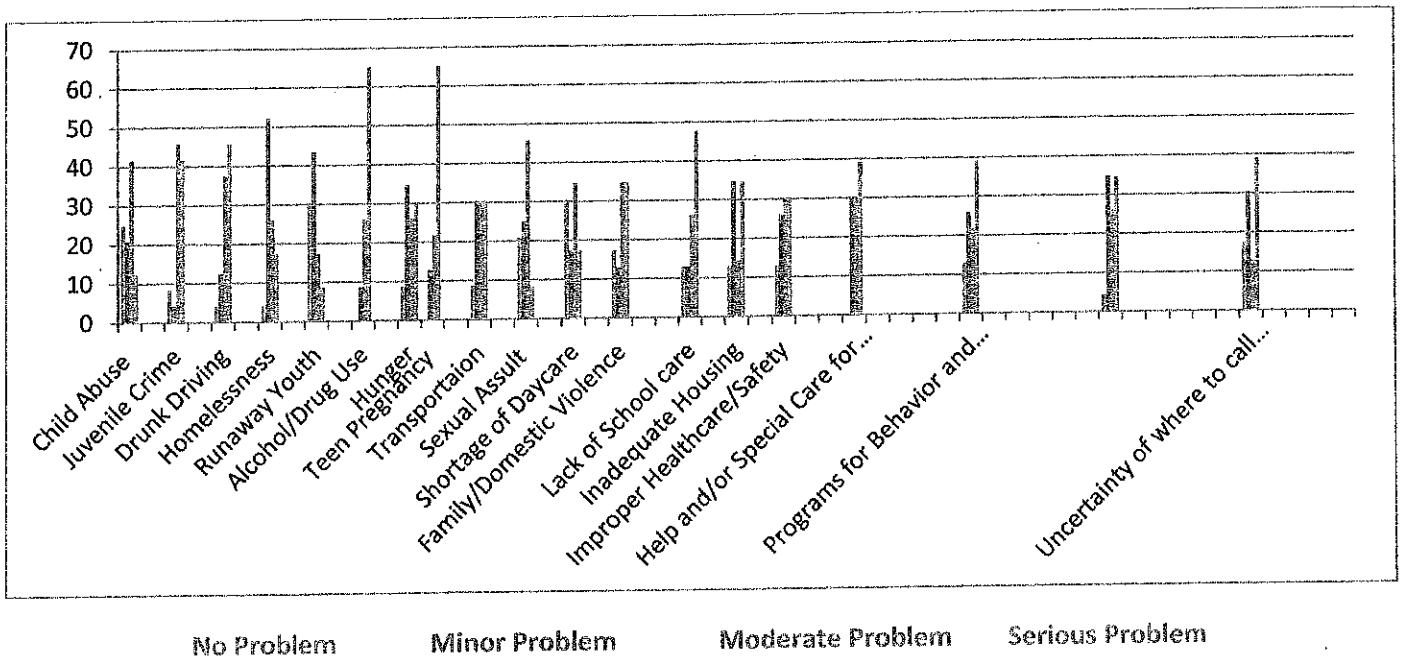
## B) Public Service



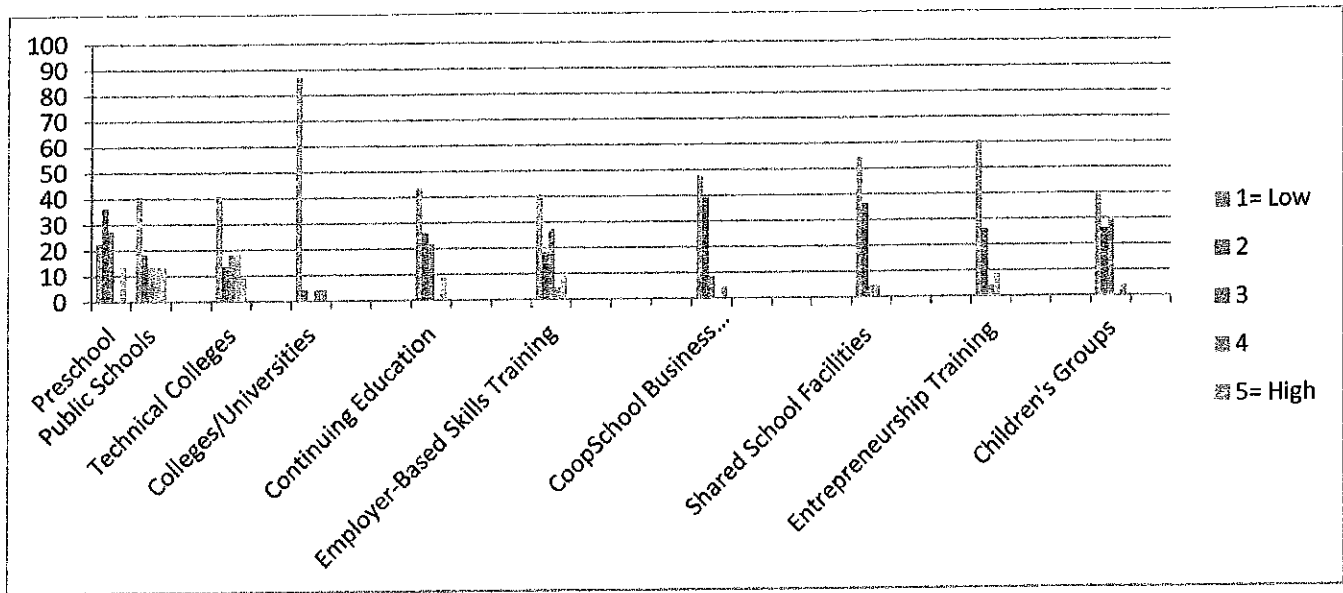
### C) Community Facilities



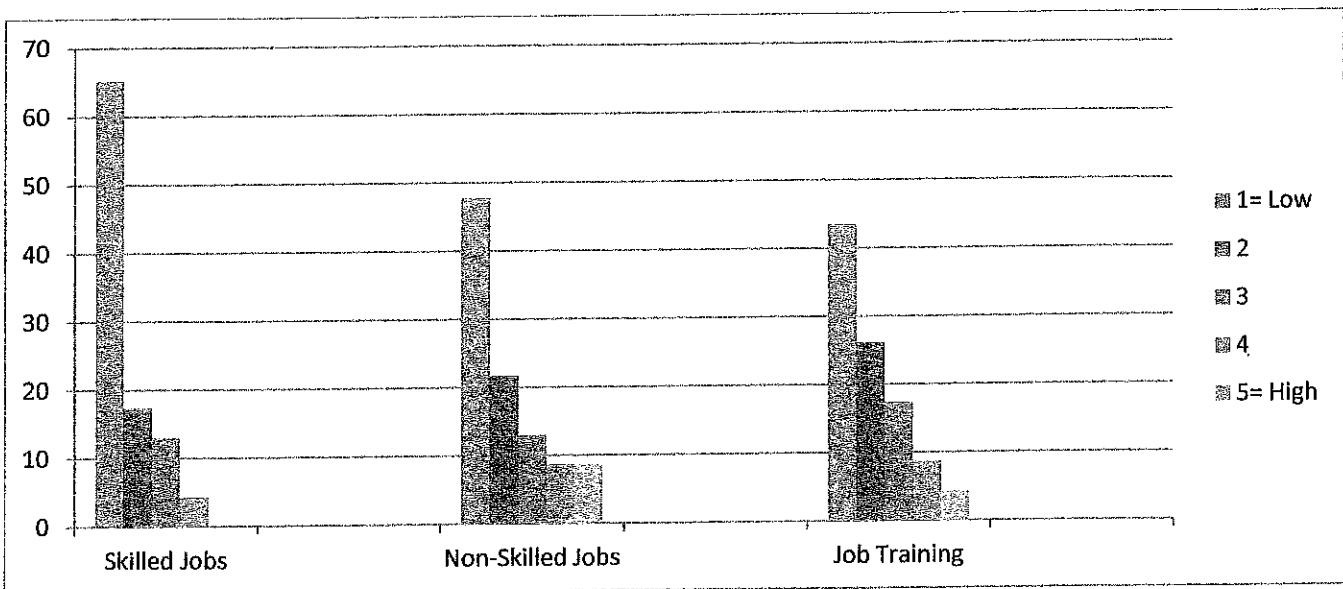
### D) Community Services



### E.) Education



### F.) Employment Opportunities



### Citizens Comments:

- 1) Need our recreation center to be run like YMCA. More cultural activities, more reading/library.
- 2) Kids have nowhere to go to socialize
- 3) Too few fire departments too far away.
- 4) Continue assistance to elderly through Council on Aging, Home Health & Meals on Wheels.
- 5) Ridgeway needs an EMS & Police station manned by County personnel.
- 6) A lot of sidewalks are uneven and roads (streets) have potholes.
- 7) Improvement in Public school.
- 8) Health care needs improvement.
- 9) Better building & zoning law enforcement.
- 10) Find new employers with need for U.S.A. Training for jobs, Jobs 40 hours a week with benefits.