

Chapter 7. Community Facilities Element

The most basic and essential services are provided through community facilities. Collectively known as the community infrastructure, these facilities include the buildings, facilities, lands and services to support the public health, safety and welfare of Kershaw County residents. These assets help shape daily living and work environments, provide the physical framework for the attraction of new businesses and employment opportunities, and provide a foundation for new growth and development. While many community facilities are provided or administered by the local government, others are offered by utilities, hospitals, schools, and nonprofits.

The Community Facilities Element provides an inventory and assessment of the facilities and services available in Kershaw County and its municipalities. The Element profiles community functions including: government, annexation, water and sewer service, utilities, solid waste collection, floodplain and stormwater management, fire and emergency medical services, police, education, health care, recreation and libraries.

A. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Governmental facilities house activities, persons, and records used in government operations - whether local, county, state or federal. The need for additional governmental facilities is directly related to the growth of a community, since the addition of more people, more homes, and additional businesses and industries prompt the need for new and expanded governmental services. In some cases, increased services can be accommodated using existing space. However, in many cases, a substantial increase in the level and scope of services requires additional operational space or access points.

1. Kershaw County

Named for Revolutionary War patriot Joseph Kershaw, the County was created in 1791 from portions of Claremont, Fairfield, Lancaster and Richland counties. The County is governed under a county administrator model, with a seven-member council comprised of six district representatives and a Chairman elected by the voting population at large. The County Administrator is appointed by the Kershaw County Council. Management of the County is carried out through a number of departments, each headed by elected or appointed officials. Kershaw County employs 539 staff.

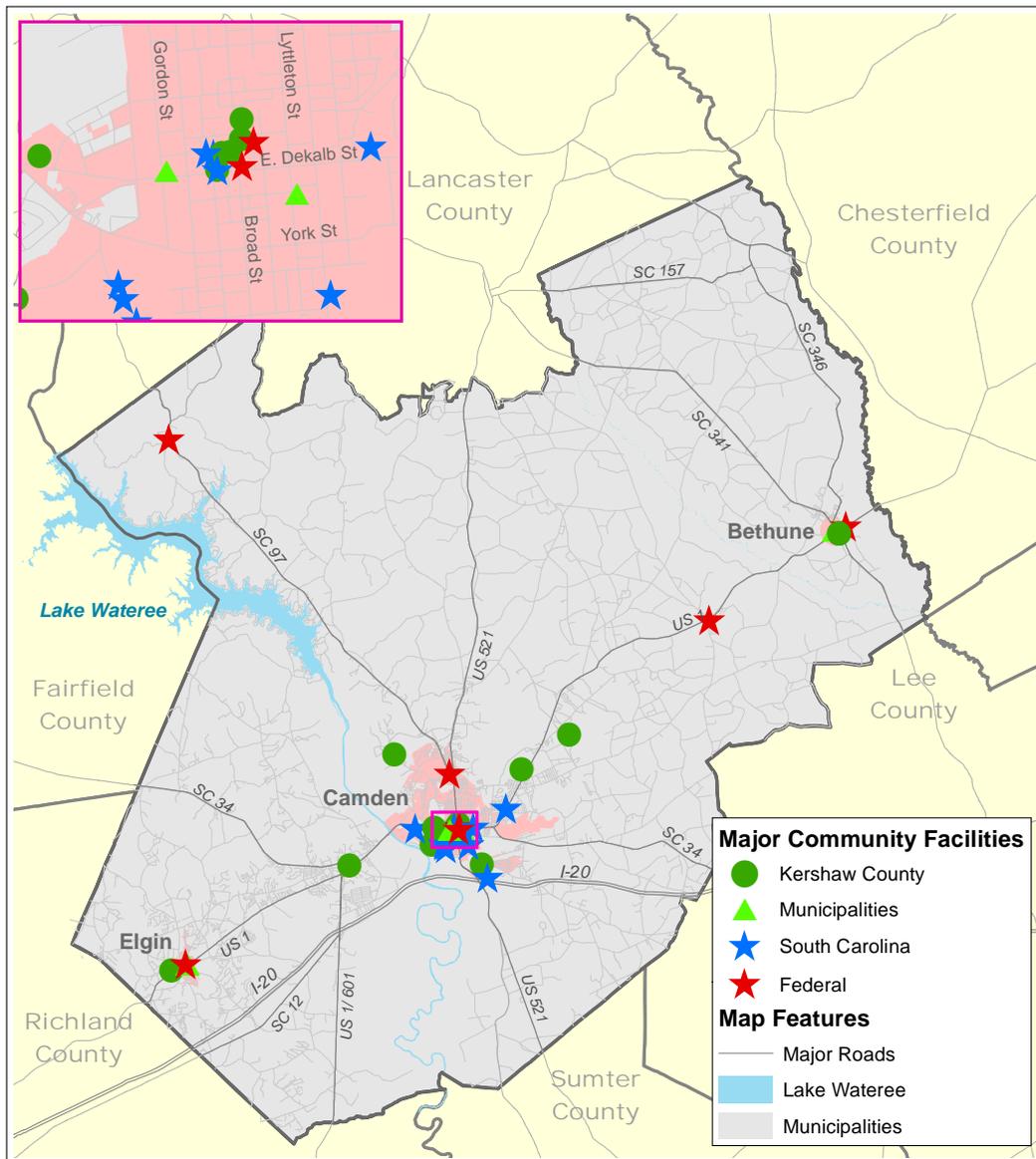
Kershaw County owns and maintains a number of public properties, with many located within the City of Camden. The locations of major facilities owned by Kershaw County, the County's municipalities, and local, State, and Federal facilities are listed in Table 7-1 and shown on Map 7-1.

Table 7-1. Major Community Facilities*

Facility	Location
Kershaw County	
Agricultural Building (Library Offices)	East DeKalb Street, Camden
Bethune Branch Library	Main Street, Bethune
Bethune Community Center	College Street East, Bethune
Elgin Branch Library	Main Street, Elgin
Kershaw County Airport/Freight Terminal Building	Airline Drive, Camden
Kershaw County (Camden) Library	Broad Street, Camden
Kershaw County Courthouse	Broad Street, Camden
Kershaw County Detention Center	Bramblewood Plantation Road, Camden
Kershaw County Government Center	Walnut Street, Camden
Kershaw County Humane Society	Black River Road, Camden
Kershaw County Recreation Department	West DeKalb Street, Camden
Kershaw County Law Enforcement Center	821 Ridgeway Road, Lugoff
Knights Hill Community Center	Knights Hill Road, Camden
Public Works Maintenance Building	Park Road, Cassatt
Voter Registration Building	Lafayette Street, Camden
Municipal	
Bethune Town Hall	Elm Street, Bethune
Camden City Hall	Lyttleton Street, Camden
Elgin Town Hall	Main Street, Elgin
State	
Central Carolina Technical College	Campus Drive, Camden
Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service	West DeKalb Street, Camden
National Guard Armory	Eherenclou Drive, Camden
S.C. Dept. of Disabilities and Special Needs	Jefferson Davis Highway, Camden
S.C. Dept. of Health and Environmental Control	Church Street, Camden
S.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services	East Dekalb Street, Camden
S.C. Dept. of Juvenile Justice Services	Church Street, Camden
S.C. Dept. of Motor Vehicles, S.C. Highway Patrol,	Eherenclou Drive, Camden
S.C. Dept. of Transportation Maintenance Branch	Fair Street, Camden
Federal	
Bethune Post Office	King Street East, Bethune
Camden Post Office	East DeKalb Street, Camden
Cassatt Post Office	U.S. Highway 1 North, Cassatt
Elgin Post Office	Church Street, Elgin
King Haigler Post Office	Liberty Hill Road, Camden
Liberty Hill Post Office	John G. Richards Road, Liberty Hill
Lugoff Post Office	Plaza Drive, Lugoff
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Service Center	Little Street, Camden
Westville Post Office	Kershaw Highway, Westville

* Additional facilities are included in maps throughout the Element

Map 7-1. Local, State and Federal Facilities, 2017



Sources: Kershaw County Information Services Department, February 2017;
 City of Camden Building, Planning and Zoning Department, October 2016

2. Kershaw County Municipalities

There are three municipalities in Kershaw County, including the City of Camden and the Towns of Bethune and Elgin. The **City of Camden** is South Carolina’s oldest inland city with a rich history that dates back to its establishment in 1730 as part of a township plan ordered by King George II. Joseph Kershaw established a store in the area originally called Fredericksburg, and then Pine Tree Hill, that became the main inland trade center of the South Carolina colony. The town was renamed Camden in 1768 in honor of Lord Camden, a champion of colonial rights in the British Parliament. Officially incorporated in 1890, the City of Camden now covers 11.7 square miles.

The City of Camden is also the county seat of Kershaw County. The City operates under the council/manager form of government in which the City Council acts as the governing body, while the City Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the City. The Council is comprised of four members and the Mayor, all elected at-large. Most of the administrative functions of the City of Camden are housed in the City Hall, located on Lyttleton Street. The City employs 158 full-time staff.

The **Town of Bethune** was originally established in 1828 as Lynchwood. The Town was renamed to Bethune after local landowner Daniel Murdock Bethune upon its incorporation in 1900. Bethune is approximately one square mile in size and is governed by a mayor/council form of government, with the mayor and four council members elected at-large.

The **Town of Elgin** was originally incorporated as the “Town of Blaney” in 1908, in honor of a New York Banker who helped to fund the railroad expansion that spurred growth in the area. Residents voted to change the name of the town to Elgin in the 1960s, to recognize the location of the Elgin National Watch Company to the area. Elgin is approximately one square mile in size and is governed by a mayor/council form of government, with the mayor and four council members elected at-large.

3. County Boards and Commissions

All jurisdictions in South Carolina that regulate land use, including Kershaw County, must have a **planning commission** and a **board of zoning appeals**. Members of both bodies are appointed by the governing body (county, city or town council) of the jurisdiction covered.

The duty of the planning commission is to develop and carry out a continuing planning program for the physical, social, and economic growth, development and redevelopment of the community. The planning commission directs the development and update of the comprehensive plan and advises the governing body on the adoption of the plan. It also directs the preparation and update of land use regulations, including the zoning ordinance and land development regulations, and provides recommendations on the adoption of such regulations to the governing body. The **Kershaw County Planning and Zoning Commission** is comprised of seven members appointed by County Council.

The role of the **Kershaw County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA)** is quasi-judicial, and includes considering appeals to determinations made by the Zoning Administrator and special exceptions. The Board also conducts hearings and rulings on variance applications from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance. The **Kershaw County BZA** includes five members who are appointed by County Council.

4. Annexation

Per South Carolina law, annexation of any area or property which is contiguous to a municipality may be initiated by filing with the municipal governing body a petition signed by all

persons (100%) owning real estate in the area requesting annexation. The annexation is complete upon agreement to accept the petition and annex the area along with the subsequent enactment of an ordinance by the governing body declaring the area annexed. This option is most often used when all of the properties involved in the annexation are under the same ownership.

Annexation of any area or property which is contiguous to a municipality may also be initiated by filing with the municipal governing body a petition signed by 75% or more of the freeholders owning at least 75% of the assessed value of property in the area to be annexed. The annexation is complete upon agreement to accept the petition and annex the area, compliance with required procedures, and enactment of an ordinance by the governing body declaring the area annexed. The 75% petition method of annexation requires the annexing municipality to conduct a public hearing. During the public hearing, the municipality must present a statement addressing which public services the municipality will assume or provide, the taxes and fees required for the proposed services, and a timetable for services. While no other annexation method has this requirement, feasibility of providing services is an important consideration for any proposed annexation.

Property annexed pursuant to State law must be “contiguous” to the annexing municipality. “Contiguous” means property which is adjacent to a municipality and shares a continuous border. Contiguity is not established by a road, waterway, right-of-way, easement, railroad track, marshland, or utility line which connects one property to another. However, if the connecting road, waterway, easement, railroad track, marshland, or utility line intervenes between two properties, which but for the intervening connector would be adjacent and share a continuous border, the intervening connector does not impede contiguity.

The third annexation option, the 25% petition and election method, was deemed constitutional after an amendment to the original annexation provisions in 2000. This method requires a petition of 25% of qualified electors residing in the area to be annexed. The petition is filed with the municipal council, which certifies the petition to the County election commission by resolution. The election commission then orders an election to be held within the area proposed to be annexed. If a majority of qualified electors in the subject area vote in favor of annexation, the council, by written resolution, must publish the results of the election. Residents of the municipality then have an option to submit a petition in opposition to the annexation. If no opposing petition (signed by 5% or more of the electors within the municipality) is received, then the annexation is adopted by ordinance. If an opposing petition is received, the matter is decided by a municipal election. The procedure for this annexation method is specified in detail in the statute and must be carefully followed.

The **City of Camden** has several policies in place that encourage annexation. Sewer service is not provided to properties that are outside of the City limits. The cost of water for properties with pre-existing sewer service that are outside of the City is higher than the cost for properties within the City. Properties within the Camden Fire District but outside of the City of Camden must pay a fire protection fee. From 2007 through 2016 there were 31 annexations into the

City totaling more than 1,121 acres. More than 1,004 acres of land were annexed into the City in 2007. The largest annexation over the last ten years consisted of 849.75 acres of land off of S.C. Highway 34 and included the Hermitage Mill Pond. Other annexations of note include the 57.3 acre Bridlewood Farms subdivision annexation in 2008, the 2011 Kershaw County School District annexation of 28.5 acres on West Dekalb Street, and the 2013 annexation of 16.29 acres on West Dekalb Street.

Annexations have been less prevalent in the County's smaller municipalities. There have been a number of smaller annexations into the **Town of Elgin** since 2007 that total 37.25 acres. The annexation of 21.8 acres in 2010 on Bowen Street (Woodland Palms subdivision) accounted for more than half (58.5%) of the total acres annexed over the ten-year period. Most recent annexations into the Town of Elgin have been smaller individual residential properties. There have been no annexations within the last decade in the **Town of Bethune**.

B. STATE AND FEDERAL FACILITIES

A number of federal facilities are located in Kershaw County as listed in Table 7-1 and illustrated in Map 7-1. There are eight post offices in the County with locations in Bethune, Cassatt, Elgin, Liberty Hill, Lugoff, Westville, and two in Camden on East Dekalb Street and Liberty Hill Road. A U.S. Department of Agriculture Service Center is on Little Street in Camden.

The County's major State facilities are located in the Camden area, which is the historic center of commerce in the County as well as the County seat (Map 7-1). These include the Kershaw County campus of Central Carolina Technical College, the Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service, National Guard Armory, Kershaw County offices of the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, S.C. Department of Health and Human Services, S.C. Department of Juvenile Justice Services, S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, the S.C. Highway Patrol, and the Kershaw County Maintenance Branch of the S.C. Department of Transportation.

C. UTILITIES

Like all communities, the vitality, growth and development pattern of Kershaw County depends on a reliable and accessible network of public and private utilities and infrastructure. Utilities include the provision of water, wastewater disposal, solid waste disposal, electricity, and access to reliable telecommunications (telephone, cable, and internet access). Not only are these services essential for individuals, they are also vital to businesses and service providers and impact the long-term growth and development potential of the County and its municipalities. The availability of water and sewer determines the suitability of an area for future development. Ready access effects the location and affordability of residential development and is a key factor weighed by business and industry in site selection.

1. Water Service, Treatment and Distribution

Access to water service plays an important role in the development patterns of a community. Residential development outside of water service areas must utilize wells, adding to the initial cost of each residential unit. Many businesses and industries require the reliability and access to water that only a public utility can provide. Water service is provided to Kershaw County residents primarily by five water systems – Bethune Rural Water, the Town of Bethune, the City of Camden, the Kershaw-Lee County Rural Water Authority (also known as Cassatt Water), and the Lugoff-Elgin Water Authority (Table 7-2).

Table 7-2. Public Water Systems in Kershaw County, 2016

Water System Name	Customers	Primary Water Source Type
Bethune Rural Water	1,085	Groundwater
Bethune, Town of	265	Groundwater
Camden, City of	6,900	Surface water
Kershaw-Lee County Rural Water Authority (Cassatt Water)	24,300	Ground water
Lugoff-Elgin Water Authority	7,300	Surface water

Source: U.S. EPA, Envirofacts, November 2016

The **Bethune Rural Water Company, Inc.** is a not-for-profit, membership-owned corporation that provides water to customers in the northeastern area of Kershaw County. Bethune Rural Water uses four deep wells drawn from the Middendorf Aquifer, with water treated onsite and distributed to its 1,085 customers.

The **Town of Bethune** provides water to 265 customers within the Town. The municipal system water is also drawn from the Middendorf Aquifer and treated onsite before distribution. Construction of a major upgrade that will include a state-of-the-art chemical monitoring system is expected to begin in 2018.

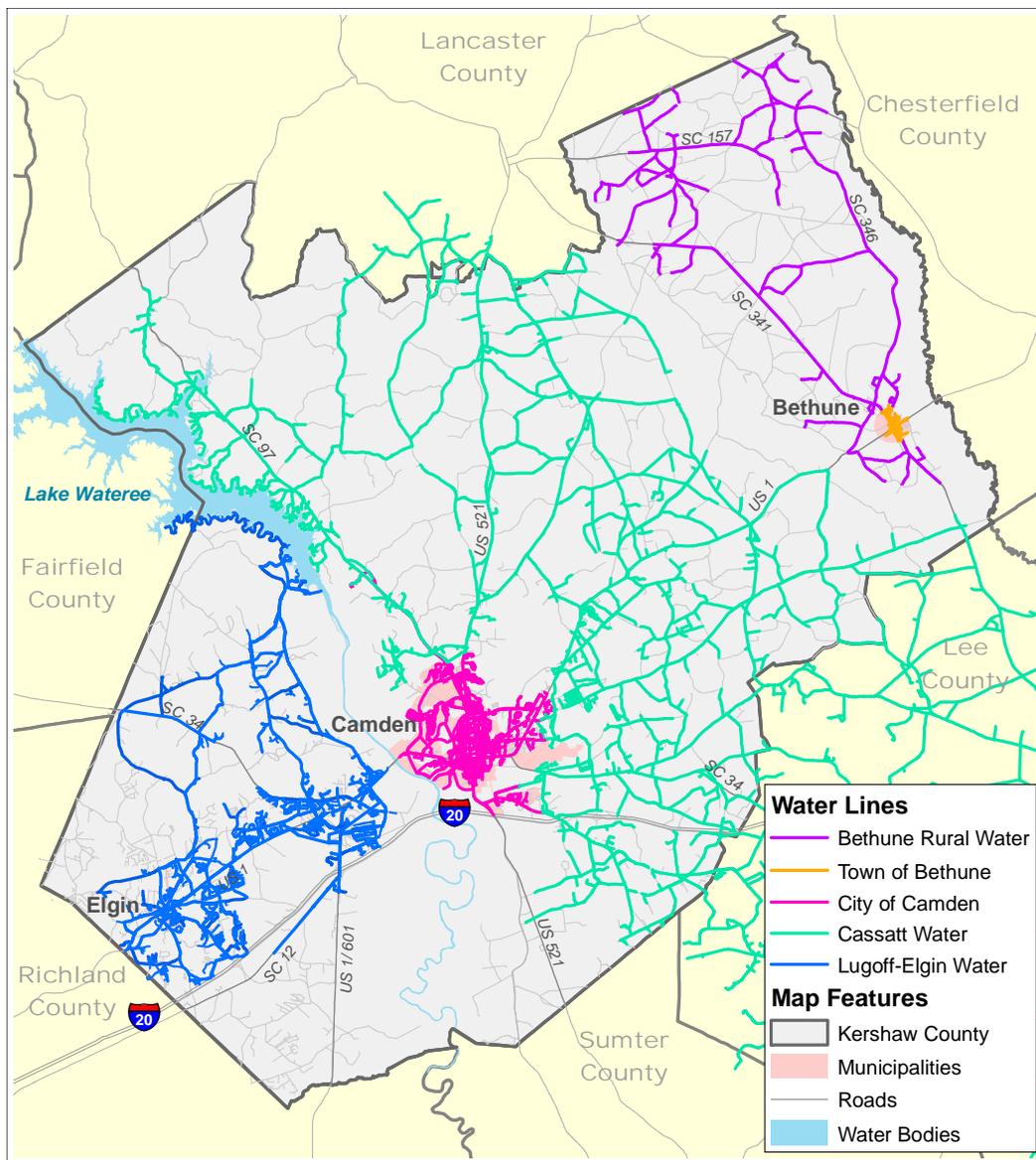
The **City of Camden** provides water to approximately 6,900 customers within the City and adjacent areas. Raw surface water from Lake Wateree is treated at the City's Water Treatment Plant, which has a capacity of six million gallons per day (MGD), with an average daily flow of 2.5 MGD.

The **Kershaw County and Lee County Regional Water Authority** (Cassatt Water) is a special purpose district providing water to approximately 24,300 customers. The 764 square mile service area stretches from north central to south central Kershaw County and portions of Lee, Sumter and Lancaster Counties. The Authority draws ground water from 12 wells and treats the water onsite for distribution to its customers.

The **Lugoff-Elgin Water Authority** is a special purpose district that provides water to more than 7,300 customers in Kershaw, Fairfield, and Richland Counties. Water for the system is drawn

from Lake Wateree and treated at the Authority’s water treatment plant, which has a design capacity of 6 MGD and an average daily flow of 3 MGD.

Map 7-2. Public Water Facilities, 2016



Sources: Kershaw County Information Services Department, July 2016;
City of Camden, August 2016; Santee Lynches COG, August 2016

2. Wastewater

The availability of sewer service is critical to supporting higher density residential development, educational and health care facilities, as well as the location or expansion of business and industry. Residential development outside of sewer service areas must utilize septic systems, adding to the initial cost of each residential unit through installation and maintenance costs, as well as larger lot requirements. State law requires that a parcel of land proposed for a septic

system be capable of supporting proper operation of the individual system. Suitability criteria are based on factors including soil type and parcel size. Although larger lots can generally mean higher costs per residence, it should be noted that septic systems are most often employed in the more rural areas of the County where land prices tend to be lower. For most businesses and industries, the availability of sewer service is requisite for new facility location.

Wastewater management in Kershaw County is primarily provided by three wastewater treatment facilities – the City of Camden Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), the Kershaw County/Lugoff Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF), and Palmetto Utility’s Spears Creek WWTP. Information on the management, discharge, and capacity for these management facilities is summarized in Table 7-3. Sewer line data was not available for Palmetto Utilities facilities and is not included in Map 7-3.

Table 7-3. Major Wastewater Management Facilities in Kershaw County, 2016

Facility Name	Management Agency	Receiving Water	Permitted Capacity
City of Camden WWTP	City of Camden	Wateree River	4.0 MGD
Kershaw County/Lugoff WWTF	Kershaw County	Wateree River	2.0 MGD
Spears Creek WWTP	Palmetto Utilities	Wateree River	6.0 MGD

Source: U.S. EPA, Envirofacts, November 2016

Public wastewater management in Kershaw County is provided by three facilities. The **City of Camden** provides wastewater treatment to more than 3,950 customers within the City, as well as areas outside of the City northward along S.C. Highway 97 and eastward between U.S. Highways 1 and 521. Collected wastewater is treated at the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) before being discharged into the Wateree River. The City’s WWTP is classified as a major municipal facility, with a permitted capacity of 4.0 MGD and a permitted flow of 2.6 MGD.

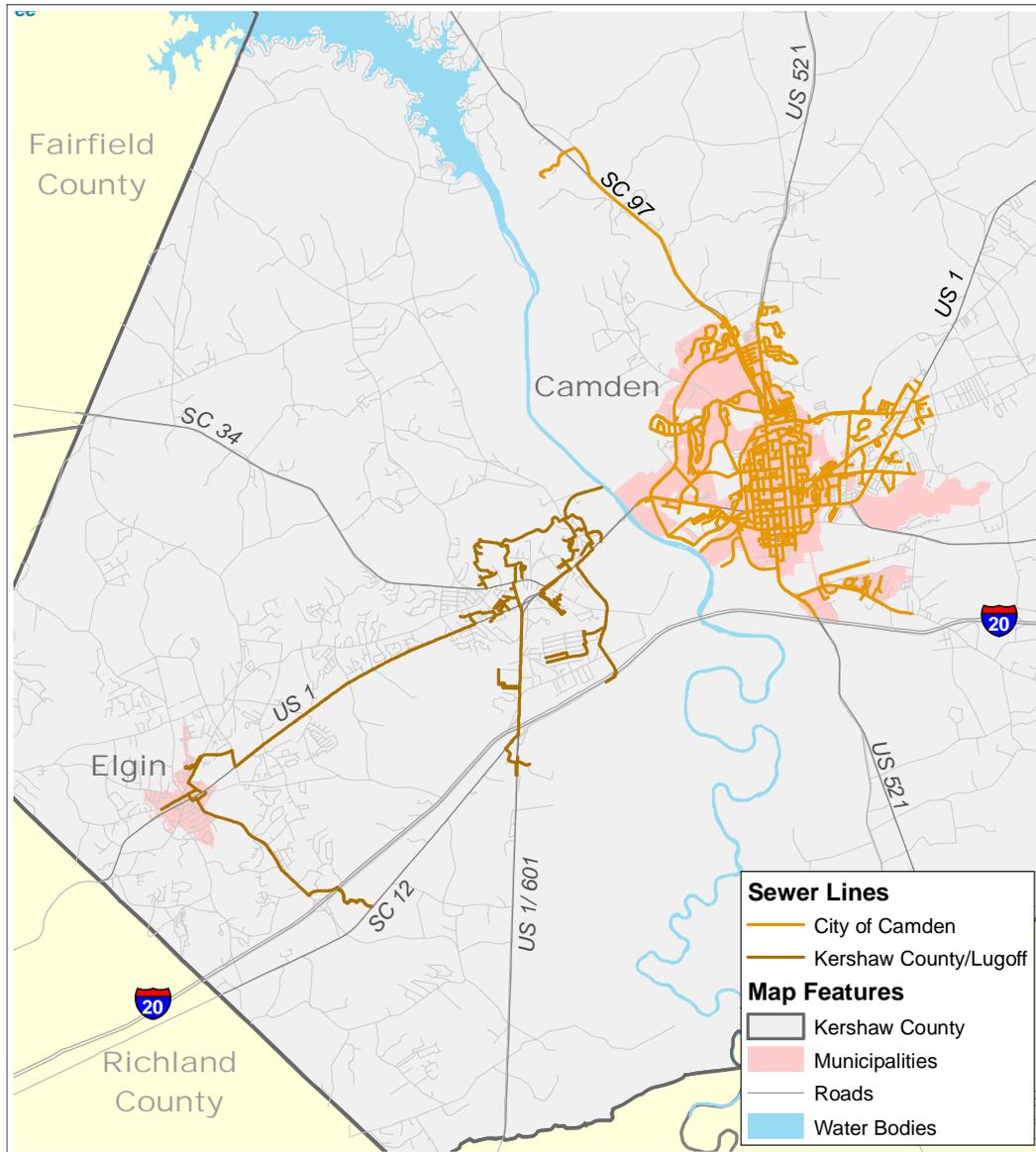
Kershaw County provides wastewater treatment for 1,739 customers in the West Wateree area that includes the Town of Elgin, the Lugoff community, and the U.S. Highway 1 corridor. Collected wastewater is treated at the Kershaw County/Lugoff Wastewater Treatment Plant before discharge into the Wateree River. The Plant is classified as a minor municipal facility and has a permitted capacity of 2.0 MGD. Permitted flow is 0.45 MGD.

Palmetto Utilities, Inc. is authorized under the *Upper Wateree Agreement*, as amended, with SCDHEC, Central Midlands COG, Santee Lynches COG, Richland County, the City of Camden, and Kershaw County to provide wastewater treatment services to a large portion of the Midlands. The company is a component of Ni American, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Pacolet Milliken Enterprises, LLC. The Palmetto Utilities service area includes three Kershaw County subdivisions located in the unincorporated area of the West Wateree area – Kelsney Ridge, Heath Pond, and Wood Trace. Any change to the service area must be approved through an amendment to the Upper Wateree Agreement. Collected wastewater from these customers is treated at the Spears Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant before being discharged into the



Wateree River. The Spears Creek WWTP is classified as a minor domestic facility with a permitted capacity of 6.0 MGD. Palmetto Utilities is currently in the process of upgrading the Spears Creek WWTP. The company recently completed construction of a pipeline that connects the Spears Creek WWTP to the company’s NPDES discharge point on the Wateree River. The alignment of the pipeline generally follows I-20 from the WWTP to the River.

Map 7-3. Major Sewer Facilities, 2016



Sources: Kershaw County Information Services Department, July 2016;
City of Camden, August 2016; Santee Lynches COG, August 2016

3. Energy Sources

Electricity is the primary source of energy for Kershaw County residents, followed by natural gas (Table 7-4). Nearly three-fourths (73%) of County homes are heated with electricity and nearly

18% are heated with natural gas. Similarly, 77% of homes in the Town of Elgin rely on electricity for heat and 22% use natural gas. However, natural gas is the leading source of heating for residents of the County’s other municipalities, comprising 54% of homes in Camden and 50.4% in Bethune. Electricity is the secondary heating source in these jurisdictions at 42.5% in Camden and 46.8% in Bethune.

Table 7-4. Heating Fuels for Occupied Housing Units, 2014

Heating Fuels	Kershaw County		South Carolina	
	#	%	#	%
All Occupied Housing Units	24,061	100.00%	1,795,715	100.00%
Utility (natural) gas	4,283	17.80%	416,453	23.19%
Bottled, tank, or LP gas	1,373	5.71%	79,959	4.45%
Electricity	17,624	73.25%	1,246,660	69.42%
Fuel oil, kerosene, etc.	345	1.43%	23,514	1.31%
Coal or coke	12	0.05%	279	0.02%
Wood	287	1.19%	20,270	1.13%
Solar energy	8	0.03%	212	0.01%
Other fuel	13	0.05%	2,026	0.11%
No fuel used	116	0.48%	6,342	0.35%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey

a. Electrical Transmission and Distribution

The **City of Camden** provides power to approximately 11,000 customers in portions of Kershaw, Lee and Sumter counties. In Kershaw County, the City is the electric provider for customers within the City, as well as several adjacent unincorporated areas. The City system includes approximately 340 miles of electric lines and three electric substations that are connected by fiber optic cable.

Duke Energy Carolinas provides electric service to areas on the Lugoff side of Lake Wateree in Kershaw County. Both Lake Wateree and the Wateree Hydroelectric Station are owned and managed by Duke Energy. Headquartered in nearby Charlotte, Duke Energy is a Fortune 250 company and the largest electric power holding company in the United States. Duke Energy serves approximately 7.3 million electric retail customers, with approximately 730,000 customers in South Carolina. The parent company operates nuclear, coal-fired, oil- and natural gas-fired, and hydroelectric power plants. The service area of Duke Energy Carolinas covers approximately 24,000 square miles and supplies electric service to 2.5 million customers in North and South Carolina. Also part of Duke Energy, **Duke Energy Progress** provides electric service to portions of Bethune, Lugoff, and the Boykin area. Duke Energy Progress serves approximately 1.5 million customers in a service area that spans 32,000 square miles in North and South Carolina.

South Carolina Electric and Gas (SCE&G) provides electric service to residents in a small southern area of Kershaw County near the Richland County line. SCE&G is the principal



subsidiary of SCANA Corporation, a \$12 billion Fortune 500 energy company with businesses that include regulated electric and natural gas utility operations and telecommunications. The company generates, transmits, distributes and sells electricity to approximately 659,000 retail and wholesale customers throughout South Carolina. The SCE&G service territory covers 23,000 square miles and stretches from the Lowcountry region through the Midlands and to the Piedmont region of the Upstate.

Several electric cooperatives serve customers in Kershaw County, with each organized as a member-owned autonomous organization. The **Fairfield Electric Cooperative** (FEC) provides electric service to customers in an area north of U.S. Highway 1 above Lugoff and Elgin to Springvale Road, an area south of Elgin to I-20, and an area south of I-20 that extends to the County line. FEC is a not-for-profit electric distribution cooperative that serves more than 27,000 customers in Fairfield, Kershaw, Richland, Chester, and York Counties.

The **Black River Electric Cooperative** provides electric service to customers in much of western Kershaw County, including the Town of Bethune and the communities of Cassatt, Rembert, and Boykin. The Cooperative serves the rural areas of Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, and Sumter Counties, with a territory that is generally bordered to the east by the Lynches River and to the west by the Wateree River. The service area begins in northern Kershaw County and continues south to the Santee Lakes. The Cooperative provides service to more than 31,000 meters through 3,400 miles of electric lines.

Lynches River Electric Cooperative provides service to customers in the northern area of Kershaw County that includes the Buffalo, Mt. Pisgah, Bethune, and Westville areas, as well as areas near Lake Wateree on the Camden side of the Lake. Lynches River provides service to more than 20,000 customers in Chesterfield, Kershaw, and Lancaster counties and is the 13th largest electric cooperative in South Carolina.

The **Tri-County Electric Cooperative** provides electric service to customers in a small southern portion of the County near the Richland County line. The Cooperative provides electric service to more than 17,860 customers through nearly 2,700 miles of electric line.

b. Natural Gas

South Carolina Electric and Gas (SCE&G) is the sole provider of natural gas in Kershaw County. SCE&G delivers natural gas to approximately 349,000 customers in 35 of the State's 46 counties through 9,064 miles of pipeline. The company purchases natural gas for delivery from the Dominion Company, Transco Pipeline, and Southern Natural Pipeline. SCE&G operates two liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities in that have the capacity to hold 23 million gallons of LNG, which when required can supply an addition 105 million cubic feet of natural gas per day through its local distributions systems (*SC Energy Office, SC Natural Gas Infrastructure, 2016*).

c. Energy Conservation

Community facilities have substantial influence on energy usage patterns and provide an effective arena for the introduction and implementation of local energy conservation measures. While most community facilities are provided and maintained by local government, some facilities such as roads and educational centers are built and maintained by the state or federal government. Efforts to reduce energy consumption and mitigate rising energy costs have come to the forefront for many local governments and public institutions as they struggle to meet escalating costs, while maintaining current service levels within the confines of a limited budget. As high-profile energy consumers, these entities have a responsibility to promote energy conservation through the efficient use of energy within their operations. In addition to the significant energy cost savings that can be realized through energy conservation within public institutions, successful programs can also encourage private entities and citizens to conserve energy.

Local governments are among the leading consumers of energy within a community. This is due in large part to the size of public buildings and facilities, coupled with the fact that such facilities are often older and less energy-efficient. As high-profile energy consumers, local governments and institutions have a tremendous opportunity and responsibility to promote energy conservation through the efficient use of energy within their operations. In addition to the significant energy cost savings that can be realized through energy conservation within public institutions, successful programs can also encourage private entities and citizens to conserve energy. Local government conservation efforts typically fall into one of several categories: administration, policies, and employee education; community facility site selection; building efficiency and site design; facility management; and fleet efficiency.

Locally, both Kershaw County and the City of Camden have implemented conservation measures in recent years. Kershaw County developed an Energy Conservation Plan in 2010 that organized an energy team and provided a policy statement and energy conservation strategies, including actions to be taken and resources needed for each strategy. Strategies include: implementing energy conservation measures; integrating energy use considerations in capital, maintenance and operations planning; fostering a culture of energy awareness; improving fleet vehicle efficiency; reducing water consumption; and employing effective recycling techniques throughout county government. The County obtained funding through the Federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) in 2009 that was used to upgrade from florescent lighting to more energy efficient fixtures in the Courthouse, Voter Registration, Agricultural, and Department of Juvenile Justice/Probation buildings, as well as the Camden Library.

The City of Camden used EECBG funding awarded in 2009 to install energy efficient light fixtures in a number of buildings; upgrade HVAC units and install programmable thermostats and light fixtures in City Hall, the Police Department, and a fire station; and replace windows and insulation in City Hall. The City also purchased and implemented a Supervisory Control and

Data Acquisition system for its Electric Department that has the ability to reduce peak demands through voltage reduction at substations by 5%.

D. STORMWATER AND FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces such as parking lots, driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground. Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and discharge them into a storm sewer system or directly into a lake, stream, river, or wetland. Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals, and humans.

South Carolina Storm Water Regulations are enforced by SCDHEC in Kershaw County. The regulations require developments to keep stormwater on-site in the event of a ten-year, 24-hour storm event. Land disturbing activities greater than one acre in size must meet the requirements for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit, which is issued by SCDHEC. NPDES is a regulatory program created under the Clean Water Act. Under the NPDES Permit Program, stormwater discharges are considered point sources and operators of these sources are required to receive an NPDES permit before discharging stormwater runoff.

A number of local governments in the State have been granted Delegated Review Authority for stormwater management and sediment control by SCDHEC per *SC Code of Laws § 48-40-60*, which enables local review of stormwater erosion and control activities. These jurisdictions each adopted a local stormwater management and sediment control ordinance that is administered by a SCDHEC Certified Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Inspector who is an employee of the jurisdiction. Jurisdictions such as Kershaw County and its municipalities that have not been granted review authority rely on SCDHEC for administration and enforcement of stormwater regulations.

Encouragement of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for construction and land disturbance at the local level is a key tool in protecting water quality in the lakes, rivers, streams, and other water bodies within the County. The promotion of Low Impact Development (LID) is another way that jurisdictions can protect and improve water quality. The goal of LID is to mimic a site's predevelopment hydrology by using design techniques that infiltrate, filter, store, evaporate, and detain runoff close to its source through the use of measures such as vegetated buffers, swales, and permeable surfaces. Instead of conveying and managing stormwater through large and costly pipe drainage systems, LID addresses stormwater through smaller, cost-effective landscaping measures installed on the affected property. According to information provided by SCDHEC, LID is a more environmentally sound technology and a more economically sustainable approach to addressing the adverse impacts of urbanization. By managing runoff close to its source through informed design, LID can enhance the local environment, protect public health, and improve community livability, while saving developers and local governments money.

Floodplains are areas that consist of a stream or river (floodway) and the adjacent areas that have been or can be covered by water (floodway fringe). Floodplains perform a critical function by temporarily storing and carrying floodwaters, reducing potential flood peaks, recharging groundwater supplies, and providing plant and animal habitats. Development within a floodplain expands the floodplain boundary and increases the volume of runoff, making more areas and properties susceptible to flooding. Local development review processes should ensure that new construction and activity will not increase flooding on adjacent and nearby properties. Federal, state and local regulation of floodplains is discussed in more detail in Chapter 5 – Natural Resources Element.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency manages the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). In South Carolina, the Flood Mitigation Office of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) administers the NFIP with financial support from FEMA. Nearly 20,000 communities across the United States and its territories participate in the NFIP by adopting and enforcing flood plain management ordinances to reduce future flood damage. In exchange, the NFIP makes federally-backed flood insurance available to homeowners, renters, and business owners in these communities. Community participation in the NFIP is voluntary.

Floodplain management at the local level involves the operation of a community program of corrective and preventative measures for reducing flood damage. These measures take a variety of forms and generally include requirements for zoning, subdivision or building, and special-purpose floodplain ordinances. As an NFIP participant, each community agrees to:

- Adopt and enforce a flood damage prevention ordinance;
- Require permits for all types of development within the floodplain;
- Assure that building sites are reasonably safe from flooding;
- Estimate flood elevations that have not been determined by FEMA;
- Require new or improved homes to be elevated above the Base Flood Elevation;
- Require other buildings to be elevated or flood-proofed;
- Conduct field inspections and cite violations;
- Require Elevation Certificates to document compliance;
- Carefully consider requests for variances;
- Resolve non-compliance and violations; and
- Advise FEMA when updates to flood maps are needed.

Map 5-14 in the *Natural Resources Element* provides the location of Special Flood Hazard areas, or flood plains, within Kershaw County. Special Flood Hazard Areas denoted as “A” or “AE” zones, also known as 100-year flood zones, are located along the shores of Lake Wateree and the Wateree, Lynches, and Little Lynches Rivers, as well as many of the County’s major creeks and tributaries. Areas denoted as “X” zones, or 500-year flood zones, are located on the fringe of major water bodies, including the lakes, rivers, and creeks, with the largest zone located in

the southernmost area of the County east of the Wateree River. Floodways are located within floodplains along the Wateree River and its tributaries. However, it is important to note that specific floodplain determinations are made by the Kershaw County Floodplain Manager in consultation with FEMA mapping. FEMA is in the process of updating the Kershaw County flood maps, with release of the new maps anticipated in late 2017. Preliminary drafts were made available for public review in the fall of 2016 and are also available on the FEMA website (www.floodfind.com/south-carolina-flood-maps).

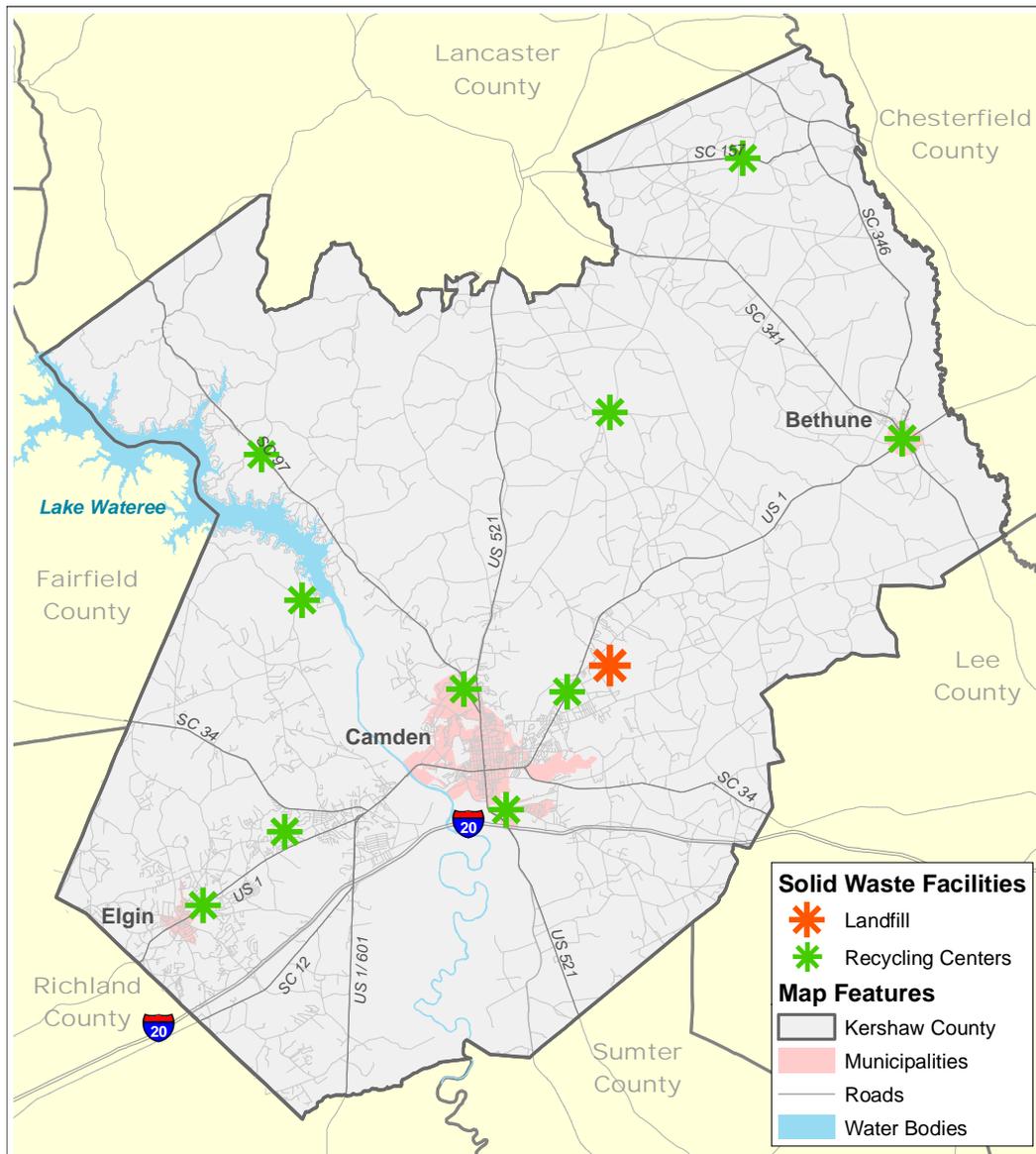
Kershaw County and the City of Camden are participants in the Federal Flood Insurance Program. As required by FEMA, the County adopted a *Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance* in 2006. The City of Camden adopted a *Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance* in October 1983. As participating jurisdictions, the County and City are required to review each building permit application for proximity to flood prone areas identified by FEMA.

E. SOLID WASTE

Kershaw County operates ten solid waste recycling centers located throughout the County for disposal of household waste and recyclables (Map 7-4). The recycling centers are for residential use only and do not accept commercial waste. Accepted items include household garbage, yard debris, tires, batteries, white goods (refrigerators, home appliances, etc.), E-waste (computers, TVs, electronics, etc.), used oil and oil filters, antifreeze, yard debris, and construction and demolition waste materials. Household waste from the collection centers is transported to the Richland County landfill and yard debris is taken to the Kershaw County Landfill. Recyclables are also taken to the County Landfill, where they are sorted and sent to vendors for recycling. The City of Camden provides residential curbside collection that includes recycling of items including paper, plastic containers, cardboard, and aluminum and steel cans.

The Kershaw County Landfill was built in 1993 and is a Class 2 landfill that collects construction and demolition debris and yard waste. The landfill property is 860 acres, of which 25% is approved for waste disposal. The County landfill receives approximately 2,500 tons of waste per month and is expected to be viable until 2050, if not longer. Currently there are no future plans to expand or improve the landfill.

Map 7-4. Solid Waste Facilities, 2016



Source: Kershaw County Information Services Department, 2016

F. EDUCATION

Education is a lifelong process that consists of two components. The first is a high quality foundation of basic education through the PK-12 system that is followed by an on-going individualized pathway of higher education and advanced career training opportunities. Communities that promote a philosophy of lifelong learning among residents are better positioned to successfully compete in a global economy. The average American worker now changes jobs five times or more over a working lifetime, making access to advanced workforce training programs an integral component of community and individual economic sustainability. Central Carolina Technical College (CCTC), with two Kershaw County campuses located in downtown Camden and the Steeplechase Industrial Park at I-20 and U.S. Highway 521, provides

County residents with a greater level of access to research resources, meeting and conference facilities, and advanced training and distance and continuing education opportunities. In addition, a number of public and private postsecondary institutions are located within commuting distance for County residents in neighboring Richland County. The locations of K-12 schools and the Central Carolina Technical College campus are shown on Map 7-5 and profiled in the following sections, along with private schools.

1. Kershaw County School District

The Kershaw County School District provides educational services to more than 10,800 students, with an annual budget that exceeds \$75 million. The District employs more than 1,570 administrators, teachers and support staff. S.C. Department of Education headcount and report card data indicate the District has the 20th largest enrollment among the State’s 81 districts, experiencing a 2.8% enrollment increase from 2012 to 2016. The District spent an annual average of \$9,250 per pupil in 2016, an increase from the \$9,153 spent per pupil in 2015. The Kershaw County School District provides operates eleven elementary schools, four middle schools and three high schools (Table 7-5).

Table 7-5. Kershaw County Public Schools and Enrollment, 2016

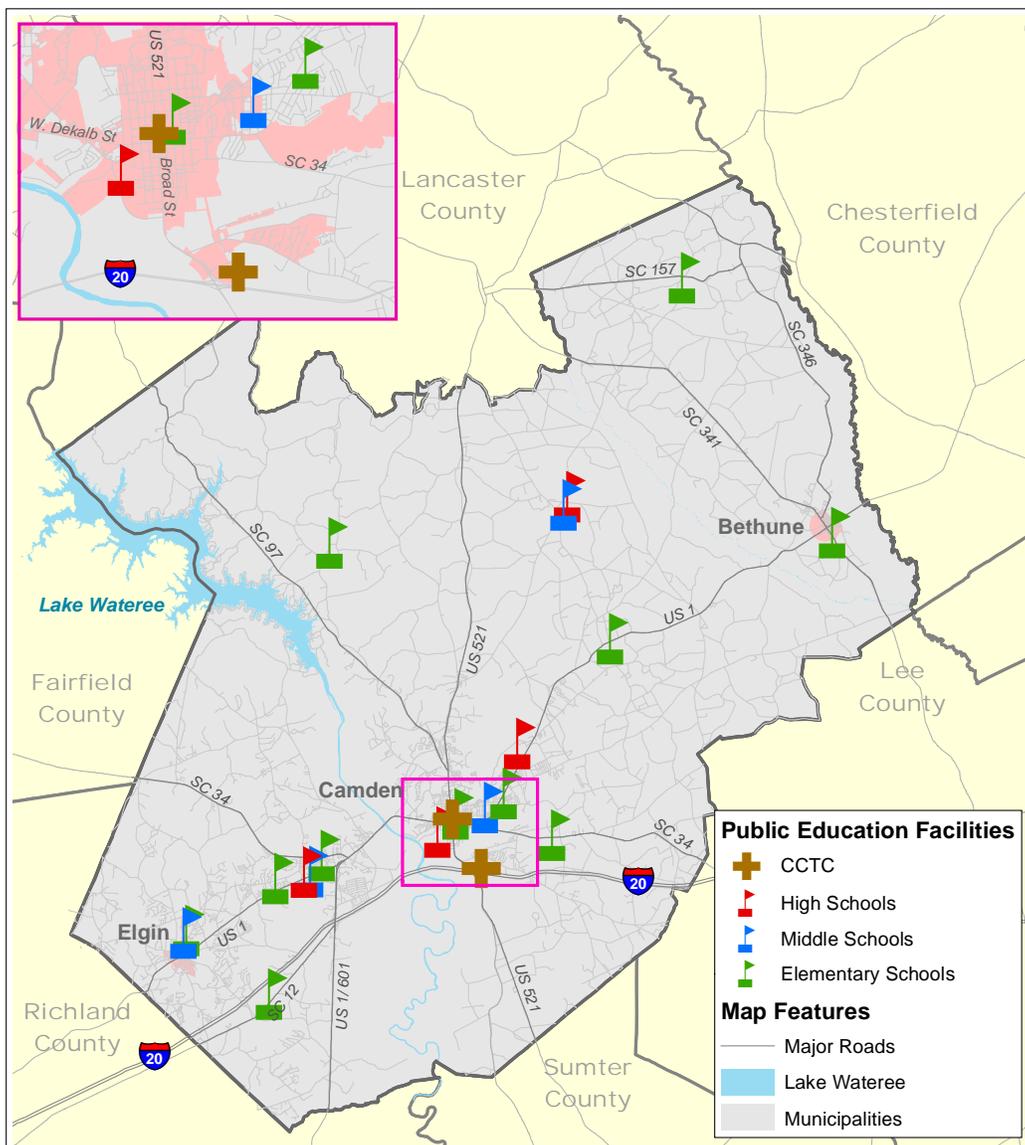
School	Enrollment
Elementary Schools	5,235
Baron Dekalb	208
Bethune	97
Blaney	782
Camden	553
Doby’s Mill	614
Jackson School	602
Lugoff	573
Midway	437
Mt. Pisgah	141
Pine Tree Hill	601
Wateree	627
Middle Schools	2,504
Camden	802
Leslie M. Stover	664
Lugoff-Elgin	655
North Central	383
High Schools	3,104
Camden	985
Lugoff-Elgin	1,637
North Central	482
District Total	10,843

Source: Kershaw County School District, December 2016



In addition to these schools, the District provides a Continuous Learning Center that offers intensive and individualized assessments, clinical interventions, and academic services for middle and high school students with challenging emotional needs. The Applied Technology Education Campus (ATEC) on Vocational Lane enables students in grades 10 through 12 to achieve industry-recognized certifications in twelve different occupational programs in agriculture, auto collision technology, automotive technology, carpentry, computer repair and service, cosmetology, culinary arts, digital art and design, early childhood education, graphic communications, health science, honors biomedical, mechatronics, protective services and welding. The District also offers Adult Education in the form of High School Equivalency (GED) classes and Career Readiness instruction and testing. Adult Education services are also provided at the ATEC facility.

Map 7-5. Public Education Facilities, 2017



Source: Kershaw County Information Services Department, 2017

Significant facilities upgrades are underway in response to aging District facilities, changing requirements and educational needs, and recent and projected growth in Kershaw County. The District’s \$102.2 million school construction program over the most recent decade included the construction of two new middle schools, wellness facilities at all three high schools, a new elementary school, and two elementary school renovation projects. Phase II of the facilities upgrade includes a new Applied Technology Education Campus, three new elementary schools, and improvements/additions/renovations to the high schools, three middle schools, and four elementary schools, as well as renovations and safety improvements to the high school stadiums. In November 2016, Kershaw County voters approved a penny sales tax that will fund the \$129 million bond referendum to implement Phase II.

2. Private Schools

There are a number of private schools in Kershaw County that range in size from more than 250 pupils at the Camden Military Academy to fewer than ten students at the Camden Adventist School (Table 7-6). With the exception of Pine Grove School in Elgin, all of the private schools are located in or near the City of Camden. These non-public enrollment numbers do not include the homeschooled students in the County.

Table 7-6. Private Schools in Kershaw County, 2017*

School	Grades	Enrollment
Camden Adventist School <i>612 Boykin Road, Camden</i>	1-7	9
Camden Military Academy <i>520 U.S. Highway 1 North, Camden</i>	7-12	300
The Montessori School of Camden <i>2 Montessori Way, Camden</i>	PK-6	92
Mt. Olivet Christian School <i>608 Black River Road, Camden</i>	3-12	28
Pine Grove School <i>1500 Chestnut Road, Elgin</i>	1-12	26
Cornerstone Christian School <i>1542 Albert Street, Camden</i>	PK-8	30

* Table may not include a complete listing of existing private schools
Sources: Private School Review, March 2017; StartClass.com, March 2017

The **Camden Military Academy** is a private, non-profit military boarding school located on a 40-acre campus in Camden. Since 1974, the Academy has combined the traditions of two institutions. Carlisle Military School operated in Bamberg from 1892 through 1977. Camden Academy operated on the current campus from 1949 through 1957. The name was changed to Camden Military Academy with the merger of the two schools in 1974. Enrollment at the Academy is limited to male students in grades 7 through 12.



The **Montessori School of Camden** was founded in 1979 with a mission to nurture the whole child to inspire independence and a lifetime love of learning. The School is situated on an 11-acre campus, with enrollment for children from 6 weeks to 12 years of age.

Pine Grove, Inc. in Elgin is a residential group living facility and private school for children and adolescents ages 6 to 20 years with Autism and intellectual disabilities. In addition to students in residential care, Pine Grove also accepts a limited number of day students into its academic program. Pine Grove is situated on a 40-acre campus in Elgin.

3. Central Carolina Technical College

Established in 1962 as Sumter Area Technical College, Central Carolina Technical College (CCTC) is one of 16 public, two-year colleges that comprise the South Carolina Technical Education System. The College changed its name to Central Carolina in 1992 to better reflect its service area that includes Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, and Sumter counties. The College serves its four-county service area from its main campus in Sumter and through satellite campuses in Clarendon, Kershaw and Lee counties. The Kershaw County campus was opened in downtown Camden in 2001. An extension of the Kershaw County campus opened in 2010 as part of a new campus in the Steeplechase Industrial Park. A \$10 million, 40,000 square foot expansion of the campus is expected in 2017 that will include classroom space, along with training and incubation space for start-up businesses. The Kershaw campus offers full on-site associate of arts and associate of science degrees, as well as credit and continuing education courses.

The College enrolls approximately 3,600 students in 50 programs of study that range from Environmental Engineering Technology and Computer Technology to Criminal Justice Technology and Nursing. Kershaw County residents comprise nearly one fourth (23%) of the total CCTC enrollment. Although overall enrollment declined from 2012 to 2016, this is attributed in part to the improving economy and lower unemployment (Table 7-7).

Table 7-7. Central Carolina Technical College Enrollment, 2017

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total CCTC Enrollment all Campuses	4,452	4,283	3,963	3,588	3,515
Total enrollment at Kershaw campuses	605	527	464	506	451
<i>Downtown Campus</i>	468	418	387	421	394
<i>Kershaw County Campus (at Interstate)</i>	347	274	205	208	174
<i>Duplicates - students taking classes at both locations*</i>	(210)	(165)	(128)	(123)	(117)
Total Kershaw County resident enrollment - all locations	842	820	831	842	755
<i>Kershaw Residents as % of Total Enrollment</i>	18.9%	19.1%	21.0%	23.5%	21.5%

Source: Central Carolina Technical College, March 2017

The College also delivers short-term continuing education courses, professional and career advancement programs, noncredit courses for personal enrichment, and customized training for business, industry, health care, and government agencies. In addition to its Bridge program with the University of South Carolina, CCTC partners with several four-year institutions for transfer programs, including Columbia College, Francis Marion University, Morris College, St. Leo University, and Webster University.

G. LIBRARIES

As detailed by Estellene Walker in *“So Good and Necessary a Work”: The Public Library in South Carolina, 1698-1980*, the first library in Kershaw County was established in 1805 as the Camden Library Society. In 1915, through assistance provided by the Carnegie Foundation, a public library building was built on Monument Square. Assistance from the Federal Works Projects Administration (WPA) in 1935 resulted in the construction of the Kershaw County Public Library, headquartered on Church Street. An important aspect of the WPA project was the launch of the County bookmobile, which served the County’s rural communities. At the end of WPA project support in 1947, the Kershaw County Library Commission was established, with both the Camden Public Library and the Kershaw County Library operating under a single system. However, the system disbanded in 1951. Almost 20 years later in 1970, the Camden City Council and Kershaw County Council adopted a merger resolution to support the new Kershaw County Library that was established by legislative action. A new headquarters library was completed on Broad Street in 1973. The Bethune Library, originally formed in 1932, became a branch library with a new building in 1974. The Elgin Library was built in 1999.

The Kershaw County Library system includes a collection of more than 107,000 books, serials and volumes, ranking 21st highest among the 42 library systems in South Carolina in total population served and 19th in total circulation at 166,058 items per year. The largest branch is the Camden branch at 13,680 square feet in area, with a staff of 13. Five employees share staffing duties for both the Elgin and Bethune branches, which are 3,600 square feet and 1,175 square feet in size, respectively. Two staff members work offsite at the County agricultural building, which houses all processing and cataloging of incoming and outgoing library materials, publicity and outreach, and librarian offices, and serves as the parking site for the bookmobile.

The main library and its branch locations are an important resource for County residents who lack personal access to a computer and internet. The Kershaw County Library system ranks 17th highest among the State’s library systems in computer usage. County residents used library computers more than 56,000 times in 2016, while others used the Library’s Wi-Fi access for the internet with their personal devices.

H. PUBLIC SAFETY

A safe and secure environment that projects a climate of health, vitality and community spirit among residents of all ages is integral to building a strong community. The personnel, facilities,

equipment, and services dedicated to protecting the safety and property of the public are among the most essential community resources. Most counties and cities allocate sizable percentages of their annual budgets to provide quality fire and police services. These funds are often allocated at the expense of other needed services or programs. There is no question that public safety is foremost in the minds of both elected leaders and their constituents. Even so, it is not possible to place a value on the civic stability, security, and quality of life that accompanies a successful public safety program.

1. Emergency Management

Although rare in occurrence, Kershaw County is vulnerable to various natural and technological hazards including tropical weather systems, tornadoes, lightning, strong thunderstorms and wind, severe winter storms, earthquakes, flooding, drought, wildfire, power outages, dam failures, airplane crashes, cyber-attacks and train derailments. Advance planning and preparation for such emergencies is essential in equipping community leaders, response staff, and the general public to make rapid and informed decisions that will save lives and quickly restore infrastructure and services when disaster strikes.

Kershaw County Emergency Management is the designated Disaster Preparedness Agency with primary responsibility for emergency and disaster planning for the County. Emergency Management, along with the Detention Center, Emergency Medical Services, and Fire Services, are under the Kershaw County Department of Safety and Emergency Services. Kershaw County Emergency Management works with S.C. Emergency Management, the Kershaw County Local Emergency Planning Committee, and public safety agencies to plan for disasters. The County's Emergency Operations Plan is updated regularly in compliance with Federal and State regulations, with the most recent plan update in May 2016. The Plan guides the County's preparedness, response, and recovery actions for a broad range of incidents including, but not limited to: hazardous materials release, floods and dam failures, tornados, wildfires, droughts, winter storms, earthquakes, hurricanes, major transportation incidents, nuclear power plant incidents, and acts of terrorism. Included in the plan is the designation of five emergency shelters, located throughout the County.

The Emergency Operations Plan supports the National Incident Management System, a nationwide template that enables federal, state, local and tribal governments and private sector and non-governmental organizations to work together effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents. Kershaw County and its municipalities are also participants in the statewide mutual aid agreement for the provision of mutual aid assistance, upon request, for any other jurisdiction, fire district, or other emergency service delivery system in the State in the event of a significant incident such as fire, earthquake, hurricane, flood, tornado, hazardous material event, or other disaster.

2. Kershaw County Central Communications

Kershaw County Central Communications is a division of the County Department of Safety and Emergency Services and is headquartered in a secure bunker in the Kershaw County Government building. The Central Communications Center is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the entire County, where all 911 calls are answered, dispatched and recorded 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Nonemergency calls for Fire, Law Enforcement and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are also answered and dispatched through Central Communications. The Center also receives administrative calls for the Camden Police Department and the Kershaw County Sheriff's Department after business hours and on weekends and holidays. Central Communications dispatches for all 14 County fire departments, the Camden and Lugoff Fire Departments, County Code Enforcement, the Sheriff's Department, the Bethune and Elgin Police Departments, four EMS Stations, two Quick Response Vehicle (QRV) units, and the Camden and Buffalo-Mt. Pisgah Rescue Units. The Center also maintains a one-button transfer to external agencies that are frequently used by the County, including the S.C. Highway Patrol, the Poison Control, S.C. Department of Natural Resources, and Public Safety PSAPs in surrounding counties. Central Communications staff includes a Deputy Director, Assistant Deputy Director, four Shift Supervisors, a Training Officer, four Assistant Shift Supervisors, and 14 Telecommunicators.

3. Fire Service

As one of the most fundamental and valuable services provided by local government, fire protection and prevention is of vital importance to every citizen and visitor in Kershaw County. There are 16 fire districts in Kershaw County, with 14 administered by the County, one by the City of Camden, and one by the Lugoff Fire Protection District (Map 7-6).

Kershaw County operates 12 fire stations and five substations. Each substation is operated in conjunction with a station, with members staffing both facilities. Volunteers work closely with Kershaw County Fire Services to provide fire protection in Kershaw County. Fire protection is provided by 25 paid part-time employees and 125 volunteers. Each station has a combined staff of approximately 12 persons, with paid staff working from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday on a rotating basis. Emergency dispatching is provided by Central Communications located within the Kershaw County Government Center, with backup dispatching available through the Lugoff Fire Department. Fire stations in Kershaw County, including location and ISO rating, are listed in Table 7-8. Map 7-6 provides the location of fire stations in the County.

Table 7-8. Kershaw County Fire Stations, 2017

Station	Location	ISO Rating
11- Antioch	Bishopville Hwy, Camden	5/10
12 - Beaver Creek	John G. Richards Rd., Camden	6/10
13 - Blaney	US Hwy 1 South, Elgin	5/10
14 - Cassatt	Red Hill Church Rd., Cassatt	5/10
15 - Charlotte-Thompson	St. Matthews Rd., Camden	5/10
16 - Pine Grove	Pine Grove Rd., Lugoff	5/10
17 - Shepard	Rogers Rd., Cassatt	5/10
18 - Westville	Payne Pond Rd., Westville	5/10
19 - Doby's Mill	Porter Cross Rd., Lugoff	5/10
20 - Bethune	Main St., Bethune	5/10
21 - Baron Dekalb	Baron Dekalb, Camden	6/10
22 - Buffalo-Mt. Pisgah	Mt. Pisgah Rd., Kershaw	5/10
23 - North Central Substation (Westville)	Lockhart Rd., Kershaw	5/10
24 - Pine Grove Substation (Pine Grove)	Lake Rd., Ridgeway	5/10
25 - Boykin Substation (Charlotte-Thompson)	Boykin Rd., Rembert	5/10
26 - Flat Rock Substation (Shepard)	Flat Rock Rd., Camden	5/10
27 - Gates Ford Substation (Buffalo-Mt. Pisgah)	Bethune Rd., Bethune	5/10
City of Camden		
Camden Fire Dept. 1	Lyttleton St, Camden	4
Camden Fire Dept. 2	Liberty Hill Rd., Camden	4
Lugoff Fire Department		
8 - Lugoff Fire Dept.	Lachicotte Rd., Lugoff	3
9 - Lugoff Fire Dept.	Whitehead Rd, Lugoff	3
10 - Lugoff Fire Dept.	U.S. Hwy. 1 South, Lugoff	3

Source: Kershaw County Department of Safety and Emergency Services, March 2017

The City of Camden operates two fire stations, one downtown on Lyttleton Street and the other on Liberty Hill Road in the northern area of the City. The service area for Camden is the Camden Fire District, as depicted in Map 7-6. Staffing for the Fire Department includes 28 professional firefighters and 18 volunteer firefighters. The Department responds to nearly 600 service calls annually.

The Lugoff Fire Department, also known as the Lugoff Fire Protection District, is a special tax district governed by a five-member Board of Commissions who are elected by voters. The District service area is the Lugoff fire district, as shown in Map 7-6. The District operates three fire stations in the Lugoff area, located on Lachicotte Road, Whitehead Road, and U.S. Highway 1 South. District staff includes nine administrative officers, a non-uniformed civilian position, and 28 firefighters. Station staffing includes volunteer firefighters. The Lugoff Fire Department responds to more than 1,000 service calls each year.

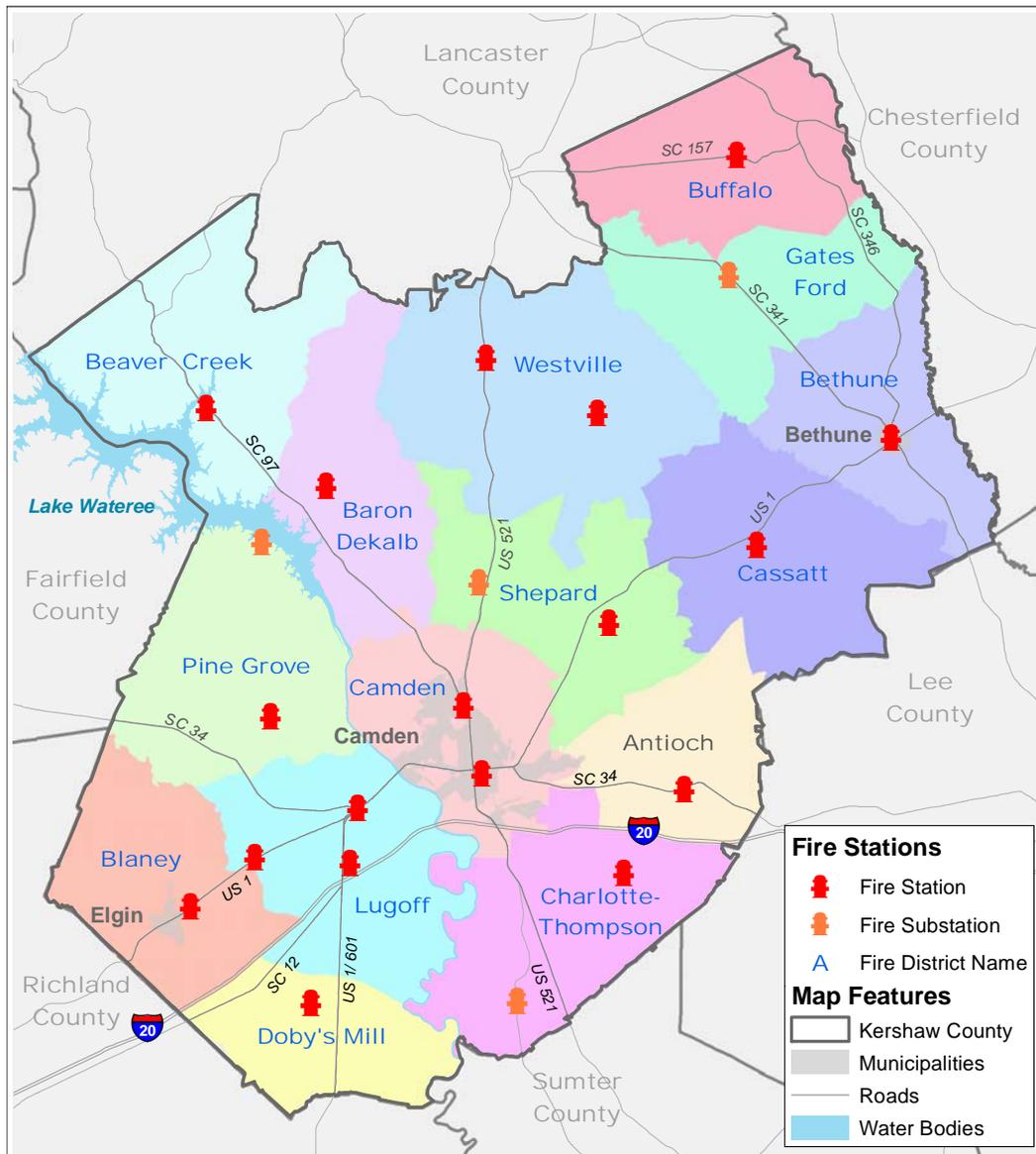
While the provision of adequate, state-of-the-art firefighting equipment and trained personnel is vital to the preservation of life and property, it also significantly impacts the cost of individual fire insurance premiums in a community. Insurance companies use a classification system



provided by the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) to determine the level of fire protection for each home they insure. ISO is an independent statistical, rating, and advisory organization that collects and analyzes information on a community's public fire protection and assigns a public protection classification. Classifications range from 1 to 10, with Class 1 representing the best public protection and Class 10 indicating no recognized protection. Factors that contribute to the classification assignment include the effectiveness of the fire department in receiving and dispatching fire alarms, the number of fire stations, the availability and amount of water needed to fight fires, training provided to local fire fighters, and maintenance and testing of equipment. In addition, the distribution of fire stations and service throughout the community weighs heavily in the determination of the classification. Properties that are located more than five road miles from a fire station are not considered to have adequate fire protection and therefore receive higher ISO classifications. Since water availability for fire protection comprises 40% of the total ISO rating, areas served by municipal or other water services benefit from lower ISO ratings and ultimately, lower insurance ratings. Consequently, properties within areas with low ISO ratings enjoy lower insurance costs.

ISO ratings in Kershaw County range from 3 in Lugoff to 10 in more rural areas with a lower degree of protection (Table 7-9). For ISO ratings that include split classifications, such as 5/10, the first number represents the classification for properties within five road miles of a fire station and 1,000 feet of a creditable water supply. The second number applies to properties within five road miles of a fire station but beyond 1,000 feet of a creditable water supply.

Map 7-6. Fire Districts and Fire Station Locations, 2017



Source: Kershaw County Information Services Department, 2017

4. Law Enforcement

Efficient and effective law enforcement is essential to the quality of life in a community. Law enforcement in Kershaw County is provided by the Kershaw County Sheriff’s Department and the police departments of the City of Camden and the Towns of Bethune and Elgin. The locations of the Sheriff’s headquarters and those of the municipal police departments are shown on Map 7-7.

A total of 1,737 index crimes were reported in Kershaw County in 2013 – a 27.3% decrease from the 2,390 index crimes reported in 2009 (Table 7-10). There are seven index offenses: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, breaking and entering, larceny and motor vehicle

theft. Index offenses are categorized either as violent crimes (murder, sexual battery, robbery and aggravated assault) or property crimes (breaking and entering, larceny and motor vehicle theft). Violent crimes account for 15.4% of all index crimes in the County – slightly higher than the 2009 percentage of 14.7%. The most prevalent violent crime in the County was aggravated assault, accounting for 77% of violent crimes and comprising 12% of all index crimes. No murders were reported in Kershaw County in 2013. Nearly 71% of property crimes and 59.7% of all index crimes were categorized as larceny, which is the unlawful taking of property and includes offenses such as shoplifting, pocket-picking, purse snatching, and thefts from motor vehicles and of motor vehicle parts.

The index crime rate in Kershaw County is generally lower than the statewide rates for similar crimes (Table 7-9). Among violent crimes, the rate of sexual battery at 5.1 in Kershaw County is slightly higher than the statewide rate of 4.8. However, local rates for all other violent crimes are lower. Among property crimes, the rates per 10,000 population are significantly lower than the statewide rates for these index crimes. The County rate for motor vehicle theft is less than half of the theft rate for South Carolina.

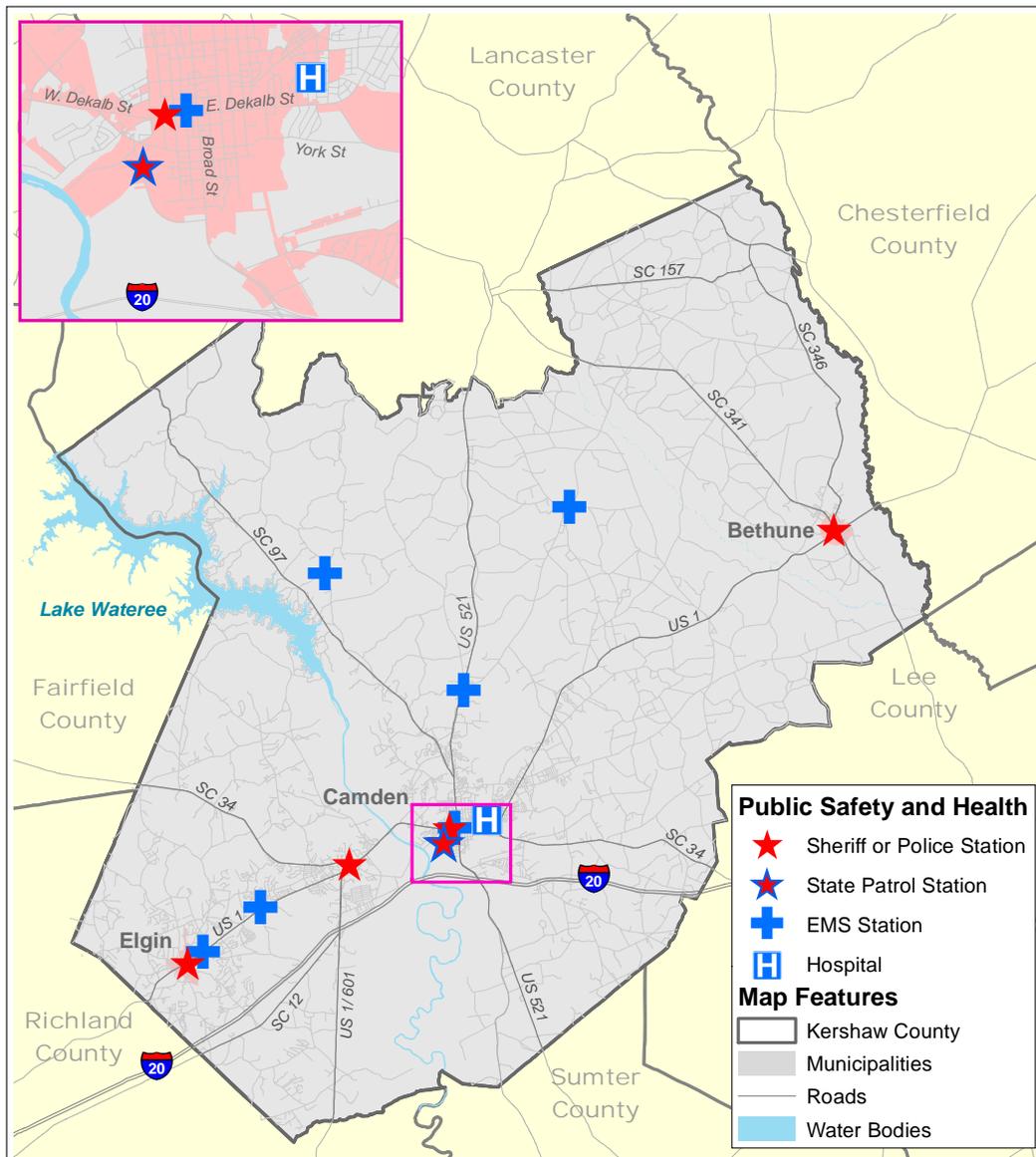
Table 7-9. Index Crimes Reported in Kershaw County*, 2009 and 2013

Index Crime	2009			2013			2013
	#	%	Rate per 10,000 Population	#	%	Rate per 10,000 Population	South Carolina Rate per 10,000 Population
Violent Crimes	352	14.7%	58.6	268	15.4%	42.8	50.7
Murder	5	1.4%	0.83	0	0.0%	0.0	0.6
Sexual Battery	25	7.1%	4.2	32	11.9%	5.1	4.8
Robbery	34	9.7%	5.7	29	10.8%	4.6	8.5
Aggravated Assault	288	81.8%	48.0	207	77.2%	33.1	36.9
Property Crimes	2,038	85.3%	339.4	1,469	84.6%	234.6	370.8
Breaking & Entering	590	28.9%	98.3	346	23.6%	55.3	87.6
Larceny	1,279	62.8%	213.0	1,037	70.6%	165.6	256.0
Motor Vehicle Theft	169	8.3%	28.1	86	5.9%	13.7	27.1
Index Total	2,390	100.0%	---	1,737	100.0%	---	---

* Includes crimes reported by all law enforcement agencies in the County
 Sources: SC Law Enforcement Division, Crime in SC Book, 2009 and 2013



Map 7-7. Public Safety and Health Care Locations



Source: Kershaw County Information Services Department, 2017

a. Kershaw County Sheriff's Office

The Kershaw County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement for the unincorporated areas of the County. The City of Camden and the Towns of Bethune and Elgin have separate municipal police departments. Central Communications, located in the Kershaw County Government Center on Walnut Street in Camden, provides dispatching for all law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services in the County, including Camden, Bethune and Elgin. The Sheriff's Office is headquartered on Ridgeway Road in Lugoff. The Office has 74 employees in a variety of roles that range from uniformed patrol to investigations and training. The Office maintains a fleet of approximately 90 vehicles.

b. Kershaw County Detention Center

The Kershaw County Detention Center is located on Bramblewood Plantation Road in Camden. Built in 2000, the Detention Center accommodates 89 inmates. The Center operates under the Kershaw County Department of Safety and Emergency Services, with 32 employees. Major facility renovations were completed in two phases in 2015 and 2016.

c. City of Camden Police Department

Headquartered on West Dekalb Street in Camden, the City of Camden Police Department serves the incorporated area of the City. The Department has 33 certified officers in a variety of roles including administrative officers, patrol officers, investigators, detectives, community police, school resource officers, training sergeants, and drug enforcement officers. Three part-time school crossing guards are also employed by the Police Department. The Department vehicle fleet includes 40 patrol cars and one van, as well as a golf cart for patrolling the downtown area.

d. Town of Bethune Police Department

The Town of Bethune Police Department is located on Elm Street. The Department employs two part-time officers and one full-time officer who utilize the Town's four patrol cars to provide law enforcement services within the Town.

e. Town of Elgin Police Department

The Town of Elgin Police Department is headquartered on Main Street in Elgin and provides law enforcement services within the Town limits. The Department employs eight officers, including the Chief of Police, and has a constable assigned by the S.C. Law Enforcement Division to work with the Department. The Department fleet includes seven patrol vehicles and a truck used for community service programs.

I. HEALTH CARE

Access to quality health care is an essential component of community well-being. Building a healthy community ensures an acceptable quality of life for all residents and the prevention of many costly problems that inhibit the realization of full individual and community potential. The health care system encompasses a broad continuum of care that begins with preventative care and progresses through end-of-life care. Public health is negatively impacted when service gaps are present in this continuum.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services data indicates that portions of Kershaw County are federally-designated as *Medically Underserved Areas (MUA)*, including the Mount Pisgah, Bethune, Boykin, and Westville areas, and a portion of the southeastern area of the County.

MUAs are geographic regions classified as lacking adequate access to primary care services, based on criteria such as the number of full-time primary care doctors and their locations, the ratio of primary care doctors to the total population, infant mortality rates, the portion of the community population below poverty, and residents aged 65 or older.

The number of practicing health professionals serving Kershaw County is detailed in Table 7-10. Kershaw County has 82 physicians, which equates to a rate of 12.9 physicians per 10,000 population – significantly lower than the statewide rate of 24.9. Kershaw County also has a lower rate of access to primary care (family practice) at 6.8 physicians per 10,000 residents, compared to the state rate of 10 physicians per 10,000.

Table 7-10. Practicing Health Professionals in Kershaw County, 2016

Health Profession	Number
Physicians	82
Family Practice	21
Internal Medicine	10
Obstetrics/Gynecology	4
Pediatrics	8
General Surgery	2
All Other (Specialists)	37
Nurses	335
Registered Nurses	335
Certified Nurse Midwives	0
Nurse Practitioners	20
Licensed Practical Nurses	141
Other Nurses	6
Other Health Professions	114
Dentists	15
Pharmacists	41
Physical Therapists	18
Occupational Therapists	10
Physician Assistants	6
Optometrists	4
Respiratory Care Practitioners	20

Source: South Carolina Health Professions Data Book, S.C. Office for Healthcare Workforce, 2016

The Kershaw Health Medical Center and EMS stations are located in Map 7-7. These and additional health care services are profiled in the following sections.



1. Kershaw County Emergency Medical Services

Kershaw County Emergency Medical Services (KCEMS) is a licensed Advanced Life Support service that responds to all E-911 and other emergency medical calls within the County. ALS units (vehicles) have at least one paramedic and one emergency medical technician on board who can administer certain medications and operate advanced airway equipment, cardiac monitors, advanced cardiac life support equipment, and blood glucose testing equipment. Originally operated by KershawHealth, control of KCEMS was shifted to Kershaw County in July 2015. Emergency dispatching is provided by Kershaw County Central Dispatching.

KCEMS operates five stations, with Stations 1 and 2 located in Camden, Station 2 in Lugoff, Station 4 on U.S. Highway 1 South, and Station 5 on Keys Lane in Kershaw. Station 3 shares its location with the Lugoff Fire Department, while Stations 4 and 5 are co-located with the Kershaw County Fire Department. The Department also has Quick Response Vehicles (QRV) positioned at Station 1 in Camden and at night at Station 5 in Kershaw. QRVs enable trained personnel to respond more quickly to rural calls and establish patient care before an ambulance can arrive. EMS service is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. KCEMS employs 34 full-time and 30 part-time paramedics, emergency medical technicians, and advanced emergency medical technicians. A listing of each EMS Station, including the location and types of vehicles housed at each, is provided in Table 7-11.

Table 7-11. Kershaw County EMS Stations, 2017

EMS Station	Location	Vehicles
1	Church Street, Camden	Ambulance and QRV
2	Kershaw Highway, Camden	Ambulance
3	Whitehead Road, Lugoff (co-located with Lugoff Fire Dept.)	Ambulance
4	U.S. Highway 1 South (co-located with Kershaw County Fire Dept.)	Ambulance
5	Keys Lane, Kershaw (co-located with Kershaw County Fire Dept.)	Ambulance (day), QRV (night)

Source: Kershaw County Information Services Department, 2017

2. KershawHealth Medical Center

Originally founded in 1913 as Camden Hospital, KershawHealth has grown into a comprehensive healthcare system with more than 800 employees and facilities in Camden, Elgin, Lugoff, Bethune, and Kershaw. The KershawHealth Medical Center is located on Roberts Street in Camden. The 121-bed comprehensive acute care facility includes a 15-room emergency department, 10-bed intensive care unit, a 10-bed pediatric unit, and a surgical unit with six operating rooms. The Center also offers a Women's Center that houses ten new mother rooms and four labor and delivery rooms. KershawHealth completed a \$14.5 million, 71,000 square foot expansion in 2004 that included a 24-bed nursing unit with private rooms, five operating rooms with eight pre- and post-operative beds, cardiovascular diagnostics and

cardiac rehabilitation facilities, and a new main entrance, lobby, and waiting area. Health care services include adult and pediatric medicine, cardiovascular and cardiac rehabilitation, emergency, gastroenterology, home health, hospice, imaging, laboratory, oncology, orthopedics, primary care, pulmonology, rehabilitation, sleep diagnostics, joint replacement, urology, and women's health. KershawHealth operates an urgent care facility in Elgin. Future plans include new ambulatory surgical and cancer centers at the Elgin campus on Pinnacle Parkway.

3. Services for the Elderly

The nation's aging population affects every segment of the social, political, and economic landscape, as significant changes in living patterns and conditions often accompany the aging process. The health and mobility of senior residents is of growing interest due to implications for public policy, health care, and long-term care costs. The increasing number of frail elderly is accompanied by a growing demand for home care and for institutional and community-based acute care and long-term care. The segment of the population suffering from dementia and Alzheimer's disease will grow dramatically in the coming decades, while the costs of care will rise well above current levels. The financial and time demands on informal family and friend caregivers will continue to rise. These changing responsibilities will shape housing, employment, and support service needs at the local level, where Kershaw County residents aged 65 or older now comprise 15.4% of the population. This is slightly higher than the 14.7% of individuals in this age group statewide (*American Community Survey 2010-2014*).

a. Senior Services

Most aging services are federally funded through the *1965 Older Americans Act*. This law requires that service districts be designated to plan and implement aging services. To that end, the Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging has divided the State into ten planning and service districts. The Santee Lynches Regional Council of Governments is the designated **Area Agency on Aging** (AAA) and **Aging and Disabilities Resource Center** for Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee and Sumter counties. The role of the AAA is to plan, coordinate, administer, and assess a comprehensive and coordinated system of quality support services for older citizens.

The primary goal of the ADRC is to "develop and promote a comprehensive, coordinated community-based service delivery system with simple access that will improve the quality of life for all older adults in the region and enable them to lead independent lives in their own homes for as long as possible." The ADRC subcontracts with local service providers for the delivery of services at the local level. Among the services given funding priority are transportation, adult day care, in-home and group respite care, congregate dining, home-delivered meals, insurance counseling, wellness and prevention, information and assistance, outreach, physical fitness, health promotion, and nutrition education and screening. These services may vary from county to county and from year to year, depending on locally identified needs and resource availability.

The **Kershaw County Council on Aging, Inc.** (KCCOA) is the leading provider of services to senior citizens in Kershaw County. KCCOA is a nonprofit organization created in 1975 that provides essential services for older adults through an array of services including on-site group meals, home-delivered meals, health and wellness programs, transportation to and from the centers, care management and referral, and recreational, educational and leisure activities and programs. The Agency provides congregate meals at the Senior Center on Lyttleton Street in Camden and the Bethune Rural Community Center on Timrod Road during the week for individuals aged 60 or older. More than 11,000 County seniors participate in congregate meals and associated programs annually. KCCOA provides home delivery of nutritious meals to homebound seniors aged 60 and older who are determined during intake assessment to be in the greatest economic and social need. Over 23,850 meals are delivered to homebound seniors annually through this program. Hot midday meals are delivered on Wednesday and Thursday from the Camden and Bethune centers, with frozen meals distributed based on need. The KCAOA operates two vans that transport seniors to and from congregate meal sites and essential services such as medical appointments. Administrative functions for the Kershaw County Agency on Aging are housed at the Camden Senior Center on Lyttleton Street.

b. Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities

Two types of housing are available for the elderly, representing a range of assistance and care options in Kershaw County. **Nursing homes** are facilities that provide nursing or convalescent care for two or more persons unrelated to the licensee. A nursing home provides long-term care of chronic conditions or short-term convalescent or rehabilitative care of remedial ailments for which medical and nursing care are necessary. There are two nursing homes in Kershaw County, providing space for up to 244 residents (Table 7-12). Both of the County's nursing homes are located within the City of Camden.

Table 7-12. Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities in Kershaw County, 2017*

Facility Name	Address	Total Beds
Nursing Homes		
KershawHealth Karesh Long Term Care	1315 Roberts Street, Camden	96
Springdale Healthcare Center	146 Battleship Road, Camden	148
Total in Kershaw County	2 Facilities	244
Community Residential Care Facilities		
Camden I	975 Wateree Boulevard, Camden	8
Camden II	975 Wateree Boulevard, Camden	8
Dixon's Community Care Home	1456 Dixon Road, Elgin	5
Flowers Residential Care Facility	855 Watts Hill Road, Lugoff	7
J.C. Laraes Southwinds Assisted Living	308 Humphries Road, Ridgeway	5
Morningside of Camden	715 Kershaw Highway, Camden	49
Pinedale Residential Center	798 Hermitage Pond Road, Camden	50
Total in Kershaw County	7 Facilities	132

*Table may not include a complete listing of existing facilities

Sources: SC DHEC, Division of Health Licensing, Licensed Facilities by Type, March 2017

Community Residential Care Facilities, also referred to as *Assisted Living Facilities*, offer room and board for two or more persons unrelated to the licensee. These facilities are designed to accommodate changing needs and preferences of residents; maximize the dignity, autonomy, privacy, independence, and safety of residents; and encourage family and community involvement. The Division of Health Licensing of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control lists seven assisted living facilities in Kershaw County, providing a total of 132 housing units (Table 7-13).

4. Public Health

The **Kershaw County Public Health Department** is located on Church Street in the City of Camden. The Health Department provides a range of health related services including immunizations, family planning, pregnancy testing, nurse-family partnerships for first-time moms, postpartum/newborn home visits, services for children and teens with special health care needs, immunizations, tuberculosis testing and treatment, testing for sexually transmitted diseases, and teen education and counseling. The Department also administers the *Women, Infants and Children* (WIC) program. WIC is a nutrition program that provides food products, health screenings, and health information for women, infants and children five years of age or younger in qualified South Carolina families.

5. Community Medical Clinic

The **Community Medical Clinic**, located on East Dekalb Street in Camden, is a non-profit family practice clinic that has provided free medical care for underserved and uninsured Kershaw County residents since 1998. The mission of the Clinic is to create stronger families and communities by empowering individuals to improve their own health and well-being. The Clinic is the medical home for 800 patients, generating approximately 3,600 patient visits each year. More than 200 active community volunteers contribute 10,000 hours of service each year to the Clinic. In addition to general family medicine, services provided at the Clinic include medications, chiropractic services, mental health counseling and referral, diabetes education, physical therapy, breast and cervical cancer screening, and patient referral to specialists. The Community Medical Clinic is an active partner in the collaborative *LiveWell Kershaw* initiative.

6. LiveWell Kershaw

In 2010, the Affordable Care Act required that all 501(c)(3) hospital organizations conduct a community health needs assessment and adopt an implementation strategy. KershawHealth, in conjunction with the University of South Carolina's Arnold School of Public Health, conducted a comprehensive health assessment to meet these new requirements and to support their mission of providing all of the citizens of Kershaw County and surrounding communities with quality, cost-effective, and personalized healthcare. The assessment included quantitative and qualitative information for a broad array of sources and resulted in the development of a *Community Health Improvement Plan* to guide health investments for Kershaw County. Priority

areas identified through the comprehensive health assessment process include access to appropriate care, obesity/nutrition/physical activity, smoking cessation, and teen health.

LiveWell Kershaw was formed in 2012 to guide this process. With the goal of making Kershaw County the healthiest county in South Carolina, the group promotes a population-based health approach to improving County health outcomes. Initiative partners include KershawHealth, ESMMKC, AccessKershaw, the USC Arnold School of Public Health, and the Community Medical Clinic of Kershaw County. Start-up funding for the formation of LiveWell Kershaw was provided by KershawHealth and Eat Smart Move More Kershaw County.

LiveWell Kershaw and its partners have embarked on the North Central initiative that focuses on the areas that serve North Central Middle and High Schools and Baron Dekalb, Bethune, Midway, and Mt. Pisgah Elementary Schools. State health data indicates a high rate of heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and behavioral health conditions in these more rural communities. To improve resident health in these areas, the initiative employs a community centered model that relies on nurse practitioners and community health care workers.

LiveWell Kershaw has established five *Community Healthcare Satellite Clinics* in locations throughout the north central area of the County that operate as extensions of the Community Medical Clinic, AccessKershaw, and KershawHealth. These clinics connect individuals with ongoing healthcare services as needed, provide access and information to community members, and extend the reach of primary care into the community. Community health workers are available to assist with healthcare navigation such as insurance applications, Medicaid, Medicare, and SNAP benefits, as well as managing diabetes, high blood pressure and overall health. A nurse practitioner is available during afternoon hours and provides primary care services such as diagnostics, treatment and prescriptions. In addition, a school-based healthcare center is open to all North Central Middle and High School Students, effectively functioning as a “minute clinic” where a nurse practitioner can diagnose and treat common illnesses, care for minor wounds, write prescriptions, provide sports physicals, run routine lab tests, and provide counseling services to support mental wellness.

7. Eat Smart Move More Kershaw County

In 2008, KershawHealth received a grant from *Eat Smart, Move More South Carolina* to develop a local coalition to assess the policies and environments in Kershaw County that affect daily choices that impact health. In 2009, the coalition officially became ***Eat Smart Move More Kershaw County*** (ESMMKC). The mission of ESMMKC is to coordinate collaborative and sustainable efforts to support healthy eating and active living where Kershaw County residents live, learn, work and play. Coalition members include the City of Camden, the Community Medical Clinic of Kershaw County, KershawHealth, Kershaw County Planning and Zoning, the Kershaw County Recreation Department, Kershaw County School District, SCDHEC Region 4, and the United Way of Kershaw County, as well as interested individuals from the community.

ESMMKC has spearheaded a number of projects since its inception. The *Kershaw County Bicycle, Pedestrian and Greenways Plan* was completed in 2012, combining past planning efforts with new research and analysis and public input. Included in the Plan are a proposed on- and off-street bikeway, walkway, and trail network, with policy and program recommendations that encourage usage of the network and promote safe cycling, walking and driving practices. Portions of the Plan have been incorporated into the City of Camden 2013 Comprehensive Plan Update and will be incorporated into the *Transportation Element* of the Kershaw County Comprehensive Plan. Per Plan recommendations, new bicycle racks and “Share the Road” signs were installed in locations throughout Kershaw County.

ESMMKC also encourages farmers to become certified to accept WIC and senior vouchers at the Kershaw County Farmer’s Market. This encourages the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables by residents. The group works also closely with the Kershaw County Council on Aging to make local seniors aware of the Farmer’s Market voucher program.

J. PARKS AND RECREATION

The provision of quality recreational activities and facilities benefits community residents of all ages. Parks and recreation facilities are valuable tools in showcasing the natural beauty of a community, in preserving open space, in attracting visitors, and in providing healthy and safe recreational options for residents. Several plans and studies have been completed in recent years related to parks, recreation, and greenways in Kershaw County.

An update to the 2002 *Kershaw County Recreation Master Plan* was completed in 2012. The Plan provides capital improvement recommendations for the County’s recreation program through 2022. In addition to an inventory of existing parks and facilities, the Plan provides five and ten-year improvement recommendations including associated costs. A number of recommended projects have been completed, including improvements to the Kershaw County West recreation complex, Larry Doby Park, Seaboard Park, and Boyd Young Park. Renovations were made at the County Parks and Recreation administrative offices, as well as to the Rhame Arena to accommodate basketball and special events. In addition, the City of Camden broke ground in March 2017 on the York Street tennis facility that will feature 16 tennis courts, including two stadium courts, plus a club house, pro shop, office, public restrooms, and a large shaded porch. Designed to accommodate tournament play, the complex will also include 12 pickleball courts that will be converted from four of the existing tennis courts, as well as walking trails along the perimeter of the site.

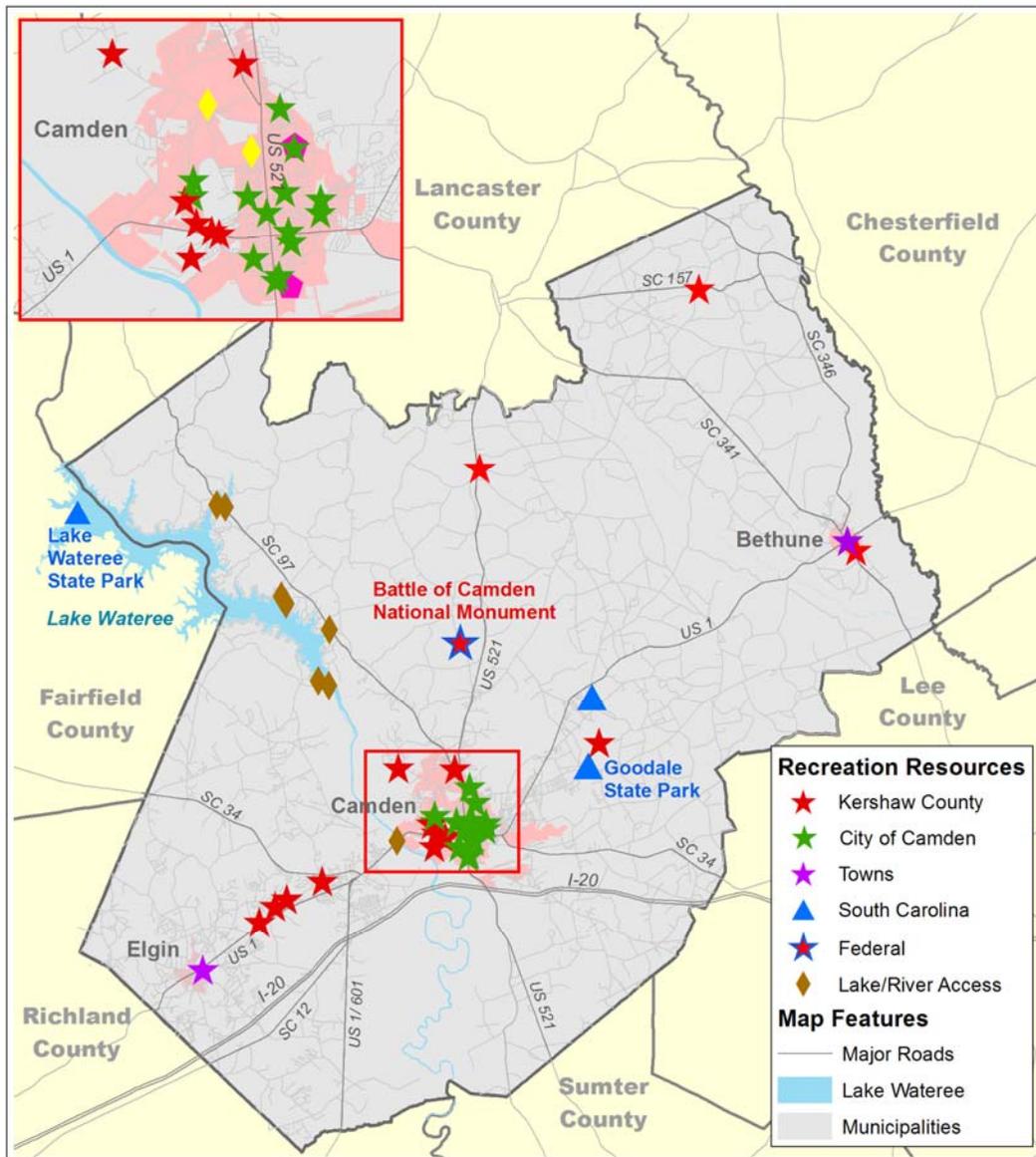
Eat Smart Move More Kershaw County (ESMMKC) prepared a *Kershaw County Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Greenways Plan* in 2012 with funding support from Healthy South Carolina. The Plan combines past planning efforts with new research and public input. The planning process was guided by a broad committee that included citizen advocates and representatives from multiple stakeholder organizations. Outreach included public workshops, an online comment form, and progress updates provided on the ESMMKC and Kershaw County websites. The resulting plan envisions “a connected network of on- and off-street bikeways, walkways,

and trails that provide safe and family-friendly access between neighborhoods and community destinations for all ages and abilities.” To accomplish this vision, Plan goals include capitalizing on existing natural resources; improving the safety of existing bicycle and walking routes; making bikeways, walkways and trails clean and inviting; establishing a connected network of bicycling and walking routes that link community destinations; promoting bicycling and walking for recreation and transportation; and improving bicycle and pedestrian access between neighborhoods and outlets for healthy foods. The Plan recommends the addition of new on-street bikeways and walkways and off-street greenways along with increased bicycle parking, to create a comprehensive and safe alternative transportation network. Also included are recommendations for project management and maintenance best practices.

The Santee Lynches Regional Council of Governments anticipates completion of the ***Santee-Lynches Regional Green Infrastructure Plan*** in 2017. The Plan will provide a planning framework for the use, stewardship, and enhancement of the Region’s natural resources, also known as “green infrastructure.” As defined by Mark Benedict and Edward McMahon in their 2006 book *Green Infrastructure Linking Landscapes and Communities*, green infrastructure provides a “natural life support system – an interconnected network of waterways, wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitats, and other natural areas; greenways, parks and other conservation lands; working farms, ranches and forest; and wilderness and other open spaces that support native species, maintain ecological processes, sustain air and water resources and contribute to the health and quality of life for America’s communities and people.” The Plan will include input gathered through stakeholder engagement, as well as extensive geospatial analyses and mapping of agricultural and silvicultural resources, recreational assets, historic and cultural resources, wildfire ignition density, water quality, land cover change, species richness, protected lands, and intact habitat cores. The Plan will provide strategies and indicators to achieve the primary objectives identified during the planning process. Many of these strategies identify, evaluate, conserve and improve access to recreation resources, along with matching funding mechanisms for these actions.

Kershaw County residents and visitors are fortunate to have access to numerous and diverse opportunities for outdoor recreation that include a state park, abundant water resources, nature and historic trails, and a number of smaller parks and recreation facilities (Map 7-8). According to the national *2016 Outdoor Participation Report* developed by the Outdoor Foundation, the most popular outdoor activities include running/jogging, fishing, cycling, hiking, and camping – all activities that are available in Kershaw County. Recreational opportunities in the County are particularly abundant for outdoor enthusiasts. In addition to the scenic Wateree, Lynches and Little Lynches rivers, Lake Wateree provides 181 miles of shoreline. Access to fishing and water sports is available at several public and commercial boat landings. Recreation resources in Kershaw County are detailed in the following sections, with locations provided in Map 7-8.

Map 7-8. Federal, State, County, Private and Historic Recreation Resources, 2017



Sources: Kershaw County Building Planning and Zoning and Information Services, February 2017; Santee Lynches COG, March 2017

1. State Parks

N.R. Goodale State Park is located to the east of the City of Camden, off of Old Stagecoach Road, in Kershaw County (Map 7-8). Developed in 1973, the 763-acre park offers two picnic shelters, a community building that accommodates up to 60 people, a playground, volleyball courts, and canoe rental. Included on the property is the 140-acre Civil War era Adams Mill Pond, where visitors can fish for bass, bream and catfish. The Park’s 1.5 mile Goodale Canoe/Kayak Trail begins on Adams Mill pond and continues on Pine Tree Creek through a forest of bald Cyprus trees. In addition, the Park includes a 1.7 mile hiking/walking trail that winds through a forest of pine, oak, and rhododendron.

The 238-acre **Lake Wateree State Park** is located nearby and to the east of Winnsboro in adjacent Fairfield County (Map 7-8). The Park provides access for fishing and boating on Lake Wateree, as well as 50 camp sites with water and electricity and restroom facilities with hot showers. The Park also includes a playground, store and gift shop, a swimming area, and trails for walking and biking. Fishing is a popular activity at the Park, which hosts numerous fishing tournaments each year. An access ramp, tackle shop, and a refueling dock are also provided.

2. Lake Wateree and Major Rivers

Lake Wateree is 13,864 acres in size, with 181 miles of shoreline that includes access to Lake Wateree State Park, the Shaw Air Force Base Recreation Center on Baron Dekalb Road, and a bird refuge (SCDNR, 2016). There are nine public boat ramps on the Lake, including three located in Kershaw County – Beaver Creek boat ramp on Becca Lane, Buck Hill boat ramp on Buck Hill Landing Road, and Clearwater Cove on Baron Dekalb Road. Boaters on Lake Wateree also have access to several commercial marinas in Kershaw County, including Clearwater Cove Marina on Baron Dekalb Road, Wateree Lake RV Park and Marina on Dolan Lane, and Wateree Marina on John G. Richards Road. Boat access locations for the Lake and rivers are provided in Map 7-8.

The **Wateree River** flows south from Lake Wateree, touching the westernmost border of the City of Camden as it bisects the western area of Kershaw County. Public access for fishing and watching wildlife is available to Kershaw County residents at boat landings located at the U.S. Highway 1/U.S. Highway 601 bridge and at the U.S. Highway 378/U.S. Highway 76 bridge. A key feature is the **Wateree Blue Trail**, which travels the length of the river, beginning near Camden and winding 75 miles to its convergence with the Congaree River Blue Trail at Congaree National Park.

The **Lynches River** forms the northeastern border between Kershaw County and Chesterfield County. The 111 miles of the river that extends from Lee County to its confluence with the Great Pee Dee River was designated as a South Carolina Scenic River, the upper 54-mile section in 1994 and the lower 57-mile segment in 2008. The State's ten Scenic Rivers are essentially free flowing and possess shorelines that are largely undeveloped, with limited road access. Opportunities for fishing, boating, camping, and wildlife observation are available along the River, with public access points primarily located along the Scenic River sections south of Kershaw County.

3. Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

The **Kershaw County Recreation Department** is headquartered on West Dekalb Street in Camden. The County's recreation efforts are led by the Kershaw County Parks and Recreation Commission that consists of six members appointed by County Council to represent each council district. In addition to operating 15 parks and recreation facilities (Table 7-14 and Map 7-8), the Department conducts a variety of fitness classes, provides summer camps for children and teens, and administers a wide range of youth and adult sports leagues for baseball, softball,

soccer and football. In addition, the Aquatic Center on Battleship Road offers swim lessons, water aerobics, lifeguard training, and a swim team.

There are 35 public parks and outdoor recreation facilities encompassing nearly 424 acres in Kershaw County. Fifteen of the parks and facilities are owned and maintained by Kershaw County, 18 by the City of Camden, and the towns of Bethune and Elgin each own and maintain one park. Recreation resources in the County accommodate a range of outdoor activities such as picnicking and enjoying the outdoors; tracks and trails for walking or jogging; fields for baseball, softball and soccer; courts for basketball, tennis, and volleyball; as well as a disc golf course and a park that accommodates flying model planes and launching model rockets. Table 7-13 lists the parks and associated resources within the County, including size and facilities provided at each site.

Table 7-13. County and Municipal Parks and Recreation Facilities, 2016

Facility Name	Size (acres)	Facilities
Kershaw County	326.6	
Bethune Community Center <i>109 College St. E., Bethune</i>	0.63	Community building available to rent, seats 300 persons
Boyd Young Park <i>3030 Youngs Park Dr., Westville</i>	5.0	1 Lighted ball field, tot lot, restroom, concession stand, meeting building
Conifer Acres <i>1099 Ridgeway Rd., Lugoff</i>	2.0	1 unlighted ball field, tot lot
Copeland Park <i>334 Brown St., Bethune</i>	2.75	1 lighted ball field, 1 unlighted ball field
Kershaw County Aquatic Center <i>196 Battleship Rd., Camden</i>	4.3	Outdoor swimming pool and facility – open seasonally
Kershaw County – West Complex <i>519 Whitehead Rd., Lugoff</i>	100.0	4 tennis courts, 3 lighted soccer fields, 4 lighted baseball fields, walking track, 2 picnic shelters, handicapped accessible playground, restrooms
Knights Hill Park <i>521 Knights Hill Rd., Camden</i>	4.0	1 unlighted ball park, 1 basketball courts, 1 picnic shelter, restrooms
Larry Doby Complex <i>3 Competition Dr., Camden</i>	70.6	4 lighted softball fields, 7 soccer fields, 4 tee-league fields, concession stand, restrooms
Mt. Pisgah <i>5193 Mount Pisgah Rd., Kershaw</i>	5.7	1 lighted ball field, 1 football/soccer field, walking trail, concession stand
Rhame City Arena <i>517 Bull St., Camden</i>	0.71	Indoor basketball facility
Science Park <i>730 Park Rd., Camden</i>	30.0	Model airplane landing strip, rocket launching pad, restroom
Seaboard Park <i>1226 Laurens St. Ext., Camden</i>	17.9	1 softball field, playground, restrooms, recreation center
West Wateree Park <i>422 Smith Rd., Lugoff</i>	14.5	3 lighted ball fields, concession stand, restrooms
Wildwood Youth Complex <i>424 Wildwood Ln., Lugoff</i>	30.0	2 lighted and 2 unlighted ball fields, concession stand, restrooms
Woodward Park <i>82 Ballpark Rd., Camden</i>	38.5	1 lighted soccer field, 5 baseball/softball fields, disc golf course, picnic shelter, restrooms



Table 7-14. County and City Parks and Recreation Facilities, 2016, Continued

City of Camden	149.4	
Boykin Park 1615 Campbell St., Camden	5.5	Basketball court, playground
Burndale Park 1134 Fairlawn Dr., Camden	1.7	Playground
City Arena Park 502 Bull St., Camden	1	Basketball court, playground
City Hall Park 921 Fair St., Camden	1.7	Playground
Edgewood Park 803 Elmore St., Camden	0.8	Playground
Groom Park 20 Five Bridges Rd., Camden	2.8	Open space
Hampton Park 309 East DeKalb St., Camden	5.7	Playground
Kendall Lake Park Lakeshore Dr., Camden	51.0	42-acre lake, boat ramp, club house
Kendall Park 1500 Park Cir., Camden	10.3	½ mile walking trail
Kirkwood Common 210 Kirkwood Ln., Camden	13.9	Open space
Kirkwood Park 192 Stowers St., Camden	6.3	2 basketball courts, playground, baseball field
Monument Square 1400 East Dekalb St., Camden	4.8	Open space
Old Armory 1034 West Dekalb St., Camden	3.8	Indoor basketball facility
Rectory Square 310 Rectory Sq., Camden	5.7	Playground
Rhame City Arena	0.7	Basketball courts, volleyball courts, multi-purpose arena
Scott Park 36 Ball Park Rd., Camden	30.6	4 lighted tennis courts, ¼ mile running track, 1 mile walking trail, 4 sand volleyball courts, playground, picnic shelter, restrooms
Camden Tennis Complex 823 Campbell St., Camden	3.1	16 tennis courts, 12 pickleball courts
Towns of Bethune and Elgin	5.14	
Bethune Town Park 102 King Street East, Bethune	1.2	Passive recreation
Potter Community Park 2427 Main St., Elgin	3.94	Picnic shelter, with plans to install ¼ mile walking trail, playground and 1,800 sq. ft. community center
Total all Facilities	481.1	

Source: Kershaw County Recreation and City of Camden Planning Departments, November 2016

4. Trails

Trails are important recreational resources that can also provide alternatives to travel by car. While some trails provide access to parks or natural resources such as water bodies or scenic views, others provide linkages between residential areas and destinations to work, shopping,

entertainment, recreation, school, or other residential areas. Kershaw County currently has approximately 10.5 miles of trails (Table 7-14). These trails range in length from the three-mile walking trail at the Historic Camden Revolutionary War Park to the quarter-mile trail at Mt. Pisgah Park and half-mile trails at Kendall Park and the Kershaw County West Complex. A quarter-mile walking trail is also planned for the Bethune Town Park.

Table 7-14. Trails in Kershaw County, 2016

Facility Name	Location	Trail Type	Length (miles)
Historic Camden Revolutionary War Park	South Broad Street	Walking	0.7
Battle of Camden National Historic Monument	Flat Rock Road	Walking	3.0
Savage Bay Heritage Preserve	Drakeford Road	Hiking	1.5
Invista	U.S. Highway 1, Lugoff	Walking	1.0
Kendall Park	Park Circle	Walking	0.5
Scott Park	Ball Park Road	Walking	1.3
Mt. Pisgah	Mt. Pisgah Road	Walking	0.25
Goodale State Park	Old Stagecoach Road	Canoe/Kayak	1.7
Kershaw County West Complex	Whitehead Road, Lugoff	Walking	0.5
Total Existing			10.45
Sweet Gum Trail (Under Construction)	Scott Park to Woodward Park	Walking/Biking	0.5

Sources: Kershaw County Recreation Department, 2016; City of Camden Planning Dept., 2016; SCPRT 2016

The Kershaw County Bicycle, Pedestrian and Greenways Plan recommends the addition of more than 420 miles of new on-street bikeways and walkways with bike lanes and nearly 166 miles of new off-street greenways, as well as additional bicycle parking. The half-mile Sweet Gum Connector bicycle and walking trail is the first project recommended by the Plan to be implemented, with construction slated to begin in spring 2017. The ten foot wide, paved trail will connect Scott Park on Battleship Road and Woodward Park on West DeKalb Street.

Although cycling is a popular activity in Kershaw County, only a short section of U.S. Highway 1 includes a bike lane. The County is attractive to long distance cyclists because of its extensive network of rural roads. A number of cycling routes have been identified in multiple plans including the Bicycle, Pedestrian and Greenway Plan. ESMMKC has worked closely with local cyclists and the S.C. Department of Transportation to identify primary bike routes and install “Share the Road” signs and bicycle racks at strategic route locations.

The 2012 Kershaw County Parks and Recreation Master Plan includes an analysis of existing and projected park and recreation needs based on recommended guidelines by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Table 7-15 compares existing recreation facilities with recommended facility needs based on the projected County population through 2022. While the analysis indicates that Kershaw County has more than adequate recreation resources of various types including tennis courts and baseball/softball fields, the most critical future recreation facility need for is for greenways and trails. The analysis also reveals a need for a dog



park, indoor swimming pool, and indoor tennis courts. The Plan noted that interviews with stakeholders – Kershaw County, municipalities, KershawHealth, SCPRT, and the USC School of Public Health – along with input gathered from public forums, supported the need for trails, a dog park, and an indoor pool.

Table 7-15. Recommended Facilities Based on Population through 2022, Kershaw County

Facility (number)	Recommended Facilities*	Existing Facilities		Total Surplus/ (Shortfall)
		Total	County Owned	
Recreation/Community Center	3.5	4	3	1
Playground	19.6	28	7	7
Tennis Court, Indoor	7.4	0	0	(7)
Tennis Court, Outdoor	14.3	43	14	29
Basketball Court, Outdoor	10.5	18	1	8
Swimming Pool, Indoor	1.5	0	0	(2)
Swimming Pool, Outdoor	2.0	2	1	0
Football/Soccer Fields	12.9	21	14	8
Baseball/Softball Fields	18.0	44	33	26
Golf Course	1.6	6	1	4
Dog Park	1.2	0	0	(1)
Greenways/Trails (miles)	19.5 miles	4	0	(15)

* Recommended by NRPA for population of 50,000 to 99,999
 Source: Kershaw County Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 2012

5. Other Recreation Opportunities

In addition to traditional recreational activities, Kershaw County residents have access to a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities, with many centered on the area’s vibrant equine community. The 60-acre **South Carolina Equine Park** is a state-of-the-art facility designed to accommodate a full range of equine activities, breeds, and users. Located on Cleveland School Road near Interstate 20, the Equine Park includes three show rings, two covered arena areas, two schooling areas, nine barns with 288 stables, 100 RV sites, concessions, and restrooms. The Park opened in September 2009 and is owned and maintained by the South Carolina Equine Promotion Foundation.

Built in 1898, the **Camden Polo Field** is the second oldest field in the nation and has been designated as a National Landmark. The beginnings of the equine industry in Kershaw County can be traced to the development of Camden as a winter resort, with polo as the chief attraction. Although the sport declined during the second half of the 20th century, the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County and the Camden Polo Club teamed to revive the sport in 2001. Today the Polo Field site on Lyttleton Street is held in perpetual trust by the Palmetto Conservation Foundation and is used for a variety of local events, including the annual Camden Cup polo match, held on the first Sunday of May each year.



The **Carolina Hunt** is the second oldest hunt in South Carolina and has been an important aspect of Camden’s equine culture since 1926. Carolina Hunt Country maintains a professional huntsman and a kennel of hounds. The Hunt schedule runs from September through mid-March. Equestrians are also able to ride on the property’s safe and well maintained trails when hunts are not underway through membership or by association as a “Friend of the Hunt.”

Heritage Farm Shooting Sports provides facilities for a wide range of shooting sport activities including a sport clays course, skeet shooting area, wobble trap and five stands, on a 1,500 acre property located on Tickle Hill Road.

There are two golf courses located within Kershaw County. The oldest course in the County is **Camden County Club**, located on Knights Hill Road in Camden. The 18-hole private course was completed in 1903. The **White Pines Golf Club** is an 18-hole, public course that was completed in 1973. The Club is located on Mary Lane near Goodale State Park.

K. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The goals, objectives and strategies for implementation (GOIS) table summarizes the actions that will be undertaken in the coming decade to achieve the goals and objectives identified in the element. Element goals are broad based ideals that are intended to guide the future of the community, while an objective is a more specific elaboration of a goal that also provides direction. Together the goals and objectives outline the framework for the element and provide the basis for the more detailed and specific plan strategies. Each implementation strategy includes a listing of the agencies that will be accountable for the implementation of the strategy, as well as a time frame for the completion of the strategy.

Goals/Objectives/Strategies	Accountable Agency	Timeframe for Completion
Goal 7.1. Deliver public services that are effective, efficient and responsive to community needs.		
Objective 7.1.1. Ensure customer satisfaction with public services.		
Strategy 7.1.1.1. Reinforce customer service as a priority focus for all public sector employees.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.1.1.2. Provide information and services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.1.1.3. Increase access to public services and information via web, news media, and other outreach mechanisms.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.1.1.4. Develop interagency website links to guide customers to specific public service agencies.	Kershaw County Public Service Providers	On-going
Strategy 7.1.1.5. Eliminate physical and procedural barriers to access without sacrificing quality or integrity.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.1.1.6. Leverage technology to anticipate service needs and adapt to meet them.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.1.1.7. Maintain consistent organizational points of contact for residents and community partners.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.1.1.8. Expand the use of County recycling centers as community information and outreach venues.	Kershaw County	2020
Objective 7.1.2. Foster a "One County" ethic that fosters collaboration, communication, and cooperation.		
Strategy 7.1.2.1. Actively participate in and strengthen countywide organizations and policy bodies.	Kershaw County Municipalities	On-going
Strategy 7.1.2.2. Leverage State and Federal resources to meet the County's highest priority needs.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.1.2.3. Establish channels for open communication among all public service agencies in all economic development projects.	Kershaw County Public Service Providers KCEDO	On-going
Strategy 7.1.2.4. Incentivize and retain a quality public sector workforce.	Kershaw County	On-going
Objective 7.1.3. Implement the goals, objectives, and implementation strategies of the Comprehensive Plan.		
Strategy 7.1.3.1. Determine staff, facility and resource needs and partnerships to implement the Comprehensive Plan.	Kershaw County Municipalities Partner Agencies and Entities	2017
Strategy 7.1.3.2. Develop a comprehensive funding strategy to identify internal and external funding sources to support plan implementation.	Kershaw County Municipalities Partner Agencies and Entities	2017
Strategy 7.1.3.3. Assess progress in meeting implementation strategies and prepare an annual progress summary.	Kershaw County	Annually
Strategy 7.1.3.4. Conduct a periodic review and update of the County's Comprehensive Plan at least once every five years to ensure relevance, update data, and adjust timeframes for completion of strategies as needed.	Kershaw County	2022
Strategy 7.1.3.5. Prepare a new County Comprehensive Plan every 10 years.	Kershaw County	2027

Goals/Objectives/Strategies	Accountable Agency	Timeframe for Completion
Goal 7.1. Deliver public services that are effective, efficient and responsive to community needs (Continued).		
Objective 7.1.4. Provide and maintain adequate administrative facilities.		
Strategy 7.1.4.1. Continue to update the <i>Kershaw County Capital Improvement Plan</i> to provide an inventory of County facilities and set forth an annual listing of priority projects.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.1.4.2. Develop a replacement/renovation plan for key government facilities such as the Administration Building, Central and Branch libraries, and the Courthouse.	Kershaw County	2020
Objective 7.1.5. Strengthen coordination among the County, municipalities, neighboring counties, regional and State agencies, and other public and private organizations.		
Strategy 7.1.5.1. Continue coordination with municipalities, neighboring jurisdictions and the State on matters relating to public safety, homeland security, emergency preparedness, and other matters of regional or statewide importance.	Kershaw County Municipalities Neighboring Jurisdictions	On-going
Strategy 7.1.5.2. Continue coordination of the provision of water, sewer, and electricity with municipalities and other public and private providers.	Kershaw County Municipal Utility Providers Public & Private Utilities	On-going
Strategy 7.1.5.3. Continue coordination with public and private organizations for the provision of services, programs and facilities such as those for the elderly and for public recreation.	Kershaw County Municipalities KCAOA Other Public and Private Organizations	On-going
Strategy 7.1.5.4. Coordinate with municipalities, neighboring jurisdictions, KCCOA, and SLCOG to promote reliable, safe, and cost effective transportation to meet the needs of vulnerable and underserved populations.	Kershaw County Municipalities KCCOA SLRCOG	On-going
Goal 7.2. Provide adequate, safe, and efficient infrastructure to support current and projected needs.		
Objective 7.2.1. Leverage existing and planned utility infrastructure to support growth.		
Strategy 7.2.1.1. Establish an informal infrastructure advisory group to encourage mutually reinforcing capital infrastructure projects developed by individual agencies.	Kershaw County Municipalities SLRCOG Utility Providers K-12 and Higher Education Health and Social Service Agencies	2023
Strategy 7.2.1.2. Support the expansion and upgrade of utility infrastructure (including water, sewer, electricity, and broadband).	Kershaw County Municipalities Utility Providers	On-going
Strategy 7.2.1.3. Layer utility investments to incentivize business, industrial, and residential growth in places where growth can be sustained by infrastructure.	Kershaw County Municipalities Utility Providers	2023
Strategy 7.2.1.4. Establish and resource, through private and public sector partnerships, water and wastewater service strategies that address countywide needs.	Kershaw County Municipalities Water/Sewer Service Providers	2023
Strategy 7.2.1.5. Establish utility connection policies/requirements that ensure that properties connect to public sewer (new properties when constructed, existing properties when replacement of existing septic systems is needed) where available.	Kershaw County Municipalities Sewer Service Providers	2023
Strategy 7.2.1.6. Support water and sewer providers in the extension of water and sewer service to minimize the need for septic tanks where conditions are not suitable or water sources may be compromised in currently unserved or underserved areas that are consistent with future land use plan.	Kershaw County Municipalities Water/Sewer Providers Developers	On-going

Goals/Objectives/Strategies	Accountable Agency	Timeframe for Completion
Goal 7.3. Ensure access to quality, lifelong educational opportunities for all residents.		
Objective 7.3.1. Promote coordination with the K-12 school system and higher education to ensure adequate existing facilities and planning for future growth and needs.		
Strategy 7.3.1.1. Work with the School District to plan for the location and size of new schools and the expansion of existing facilities that are aligned with development and population growth trends.	Kershaw County Municipalities Kershaw County School District	On-going
Strategy 7.3.1.2. Support School District efforts to secure additional funding to improve instruction through improvements in facilities, teacher recruitment, community involvement, curriculum enhancement, and the integration of instructional technology.	Kershaw County Municipalities Kershaw County School District Chamber of Commerce Employers	On-going
Strategy 7.3.1.3. Explore partnerships with the School District and Central Carolina Technical College for joint use of facilities.	Kershaw County Municipalities Kershaw County School District Central Carolina Technical College	2020
Strategy 7.3.1.4. Develop a career learning and arts campus cluster that includes Central Carolina Technical College.	Kershaw County Kershaw County School District Central Carolina Technical College	2019
Goal 7.4. Protect the health, safety and welfare of County residents and visitors.		
Objective 7.4.1. Reduce vulnerability and exposure of the public to man-made or natural disasters or catastrophic events and maintain readiness to effectively implement assistance and recovery operations.		
Strategy 7.4.1.1. Continue coordination among the County, municipalities, neighboring counties, and State and Federal agencies on procedures and programs related to disaster preparedness and emergency operations.	Kershaw County KershawHealth Municipalities State and Federal Agencies Other Relevant Local Agencies	On-going
Strategy 7.4.1.2. Conduct regular updates to the County Disaster Preparedness Plan.	Kershaw County KershawHealth Other Relevant Local Agencies	On-going
Objective 7.4.2. Provide timely and prepared response to fire, police, and medical emergencies.		
Strategy 7.4.2.1. Maintain proactive law enforcement presence in communities and expand law enforcement partnerships between County and municipalities.	Kershaw County Municipalities	On-going
Strategy 7.4.2.2. Deliver emergency services quickly and efficiently throughout the County by fully staffing and effectively equipping police, fire and EMS agencies.	Kershaw County Municipalities	On-going
Strategy 7.4.2.3. Provide robust victim service programs.	Kershaw County Municipalities Health & Social Service Providers	On-going
Strategy 7.4.2.4. Expand emergency management training programs such as Fire Service technology for volunteer and career volunteers.	Kershaw County Municipalities	2020
Strategy 7.4.2.5. Expand the availability of fire protection service professionals in growth areas to meet present and anticipated demand, and reward fire protection volunteers.	Kershaw County Municipalities Volunteer Fire Departments	2020
Strategy 7.4.2.6. Continue to improve ISO ratings countywide.	Kershaw County Municipalities	On-going
Strategy 7.4.2.7. Operate secure, humane, and efficient detention facilities proportional to the population.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.4.2.8. Ensure that criminal justice facilities, including courts, jails, and police stations, are adequately resourced.	Kershaw County Municipalities State & Federal Public Safety Partners	On-going
Objective 7.4.3. Ensure the safety of residents, visitors, and property through consistent enforcement.		
Strategy 7.4.3.1. Enforce building, property maintenance, land use, and fire codes throughout the County.	Kershaw County Municipalities	On-going
Strategy 7.4.3.2. Ensure excellence in animal control.	Kershaw County	On-going
Strategy 7.4.3.3. Continue participation in the National Flood Insurance Program and administration of the floodplain management program in compliance with Federal and State regulations.	Kershaw County Property Owners	On-going

Goals/Objectives/Strategies	Accountable Agency	Timeframe for Completion
Goal 7.5. Preserve, maintain, expand and promote opportunities for recreation.		
Objective 7.5.1. Provide passive and active recreational opportunities to meet the diverse needs of County residents and visitors.		
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.1.</u> Update the <i>Kershaw County Parks and Recreation Master Plan</i> on a regular basis to identify and develop park and recreational spaces to offer a variety of recreation options for residents and visitors.	Kershaw County Municipalities Other Recreation Providers	On-going
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.2.</u> Develop joint use sports complexes capable of hosting day tournaments for teams and leagues by either upgrading existing facilities or constructing new facilities.	Kershaw County Municipalities Public and Private Partners	2026
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.3.</u> Work with the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism to identify a strategic plan for expanding use at Goodale State Park.	Kershaw County SCPRT	2026
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.4.</u> Expand organized recreation opportunities to serve the needs of a broad range of age groups.	Kershaw County Municipalities Community Recreation Partners	On-going
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.5.</u> Identify and provide public access to a sufficiently sized site or combination of sites that allow horseback riding, mountain biking, and hiking.	Kershaw County Municipalities Conservation Partners	2026
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.6.</u> Facilitate a public-private partnership to construct and maintain indoor aquatic centers.	Kershaw County Municipalities Public and Private Partners	2026
Objective 7.5.1. Provide passive and active recreational opportunities to meet the diverse needs of County residents and visitors.		
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.8.</u> Ensure that planning and zoning requirements, fire safety codes, and noise ordinances enhance protection for key historic, recreation and tourism sites and assets.	Kershaw County Municipalities	On-going
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.9.</u> Maintain the strength of the County's equine industry by identifying compatible land use opportunities that account for noise factors such as the County airport.	Kershaw County Municipalities	2023
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.10.</u> Identify additional access points and needs for facility improvements along the Wateree River in Kershaw County.	Kershaw County SCDNR/SCPRT	2023
<u>Strategy 7.5.1.11.</u> Work with public and private sector entities to identify and develop day use access points at Lake Wateree, including facilities for camping, fishing, picnicking, boat access, and recreation.	Kershaw County Duke Energy Other Public and Private Entities	2026
Objective 7.5.2. Develop a comprehensive network of recreational trails, greenways and paths.		
<u>Strategy 7.5.2.1.</u> Research and develop the potential reuse of the abandoned Norfolk Southern rail corridor through the City of Camden as a greenway.	Kershaw County City of Camden	2026
<u>Strategy 7.5.2.2.</u> Implement the policy recommendations of the <i>2013 Kershaw County Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Greenways Plan</i> .	Kershaw County Municipalities	On-going
<u>Strategy 7.5.2.3.</u> Develop strategies for countywide promotion of recreation, leisure, historical, sports, and equine tourism opportunities.	Kershaw County Municipalities Chamber and Tourism Partners	2023
<u>Strategy 7.5.2.4.</u> Expand youth sports tournaments and local festivals.	Kershaw County Municipalities Tourism Partners	2023
<u>Strategy 7.5.2.5.</u> Develop riverfront public use space (walking paths, conferencing and event center) at U.S. Highway 1 between Lugoff and Camden.	Kershaw County Municipalities	2026
<u>Strategy 7.5.2.6.</u> Acquire green space along the Wateree River and tributary basins to improve access to the Wateree River Blue Trail.	Kershaw County Property Owners Conservation Partners	2026
<u>Strategy 7.5.2.7.</u> Enhance bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure (bicycle lanes, racks).	Kershaw County Municipalities	On-going
<u>Strategy 7.5.2.8.</u> To the greatest extent feasible, design and build "Complete Streets" accessible to pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit users.	Kershaw County Municipalities Developers SCDOT	On-going
<u>Strategy 7.5.2.9.</u> Support creation of accessible indoor and outdoor spaces for physical recreational activity.	Kershaw County Municipalities Public and Private Partners	On-going