

January 2008

Citizens of Ridgeland

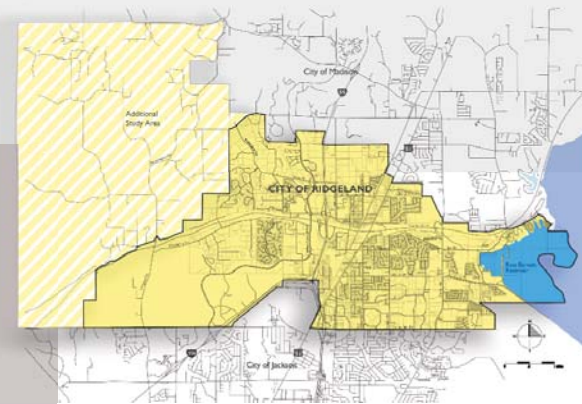
In August 2007, the City of Ridgeland was included as one of Money Magazine’s prestigious “100 Best Places to Live”. This award is an indication of the hard work and leadership this community has consistently demonstrated over the past several years and we all should be proud of our accomplishment. It does not, however, signal an opportunity for us to sit back and rest on our laurels. Our city must constantly look for opportunities to improve the quality of life for all our citizens and remain competitive with surrounding communities by attracting quality jobs and desirable development. The Ridgeland Area Master Plan is an invaluable tool that will help us meet new challenges with confidence.

This plan represents a comprehensive effort by city leaders and community participants to identify opportunities that make our city even better. As the plan suggests, doing so will require two things: that we continue to grow in a way that enhances the quality and character of our community, and that we remain vigilant for opportunities to maintain and improve the vitality and quality of our existing schools, neighborhoods, shopping areas, recreational facilities and services.

It is with great enthusiasm that I present to the citizens of Ridgeland this master plan. Your Board of Alderman and I look forward to working with you as we begin the implementation phase of this important work. We would like to express our sincere thanks to all who generously shared their time and insights in developing this plan. With your continued support and cooperation I know we will continue to be rated among the best places to live.

Sincerely,

Gene F. McGee, Mayor  
City of Ridgeland



Mayor Gene F. McGee



At Large  
Mayor Pro-tem  
Gerald Steen



Ward 1  
Ken Heard



Ward 2  
Chuck Gautier



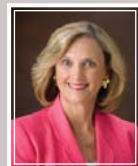
Ward 3  
Kevin Holder



Ward 4  
Larry Roberts



Ward 5  
Scott Jones



Ward 6  
Linda S. Davis



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1 - 2
<b>INVENTORY</b>	
History.....	3
Natural Resources.....	4
Human Resources.....	7
Economic Resources.....	11
Planning Units.....	17
Asset Mapping.....	25
<b>VISIONING and GOALS</b>	
Visioning Meetings .....	26
Community Planning Goals .....	30
<b>ANALYSIS and PRELIMINARY PLAN</b>	
Schematic Plan .....	34
Core Areas .....	35
Essential Elements for Community Sustainability .....	36
Innovation .....	37
Previous Studies .....	46
Draft Master Plan.....	47
<b>FOCUS AREAS and FINAL PLAN</b>	
Sunnybrook .....	50
West Jackson Street Overlay District .....	54
Highway 51 Corridor .....	58
City Center and Freedom Ridge Park .....	63
Southeast Ridgeland Redevelopment.....	69
Northpark District.....	77
Costas Lake .....	82
<b>FINAL PLAN</b>	86
<b>FUNDING RESOURCES</b>	
Funding Resource Matrix.....	88