



The City of Travelers Rest
125 Trailblazer Drive
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
(864) 834-8740

***PLANNING
COMMISSION***

REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

DATE OF MEETING: **July 27, 2023**

TIME OF MEETING: 6 PM

LOCATION: Council Chambers

1. OPENING

- a. Call to Order & Opening Remarks
- b. Roll Call
- c. Approval of Minutes – June 29, 2023

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Five Year Comprehensive Plan Review – Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, Community Facilities Elements
- b. Comprehensive Plan Survey update – Available at travelersrestsc.com/businesses/plans-projects/

3. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. None

4. ADJOURN

MINUTES
TRAVELERS REST PLANNING COMMISSION
6/29/2023
6:00 PM Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chair Tony Rackley, Evan Cantrell, Diane Maxwell, Bryan Haffey

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chair Rebecca Cooper, Michelle Garrison, Don Watson

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Forman, Haley Hopkins

PUBLIC PRESENT: Two additional members of public

1. OPENING

- a. **Call to Order/Opening Remarks:** Vice Chair Rackley called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
- b. **Roll Call:** Four present members stated their names.
- c. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes for the May 25, 2023 meeting was motioned for approval by Commissioner Cantrell and seconded by Commissioner Maxwell. No discussion. Motion passed 4-0.

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Five Year Comprehensive Plan Review – Population and Housing**
Staff presented the first two chapters of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan review for discussion via power point.
- b. **Five Year Comprehensive Plan Review – Survey**
Staff announced that the Comprehensive Plan survey was available on the website and via social media. Commissioners Rackley and Maxwell recommended the city consider utilizing additional means to publicize the survey. Staff indicated they would look into additional ways to do so.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. None.

4. ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Maxwell and seconded by Commissioner Haffey. No discussion. Motion passed 4-0 at 6:46PM.



2023 Comprehensive Plan Review

Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, and Community Facilities

It Starts With



2023 Comprehensive Plan Review Schedule

June 29, 2023: Population and Housing

July 27, 2023: Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, and Community Facilities

August 2023: Transportation and Economic Development

September 2023: Land Use and Resiliency

October 2023: Priority Investment Element

November 2023: City Council Committee and 1st Reading

December 2023: City Council Final Reading

Natural Resources

Natural Resources considers coastal resources, slope characteristics, prime agricultural and forest land, plant and animal habitats, parks and recreation areas, scenic views and sites, wetlands, and soil types.

Recommendations and Progress from 2018 Comprehensive Plan

Recommendations (2018)	Challenges Addressed	Progress (2023) No Progress, In Progress, Complete
Natural Resources		
The creation of Greenlink routes and the use of alternative transportation and car-pooling to minimize air pollution.	Utilize transportation recommendations to improve air quality	In Progress. +/-4,959 feet of multi-use trails built in city since 2018. Plans for +/-12,250 feet of multi-use trails planned for construction within the next 12 months.
Additionally, by minimizing deforestation in the creation of subdivisions and neighborhoods and planting new trees air quality can help relieve the ground ozone levels to a safer level.	Reduce deforestation through policy	In Progress. Tree Protection Ordinance passed by city council in March 2022. The new ordinance created a tree mitigation fund, utilized specifically for the planning, planting, and maintenance of new trees within the city.
Through special attention and co-ordination to protect this rare natural resource with the county as well as the City when considering developments along the Enoree River within the city limits.	Protection of rare plants	Complete via the county's bunched arrowhead ordinance. All developments in the city of Travelers Rest must account for the presence of bunched arrowhead at or near the site, and if present, the mitigation of effects from the new development on the species.

Cultural Resources

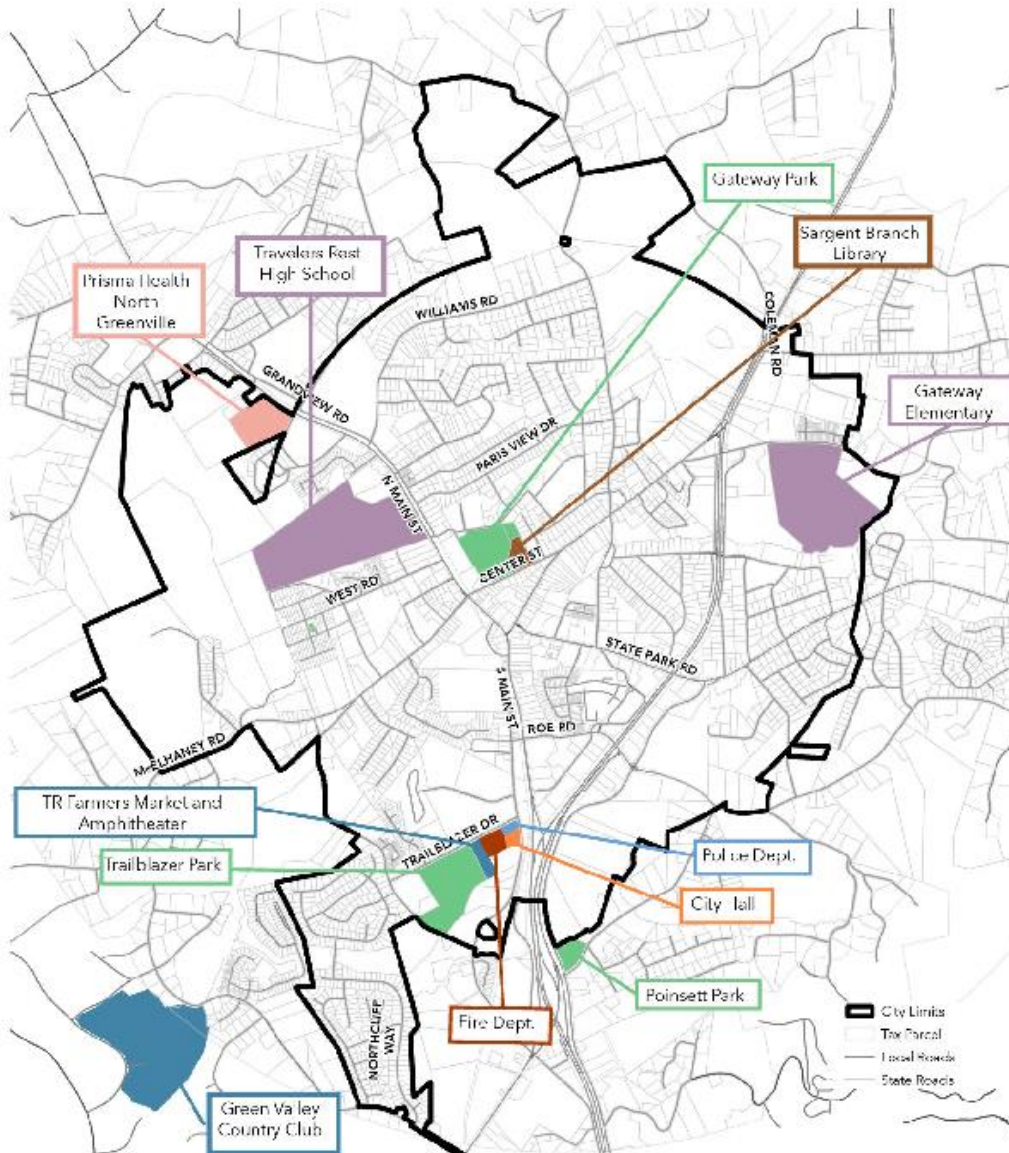
Cultural Resources considers historic buildings and structures, commercial districts, residential districts, unique, natural, or scenic resources, archaeological, and other cultural resources.

Recommendations and Progress from 2018 Comprehensive Plan

Recommendations (2018)	Challenges Addressed	Progress (2023) No Progress, In Progress, Complete
Cultural Resources		
Enhance public awareness about the importance of preserving historical resources.	Coordinated marketing strategy	In Progress. City is working with the TR Historic Society on renovations and improvements to the Spring Park Inn.
Develop an indoor entertainment venue.	Develop an indoor venue	In progress. City officials work with developers to consider TR for an indoor entertainment venue.
Continue to provide opportunities for cultural events at Trailblazer Park.	Coordinated marketing strategy	In progress. City recently revised and streamlined the special events process which has paid immediate dividends. Trailblazer Park is utilized nearly daily for many cultural and civic programs.
Partner with Furman University on artist in residency programs and opportunities.	Coordinated marketing strategy	In Progress. City officials in contact regarding multiple opportunities involving Furman.
Develop marketing strategy for city's cultural assets and events.	Coordinated marketing strategy	In Progress. The city has hired a full time marketing specialist to reshape the city's online and in person marketing strategies.

Community Facilities

Community Facilities element considers water supply, treatment, and distribution; sewage system and wastewater treatment; solid waste collection and disposal, fire protection, emergency medical services, and general government facilities; education facilities; and libraries and other cultural facilities.



Community Facilities 2023

As described in Community Facilities chapter, this includes parks, schools, libraries, centers for education, recreational spaces and government facilities that are accessible to community members.

Community Facilities

Key changes to the Community Facilities element since 2018:

Sewer: Metro Connects took over the City of Travelers Rest sewer system in 2023. Metro Connects works closely with city staff to ensure continued service. The city continues to review new sewer requests.

Solid Waste: Greater Greenville Sanitation ceased recycling services in 2023 for city residents. As of July 2023, city residents can utilize Ever Green Environmental for recycling services, or they may continue to utilize any of the recycling centers in or near the city (Food Lion parking lot, Echo Valley, and Blackberry Valley).

Public Safety: Chief Ben Ford replaced Chief Lance Crowe in December 2019.

Recreation: The city opened a new playground at Trailblazer Park in 2023, with a zip line, swings, and climbing areas for children of all ages and accommodations.

Recommendations and Progress from 2018 Comprehensive Plan

Recommendations (2018)	Challenges Addressed	Progress (2023) No Progress, In Progress, Complete
Community Facilities		
Continue the replacement programs for police and fire equipment to ensure equipment is replaced on a regular schedule.	New fire equipment and new police equipment	In Progress
Continue to implement sewer rehab projects as necessary to upgrade the system.	Sewer rehab and capacity	In Progress. The city recently turned over sewer system to Metro Connects, however the city continues to work with developers and the community to upgrade the sewer system as needed.
Adequately review and provide analysis of the costs of annexing additional lands. Fully align the City's growth goals with its annexation policy, including plans to annex unincorporated enclaves.	Sewer rehab and capacity	In Progress. City considers each annexation request for alignment with the city's goals.
Initiate and/or expand programs to decrease crime and fire incident rates.	New fire equipment and new police equipment	In Progress
Develop a building maintenance program to ensure that funding is available to renovate facilities as they age.		In Progress. City has a capital projects plan and fund that addresses funding over a multi-year horizon.
Consider the policy principles of the Master Plan when making future development and redevelopment decisions such as zoning approvals and development agreements.	Sewer rehab and capacity	In Progress. City considers many options including the comprehensive plan when making future development decisions.
Coordinate with the County on the development and implementation of plans for Parks and Recreation facilities; Trailblazer Park and Gateway Park improvements to include dog park, playgrounds etc.		In Progress. City recently improved Trailblazer Park and is working with the county to assume maintenance responsibilities in the future.
Continue to construct more bicycle and walking trails.		In Progress. +/-4,959 feet of multi-use trails built in city since 2018. Plans for +/-12,250 feet of multi-use trails planned for construction within the next 12 months.
Proactively upgrade the infrastructure in areas targeted for development and redevelopment.	Sewer rehab and capacity	In Progress
Promote sustainability as a guiding principle for all community facilities.		In Progress

It Starts With

