



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

VIRTUAL MEETING

Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg
358 3rd Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936

January 4, 2021
OFFICIAL MINUTES

Officials Present: Chairwoman Barbara B. Clark, Vice Chairman Dr. Curtis Brantley, Councilman L. Martin Sauls, Councilman Pastor Alvin Adkins and Councilman John Kemp.

Staff Present: County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Clerk to Council Wanda H. Simmons, County Attorney David Tedder, Administrative Services Director Kimberly Burgess, Emergency Services Director Chief Russell Wells, Lisa Wagner Director of Planning and Building and Jonathan Dunham.

Call to Order: Chairwoman Clark called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 PM.

Clerk of County Council, Wanda Simmons read the statement of report of compliance with the Freedom of Information Act for the record.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Kemp and the invocation was given by Councilman Adkins.

Introduction of New Members

- **Replay of videos from the Swearing In Ceremonies**

Jonathan Dunham presented the videos of the Swearing In Ceremonies for Councilman Adkins, Councilman Kemp, Sheriff Hipp and Coroner Aiken for the viewing of the public at this time during the meeting.

Election of Officers

A. Andrew Fulghum – Election of Chairman

Mr. Fulghum opened the floor for nominations for the seat of Chairman for the County Council. Councilman Sauls nominated Councilwoman Barbara Clark. There were no additional nominations, so Mr. Fulghum closed the nominations. Councilmembers voted yes, with one abstention from Councilman Dr. Brantley, to elect Barbara Clark for the position of Chairwoman to the County Council.

B. Chairman – Election of Vice Chairman

Chairwoman Clark opened the floor for nominations for the seat of Vice Chairman for the County Council. Chairwoman Clark nominated Councilman Sauls but no second was given to the nomination. Chairwoman Clark asked if there were any other nominations. Councilman Adkins nominated Councilman Dr. Brantley

and Councilman Kemp seconded the nomination. Council voted with three votes to elect Councilman Dr. Brantley as the Vice Chairman to the County Council.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda: Councilman Sauls

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes of December 7, 2020:

Motion to approve the minutes of December 7, 2020: Councilman Sauls

Second: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Vote: Councilman Kemp said he and Councilman Adkins could not vote since they were not on council at the time the minutes were taken. Chairwoman Clark, Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley and Councilman Sauls all voted yes.

The motion passed.

Adoption of the 2021 County Council Meeting Schedule:

Motion to approve the 2021 County Council Meeting Schedule: Councilman Sauls

Second: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Presentations or Proclamations – There were no presentations or proclamations for this meeting.

Open Floor to the Public per Ordinance 08-17 any citizen of the County may sign to speak before the Council on matters pertaining to County Services and Operations. Presentations will be limited to three (3) minutes and total public input will be limited to 30 minutes.

Chairwoman Clark asked if there had been any public comments received for this meeting. Clerk to Council Wanda Simmons said one public comment had been received and she read the comment for the record. At the conclusion of the reading of the public comment, Chairwoman Clark noted that comments were not addressed verbally, and that County Administrator Andrew Fulghum would respond writing with a copy of the letter being provided to county council.

Resolution:

A. [Kimberly Burgess](#) – A resolution to set the fees for a Peddlers and Hawkers License Section 40-41-30 South Carolina Code

Kimberly Burgess addressed this request. She said that there is a state law that requires that counties must adopt this resolution each year. She noted that the fees are established in the county business license ordinance.

Councilman Kemp asked if someone was obtaining a Peddler License, if they had to go to the Town of Ridgeland and the City of Hardeeville to obtain a separate license for each if they got one in the county. He asked if the county license would cover the entire county of Ridgeland including the municipalities. Chairwoman Clark said she was not sure regarding municipalities, but that they needed one to operate in the county. Councilman Kemp said he would like to know if a Peddler needed 3 different licenses. Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley said that this license applies to the whole county and since Hardeeville and Ridgeland are a part of the county the county license would cover them.

Motion to approve the resolution to set the fees for a Peddlers and Hawkers License Section 40-41-30 South Carolina Code: Councilman Sauls

Second: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Ordinances:

A: Lisa Wagner – Consideration of the 1st reading of an ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 040-00-02-094 from the Residential Zone and Community Commercial Zone to the Community Commercial Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map.

Lisa Wagner was present to address this request. She said the subject property consists of 3.09 acres and is located at 12336 Speedway Boulevard. The Applicant has requested a Zoning Map Amendment to have the property designated as Community Commercial (CC). The property is currently split zoned Residential and Community Commercial. The property has been used for many years as a storage area although it has never been formally developed.

The Zoning Map Amendment application and request is reviewed by considering the factors that according to the 2018 Jasper County Comprehensive Plan, the Future Land Use Map identifies this area as “Urban Transition,” which are pockets of unincorporated Jasper County that are partially or entirely surrounded by the municipality. For these areas that experience new development or redevelopment, consideration should be given to working with the adjacent municipality for annexation.

She said the adjacent parcels are zoned Community Commercial, Residential, and Planned Development District through the City of Hardeeville. She also noted that the adjacent land uses are commercial, residential, and vacant property. The subject property is accessed by Speedway Boulevard, which is a four-lane state-maintained highway, classified as a major arterial road. She said the Planning Commission recommends approval of the request to have the property designated as Community Commercial.

Councilman Kemp asked if that was a part of the overlay district. Ms. Wagner said it was located within an overlay district in the Gateway Overlay District. She noted that in the City of Hardeeville they get a copy of the agenda for all Planning Commission meetings. She said Hardeeville had contacted them and they were given a staff report, but she had not received any other questions or comments.

Motion to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation and approve the first reading of this ordinance: Councilman Kemp

Second: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

B: Lisa Wagner – Consideration of the 1st reading of an ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 038-00-01-001 from the Residential Zone and Community Commercial Zone to the Community Commercial Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map

Lisa Wagner was present to address this request. She said subject property consists of 24.04 acres and is located at the intersection of Alligator Aly and Speedway Boulevard. The Applicant has requested a Zoning Map Amendment to have the property designated as Community Commercial (CC). The property is currently split zoned Residential and Community Commercial. The property is undeveloped.

The Zoning Map Amendment application and request is reviewed by considering the factors that according to the 2018 Jasper County Comprehensive Plan, the Future Land Use Map identifies this area as "Resource Conservation," which are areas that fall alongside the rivers that flank the east and west of Jasper County. These areas should be used primarily for conservation and recreation. Any development should be very low in impact.

She said the adjacent parcels are zoned Rural Preservation, Community Commercial and Resource Conservation. Adjacent land uses are residential, commercial, recreational, and vacant property. The subject property is accessed by Alligator Aly, which is a two-lane state-maintained highway, classified as an arterial road. She said from a land use perspective, staff recommends approval of the request to have the property designated as Community Commercial.

Councilman Kemp stated that at the meeting of the Planning Commission the application was a split application because the request to the Planning Commission was for both Rural Preservation and Community Commercial zoning. He said he felt the board wanted to do Rural Preservation. He asked why Ms. Wagner choose to move it forward to council under Community Commercial only since the application showed both. Ms. Wagner said there was some discussion at the Planning Commission meeting regarding this information, however, they do not recommend split zoning property and they did not want to subdivide the parcel. She said the Planning Commission decided in favor of and voted for Community Commercial moving forward, and the property owner had no objection to that since the use they are asking for could be done under either zoning.

Motion to approve the first reading of this ordinance: Councilman Kemp

Second: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

New Business

A: Kimberly Burgess – Presentation of bids for rock.

Kimberly Burgess was present to address this request. She said that this bid was for #57 stone being purchased for road repairs. She said the low bid was from Greene Farm Trucking in the amount of \$168,880.00. She said that this amount exceeded the budget amount set aside for this project. She stated that staff ask that the County Administrator enter into a contract with the vendor not to exceed \$150,000.00.

Motion to accept the bid from Green Farms Trucking for a cost not to exceed \$150,000.00 and allow the County Administrator to enter into a contract with the vendor not to exceed the total cost of \$150,000.00: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Old Business:

There was no old business on this agenda.

Council Members Comments:

Councilman Sauls thanked everyone for pulling through 2020 as it was such a challenging year, most especially with COVID. He thanked the staff, the county, the First Responders, the Police Departments, Law Enforcement and Medical Staff. He said he was looking forward to a good and healthy new year.

Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley said that he wanted to thank everyone for their kindness and thoughtfulness to Council during this holiday season. He wished everyone a Happy New Year and said that he hoped God blessed them all.

Councilman Adkins stated that he thanked everyone for the opportunity they had given him by electing him to this position. He said that he knew that God would carry him through this learning with the blessings of his colleagues.

Councilman Kemp stated that he wanted to thank everyone who had voted. He said he was looking forward to working with everyone. He noted that with God's help he would work hard to do the citizens will. He also thanked everyone who participated in the orientation process.

Chairwoman Clark thanked everyone for working together. She also thanked the council for their faith in her to appoint her as Chairwoman to the Council. She noted that she had learned in her Leadership Meetings that meetings should last between 45 minutes to an hour in order to keep everyone fresh and engaged. She asked to keep the meetings on a timely manner and noted that when council received their packets if they had any questions to please call the County Administrator or staff prior to the meeting.

Administrator's Report:

Mr. Fulghum noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 since the Monday fell on the holiday for Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday.

Mr. Fulghum also noted that he would be working on the Staff Retreat which usually occurs in January. He said he would be speaking with Chairwoman Clark about the Council Retreat and when this would take place in order to be able to make proper preparations and have time to pull everything together for the retreat.

He noted that Mrs. Burgess had been here a couple of years and that he had encouraged her to take the courses to obtain a certification in the Finance area. He said he would like to congratulate her for obtaining her certification through the Government Finance Officers Association to obtain the designation of a Certified Government Finance Officer. Mr. Fulghum and Council congratulated Mrs. Burgess on her certification.

Mr. Fulghum stated that he would be turning over to Chief Wells for the Marsh Cove groundbreaking update and COVID-19 report.

Chief Wells stated that they were working on the Marsh Cove groundbreaking ceremony and that they would be sending out the dates for this very soon. Chief Wells also reviewed the COVID statistics as of January 2, 2021 (Attachment A). He noted at this time that Jasper County had a positivity rate of 29.4%, which was exceeding the State of South Carolina positivity rate of 26.1% for this time period. He discussed some the DHEC testing locations and the immunization process. Chairwoman Clark noted that COVID is rapidly growing and with this the county employees are working from home and only coming in as necessary to promote safety, safe distancing and to avoid contacting COVID as much as possible. She said the day-to-day operations of the county were still moving forward smoothly. She urged everyone to continue to stay safe and follow the recommended guidelines.

Chairwoman Clark stated it was time to move into executive session. Councilman Kemp wanted to know why they were going into executive session to discuss the Coroner. Chairwoman Clark stated that they were going to discuss what he needed in order to operate his department. Councilman Kemp stated that this would not constitute an executive session item if its regarding the budget. He said it couldn't be personnel related because he was an Elected Official who could not be fired, he couldn't be promoted and his pay was set, so we could not see a reason for executive session. He said he would let it go but stressed that it was not an executive session item. Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley stated that this was a personnel matter. He said that the Coroner is an employee of the county and that this

would fall under a personnel matter. He noted that all personnel matters must be discussed in Executive Session.

Motion to go into executive session to discuss the items as listed below: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley
Second: Councilman Kemp
Vote: Unanimous
The motion passed.

Executive Session

SECTION 30-4-70. Meetings which may be closed; procedure; circumvention of chapter; disruption of meeting; executive sessions of General Assembly.

- (a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:
- (1) Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body – [Coroner](#)
 - (2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract arrangements and proposed purchase or sale of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice related to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim – Sections 30-4-70(a)(2) – [Replacement Metal Castings Inc.;](#) [Nickel Plate MCIP](#)

Return from Executive Session:

Motion to return to regular session: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley
Second: Councilman Kemp
Vote: Unanimous
The motion passed.

Action to come from Executive Session:

Chairwoman Clark asked if there were any motions to come out of executive session.

Councilman Sauls said there was a motion of action to vote on from executive session and he requested that the County Administrator please read that motion.

Motion to authorize the retaining of individual legal counsel for the Auditor and Treasurer, and the authority to initiate such legal proceedings as may be desirable to determine the rights, duties, and obligations of the various parties and taxing entities in regard to the Nickel Plate Multi-County Industrial Park: Councilman Sauls
Second: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley
Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Chairwoman Clark said the other item pertaining to the Coroner was so they could be sure he had all necessary supplies to function in his new position without any obstacles.

Motion to adjourn: Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Wanda H. Simmons
Clerk to Council

Approved:



Barbara Clark
Chairwoman

Attachment "A"



Jasper County COVID Statistics



South Carolina Positivity Rate as of 1, December 2020: **26.1%**
 Jasper County Positivity Rate as of 1, December 2020: **29.4%**
 Date range is 12/19/2020 through 1/2/2021

COVID-19 in South Carolina
 As of 11:59 PM on 1/2/2021

Select Date Range to Filter Page Values

12/19/2020 1/2/2021

Number of Tests | JASPER **832**

Percent Positive | JASPER **29.4%**

Rate of COVID-19 Tests Performed
 County: Displayed Jasper | Dates Displayed 12/19/2020 to 1/2/2021



Rate of Testing
 21.32 68.98
 © OpenStreetMap

Type of COVID-19 Tests Being Performed
 County: Displayed JASPER | Dates Displayed 12/19/2020 to 1/2/2021

	Positive	Negative	Grand Total
Viral (Molecular)	231	527	758
Antigen	22	49	71
Antibody (Serology)	3	3	3
Grand Total	253	579	832

9.0% of all COVID-19 diagnostic testing has occurred at the Public Health Laboratory.
 Note: This table represents volume of tests reserved and not distinct individuals tested. Individuals may have multiple tests.
 *Unknown Test Types refer to tests with an unrecognized test type. As we continue to investigate unknown test types they will be realigned as more information becomes available.

Daily Reported Case Count

Date	Cases	Date	Cases
12/19	6	12/26	NR
12/20	7	12/27	NR
12/21	8	12/28	7
12/22	17	12/29	8
12/23	8	12/30	8
12/24	8	12/31	18
12/25	NR	1/1/21	NR

Community Testing information

Page 2

Vaccine update

Page 4

****Free****

DHEC - Jasper County Health Department (Open Today)

0.67 miles away

Dates and Times

1/4 Monday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
1/5 Tuesday: Closed
1/6 Wednesday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
1/7 Thursday: Closed
1/8 Friday: Closed
1/9 Saturday: Closed
1/10 Sunday: Closed

Further Information

Free Covid Testing every Monday and Wednesday from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

Appointment Needed: Yes

Referral Needed: No

Pediatric Testing Available: Yes - All Ages

Address

651 Grays Hwy, Ridgeland, SC 29936

Customer Service Number

855-472-3432

More Information or Pre-Registration (if applicable)

[Pre-register at https://scdhec.gov/GetTested](https://scdhec.gov/GetTested)

****Free****

DHEC - St. Anthony's Catholic Church (Closed Today)

0.67 miles away

Dates and Times

1/4 Monday: Closed
1/5 Tuesday: Closed
1/6 Wednesday: Closed
1/7 Thursday: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
1/8 Friday: Closed
1/9 Saturday: Closed
1/10 Sunday: Closed

Further Information

Open 1/7 from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Appointment Needed: No

Referral Needed: No

Pediatric Testing Available: Yes - All Ages

Address

10128 S. Jacob Smart Blvd, Ridgeland, SC 29936

Customer Service Number

(855) 472-3432

More Information or Pre-Registration (if applicable)

[Pre-register at https://scdhec.gov/GetTested](https://scdhec.gov/GetTested)

****Free****

Coastal Carolina Hospital - Coastal Carolina Hospital (Open Today)

12.30 miles away

Dates and Times

1/4 Monday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

1/5 Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

1/6 Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

1/7 Thursday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

1/8 Friday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

1/9 Saturday: Closed

1/10 Sunday: Closed

Further Information

Open weekdays from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. **CLOSED 12/24, 12/25, 12/31 & 1/1**

Appointment Needed: No

Referral Needed: No

Pediatric Testing Available: Yes - All Ages

Address

1000 Medical Center Dr, Hardeeville, SC 29927

More Information or Pre-Registration (if applicable)

<https://www.hiltonheadregional.com/our-response-to-COVID-19>



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 31, 2020

contact:
covid19news@emd.sc.gov

S.C. Public Health Officials Provide Update on COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Efforts

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) today provided the following update on the state's distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, including the state's progress in vaccinating those in Phase 1a and ongoing efforts to protect the health and safety of all South Carolinians:

Since receiving the first doses of the vaccine on Dec. 14, we remain encouraged by the commitment of South Carolinians in continuing to do their part in the fight against COVID-19 by getting vaccinated. As of this morning, **39,100 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in South Carolina**, with vaccines continuing to be administered each day.

Distributing mass doses of COVID-19 vaccine rapidly, effectively and equitably represents a public health logistics effort on a scale not seen before in the U.S. and is a massive undertaking. DHEC is leading this effort in South Carolina, but it could not be accomplished without our many state and federal partners.

Our ultimate goal is to save lives. DHEC remains dedicated to working with our partners to ensure that everyone who wishes to be immunized against COVID-19 in South Carolina will be vaccinated, but it is going to take time. It's important to recognize that this is a rapidly evolving event. This vaccine is unlike any vaccine that we have ever dealt with before.

South Carolina, like other states, has faced several challenges due to the unique requirements of the mass distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine. Challenges to date include limited supplies of vaccine during the phased rollout, complex logistics and adapting to changes in federal guidance.

DHEC anticipates additional challenges to evolve but is confident that with collaborative problem solving and support of our partners we will meet each new challenge head on.

Preparing for Historic Ultra-Cold Storage Requirements

The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is the first authorized vaccine in history that must be stored at ultra-cold frozen temperatures, requiring locations who receive it to have specialized ultra-cold freezers with temperature monitoring capabilities in place. The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine also is only shipped in packages of 975 doses, meaning the location that receives a direct shipment of it must have the ability to give in a timely fashion or store in an ultra-cold freezer. While these logistical challenges make distribution of the vaccine complicated, DHEC and our partners identified storage opportunities and expanded capacity months ago.

Adjusting to Rapidly Changing Federal Guidance

In addition, federal guidance regarding populations to be vaccinated changed just as the initial vaccine distributions were sent to the states. This resulted in a significant increase in the population included in Phase 1a. In South Carolina and other states, agencies such as DHEC then had to review and edit some of the plans and protocols that were in place for in-state distribution. The same assessment and changes then had to be made at the local level as hospitals and distribution sites began to receive shipments and vaccinate their employees. The sites are now actively vaccinating per state and federal guidelines as aggressively as possible.

Similar to the rest of the nation, the initial process has required states to remain flexible as we adjust and adapt to the evolving situation. Work continues at large vaccination sites across the state with plans to begin distribution to smaller facilities in the next week.

Progressing from the Initial Phase into Widespread Availability in Summer

The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has provided guidance for categories of individuals to include in Phases 1a, 1b, and 1c. South Carolina is currently in Phase 1a and is vaccinating individuals in that phase per the SC COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee's recommendations based off of the ACIP guidance. The committee is currently working to translate the national Phase 1b and Phase 1c recommendations to action in South Carolina. The following outline provides an overview of the anticipated categories for each phase. This is subject to change at any time for many reasons, such as a change in federal guidance or in the SC COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee's recommendations for South Carolina.

Phase 1a

- Residents and staff of long-term care facilities
- Healthcare personnel (with initial focus on healthcare workers critical to the mission of preventing death), including:
 - Persons performing direct medical care to suspected and/or confirmed COVID-19 patients: medical house staff (i.e., interns, residents, fellows), nurses, nurse's aides, physical therapists (PT), physicians, physician assistants, respiratory therapists (RT), speech pathologists providing swallowing assessments during a patient's infectious period, occupational therapists, translators with direct patient contact, students (medical, nursing, PT, RT)
 - Ancillary staff directly interacting with suspected and/or confirmed COVID-19 patients: laboratory personnel handling potentially infectious specimens, phlebotomists, and radiology technicians
 - Emergency room staff in the above categories who provide direct patient care who are at high risk of exposure to undiagnosed, suspected and/or confirmed COVID-19 patients

- o Paid and volunteer medical first responders (EMS, fire department, and law enforcement personnel who provide emergency medical services as certified EMTs or paramedics) and hospital transport personnel in direct contact with suspected and/or confirmed COVID-19 patients
- o Persons providing direct medical care in correctional facilities
- o Persons providing direct medical care in dialysis and infusion centers
- o Workers in outpatient medical settings treating persons with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection
- o Workers in settings where monoclonal antibodies for COVID-19 infusions are given
- o Home health and Hospice workers
- o Public health nurses/personnel at risk for COVID-19 exposure
- o Autopsy room staff, coroners, embalmers, and funeral home staff at risk of exposure to bodily fluids
- o Dentists and dental hygienists and assistants

Phase 1b

- Persons aged 75 years and older (with or without underlying health conditions)
- Frontline essential workers (sectors included by ACIP include fire fighters, law enforcement officers, corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, United States Postal Service workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the educational sector—teachers, support staff, and daycare workers)

Phase 1c

- Essential workers not included in Phase 1b (examples included by ACIP include people who work in transportation and logistics, food service, housing construction and finance, information technology, communications, energy, law, media, public safety, and public health staff who are non-frontline healthcare workers)
- Persons aged 65-74 years (with or without underlying health conditions)
- Persons aged 16-64 years with underlying health conditions that increase the risk for severe COVID-19 (more information to follow from the SC COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee)

As vaccine supply increases, ACIP vaccination recommendations will expand to include more groups, in Phases 2 and possibly 3. The following outline provides an overview of estimated timeframes for each phase:

- **Early Winter** – Vaccinations for Phase 1a is anticipated to continue through February 2021.
- **Late Winter to early Spring** – Based on current CDC guidance, the state will move into Phase 1b once 70 percent of South Carolinians identified in Phase 1a have been vaccinated.
- **Spring to Summer** – Phase 2 is anticipated to begin in Spring 2021, with the vaccines expected to become available for the general public during the summer and fall of 2021.

Understanding the Next Steps in the Phased Vaccine Roll Out

Everyone in our state who wants to be vaccinated will get their turn. In the meantime, we commit to keeping you informed of the progress being made in the phased approach for administering vaccines and will let you know when and where you can receive it. We call on all South Carolinians to step up by stepping back until it is their turn in the plan.

For individuals in Phase 1a who have not been contacted regarding an opportunity for vaccination yet, DHEC is working with our partners at SCHA and SCMA as well as numerous independent providers and vaccination locations to onboard them and allocate and distribute vaccines in the coming weeks. As more locations for vaccination become available, we will be contacting healthcare workers via their employers, associations, or licensing entities to provide a way for them to sign up if they wish to be contacted when it is their turn to make an appointment for vaccination. It is going to take several weeks to a couple of months to vaccinate all members of Phase 1a, so please be patient as we go through this process.

As more information becomes available, we will update our website at scdhec.gov/vaxfacts.