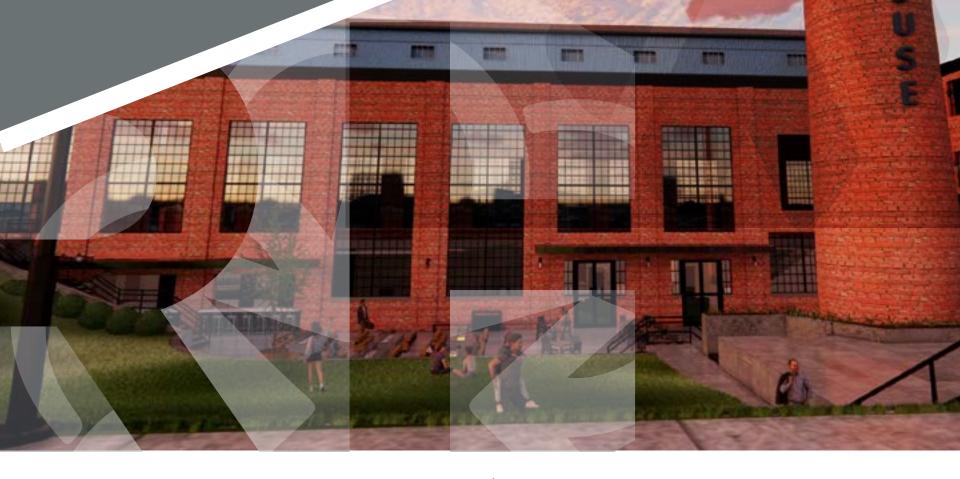
# TAKE A TOUR

...AS IT ALL COMES TOGETHER

BRIGHT MINDS & BIG IDEAS







DEVELOPMENT ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKFORCE LIFESTYLE DECEMBER 2022

# WHAT'S INSIDE

# DAVID SWENSON

Director York County Economic Development



### JENNIFER MCADAMS

Director of Economic & Urban Development City of Rock Hill



As the second largest county in the Charlotte MSA, York County is fortunate to have economic development organizations working at both the county and city level – allowing each to thrive while enjoying shared successes along the way.

Companies benefit from convenient access to a dynamic and thriving metropolitan region operating in South Carolina, while residents enjoy a growing mix of community resources including new parks, outdoor amenities and a growing food scene. Bright minds + Big ideas thrive in Rock Hill as the city continues to evolve with unique downtown redevelopment, world-class amateur sports amenities, and a budding showplace for the arts. Fueled by lifestyle, top-rated public schools and economic opportunity, our area boasts an expanding mix of community assets, all with direct and convenient access to a major international airport.

Whether it's development of business parks like Aspen or Legacy Park, downtown redevelopment at University Center, or innovative workforce development strategies, York County and Rock Hill Economic Development have demonstrated a track record of collaboration and success. The diverse and thriving municipalities in the county are one of the things that makes us so special, creating a perfect mix of urban and rural that continues to attract residents and fuel a growing workforce.

Take a tour with us. Check out our community, built on rich history and collaborative approaches that make York County -- The Location You Need. The Life You Want.

# ON THE COVER:

### THE POWER HOUSE:

ADAPTIVE-REUSE PROJECT IN ROCK HILL'S UNIVERSITY CENTER. THE SPACE WILL HOLD A DIVERSE MIX OF TENANTS IN ITS FOOD HALL ALONG WITH CRAFT COCKTAILS, A STEAKHOUSE, A BREWERY, BARBER SHOP, GATHERING SPACE AND MORE.



FEATURED DEVELOPMENT PAGE 4-6

CONNECTIVITY
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PAGE 12

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LIFESTYLE

PAGE 14-15



YORK COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 1830 SECOND BAXTER CROSSING FORT MILL, SC 29708 803.802.4300

www.yorkcountyed.com



ROCK HILL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 155 JOHNHSTON STREET PO BOX #11706 ROCK HILL, SC 29731-1706 803.329.7090

www.rockhillusa.com

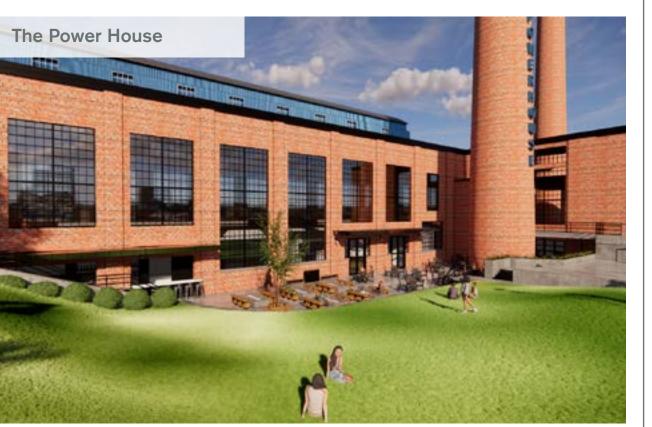


# MOVE YOUR BUSINESS FORWARD, WITH TECHNOLOGY FROM RIGHT DOWN THE ROAD.

At Comporium, we've been invested in the success of our York County community for over 125 years. There's nothing we enjoy more than supplying our friends and neighbors with the services they need to reach their business goals. From 1-Gig Internet to Business Intelligence services, our job has always been to help you be better at yours.

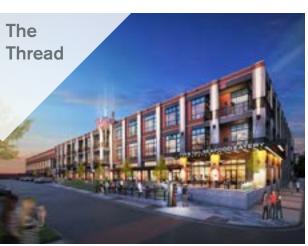
**BUSINESS.COMPORIUM.COM** 

# **DEVELOPMENT**



The

Herald







SOUTHERN STREET REDEVELOPMENT, THE

HOUSE CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

OAKLAND AVE AND DAVE LYLE BLVD.

SOON TO BE HOME TO HOPPIN', A SELF-POUR TAP

\$3 MILLION INVESTMENT, 5,000 SQUARE FOOT REUSE

PROJECT LOCATED ON SOUTHERN STREET, BETWEEN

### **HOPPIN**': **SLEEPING GIANT DISTILLERY:**

ADJACENT TO THE FUTURE THE SOUTHERN STREET REDEVELOPMENT (HOPPIN'), LIES SLEEPING GIANT DISTILLERY, A NEWLY OPENED RUM DISTILLERY OPERATING OUT OF AN EARLY 1900'S ERA 1.200-SQUARE-FOOT BUILDING. THEY ARE LOCATED ON SOUTHERN STREET.

www.hoppinclt.com www.sleepinggiantdistillery.com

# **ROCK HILL, SC**

The landscape of Rock Hill continues to transform as major redevelopment projects complete, moving Rock Hill toward the long-term vision identified in the Knowledge Park Action Plan. With over \$400 million worth of current or upcoming development projects in the urban core of Rock Hill, the Knowledge Park strategy continues to make strides. The Clinton ConNEXTion Action Plan for Rock Hill's South Side (#WeGotNext) is taking shape, with a number of active projects and efforts underway, creating opportunity and prosperity for the whole community.

### THE POWER HOUSE:

ADAPTIVE-REUSE PROJECT IN ROCK HILL'S UNIVERSITY CENTER. THE SPACE WILL HOLD A DIVERSE MIX OF TEN-ANTS IN ITS FOOD HALL ALONG WITH CRAFT COCKTAILS. A STEAKHOUSE, A BREWERY, BARBER SHOP, GATHERING SPACE AND MORE.

www.sherbertgroup.com

### THE THREAD:

400.00 SF INDUSTRIAL WAREHOUSE LOCATED IN ROCK HILL. SC. TO FEATURE CLASS A OFFICE. RESTAU-RANTS. RETAIL AND MORE. LARGEST ADAPTIVE REUSE PROJECT IN THE CAROLINAS.

www.thekeithcorp.com

### THE HERALD SITE:

PLANNED MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT LOCATED AT THE FORMER HERALD SITE. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT INCLUDES RESIDENTIAL, RESTAURANT, RETAIL, OFFICE, AND OUTDOOR LEISURE SPACE.

www.whitepointpartners.com

# SF CURRENT OR UPCOMING **DEVELOPMENT**

**DEVELOPMENT PLANNED OR UNDERWAY** 

**RESIDENTIAL UNITS BUILT OR UNDER CONSTRUCTION OVER THE LAST FOUR YEARS** 



# THREE POINTS AT SOUTH END

Located at the point where Saluda St, Albright Rd and Heckle Blvd meet, the development will feature a grocery anchor (19,054-square-feet), a two-story mixed-use building (15,780-square-feet with nearly 2,000-square feet roof terrace), and two out-parcels (3,200-square-feet each). The Black Economic Leadership League (B.E.L.L.) plans to establish the Incubator for Economic and Social Impact in the mixed-use building to focus on education, training and business innovation and leadership development. Site demolition is complete, and the project is a major success for the Clinton ConNEXTion Action Plan, a community-driven strategy for attracting jobs, businesses, and housing to the historic neighborhoods of South Rock Hill.



B.E.L.L.'S MISSION IS TO BE A RESOURCE AND ADVOCATE FOR THE BLACK COMMUNITY AND THE CITY OF ROCK HILL. www.bellofrockhill.org



CONTRIBUTES TO THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL VITALITY OF OUR REGION. THE CENTER IS SET TO OPEN IN EARLY 2026.

www.theartscenterfp.org

"Our vision is to create a dynamic, 21st century performing arts center for this region, a gathering place for generations to come! We are excited to see it filled with classes, rehearsals, local performances, traveling shows, all right in the heart of this bustling community."

- Todd Leahy, Executive Director, The Arts Center at Fountain Park



# Hop on, it's free

Electric buses serve Rock Hill along four major corridors. It's easy to find routes, stops and buses in real-time. Visit MyRideRockHill.com or download the mobile app to find your ride!









**Bike Racks** 



Thanks to Our Partners: Winthrop University

Piedmont Medical Center | Family Trust Federal Credit Union

803-329-RIDE (7433)











> Located within Charlotte's most sought-after submarket, Fort Mill, SC

Easily accessible to high-quality hotels, restaurants, and retailers

Convenient access to I-77 and located directly off HWY-160

Located at the crossroads of North and South Carolina, Fort Mill continues to grow while offering both a small town feel in the historic downtown as well as a mix of upscale amenities closer to Interstate 77. Development is diverse, offering Class A office space, new downtown redevelopment projects and retail, growing business parks, as well as award-winning outdoor spaces. Just a few of the many reasons Fort Mill attracts new families each day, expanding their business community and every growing talent pool.

### 219 & 221 MAIN STREET:

Restoring historic Fort Mill brings new life to downtown Main Street. Built in 1900, and reopening in December 2022, the long-standing Fort Mill family - Kuester Commercial, wanted to preserve the town's history while bringing new vibrant faces to the quickly transforming downtown area. Almost fully leased the space will host new tenants such as Moxie Mercantile and a Flower Bar as well as other businesses. (Photo above left) www.kuester.com

Piedmont Medical Center - Fort Mill, located at 1000 Wellness Way, Fort Mill, SC opened its doors in September 2022. The 200,000-square-foot building has 100 beds, a full emergency department, operating rooms, an intensive care unit, and labor and delivery suites. (photo left)

investors, and professional associates.

FORT MILL, SC

# York County keeps

growing, along with the infrastructure to support business expansion and the people who live and work here. I-77 has consistently seen improvements and widening over the years, with significant investment continuing on roadways across the county. Charlotte Douglas International Airport is just 15 miles from the state line and the deep-water Port of Charleston is an easy drive. Seamless connectivity to Atlanta and Raleigh and the rest of the world are here. York County is poised at the intersection of business, opportunity, and quality of life.

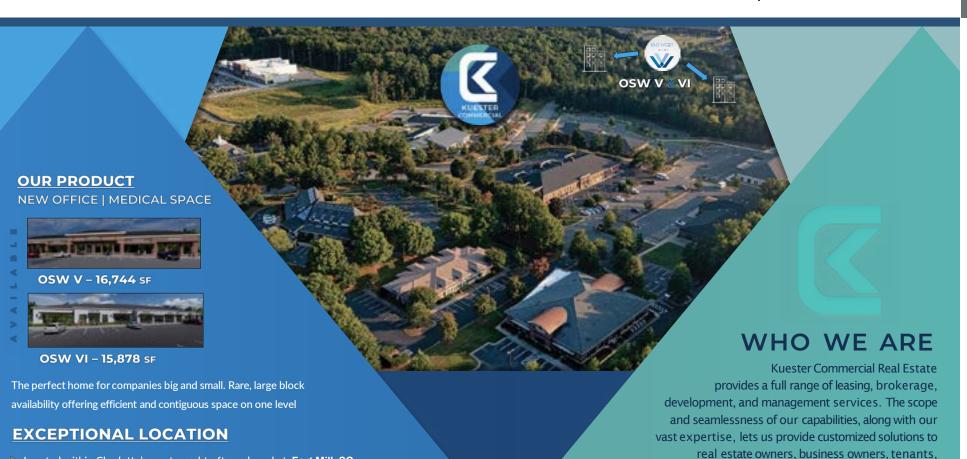


York County is a 30-minute drive and one flight away from the rest of the world, thanks to the Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT).

The airport is the

2nd largest on the east coast, averaging more than 700 departures and landings daily. The Charlotte Air Cargo Center, the region's premier air cargo facility, is also located at CLT International Airport. The Rock Hill-York County Airport is 20 miles south of Charlotte and is the major business and industrial airport serving the area.

# GIBSON OFFICE PARK > NEW OFFICE | MEDICAL



# PENNIES COUNT



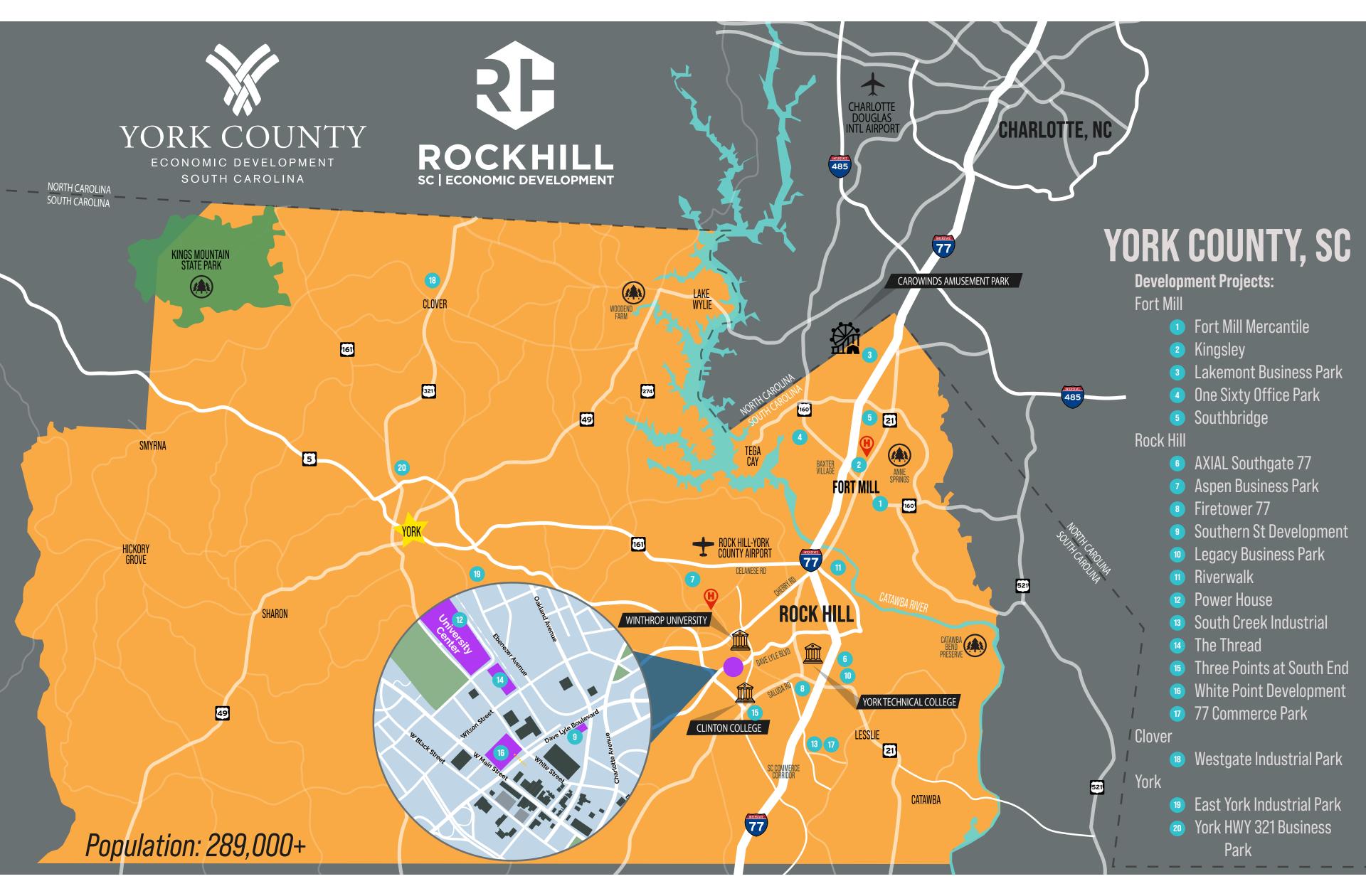
THE PENNIES FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM, AN ADDITIONAL 1% TAX ON GOODS AND SERVICES SOLD IN YORK COUNTY, WAS INITIATED IN 1997 IN AN EFFORT TO PROVIDE A FUNDING STREAM THAT DIRECTLY SUPPORTS RESIDENTS AND COMMUTERS WITH A SAFER AND MORE EFFICIENT ROADWAY SYSTEM.

FUNDS FROM THE PROGRAM HAVE ALLOWED YORK COUNTY TO LEVERAGE OVER \$100 MILLION FROM THE STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK USED FOR PROJECTS THAT BENEFIT YORK COUNTY'S CRUCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING THE WIDENING OF INTERSTATE 77 FROM CHARLOTTE TO ROCK HILL.

AT THE COMPLETION OF PENNIES 4, THE PENNIES PROGRAM IN TOTAL WILL HAVE LEVERAGED OVER \$1 BILLION IN LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL DOLLARS USED TO FUND ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS IN YORK COUNTY.

\$1 BILLION

IN INFRASTRUCURE IMPROVEMENTS
UNDER THE PENNIES PROGRAM
SINCE INCEPTION



**ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKFORCE** 

# A GIFT TURNED INTO GREENER **(THUMBS) PASTURES**

--BY WHITNEY SHEA, OWNER OF GREEN SPACE PLANT CO.

Being a teacher was always my dream job. One that brought me joy and fulfillment, even when hitting rough patches along the way. And after a year of heartache and disappointment, the result of a healthy coping mechanism actually ended up birthing a new passion in my life.

In this same year my husband gave me a greenhouse as an anniversary gift. Soon, this became the place where I spent most of my spare time, often wondering how I had lived without it. It was in that space that I wondered how I might be able to share this joy with others- and there the mobile plant shop was

What began with weekend markets and pop-ups in the area, turned into great connections mixed with hard lessons learned. I found myself leaning on the welcoming small business community that surrounded me. Fortunate to meet so many local entrepreneurs who wanted nothing more than to help another small business, this support has been paramount in my ability to succeed so far. So much so that we're on-the-go most weekends in our mobile store, in addition to several local setups.



"This community has open arms and supported make plans to plant more roots here, my passion green in their lives."

- Whitney Shea, Owner of Green Space Plant Co.



Coming from background in education with absolutely no business experience, I knew I would need to find resources in order to be successful. And resources there were. I attended my first Launch Pad meeting in the summer of **2021**, and have attended regularly since. I was amazed with the number of people I met, the connections I made, and the overwhelming support received.

I had the privilege of having a one-on-one coach through the program and was even able to utilize this platform by presenting the Green Space business model this past January. Since then, I have utilized multiple resources at the Gravity Center including classes, as well as their external partnerships with local businesses- resources that have helped me to grow my business immensely. As I look forward to future plans and growth for Green Space, I will continue to tap into these local resources.

This community has welcomed our business with open arms and supported us through it all. And as we make plans to plant more roots here, my mission continues with this support, encouraging as many people as I can

to make space for something green in their lives.



Celeste Tiller recently joined the York County Regional Chamber of Commerce as vice president of talent and workforce development. A top priority of the role, to develop a comprehensive talent and workforce development approach that addresses every business's number one challenge — qualified talent. A Winthrop University grad, with both a Bachelors and Master's degree in business administration, Tiller comes to the Chamber from her most recent role as director of external relations for Winthrop's College of Business Administration. The new role has Tiller collaborating with numerous groups while leading talent attraction, development and retention efforts as well as overseeing the Chamber's nonprofit foundation. YCRC

here are a variety of organizations at both the state and local levels that are working towards talent-related goals in their own focus areas. By bringing these groups together we create an agreed-upon common goal and a more effective pool of resources for area employers.

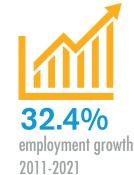
The latest Census data shows that more than 69,000 workers commute out of York County each day for work - the vast majority traveling just across the state line to Charlotte.

This means York County is sitting on a **major** untapped resource for existing and future companies, and we need to help them capture it. Ultimately, our focus is to bring education, business, and workforce partners together. This is how we create and sustain a high-quality workforce for York County.

- Celeste Tiller, Vice President of Talent and Workforce Development

**Partners / Programs in Workforce Development** 







84.9% prime age labor force participation rate (25-54)





Sources: JobsEQ, U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2016 - 2020, Bureau of Labor Statistics 2021.









Resources: For More information on the Gravity Center Contact Hannah Horne, Executive Officer, Gravity Center Hannah@mygravitycenter.com | www.MyGravityCenter.com

**SPORTS TOURISM EDUCATION** 

York County's education portfolio encompasses a major university, 2-year and technical colleges, four public school districts, and several high performing private and charter schools, boasting some of the most highly ranked elementary, middle and high schools in the Charlotte region. Along with outstanding and diverse K-12 offerings and highly accredited university recognitions, technical programs offer both vocational training as well as adult

2023

### **FORT MILL SCHOOL DISTRICT 4**

**# 1** Best School District in SC and the Charlotte Area

### **ROCK HILL SCHOOL DISTRICT 3**

# 1 Best School District for Athletes in the Charlotte Area

### **CLOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT 2**

# 4 Best School District in SC and the Charlotte Area

### YORK SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON

**OUR WORKFORCE** 

UPGRADE your future

# 6 Most Diverse School District in the Charlotte Area



5,174

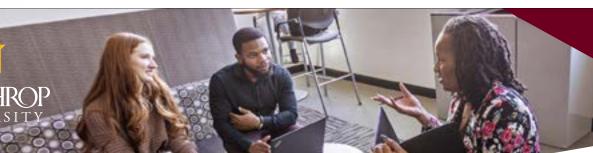
York Technical College 2-year, Public, Co-Ed 4521

**89**%

placement rate



119 students



# WWW.WINTHROP.EDU

• Programs in high-demand fields such as cybersecurity, data science, software development and PREPARING STUDENTS healthcare management

- One of less than 5% of business schools worldwide to hold AACSB accreditation
- Online and on-campus MBA programs with micro-certificates built into the curriculum (GMAT/GRE waivers available to those who qualify)
- Bachelor of Professional Studies program for adults seeking to complete their bachelor's degree



In 2022, the City of Rock Hill entered into a multi-year partnership with adidas Grassroots Basketball, serving as the host city for the Elite Boys National Championships, Elite Girls Division, Boys Gold Division and the Jr. Boys Division during the July live period (a recruiting period for college coaches). Over 700 college basketball coaches attended the event. The 2022 event brought an estimated 9.9 million dollars of economic impact to Rock Hill.

2.89 **MILLION ATTENDANCE** 

656,588 ROOM

Cumulative Fiscal Years 2008 - 2022

MAKE YOUR MOVE! AS THE DESTINATION MARKETING ORGANIZATION (DMO) FOR ROCK HILL, THE CITY OF ROCK HILL At York Technical College, we make it our mission to assist PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM (PRT) DEPARTMENT'S SUCCESS IN RECRUITING AND HOSTING you in landing the rewarding career and financial security TOURNAMENTS HAS ESTABLISHED SPORTS TOURISM AS AN ECONOMIC ENGINE FOR OUR REGION. you've always wanted. With over 100 programs of study to THE COMBINED ATTENDANCE AT THE CITY'S PRT VENUES TOPS 2.89 MILLION PEOPLE SINCE 2008 choose from, flexible course offerings, and affordable MAKING ROCK HILL A TOP TOURISM DESTINATION WITH WORLD-RENOWNED SPORTS FACILITIES,

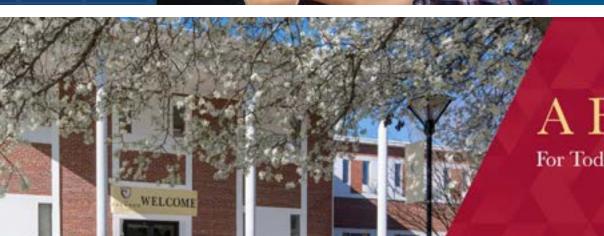
> ESPN set Rock Hill as their destination for 2022's running of "The Ocho," an annual programming dedication to sports usually under the radar.

RICH HISTORY AND GENUINE SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY.



For more information, Scan the QR code or visit *yorktech.info/LearnMore* 





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For Today's Scholars and Tomorrow's Leaders.



www.clintoncollege.edu



# **COMPETITION LIVES HERE.**

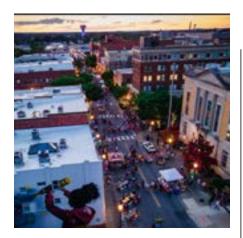
The Rock Hill BMX Supercross Track will host the 2024 UCI BMX Racing World Championships. Rock Hill is the only US city to host the event since 2001, hosting in 2017 and again in 2024. The event is expected to bring an estimated 4,000+ amateur participants and an estimated 300 professional athletes from over 40 countries. Fans can watch the top athletes who, 2 months later, will compete in the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in France.

**LIFESTYLE** 

# **LIFESTYLE**

# HISTORIC DOWNTOWNS

With major developments underway and a community growing leaps and bounds by the day, York County's historic downtowns bring you home. Each unique in their own way, these downtowns have so much to offer.



### **ROCK HILL**

ROCK HILL BOASTS A DYNAMIC ARTS SCENE. RICH HISTORY, AND ECLECTIC SHOPPING AND DINING OPTIONS. DOWNTOWN LIVING IS EASY WITH NEW RESIDENTIAL OPTIONS AND QUICK ACCESS TO ALL THAT'S AVAILABLE ONLY IN OLD TOWN



### **FORT MILL**

SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY IS ALIVE AND WELL WITHIN THE QUAINT TOWN OF FORT MILL. WITH A VIBRANT MAIN STREET, BUSTLING KINGSLEY, AND THE 2,100-ACRE ANNE SPRINGS CLOSE GREENWAY, THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN FORT MILL.



### **CLOVER**

THE TOWN WITH LOVE IN THE MIDDLE OFFERS A CHARMING SMALL-TOWN SETTING TO VISITORS WITH RICH HISTORY AND GREAT SHOPPING. WITH DEEP ROOTS IN SCOTS-IRISH HISTORY AND HERITAGE, CLOVER IS HOME TO THE FEIS CHLOBHAIR. SCOTTISH GAMES EACH FALL.



## **YORK**

ONCE KNOWN AS THE "CHARLESTON OF THE **UPSTATE"** THE WHITE ROSE CITY IS PACKED WITH HISTORIC CHARM WITH NEARLY 200 STATE AND NATIONALLY REGISTERED LOCATIONS. STEEPED WITH LOCALLY-OWNED UNIQUE SHOPPING. A QUICK WALK DOWN-TOWN SHOWCASES VARIOUS SPECIALTY STORES, RESTAURANTS AND MORE.



Just 20 minutes south of Charlotte, York County, South Carolina offers big city amenities with an authentically southern, small-town feel.

Discover a new dish from one of York County's culinary masterminds or experience more than 13 local craft breweries along the YoCo Brew Trail.

Immerse yourself in our rich history and culture or grab a selfie on Rock Hill's Mural Mile. With 470 miles of trails and blueways, there are plenty of ways to explore.









Katherine Jones recently joined York County as the new Parks and Recreation Director. Jones manages operations and maintenance of parks run by the county or, as in the case of Lake Wylie, special tax districts set up through the county.

Jones will work in planning, design and construction of capital projects. Jones has nine years of experience in county parks and recreation, most recently as Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation with Lancaster County.

Among many initiatives as Jones leads efforts in the growing footprint of parks the county operates, she will work to continue dedicated resources to existing parks for facility improvements, collaborate with community partners on parks and recreation endeavors as well as plan to develop and adopt a parks and recreation strategic plan for County.

These initiatives will run parallel as planning and construction continues for the nearly 2,000acre Catawba Bend Preserve on the Rock Hill side of the Catawba. That property will become a public nature preserve with access to the river, trails, camping and other amenities.

We have amazing natural resources within this county. Our commitment to preserve these historical and cultural resources are paramount. We want to build a department where our mission is to improve the quality of life in York County - and part of that is through the creation and provision of safe, healthy, harmonious park facilities and diverse recreational services.

- Katherine Jones. Parks and Recreations Director. York County

# Explore only in old town ROCK HILL, SC

Scan to visit onlyinoldtown.com



DISCOVER











