



# CONNECTING **BRIGHT MINDS & BIG IDEAS**



## **THE EXCHANGE GROUNDBREAKING, THE THREAD DEVELOPMENT ROCK HILL SPORTS AND EVENT CENTER, THE CAROLINA PANTHERS HEADQUARTERS**

Full Stories Inside

**York County** offers the advantages of a South Carolina location and business climate with quick access to Charlotte. As the county's largest city, with some of the area's brightest minds and most passionate visionaries, **Rock Hill** is quickly becoming a regional center for technology and creative companies alike.





# DEVELOPMENT

## FEATURED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

### THE THREAD



Sitting at over 400,000 SF, The Thread is the largest available adaptive reuse project in the Carolinas and will feature Class-A creative office and mixed-use space. Ideally situated in the heart of Knowledge Park, once home to Rock Hill's thriving textile mill district, The Thread's location seamlessly weaves together historic Old Town Rock Hill, University Center, and Winthrop University.

Collaboratively redeveloped by The Keith Corporation and Springsteen Properties, once complete The Thread will represent an over \$100M investment that preserves the original historic design elements of the building, while blending in modern, tenant-focused enhancements that will work in unison to create one of the most unique creative office and mixed-use opportunities in the Southeast.

Several unique features include: 3-stories with impressive 18ft ceilings, over 50,000 SF of ground level retail opportunities, convenient accessibility to the Interstate, location in the heart of Knowledge Park within walking distance to numerous amenities, nearby multifamily developments and residential neighborhoods, future home to the Springs Creative Corporate HQ and the Baxter Mill Archive, an onsite food truck court and music/events venue located adjacent to the Rock Hill Sports and Event Center.

For leasing information at The Thread, please contact: Jay Coleman  
**The Keith Corporation | 704-319-8150**



### CAROLINA PANTHERS HEADQUARTERS



In what is sure to become a regional destination, The Carolina Panthers, The City of Rock Hill, and York County, have partnered to relocate the team's headquarters to Rock Hill, SC. Groundbreaking for the facilities have started, with the first phase of the project due for completion in 2023.

The 240-acre site is adjacent to I-77 and will ultimately include: The Panthers new HQ offices, practice facilities, an events center, a premier orthopedic sports medicine facility, corporate offices, residential space, retail stores, and more.

For additional information, please visit  
**[www.panthers.com/rockhill](http://www.panthers.com/rockhill)**



## KNOWLEDGE PARK/DOWNTOWN ROCK HILL

Knowledge Park is a strategy for attracting jobs, businesses and visitors to the historic center of Rock Hill. It is a commitment to creating opportunity, wealth and prosperity for the citizens of Rock Hill. Knowledge Park is home to knowledge economy businesses and jobs, while offering an appealing urban lifestyle.

	Size	Total Estimated Cost	Expected Delivery Date	Owner/Developer
Office				
Family Trust Headquarters	40,000 SF	\$7.5 M	Completed	Family Trust
Lowenstein Building	225,000 SF	\$53 M	Completed	Tuttle Co.
The Thread	200,000 SF	\$100 M	2021	The Keith Corp.
J.M. Cope Construction/Retail	15,400 SF	\$3 M	2021	J.M. Cope
Retail				
The Thread	88,000 SF	\$100 M	2021	The Keith Corp.
The Exchange	45,000 SF	\$43 M	2021	Catalyst
Common Market	15,000 SF	\$3 M	2021	Common Market
The Weave	+/- 17,000 SF	TBD	2021	Tuttle Co.
The Power Plant	55,000 SF	\$20 M	2022	Tuttle, Sherbert
Oakland Auto	20,000 SF	\$4 M	TBD	Lat Purser & Assoc.
Engage @ Knowledge Park	300,000 SF	\$62 M	2022	Third Act Solutions
Oakland Cherry Mixed-Use	28,700 SF	TBD	TBD	Warren Norman
302 Dave Lyle Blvd	4,000 SF	\$1 M	TBD	Southern Street Dev.
Residential				
The Exchange	229 units	\$43 M	2021	Catalyst Capital Partners
The Nest	305 units	\$22 M	2021	The BurnBrae Co./ Flagsticks Development
The Link	280 units	\$50 M	TBD	Grubb Properties/ Lanford & Associates
Engage @ Knowledge Park	248 units	\$62 M	2022	Third Act Solutions
South Wilson St.	48 units	\$3 M	2021	Kinger Homes
West Main St.	52 units	\$3 M	2022	Kinger Homes
Annex Townhomes	46 units	\$4m	2022	Southern Street Dev.
Hospitality/Other				
Rock Hill Sports & Events Center	170,000 SF	\$27 M	Completed	Tuttle Company, City of Rock Hill
Cambria Hotel & Suites	110 rooms	\$16 M	2021	Sands Hospitality
Future Hotel	90 rooms	\$13 M	2023	Sands Hospitality
Dave Lyle Pedestrian Bridge	N/A	\$5 M	2022	City of Rock Hill



# DEVELOPMENT

## ASPEN BUSINESS PARK



With the recent development approval of Aspen Business Park, Rock Hill is preparing to add to its inventory class-A business parks. The first phase of development is slated for completion in 2022. The completed Park will include 1.8 million SF, 10 buildings, and will generate over 1,000 job opportunities.

The Rock Hill Economic Development Corp. owns 98 acres of the land, while a local family operating as Barron Park LLC, owns 118.5 acres. Infrastructure creation begins this fall. "It's extremely important that we keep product out there, either in sites or buildings," Rick Norwood (RHEDC) said. "Because if you don't have product, you get overlooked for projects."

For more information on this project, please contact **Rick Norwood (RHEDC)** at [rick.norwood@cityofrockhill.com](mailto:rick.norwood@cityofrockhill.com) or **Chris Daly (Childress Klein)** at **704-343-4311**

## KINGSLEY FORT MILL

Rooted in history and the rich textile past of Fort Mill, Kingsley is a 600+ acre mixed-use heirloom project created and developed by the Clear Springs Development Company. Born out of the textile past of Springs Industries, Kingsley tells a story using contemporary mill architecture, sophisticated gathering spaces and unique place making elements. Already home to two large corporate office headquarters, it boasts one hotel, luxury apartments over retail space, a large lake, an amphitheater and plenty of small shops and restaurants.

Adjacent to Kingsley is a 76-acre master planned office park designed around Stallings Lake called Kingsley Park. Developed by Childress Klein — this seven building office complex provides a dynamic and inspirational workspace for corporate office users large and small. The natural light and campus environment support a positive work-life balance while promoting a sense of community. Designed to attract and retain top employee talent, Kingsley is the top choice for small employers and corporations alike.

Corporate tenants include:

- LPL Financial, Regional Headquarters
- Lash Group, Headquarters
- Domtar, Headquarters
- London Stock Exchange

Learn more about Kingsley at: [kingsleyfortmill.com](http://kingsleyfortmill.com) and Kingsley Park at [www.childressklein.com/kingsley-park](http://www.childressklein.com/kingsley-park)



**York County Economic Development**  
[www.yorkcountyed.com](http://www.yorkcountyed.com)  
1830 2nd Baxter Crossing  
Fort Mill, SC 29708  
803-802-4300



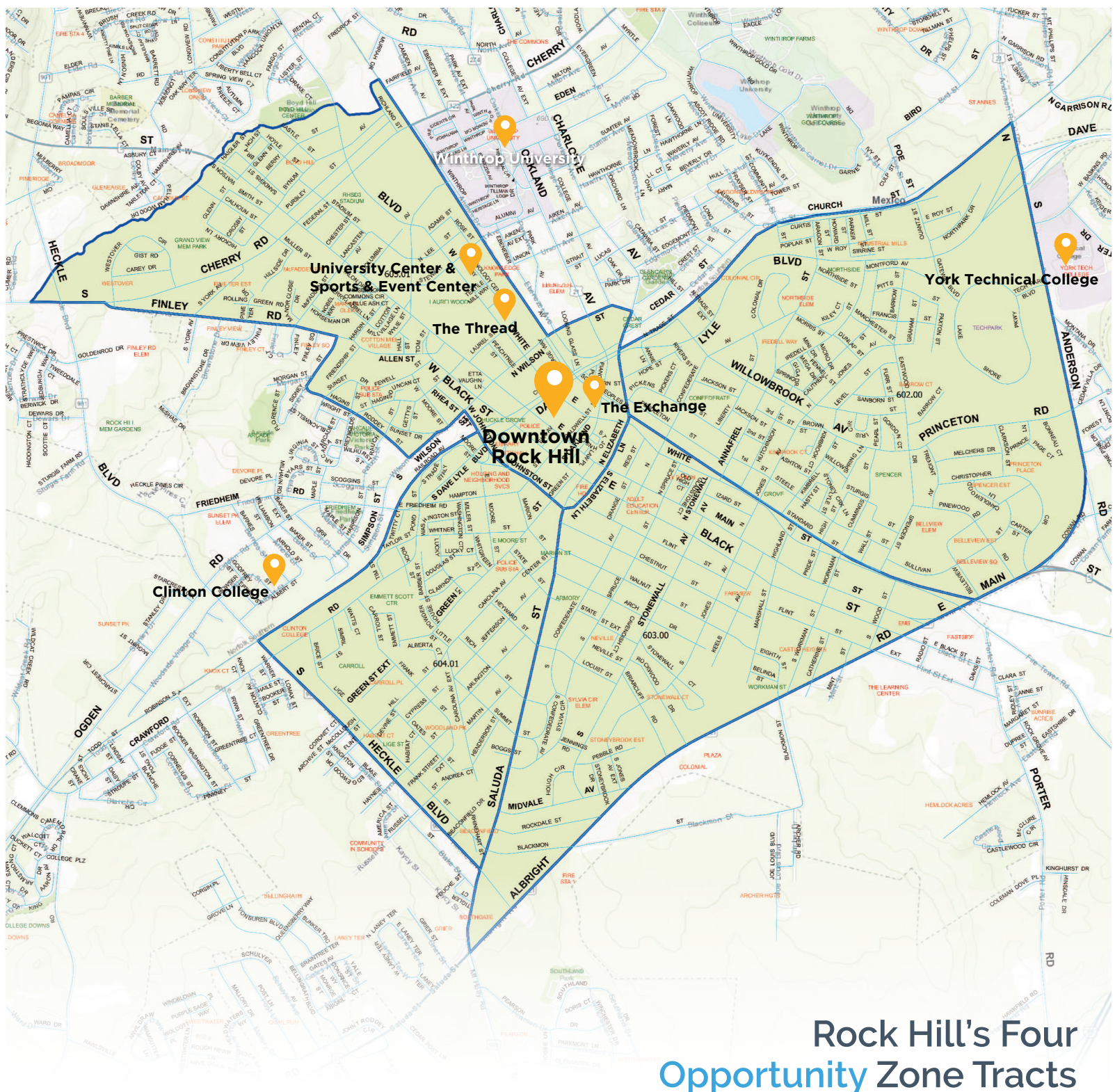
**Rock Hill Economic Development**  
[www.rockhillusa.com](http://www.rockhillusa.com)  
155 Johnston Street  
Rock Hill, SC 29731  
803-329-7090



## OPPORTUNITY ZONES

On March 23, 2018, Governor Henry McMaster announced he had recommended, at the request of the City, four census tracts be designated as Opportunity Zones. Census tracts in Rock Hill designated as Opportunity Zones include areas comprising Knowledge Park, the Saluda Street corridor and the Albright Road corridor. These designations, after their finalization, are designed to jump-start investment and spur economic development in Rock Hill. This program will provide a valuable financing tool to encourage significant economic development in the urban core. The program allows investors to defer paying tax on capital gains if those gains are invested in Opportunity Zones.

After at least 5 years, 10% of deferred gain is eliminated. If the investment is held for 7 years, 15% of the deferred gain is eliminated. Maximum benefit is achieved after ten years, when the investor sells or exchanges the investment, they're eligible to eliminate the gain from any increase in value of the investment during the holding period. Investors can defer the taxation of certain prior gains invested in a Qualified Opportunity Fund (QOF) until December 31, 2026





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE EXCHANGE

The Exchange at Rock Hill, a joint venture between URS Capital Partners, a NY based private real estate investment firm, and Catalyst Capital Partners, a Charlotte based real estate development firm, recently broke ground on October 13th, 2020. The site stands at nearly 7.5 acres, encompassing an entire city block in downtown Rock Hill, SC, and represents a \$45M+ investment.

The Exchange at Rock Hill will be a best-in-class Mixed Use Development consisting of 229 apartments with a pool and outdoor lounge, roof deck, state of the art fitness center, and co-working space along with over 26,000 square feet of adaptive



reuse retail and commercial space. The location sits on the corner of Dave Lyle Boulevard and E. White Street within close proximity to Knowledge Park in downtown Rock Hill.

“The Exchange at Rock Hill is yet another success story in Knowledge Park. The project will bring additional residential and commercial development to the City’s core, drawing new businesses and jobs, and proving housing options for workers. The Exchange will redefine a very visible location in Rock Hill, changing the landscape of downtown and adding to the City’s growing vibrancy. I’m eager to witness our continued progress.” Said Mayor John Gettys.

Please contact **Sink Kimmel with Selwyn Property Group, Inc. for retail inquiries.** [sink@selwynpropertygroup.com](mailto:sink@selwynpropertygroup.com)

## ARRIVAL

Arrival, a global electric vehicle (EV) company, announced plans to establish its first U.S. Microfactory in Rock Hill, SC. The \$46 million investment will create 240 new jobs.

Arrival, based in London, England, creates zero-emission mobility solutions for today’s transportation challenges. The company’s South Carolina operations will utilize a new cell-based assembly method to produce vehicles rather than traditional automotive production line. Operations will initially focus on building electric buses with Arrival’s vertically integrated approach to vehicle production, which utilizes the company’s in-house developed components, materials and software.

Operations are expected to begin in the second quarter of 2021, with production starting by the fourth quarter of 2021.

Individuals interested in joining the Arrival team should visit the company’s hiring website at [www.readysc.org/arrival](http://www.readysc.org/arrival).



## Common Market

Expected to open in the Spring of 2021, Common Market recently announced their intention to expand to Downtown Rock Hill for the company’s fourth location in the Charlotte area.

This new location will be located at 161 West Main Street, a block away from the center of Old Town in Rock Hill. The adaptive reuse project will be another addition to the rapidly developing Knowledge Park area. Common Market has built a reputation as a community driven general store with award winning deli and beer selections in Charlotte over the past 20 years. Graham Worth, lead partner in the Common Market, feels confident about the brand’s next steps. “We have been searching for over a year for the right location to develop and build a long-term community project alongside complementary tenants. This is a big investment for a small business but we feel confident that this Rock Hill location will be well served for many years and will become a blueprint for future development of Common Markets.”

Contact: Graham Worth: [info@commonmarketisgood.com](mailto:info@commonmarketisgood.com)







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



At Comporium, we've been invested in the success of our Rock Hill 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](https://business.comporium.com)**



**CONTACT US**  
Rock Hill Economic Development  
155 Johnston Street, #11706  
Rock Hill, SC 29731  
RockHillUSA.com  
  
Jennifer Wilford, Director  
803-325-2551



The Thread

University Center

Knowledge Park

Old Town Rock Hill

Indoor Sports Arena  
Hotel  
Restaurants  
Retail  
Performance Space  
Offices  
Student Housing  
Apartments  
Pedestrian Trails

CHERRY PARK

TechPark Business Park

York Technical College  
*One College. Many Opportunities.*



Future Carolina Panthers  
HQ Facility

Southcross Business Park

Riverwalk Mixed-Use

BMX Track  
Velodrome  
Homes  
Apartments  
Offices  
Retail  
Restaurants  
Outdoor Amenities

Riverwalk Business Park

275,000 SF  
& 216,000 SF  
Spec Buildings

75,000 SF  
Spec Building

Waterford Business Park

Antrim Business Park

Legacy Park West

460,000 SF  
Spec Building

Legacy Park East



# YORK COUNTY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
SOUTH CAROLINA

## CONTACT US

York County Economic Development  
1830 Second Baxter Crossing  
Fort Mill, SC 29708  
YorkCountyED.com

David Swenson, Director  
803-802-4300



## BUSINESS PARKS

### YORK COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES



**9**  
available spec  
buildings with  
**1.9 million**  
SF of light  
industrial space



**16**  
business parks  
with over  
**1,000**  
shovel-ready acres



**4**  
Class A office park  
locations in development  
featuring below market lease  
rates



**7.7 million sf**  
Second largest office  
submarket (by county)  
in the Charlotte region



**400,000 SF**  
The Thread  
one of the largest  
adaptive reuse projects  
in the Carolinas

### ROCK HILL INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES

Rock Hill has been developing business parks for nearly 40 years, generating an estimated \$800 million in investments and more than 8,000 new jobs. Once a thriving textiles community, Rock Hill is no stranger to change. Left with a series of burnt out textiles mills in the 1980's, a collaborative vision was developed leading us to the creation of 8 Class A business parks, and we continue to do it again and again. Our business parks are home to multiple world-wide companies such as: Riverwalk: Atlas Copco, McKesson Pharmaceutical. Waterford: 3D Systems, Atotech, Transaxle Manufacturing, Chicago Pneumatic, Oerlikon Balzers. TechPark: Composite Resources, United Refrigeration, Affinity Healthcare. Antrim: Ross Distribution, Coroplast, MCI Forks. SouthCross: Winbro Group Technologies, Bradman Lake. Legacy Park East: Arrival, DIRRT Environmental.

For more information about business park development in Rock Hill, please contact Rick Norwood at 803-326-3835 or [rick.norwood@cityofrockhill.com](mailto:rick.norwood@cityofrockhill.com).



# CONNECTIVITY

## TRANSPORTATION

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, the deep-water Port of Charleston is an easy drive and rail service is top of the line. 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.

## AIRPORTS

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.



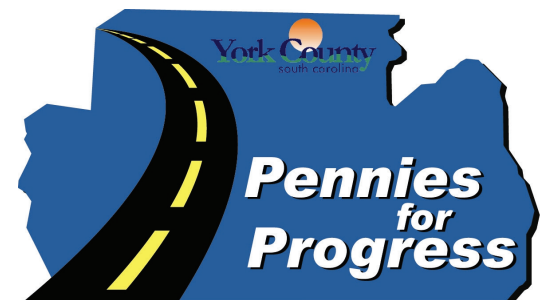
## PENNIES FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM

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. York County was the first in South Carolina to pass this special tax. And, since its inception, the 1% sales tax has been approved by the citizens of York County four times via a referendum process – the last time in 2017 with 78% approval.

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 Fort Mill 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.

Progress on the Pennies 4 Program is currently underway. Some of the major active projects include the Gold Hill/I-77 Interchange (Exit 88) in Fort Mill; US 21 widening from SC 160 (Peach Stand) to Springhill Farm Road (near Carowinds); HWY 51 widening from US 21 to the NC State Line (Pineville); and the widening of HWY 274/Pole Branch Road in Lake Wylie near the Gaston County line.



Voters will again have the chance to review and approve an upcoming Pennies 5 Program in 2024.

***“Those purchasing goods in York County help to fund this work. When people visit, work, or purchase goods and services in York County, they help contribute to the betterment of our roads, while enjoying all York County has to offer.”*** -- Pennies For Progress Program

Manager, Patrick Hamilton



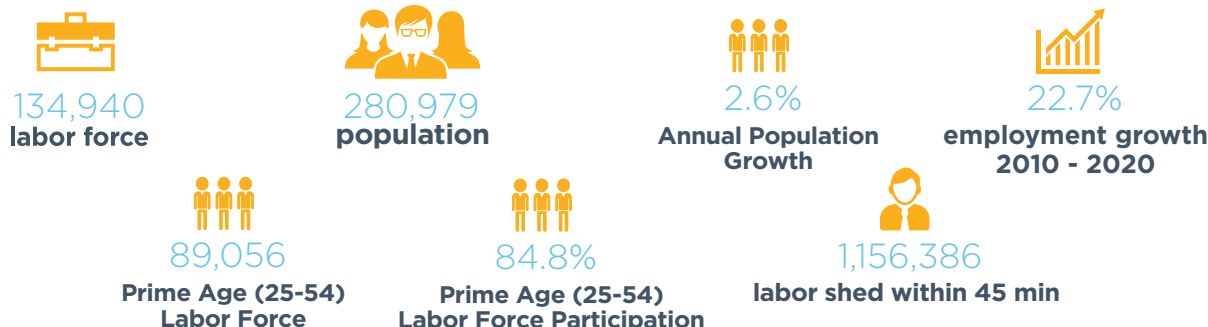
**\$1 Billion**

At the completion of Pennies 4, the Pennies program since its inception in 1997 will have leveraged over \$1 billion in local, state and federal dollars used to fund roadway improvements in York County.

## WORKFORCE

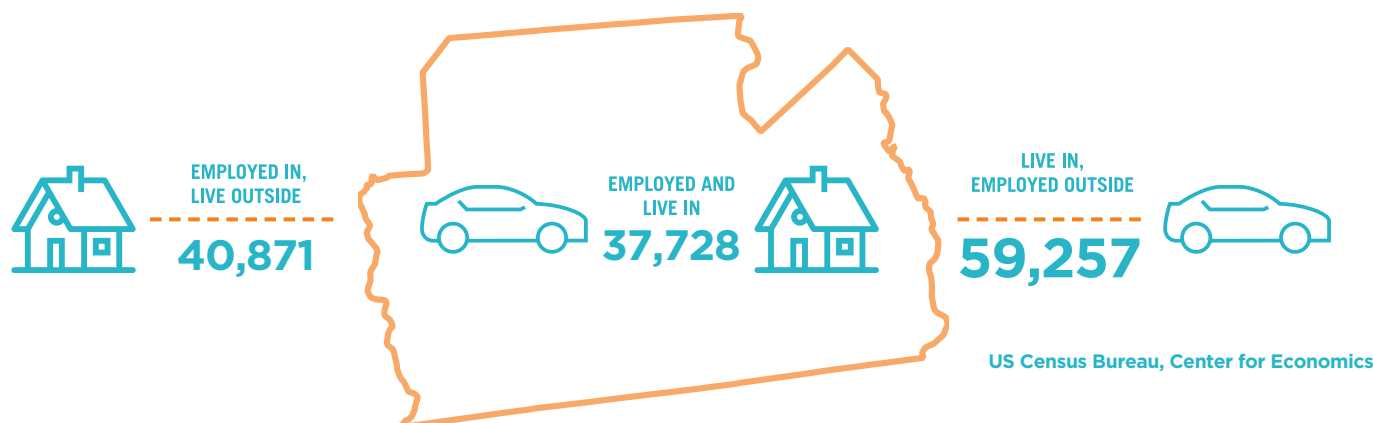
York County's job growth over the next 10 years is expected to top 40%, a strong number that reflects its strategic position as a home for new and expanding high-value businesses and industries. Once almost exclusively dependent on textiles for non-farm employment — and there still are peach orchards and corn fields — York County's economic diversity can weather downturns with strengths in traditional sectors such as finance and transportation while responding to fast-moving trends, including advances in automation, robotics and 3D printing. Startups and Fortune 500 enterprises alike have staked claims in York County, marking it a hot spot for economic growth for years to come.

## YORK COUNTY FAST FACTS



## FINDING YOUR TALENT CLOSER TO HOME

An outbound commuter study conducted by Winthrop University found that nearly 60,000 residents commute out of York County each day for work – the vast majority traveling across the state line to Charlotte. Often these commuters sit for an hour or more in traffic, despite the seemingly short 25-mile commute. These workers are employed in everything from Management, Information Technology, and Finance and possess the Knowledge Economy skills that many of Charlotte area employers are seeking. When asked, the overwhelming majority said they would stay closer to their home for similar or equal pay. In fact, based on the study, 61% or over 36,000 workers were willing to switch jobs if a similar opportunity were made available closer to home in York County.



### MEETING BUSINESS' TALENT NEEDS THROUGH INNOVATION.

Every day, nearly 60,000 York County residents commute across the state line to Charlotte, often sitting in traffic for an hour or more, despite it being a 25 mile one-way trip.

#### WHO ARE THESE WORKERS?

- 80% Employed in service sector or management
- 60% have skills necessary to support a knowledge economy
- 60% would rather work closer to home at the same pay rate

**CHALLENGE:** As innovative businesses continue to grow in the York County area, there is a large demand for skilled and qualified knowledge economy workers.

**STRATEGY:** Develop a free website for businesses and workers in the York County area to connect local knowledge economy jobs with qualified talent.

**JOBSROCKHILL.COM**

### JOBSROCKHILL.COM

Since it's public launch in January 2017, JobsRockHill.com has exposed over 8,000 local candidates to local job opportunities in the York County region.

**4,670**  
jobs  
posted

**9,724**  
candidates  
registered

**77,015**  
unique  
visitors

STAFF YOUR SUCCESS ON

**JobsRockHill.com**



# ENTREPRENEURSHIP & TECHNOLOGY

## B.E.L.L. PRIZE WINNERS SET ON INCREASING DIVERSITY

At the close of 2019, 4 black business owners and hopefuls learned that they would share in the \$100,000 offered through the B.E.L.L. Prize. The capital was contributed by J.M. Cope Construction. J.M. Cope is committed to the Rock Hill community and impacting it in a positive and profound way.

B.E.L.L. or the Black Economic Leadership League was started in 2018, as a response to the Knowledge Park Action Plan strategy focused on creating a more diverse business environment in the city.

70 existing or potential businesses applied, 40 businesses resolved to meet each week for 2 months at the Technology Incubator for coaching and counseling, and ultimately 4 shared the prize.

The winners included: Carolina Therapy Solutions, Body Envy Wellness and Hydration, True Divine Xpressions, and New Attitude Performing Arts Center.

[www.bellofrocks.org](http://www.bellofrocks.org)



## ROCK HILL VENTURE MENTORING SERVICE CONTINUES TO GROW



Rock Hill Venture Mentoring Service (VMS) is an educational program that is focused on assisting entrepreneurial activity and innovation based on the MIT Venture Mentoring Services model. Emphasizing teamwork and mentorship, this year's list of selected VMS companies in Rock Hill, expanded to 10.

The mission of the Rock Hill VMS is dedicated to the development and growth of entrepreneurs in Rock Hill and the surrounding area with the vision that the entrepreneurs provide an essential and sustainable economic engine to our community and quality of life. [www.rockhillvms.com](http://www.rockhillvms.com)



## 1 MILLION CUPS

Based on the notion that entrepreneurs discover solutions and engage with their communities over a million cups of coffee, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation developed 1 Million Cups in 2012—a free program designed to educate, engage and inspire entrepreneurs around the country. Through the power of volunteers, 1 Million Cups has grown to more than 160 communities. As a program of the Kauffman Foundation, 1 Million Cups works with entrepreneurs, empowering them with the tools and resources to break down barriers that stand in the way of starting and growing their businesses. Mr. Kauffman believed it was a fundamental right for anyone who had a big idea to be able to bring it to life—and we're here to fulfill that mission.

**First Wednesday of the month, 8:00am**  
**Where: Knowledge Perk**  
**130 W. White Street, Rock Hill, SC**



## HIGHER 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 continuing education programs.

### WINTHROP UNIVERSITY



4-Year, Public, Co-Ed

**65**

degree programs

**5,576**

students

**Fact:** Founded in Columbia, SC in 1823, it is now the 2nd largest university in the Charlotte region

### YORK TECHNICAL COLLEGE



2-Year, Public, Co-Ed

**6,053**

students

**94%**

placement rate

**108**

degree programs

**Fact:** Founded in 1964, its main campus in Rock Hill comprises 118 acres. Part of the SC Technical College System and home to internationally renowned programs: readySC and Apprenticeship Carolina

### CLINTON COLLEGE



2 & 4-Year  
Private, Co-Ed

**190**

students

**8**

degree programs

**Fact:** Founded in 1894, Clinton is a Christian, historically Black liberal arts college with its campus in Rock Hill.

## Winthrop University: College of Business Administration

"The mission of the College of Business Administration at Winthrop University is to provide a transformative education. We achieve our mission through state-of-the-art curriculum, co-curricular activities, in-demand degrees, and opportunities for experiential learning and employment with leading industry partners in York County, and beyond." -- P.N. Saksena, Dean of the College of Business

Quality Matters at Winthrop. The College of Business holds three major accreditations supporting this robust program.

**AACSB**  
**Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.**

Since 1979 – less than 5% of business colleges are accredited, worldwide. The CBA at Winthrop University has been reaffirmed through 2023-2024

**ABET**  
**Accreditation for Engineering and Technology, Inc.**

Since 1990 – the 2nd Computer Science program to be accredited in South Carolina.

**AUPHA**  
**Association of University Programs in Health Administration**

Since 2007 – the only certified undergraduate Health Care Administration program in South Carolina; one of 48 worldwide.



## YORK TECHNICAL COLLEGE

### Focus on Dual Enrollment Program

**York Technical College currently serves 550 dual enrollment students. These students are enrolled in a variety of programs in their choice of study.**



York Technical College's Dual Enrollment program is unique in that it focuses on the high school student's ability to learn while completing college credentials. York Tech's dual enrollment students are part of its Class of 2021 graduating class:

- YTC graduating dual enrollment students: 53
- Students completed college credentials: 58

A few popular programs include: University and Engineering Transfer, Automotive Repair, Basic Welding, Diesel Engine Performance, Early Childhood Development, Industrial Maintenance, Personal Trainer, Patient and Nursing Care Technician, and Utility Line Worker.



**York County**  
**Named #1**  
**Best Public Schools**  
**in South Carolina**

## K-12 : THE BEST IN THE REGION

York County's four public school districts include some of the most highly ranked elementary, middle and high schools in South Carolina and the Charlotte region. Along with K-12 education, York County schools also provide vocational training and adult education. Source: [www.niche.com](http://www.niche.com)

# 2020 ACCOLADES

## PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN ROCK HILL WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

This past October 2020, the Rock Hill Sports & Event Center, a public/private partnership forged by the City of Rock Hill and The Tuttle Co., won the Heavy Hitter Award, presented by the Charlotte Business Journal.

## ROCK HILL SPORTS & EVENT CENTER

The Rock Hill Sports & Event Center was developed by The Tuttle Co. and sold back to the city, making it part of the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department. The 170,000-square-foot venue opened in December 2019 and is the result of a \$25 million investment. If the early numbers and future bookings are any indicator, The Rock Hill Sports & Event Center, part of the larger University Center development in Rock Hill, will continue to be a great success. Annual economic impact numbers originally estimated at \$28-\$29M are now trending closer to \$55-\$60M annually, according to John Taylor, Director of Parks, Recreation and Tourism for the City. Hotel rooms, typically at around



60,000 annually, are estimated to be over 100,000 annually, despite COVID. In January, a 110-room Cambria Hotel will open by the Sports & Event Center. According to Rock Hill Mayor, John Gettys, "The success of the Rock Hill Sports & Event Center, from concept to completion, is a testament to the people of Rock Hill. We saw the importance of redeveloping the City's core, reimagining how the site of a hollowed out textile plant could be transformed. The facility was born out of a desire to create an additional gathering space for families, coupled with the potential for year-round tourism revenue. Parks, Recreation & Tourism staff's commitment to safety and local program offerings led to incredible success, in spite of challenges related to the pandemic. The achievement we've seen is the result of our people working together to forge an even brighter future for our city, further shaping a Rock Hill for All."



## ROCK HILL FEATURED IN READER'S DIGEST

HIDDEN  
GEM

Reader's Digest recently (September 2020) identified Rock Hill as one of 25 small towns about to become more popular. As more and more people are starting to ask, where do I really want to live, it's no longer about commutability but more so about quality of life. The article goes on to highlight unique amenities such as outdoor adventure along the Catawba River, proximity to Charlotte, locally sourced and Southern-inspired food, and the free MyRide Transit System.



## CHARLOTTE'S SOUTHERN NEIGHBOR

York County, Charlotte's Southern Neighbor is an adventurous, affordable and authentically southern experience. An undiscovered destination, we offer big-city amenities in a warm, friendly environment known for its hospitality and award winning outdoor adventure. Whether it's great food and beverage, outstanding outdoor recreation, or ease of access in connecting with nature, we truly have it all right here.

### FOOD & DRINK



An emerging and diverse food destination, just minutes from Charlotte, York County boasts one-of-a-kind tours featuring 10 local breweries and 15 restaurants. Grab a pint glass, a koozie, and a fork and jump on the #YoCoBrewTrail or the #YoCoTasteTrail in York County – the hardest part is choosing where to start.

### HIKE OR BIKE



York County has endless ways to enjoy hiking and biking. Whether you hit the mountain biking trails at the Anne Springs Close Greenway in Fort Mill, head out for a day trip to Kings Mountain State Park near Clover, or enjoy all of the amenities that the Rock Hill Outdoor Center at Riverwalk has to offer, there is a unique opportunity for everyone.

### HIT THE WATER



Boat, canoe, kayak or float. There are ample choices when looking to enjoy the water in York County. Whether you experience the Catawba River by tube or a guided tour from Riverwalk. Or, maybe rent a jet ski on Lake Wylie or take a wakeboarding lesson at SouthTown Wake Park, access to water is abundant in York County.

### OUR FARMS



Farm excursions aren't just for pumpkin picking these days. In York County, fun on the farm lasts all year long. Whether you're looking to pick strawberries or peaches, or just grab a bushel or two, there are so many family-friendly farms in York County you can't miss. Every June, more than twenty farms across the county open to the public during the South Carolina Ag + Art Tour – one of the largest self-guided, free farm and art events in the U.S.

## START PLANNING YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE IN YORK COUNTY

Visit [YorkCounty.com](http://YorkCounty.com) or  
download the Visit York County app

Want to get involved in making York County a great place to work, visit, and live?  
Contact Mallory Snyder at [msnyder@visityorkcounty.com](mailto:msnyder@visityorkcounty.com) or (c) 803-487-5702.





# FORGET

WHAT YOU THINK YOU KNOW



**YORK COUNTY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
SOUTH CAROLINA

**York County Economic Development**  
[www.yorkcountyed.com](http://www.yorkcountyed.com)  
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