



# JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING

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

Monday, April 7, 2025

## MINUTES

**Officials Present:** Chairman John Kemp, Vice Chairman Joey Rowell, Councilman Chris VanGeison and Councilman Joe Arzillo

**Staff Present:** County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Clerk to Council Wanda Giles, County Attorney David Tedder, Kimberly Burgess, Lisa Wagner, James Iwanicki, Danny Lucas, Chief Russell Wells, and Videographer Jonathan Dunham.

**Others Present:** Richard Dean and Baylor O'Cain – Airport Commission

### **5:00 PM – Workshop:**

The Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act was read for the records as follows: *In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the meeting and the meeting agenda were posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting on the County Council Building at a publicly accessible place, on the county website, and a copy of the agenda was provided to the local news media and all person's or organizations requesting notification.*

- **Ken Holt - Ridgeland-Claude Dean Airport Runway Length Justification Study**

Mr. Fulghum introduced Mr. Ken Holt. Mr. Holt was present to discuss the Ridgeland-Claude dean Airport Runway Length Justification Study. He and his staff were present to evaluate the demand for the Airport Infrastructure and provide the initial findings of the Runway Length Justification Study. It was noted that the airport is a significant asset for the County as well as an economic driver so the runway length was critical for the County in its operations. The demand for the airport infrastructure was reviewed and evaluated for Council. They discussed the industry drivers for South Carolina in regard to Leisure and Hospitality, Manufacturing and Logistics. For more information on this item please see "Attachment A". For additional information on this topic, please visit our YouTube Channel for the video and go to [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm\\_ggXCJIA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA).

- **Chapter 28 Utilities Ordinance Modification**

Council did not get to address this topic at this Workshop due to time constraints.

### **Adjourn workshop:**

The Workshop adjourned into the regular Council Meeting.

### **6:00 PM – Meeting:**

#### **1. Call to Order of the Jasper County Council Meeting by Chairman Kemp**

Chairman Kemp called the meeting to order. The Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act was read for the records as follows: *In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the meeting and the meeting agenda were posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting on the County Council Building at a publicly accessible place, on the county website, and a copy of the agenda was provided to the local news media and all person's or organizations requesting notification.*

## **2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation:**

The Pledge to the Flag was given and the Invocation was given by Councilman Rowell.

## **3. Approval of the Consent Agenda Items:**

Approval of Consent Agenda passes all Consent Agenda Items. Consent Agenda Items are not considered separately unless any Councilmember so requests. In the event of such a request the item is placed at the end of the Public Hearings, Ordinances and Action Items.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Rowell

**Second:** Councilman Arzillo

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

## **Approval of the Regular Agenda:**

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Arzillo

**Second:** Councilman VanGeison

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

---

## **PRESENTATION**

---

## **5. Dale Douthat – Presentation by the United Way**

Mr. Dale Douthat was present to make a presentation on the United Way. He gave a detailed overview of what the United Way was about, how they provide assistance, discussed the poverty levels, provided data and statistics, discussed self-sufficiency and a Community Action Plan along with other valuable information. For additional information on this item, please visit our YouTube Channel for the video and go to [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm\\_ggXCJIA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA).

---

## **6. Chairman Kemp's comments:** Thanked Mr. Fulghum and staff for the agenda meeting.

---

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

---

**7. Open Floor to the Public per Ordinance Number #08-17** Any citizen of the County may sign to speak in person at the Council Meeting (before the Council Meeting's 6:00PM start time on the Sign-In Sheet on the

Podium), to address Council on matters pertaining to County Services and Operations. Presentations will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and total public input will be limited to 30 minutes.

Gene Ceccarelli signed in to speak on general topics and noted that he was a candidate for the Council position and lived in the Hardeeville area.

Krista Flanders was present to discuss Opioid Education and agenda item # 19.

Treasurer Mike Skinner was present to discuss the Resolution on the agenda item # 12.

Judy McCaffrey was present to discuss the Audit.

Karen Wild was present to discuss a Forensic Audit.

---

## RESOLUTIONS

---

**8. Andrew Fulghum** – Consideration of Resolution #R-2025-25 Resolution of Jasper County Council to designate April 2025 as Fair Housing Month in Jasper County, South Carolina.

Mr. Fulghum was present to review and address the request for the consideration of the Resolution #R-2025-25 Resolution of Jasper County Council to designate April 2025 as Fair Housing Month in Jasper County, South Carolina.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman VanGeison

**Second:** Councilman Rowell

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**9. Chairman Kemp** – Consideration of Resolution #R-2025-26 of Jasper County Council Creating An Ad Hoc Committee pursuant to Section 2-56 through 2-60 to evaluate 2025-2026 County Budget Requests for Grants/Financial Support by Local Agencies and Non-Profits and Matters Related Thereto.

Chairman Kemp was present to review and address the request for the consideration of Resolution #R-2025-26 of Jasper County Council Creating An Ad Hoc Committee pursuant to Section 2-56 through 2-60 to evaluate 2025-2026 County Budget Requests for Grants/Financial Support by Local Agencies and Non-Profits. Councilman Rowell and Councilman Arzillo will be heading up the Committee.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman VanGeison

**Second:** Councilman Rowell

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**10. Kimberly Burgess** – Consideration and Public Hearing regarding Resolution #R-2025-27 pursuant to Section 2-415 (a) of the Jasper County Code of Ordinances, exempting the proposed purchase of goods and/or services required to achieve compliance with certain Minimum Standards for Local Detention Facilities in South Carolina as stated in the March 10, 2023, letter to the Jasper County Council and the accompanying inspection report prepared by the South Carolina Department of Corrections from the bidding and other requirements of the Jasper County Purchasing and Contracting Ordinance and authorizing the County Administrator to create the contracts and obtain the services on behalf of Jasper County, and matters related thereto.

Ms. Burgess was present to review and address the request for the consideration of Resolution #R-2025-27 pursuant to Section 2-415 (a) of the Jasper County Code of Ordinances, exempting the proposed purchase of goods and/or services required to achieve compliance with certain Minimum Standards for Local Detention Facilities in South Carolina as stated in the March 10, 2023, letter to the Jasper County Council and the accompanying inspection report prepared by the South Carolina Department of Corrections from the bidding and other requirements of the Jasper County Purchasing and Contracting Ordinance and authorizing the County Administrator to create the contracts and obtain the services on behalf of Jasper County. The public hearing was called order but there were no comments so the public hearing was closed.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman VanGeison

**Second:** Councilman Rowell

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**11. Kimberly Burgess – Consideration and Public Hearing regarding Resolution #R-2025-28 pursuant to Section 2-415 (a) of the Jasper County Code of Ordinances, exempting the proposed purchase of goods and/or services required to provide safety equipment for Detention Center employees, including body cameras and tasers, from the bidding and other requirements of the Jasper County Purchasing and Contracting Ordinance and authorizing the County Administrator to create the contracts and obtain the services on behalf of Jasper County, and matters related thereto.**

Ms. Burgess was present to review and address the request for the consideration of Resolution #R-2025-28 pursuant to Section 2-415 (a) of the Jasper County Code of Ordinances, exempting the proposed purchase of goods and/or services required to provide safety equipment for Detention Center employees, including body cameras and tasers, from the bidding and other requirements of the Jasper County Purchasing and Contracting Ordinance and authorizing the County Administrator to create the contracts and obtain the services on behalf of Jasper County. The public hearing was called to order and following speaker spoke. Ms. Frazier questioned regarding equipment and how it is ordered. There were no further questions from the public and Council had some discussion then the public hearing was closed.

**Motion to table till the next meeting:** Councilman Rowell

**Second:** Councilman VanGeison

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**12. Andrew Fulghum – Consideration of Resolution #R-2025-30 Supplementing and Amending Resolution R-2024-26 and R-2025-04 by Authorizing the Jasper County Administrator to Provide Access to the Jasper County Treasurer for Banks Accounts under the Control of the Administration and County Council.**

Mr. Fulghum was present to review and address the request for consideration of Resolution #R-2025-30 Supplementing and Amending Resolution # R-2024-26 and R-2025-04 by Authorizing the Jasper County Administrator to Provide Access to the Jasper County Treasurer for Banks Accounts under the Control of the Administration and County Council. He discussed the MOU, and how item 4 addressed the MOU concerns. Council had some discussion on this item and Treasurer Skinner noted that 60 days was good.

**Motion to adopt and add 60 days to number 4 of the resolution:** Councilman Rowell

**Second:** Councilman VanGeison

**Vote:** Unanimous  
The motion passed.

---

**PUBLIC HEARINGS, ORDINANCES AND ACTION ITEMS**

---

**13. David Tedder – Public Hearing and consideration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #O-2025-09 to amend and Re-number the Jasper County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2 *Administration*, Article II *County Council*, Division 1, *Generally*, being codified as Sections 2-31 through Section 2-33C, Repealing as of July 1, 2025 Ordinance 08-20 Adopting the Jasper County Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, as Amended, and Adding a New Section 2-72 in Article III, *Officers and Employees*, Regarding the Adoption of Personnel System Policies and Procedures. (1<sup>st</sup> reading 03.17.2025)**

Mr. Tedder was present to review and address the request for the consideration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance #O-2025-09 to amend and Re-number the Jasper County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2 *Administration*, Article II *County Council*, Division 1, *Generally*, being codified as Sections 2-31 through Section 2-33C, Repealing as of July 1, 2025 Ordinance 08-20 Adopting the Jasper County Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, as Amended, and Adding a New Section 2-72 in Article III, *Officers and Employees*, Regarding the Adoption of Personnel System Policies and Procedures. The public hearing was called order but there were no comments, so the public hearing was closed

**Motion to approve:** Councilman VanGeison  
**Second:** Councilman Arzillo  
**Vote:** Unanimous  
The motion passed.

**14. David Tedder – Public Hearing and consideration of the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance #O-2025-10 authorizing the sale to 719 Holdings, LLC of 1.139 acre parcel, more or less, being subdivided out of the original 19.09 acre Parcel identified as Parcel B as shown on a Plat recorded at Plat Book 27 at Page 80, being a portion of tax parcel 048-00-01-005, and to authorize the Jasper County Administrator to execute such contracts, amendments, deeds and other documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effect the sale to 719 Holdings, LLC, or its assigns, and matters related thereto. (1<sup>st</sup> reading for the 03.17.2025 meeting was removed from the agenda)**

The public hearing was called order but there were no comments, so the public hearing was closed.

**Motion to move to the next meeting:** Councilman VanGeison  
**Second:** Councilman Rowell  
**Vote:** Unanimous  
The motion passed.

**15. David Tedder – Consideration of the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance to amend the Jasper County Code of Ordinances by repealing Chapter 28, *Utilities*, Articles II through IV in their entirety and replacing them with a new Article II.**

Mr. Tedder was present to review and address the request for consideration of the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance to amend the Jasper County Code of Ordinances by repealing Chapter 28, *Utilities*, Articles II through IV in their entirety and replacing them with a new Article II.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Rowell

**Second:** Councilman VanGeison

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**16. Kimberly Burgess – Consideration of approval of the M. B. Kahn Construction Co., Inc. capital planning services extension agreement and to authorize the County Administrator or his designee to execute all necessary documents related to the execution of the extension agreement.**

Ms. Burgess was present to review and address the request for the consideration of the approval of the M. B. Kahn Construction Co., capital planning services extension agreement and to authorize the County Administrator or his designee to execute all necessary documents related to the execution of the extension agreement.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Arzillo

**Second:** Councilman VanGeison

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**17. Kimberly Burgess – Consideration of approval of M. B. Kahn Construction Co, Inc. contract change order for the Temporary Library Upfit and to authorize the County Administrator or his designee to execute all necessary documents related to the execution of the change order.**

Ms. Burgess was present to review and address the request for the consideration of approval of M. B. Kahn Construction Co, Inc. contract change order for the Temporary Library Upfit and to authorize the County Administrator or his designee to execute all necessary documents related to the execution of the change order.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Rowell

**Second:** Councilman Arzillo

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**18. Kimberly Burgess – Consideration of approval of Johnson-Laux Construction (SC) contract for repairs and upfit of 258 Russell Street not to exceed \$320,000 and to authorize the County Administrator or his designee to execute all necessary documents related to the execution of the change order.**

Ms. Burgess was present to review and address the request for the consideration of approval of Johnson-Laux Construction (SC) contract for repairs and upfit of 258 Russell Street not to exceed \$320,000 and to authorize the County Administrator or his designee to execute all necessary documents related to the execution of the change order.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman VanGeison

Minutes - 04.07.2025

**Second:** Councilman Rowell

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**19. Heather Rath – Presentation of the proposals and recommendation for selection of the Consultant to provide the Jasper County Opioid Education Campaign.**

Ms. Rath was present to review and address the request for the proposals and a recommendation for the selection of the Consultant to provide the Jasper County Opioid Education Campaign. She gave an update on the information to Council and discussed the recommendations that she had. She also covered the key dates and where the funds come from.

**Motion to approve and allow the County Administrator to sign off on all of the documents:** Councilman VanGeison

**Second:** Councilman Rowell

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

---

**20. Administrator's Report:** Mr. Fulghum reviewed the information from his report. There were no Action Items requiring a vote from the Council in the Administrator's Report

---

---

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

---

**21. Approval of the Minutes 02.03.2025 and 02.18.2025**

---

---

**22. Councilmember Comments and Discussion:** Councilmember Comments were given but there were no comments that required action.

---

**23. Executive Session SECTION 30-4-70.**

**(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 – [County Attorney, Judge Lee](#)**
- (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 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 – [Tax Map # 063-24-01-003](#)**

**Motion to go into Executive Session:** Councilman Rowell

**Second:** Councilman Arzillo

[Minutes - 04.07.2025](#)



**Vote:** Unanimous  
The motion passed.

**Return to Open Session:**

**Motion to return to Regular Session:** Councilman VanGeison

**Second:** Councilman Rowell

**Vote:** Unanimous  
The motion passed.

**23.1 Action coming out of Executive Session:** None

**24. Adjournment:**

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Rowell

**Second:** Councilman VanGeison


**Vote:** Unanimous  
The motion passed.

For more information on this meeting please go to our YouTube Channel for the video go to [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmlogX05cKAsHm\\_ggXCJIA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmlogX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA) .

The motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

**Respectfully submitted:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wanda H. Giles  
Clerk to Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John A. Kemp  
Chairman



*Attachment "A"*

# **Jasper County Council Workshop**

## **Ridgeland-Claude Dean Airport (3J1) Runway Extension**

**Economic Impact &  
Justification Study**

**April 7, 2025**

# Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction
- Evaluating the Demand for Airport Infrastructure
- Runway Length Justification Study - Initial Findings
- Team Comments:
  - South Carolina Department of Commerce
  - South Carolina Aeronautics Commission
- Questions
- Closing Comments

Ken Holt

Dr. Joey Von Nessen

Zach Nelson

Maceo Nance

Gary Siegfried

Ken Holt

# **Ridgeland-Claude Dean Airport (3J1)**

## **Runway Extension**

**Airport is a significant asset for Jasper County**

**Airport is an economic driver**

**Airport runway length is critical**

# Evaluating the Demand for Airport Infrastructure



Joseph Von Nessen, Ph.D.  
Research Economist

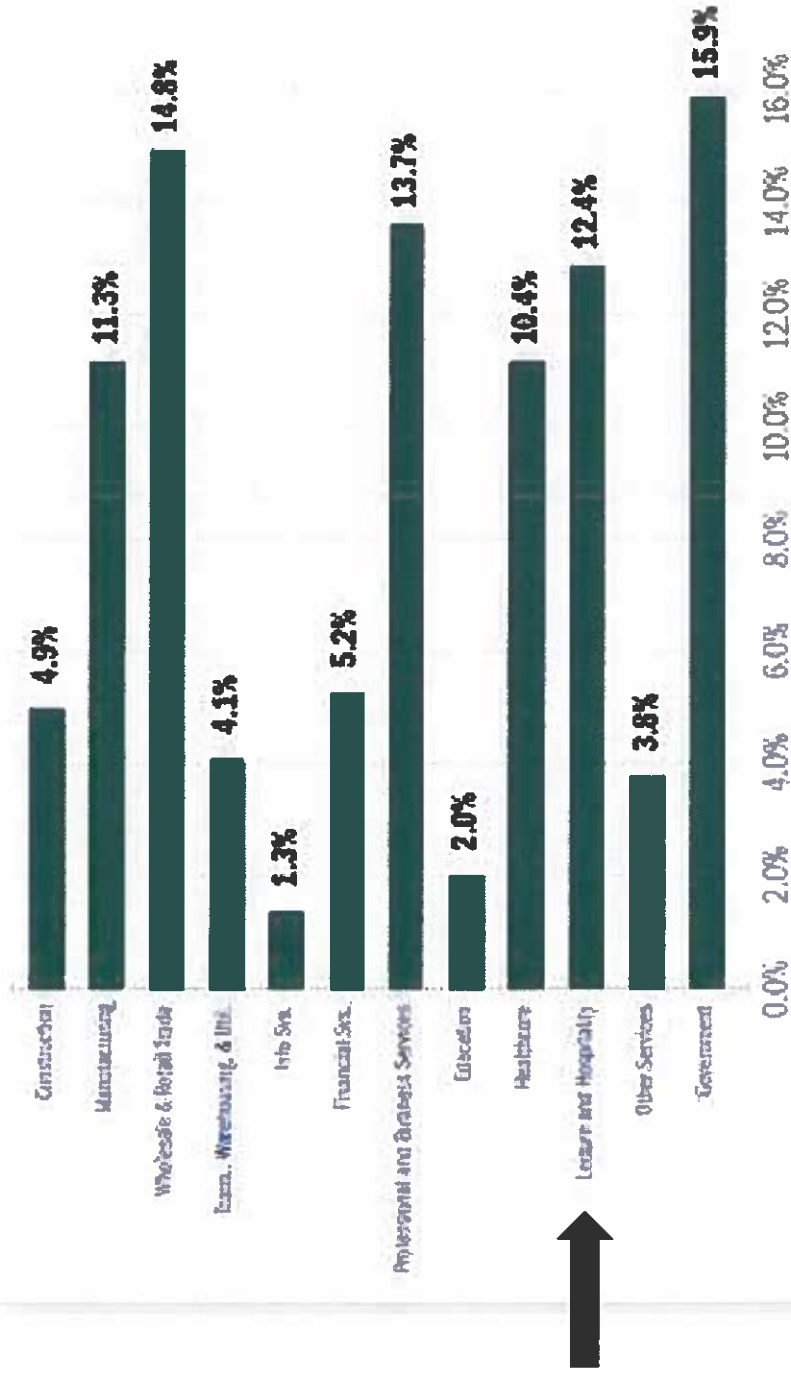
[joey.vonnessen@moore.sc.edu](mailto:joey.vonnessen@moore.sc.edu)

# **The Bottom Line**

South Carolina maintains a well-established system of airports that represents an essential component of the state's transportation infrastructure...

...but the demand is continuing to grow

# Contribution to S.C. Employment Base by Industry

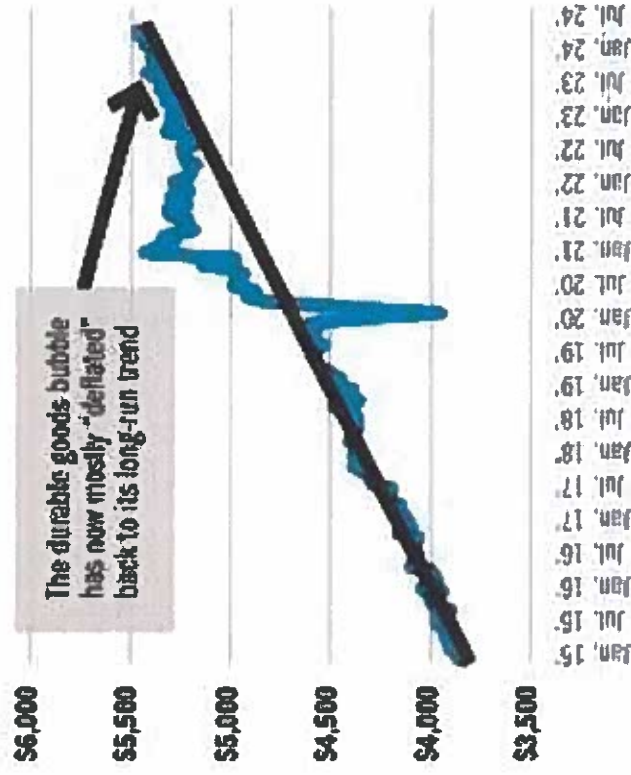


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, QCEW

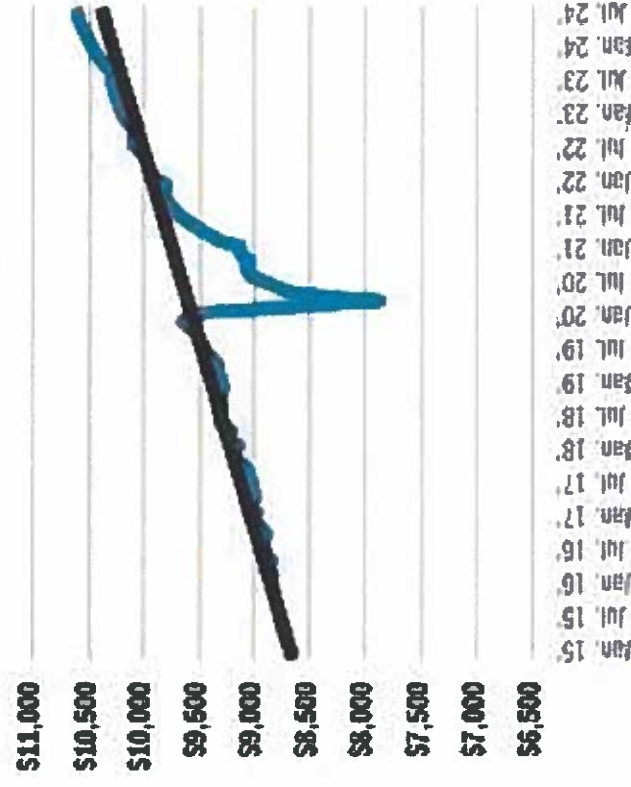


# Real U.S. Consumer Spending

## Goods



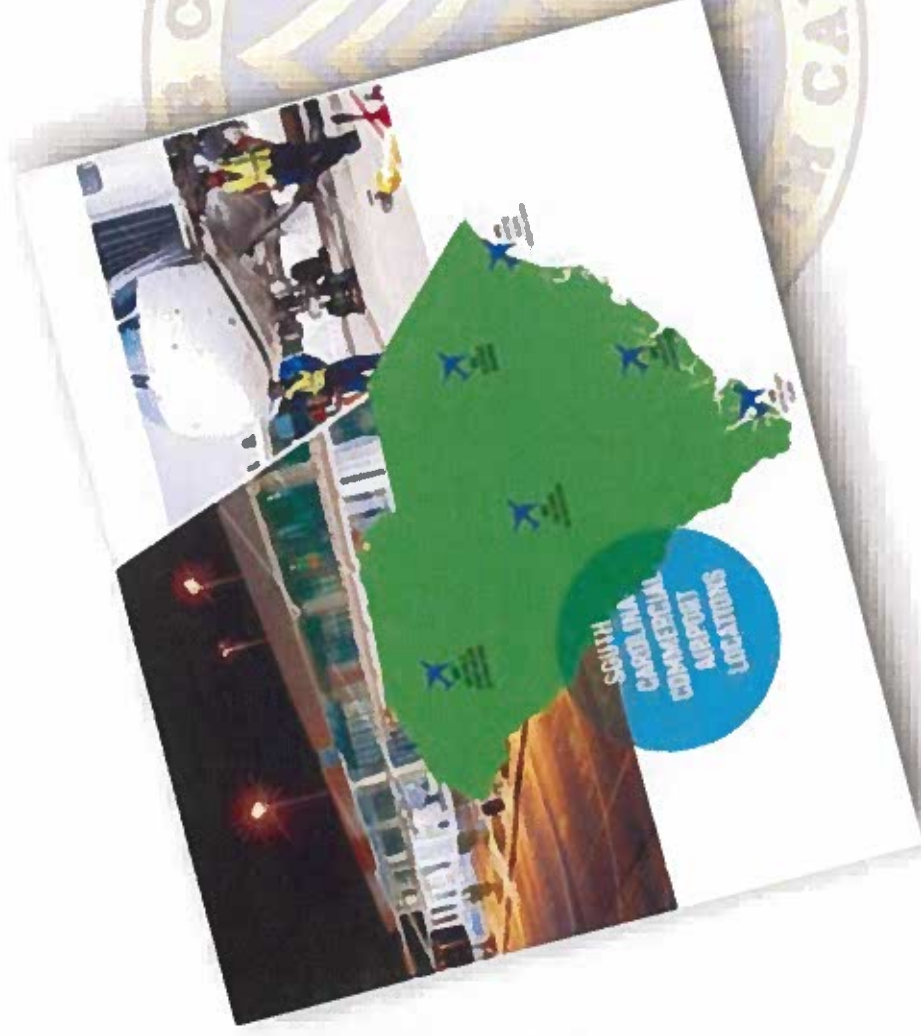
## Services



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, in billions



- Airports support local industries that import and export goods domestically and internationally.
- This is an especially important advantage for the state's manufacturing and retail sectors.



# **South Carolina Industry Drivers**

---

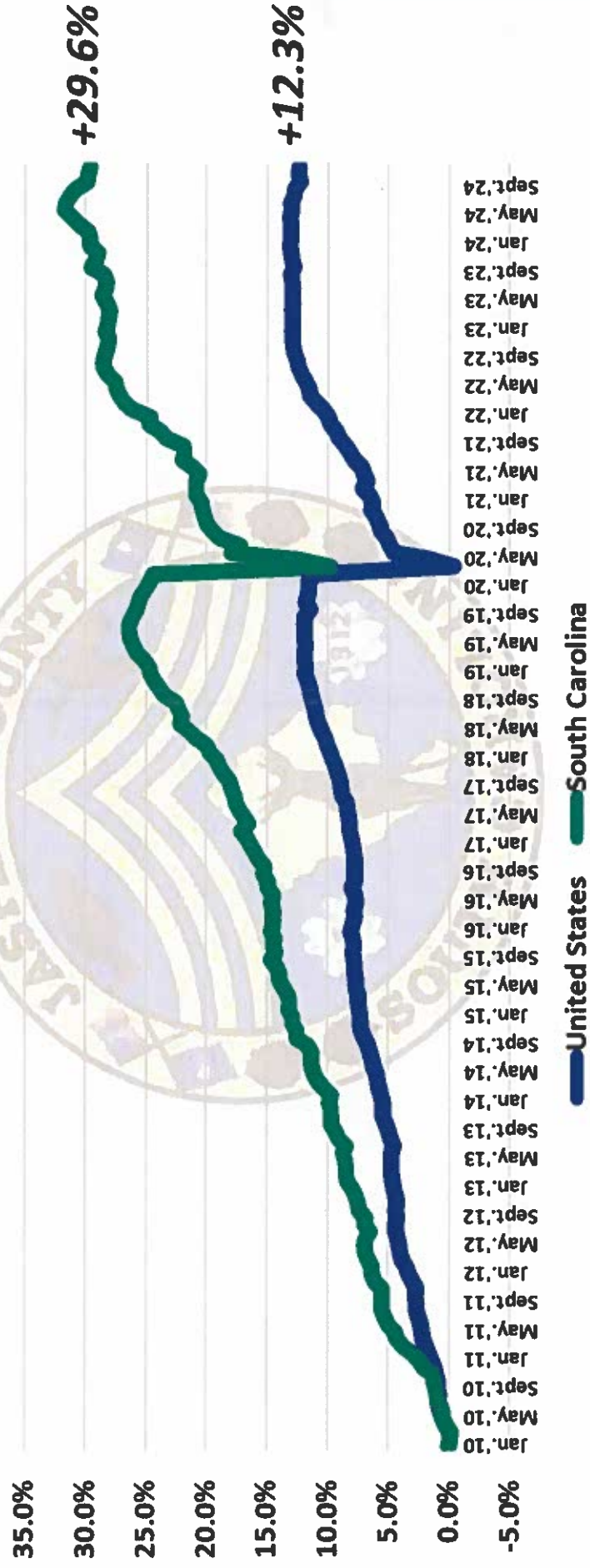
**(1) Leisure & Hospitality**

**(2) Manufacturing**

**(3) Logistics**

# Total Manufacturing Employment Growth

2010-2024



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

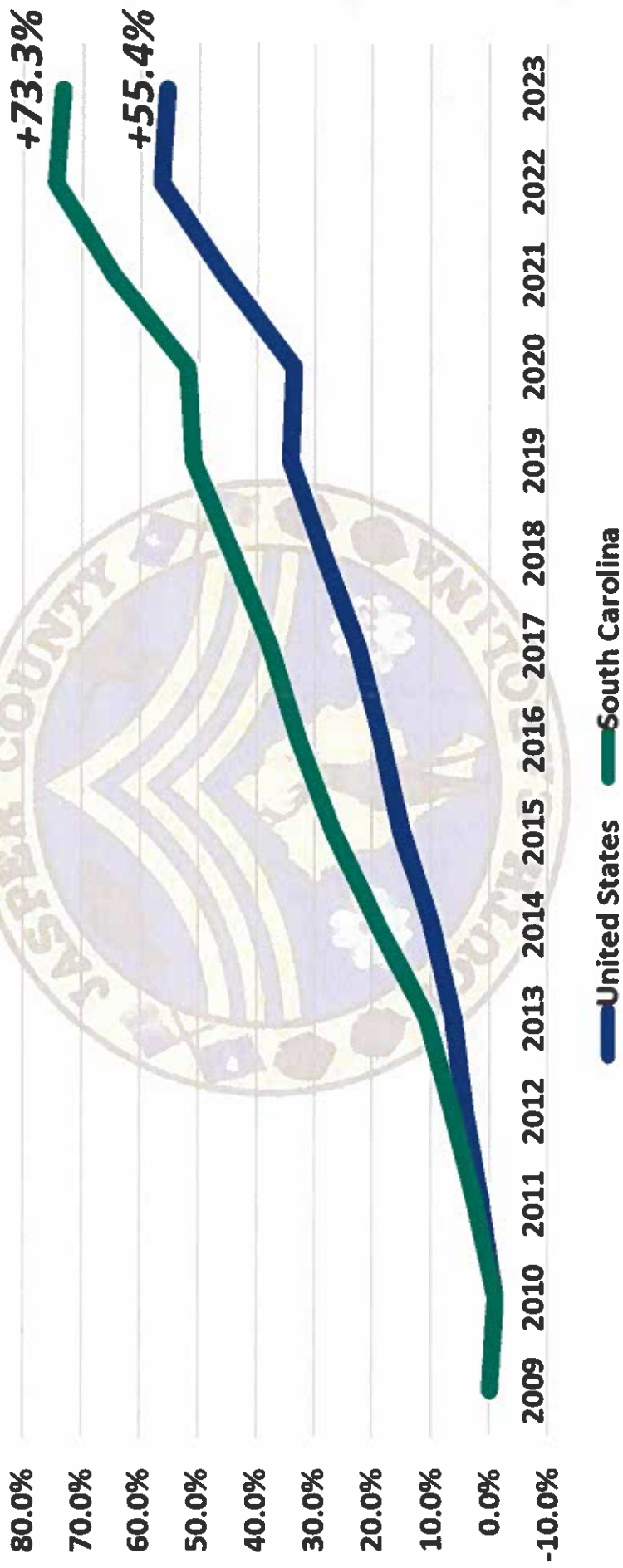
# Total Adv. Manuf. Employment Growth 2010-2024



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Total Transp. & Warehousing Emp. Growth

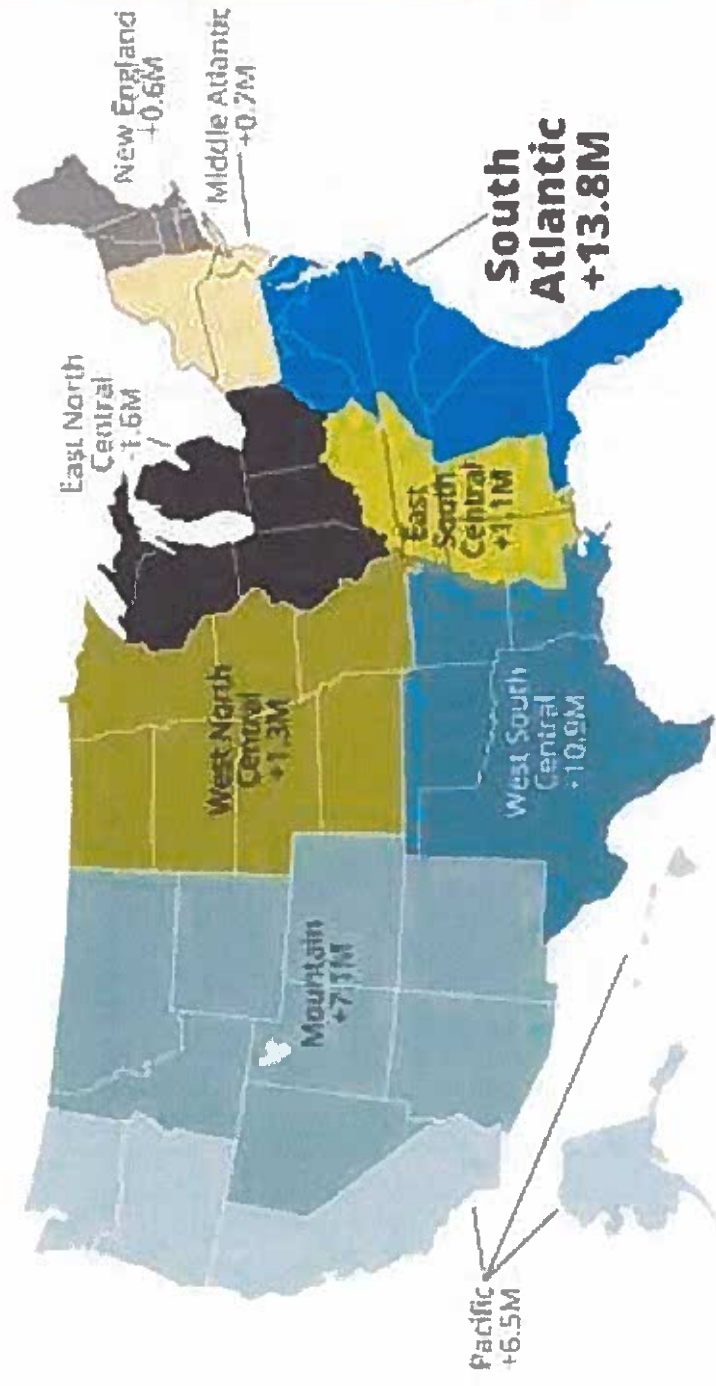
2010-2024



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



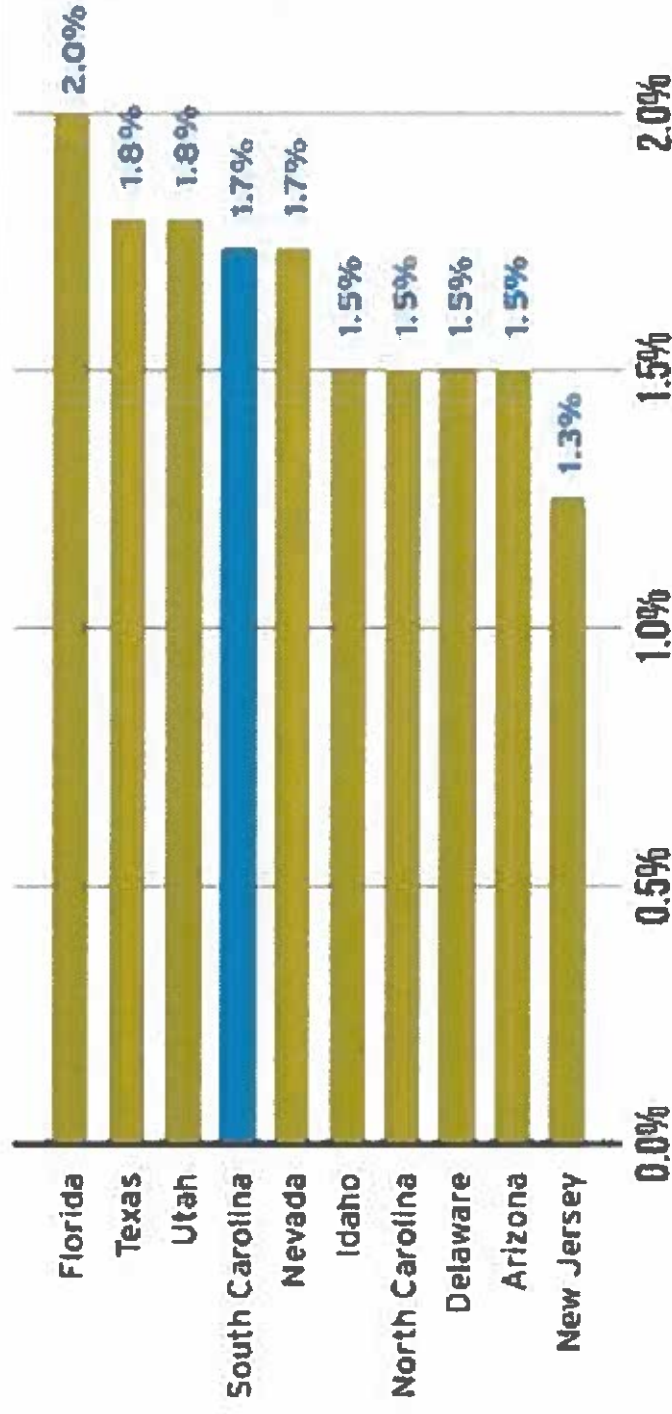
# Projected Population Growth by U.S. Region 2020-2050



The Southeastern United States is projected to experience more population gains than any other U.S. region through the year 2050.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# Annual Population Growth Rate 2024 vs. 2023



In 2024, South Carolina experienced the 4th highest population growth rate in the nation.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

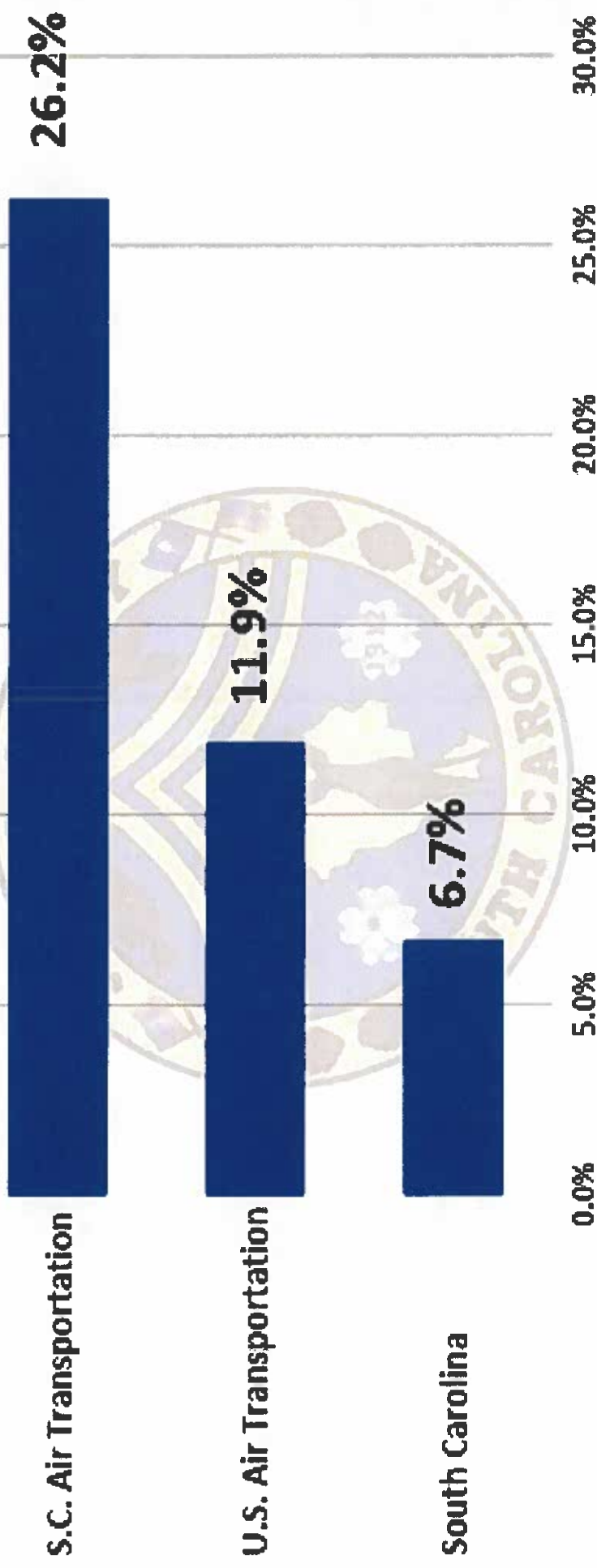


# Characteristics of S.C. Newcomers

- *More educated* → 33% have a 4-year degree vs. 25% of current South Carolina residents
- *Higher income* → Median family income is 17% higher than current S.C. residents
- *More likely to be working* → 66% are in the labor force vs. 60% of existing residents

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# Total Employment Growth: 2019-2024



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

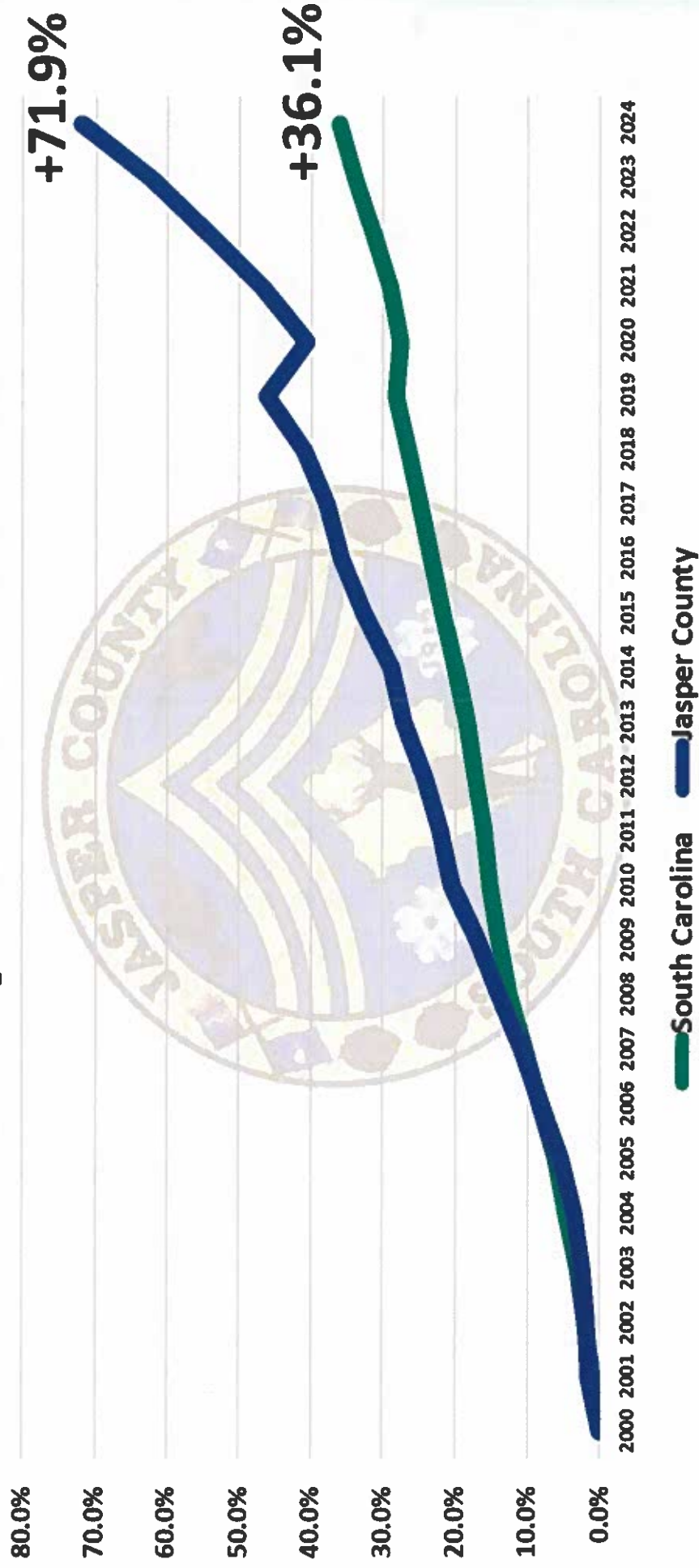
# Statewide Economic Impact Summary of All Commercial Airports on South Carolina

| Airport                                      | Employment     | Labor Income           | Economic Output         |
|--|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Charleston International Airport             | 61,527         | \$3,737,149,287        | \$11,154,411,206        |
| Columbia Metropolitan Airport                | 15,838         | \$867,706,908          | \$3,348,573,426         |
| Florence Regional Airport                    | 476            | \$20,033,409           | \$67,867,123            |
| Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport | 24,747         | \$1,173,995,162        | \$4,672,140,083         |
| Hilton Head Island Airport                   | 1,455          | \$49,682,779           | \$168,372,843           |
| Myrtle Beach International Airport           | 26,410         | \$935,994,352          | \$3,074,564,898         |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>130,453</b> | <b>\$6,784,561,897</b> | <b>\$22,485,929,579</b> |

# **A Growing Demand in Jasper County**



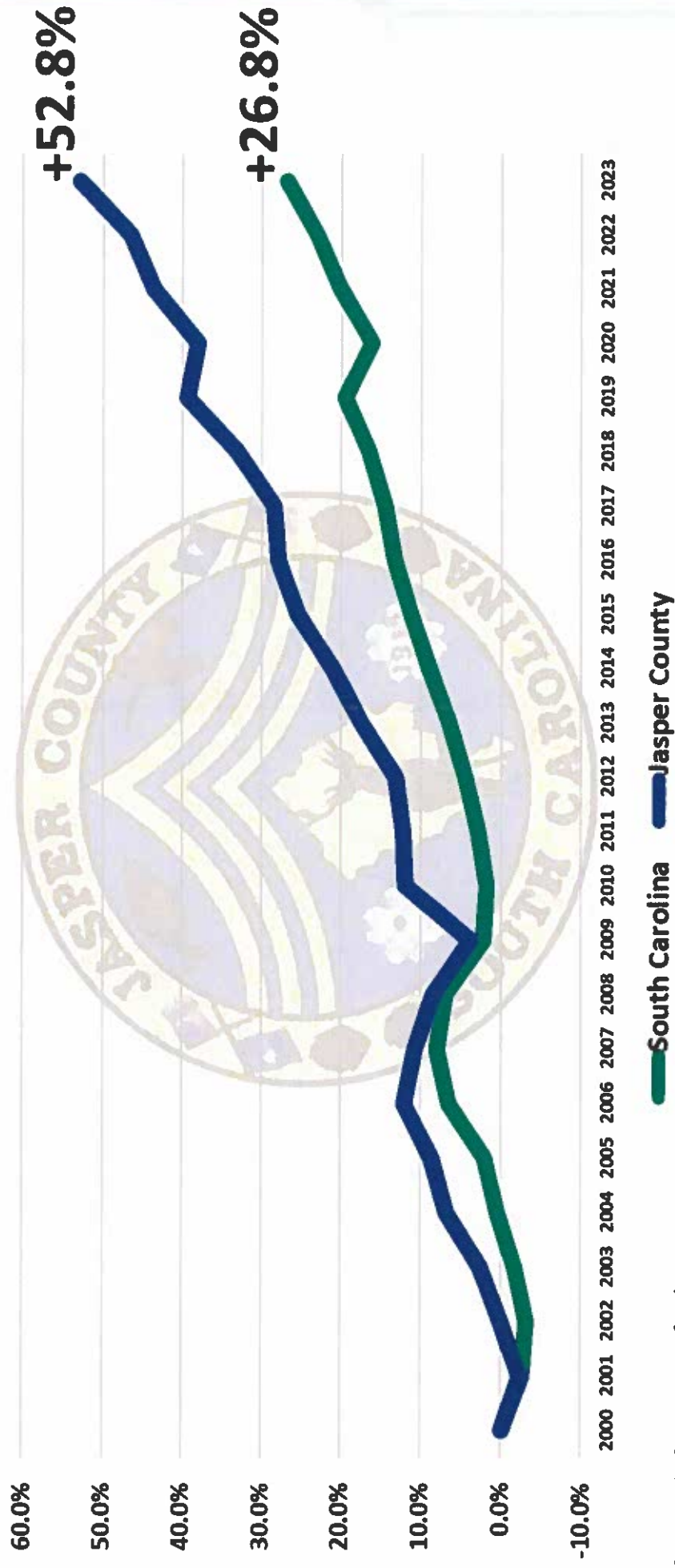
# Cumulative Population Growth: 2000-2024



Source: U.S. Census Bureau



# Cumulative Employment Growth: 2000-2023



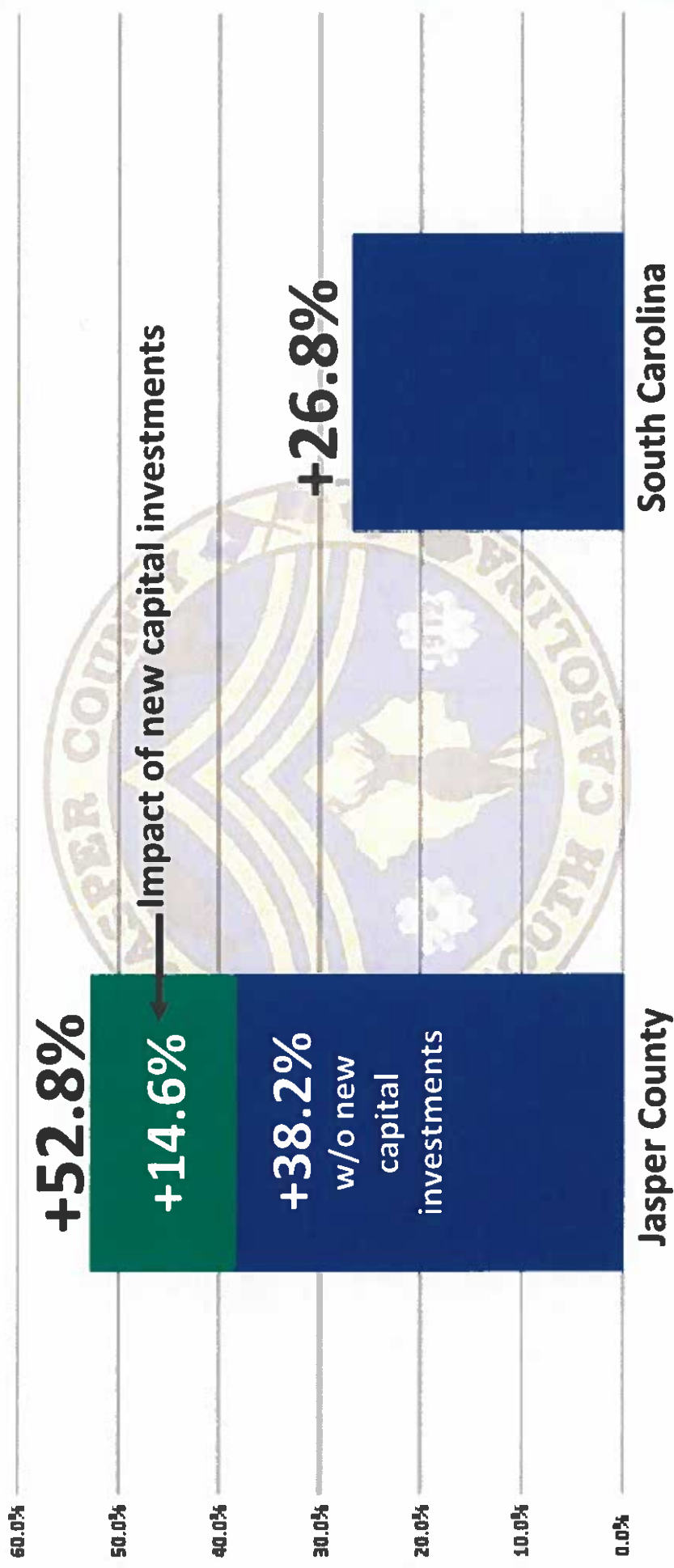
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# **Jasper County Has Seen Strong, Steady Capital Investment in Recent Years**

- Investments in industries requiring regular access to airport, seaport, and highway infrastructure
- Agribusiness, Distribution & Storage, Manufacturing
- \$351 million and 1,288 jobs since 2011



# Cumulative Employment Growth: 2000-2023



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# **The Bottom Line**

South Carolina maintains a well-established system of airports that represents an essential component of the state's transportation infrastructure...

...but the demand is continuing to grow

# Runway Length Justification Study

Zach Nelson

Airport Planner



# Aircraft Considered in Analysis

**Both current and future aircraft expected to operate at 3J1.**

**Current fleet mix includes:**

- **Turboprop Aircraft:** Cessna 208B, King Air 200, PC-12, King Air 350.
- **Light & Midsize Jets:** Phenom 300, Citation 560XLS, Citation Latitude.

**Future fleet mix considerations:**

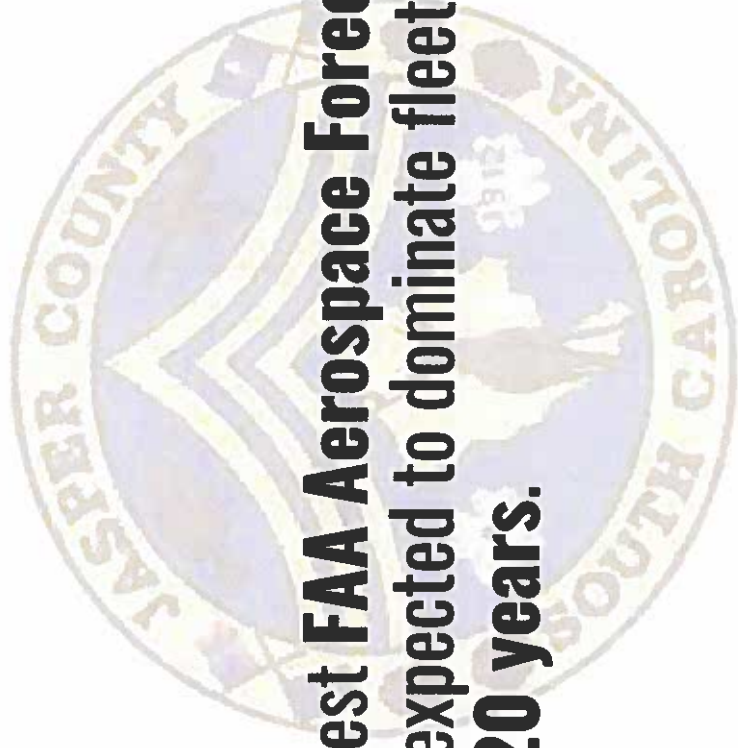
- **Larger Business Jets:** Challenger 300/350, Hawker 800XP, Gulfstream G550/650.
- **Long-Range Aircraft:** Bombardier Global 6000/7000, Falcon 2000EX/900EX.

# Why This Matters:

- The mix of turboprops and business jets at 3J1 means **runway length must support both small and large aircraft efficiently.**
- Future demand indicates that **more jet activity is expected,** reinforcing the need for a longer runway.

# **FAA Aerospace Forecast: Future Growth Trends**

According to the latest **FAA Aerospace Forecast**, multi-engine and jet aircraft are expected to dominate fleet utilization and growth in the next **20 years**.





# FAA Aerospace Forecast: Future Growth Trends

## Key projections:

- **Hours flown by business jets** will continue to grow significantly, reflecting increased reliance on private and charter operations.
- **New aircraft purchases** will heavily favor **twin-engine and jet aircraft**, increasing demand for longer runways at regional airports like 3J1.
- **Turboprop growth remains steady**, but jets are expected to account for the largest share of operational increases in the **business aviation sector**.



# **FAA Aerospace Forecast: Future Growth Trends**

## **Implications for 3J1:**

- As more **business jet traffic** enters the market, **regional airports with longer runways will be preferred** for reliability and safety.
- Extending the runway to **at least 5,400 feet** ensures **3J1 can accommodate growing demand and remain competitive** in the regional aviation network.

# Runway Length Analysis

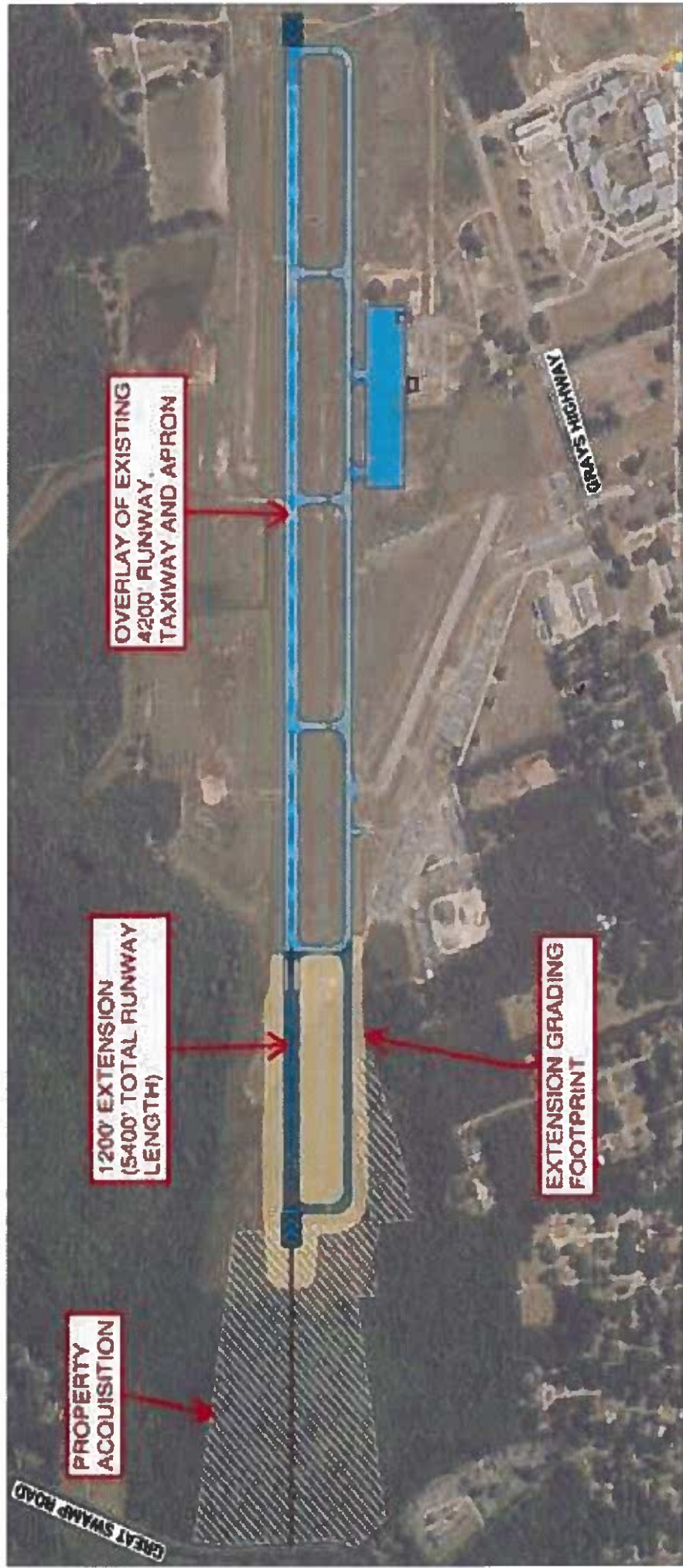
## Key Findings

### Key Takeaway:

Recommended length 5,400 feet (1,200-foot extension)

### Bottom Line:

Extending the runway to 5,400 feet will improve operational efficiency, attract more aviation business, and position 3J1 for future growth.



PROPERTY  
ACQUISITION

1200' EXTENSION  
(5400' TOTAL RUNWAY  
LENGTH)

OVERLAY OF EXISTING  
4200' RUNWAY  
TAXIWAY AND APRON

EXTENSION GRADING  
FOOTPRINT

GREAT SWAMP ROAD

GRAVES HIGHWAY

# **Ridgeland-Claude Dean Airport (3J1)**

## **Runway Extension**

Airport is a **significant asset** for Jasper County

Airport is an **economic driver**

Airport runway length is **critical**