

SMALL BUSINESS MEETING

SEPTEMBER 26, 2022





SERVING OUR (SMALL BUSINESS) COMMUNITY



Property Tax Rate Changes





Business License Comparison

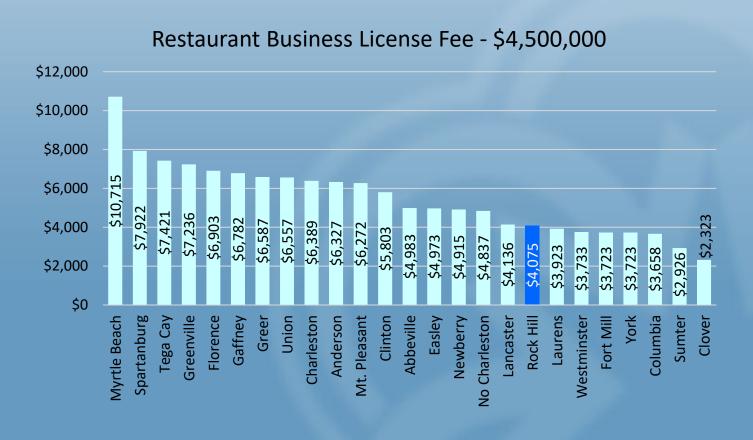
Employee Services Business License Fee - \$1,500,000



- . Myrtle Beach
- 2. Tega Cay
- 3. Charleston
- 4. Clinton
- 5. Spartanburg
- 6. Florence
- 7. Mt. Pleasant
- 8. Greenville
- 9. Anderson
- 10. Greer
- 11. No Charleston
- 12. Laurens
- 13. Union
- 14. Gaffney
- 15. Lancaster
- 16. Newberry
- 17. Abbeville
- 18. Easley
- 19. Westminster
- 20. Clover
- 21. Sumter
- 22. York
- 23. Fort Mill
- 24. Columbia
- 25. Rock Hill (25)



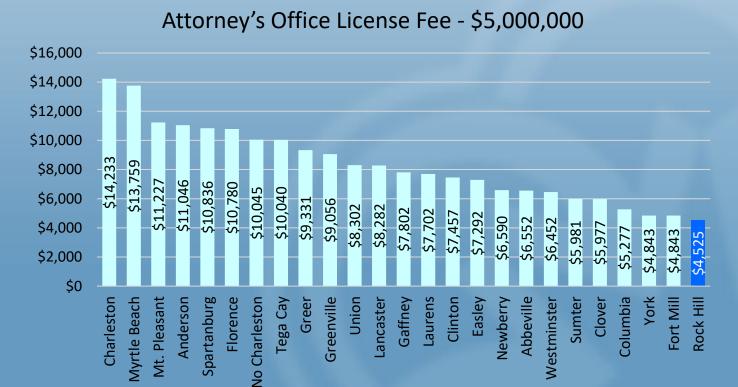
Business License Comparison



- L. Myrtle Beach
- 2. Spartanburg
- 3. Tega Cay
- 4. Greenville
- 5. Florence
- 6. Gaffney
- 7. Greer
- 8. Union
- 9. Charleston
- 10. Anderson
- 11. Mt. Pleasant
- 12. Clinton
- 13. Abbeville
- 14. Easley
- 15. Newberry
- 16. No Charleston
- 17. Lancaster
- 18. Rock Hill (20)
- 19. Laurens
- 20. Westminster
- 21. Fort Mill
- 22. York
- 23. Columbia
- 24. Sumter
- 25. Clover



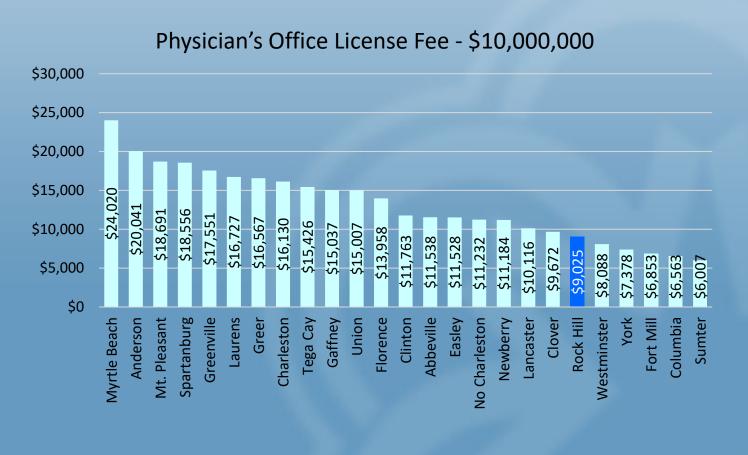
Business License Comparison



- .. Charleston
- 2. Myrtle Beach
- 3. Mt. Pleasant
- 4. Anderson
- 5. Spartanburg
- 6. Florence
- 7. No Charleston
- 8. Tega Cay
- 9. Greer
- 10. Greenville
- 11. Union
- 12. Lancaster
- 13. Gaffney
- 14. Laurens
- 15. Clinton
- 16. Easley
- 17. Newberry
- 18. Abbeville
- 19. Westminster
- 20. Sumter
- 21. Clover
- 22. Columbia
- 23. York
- 24. Fort Mill
- 25. Rock Hill (25)



Business License Comparison

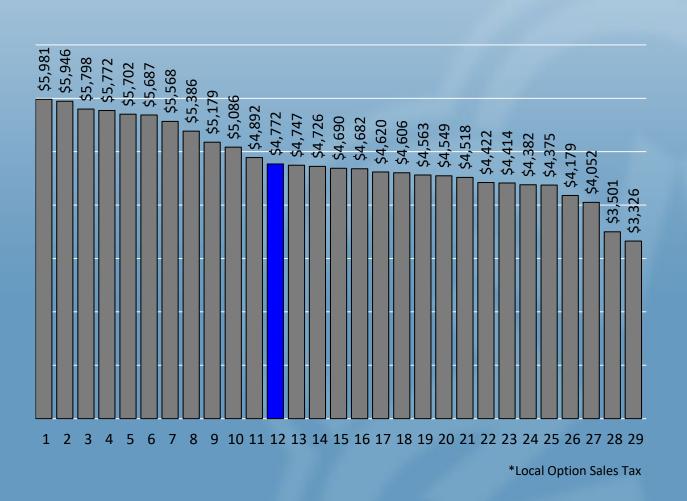


- . Myrtle Beach
- 2. Anderson
- 3. Mt. Pleasant
- 4. Spartanburg
- 5. Greenville
- 6. Laurens
- 7. Greer
- 8. Charleston
- o. Charlestor
- 9. Tega Cay
- 10. Gaffney
- 11. Union
- 12. Florence
- 13. Clinton
- 14. Abbeville
- 15. Easley
- 16. No Charleston
- 17. Newberry
- 18. Lancaster
- 19. Clover
- 20. Rock Hill (23)
- 21. Westminster
- 22. York
- 23. Fort Mill
- 24. Columbia
- 25. Sumter



Comparison of Electric/Water/WW/City Tax Rates

Rock Hill <u>Commercial</u> Taxes Compared to S.C. Cities, PMPA Cities, Regional Cities, & York County Cities

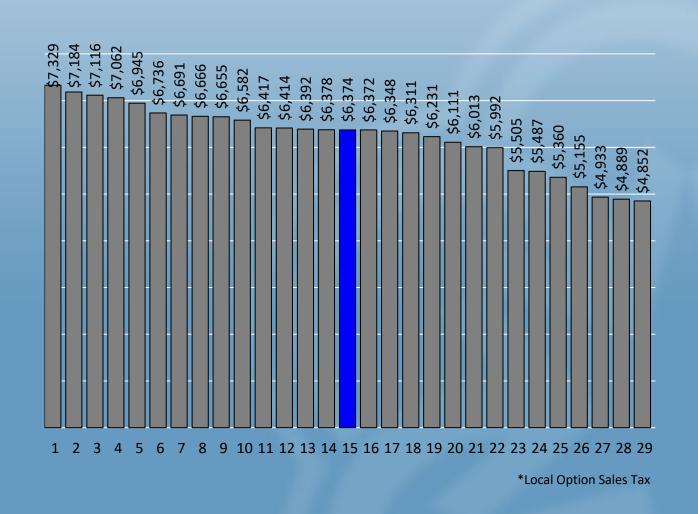


- Charleston*
- 2. W'minster
- 3. Concord
- 4. Mt. Pleasant*
- 5. N. Charlstn*
- 6. Gastonia
- 7. Clinton*
- 8. Union
- 9. Columbia*
- 10. Myrtle Beach
- 11. Laurens*
- 12. Rock Hill (12)
- 13. Newberry
- 14. Tega Cay
- 15. Fort Mill
- 16. Clover
- 17. Abbeville*
- 18. Lancaster*
- 19. Gaffney*
- 20. Anderson
- 21. Spartburg
- 22. York
- 23. Easley*
- 24. Charlotte
- 25. Monroe
- 26. Greer
- 27. Greenville
- 28. Florence*
- 29. Sumter*



Comparison of Electric/Water/WW/All Tax Rates

Rock Hill <u>Commercial</u> Taxes Compared to S.C. Cities, PMPA Cities, Regional Cities, & York County Cities



- Columbia*
- 2. Clinton*
- 3. Union
- 4. W'minster
- 5. Charleston*
- 6. Mt. Pleasant*
- 7. Tega Cay
- 8. N. Charlstn*
- 9. Fort Mill
- 10. Newberry
- 11. Spartanburg
- 12. Concord
- 13. Laurens*
- 14. Gastonia
- 15. Rock Hill (13)
- 16. York
- 17. Abbeville*
- 18. Clover
- 19. Lancaster*
- 20. Anderson
- 21. Gaffney*
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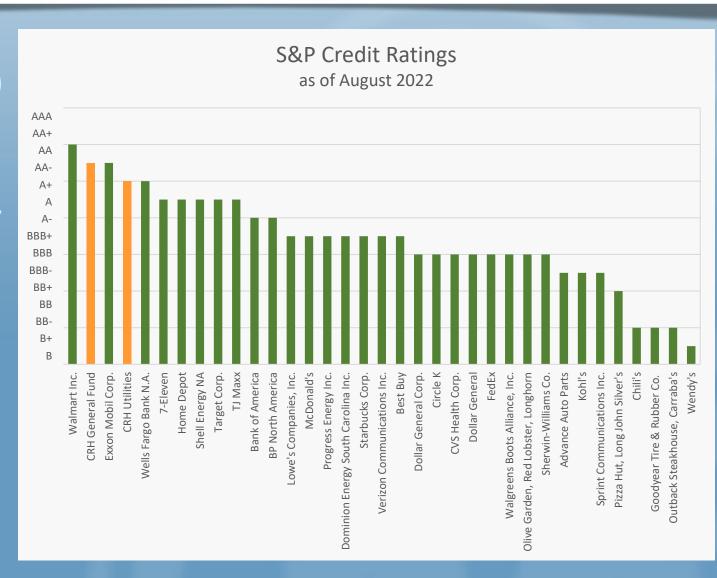
Rock Hill Bond Ratings

Moody's

- Utility (A2)
- General (Aa3)
- Hospitality Tax (A1)

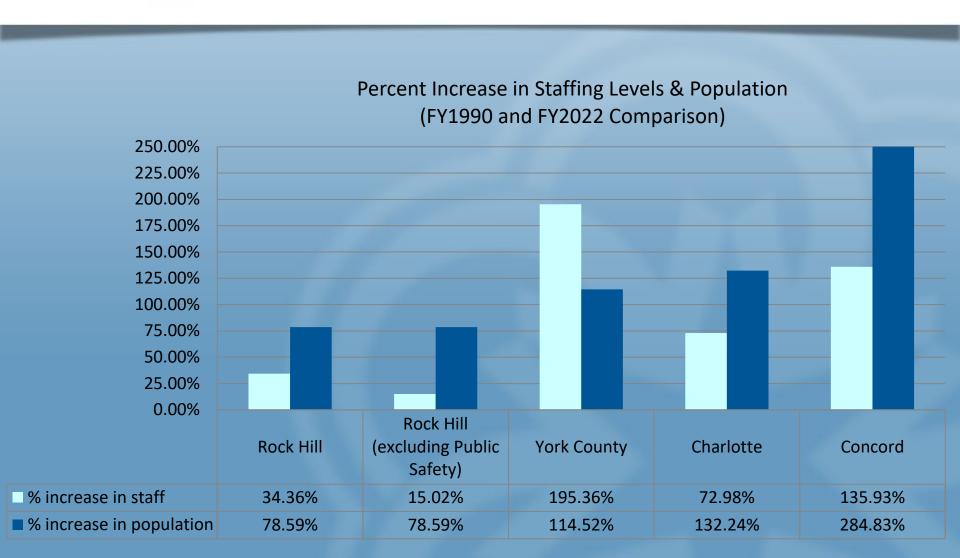
S&P

- Utility (A+)
- General (AA-)
- Hospitality Tax (A+)





Staffing Levels Comparison





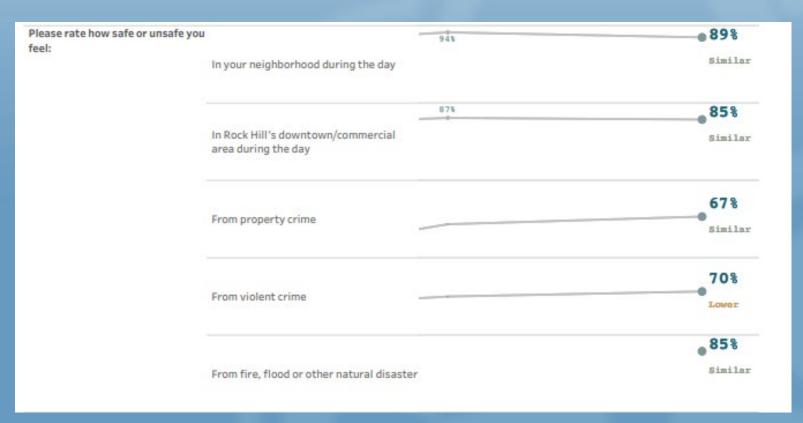
Local Purchasing Preference Policy

- Goal: Promote the use of local businesses and hire citizens living within the local Rock Hill/York County area when possible
 - Provides a 5% advantage for local businesses in the City limits
 - Provides a 3% advantage for York County businesses not in the City limits
 - Must not be more than \$25,000 higher than the low bid
 - Local contractor must meet the low bid





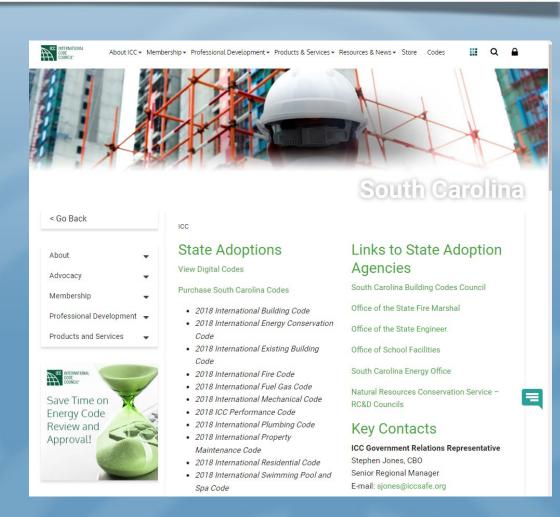
 According to the National Citizen Survey results (2020), Rock Hill residents feel very safe in both their neighborhoods and downtown/commercial areas





Building Regulations

- SC state law requires the use of International Code Council (ICC) building codes
- These codes are intended to provide safety and property protection
 - Therefore, the City must abide by these regulations





Planning Review Times

- Permitting times are largely within goal review times
- Plan types not meeting the goal review time are on average only 2 days above goal

Dian tuno	Goal review time (days)	Actual review time 1/1/22-9/8/22 (days)		
Plan type		Initial submittal	Resubmittals	Total
Sketch plan	10	13.5	9.8	12.8
Civil construction plans	10	14.9	10.8	12.2
Exterior renovation	5	5.9	2.6	4.4
Interior and exterior renovation	5	5.8	4.6	5.0
Non-residential building plans	10	15.2	6.1	10.0
Apartment building plans	10	8.0	4.9	5.3
Single-family detached building plans	3	6.0	3.6	4.5
Single-family attached building plans (townhouses, duplexes, etc.)	10	7.2	3.5	4.7



Small Business Resources



HELPING YOU GET OPEN FOR BUSINESS

We know that running a small business is a daunting task, and starting a small business can be even more intimidating. To encourage and assist you in seeing your business plan become a reality, the City has created the **Open for Business** program, which includes a special business assistance team ready to roll up their sleeves and guide you through the compliance process.

We're sure government requirements, rules and regulations may sometimes overwhelm and discourage business people, but we hope the information provided through this program will get you started on the right foot in your new venture. We encourage you to call to speak with one of our team members, and we look forward to working personally with you on your project.



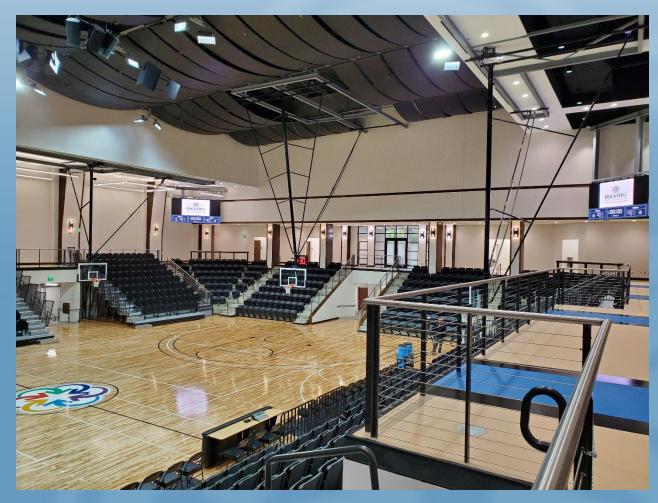






Rock Hill Sports & Event Center

In 2021, over 187,341 unique visitors at 53 different events; direct economic impact of over \$40 million to our local economy





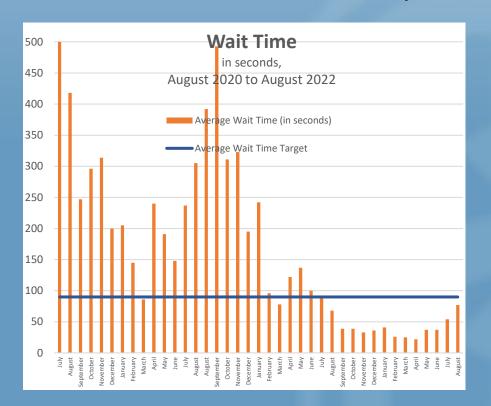






Contact Us!

- City's Phone Number: 803-325-2500
- Rotunda Receptionist at City Hall for face-to-face needs
- Updated practices/website: Conduct City "Business Remotely"
- Text notifications for Utility "Outage Reporting"



CONDUCT CITY BUSINESS REMOTELY Font Size: 4 Share & Bookmark Your health and safety is important to us! In order to decrease the possible spread of illness, the City is ready to conduct more service requests over the phone, through email correspondence, and through our website - including a new Chat feature. Our Drive Through window is open each 8 AM - 6 PM Monday-Friday. **Billing Questions or Payments** New Service/Transfer Service/Disconnect Service Power Outages/Water and Sewer Problems Several Ways to Pay Your Bill > Payment Arrangements and Agency Assistance Permit Application Center Other Ouestions or Concerns Live Stream Meetings/Video on Demand Business Tax Info & Forms



ENGAGING SMALL BUSINESSES



Business Survey Results - 2022 Methodology & Analysis

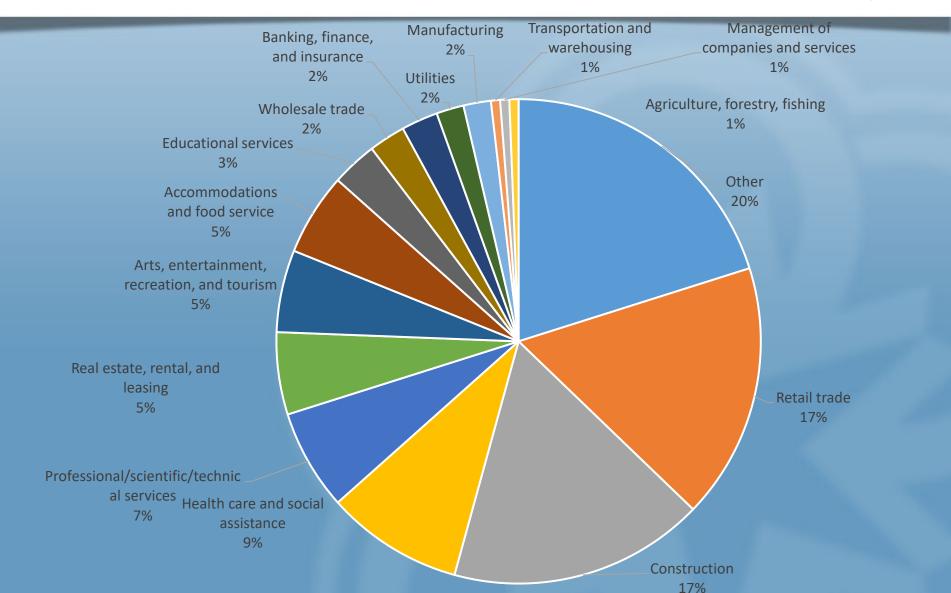
Survey sent to 7,169 active business license holders

- Responses received
 - 2022 survey 279 responses (4% response rate)
 - 2019 survey 684 responses (14% response rate); 5,052 businesses received
 - 2016 survey 197 responses (20% paper response rate; 18% email response rate)
 - 2014 survey 104 responses (27% response rate)
- Margin of error +/-5% based on 90% Confidence
- Timeline:
 - Deployed in August 2022
 - Analysis conducted in early September 2022



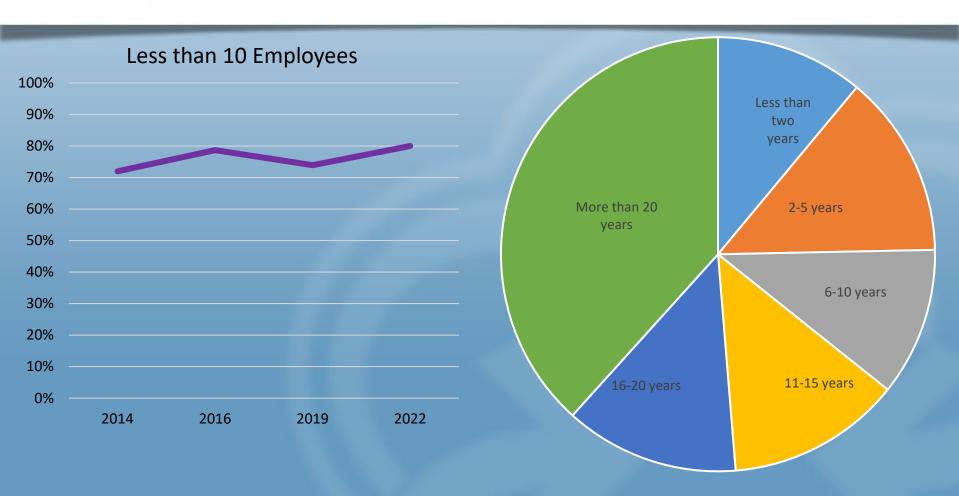
Industry Classification

Self reported





Respondent Characteristics

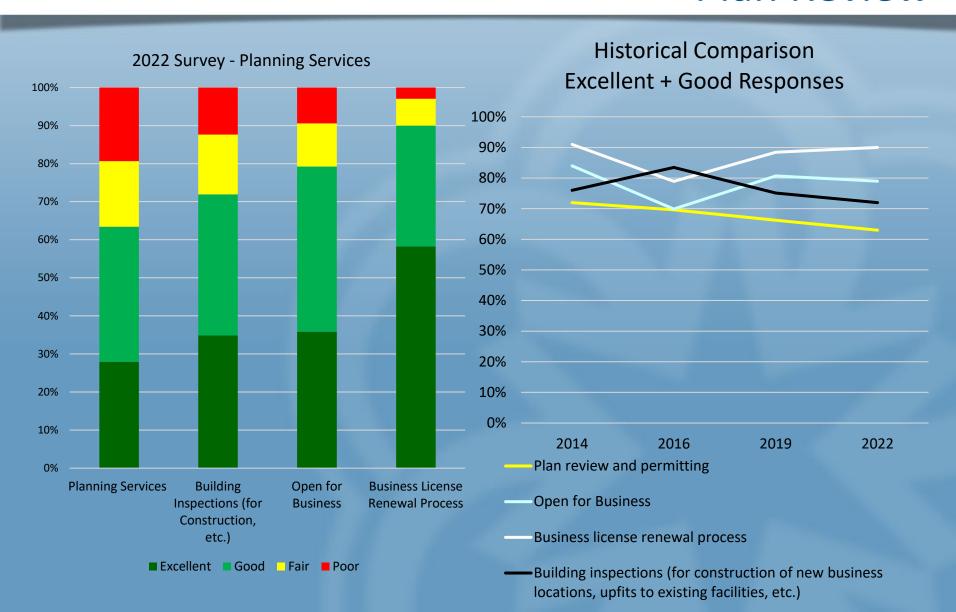


83% of respondents were owners, president or manager of their company

60% of respondents work primarily in their company's Rock Hill location



Quality of Services – Plan Review







Staff in new positions (1/3 of key development roles)

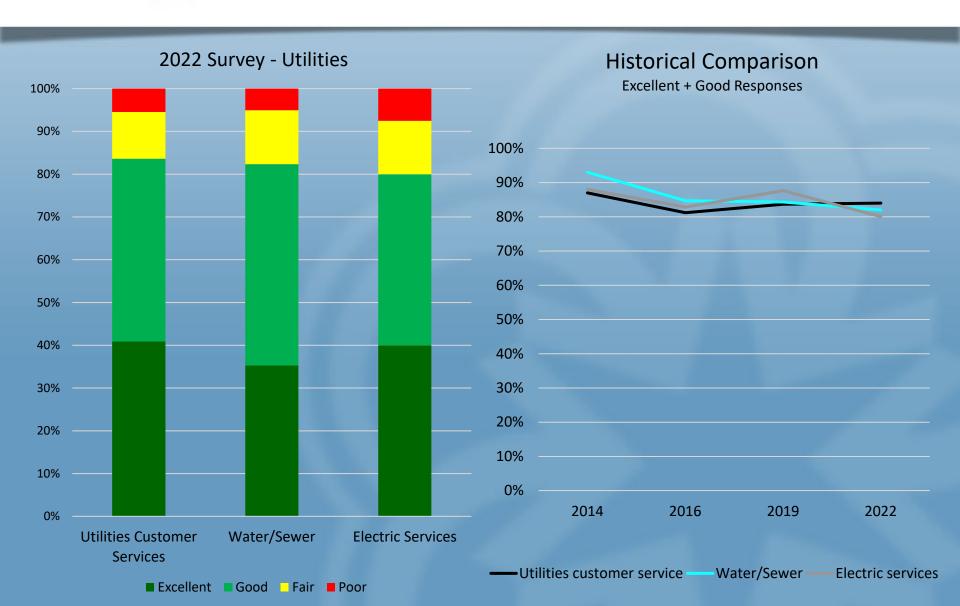
- Becky Mullett—Open for Business coordinator
- Frydman Valiente Permit Technician
- Jackie Bryant Permit Technician
- Bryman Suttle-Planner I
- Donna Welch—Zoning Administrative Assistant
- Melody Kearse—Landscape Plans Examiner
- Amy Britz—Zoning Coordinator
- Michael Kirby Development Services Engineer
- Timothy Roseborough Deputy Building Official

Vacancies:

- Business license specialist
- Building inspector (new position)

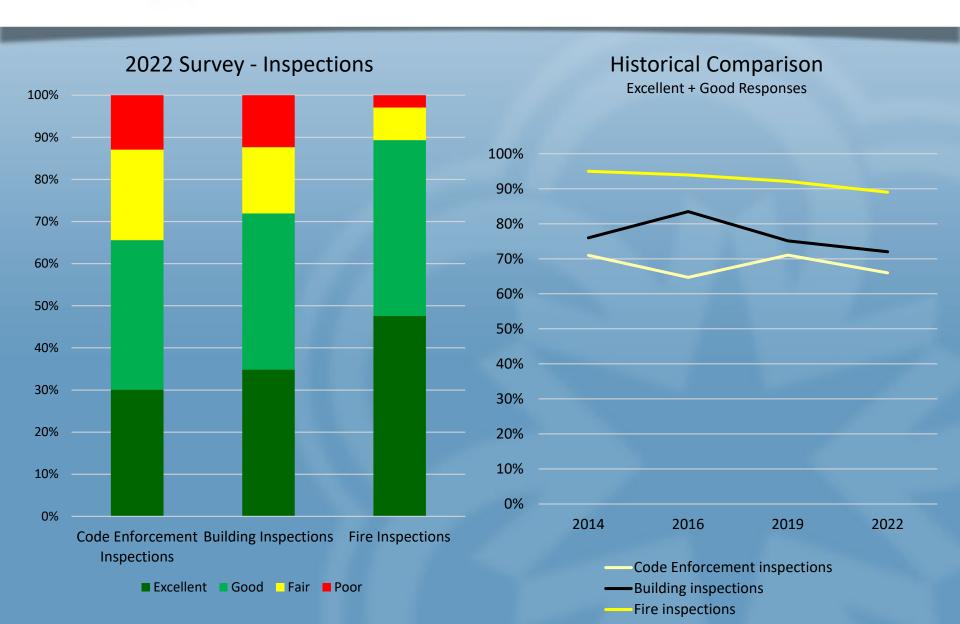


Quality of Services – Utilities





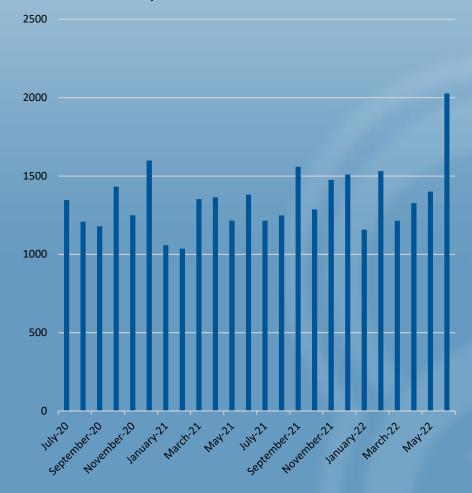
Quality of Services - Inspections





Inspections Context



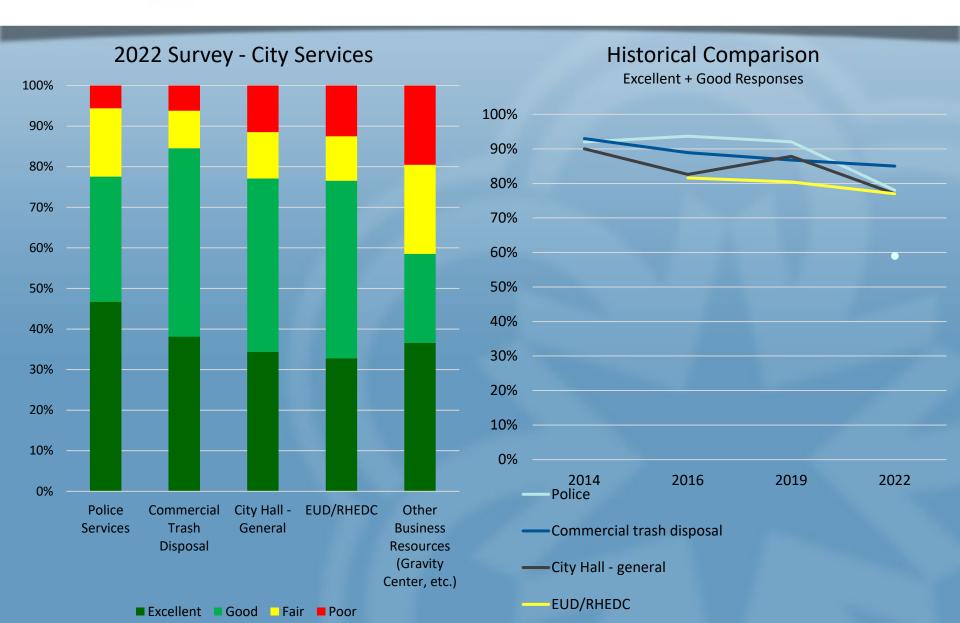


Neighborhood Services, Code Enforcement Compliance by month, FY2021 – FY2022



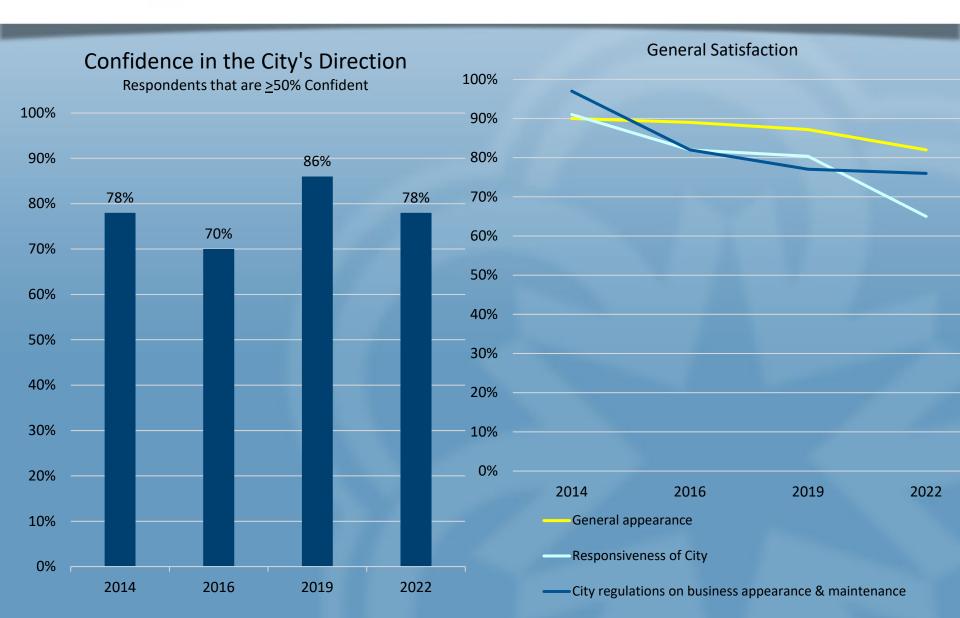


Quality of City Services



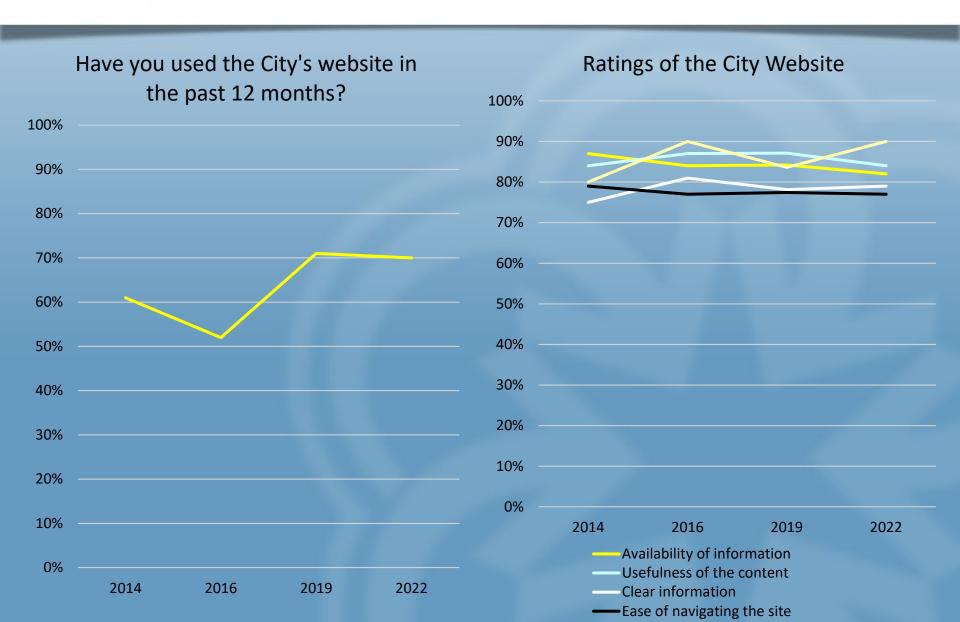


Confidence & Satisfaction





City Website

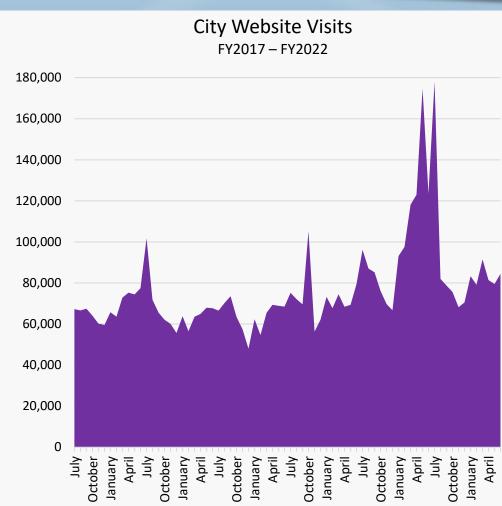




City Website Traffic









Top Issues Facing Rock Hill Businesses

2022 Survey Responses – Top Issues (most to fewest responses; respondents could choose up to four)			
Cost of doing business - taxes and fees	48%		
Workforce Availability	36%		
Workforce Quality	30%		
Local regulations	29%		
Navigating City policies and codes	23%		
Federal and State regulations	19%		
Access to Capital	18%		
Don't know	18%		
Condition of City infrastructure (e.g. roads, quality and availability of water/sewer/electric infrastructure, etc.)	17%		
Housing affordability and livability of the City	16%		
Coordination between City Departments	13%		
Land availability	10%		
Public transportation	3%		



Historical Top Issues Facing Rock Hill Businesses

Top 3 issues of each survey are highlighted in red.

2022 Survey Responses – Top Issues				
	2014	2016	2019	2022
Cost of doing business - taxes and fees	67%	51%	57%	48%
Workforce Availability	-	-	-	36%
Workforce Quality	32%	38%	38%	30%
Local regulations	34%	31%	31%	29%
Condition of City infrastructure	33%	22%	35%	17%



Rock Hill Businesses in Three Years

 58% of Rock Hill business will not be looking to change their facilities or are unsure about what the business will do in the next three years

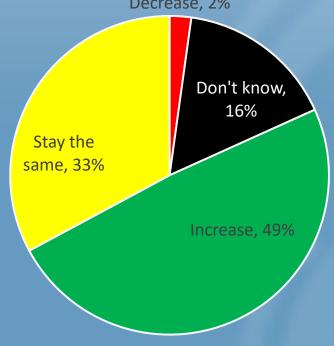
 Similar results to 2019 -67% of businesses 3 years ago were unsure about their future

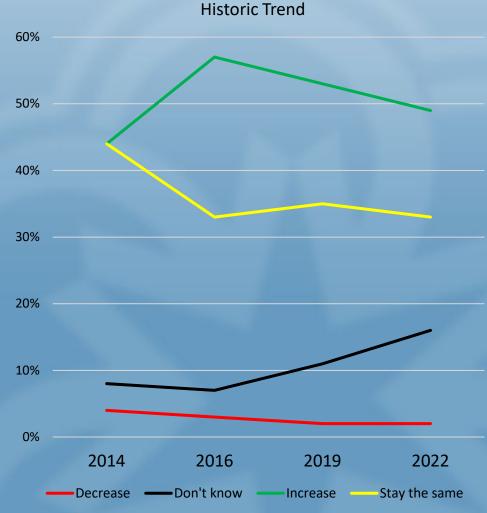
In the next three years, your company will be looking to:				
Construct a new facility	11%			
Purchase a new facility	11%			
Lease a new facility	5%			
Expand existing facility	15%			
None of the above	42%			
Don't know	27%			



Rock Hill Businesses in Three Years (continued)







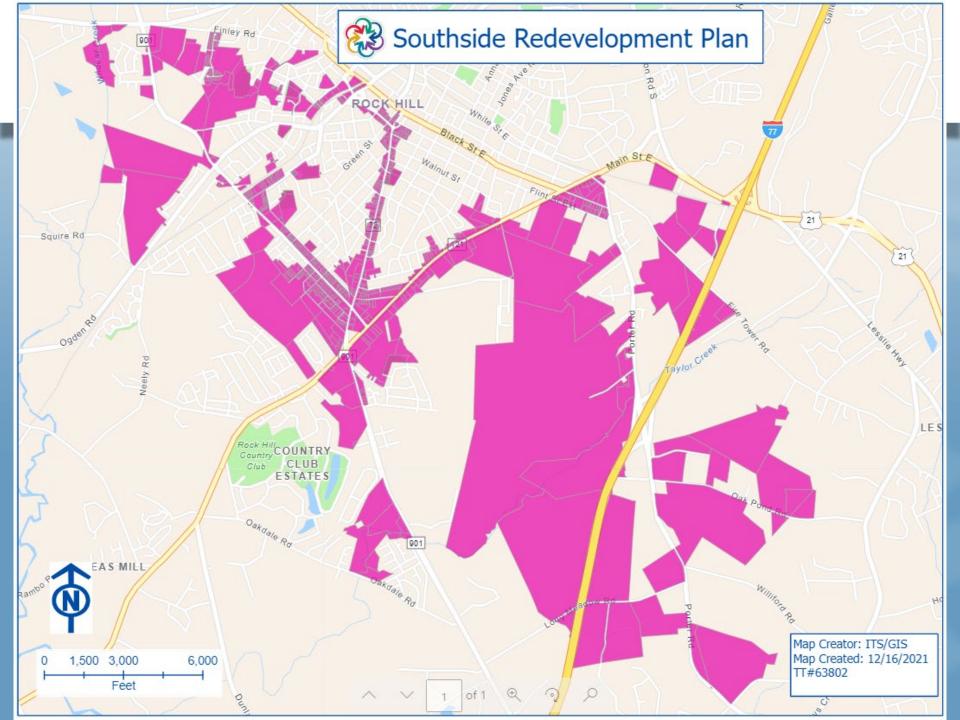


Overall Takeaways

- Generally, respondents reflect the types of businesses who have a City business license.
- Over 4/5 of respondents rate water/sewer/electric services and customer service positively
- Future plans include increasing number of employees and new/expanded space – almost half of respondents are optimistic
- Issues that affect businesses remain generally the same, but with greater needs on workforce:
 - Cost of doing business.
 - Workforce quality.
 - Workforce availability.



GROWING ROCK HILL

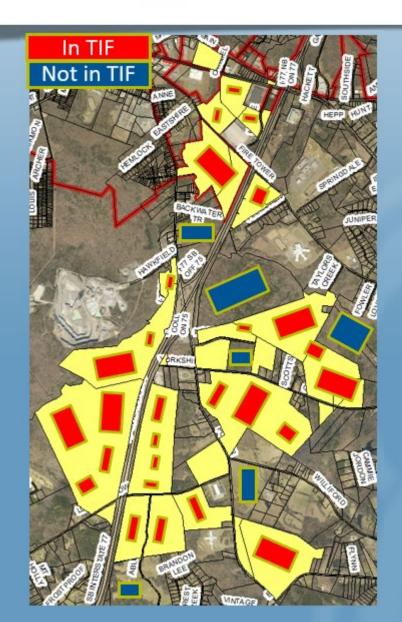








Southside + I-77 Business Park



Depending on future site plans, we conservatively anticipate over \$1 billion in investment in TIF parcels along the I-77 corridor with millions in additional development anticipated in nearby parcels

If we have county and school participation, this will support \$225 million in public infrastructure on the Southside of Rock Hill related to housing, utilities, roads, parks, etc.





"Whenever the people are well informed, they can be trusted with their own government..."

- Thomas Jefferson





Contact: David Vehaun, City Manager David.Vehaun@cityofrockhill.com 803-329-7017