

RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE CERTAIN AREAS OF GREENVILLE COUNTY HAVE LIMITED ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE AND NUTRITIOUS FOOD, AND TO ESTABLISH A POLICY BY GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL TO ENCOURAGE THE LOCATION OF GROCERY STORES IN THESE UNDERSERVED AREAS OF GREENVILLE COUNTY.

WHEREAS, Greenville County Council (“County Council”) is committed to promoting the health and welfare of the citizens of Greenville County; and

WHEREAS, County Council recognizes that areas exist in Greenville County where residents have limited access to affordable and nutritious food, primarily due to the lack of grocery stores and fresh food markets in these areas; and

WHEREAS, the County residents who live in these areas often lack transportation to reach grocery stores that are located miles away; and

WHEREAS, improving access to healthy and nutritious food is worthwhile endeavor, since poor diet contributes to a host of illnesses and health-related issues relating to the health, safety, and general welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, County Council acknowledges the importance of addressing the limited access to affordable and nutritious food in certain areas of the County as a public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL:

It is the policy of Greenville County to address the issue of limited access to affordable and nutritious food in areas of Greenville County by promoting the establishment of grocery stores in these underserved areas.

Under this policy, the terms below shall have the following meaning:

“Grocery store” means a retail store that derives income primarily from the sale of food for home preparation and consumption.

“Incentive Agreement” means an agreement entered into between the County and a Sponsor pursuant to this Policy.

“Multi-County Park” means a multi-county business park established by County Council pursuant to the Multi-County Park Act and Section 13 of Article VIII of the South Carolina Constitution.

“Policy” means this Policy providing incentives to induce the location of grocery stores in underserved areas in Greenville County.

“Project” means a grocery store locating in an underserved area of Greenville County.

“Sponsor” means an entity responsible for carrying out a Project and entering an Incentive Agreement.

“Underserved area” means a census tract designated as low income and low access (“LILA”) by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Economic Research Service (map available at <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/>). A low-income tract has a poverty rate of 20% or greater, or median family income at or below 80% of the statewide or metropolitan area median family income. A low-access tract with at least 500 people or 33% of the tract’s population live more than 1 mile (urban areas) or more than 10 miles (rural areas) from the nearest supermarket or grocery store. A map showing these areas in Greenville County is attached hereto as Exhibit “A”.

Authorization

Greenville County may, on a case-by-case basis, enter into an Incentive Agreement with a Sponsor to encourage the location of a grocery store in an underserved area.

An Incentive Agreement may include the following:

1. Greenville County may authorize reduced zoning and permitting fees related to the establishment of a grocery store in underserved areas.
2. Greenville County may authorize reduced land disturbance permitting fees related to the establishment of a grocery store in underserved areas.
3. Greenville County may seek grant programs to provide financial assistance to a Sponsor related to the establishment of a grocery store in underserved areas.
4. Greenville County may collaborate with financial institutions to offer low-interest loans to a Sponsor related to the establishment of a grocery store in underserved areas.
5. Greenville County Council may place a Project within a Multi-County Park whereby the Sponsor would pay fees in lieu of ad valorem property taxes with respect to real and personal property situated within such Multi-County Park and receive Special Source Credits against such fees in lieu of ad valorem property taxes, as an incentive to locate and maintain a grocery store in an underserved area of Greenville County. Any Multi-County Park placement shall require adoption by ordinance after public hearing.

Other Initiatives

Greenville County Council recognizes the importance of collaboration between the public and private sectors to create solutions to benefit underserved communities. Greenville

County may establish programs in partnership with local organizations to inform residents about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and the availability of healthy, nutritious options in their communities.

ADOPTED IN REGULAR MEETING THIS ___ DAY OF _____, 2024.

GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

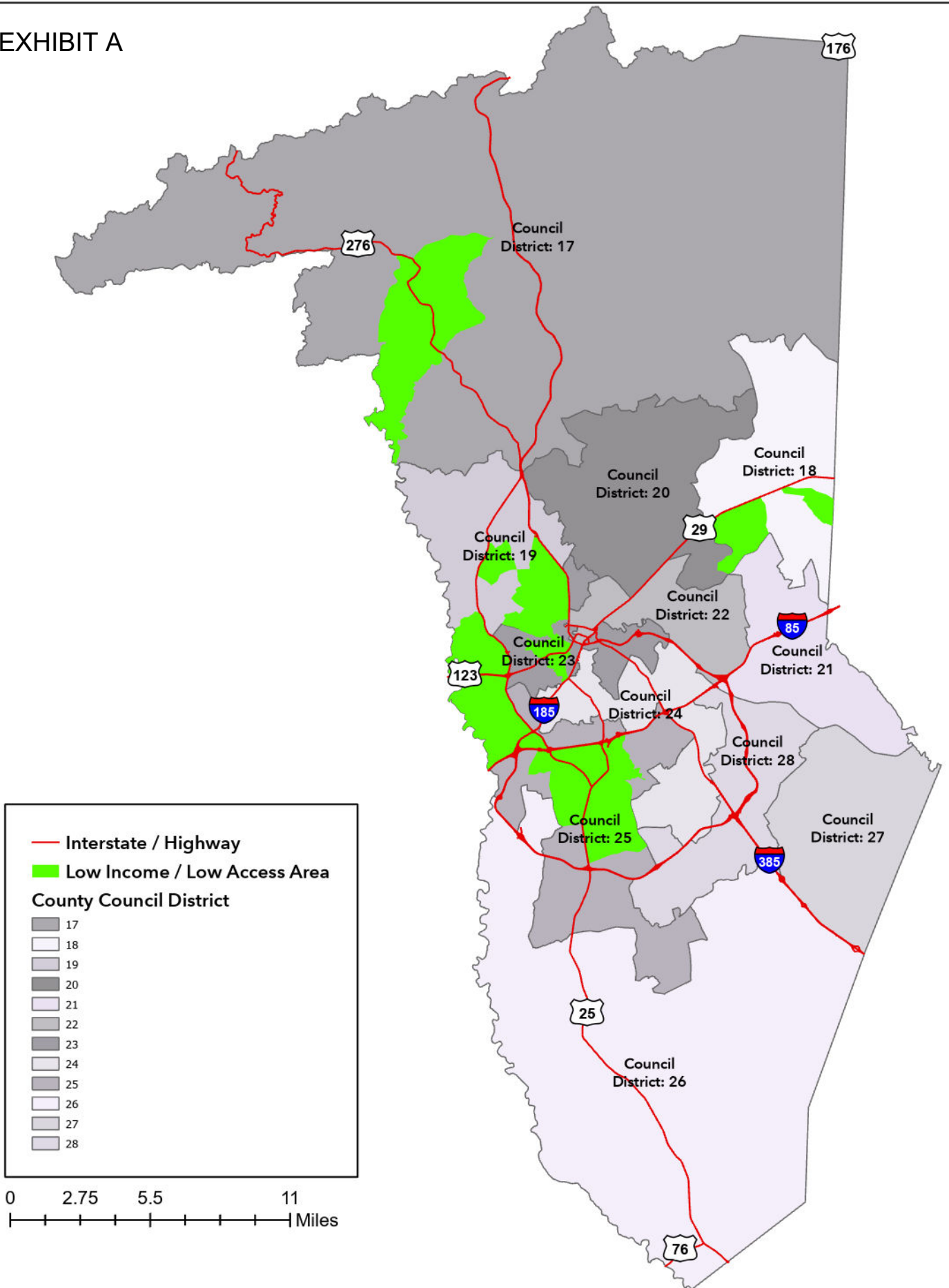
ATTEST:

Dan Tripp, Chairman
County Council

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator

EXHIBIT A



Greenville County Low Income / Low Access Areas