



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

Site #1 makes the most sense to me. It demolishes an eyesore building and replaces it with an asset in terms of a new, attractive space and a 'new' group of workers downtown to support our businesses.

Site #2 makes no sense as it removes parking and increases demand for it.

Site 4 has no parking

Site 5 has acquisition costs that are not currently in the budget



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikensproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

All in favor of this being built downtown. Our businesses and restaurants will benefit tremendously from this and I think this will be a huge step in the right direction for the growth of Aiken. I work downtown and serve on the ADDA board where supporting the economic growth and vitality of downtown Aiken through our businesses is our focus. As someone who has lived here my entire life, I'm ready to see Aiken grow into the potential it has. The negative comments are loud but I promise there is a huge population of citizens that support this project.



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikensproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

- site 3 - makes sense to have this b/c there won't be any tear down

- site 1 - would love to see this structure replaced. Makes sense for our business/shops in DT.

We need to make this happen and happen ASAP.

I am willing to help in anyway possible



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikensproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

1. The economic ~~value~~^{growth} this project will bring to Aiken is invaluable.
2. The partnership with SRNL will provide long term opportunities for our community.
3. It is crucial to select a site in downtown to meet the ~~top~~ goals of SRNL and maximize the economic impact ~~in~~ in downtown and the Aiken Community as a whole.
4. ~~As an~~ As an employee of a downtown business on Laurens St. I really hope this is placed in the heart of downtown.



Comment Form



*Richard
Dunham*

Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikensproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR THE FACILITY TO HAVE MAXIMUM VISIBILITY? WHO DOES THIS BENEFIT? ~~NOT Aiken~~

WHY DOES THE PARKING ASSESSMENTS IN THE EVALUATION MATRIX DIFFER BETWEEN THE RICHMOND AVE SITE AND NEWBERRY SITE. EITHER CHOICE WOULD LEAVE OTHER CITY PROPERTY FOR ADDITIONAL PARKING

SAYING THAT THE NEWBERRY SITE IS A DISADVANTAGE BECAUSE OF EXISTING RESIDENTIAL USES IS AN OVERSTATEMENT. ~~THE~~ IT IS ALREADY ZONED PROPERLY FOR OFFICE BLDG. ONLY 4 TOWN HOMES ADJACENT

Please provide your contact information:



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

Site #1 - best site for this project

Downtown would benefit from
an "anchor".

The other sites lack the "anchor"
parade -

This project carries national positive
implications for Aiken which is never a
bad thing. This site puts 80-100
jobs within ^{quick} walking distance of ~~at least~~
~~the~~ many shops/restaurants/parks and
will give a boost to the economy.



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

Has the cost estimates considered that leasing the space by SRNL will involve the sustainability requirements of DOE Order ~~46~~ 436.1A "Departmental Sustainability" on the building.



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

The architectural firm has done an excellent job being objective, hands un-tied.

The Newberry site seems the best but rethink the County Hospital site based on new information.

The ¹³ criteria used mentions Hotel Aiken redevelopment but is not addressed. Why? The only matter of the Richland Ave site is a slow-dunk option.



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

THE ONLY PROPOSAL THAT MAKES SENSE IS #5.
TRACEY DEVEL. WILL FUND THE BUILDING, NOT THE
CITY. WE AS A CITY OWE NOTHING TO SRNL
TO PROVIDE VISABILITY FOR 80 EMPLOYEES. IF
OPTION #5 IS TO FROUT, LET SRNL RUN SHUTTLES
SERVICE FOR THOSE 80 PEOPLE AT LUNCHTIME.

DOE'S COMMUNITY COMMITMENT FOR
POSITIVE IMAGE & WIN THE HEARTS OF
THE PUBLIC WILL NOT BE MET WITH THE
RICKLAND AVE SITE. THERE WOULD BE
PROTESTS & WAVES FROM THE PUBLIC FOR
YEARS - A PR DISASTER



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

- 1) ~~WHY~~ WHY CAN'T THIS SRNL FACILITY BE BUILT ON THE SRP SITE OR AT USCA? IT SHOULDN'T BE DOWNTOWN.
- 2) THE CITY SHOULD'VE BUILT A PARKING GARAGE BEFORE THEY MOVED TO THE NEW BUILDING. IT WOULD BE TOTALLY IMPRACTICAL TO DO AWAY WITH THE SURFACE PARKING AT THIS TIME IN ORDER TO BUILD THE GARAGE.
- 3) THE HOTEL AIKEN SHOULD BE TORN DOWN BUT WE AREN'T IN FAVOR OF ANY OF THE OTHER PROJECT PASCAL'S PARTS



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikensproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

There is only one logical place for the Lab to reside - at the Old Hospital site! You want people to live & shop downtown, build it there - only 10 mins away from downtown. There are housing, restaurants & coffee shops there & close by. People will not walk 3 mins. no more than 10 mins or 2-3 mins. so 10 mins away is irrelevant! Get some exercise!!! Or do a shuttle which is needed in Aiken in any regard. Besides the North Side needs development and the hospital is a real eye sore, like the Aiken Hotel, that desperately needs to be cleaned up! People need to eat or exercise during lunch & will shop after work mostly so let's give them a nice place to live close to downtown to spend their money!



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

Why has no existing building which would accommodate this use been considered?

HKS? Parsons? anything?

consider cost effectiveness -

the environment -

~~quick~~ quick, easy, ready why not?



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

This is a great opportunity, but...
A need to look at options from a more clean-sheet basis (not only city owned sites)

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

- I agree with the value of putting this building within a 3 minute walk (100+ employees; high paid; spending with local merchants)
- Why have you not considered the Bank of America site with large surface lot and unused ATMs that could be used for this building. The site is large enough that part of bottom floor could still have parking)
- Like shared conference space but that is not needed to help hotel redevelopment. That hotel can be boutique (mix of hotel rooms + condos) - doesn't need conference center



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

If the Richland site was chosen and SRNL was a tenant I believe they would require separate server space from the first floor.

Much prefer Richland site! Other site plans did not appear as thought out. How were the additional sites suggested?



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

1) thoughts to construct building + operation as "green design", energy efficient, EV charging etc

2) may be premature, however, who is responsible for cost overruns?



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

IN MY OPINION WE SHOULD BE TALKING TO MR TURNER & LOOK AT HIS SITE. THIS MAKES THE MOST SENSE TO ME. ITS DOWNTOWN (5 BL WEST OF LAWRENS) AND APPEARS TO HAVE THE SPACE + PARKING FOR THE LAB. IT SEEMS LIKE THAT \$20 MILL IS BURNING A HOLE IN THE CITIES POCKET. WE NEED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR CITY TOO. I ONLY LIKE THIS OPTION.

THANKS



Comment Form



9/14/23

Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

The best location would be the County Hospital site on Richland. Out of the way, but close enough for a short walk/Drive to downtown. It would be a huge Economic boom to a highly neglected Area of downtown. We could even offer short shuttle service to and from. The other area which would be close, but out of ~~the~~ the way would be the old Public Safety building on Lauren's Street. The one I will hold out judgement on will be the location next to the Hotel Aiken until we see actual drawings of what it will look like.
AND NO PARKING GARAGE!

Please provide your contact information:



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

~~2~~ 2
Helpful presentation. Unfortunately, there are so many prior restraints of what was being asked of the Architects that the essential? of where is the best location for office space in the greater downtown Aiken so many weren't considered.

The old Hospital feels like the obvious best fit + the least destructive.

Office space which may not even be used by SRNL is clearly inappropriate for any spot in the heart of our small city. It's dead space after 5:00.

Renovate the hotel - add apts + small retail



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

1. Perhaps is an issue of Total Choice
2. this is a Great Resource to Aiken and Brings Right Downtown
3. DRB should be used to insure Historical Design Elements are used.
4. keep telling the story of the Building next to the Tennis Club - this is financially feasible
5. Aiken Association of Realtors Strongly Support this Lab & the High School
6. this will help find a developer to purchase & renovate the Aiken!



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

The Savannah River National Laboratory is one of 17 national labs in the nation. This is a big deal! The lab employs the best and brightest. A visible presence in Aiken will benefit the lab and the city. Each month, the lab hosts ^{multiple} meetings of scientists, engineers, and associates from across the country and world. This facility would provide the necessary facilities to host these meetings and allow these visitors to enjoy our beautiful city, stay in Aiken (vs. Augusta), ~~and~~ dine in our restaurants, and visit our unique shops. Further, the facility will be a "welcome mat" to future ~~and~~ employees and visitors to our town.



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

I believe we must establish set-asides so that minority (specifically Black/African American) general contractors and subs can receive contract awards. We must ensure all demographics are given the opportunity to reap benefits from these plutonium funds.



Comment Form



Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

Building new infrastructure without parking is not recommended. All the sites will pose a challenge to the residents of Aiken the city and the county. Please add to your study a distinct parking study w/ the plan.



Comment Form



The Newberry St "festival center" shuts down 1/2 and sometimes all of the street for events several times / year. WHERE WILL PEOPLE PARK??

Please submit your comment form at the meeting tonight. All other comments may be submitted online at www.aikenscproject.info. Comments will be included in the recommendation to Aiken City Council.

Please provide any comments on the Feasibility Study

① Why do we need a conference center? We currently have Newberry Hall downtown, along with Lessie Price Center Municipal bldg, Aiken Center for the Arts, African American Cultural center, and several churches with event space.

② Where will the 500+ potential attendees of this conf. center park? Newberry Hall hosts events daily / weekly and already have issues with customer parking. If Newberry; this conf. center, have large events at the same time ... where will they park? Imagine if Night of 1000 lights, Amp the Alley, etc. are ALSO happening!

③ What caterers will be allowed to utilize the conf. center? Who will "operate" it and be responsible for booking events? The City of Aiken? Will any Joe Schmo be able to use the kitchen? Or will a licensed / insured

Please provide your contact information: tax paying caterer be required?

Comments/Questions/Feedback Received via hand-written Comment Card at Public Input Session No. 2 on 14 September 2023

1. Site #1 (Richland Avenue) makes the most sense to me. It demolishes an eyesore building and replaces it with an asset in terms of a new attractive space and a "new" group of workers downtown to support our businesses. Site #2 (Chesterfield Street) makes no sense as it removes parking and increases demand for it. Site #4 (Laurens Street) has no parking. Site #5 (Old County Hospital Site) has acquisition costs that are not currently in budget.

Comments Received.

2. All in favor of this being built downtown. Our businesses and restaurants will benefit tremendously from this and I think this will be a huge step in the right direction for the growth of Aiken. I work downtown and serve on the ADDA board where supporting the economic growth and vitality of downtown Aiken through our businesses is our focus. As someone who has lived here my entire life, I'm ready to see Aiken grow into the potential it has. The negative comments are long but I promise there is a large population of citizens that support this project.

Comments Received

3. Site #3 (Newberry Street) makes sense to have this because there won't be any tear down. Site #1 (Richland Avenue) - would love to see this structure replaced makes sense for our business/shops in downtown. We need to make this happen and happen ASAP. I am willing to help in any way possible.

Comments Received.

4. The economic growth this project will bring to Aiken is invaluable. The partnership with SRNL will provide long term opportunities for our community. Downtown is crucial to select a site in downtown to meet the goals of SRNL and maximize the economic compact in downtown and the Aiken community as a whole. As an employee of a downtown business on Laurens Street. I really hope this is placed in the heart of downtown.

Comments Received.

5. Why is it important for the facility to have maximum visibility? Who does this benefit? Why does the parking assessment in the evaluation matrix differ between Richard Ave and Newberry site. Either choice would leave other city property for additional parking. Saying that the Newberry site is a disadvantage because of existing residential uses is an overstatement. It is already zoned properly for office building. Only 4 town houses adjacent.

The prospective tenant desires a location that is visible in the community to increase their engagement with individuals and organizations outside of the secure perimeter of the Savannah River Site. These groups include, but are not limited to, K-12 students and teachers, institutions of higher education including Aiken Tech and USC Aiken and the broader community. The prospective tenant believes that this visibility will benefit both their organization and those that they will interact with. Furthermore, the City's meeting/conference facilities are best utilized in a location that is easily accessible by the general public. The parking evaluation varies by site because both the Chesterfield and Newberry sites have the potential to add parking to them while the Richland and Laurens sites do not. Understood that the Newberry site is zoned for office and is not incompatible with the adjacent townhome development.

6. Site #1 (Richland Avenue) – Best site for this project downtown would benefit from an “anchor”. The other sites lack the “anchor”. This project carries national positive implications for Aiken which is never a bad thing. This site puts 80-100 jobs within quick walking distance of many shops/restaurants/parks and will give a boost to the economy.

Comments Received.

7. Has the cost estimates considered that leasing the space by SRNL will invoke the sustainability requirements of DOE order 426, IA “Departmental Sustainability” on the building.

The project team does not believe that a leased facility is required to meet the DOE requirements stated above, so no associated cost has been allocated for that compliance in the project.

8. The architectural firm has done an excellent job being objective. The Newberry site seems the best but rethink the County Hospital site based on new information. The 13 criteria used mentions Hotel Aiken redevelopment but is not addressed. Why? This only matters if the Richland Avenue site is a slam-dunk option.

This criteria was intended to address the potential impact, positive or negative, that each site would have on the future redevelopment of Hotel Aiken. The design team believe that sites closer to the Hotel Aiken, but not immediately adjacent to it, would have a more positive impact on the Hotel’s future potential redevelopment as the mixed-use building would create demand for hotel rooms and increase the activity downtown. Sites further from the Hotel Aiken would have a lesser impact on any potential future redevelopment of the hotel. The Richland Site specifically would limit the amount of property adjacent to the Hotel site available to market as a package for prospective developers, but would be a catalyst for activity that could be a benefit- thus it is deemed to have a “Neutral” impact on the hotel’s future redevelopment.

9. The only proposal that makes sense is #5 (Old County Hospital Site). Tracey [the site’s proposed developer] will fund the building, not the city. We as a city owe nothing to SRNL to provide visibility for 80 employees. If option #5 is too far out, let SRNL run shuttle service for those 80 people at lunchtime. The DOE’s community commitment for positive image and win the hearts of the public will NOT be met with the Richland Avenue site. There would be protests & waves from the public for years – a PR disaster.

Comments received. Details of the financial deal structure for the Old County Hospital’s site, or any other privately-controlled site, is not known by the study team and therefore is not a part of the study of potential sites. No portion of the \$20 million in state funding has been set aside for real estate acquisition and no private developer to date has indicated what they might charge for the land offered, nor have any agreed to self-fund the construction of the proposed facility.

10. Why can’t this SRNL facility be built on the SRP site or at USC Aiken? It shouldn’t be downtown. The city should’ve built a parking garage BEFORE they moved to the new building. It would be totally impractical to do away with the surface parking at this time in order to build the garage. The hotel Aiken should be torn down but we aren’t in favor of any of the other project Pascalis parts.

One of the central goals of the project is to provide space in downtown Aiken for collaboration between SRNL employees and members of the public, the K-12 students and teachers and school system, institutions of higher education and others. A location on the SRS would be inaccessible to anyone without a security clearance and the USC Aiken campus does not provide a location where SRNL employees can have quick access to downtown amenities (i.e. shopping, restaurants, etc.). The construction of a parking structure in a downtown setting, including in the location of an existing surface parking lot, is easily achieved with proper planning.

11. There is only one logical place for the lab to reside – at the old hospital site! You want people to live & shop downtown, build it there. Only 10 miles away from downtown. There is housing, restaurants, & coffee shops there & close by. People will not walk 3 miles any more than 10 minutes or 2-3 minutes. So 10 minutes away is irrelevant! Get some exercise!!! Or do a shuttle which is needed in Aiken in any regard besides the north side needs development and the hospital is a real eye sore, like the Aiken hotel, that desperately needs to be cleaned up! People need to eat or exercise during lunch & will shop after work mostly so let's give them a nice place to live close to downtown to spend their money.

The study included approximate walking times as one of 13 criteria for evaluating potential sites and understands that the perception of walking distance is subjective. The design team does believe that sites that are in closer proximity to downtown amenities are naturally more accessible to those amenities.

12. Why has no existing building which could accommodate this use been considered? HUS? Parsons? Anything? Consider cost effectiveness; the environment. Quick, easy, ready, why not? The project team does not believe that a leased facility is required to meet the DOE requirements stated above, so no associated cost has been allocated for that compliance in the project.

This scope of this feasibility study is limited to assets (land, buildings, etc.) that are controlled by the City of Aiken and located near the center of the Central Business District Downtown. The design team is not aware of any existing spaces that are controlled by the City of Aiken or its subsidiaries that are suitable for the proposed program for this mixed-use facility but would be happy to evaluate any such space should they become aware of them.

13. This is a great opportunity but... a need to look at options from a more clean-sheet basis (not only city owned sites). I agree with the value of putting this building within a 3 minute walk (100 + employees; high paid' spending with local merchants). Why have you not considered the Bank of America site with large surface lot and unused ATM's that could be used for this building. The site is large enough that part of bottom floor could still have parking. Like shared conference space but that is NOT needed to help hotel redevelopment. That hotel can be boutique (mix of hotel rooms & condos) -doesn't need conference center.

This scope of this feasibility study is limited to assets (land, buildings, etc.) that are controlled by the City of Aiken or its partner the Aiken Corporation. The Bank of America building is not controlled by the City and therefore falls outside the scope of this study. The study team has not stated that the meeting/conference space is required for the redevelopment of Hotel Aiken, only that the development of this proposed building in close proximity to the Hotel Aiken site would be a benefit to its potential redevelopment.

14. If the Richland Avenue site was chosen and SRNL as a tenant I believe they would require separate server space from the first floor. Much prefer Richland Avenue site! Other site plans did not appeal as thought out. How were the additional sites suggested?

The conceptual floor plans provide a secure location for the tenant's servers. The initial focus of the study was on the Richland Avenue site, but additional sites were added to the study's scope based on feedback from member of the public and the Aiken Corporation. The initial floor plan concepts were developed with Richland Avenue site in mind, but are easily adaptable to the other proposed sites, so those slight variations were not drawn.

15. Thoughts to construct building & parking as "Green Design" energy efficient, electric vehicle charging etc. May be premature, however, who is responsible for cost overruns.

Comments regarding sustainability of project received. Overall project budget will maintain a project contingency to pay for unanticipated cost overruns.

16. In my opinion we should be talking to Mr. Turner & look at this site (Old County Hospital Site). This makes the most sense to me. It's downtown (5 blocks west of Laurens) and appears to have the space & parking for the lab. It seems like that \$20M is burning a hole in the city's pocket. We need infrastructure improvements in our city too. I only like this option.

Comments received.

17. The best location would be the county hospital site on Richland. Out of the way, but close enough for a short walk/drive to downtown. It would be a huge economic boom to a highly neglected area of downtown. We could even offer short shuttle service to and from. The other area which would be close, but out of the way would be the old Public Safety Building on Laurens Street. The one I will hold out judgement on will be the location next to the hotel Aiken until we see actual drawings of what it will look like and NO PARKING GARAGE!

Comments received.

18. Helpful presentation. Unfortunately, there are so many prior restraints of what was being asked of the architects that the essential of where is the best location for office space is the greater downtown Aiken. So many weren't considered. The old hospital feels like the obvious best fit & the least destructive. Office space which may NOT EVEN BE used by SRNL is clearly inappropriate for any spot in the heart of our small city. It's dead space after 5:00. Renovate the hotel- add apartments & small retail.

Comments received.

19. Parking is an issue for each choice. This is a great resource to Aiken and brings big money downtown. DRB should be used to insure historical design is used. Keep telling the story of the building to the tennis club [The Court Building]– this is economically feasible. Aiken Association of Realtors strongly supports Lab and the high paying jobs. This will help find a developer to preserve and restore Hotel Aiken!

Comments received.

20. The Savannah River National laboratory is one of the 17 national labs in the nation. This is a big deal! The lab employs the best and brightest. A visible preserve in Aiken will benefit the lab and the city. Each month, the lab hosts multiple meetings of scientists, engineers, and associates from across the country and world. This facility would provide the necessary facilities to host these meetings and allow these visitors to enjoy our beautiful city, stay in Aiken (versus Augusta), dine in our restaurants, and visit our unique shops. Further, the facility will be a "welcome mat" to future employees and visitors to our town.

Comments received.

21. I believe we must establish set- asides so that minority (Specifically black/ African American) general contractors and sub can receive contract awards. We must ensure all demographics are given opportunity to reap benefits from these Plutonium funds.

Comments received.

22. Building new infrastructure without parking is not recommended. All the sites will pose a challenge to the [illegible] of Aiken, the city and the county. Please add to your study a distinct parking study with the plan.

While not a part of the Feasibility Study scope, the study did examine potential solutions for parking, including, but not limited to, a structured parking facility on Chesterfield Street and one or more surface parking lots.

23. Why do we need a conference center? We currently have Newberry Hall downtown, along with Lessie Price Center, Municipal building, Aiken Center for the Arts, African American Cultural Center, and several churches with event space. Where will the 500+ potential attendees of this conference center park? Newberry Hall hosts events daily/weekly and already have issues with customer parking. If Newberry & this conference center have large events at the same time, where will they park? Imagine if Night of 100 Lights, Amp the Alle, etc. are also happening! The Newberry Street "Festival Center" shuts down ½ and sometimes all of the street for events several times a year. WHERE WILL PEOPLE PARK?? What caterers will be allowed to utilize the conference center? Who will "operate" it and be responsible for booking events? The city of Aiken? Will any Joe Schmo be able to use the kitchen? Or will a licensed/insured tax paying caterer be required?

The Ground Floor of the proposed facility is intended to house flexible meeting space that will serve some of the needs of the prospective tenant as well as compliment the array of existing facilities mentioned above. The maximum capacity of the meeting spaces will be in the neighborhood of 200 people, not the 500+ capacity suggested above. While not a part of the Feasibility Study scope, the study did examine potential solutions for parking, including, but not limited to, a structured parking facility on Chesterfield Street and one or more surface parking lots to address the growing parking needs of the City as it continues to evolve and thrive. Details of the operational requirements for the facility have not yet been developed. There will not be a commercial kitchen in the facility, only spaces for warming and other food staging.

24. Build it fast. Start fast. Move [illegible].

Comments received.