

COMMUNITY MEETING - PHASE II: GERMANTOWN

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES WITH NATURE



What you love about your community:

- Quiet, peaceful living (Residents appreciate the calm and close knit nature of their community)
- Generational roots (Many families have lived here for generations, tied deeply to the land and its history)
- Community spirit (Neighbors describe Germantown as a loving, caring place where “everyone gets along.”)



Challenges you face:

- Water quality (Many homes rely on well water with high iron content, concerns about poor taste and reliability)
- Past unfulfilled promises (Longstanding frustration with government and utility entities promising improvements (e.g., Mount Pleasant Water Works) but not delivering)
- Urgency to protect community identity (Residents want Germantown’s unique heritage and family roots safeguarded)



General issues we heard:

- Storm impacts (Hugo and later storms left creeks clogged with debris, limiting water access)
- Dam impacts (The Santee Dam has altered flooding patterns, causing higher, longer lasting floods)
- Trust in outside promises (Skepticism remains high due to decades of unmet commitments)
- Local services (Loss of trash service and other municipal benefits compared to incorporated McClellanville)



Top Priorities / Urgent Issues (focused on Nature-Based Solutions)

- Loss of water access and recreation (Creeks like Cedar Creek and Tissue/Still Landing are clogged and overgrown, cutting off fishing and boating)
- Infrastructure (Better ditch cleaning, larger pipes, and long term drainage planning is needed)
- Severe flooding (Water from rain, run off, and the Santee Dam causes frequent yard and road flooding (e.g., Rutledge Rd., Arthur Lawrence Dr., and Germantown Rd.)
- Downstream effects (Floodwaters often worsen 3–7 days after major upstream rain events)



Notes / Comments:

Key Takeaways:

Germantown is a **quiet, historic**, and **close knit community** that values its **roots, land**, and **church**, but faces critical challenges from **severe flooding, poor infrastructure, limited services**, and **decades of unmet promises**. Protecting **Howard AME, community heritage**, and **improving drainage and water quality** are urgent priorities to ensure resilience for current and future generations.