

# COMMUNITY MEETING - PHASE II: MCCLELLANVILLE

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES WITH NATURE



## What you love about your community:

- Tight-knit community (Small, quiet, and family oriented, generational ties; “everyone knows each other.”)
- Quiet, peaceful living (Many value the calm, country atmosphere and say life here is better than city living, proximity to waterways and wildlife)
- Natural environment (Trees, landscape, breezes, and birds contribute to a calming environment, rural and secluded setting)



## Challenges you face:

- Black youth uncomfortable swimming; access to water increasingly limited by fees or private ownership
- Health and safety risks (Standing water breeds mosquitoes; septic leaks contaminate flood water)
- Flooding and water issues (King tides, heavy rains, and stormwater runoff worsen flooding; home foundations impacted by water; frequent road damage)
- Lack of schools, public gathering spaces, and affordable land



## General issues we heard:

- Septic contamination (Floodwaters mix with sewage, affecting health and safety)
- Declining fisheries & environmental decline (Warmer waters impacting crabs and oysters; Cape Romain defunding, 70% species decline noted)
- Changing patterns (King tides stronger; floods no longer tied to clear seasons; storms more severe and frequent)
- New development (Rapid growth and new homes bring pressure on infrastructure)



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

- Flooding hot spots (Society Rd. & Toby Rd., Bellfield Rd., Brailsford Rd. & Weston Rd., River Rd., Dupre Rd., Hwy 17 near Awendaw Creek, and low lying areas around Santee Coastal Reserve, mostly rain-driven, not tidal)
- Access to clean water and waterways (Buck Hall and other landings now require fees; fishing and shrimping less accessible)
- Environmental resilience (Protection of Cape Romain, forests, and wetlands; climate change education in schools)
- Better drainage and road repairs (More consistent ditch cleaning and road maintenance)



## Notes / Comments:

## Key Takeaways:

McClellanville residents value their **quiet, rural, and community centered way of life**, but face urgent challenges from **flooding, poor drainage, lack of recreational spaces, water quality issues**, and **rapid development**. Protecting **churches, forests, cultural heritage**, and **green spaces**, while **improving infrastructure, drainage**, and **youth opportunities**, are critical to ensuring the community’s resilience and future.