

**Ridgeland City Hall
Ground Breaking
August 16, 2019**

FIRST STAGES OF CITY CENTER:

- City Center was FIRST identified in the 2008 Ridgeland Area Master Plan also known as RAMP. RAMP is a document that we continue to use because of the strong basis of community involvement in the Plan. RAMP identified the development of the City Center Project as the city's #1 project, and City Hall is the first phase of the project.
- The week after RAMP was adopted in 2008, we met with the former owner of this property and successfully negotiated the purchase of this 25 acre site for \$4.5 Million
- We, then, began the environmental cleanup efforts that were funded through a series of MDEQ Brownfield Grants and a HUD EDI Grant
- Once the site was cleaned, we executed a contract with Hemphill Construction to remove the concrete beams and footings that once dominated this landscape.
- We spent the next few years designing the project and developing funding capacity to get to this very day.
- This site is literally the center of the City of Ridgeland, which is why we call it "City Center".
- City Center is an excellent location for us to centralize access to government by integrating our New City Hall Building around a community greenspace surrounded by the Library, Court Services, the Police Station, and Public Works and adjacent to Freedom Ridge Park.

- We have additional building sites for future buildings that may include other governmental offices, a new Library, a Civic Building, a Choctaw Agency Museum, and a Performing Arts Center.
- It is also a possibility that we could surplus portions of the site for private development. It has taken a tremendous amount of effort leading to today's ceremony.

NEW CITY HALL:

- Located here on the corner of Highway 51 and School Street, the new Ridgeland City Hall is the first building to be constructed at the City Center site.
- This phase of the project features a Public Green Space and a Veterans Memory Garden along with the 30,775 square feet, 2 story building.
- The new building will feature a brick and stone façade and is estimated to cost \$10,182,000.
- While the majority of the building is finished with very simple finishes, citizens and visitors can expect to see a very welcoming and attractive appearance in the lobby and Board Room.
- The building will be energy efficient and is built on a drilled-pier foundation designed to last for many years ahead
- Building includes built-in expansion space to meet the needs of a growing city.
- Will be a dedicated space in the Lobby displaying Ridgeland's history
- The New City Hall will house new offices for the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Finance and Administration, Community Development, Public Works, and Recreation and Parks.

- The new Board Room will be much more functional than our current facility and will seat at least 65 citizens.
- Completion date expected the latter part of 2020.

IN CONCLUSION:

- This day has been a long time coming. We are so excited to see the fruits of our labor. Not only for our new city hall, but for the other huge projects in the City.
- Such as the other significant projects RAMP identified back in 2008-
 1. Colony Park Boulevard costing \$4.7 million plus \$5 million for the interchange, and
 2. Lake Harbour Extension costing \$30 million.
- Colony Park Boulevard is complete and Lake Harbour Extension is well underway.
- The total amount of these 3 massive projects, (City Hall, Colony Park Blvd and Lake Harbour) totals well over \$50 million dollars. This is an enormous investment for the City. AND - All this, with NO TAX INCREASE!

WELCOME:

1. Board of Aldermen
2. Community Development Department – Alan Hart
3. Benchmark Construction – David Marsh and John Allgood
4. Dean and Dean Architects and their sub-consultants – Alan Grant
5. Waggoner Engineering – Hayden Overby
6. Trent Rhodes Landscape Architect
7. Mid-State Construction – Tony Head
8. J.L. Roberts
9. Shivers Electric
10. Special Guests:
 - a. From Madison County: Kay Pace, Gerald Steen, Ronnie Lott, Jill Ford,
 - b. Congressman Michael Guest's office: Chad Dixon
 - c. Senator Roger Wicker's office: Ryan Annison
 - d. Senator Cincy Hyde-Smith's office: Jo Ann Clark