



Richland County Council
Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee Meeting
MINUTES
September 24, 2024 - 3:00 PM
Council Chambers
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jesica Mackey, Chair and Chakisse Newton

NOT PRESENT: Paul Livingston

OTHERS PRESENT: Allison Terracio, Derrek Pugh, Gretchen Barron, Patrick Wright, Ashiya Myers, Angela Weathersby, Lori Thomas, Michelle Onley, Kenny Bowen, Leonardo Brown, Maddison Wilkerson, Aric Jensen, Stacey Hamm, Jackie Hancock, Jennifer Wladischkin, and Tamar Black.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairwoman Jesica Mackey called the meeting to order at approximately 3:00 PM.
Ms. Mackey stated that Mr. Livingston had notified her he would not attend this evening’s meeting.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. July 16, 2024 – Ms. Newton moved to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Ms. Mackey.
In Favor: Mackey and Newton
Not Present: Livingston
The vote in favor was unanimous.
3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Ms. Newton moved to adopt the agenda as published, seconded by Ms. Mackey.
In Favor: Mackey and Newton
Not Present: Livingston
The vote in favor was unanimous.
4. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**
 - a. Public-Private Partnership Update – Ms. Mackey noted, at the last committee meeting, we decided to organize a focus group to provide feedback regarding the establishment of the Public-Private Partnership (P3). The focus group comprised Council members, staff, and the Economic Development Department. The focus group looked at industry leaders and assembled a diverse group of individuals with whom we have had an opportunity to meet.

Mr. Ray Jones, Parker Poe, provided a brief overview to the committee.

TIMELINE:

- August-November 2024 – P3 Focus Group and Council Updates
- November 2024 – Council Approval
- December 2024 – P3 Launch Event
- January-June 2025 – Operational Transition
- July 2025 – P3 fully operational at the beginning of the fiscal year

P3 FOCUS GROUP:

- 5-7 Members
- Citizen Input
- Limited Duration
- Advice Only
- Chair & Staff Convene

P3 FOCUS GROUP – PARTICIPANTS

- Dr. Tracey Dunn, Benedict College
- Michael Edens, First Reliance Bank
- Damon Jeter, Jet Corp Consulting Group
- Lasenta Lewis-Ellis, LLE Construction Group
- Heather Mitchell, Boudreaux Group
- Maceo Nance, SC Dept. of Commerce
- Ted Pitts, Wilson Kibler
- Rick Shippey, Mark Anthony Brewing
- Kim Smith, Health Evolve

P3 FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS:

- 3 Meetings: August 6 & 23 and September 10
- Chair, County Attorney, and County Administrator
- Approximately 2 Hours each
- Excellent attendance and engagement
- Thoughtful discussion

P3 FOCUS GROUP – DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Defining Success
 - Relevant
 - Respected
 - Addressing Priorities
 - County-wide Impact
- Board Composition
 - 2 Council Members
 - 3 Council Appointees
 - 4 Private Sector
 - Co-Chairs (Council & Private Sector)
- Funding & Organization
 - County-funded; private sector support
 - Executive Director and employees work for P3
 - P3 Board accountable to Council
- Priorities
 - Staple Items
 - Workforce Development
 - Community Engagement
 - Foster Relationships
- Mistakes to Avoid
 - Scope Creep
 - Duplicative
 - Clarity of Mission
- Name & Brand
 - Include Geographic Marker
 - Should not have to explain it
 - Seek Assistance

P3 ROADMAP:

- October 1: Council Meeting
- October 8: P3 Focus Group Meeting
- October 22: Strategic Ad Hoc Planning Committee Meeting
- November 12: Council Meeting
- November 19: County Meeting to adopt P3 Resolution
- December: P3 Launch
- January – June 2025: Transition Operations

The County Attorney, Patrick Wright, reiterated that he thinks it is a good idea to have a public-private partnership if it is done the right way. There are benefits to it. In the past, we have been blessed with things working out without having one.

Ms. Newton inquired how the group was positioned with the focus group attendees. For example, was the question, “The County is about to do a P3; how should we do it?” or “The County is considering a P3. Do you think we should do it? And, if so, how should we do it?”

Mr. Jones responded, “The County is considering a P3, and we would like your input.” He noted that there was no opposition to the idea of a P3, and the focus group supported it unanimously.

Ms. Newton requested additional clarity on the P3’s method of accountability to Council.

Ms. Mackey stated it was understood that the P3 Board would be accountable to Council and look to Council to lead and guide them.

Mr. Jones further stated that the P3’s mission needs to be tied to what the County is trying to accomplish.

Ms. Newton asked if the focus group had insight into how they saw the County being able to play a different, unique, or more helpful role to the other organizations dedicated to workforce development.

Mr. Jones indicated that Dr. Tracey Dunn, Benedict College, was listening to Rick Shippey talk about his needs at Mark Anthony Brewing. In response, Dr. Dunn pointed out that if we were all talking, we could do more at Benedict to give Mark Anthony Brewing more of what it needs. We are talking about building a communication bridge directly from industry to higher education institutions.

Ms. Mackey expressed one of the takeaways was that Midlands Tech has a workforce program, but Benedict does not have that same program. The focus group identified some holes where it is not happening or could be happening better. There was also some talk about having the County be more proactive with communication with the higher education institutions about where we are going next in Economic Development.

5. **ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Newton moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Mackey.

In Favor: Mackey and Newton

Not Present: Livingston

The vote in favor was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:37 PM.

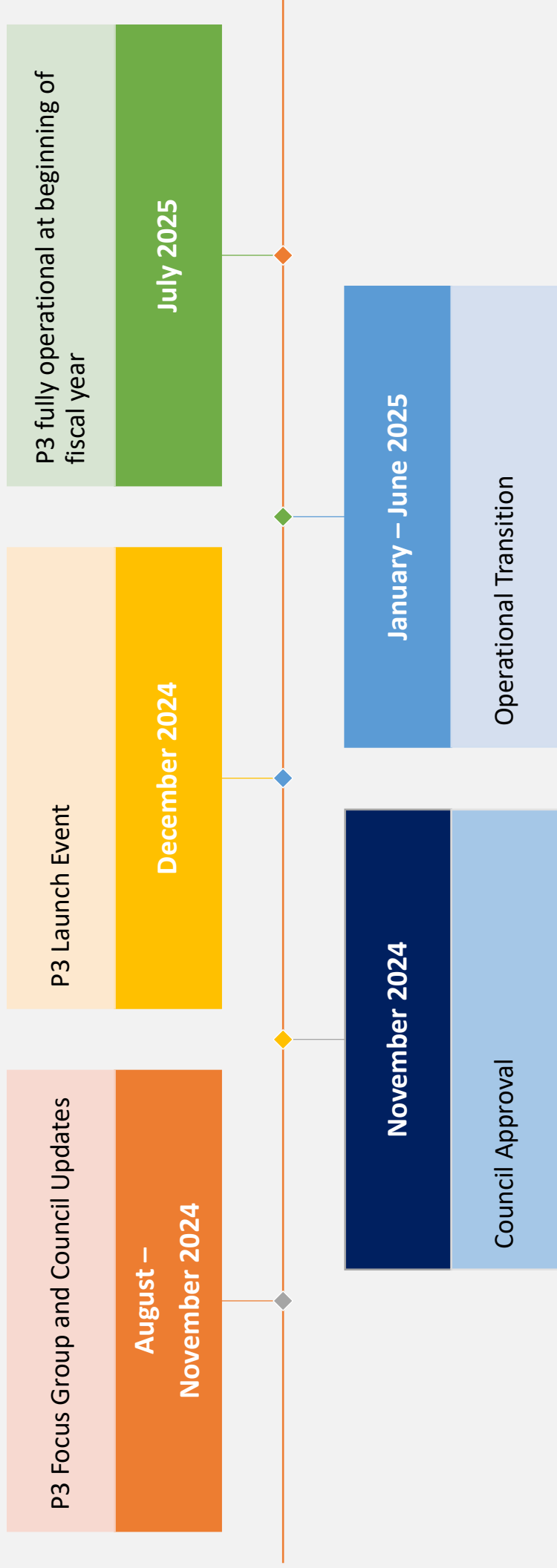
Richland County P3

Strategic Planning Ad
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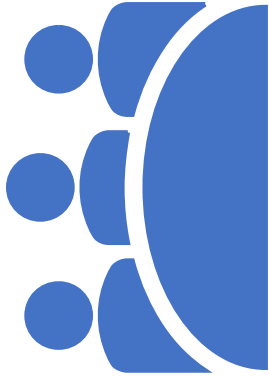
Agenda

1. Review and Refresh
 - Timeline
2. P3 Focus Group
 - Participants
 - Meetings
 - Discussion Topics
 - Recommendations
3. P3 Roadmap
4. Q&A

Timeline



P3 Focus Group



5-7
Members

Citizen Input

Limited
Duration

Advice Only

Chair & Staff
Convene



P3 Focus Group - Participants

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Michael Edens, First Reliance Bank

Damon Jeter, Jet Corp Consulting Group

Lasenta Lewis-Ellis, LLE Construction Group

Heather Mitchell, Boudreaux Group

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Rick Shippey, Mark Anthony Brewing

Kim Smith, Health Evolve



P3 Focus Group Meetings

3 Meetings: August 6, August 23
and September 10

Chair, County Attorney and County
Administrator

2 hours

Excellent attendance and
engagement

Thoughtful discussion



P3 Focus Group – Discussion Topics

Defining
Success

Board
Composition

Funding &
Organization

Priorities

Mistakes to
Avoid

Name &
Brand



P3 Focus Group – Recommendations

Defining
Success

- Relevant
- Respected
- Addressing Priorities
- County-wide Impact



P3 Focus Group – Recommendations

Board Composition

- 2 Council Members
- 3 Council Appointees
- 4 Private Sector
- Co-Chairs



P3 Focus Group – Recommendations

Funding and Organization

- County funded;
private sector support
- Executive Director and employees work for P3
- P3 Board accountable to Council



P3 Focus Group – Recommendations

Priorities

- **Staple Items**
- **Workforce Development**
- **Community Engagement**
- **Foster Relationships**



P3 Focus Group – Recommendations

**Mistakes
to Avoid**

- **Scope Creep**
- **Duplicative**
- **Clarity of Mission**

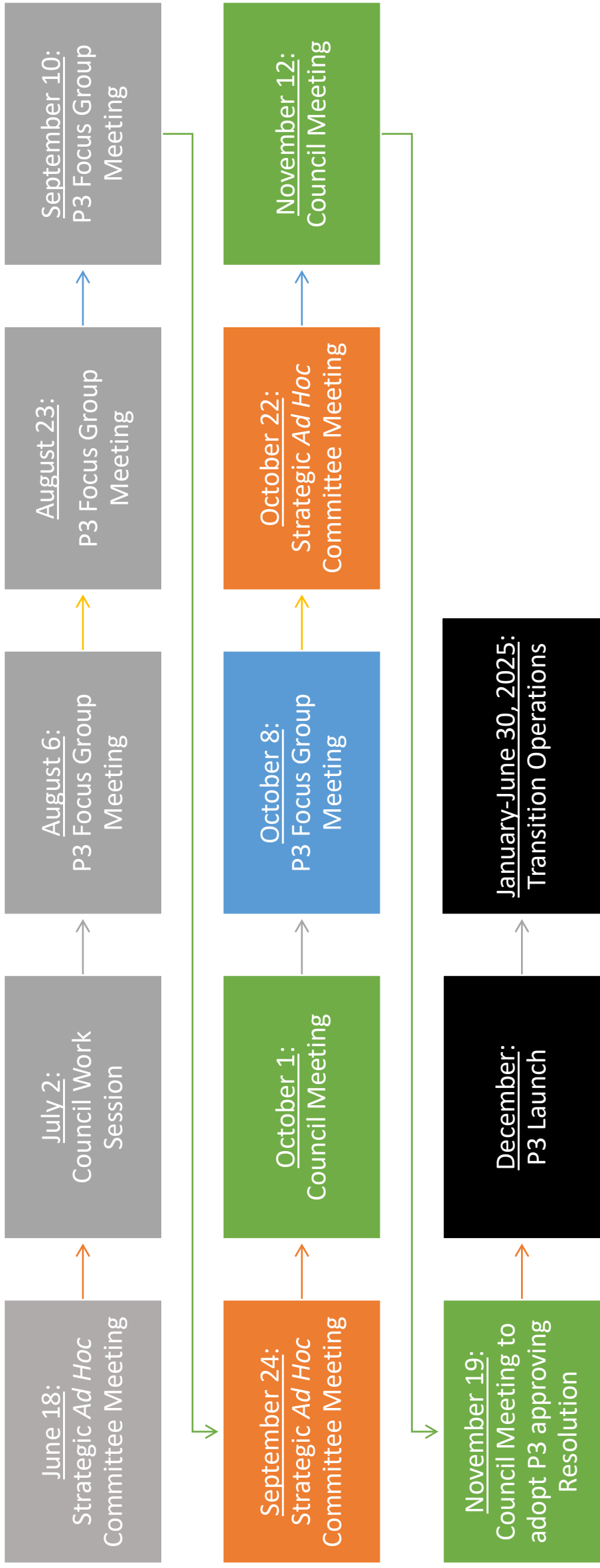


P3 Focus Group – Recommendations

Name
& Brand

- Include Geographic Marker
- Should not have to explain it
- Seek Assistance

P3 Roadmap



Q&A

**Richland
County P3**