

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

To: News Media

From: Bamberg County Administration

Date: September 16, 2024

Re: Bamberg County Selected to Participate in SC Resilient Coastal Communities

**Collaborative Program** 

**Bamberg, South Carolina (September 2024)** – Bamberg County Council and Administration are pleased to announce Bamberg County has been selected as an area of focus to receive technical support as part of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation/NOAA funded South Carolina Resilient Coastal Communities Collaborative Program (RCCCP).

The RCCCP is a watershed-based community engagement resilience planning partnership between the South Carolina Office of Resilience, South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium, and South Carolina Beach Advocates. This program focuses on the Salkehatchie Watershed to assess specific vulnerabilities and identify resilience projects at the local level. These assessments and identified projects will be integrated into a comprehensive resilience plan for the Salkehatchie Watershed.

The RCCCP will work with the Bamberg community to:

- Evaluate resilience needs
- Provide technical assistance to assess specific vulnerabilities to flooding and other hazards
- Assess community assets at risk
- Provide consultants and facilitate Community Action Teams (CATs) who will assist
  the community in planning for strategies and solutions to mitigate and adapt to
  environmental hazards and changes while enhancing the ecosystems within the
  community

"This program could not have come at a more opportune time," stated County Administrator Joey Preston. Preston noted Bamberg's participation in the RCCCP will "help better equip Bamberg County to mitigate flood damage similar to the washed out roads that resulted from Tropical Storm Debby."

Bamberg County Council Chairman Evert Comer, Jr. thanked the SC Office of Resilience South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium, and South Carolina Beach Advocates for collaborating to bring their "service and expertise to rural communities in flood-prone areas like Bamberg County. Such a proactive approach will help us be better prepared when the next storm hits us."

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For more information on this press release, email <a href="mailto:info@bambergcounty.sc.gov">info@bambergcounty.sc.gov</a>.