Growth Issues Presentation Outline WUAR GMM 3/13/25

SLIDE 1



- I am going to tell you how we reinforce our advocacy program
- Given several times
- First time to Anderson County Council
- They gave me 30 minutes
- I'll do it today in 10 ish



- It's complicated, particularly the development part
- Because even elected officials don't understand how growth results in development
- To help you understand it, at least in terms of how we advocate...



• I'll talk about what drives growth

SLIDE 4



• In short, it's population and job creation.

SLIDE 5



• I'll also talk about something you know a lot about, what buyers want.



• And external influencers.

SLIDE 7



• Not this kind of influencer.



- I usually talk about the difference between growth and development
- I think you understand that



- But I do want to show you this visual
- It's oversimplified, but this is the growth and development cycle
- Sometimes jobs and population are reversed
- But in the Upstate, homes are almost always a response to population growth and job creation
- Retail follows them

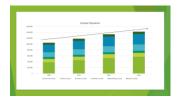


- I use this example from an Anderson County Council meeting
- They will offer incentives for a business to locate here.
- On almost every county council agenda in the state.



- I point it out because those jobs always result in more jobs
- And the cycle continues sometimes several times

SLIDE 12



- This is the Upstate population growth over 25 years.
- 300,000 new people
- Anderson County added 50,000 new people
- Which drives demand for retail, professional services, and...

SLIDE 13



• ... houses



• But where are the jobs going? Geographically.

SLIDE 15



- Most of them are in relatively rural areas. You know where I am talking about.
- But those jobs need houses.
- If the jobs pay \$50,000 a year, will they be buying houses like this?

SLIDE 16



• Probably not. They'll be looking for something like this.



• The problem is our ordinances require this.

SLIDE 18



• We also have a demand paradigm that conflicts with our ordinances.



- Large group on right is Boomers (75 million births) (46-64)
- Smaller group in middle is Gen X (45 million births) (65-82)
- Large group on left is Millennials (80 million births) (83-00)
- The problem is Boomers are selling this...



• ...and a lot of them are buying this...

SLIDE 21



- And guess what...Millennials want this too.
- But our jobs are locating here...

SLIDE 22



• Not exactly compatible with this...



• Which is why we have a conflict between what our ordinances require, and what the market demands.

SLIDE 24



• I mentioned influencers.

SLIDE 25



• Still not her. It's them...



- I see this at every government meeting.
- I call it matching tee short night.
- I saw it again last night.

SLIDE 27



- It's also this.
- Because it's so accurate.

SLIDE 28



• It's also them, because they understand complex issues.



- It's also these things.
- Whether we have enough of it.
- Pickens County Council talked about sewer capacity Monday.
- But **roads** are almost always the point of contention that results in...

SLIDE 30



• ...influencers like this, who pressure government to do things like this...



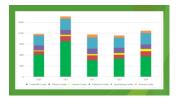
- Lately it has been moratoriums.
- But impact fees haven't gone away.
- What are the results?
- I think you know the answer, but I'll tell you...



- ...a nearly 50% increase in home prices in just three years.
- And that's here. It's more in Greenville.



- And a massive decrease in affordability.
- About 70% of all households are priced out of homeownership.
- Millennials and the next homebuying generation, Gen Z.



- And builders are not building enough. They can't.
- We won't let them build what people want to buy.
- The Upstate needs about 10,000 new homes each year to keep up with population growth.
- They have only reached that five times since 2007, and it was the last five years.



- Housing starts used to track population growth.
- It doesn't anymore.
- I'll summarize why...

SLIDE 36



• If we were building and selling cars instead of houses...

SLIDE 37



• ...buyers would be demanding this.



• The government would require that builders build this.

SLIDE 39



• And this would cost 50% more than it did three years ago because we didn't build enough of them.



- That was **fast**, and I know you didn't take it all in.
- But that's what we are trying to tell our government officials.
- If you want to talk to me about it, there's my contact information.
- If you get a chance, I hope you will talk to your elected representatives too. They need to hear it from you too.