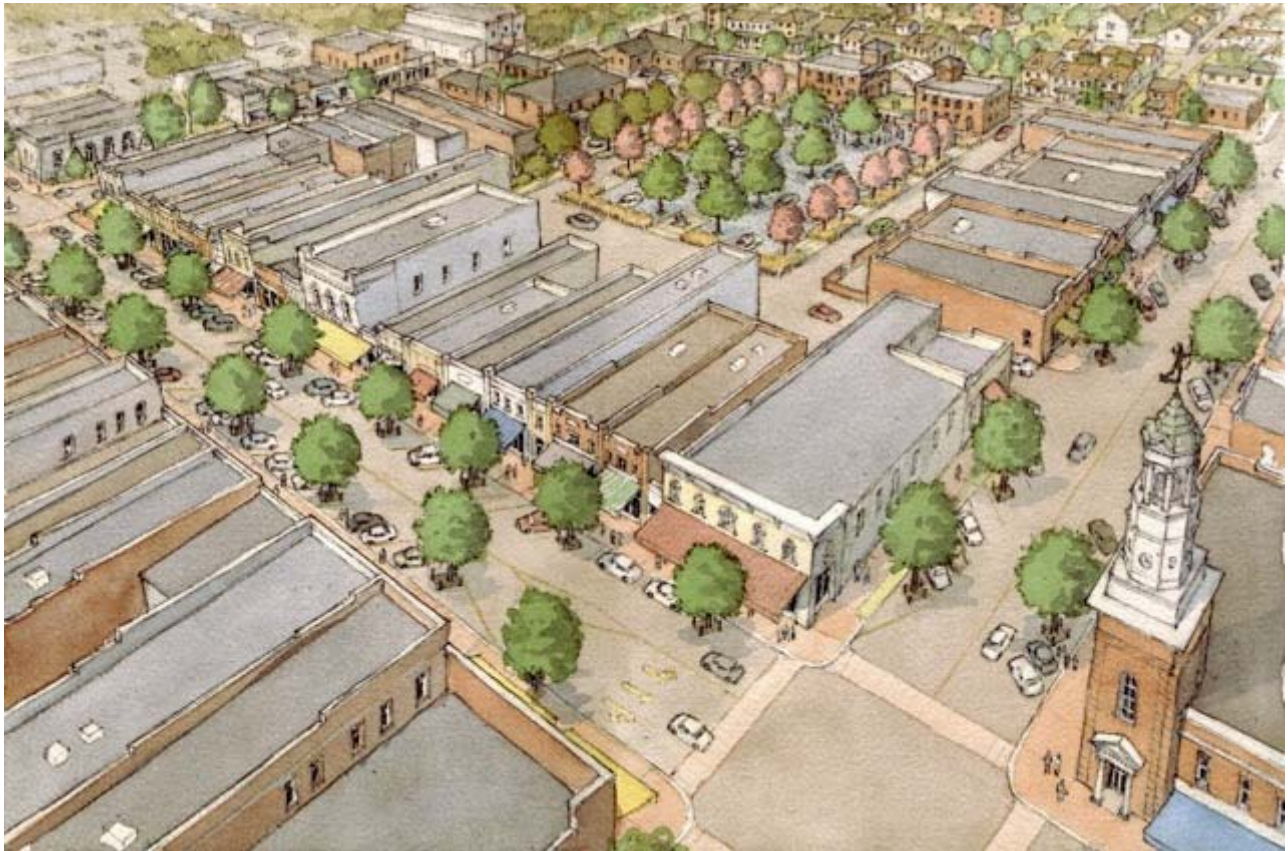


Hall Planning & Engineering, Inc. was proud to assist DPZ Charlotte in the creation of the Vision Camden Plan hailed in the following Press Release and recipient of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Sustainable Community Challenge Grant and the Department of Transportation (DOT) TIGER II (Transportation Investment Generation Economic Recovery) Planning Grant.

Please read further.



Rendering Image: Birds-eye view of the Broad Street Road Diet Design, Camden, South Carolina © 2010 DPZ

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 22, 2010

DPZ Charlotte is excited to share the recent announcement by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Sustainable Community Challenge Grant and the Department of Transportation (DOT) TIGER II (Transportation Investment Generation Economic Recovery) Planning Grant that will directly benefit the DPZ Charlotte led Vision Camden Plan for the City of Camden, SC.

The Vision Camden Plan focuses on a series of policy and physical planning interventions to be implemented in both the short and long term. Central to the Plan is improving residents' access to employment, recreation and affordable housing; attracting the creative class; and making streets more pedestrian-friendly. The City of Camden is hard at work meeting the goals stated in the Vision Plan.

They are already building a Town Green, have hired a Downtown Manager, and are currently in the adoption phase of a SmartCode for the Downtown.

As a critical component to the Vision Camden Plan, DPZ recommends the implementation of traffic calming measures to help revitalize the town's main street, which currently facilitates automobiles as a four-lane arterial and does not provide a pleasant pedestrian experience. Thus, the Plan includes implementing a 'road diet' with design standards that allow narrower, pedestrian-friendly streets, wide sidewalks, and increasing on-street parking supply, tree cover and landscaping. Recommendations also include creating an alternate truck route diverting such traffic away from the downtown, and implementing reverse diagonal parking.

"We are delighted to hear the news on the TIGER II Grant award in the amount of \$456,000 for the Broad Street Road Diet as it aligns with the recommendations made by DPZ Charlotte and will support the goals of the City's Community Development Plan. The Plan strives to achieve improved economic development and a greater mixture of uses for the downtown core. Congratulations to the City of Camden for initiating and implementing this Vision." says Tom Low, Partner and Director of Town Planning for DPZ Charlotte.

For more information on the grant awards, please visit HUD's official website:

http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page/portal/HUD/press/press_releases_media_advisories/2010/HUDNo.10-242

To watch a movie short on the Camden Town Green transformation that has recently broken ground click on this link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GVgkJHskXs>

To review the Camden Vision Plan report visit the City of Camden's website:

<http://www.cityofcamden.org/departments/planningdepartment/visionplan.aspx>

Contact:

Shawn Putnam, CFM

City Planner

City of Camden www.cityofcamden.org

803.432.2421 | putnam@camdensc.org