

Correspondence from the file review indicated deficiencies in the operations and maintenance of the landfill. The file review indicated that the landfill was operational as late as 1975. The Phase I ESA for the Parcel 16 site identified the former landfill as a REC due to the unknown boundaries of the landfill, the unknown contents of the landfill, the lack of detailed information, and the fact that the landfill operated prior to the implementation of regulations governing landfills. For the Proposed Project, the intent is to construct the arrival/departure tracks through the Parcel 16 site. Investigations to determine any impacts to the use of the site resulting from the possible former landfill in this area would be completed prior to construction of the arrival/departure tracks.

3.15.5.4 ConGlobal Facility

The ConGlobal Facility is the larger parent property for Parcel 16, and it is located immediately to the east and southeast of Parcel 16 (Figure 3.15-1). The facility repairs container boxes, chassis, and flat racks for shipping vehicles. Interviews with ConGlobal staff indicated that petroleum, oil, and lubricants are used on the site and are typically recycled or shipped off-site by a private vendor. There are currently two 400-gallon gasoline ASTs on the larger ConGlobal facility that are used for fueling equipment. All paint blasting operations have been shut down and all such equipment has been removed.

Review of regulatory file information for the ConGlobal facility indicated that a former abrasive blasting area operated on the site, and the site formerly had additional ASTs. The SCDHEC file for the facility included an Air Quality Inspection Report (dated January 18, 2012), which indicated that the site had air quality issues. The air quality issues had been referred to SCDHEC enforcement for review, and the file also noted the presence of blasting slag located at the rear of the property. Investigations to determine any impacts to the use of Parcel 16 resulting from the former or current operations of the ConGlobal Facility in this area would be completed prior to construction of the arrival/departure tracks.

3.16 SOCIOECONOMICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

3.16.1 Introduction

The affected environment for socioeconomics and Environmental Justice provides an overview of the social and economic characteristics within the study area, as well as descriptions of community characteristics, resources, and services. These characteristics include topics such as population growth, age, race, income, housing, employment, and vehicle availability.

The study area used for the assessment of socioeconomic resources and environmental justice includes the area surrounding the Project that is likely to be directly or indirectly affected in any way during, throughout, and after construction of any of the Project alternatives. The socioeconomic study area, as shown on Figure 3-16.1, is generally bounded by Greenleaf Road to the south (south of

the Union Heights neighborhood), Rivers Avenue to the west (south of McMillan Avenue), Spruill Avenue to the west (north of McMillan Avenue), Buist Avenue to the north, and Hobson Avenue to the east.

U.S. Census data is used to evaluate the social and economic characteristics of the socioeconomic study area. Census data was collected for 16 block groups from the 2010 Census that encompass the study area. These block groups are listed in Table 3.16-1 and shown on Figure 3.16-1. Due to the fact that the socioeconomic study area boundary does not follow the Census boundaries, the Census block groups cover a slightly larger area than the socioeconomic study area. This area is referred to as the demographic study area. This allows for a more complete understanding of socioeconomic conditions in the study area. In addition, Census block groups including the Park Circle and Olde North Charleston neighborhoods were included since these neighborhoods have been active in the public involvement process. For comparison purposes, Census data was also collected for the cities of Charleston and North Charleston, Charleston County, and the State of South Carolina.

Additional information on socioeconomics and Environmental Justice is provided in the Community Impact Assessment (Atkins 2015, included as Appendix K).

3.16.2 Social Characteristics

Demographic information was obtained from the most current data available, which includes the 2010 U.S. Census, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates (2009–2013), and other state and local sources. Demographic data for Census block groups that include the demographic study area were compared to demographic data for the cities of Charleston and North Charleston, Charleston County, and South Carolina to identify notable population groups and trends.



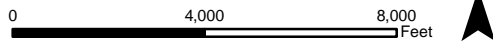
Legend

Notable Population Groups

- ▲ African American *
- ★ Low Income

- Study Area
- Demographic Study Area
- Proposed Project
- Census Block Group Boundaries
- River Center ICTF
- Approximate City Limits

* Notable population group exceeds 50% of population in that block group.



Sources: U.S. Census, ESRI, Delorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, NRCAN, METI, IPC, TomTom

NAVY BASE ICTF EIS

Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice Study Area, Demographic Study Area, and Notable Populations



Figure 3.16-1

Table 3.16-1
Study Area Census Tracts, Block Groups and Associated Neighborhoods

2010 Census Geography		North Charleston Neighborhoods
Census Tract	Block Group	
35	1	Park Circle, Oak Park, Palmetto Gardens, Cameron Terrace
	2	
36	1	Liberty Hill, Olde North Charleston, Mixson Avenue
	2	
	3	
37	1	Whipper Barony, Hunley Waters, St. Charles Place Apartments
	2	
	3	
43*	1	Chicora Place, Cherokee Place, Nafair
	2	
	3	
	4	
55*	1	
	2	
54	1	Windsor, Union Heights
	2	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010.

*These census tracts include areas with the greatest potential for direct impacts as a result of Project alternatives.

This section provides a description of demographic trends in the study area and identifies notable population groups. Topics discussed include population trends, age distribution, racial composition, Limited English Proficiency, educational attainment, housing trends, age of housing, median house values, home ownership and vehicle availability.

2010 Census vs. American Community Survey: The U.S. Census is conducted once every 10 years to provide an official count of the entire U.S. population and report basic characteristics (e.g., sex, age, race, origin, and homeowner status). The American Community Survey (ACS) is conducted every year to provide up-to-date information about social and economic characteristics (e.g., age, sex, race, income, education, and commuting information). About 1 in 38 households per year receives an invitation to participate in the ACS. ACS data is available in one-year, three-year, or five-year estimates. Five-year estimates are best for analyzing small populations when precision and reliability are important.

3.16.2.1 Population Trends

From 2000 to 2010, the overall population of the demographic study area decreased from 16,248 to 13,236, or 18.5 percent (average annualized decrease of 2 percent). The population loss in the study area is in stark contrast to the population increases for the City of North Charleston (22.4 percent) and Charleston County (13 percent) over the same period, as shown in Table 3.16-2. In general, the population loss is attributed to closure of the CNC in 1996, clearing of land to make way for redevelopment projects, and the instability of the demographic study area amid speculation about how the area would be redeveloped.

Table 3.16-2
Population Trends 2000–2010

2010 Census Geography ¹		2000	2010	Difference	Percent Change 2000 to 2010	
Census Tract	Block Group				Overall	Annualized
35	1	1,142	1,103	-39	-3.4%	-0.3%
	2	1,276	1,160	-116	-9.1%	-0.9%
36	1	671	621	-50	-7.5%	-0.8%
	2	1,205	1,149	-56	-4.6%	-0.5%
	3	919	463	-456	-49.6%	-6.6%
37	1	1,128	1,106	-22	-2.0%	-0.2%
	2	2,539	1,903	-636	-25.0%	-2.8%
	3	420	374	-46	-11.0%	-1.2%
43	1	485	439	-46	-9.5%	-1.0%
	2	667	555	-112	-16.8%	-1.8%
	3	972	721	-251	-25.8%	-2.9%
	4	1,070	827	-243	-22.7%	-2.5%
54	1	861	709	-152	-17.7%	-1.9%
	2	840	862	22	2.6%	0.3%
55	1	1,251	538	-713	-57.0%	-8.1%
	2	802	706	-96	-12.0%	-1.3%
Study Area		16,248	13,236	-3,012	-18.5%	-2.0%
North Charleston		79,641	97,471	17,830	22.4%	2.0%
Charleston		96,650	120,083	23,433	24.2%	2.2%
Charleston County		309,969	350,209	40,240	13.0%	1.2%
South Carolina		4,012,012	4,625,364	613,352	15.3%	1.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 and Census 2000, Summary File 1 100% Data, Table P1 and P001, "Total Population"

1. Several block groups changed boundaries, changed numbers, or were merged between Census 2000 and 2010.

Note: CT = Census Tract, BG = Block Group. Shaded cells indicate block groups with notable population loss of 25 percent or greater.

3.16.2.2 Age Distribution

Overall, the percentages of the population in all age groups are similar to those of the City of North Charleston and the county; however, two block groups in the demographic study area have notably higher percentages of persons under the age of 18 compared to Charleston County, and one block group has a notably higher percentage of persons aged 65 and over. More than 55 percent of the population of Census Tract 54, Block Group 2, in the southern end of the demographic study area is under the age of 18. Further investigation identified a large affordable housing complex, the Bridgeview Village Apartments, located in this block group, but well south of the study area at 108 North Romney Street in Charleston.

The second concentration of children (37.9 percent) is located in Census Tract 37, Block Group 2, in the northwestern portion of the demographic study area, north of McMillan Avenue and west of Spruill Avenue. Further investigation identified a large apartment complex, St. Charles Place, located at 1920 McMillan Avenue that was previously owned by the North Charleston Housing Authority and provided low-income housing. This complex consists of approximately 464 apartments and is located just outside the study area.

There is higher concentration of persons aged 65 and older in Census Tract 35, Block Group 2, located in the northwestern corner of demographic study area, which includes a portion of the Park Circle neighborhood.

The age distributions of the population of the demographic study area and each block group, as well as the cities of North Charleston and Charleston, Charleston County, and South Carolina are shown in Table 3.16-3.

3.16.2.3 Racial Composition

The racial compositions of the demographic study area, the cities of Charleston and North Charleston, Charleston County, and South Carolina are shown in Table 3.16-4. The demographic study area has a notably higher percentage of Black or African American residents (67.1 percent) in comparison to the City of North Charleston (47.2 percent), the City of Charleston (25.4 percent), and Charleston County (29.8 percent).

The percentage of Black or African American residents in 11 of the 16 block groups encompassing the demographic study area exceeds 50 percent of the total population, with percentages ranging from 68 to 97 percent. These include all the block groups in the central and southern portion of the demographic study area.

Data also were obtained from the 2010 U.S. Census to identify populations of Hispanic or Latino origin, as summarized in Table 3.16-5. The U.S. Census recognizes Hispanic or Latino as an ethnic category that can include persons of any race. As a result, the Hispanic or Latino population is

discussed exclusive of race. The Hispanic percentage of the demographic study area population (4 percent) is similar to the county (5.4 percent), but less than the City of North Charleston (10.9 percent).

Table 3.16-3
Age Distribution

2010 Census Geography		Total Population	Under 18		18 to 64		65 and Over	
			#	%	#	%	#	%
Census Tract	Block Group							
35	1	1,103	192	17.4%	757	68.6%	154	14.0%
	2	1,160	161	13.9%	726	62.6%	273	23.5%
36	1	621	123	19.8%	459	73.9%	39	6.3%
	2	1,149	226	19.7%	784	68.2%	139	12.1%
	3	463	71	15.3%	329	71.1%	63	13.6%
37	1	1,106	224	20.3%	758	68.5%	124	11.2%
	2	1,903	722	37.9%	1,109	58.3%	72	3.8%
	3	374	91	24.3%	261	69.8%	22	5.9%
43	1	439	128	29.2%	280	63.8%	31	7.1%
	2	555	144	25.9%	380	68.5%	31	5.6%
	3	721	167	23.2%	467	64.8%	87	12.1%
	4	827	177	21.4%	534	64.6%	116	14.0%
54	1	709	155	21.9%	438	61.8%	116	16.4%
	2	862	478	55.5%	366	42.5%	18	2.1%
55	1	538	104	19.3%	388	72.1%	46	8.6%
	2	706	141	20.0%	515	72.9%	50	7.1%
Study Area		13,236	3,304	25.0%	8,551	64.6%	1,381	10.4%
North Charleston		97,471	24,831	25.5%	64,428	66.1%	8,212	8.4%
Charleston		120,083	21,651	18.0%	83,732	69.7%	14,700	12.2%
Charleston County		350,209	72,658	20.7%	232,830	66.5%	44,721	12.8%
South Carolina		4,625,364	1,080,474	23.4%	2,913,016	63.0%	631,874	13.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, Summary File 1 100%, Table P12, "Sex by Age"

Note: Shaded cells identify block groups where the percentage of the population in that particular age group exceeds the county percentage by more than 10 percentage points.

Table 3.16-4
Racial Composition

2010 Census Geography		Total Population	White		Black or African American		American Indian and Alaska Native		Asian		Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander		Other		Two or More Races	
			#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Census Tract	Block Group															
35	1	1,103	806	73.1%	239	21.7%	11	1.0%	5	0.5%	0	0.0%	33	3.0%	9	0.8%
	2	1,160	966	83.3%	163	14.1%	1	0.1%	4	0.3%	0	0.0%	13	1.1%	13	1.1%
36	1	621	296	47.7%	277	44.6%	3	0.5%	9	1.4%	0	0.0%	21	3.4%	15	2.4%
	2	1,149	541	47.1%	530	46.1%	13	1.1%	9	0.8%	4	0.3%	12	1.0%	40	3.5%
	3	463	262	56.6%	189	40.8%	2	0.4%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	2	0.4%	7	1.5%
37	1	1,106	266	24.1%	757	68.4%	10	0.9%	14	1.3%	0	0.0%	46	4.2%	13	1.2%
	2	1,903	154	8.1%	1629	85.6%	6	0.3%	28	1.5%	3	0.2%	38	2.0%	45	2.4%
	3	374	45	12.0%	307	82.1%	0	0.0%	8	2.1%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	13	3.5%
43	1	439	18	4.1%	415	94.5%	1	0.2%	2	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	2	0.5%
	2	555	24	4.3%	509	91.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	18	3.2%	4	0.7%
	3	721	56	7.8%	659	91.4%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%	3	0.4%
	4	827	82	9.9%	682	82.5%	7	0.8%	5	0.6%	0	0.0%	34	4.1%	17	2.1%
54	1	709	15	2.1%	680	95.9%	1	0.1%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	11	1.6%
	2	862	10	1.2%	840	97.4%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	11	1.3%
55	1	538	98	18.2%	398	74.0%	5	0.9%	10	1.9%	1	0.2%	7	1.3%	19	3.5%
	2	706	86	12.2%	604	85.6%	3	0.4%	3	0.4%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%	8	1.1%
Study Area		13,236	3,725	28.1%	8,878	67.1%	65	0.5%	99	0.7%	8	0.1%	231	1.7%	230	1.7%
North Charleston		97,471	40,514	41.6%	45,964	47.2%	453	0.5%	1,897	1.9%	157	0.2%	6,067	6.2%	2,419	2.5%
Charleston		120,083	84,258	70.2%	30,491	25.4%	271	0.2%	1,971	1.6%	122	0.1%	1,205	1.0%	1,765	1.5%
Charleston County		350,209	224,910	64.2%	104,239	29.8%	1,068	0.3%	4,719	1.3%	299	0.1%	9,477	2.7%	5,497	1.6%
South Carolina		4,625,364	3,060,000	66.2%	1,290,684	27.9%	19,524	0.4%	59,051	1.3%	2,706	0.1%	113,464	2.5%	79,935	1.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, Summary File 1 100% Data, Table P3 "Race"

NOTE: Shaded cells indicate block groups where the percentage of the population in that minority racial group exceeds 50 percent.

Table 3.16-5
Hispanic or Latino Origin

2010 Census Geography		Total Population	Hispanic		Not Hispanic	
Census Tract	Block Group		#	%	#	%
35	1	1,103	61	5.5%	1,042	94.5%
	2	1,160	37	3.2%	1,123	96.8%
36	1	621	40	6.4%	581	93.6%
	2	1,149	54	4.7%	1,095	95.3%
	3	463	5	1.1%	458	98.9%
37	1	1,106	80	7.2%	1,026	92.8%
	2	1,903	89	4.7%	1,814	95.3%
	3	374	8	2.1%	366	97.9%
43	1	439	5	1.1%	434	98.9%
	2	555	22	4.0%	533	96.0%
	3	721	15	2.1%	706	97.9%
	4	827	67	8.1%	760	91.9%
54	1	709	4	0.6%	705	99.4%
	2	862	1	0.1%	861	99.9%
55	1	538	20	3.7%	518	96.3%
	2	706	23	3.3%	683	96.7%
Study Area		13,236	531	4.0%	12,705	96.0%
North Charleston		97,471	10,617	10.9%	86,854	89.1%
Charleston		120,083	3,451	2.9%	116,632	97.1%
Charleston County		350,209	18,877	5.4%	331,332	94.6%
South Carolina		4,625,364	235,682	5.1%	4,389,682	94.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, Summary File 1 100% Data, Table P4 "Hispanic or Latino Origin"

Note: Hispanic or Latino is an ethnic category and can include persons of any race; therefore, the Hispanic or Latino percentages are presented exclusive of race.

3.16.2.4 Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency," requires all recipients of federal funds to provide meaningful access to persons who are limited in their English proficiency (LEP). The U.S. Department of Justice defines LEP individuals as those, "who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English" (67 FR 41459).

The study area does not meet the U.S. Department of Justice's Safe Harbor threshold for presence of a LEP population, as identified in guidance issued by the USDOT's Policy Guidance Concerning Recipients' Responsibilities to Limited English Proficient Persons (2005). This guidance defines the

Safe Harbor threshold as either 5 percent of the study area population or 1,000 persons within a particular language group who speak English less than “Very Well.” If the Safe Harbor threshold is met or exceeded for a LEP group, vital written materials should be translated. Data were used from the ACS 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013) to identify adults aged 18 or older who speak English less than “Very Well” by language group. Results of the LEP analysis are shown in Table 3.16-6.

Although the Safe Harbor threshold was not met for the translation of vital documents, U.S. Census data indicate notable populations (more than 50 persons) of Spanish language speakers who speak English less than “Very Well” in two block groups, as identified by the shaded cells in Table 3.16-6. Census Tract 35, Block Group 1, located directly north of the demographic study area, includes 51 Spanish-speaking LEP adults. Census Tract 36, Block Group 2, located just northwest of the demographic study area, includes 69 Spanish-speaking LEP adults.

3.16.2.5 Educational Attainment

The educational attainment of the population of the demographic study area is shown in Table 3.16-7. Overall, the percentage of the population of the study area without a high school diploma (26.3 percent) is slightly higher when compared to the population of the City of North Charleston (20.3 percent) and more than double when compared to Charleston County (11.7 percent). The population percentage without a high school diploma exceeds 40 percent in four block groups. These block groups include the River Place Apartments and the northern end of the study area, as well as parts of the Chicora-Cherokee neighborhood. Similarly, the percentage of people in the demographic study area with a college degree (19.1 percent) is much lower compared to Charleston County (46.9 percent).

Table 3.16-6
Limited English Proficiency

2010 Census Geography		Total Adult Population	Primary Language Group of Persons Who Speak English Less than Very Well							
			Spanish		Other Indo-Euro		Asian/Pacific Island		Other	
Census Tract	Block Group		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
35	1	917	51	5.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	2	866	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	19	2.2%	0	0.0%
36	1	555	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	2	1,156	69	6.0%	0	0.0%	35	3.0%	8	0.7%
	3	468	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
37	1	866	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	2	865	16	1.8%	5	0.6%	11	1.3%	0	0.0%
	3	301	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
43	1	229	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	2	445	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	3	695	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	4	664	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	1.2%
54	1	627	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	2	260	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
55	1	388	17	4.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	2	569	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Study Area		9,871	154	1.6%	5	0.1%	65	0.7%	16	0.2%
North Charleston		75,188	4,344	5.8%	226	0.3%	785	1.0%	69	0.1%
Charleston		99,979	547	0.5%	391	0.4%	494	0.5%	161	0.2%
Charleston County		284,861	6,098	2.1%	823	0.3%	1,547	0.5%	218	0.1%
South Carolina		3,600,525	83,991	2.3%	13,059	0.4%	15,848	0.4%	2,703	0.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table B16004, "Age by Language Spoken at Home for the Population 5+ Years"

NOTE: Shaded cells indicate block groups with 50 or more persons in an LEP language group.

Table 3.16-7
Educational Attainment for Persons Age 25 and Older

2010 Census Geography		Population Age 25 and Older	Not a High School Graduate		High School Graduate or GED Alternative		Some College		College Graduate (Associate's Degree or Higher)	
			#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Census Tract	Block Group									
35	1	819	73	8.9%	185	22.6%	323	39.4%	238	29.1%
	2	730	43	5.9%	205	28.1%	188	25.8%	294	40.3%
36	1	437	0	0.0%	85	19.5%	225	51.5%	127	29.1%
	2	1,043	229	22.0%	324	31.1%	266	25.5%	224	21.5%
	3	397	99	24.9%	82	20.7%	26	6.5%	190	47.9%
37	1	726	213	29.3%	212	29.2%	186	25.6%	115	15.8%
	2	530	237	44.7%	127	24.0%	121	22.8%	45	8.5%
	3	262	127	48.5%	62	23.7%	28	10.7%	45	17.2%
43	1	229	112	48.9%	57	24.9%	42	18.3%	18	7.9%
	2	369	111	30.1%	207	56.1%	32	8.7%	19	5.1%
	3	588	301	51.2%	129	21.9%	114	19.4%	44	7.5%
	4	540	152	28.1%	252	46.7%	108	20.0%	28	5.2%
54	1	571	182	31.9%	266	46.6%	61	10.7%	62	10.9%
	2	210	65	31.0%	99	47.1%	21	10.0%	25	11.9%
55	1	309	96	31.1%	129	41.7%	68	22.0%	16	5.2%
	2	474	127	26.8%	146	30.8%	119	25.1%	82	17.3%
Study Area		8,234	2,167	26.3%	2,567	31.2%	1,928	23.4%	1,572	19.1%
North Charleston		62,236	12,647	20.3%	18,214	29.3%	14,344	23.0%	17,031	27.4%
Charleston		80,882	6,018	7.4%	14,467	17.9%	15,498	19.2%	44,899	55.5%
Charleston County		243,560	28,451	11.7%	51,872	21.3%	49,046	20.1%	114,191	46.9%
South Carolina		3,118,029	481,983	15.5%	933,232	29.9%	651,510	20.9%	1,051,304	33.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table B15003 "Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over"

Note: Shaded cells identify individual block groups where the percentage of the population that did not complete high school is 25 percentage points greater than the county.

3.16.2.6 Housing Trends

In contrast to housing growth in North Charleston and Charleston County, the number of housing units in the demographic study area decreased 13 percent between 2000 and 2010, as shown in Table 3.16-8. This is likely related to the CNC closure and clearing of land related to subsequent redevelopment initiatives in the area, such as the Noisette Project. The block group that experienced the greatest loss of housing is Census Tract 36, Block Group 3, located in the northwestern portion of the demographic study area. The number of housing units in this block group decreased by half, from 495 to 231, between 2000 and 2010. During this time, a portion of the housing in this block group was razed for redevelopment, resulting in a loss of housing units. This area has since been redeveloped as Mixson, which includes new housing and mixed-use development.

According to local planners, the decline in population and housing in the study area has leveled off since 2010, and there has been some new housing construction, including West Yard Lofts, which provides low-income multi-family housing in the northern portion of the demographic study area, and Hunley Waters, a new single-family housing development on O'Hear Avenue near the northern boundary of the demographic study area.

3.16.2.7 Age of Housing

Approximately 67 percent of the existing housing in the demographic study area was built before 1970, as shown in Table 3.16-9. This percentage is more than double the percentages in the City of North Charleston (30 percent) and Charleston County (30.5 percent). The higher percentage of older homes in the demographic study area is expected due to development associated with the Navy Base expansion during WWII.

Only three block groups in the study area have housing units built since 2010. Census Tract 37, Block Group 3, located directly north of the demographic study area includes new homes in the Hunley Waters community. Census Tract 55, Block Group 1, which includes a large portion of the study area, includes new housing units in the Navy Yard Lofts affordable housing complex. New housing units also have been constructed in Census Tract 55, Block Group 1, but these units are located outside the demographic study area.

Table 3.16-8
Housing Trends, 2000–2010

2010 Census Geography ¹		2000	2010	Difference	Percent Change 2000 to 2010	
					Overall	Annualized
Census Tract	Block Group					
35	1	537	543	6	1.1%	0.1%
	2	595	596	1	0.2%	0.0%
36	1	369	355	-14	-3.8%	-0.4%
	2	609	588	-21	-3.4%	-0.4%
	3	495	231	-264	-53.3%	-7.3%
37	1	557	542	-15	-2.7%	-0.3%
	2	1,097	874	-223	-20.3%	-2.2%
	3	268	248	-20	-7.5%	-0.8%
43	1	256	206	-50	-19.5%	-2.1%
	2	335	309	-26	-7.8%	-0.8%
	3	416	357	-59	-14.2%	-1.5%
	4	486	414	-72	-14.8%	-1.6%
54	1	464	335	-129	-27.8%	-3.2%
	2	298	278	-20	-6.7%	-0.7%
55	1	301	257	-44	-14.6%	-1.6%
	2	310	302	-8	-2.6%	-0.3%
Study Area		7,393	6,435	-958	-13.0%	-1.4%
North Charleston		33,631	42,219	8,588	25.5%	2.3%
Charleston		44,563	59,522	14,959	33.6%	2.9%
Charleston County		141,031	169,984	28,953	20.5%	1.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 and Census 2000, Summary File 1 100% Data, Table H1 and H001, "Housing Units"

1. Several block groups changed boundaries, were merged, or the geographic identity numbers were reassigned between Census 2000 and 2010.

Note: CT = Census Tract, BG = Block Group. Shaded cells indicate block groups with notable housing unit loss of 25 percent or greater.

Table 3.16-9
Year Housing Units Built

2010 Census Geography		Total Housing Units	Built 2010 or Later		Built 2000 to 2009		Built 1970 to 1999		Built 1969 or Earlier	
			#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Census Tract	Block Group									
35	1	570	0	0.0%	17	3.0%	23	4.0%	530	93.0%
	2	565	0	0.0%	17	3.0%	37	6.5%	511	90.4%
36	1	326	0	0.0%	30	9.2%	103	31.6%	193	59.2%
	2	682	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	280	41.1%	402	58.9%
	3	213	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	2.8%	207	97.2%
37	1	689	0	0.0%	77	11.2%	181	26.3%	431	62.6%
	2	739	0	0.0%	263	35.6%	120	16.2%	356	48.2%
	3	293	18	6.1%	60	20.5%	118	40.3%	97	33.1%
43	1	193	0	0.0%	7	3.6%	31	16.1%	155	80.3%
	2	302	0	0.0%	20	6.6%	61	20.2%	221	73.2%
	3	404	0	0.0%	29	7.2%	55	13.6%	320	79.2%
	4	485	0	0.0%	29	6.0%	167	34.4%	289	59.6%
54	1	362	0	0.0%	6	1.7%	77	21.3%	279	77.1%
	2	332	0	0.0%	54	16.3%	179	53.9%	99	29.8%
55	1	177	44	24.9%	0	0.0%	40	22.6%	93	52.5%
	2	393	20	5.1%	0	0.0%	80	20.4%	293	74.6%
Study Area		6,725	82	1.2%	609	9.1%	1,558	23.2%	4,476	66.6%
North Charleston		42,656	397	0.9%	12,340	28.9%	17,476	41.0%	12,443	29.2%
Charleston		59,283	559	0.9%	14,673	24.8%	22,386	37.8%	21,665	36.5%
Charleston County		171,625	1,220	0.7%	36,320	21.2%	81,690	47.6%	52,395	30.5%
South Carolina		2,143,464	18,086	0.8%	445,807	20.8%	1,138,412	53.1%	541,159	25.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table B25034 "Year Structure Built"

3.16.2.8 Median House Values

According to ACS 5-Year Estimates (2009–2013), median house values within the demographic study area vary widely by block group, as shown in Table 3.16-10. There is not enough information in five of the 16 block groups to calculate a median value. House values in the northern portion of the demographic study area, generally are higher when compared to the City of North Charleston. No block groups in the study area have house values higher than the median values for the City of Charleston or Charleston County.

Table 3.16-10
Median House Value

2010 Census Geography		Value
Census Tract	Block Group	
35	1	\$138,100
	2	\$172,000
36	1	\$226,700
	2	\$144,700
	3	\$146,300
37	1	\$88,500
	2 ¹	- N -
	3	\$159,400
43	1 ¹	- N -
	2 ¹	- N -
	3	\$61,300
	4	\$62,900
54	1	\$66,900
	2 ¹	- N -
55	1 ¹	- N -
	2	\$212,500
Study Area		NA
North Charleston		\$138,300
Charleston		\$253,800
Charleston County		\$236,100
South Carolina		\$137,400

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table B25077.

1. There is not enough sample data in this block group to calculate a median house value.
NA = Not Available.

3.16.2.9 Home Ownership

Occupancy status of housing units in the demographic study area is shown in Table 3.16-11. The percentage of owner-occupied housing units in the demographic study area (30.2 percent) is lower than both the City of North Charleston and Charleston County. The percentage of renter-occupied housing units in the demographic study area (54.8 percent) is higher than both the City of North Charleston (45.6 percent) and county (33.7 percent). Twelve of the 16 block groups encompassing the demographic study area have a notably higher percentage of renter-occupied units when compared to the county.

Table 3.16-11
Occupancy Status of Housing Units

2010 Census Geography		Total Housing Units	Owner Occupied		Renter Occupied		Vacant	
			#	%	#	%	#	%
Census Tract	Block Group							
35	1	543	345	63.5%	160	29.5%	38	7.0%
	2	596	440	73.8%	107	18.0%	49	8.2%
36	1	355	88	24.8%	208	58.6%	59	16.6%
	2	588	229	38.9%	294	50.0%	65	11.1%
	3	231	128	55.4%	77	33.3%	26	11.3%
37	1	542	185	34.1%	278	51.3%	79	14.6%
	2	874	32	3.7%	702	80.3%	140	16.0%
	3	248	21	8.5%	130	52.4%	97	39.1%
43	1	206	15	7.3%	156	75.7%	35	17.0%
	2	309	27	8.7%	210	68.0%	72	23.3%
	3	357	63	17.6%	230	64.4%	64	17.9%
	4	414	125	30.2%	210	50.7%	79	19.1%
54	1	335	134	40.0%	133	39.7%	68	20.3%
	2	278	4	1.4%	269	96.8%	5	1.8%
55	1	257	36	14.0%	175	68.1%	46	17.9%
	2	302	73	24.2%	189	62.6%	40	13.2%
Study Area		6,435	1,945	30.2%	3,528	54.8%	962	14.9%
North Charleston		42,219	17,673	41.9%	19,242	45.6%	5,304	12.6%
Charleston		59,522	27,288	45.8%	25,053	42.1%	7,181	12.1%
Charleston County		169,984	87,068	51.2%	57,241	33.7%	25,675	15.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, Tables H1, "Household Units," H3, "Occupancy Status" and H4, "Tenure"

Note: Shaded cells identify block groups where the percentage of renter-occupied homes is more than 10 percentage points higher than the county percentage.

3.16.2.10 Vehicle Availability

Data on vehicle availability by occupied housing units is shown in Table 3.16-12. The percentage of housing units in the demographic study area without a vehicle (27.4 percent) is notably higher when compared to the City of North Charleston (11.3 percent) and Charleston County (8.5 percent). More than half of the occupied housing units in the Chicora-Cherokee neighborhood (Census Tract 43, Block Groups 1 to 3), located centrally in the demographic study area, do not have a vehicle available. This indicates that many people in this neighborhood rely on transit, walking, and biking to reach their destinations.

Table 3.16-12
Vehicle Availability by Occupied Housing Units

2010 Census Geography		Total	No Vehicle Available	
Census Tract	Block Group		#	%
35	1	514	23	4.5%
	2	452	73	16.2%
36	1	241	0	0.0%
	2	671	79	11.8%
	3	186	0	0.0%
37	1	531	174	32.8%
	2	561	142	25.3%
	3	164	27	16.5%
43	1	140	68	48.6%
	2	262	150	57.3%
	3	320	123	38.4%
	4	359	154	42.9%
54	1	315	77	24.4%
	2	250	175	70.0%
55	1	142	75	52.8%
	2	359	158	44.0%
Study Area		5,467	1,498	27.4%
North Charleston		36,384	4,127	11.3%
Charleston		51,591	5,196	10.1%
Charleston County		143,717	12,242	8.5%
South Carolina		1,780,251	123,997	7.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013),
Table B25044 "Tenure by Vehicles Available".

NOTE: Cells shaded in grey identify block groups where the percentage of housing units with no vehicle is 10 percentage points or more than the county percentage.

3.16.3 Economic Characteristics

The following sections summarize the economic characteristics of the demographic study area, including median household income, population living below poverty level, unemployment, major employers, and commuting patterns.

3.16.3.1 Median Household Income

Data on median household income within the demographic study area is shown in Table 3.16-13. The median household income for 13 of the 16 block groups encompassing the demographic study area is lower than both the City of North Charleston and Charleston County. The block group (Census Tract 54, Block Group 2) with the lowest median household income (\$6,263) is located in the southern portion of the demographic study area, and includes the Bridgeview Village low-income apartment complex. The block group (Census Tract 36, Block Group 3) with the highest median household income (\$70,500) is located in the northern portion of the demographic study area, in the Park Circle neighborhood, and includes the new Mixson mixed-use development. Table 3.16-14 shows the household income for the study area in comparison to the City of North Charleston, the City of Charleston, Charleston County, and South Carolina.

3.16.3.2 Unemployment

The annual average unemployment rates for the Charleston-North Charleston-Summerville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), Charleston County, and the state of South Carolina over the last decade are shown in Table 3.16-15. In each year, the unemployment rates for the MSA and Charleston County are slightly lower than for the state as a whole. The impact of the recent recession on unemployment rates is evident in the large increase in unemployment rates after 2008. For example, unemployment rates in Charleston County increased from 5.3 percent in 2008 to 8.9 percent in 2009. In October 2014 (the most current data available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics), Charleston County had an average unemployment rate of 5.3 percent.

3.16.3.3 Major Employers

The 15 largest employers in the Charleston County MSA as of February 2013 are shown in Table 3.16-16. The top employer, U.S. Air Force Joint Base Charleston, is located approximately 6 miles northwest of the demographic study area. The Charleston County School District is the only employer listed that has locations that provide work opportunities within the demographic study area.

Table 3.16-13
Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months

2010 Census Geography		Income in the past 12 months ¹ (in 2013 inflation adjusted dollars)
Census Tract	Block Group	
35	1	\$44,861
	2	\$35,526
36	1	\$46,953
	2	\$25,368
	3	\$70,500
37	1	\$18,064
	2	\$16,454
	3	\$38,625
43	1	\$12,031
	2	\$18,393
	3	\$17,143
	4	\$19,550
54	1	\$21,139
	2	\$6,263
55	1	\$15,147
	2	\$11,875
Study Area		NA
North Charleston		\$39,322
Charleston		\$51,737
Charleston County		\$50,792
South Carolina		\$44,779

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table B19013.

1. The data is actually an estimate based on the data collected from the annual surveys over that 5-year period, not a specific 12-month period.

NA = Not Available

Table 3.16-14
Household Income in the Past 12 Months

2010 Census Geography		Total Households	Number of Households by Household Income in the Past 12 Months							
			Less than \$24,999	\$25,000 to \$49,999	\$50,000 to \$74,999	\$75,000 to \$99,999	\$100,000 to \$124,999	\$125,000 to \$149,999	\$150,000 to \$199,999	\$200,000 or More
Census Tract	Block Group									
35	1	514	130	168	78	68	54	16	0	0
	2	452	137	133	62	44	52	8	9	7
36	1	241	69	55	76	0	3	0	30	8
	2	671	333	166	91	19	45	9	8	0
	3	186	45	18	54	20	8	6	35	0
37	1	531	384	84	27	0	0	25	11	0
	2	561	433	100	15	13	0	0	0	0
	3	164	51	62	23	0	6	18	4	0
43	1	140	97	8	35	0	0	0	0	0
	2	262	172	71	19	0	0	0	0	0
	3	320	229	66	0	25	0	0	0	0
	4	359	195	79	48	37	0	0	0	0
54	1	315	183	85	32	6	5	0	4	0
	2	250	218	19	13	0	0	0	0	0
55	1	142	110	20	12	0	0	0	0	0
	2	359	265	32	52	7	0	3	0	0
Study Area		5,467	3,051	1,166	637	239	173	85	101	15
North Charleston		36,384	11,886	10,019	6,950	3,490	2,247	676	710	406
Charleston		51,591	13,356	11,714	8,418	6,358	3,885	2,389	2,418	3,053
Charleston County		143,717	37,091	33,794	25,119	16,131	10,944	6,282	7,045	7,311
South Carolina		1,780,251	504,119	470,017	321,440	198,097	119,668	64,173	56,280	46,457

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table B19001.

Table 3.16-15
Annual Unemployment Rate, 2004–2013 (%)

Year	Charleston-North Charleston-Summerville Metropolitan Statistical Area	Charleston County	South Carolina
2004	NA	5.4	6.9
2005	NA	5.5	6.8
2006	NA	5.0	6.4
2007	NA	4.3	5.6
2008	NA	5.3	6.8
2009	9.5	8.9	11.4
2010	9.2	9.1	11.1
2011	8.5	8.3	10.3
2012	7.4	7.2	9.0
2013	6.3	6.0	7.6

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, SC Department of Employment and Workforce.
NA = Not Available.

Table 3.16-16
Largest Public and Private Sector Employers, Charleston S.C. MSA

Rank	Company	Sector	Product or Service	Employees
1	Joint Base Charleston	Public	Area U.S. military commands	22,000
2	Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC)	Public	Hospital, post-secondary education, research	13,000
3	Boeing South Carolina	Private	Aircraft manufacturing	6,000
4	Charleston County School District	Public	Education/public schools	5,300
5	Roper St. Francis Healthcare	Private	Roper and Bon Secours St Francis Hospitals	5,100
6	Berkeley County School District	Public	Education/public schools	3,700
7	Dorchester County School District II	Public	Education/public schools	3,100
8	JEM Restaurant Group Inc.	Private	Taco Bell and Pizza Hut Franchises in the MSA	3,000
9	Trident Health System	Private	Hospital system	2,500
10	Walmart Inc.	Private	Retail merchandise	2,300
11	Robert Bosch LLC	Private	Antilock brake systems, fuel injectors, common rail & unit injectors	2,200
12	Charleston County	Public	Local government	2,100
13	College of Charleston	Public	Post secondary education	2,000
14	Piggly Wiggly Carolina Co. Inc.	Private	Grocery wholesaler/retailer headquarters, distribution center	1,800
15	SAIC	Private	System engineering and integration services	1,800

Source: Center for Business Research, Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, 2/2013

3.16.3.4 Commuting

Based on travel time to work data from the ACS 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), travel times to work for residents living in the demographic study area generally are less than travel times for Charleston County as a whole. This is consistent with the urban nature of the demographic study area and the location of many large employers and employment centers within 10 miles north and south of the overall study area. Approximately 53 percent of study area residents within the demographic study area reported traveling less than 20 minutes to work, whereas only 45 percent of Charleston County residents reported traveling less than 20 minutes to work. Table 3.16-17 presents travel times to work for all block groups encompassing the demographic study area.

Table 3.16-18 summarizes the transportation mode reported in the ACS 5-Year Estimates (2009–2013) for commuters living in the demographic study area and Charleston County. The percentage of commuters in the demographic study area who use public transportation (9.7 percent) is four times greater than the percentage for Charleston County as a whole (2.1 percent). The percentage of public transportation users is highest in Census Tract 43, Block Group 2, which is located in the Chicora-Cherokee neighborhood, at 49.5 percent. Three other block groups in the demographic study area also have notably high percentages of public transportation users. Block groups with a high percentage of public transportation users generally correlate to block groups with no vehicle available (see Table 3.16-12).

Six block groups in the demographic study area, mostly in the northern portion, have a notably high number of carpoolers. The highest percentage of people who walk to work (21.7 percent) is in Census Tract 37, Block Group 3, along St. Johns Avenue. The highest percentage of people using taxicab, motorcycle, bicycle, or other means is located in Census Tract 54, Block Group 1, which includes the Union Heights neighborhood.

Table 3.16-17
Travel Time to Work

2010 Census Geography		Total	Less Than 10 Minutes		10 to 19 Minutes		20 to 29 Minutes		30 to 59 Minutes		60 or Minutes	
Census Tract	Block Group		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
35	1	497	28	5.6%	266	53.5%	93	18.7%	110	22.1%	0	0.0%
	2	491	51	10.4%	340	69.2%	47	9.6%	42	8.6%	11	2.2%
36	1	351	75	21.4%	115	32.8%	101	28.8%	60	17.1%	0	0.0%
	2	562	71	12.6%	281	50.0%	109	19.4%	101	18.0%	0	0.0%
	3	409	83	20.3%	150	36.7%	115	28.1%	55	13.4%	6	1.5%
37	1	423	25	5.9%	141	33.3%	188	44.4%	63	14.9%	6	1.4%
	2	512	16	3.1%	317	61.9%	120	23.4%	59	11.5%	0	0.0%
	3	139	40	28.8%	49	35.3%	9	6.5%	21	15.1%	20	14.4%
43	1	114	16	14.0%	29	25.4%	26	22.8%	43	37.7%	0	0.0%
	2	200	22	11.0%	50	25.0%	55	27.5%	55	27.5%	18	9.0%
	3	234	15	6.4%	9	3.8%	68	29.1%	85	36.3%	57	24.4%
	4	328	0	0.0%	116	35.4%	124	37.8%	80	24.4%	8	2.4%
54	1	229	59	25.8%	61	26.6%	38	16.6%	63	27.5%	8	3.5%
	2	191	0	0.0%	89	46.6%	37	19.4%	57	29.8%	8	4.2%
55	1	150	27	18.0%	46	30.7%	45	30.0%	16	10.7%	16	10.7%
	2	220	15	6.8%	84	38.2%	76	34.5%	35	15.9%	10	4.5%
Study Area		5,050	543	10.8%	2,143	42.4%	1,251	24.8%	945	18.7%	168	3.3%
North Charleston		44,837	4,755	10.6%	15,662	34.9%	12,352	27.5%	10,421	23.2%	1,647	3.7%
Charleston		59,752	8,275	13.8%	21,440	35.9%	16,290	27.3%	11,481	19.2%	2,266	3.8%
Charleston County		164,366	19,019	11.6%	54,734	33.3%	44,544	27.1%	39,980	24.3%	6,089	3.7%
South Carolina		1,922,427	254,775	13.3%	621,020	32.3%	440,955	22.9%	504,463	26.2%	101,214	5.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table B08303 "Travel Time to Work".

Table 3.16-18
Means of Transportation to Work

2010 Census Geography		Total	Drove Alone		Carpooled		Public transportation (excluding taxicab):		Taxicab, Motorcycle, Bicycle or Other Means		Walked		Work At Home	
			#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Census Tract	Block Group													
35	1	548	448	81.8%	21	3.8%	0	0.0%	10	1.8%	18	3.3%	51	9.3%
	2	492	344	69.9%	107	21.7%	10	2.0%	30	6.1%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
36	1	361	334	92.5%	17	4.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	2.8%
	2	562	464	82.6%	44	7.8%	9	1.6%	45	8.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	3	422	339	80.3%	14	3.3%	30	7.1%	26	6.2%	0	0.0%	13	3.1%
37	1	437	212	48.5%	132	30.2%	50	11.4%	0	0.0%	29	6.6%	14	3.2%
	2	512	305	59.6%	129	25.2%	47	9.2%	15	2.9%	16	3.1%	0	0.0%
	3	158	74	46.8%	33	20.9%	32	20.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	12.0%
43	1	114	81	71.1%	25	21.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	7.0%	0	0.0%
	2	200	79	39.5%	10	5.0%	99	49.5%	0	0.0%	12	6.0%	0	0.0%
	3	234	173	73.9%	0	0.0%	52	22.2%	0	0.0%	9	3.8%	0	0.0%
	4	338	157	46.4%	84	24.9%	79	23.4%	0	0.0%	8	2.4%	10	3.0%
54	1	250	150	60.0%	54	21.6%	0	0.0%	25	10.0%	0	0.0%	21	8.4%
	2	191	89	46.6%	36	18.8%	32	16.8%	18	9.4%	16	8.4%	0	0.0%
55	1	167	63	37.7%	36	21.6%	25	15.0%	0	0.0%	26	15.6%	17	10.2%
	2	226	149	65.9%	26	11.5%	38	16.8%	0	0.0%	7	3.1%	6	2.7%
Study Area		5,212	3,461	66.4%	768	14.7%	503	9.7%	169	3.2%	149	2.9%	162	3.1%
North Charleston		45,841	34,911	76.2%	6,588	14.4%	1,512	3.3%	994	2.2%	832	1.8%	1,004	2.2%
Charleston		62,471	48,008	76.8%	4,297	6.9%	1,769	2.8%	2,428	3.9%	3,250	5.2%	2,719	4.4%
Charleston County		172,101	135,991	79.0%	15,434	9.0%	3,592	2.1%	4,167	2.4%	5,182	3.0%	7,735	4.5%
South Carolina		1,994,198	1,649,097	82.7%	188,896	9.5%	11,605	0.6%	31,359	1.6%	41,470	2.1%	71,771	3.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table B08301 "Means of Transportation to Work".

Note: Shaded cells identify block groups where the percentage of persons using a particular mode of transportation is 10 percentage points or more than the county percentage.

3.16.4 Community Characteristics

A number of neighborhoods and community resources contribute to community cohesion and the character of the demographic study area. This section includes general descriptions of the neighborhoods and community resources in the demographic study area.

Neighborhoods within the demographic study area, based on boundaries developed by the City of North Charleston, are shown on Figure 3.16-2. To describe general social and economic characteristics, the neighborhoods in the demographic study area are grouped by census tract and block group, as shown in Table 3.16-1. General descriptions of neighborhoods within each census tract are provided below based on information from U.S. Census and economic data, site visits, discussions with local planners, public involvement activities, and local planning documents. Please see Chapter 9, for more information on how public involvement activities were tailored for community outreach to these neighborhoods.

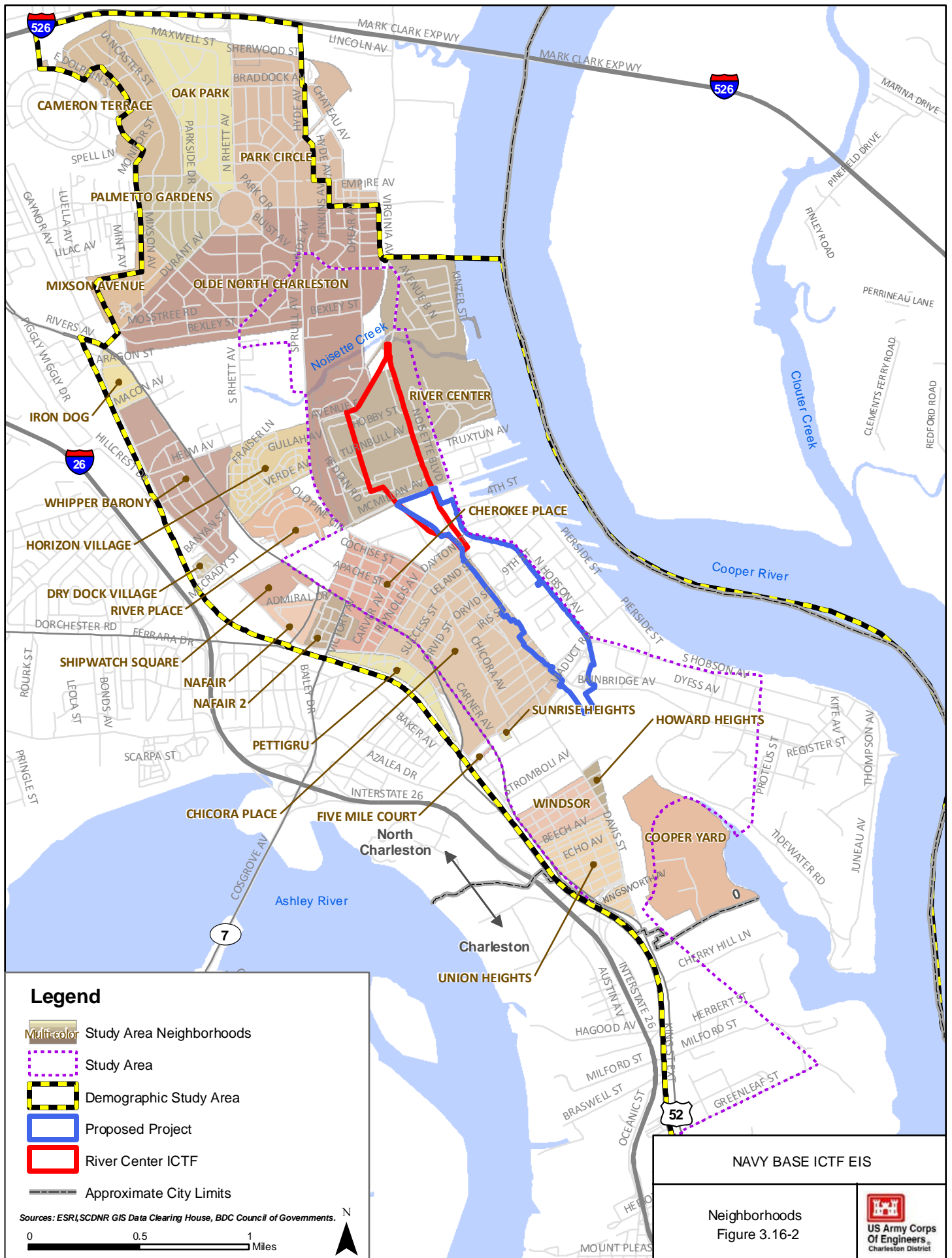
3.16.4.1 Park Circle, Palmetto Gardens, Cameron Terrace, and Oak Park

These neighborhoods are located in Census Tract 35 in the northern portion of the demographic study area. Park Circle and Palmetto Gardens were developed during the housing boom of the WWII era in the 1940s and 1950s. Cameron Terrace/Oak Park is located just south of I-526 and was developed in the 1950s and 1960s. The population of these neighborhoods is predominantly white, with median household incomes similar to the City of North Charleston as a whole. These neighborhoods also have the highest percentage of owner-occupied housing in the demographic study area and the lowest percentage of vacant housing units.

Community cohesion for this area is centered on the Park Circle community feature, which includes a playground, baseball fields, and the Felix C. Davis Community Center, and the commercial/retail corridor along Montague Avenue.

3.16.4.2 Liberty Hill, Olde North Charleston, and Mixson

These neighborhoods are located in Census Tract 36 on the south side of Park Circle and just north of the demographic study area. Liberty Hill dates back to the 1870s, and is one of the earliest home ownership developments created for freed slaves. Olde North Charleston generally includes the southeastern quadrant of Park Circle from Durant Avenue to East Montague Avenue and was part of the original plan developed for the Park Circle area in the early twentieth century. Mixson was recently redeveloped as a mixed-use community.



The population of these neighborhoods is generally half white and half African American, with median household incomes that are slightly below the average for the City of North Charleston. This census tract has a higher percentage of renter-occupied housing than owner-occupied housing. The Park Circle community feature is also a source of community identity for these neighborhoods and residents have expressed concern about additional rail traffic through their neighborhoods.

3.16.4.3 Whipper Barony, Hunley Waters, and St. Charles Place Apartments

These neighborhoods are located in Census Tract 37 and include the northwest portion of the demographic study area. Whipper Barony was developed to meet the local housing shortage in the years just before WWII. Hunley Waters is a new gated community with 36 single-family homes. St. Charles Place Apartments, built in 1941, includes 464 apartment units on 41 acres on the north side of McMillan Avenue, and at one time was owned by the North Charleston Housing Authority. The population of these neighborhoods is more than 60 percent Black or African American and has median annual household incomes that range from \$18,700 to \$35,400. More than half of the housing in these neighborhoods is renter occupied.

3.16.4.4 Chicora Place, Cherokee Place, Nafair

These neighborhoods are located in the central portion of the study area and immediately to the west of the Project site. Chicora Place and Cherokee Place are locally referred to as the Chicora-Cherokee Neighborhood.

The population of these neighborhoods is more than 80 percent Black or African American, with median annual household incomes of less than \$19,000. Approximately three-quarters of the households in these areas are low-income and the majority of housing is renter occupied. There is a heavy reliance on transit, walking, and biking in these neighborhoods since approximately half of the households do not have a vehicle available. These neighborhoods have an active neighborhood council and a strong community identity. Community cohesion is centered around the Gussie Green Community Center and the Chicora Place Community Garden and adjacent playground, which host numerous neighborhood events and meetings. Sterett Hall, which provides important arts and recreational opportunities as well as meeting and performance space, is also a source of community cohesion for this neighborhood.



Chicora-Cherokee Neighborhood Sign.

3.16.4.5 Windsor and Union Heights

These neighborhoods are located in Census Tract 54 in the southern portion of the demographic study area. Residences in these neighborhoods are concentrated between Meeting Street/Carner Avenue and Spruill Avenue, with Windsor located directly to the north of Union Heights. The population of these neighborhoods is more than 95 percent Black or African American, with annual median household incomes of less than \$19,000. More than 40 percent of the occupied housing units are renter occupied, and more than 32 percent of the occupied housing units do not have a vehicle. Community cohesion in this area is centered on the Gethsemani Community Center. A mosque is also located in the Union Heights neighborhood.

What is Section 6(f)?

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965 (Public Law 88-578, 78 Stat 897) was enacted "... to assist in preserving, developing, and assuring to all citizens of the United States of present and future generations such quality and quantity of outdoor recreation resources as may be available and are necessary and desirable for individual active participation."

Section 6(f) of the LWCF Act ensures that if an area or property has been funded with LWCF money, it must be continually maintained as a public recreation use unless the Secretary of the Department of the Interior approves of replacement lands of equal value, location, and usefulness.

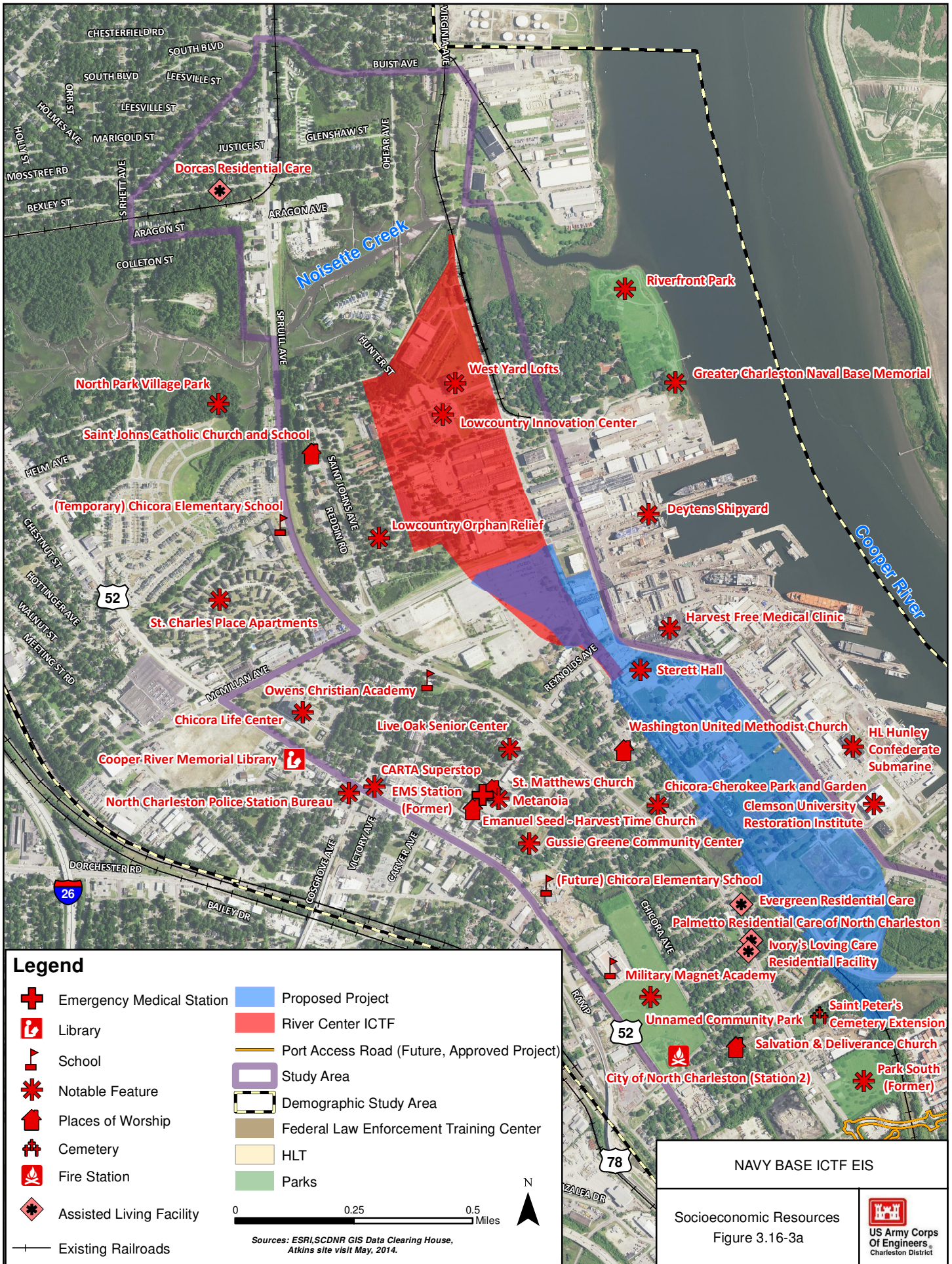
3.16.5 Community Resources

Community resources and services in the socioeconomic study area are described in the following sections. Community resources include facilities such as parks, recreation and community centers, health care facilities, schools, libraries, and post offices. Public services include police and law enforcement, fire protection, and emergency response. Multiple community facilities are located throughout the socioeconomic study area and are shown on Figures 3.16-3a and 3.16-3b. Brief descriptions are provided for each resource.

3.16.5.1 Parks

Two parks are located in the study area. These are:

- Park South—Located near the southern end of the socioeconomic study area on Spruill Avenue, this 9.36-acre park includes a basketball court, green space, park benches, and picnic tables. This park received funding in 1982 through the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and National Park Service's (NPS) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and is, therefore, a Section 6(f) resource (NPS 2014). On August 9, 2012, the City of North Charleston executed a simultaneous declaration of confirmation of restrictive covenant and release of limitation of use for Park South. This document removed the limitation of use for Park South and placed the limitation of use on a 15-acre parcel described below as Unnamed Community Park. This was approved by the U.S. DOI (City of North Charleston 2012). Park South was classified as a Section 6(f) property in the DEIS; however, after further review, FRA has determined that Park South no longer qualifies as a Section 6(f) resource. Per the Settlement Agreement between the City of North Charleston and South Carolina Public Railways (now Palmetto Railways), the City of North Charleston transferred the Park South property to Palmetto Railways, who accepted its title. Palmetto Railways subsequently sold the property and it is now functioning as a concrete plant.
- Unnamed Community Park – Located at 2900 Carner Avenue, this is a community park for the City of North Charleston and has a shared use agreement with the Charleston County School District. The park has a full-sized basketball court and a full-sized football field wrapped with an eight-lane complete track-and-field facility. Plans for additional facilities on the site are still preliminary. There is also a state-of-the-art, five-bay fire station located on the parcel, but located outside the 6(f) boundary.
- Chicora-Cherokee Community Park—This community park includes a 2,300-square-foot playground and is located at 3107 North Carolina Avenue. The park is adjacent to a community garden and hosts community events such as movie night and gardening days.



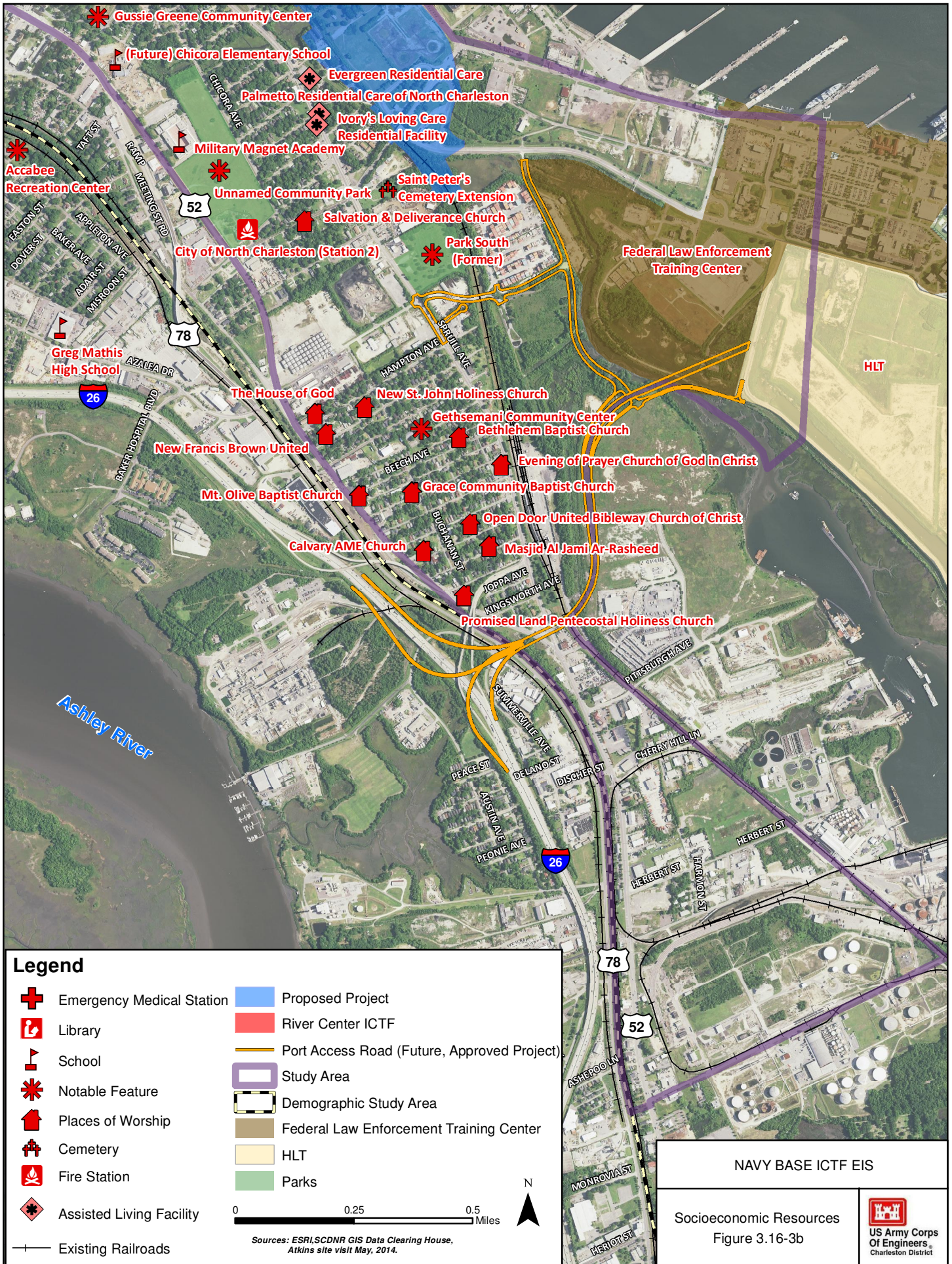
Legend

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|---|
| | Emergency Medical Station | | Proposed Project |
| | Library | | River Center ICTF |
| | School | | Port Access Road (Future, Approved Project) |
| | Notable Feature | | Study Area |
| | Places of Worship | | Demographic Study Area |
| | Cemetery | | Federal Law Enforcement Training Center |
| | Fire Station | | HLT |
| | Assisted Living Facility | | Parks |
| | Existing Railroads | | |

Sources: ESRI, SCDNR GIS Data Clearing House, Atkins site visit May, 2014.

NAVY BASE ICTF EIS

Socioeconomic Resources
Figure 3.16-3a



Legend

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|---|
| | Emergency Medical Station | | Proposed Project |
| | Library | | River Center ICTF |
| | School | | Port Access Road (Future, Approved Project) |
| | Notable Feature | | Study Area |
| | Places of Worship | | Demographic Study Area |
| | Cemetery | | Federal Law Enforcement Training Center |
| | Fire Station | | HLT |
| | Assisted Living Facility | | Parks |
| | Existing Railroads | | |

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Sources: ESRI, SCDNR GIS Data Clearing House, Atkins site visit May, 2014.

NAVY BASE ICTF EIS

Socioeconomic Resources
Figure 3.16-3b

Two additional parks are located adjacent to the northern portion of the socioeconomic study area and provide recreational opportunities to residents. These parks are:

- Riverfront Park—Located just outside of the socioeconomic study area to the east, this park is set on the banks of the Cooper River. The only access to this park is through the study area via McMillan Avenue to North Hobson Avenue from the west and south, and via Noisette Boulevard from the north. The park is adjacent to historic homes that once served as officer housing for the Charleston Naval Base. The northern border of the park is Noisette Creek. Amenities within the 24-acre park include a boardwalk, a contemporary performance pavilion, art sculptures, crabbing dock, fenced dog park, fishing pier, fountain, green space, park benches, picnic pavilion, picnic tables, playground, and restrooms. The Greater Charleston Naval Base Memorial is also located in the park. Several large-scale City events are held here throughout the year, including the 4th of July celebration, concerts, and arts festivals.
- North Park Village Park—Located on the south bank of Noisette Creek, west of Spruill Avenue, this 12-acre park includes a playground and passive recreation.

3.16.5.2 Recreation and Community Centers

Recreation and community centers are an important source of community cohesion in the socioeconomic study area. One recreation center and three community centers are located in or near the study area. These include:

- Sterett Hall—Located near the center of the study area, Sterett Hall serves as both a community center and a recreation center. Recreational amenities include an indoor basketball court; a fitness facility with free weights, machines, and cardio equipment; and saunas. Several recreational sports leagues use the facility. The City of North Charleston's Cultural Arts Department manages rental space at Sterett Hall.



Sterett Hall Recreation Center

Facilities available within Sterett Hall include a 960-seat theater-style auditorium, a reception hall, studios, rehearsal space, office space, and meeting rooms. According to area residents, the facility is very well used and is an important resource to the community. In

addition, a building behind Sterett Hall is used by cultural and community groups on an ongoing basis for rehearsal and meeting space.⁶⁶

- Live Oak Senior Center—Located at 1920 Reynolds Avenue in the central portion of the socioeconomic study area, this small senior center offers activities such as sewing.
- Gussie Greene Community Center—This community center is located at 2012 Success Street, near the former Chicora Elementary School building in the Chicora-Cherokee neighborhood. It hosts community meetings and youth programs, and includes the Gussie Green Technology Center, which is a computer lab created through cooperation between the City of North Charleston, LAMC, and Clemson University. A community rain garden, developed through collaboration between the City of North Charleston and EPA, is also located at the community center.
- Gethsemani Community Center—Located to the south of the socioeconomic study area at 2449 Beacon Street, this community center serves the Union Heights neighborhood. Amenities include a 2.5-acre public park with a playground, basketball court, and picnic shelter.

3.16.5.3 Health Care Facilities

There are four assisted-living facilities within the socioeconomic study area. These facilities are shown on Figures 3.16-3 and 3.16-4 and described below:

- Evergreen Residential Care is located at 1818 Norwood Street. This facility has 51 resident beds.
- Palmetto Residential Care of North Charleston is located at 2834 Spruill Avenue. This facility has 12 resident beds.
- Ivory's Loving Care Residential Facility is located at 2827 Spruill Avenue. This facility has seven resident beds.
- Dorcas Residential Care I is located at 1131 Bexley Street. This facility has five beds.

In addition, the Harvest Free Medical Clinic is located just east of the socioeconomic study area across Hobson Avenue from Sterett Hall at 1670 Drydock Avenue. Harvest Free Medical Clinic is a non-profit Christian organization that provides free medical care and medications to those without resources to pay. The clinic relies almost entirely on a volunteer work force and is funded by individual and corporate donations.

⁶⁶ Sterett Hall was closed and demolished in spring 2016.

3.16.5.4 Schools

The socioeconomic study area is located within the service area of Charleston County Schools.

3.16.5.4.1 Elementary Schools

Children residing in the area attend one of two elementary schools, of which only one is currently located in the socioeconomic study area, the Chicora School of Communications Elementary Magnet School.

- The Chicora School of Communications Elementary Magnet School is currently located at 3795 Spruill Avenue in a temporary facility while a new facility is being constructed next to the Military Magnet Academy located at 2950 Carner Avenue. This school is a partial magnet school with approximately 345 students in Child Development (CD) through grade 5. The boundary for this school attendance zone includes the study area south of McMillan Avenue.
- North Charleston Elementary School is located well north of the socioeconomic study area at 4921 Durant Avenue. This neighborhood school has an approximate enrollment of 566 students in CD through grade 5 and serves the portion of the study area north of McMillan Avenue.

3.16.5.4.2 Middle and High Schools

Students residing in the socioeconomic study area are zoned to attend Morningside Middle School located at 1999 Singley Lane, and North Charleston High School located at 1087 East Montague Avenue. Both of these schools are located to the north of the socioeconomic study area. In addition to traditional schools, there are options for magnet and charter schools located throughout the county. Two of these schools are located in or adjacent to the study area:

- The Military Magnet Academy is a county-wide magnet middle and high school located on the western edge of the socioeconomic study area at 2950 Carner Avenue. Approximate enrollment is 546 students.
- Palmetto Scholars Academy was located in the study area at 2415 Avenue F. This charter school (grades 6 to 12) was moved to a new facility well outside of the socioeconomic study area in the Hunley Park development near the Charleston Air Force Base in December 2016.

3.16.5.4.3 Private Schools

There are two private schools located in the socioeconomic study area:

- The St. John Catholic School is a private school for students in grades K to 8 located in the northern portion of the socioeconomic study area at 3291 St. Johns Avenue. The church and school have a master plan for expansion on the current site.

- Owens Christian Academy is a small private school for children age 2 through first grade located at 3377 Ridgeway Street along the western edge of the socioeconomic study area.

3.16.5.5 Places of Worship

Places of worship identified in the socioeconomic study area and shown on Figures 3.16-3a and 3.16-3b include:

- St. Johns Catholic Church is located at 3921 St. Johns Avenue in the northern portion of the socioeconomic study area.
- Washington United Methodist Church is located at 1816 Success Street in the central portion of the socioeconomic study area.
- St. Matthew Baptist Church is located at 2005 Reynolds Avenue in the Chicora-Cherokee neighborhood in the central portion of the socioeconomic study area.
- Salvation & Deliverance Church is located at 1916 Burton Lane in the southern portion of the socioeconomic study area.
- Emanuel Seed Harvest Time Church is located 2012 Reynolds Avenue in the Chicora-Cherokee neighborhood in the central portion of the socioeconomic study area.

Eleven additional places of worship, consisting of neighborhood churches and one neighborhood mosque, are located in the Union Heights neighborhood, south of the Project site:

- House of God is located at 2050 Hampton Avenue.
- New St. John Holiness Church is located at 2026 Riverview Avenue.
- New Francis Brown United Methodist Church is located at 2517 Corona Street.
- Bethlehem Baptist Church is located at 1981 Arbutus Avenue.
- Evening of Prayer Church of God in Christ is located at 2361 Spruill Avenue.
- Grace Community Baptist Church is located at 2029 Delaware Avenue.
- Open Door United Bibleway Church of Christ is located at 2000 Groveland Avenue.
- Calvary AME Church is located at 2040 Groveland Avenue.
- Masjid Al Jami Ar Rasheed Mosque is located at 1998 Hugo Avenue.
- Promised Land Pentecostal Holiness Church is located at 2216 Meeting Street.
- Mt. Olive Baptist Church is located at 2416 Meeting Street.

The Saint Peter's Cemetery Extension is located at 2280 Spruill Avenue and is the only known cemetery in the socioeconomic study area.

3.16.5.6 Libraries

There are no libraries located in the socioeconomic study area. The nearest library, the Cooper River Memorial Library, is located just to the west of the socioeconomic study area at 3503 Rivers Avenue, on the north side of Dorchester Road.

3.16.5.7 Post Offices

There are no post offices located within the socioeconomic study area. The nearest post office is located at 2180 McMillan Avenue, approximately one-quarter mile to the west of the socioeconomic study area.

3.16.5.8 Grocery Stores

There is a notable absence of grocery stores in the socioeconomic study area. The USDA defines a “food desert” as a, “census tract with a substantial share of residents who live in low-income areas that have low levels of access to a grocery store or healthy, affordable food retail outlet.” Three out of the six census tracts in the demographic study area are USDA-designated food deserts. The City of North Charleston’s website identifies the locations of convenience stores and grocery stores. Within the socioeconomic study area, there are no grocery stores; the only food markets available are convenience stores located along Spruill Avenue.

3.16.5.9 Other Notable Community Resources

This section describes other notable features in the socioeconomic study area that are not included in any of the categories above. These other notable features are noted with an asterisk on Figures 3.16-3a and 3.16-3b.

- FLETC is located in the southernmost portion of the socioeconomic study area. The center is one of only three residential training sites for federal law enforcement agencies in the United States. The facility opened on October 1, 2004, and also operates as a federal complex with administrative and operational law enforcement agencies. Federal agencies using the facility include the Department of State, NOAA, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Charleston, Sea Hawk Interagency Operations Center, and U.S. Maritime Administration.

The property consists of more than 200 acres, and includes a new five-story, 400-bed dormitory that opened in September 2011. The facility can house 767 students on-site and the on-center dining facility is capable of serving more than 1,000 students and staff. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2013, the total student throughput was approximately 6,285. The center has near and long-range plans for expansion, including construction of a new shipping and receiving facility in FY 2014 and construction of a new, nine-acre scenario-based training area.

- Metanoia is located adjacent to St. Mathew Baptist Church at 2005 Reynolds Avenue in the Chicora-Cherokee neighborhood in the central portion of the socioeconomic study area. Metanoia is a non-profit organization focused on investing in neighborhood assets to build leaders, establish quality housing, and generate economic development. The Metanoia organization's initiatives include an after-school program, a youth entrepreneurship and volunteer center, and renovating homes to create home ownership and rental opportunities. They also assisted with development of the Chicora Place Community Garden.
- Lowcountry Orphan Relief, located at 1850 Truxton Avenue in the northern portion of the socioeconomic study area, provides support services to meet the needs of children identified as at-risk or suffering from abandonment, abuse, and/or neglect. Their facility includes offices and a donation center, and hosts several large events throughout the year. Based on information gathered during public involvement activities, the facility relies on the donations it receives and the many volunteers that come to work at the facility each week. The facility recently added a 5,000-square-foot addition.
- West Yard Lofts is a 60-unit low-income housing complex located off of Noisette Boulevard to the north of Turnbull Avenue, in the northern portion of the River Center project site. The complex opened in 2011.
- Lowcountry Innovation Center is located at 1535 Hobby Street in the northern portion of the River Center project site. The center offers quality office space at below-market rates to meet the needs of knowledge-based companies. The center currently houses more than 20 companies that employ more than 200 employees.
- Chicora Life Center is located at 3600 Rivers Avenue in the former Charleston Navy Hospital. The nearly 400,000-square-foot, 10-story facility is being renovated for an approximate cost of \$30 million dollars by private investors. The purpose of the center is to serve as a social services hub for multiple social, government, and non-profit agencies. The first tenant moved into the facility in April 2015. Tenants in the center include Charleston County Vital Records, Charleston County Coroner's Office, S.C. Department of Alcohol and Other Drugs Abuse Services, SCDHEC, the Fetter Health Care Network, and the Tri-County Intergroup Office, which supports Alcoholics Anonymous.

3.16.6 Community Services

This section describes public services, including police, fire, and emergency medical services, provided to the socioeconomic study area, as well as any related facilities located within the study area.

3.16.6.1 Fire Service

The North Charleston Fire Department is divided into 3 divisions with 11 fire stations located throughout the City of North Charleston. The old Station 2 site, located on the former Navy Base, is located within the socioeconomic study area and the City of North Charleston plans to relocate the facility. This station will be closed and combined with Station 8 (currently located just outside the study area at 2630 Meeting Street). The new Station 2 (opening in January 2016) is located at the corner of Carner Avenue and Clement Avenue within the study area (see Figure 3.16-3a). Station 2 will be the City's newest and largest fire station housing three fire companies (two engines and one aerial apparatus). The new Station 2 planes includes five bays for active and reserve trucks, a training facility, offices for the city's arson investigators, and crew living quarters. The next nearest station, Station 1, is located north of the study area near Park Circle, at 4830 Jenkins Avenue.

3.16.6.2 Police Service

The City of North Charleston Police Department is divided into three bureaus: North, South, and Central. The central and southern portions of the socioeconomic study area are served by the South Bureau and the northern portion of the study area is covered by the Central Bureau. None of the bureau offices are located within the socioeconomic study area. The North Charleston Police Station South Bureau office is located just west of the socioeconomic study area, as shown on Figure 3.16-a.

3.16.6.3 Emergency Medical Services

Emergency medical services are provided by Charleston County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), which provides medical care and transportation to hospital emergency rooms and provides field emergency medical support services. There are no hospitals located within the socioeconomic study area. A former EMS facility is located in the central portion of the study area at property owned by the City of North Charleston (2006 Reynolds Avenue), as shown on Figure 3.16-3a. There are no active EMS facilities within the demographic study area.

3.16.7 Environmental Justice

An Environmental Justice analysis has been conducted to assess whether the demographic study area population meets the criteria for the presence of a minority and/or low-income population. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects individuals from discrimination on the grounds of race, age,

Environmental Justice Populations in the Study Area
Eleven of the sixteen block groups encompassing the study area have Black or African American minority Environmental Justice populations. Eleven of these same block groups also have low-income Environmental Justice populations.

color, religion, disability, sex, and national origin. In addition, Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations," mandates federal agencies to identify and address any disproportionately

high and adverse effects on minority and/or low-income populations. The Order also directs federal agencies to provide minority and low-income communities access to public information and meaningful public participation.

The principles of Environmental Justice are:

- 1) to ensure the full and fair participation of all potentially affected communities in the decision-making process;
- 2) to avoid, minimize or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority or low-income populations; and
- 3) to fully evaluate the benefits and burdens of federal programs, policies, and activities, upon low-income and minority populations.

The CEQ has oversight of the federal government's compliance with Executive Order 12898 and NEPA, and developed guidance (Environmental Justice Guidance Under the National Environmental Policy Act, December 1997) to assist federal agencies in effectively identifying and addressing Environmental Justice concerns.

Based on the CEQ Guidance (described in greater detail below), the demographic study area includes both minority and low-income populations that meet the criteria for Environmental Justice populations. The block groups that meet the criteria are identified in Table 3.16-19 and Figure 3.16-1. Eleven of the sixteen block groups encompassing the demographic study area have Black or African American minority Environmental Justice populations. Eleven of these same block groups also have low-income Environmental Justice populations.

Table 3.16-19
Environmental Justice Analysis

2010 Census Geography		Total Population	Total Minority Population ¹	Percentage Minority Population	Threshold for EJ Status for Minority Population Met? ²	Total Households	Low-Income Households	Percentage of Low-Income Households	Threshold for EJ Status for Low-Income Population Met? ²
Census Tract	Block Group								
35	1	1,103	255	23.1%	No	514	130	25.3%	No
	2	1,160	168	14.5%	No	452	137	30.3%	No
36	1	621	289	46.5%	No	241	69	28.6%	No
	2	1,149	556	48.4%	No	671	333	49.6%	Yes
	3	463	192	41.5%	No	186	45	24.2%	No
37	1	1,106	781	70.6%	Yes	531	384	72.3%	Yes
	2	1,903	1,666	87.5%	Yes	561	433	77.2%	Yes
	3	374	315	84.2%	Yes	164	51	31.1%	No
43	1	439	418	95.2%	Yes	140	97	69.3%	Yes
	2	555	509	91.7%	Yes	262	172	65.6%	Yes
	3	721	660	91.5%	Yes	320	229	71.6%	Yes
	4	827	694	83.9%	Yes	359	195	54.3%	Yes
54	1	709	682	96.2%	Yes	315	183	58.1%	Yes
	2	862	841	97.6%	Yes	250	218	87.2%	Yes
55	1	538	414	77.0%	Yes	142	110	77.5%	Yes
	2	706	610	86.4%	Yes	359	265	73.8%	Yes
Study Area		13,236	9,050	68.4%	Yes	5,467	3,051	55.8%	Yes
North Charleston		97,471	48,471	49.7%		36,384	11,886	32.7%	
Charleston		120,083	32,855	27.4%		51,591	13,356	25.9%	
Charleston County		350,209	110,325	31.5%		143,717	37,091	25.8%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, Summary File 1 100% Data, Table P3 "Race," American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table C17002 "Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months."

1. Per CEQ guidance, the total minority population is comprised of the following population groups: American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian; Pacific Islander; Black, not of Hispanic origin; and Hispanic or Latino. However, the U.S. Census recognizes Hispanic or Latino as an ethnic category that can include persons of any race. As a result, the Hispanic or Latino population is presented exclusive of race in Table 3.16-5. As identified in Table 3.16-5, the Hispanic or Latino population of the study area does not meet CEQ guidance criteria in identifying Environmental Justice populations.

2. CEQ guidance identifies the presence of minority or low-income populations when the percentage of the population group exceeds 50 percent.

3.16.7.1 Minority Population

The CEQ Guidance defines minority as individuals who belong to one of the following population groups:

- American Indian or Alaskan Native;
- Asian;
- Pacific Islander;
- Black, not of Hispanic origin; or
- Hispanic

For purposes of identifying an Environmental Justice population, a minority population exists when “the minority population of the affected area exceeds 50 percent, or the minority population percentage of the affected area is meaningfully greater than the minority population percentage in the general population” (CEQ, 1997).

Based on data from the 2010 U. S. Census as shown in Table 3.16-4, eleven of the sixteen block groups encompassing the demographic study area have Black or African American minority populations that meet CEQ guidelines for the presence of a minority Environmental Justice population. All of these block groups are located south of Bexley Street. Two block groups located north of Bexley Street have Black or African American minority populations that are near the CEQ guidelines for the presence of a minority Environmental Justice population.

3.16.7.2 Low-Income Households

Low-income populations are defined as households with a median household income at or below the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) 2014 Poverty Guidelines. The 2014 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia is \$23,850 for a four-person household. For the purposes of Environmental Justice analysis, a low-income population exists where the percentage of low-income households in a block group exceeds 50 percent of the total households in that block group.

The ACS Five-Year Estimates (2009–2013) provide household income in \$5,000 increments. The HHS 2014 Poverty Guideline (\$23,850) is within the \$20,000 to \$24,999 increment. As a result, all households in this increment and below (regardless of the number of individuals in the household) are considered low income. More than half of the households, approximately 56 percent, within the demographic study area are considered low income and four block groups in the demographic study area—including three that include the Chicora-Cherokee neighborhood—have low-income percentages that exceed 70 percent. Overall, eleven of the 16 block groups encompassing the study area meet the criteria for the presence of a low-income Environmental Justice population (i.e., the percentage of low-income households exceeds 50 percent). All of these block groups also include African American minority Environmental Justice populations. Table 3.16-20 identifies the

percentage of low-income households in each block group encompassing the demographic study area.

Table 3.16-20
Low-Income Households

2010 Census Geography		Total Households	Number of Households by Household Income in the Past 12 Months				Low Income Households	
			Less than \$10,000	\$10,000 to \$14,999	\$15,000 to \$19,999	\$20,000 to \$24,999	Subtotal	% of Total
Census Tract	Block Group							
35	1	514	23	75	0	32	130	25.3%
	2	452	18	0	72	47	137	30.3%
36	1	241	0	25	44	0	69	28.6%
	2	671	223	52	29	29	333	49.6%
	3	186	0	38	7	0	45	24.2%
37	1	531	124	44	161	55	384	72.3%
	2	561	130	122	81	100	433	77.2%
	3	164	14	0	32	5	51	31.1%
43	1	140	31	48	0	18	97	69.3%
	2	262	53	20	76	23	172	65.6%
	3	320	101	41	42	45	229	71.6%
	4	359	91	46	47	11	195	54.3%
54	1	315	54	73	10	46	183	58.1%
	2	250	186	0	15	17	218	87.2%
55	1	142	33	37	40	0	110	77.5%
	2	359	148	79	34	4	265	73.8%
Study Area		5,467	1,229	700	690	432	3,051	55.8%
North Charleston		36,384	3,810	2,696	2,695	2,685	11,886	32.7%
Charleston		51,591	5,724	2,717	2,757	2,158	13,356	25.9%
Charleston County		143,717	13,410	7,815	8,051	7,815	37,091	25.8%
South Carolina		1,780,251	163,030	116,039	114,375	110,675	504,119	28.3%

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2009-2013), Table B19001. "Household Income in the Past 12 Months".
Note: The HHS 2014 Poverty Threshold for FY2014 is \$23,850 for a household of 4-Persons. This amount falls within the ACS income range of \$20,000 and \$24,999. As a result, all households in that income range are included in the estimate of low-income households. Shaded cells indicate block groups where 50% or more of the households are low-income.