**Knowledge Park Action Plan**

**Year 2 Plans**

**Strategic Action #1: Design and build pedestrian, bike and transit connections**

Begin construction design of pedestrian bridge.

Complete plans for bicycle and pedestrian improvements linking the development centers of Knowledge Park.

**Strategic Action #2: Make Knowledge Park an exciting destination for visitors (and residents too).**

Design and implement wayfinding improvements for Knowledge Park.

Host a grand opening event for the Sports and Events Center.

Host inaugural SIAC events and other major sports tourism events at the Sports and Events Center.

Create a marketing plan to attract visitors to Knowledge Park and direct them to restaurants, shopping and amenities.

**Strategic Action #3: Develop and Redevelop Strategic Sites and Buildings**

Continue development of University Center:

* Public/private: Complete Deck B, apartments and transit center.
* Private: complete Cambria Hotel
* Private: complete The Nest (student housing)
* Private: begin redevelopment of power plant
* Public/private: Complete infrastructure to serve all of the above

Public/Private: Enter into development agreement for the Herald site, begin construction

Public/Private: Enter into development agreement for The Exchange (Good Motors site), begin construction.

Public/Private: Enter into development agreement for Towncenter site, begin construction.

Public/Private: Enter into development agreement for The Thread, begin construction.

Private: Complete Oakland Auto project.

Public: Complete Oakland Avenue streetscape improvements.

**Strategic Action #4: Positively impact neighborhoods**

Public/Private: enter into agreements for development of a grocery store on Rock Hill’s south side.

Complete planned improvements to Southland Park with an estimated cost of $125K.

Sponsor and co-host Connect the Dots event, a community resource fair, at the Transformation Center.

Begin implementation of the Sunset Park REDI Initiative.

Construct 15 new single family homes in Sunset Park neighborhood.

Engage business and community leaders in the Saluda and Heckle area in the development of plans and strategies for the growth of that part of Rock Hill.

**Strategic Action #5: Encourage and Support Housing Development that Meets Community Needs**

Approval and implementation of an Affordable/Workforce Housing Policy by the City of Rock Hill.

Complete agreements with private developers for development of 30 affordable/workforce units in new multi-family projects.

Private: Initiate construction of at least 300 new multi-family units.

Construct eight affordable rental units in Sunset Park neighborhood.

**Strategic Action #6: Market Knowledge Park to Citizens, Businesses, and Investors**

Celebrate the first year of the Knowledge Park Action Plan and Rock Hill’s designation as an All America City at the Knowledge Park Block Party to be held on October 10.

Host the Knowledge Park Opportunity Zone Summit to share with community leaders, developers and investors the next major development opportunities in Knowledge Park.

Complete and implement a communications plan for Knowledge Park designed to provide information to local citizens and businesses as well as to visitors and business prospects.

Launch KnowledgeParkWorks.com to provide information to local residents about careers and training resources.

Complete revamps to RockHillUSA.com that make Knowledge Park the brand for economic development in Rock Hill.

**Strategic Action #7: Support Local Residents in Obtaining Skills and Jobs**

Launch KnowledgeParkWorks.com to provide information about career opportunities and related training in the Rock Hill area.

Engage educational institutions, businesses and other community organizations to identify high priority goals and investments in support of improved work readiness of local residents. Seek to complete collaborative agreements among community organization to implement goals and investments.

Provide meaningful internships to 12 students in local businesses through the Talent Pipeline program.

Private Partner: Black Economic Leadership League to assist and mentor 25 individuals by the end of 2021 to achieve educational/training goals in order to strengthen earning capacity and family support. Three individuals to achieve certifications by summer 2019.

**Strategic Action #8: KP Incubates, Launches, Attracts, and Grows Knowledge Economy Businesses**

Expand Venture Mentoring System with more mentors (25) and more companies served (12)

Private Partners: X-Prize competition for African-American entrepreneurs to take place in November, award to be made in December. Entrepreneurs to receive support through the Technology Incubator.

Technology Incubator to expand its network of entrepreneurs (15) and gazelles (5).

**Strategic Action #9: Create Amenities to Make Knowledge Park a Special, Memorable Place**

Engage citizens in the design of one or more public spaces based on the training provided by the Project for Public Spaces.

Private Partner: Complete the installation of a permanent sculpture on Elk Avenue by the Women’s Art Initiative.

Select an artist and complete designs for the Bleachery Heritage Project, complete funding plans and prepare for implementation.

Complete a preservation plan and master plan for Laurelwood Cemetery.

Private Partner: Complete planning for the creation of an African American Cultural Center.

Design a dog park to serve the growing population of residents of the Knowledge Park area.

Implement interpretive improvements in two downtown alleys.

Develop a a plan for a Mural Mile as a distinctive feature of Knowledge Park. Complete a first mural project.