

NOTICE OF COMMENTS RECEIVED ON REVIEW OF ELIGIBLE AREA MAPS FOR USDA RURAL HOUSING PROGRAMS

USDA Rural Development has received and reviewed comments on areas being reviewed for continued eligibility under the USDA Rural Housing programs. During the review, all comments were considered.

Below is a summary of the comments received for the rural area review in the state of {state name}.

South Carolina

- 1) Beaufort, Bluffton, and Port Royal.
- 2)
 - a. Received 1 comment indicated support for continued rural areas eligibility based on a serious lack of mortgage credit for low to moderate-income families. These areas have housing available for low to moderate income price range and USDA home loan programs serves a large need for financing.
- 3) Greenwood
 - a. Received 1 comment indicating support for increased rural area in Greenwood County SC. Would enable loans to be made to citizens who are considered low to moderate income just outside the City Limits of Greenwood, South Carolina. Current line split through neighborhoods which result in potential homebuyers being confused about which subdivisions qualify for the program. A change to decrease ineligible area back to the city limits would bring clarification and serve eligible communities.

Based on the review of the areas within the state of [South Carolina], using the 2015 American Community Survey data, comments received, and rural area guidance located in Handbook [HB-1-3550, Chapter 5](#), the rural eligibility designation is proposed to change for the following areas:

- City of Lexington, SC: Newly annexed areas will become ineligible
- City of Florence, SC: Newly annexed areas will become ineligible
- City of Irmo, SC: Newly annexed areas will become ineligible
- City of Rock Hill SC: Newly annexed areas will become ineligible
- City of Simpsonville, SC: Newly annexed areas will become ineligible
- City of Summerville, SC: Newly annexed areas will become ineligible
- Anderson, SC: Proposed new lines based on city limits
- Orangeburg, SC: Proposed new lines based on city limits
- Greenwood, SC: Proposed new lines based on city limits

Areas that will now be considered as no longer being rural or rural in character can be viewed at <https://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/eligibility/welcomeAction.do> by clicking on either "Single Family Housing Guaranteed", "Single Family Housing Direct" or Multi-Family Housing" and then selecting "Proposed Ineligible Areas" tab.

The proposed changes will become effective on June 4, 2018. For details, or questions about specific changes, please contact the South Carolina Rural Development Housing Program Director by emailing George.randolph@sc.usda.gov or call staff at 803-253-3085.

South Carolina 03/19/2018

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