

STATE LEADERSHIP

The South Carolina Association of Special Purpose Districts (SCSPD) serves as a statewide membership organization that educates citizens about the role of SPDs, and preserves the political, fiscal, and operational integrity of the state's SPDs. We help inform the public, local officials, and lawmakers about the function, duties, responsibilities, and concerns of the state's SPDs.



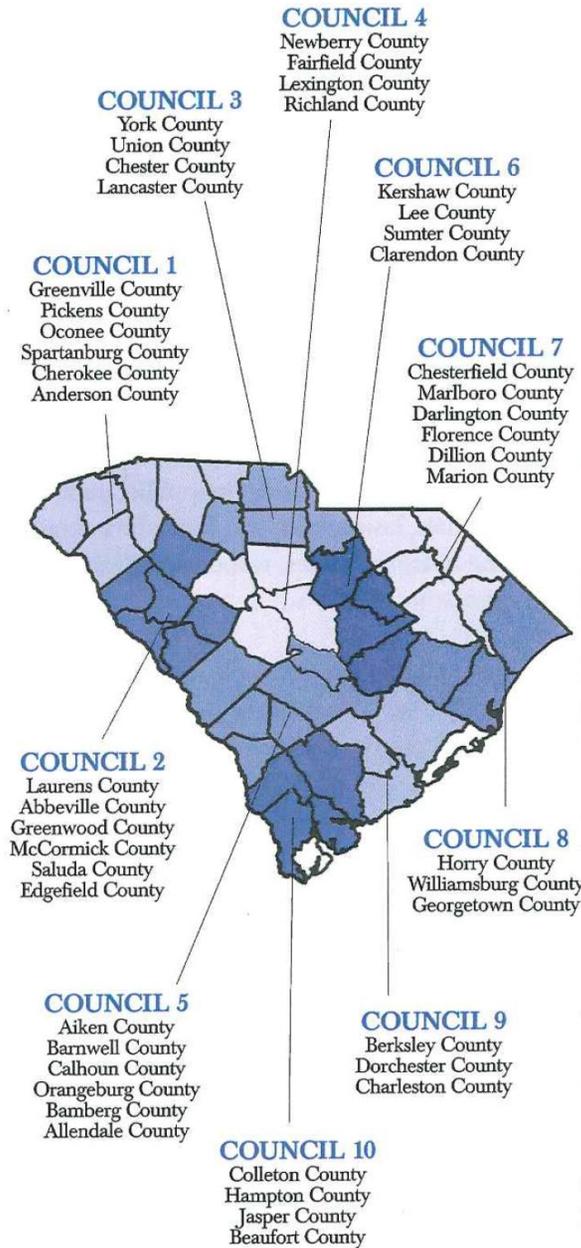
Members of the SCSPD include organizations, individuals, and corporations who have an interest in the development of SPDs. We offer members a variety of services to help them achieve their goals, including an annual conference, periodic training seminars and workshops, and weekly updates that highlight legislative developments.

The SCSPD is governed by a Board of Directors composed of officers and council representatives from ten geographically divided councils.

For more information, please find the South Carolina Association of Special Purpose Districts or on Facebook at *SC Special Purpose Districts* or Twitter @*SC_SPD*.

SCSPD COUNCILS

The map below identifies the ten councils of the SCSPD, geographically divided to promote equal representation to the state's SPDs.



DID YOU KNOW?

Every two years all South Carolina SPDs are required to submit formal notification to the Secretary of State and to their County Auditor to notify the state and county of their existence.

Currently, there is a wide variety of services the state's SPDs provide. The following are all operating in South Carolina under authority granted by the legislature as a special purpose district:

- Airport districts
- Emergency medical services districts
- Fire districts
- Hospital districts
- Natural gas districts
- Police districts
- Public safety districts
- Recreation districts, including districts operating community centers
- Sanitation districts
- Transportation districts, including area transit services
- Water and sewer districts
- Watershed conservation districts

For more information about your local SPD please contact your local service provider.



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HISTORY

The South Carolina Constitution of 1895 gave cities the power to offer a broad range of services to their residents. These services included police and fire protection, construction and maintenance of roads, water, and sewer. In contrast, the counties received extremely limited authority to provide services. Given these constraints, people who lived outside of incorporated cities petitioned the state legislature to form special purpose districts (SPDs), which are legally enabled to provide specialized services.

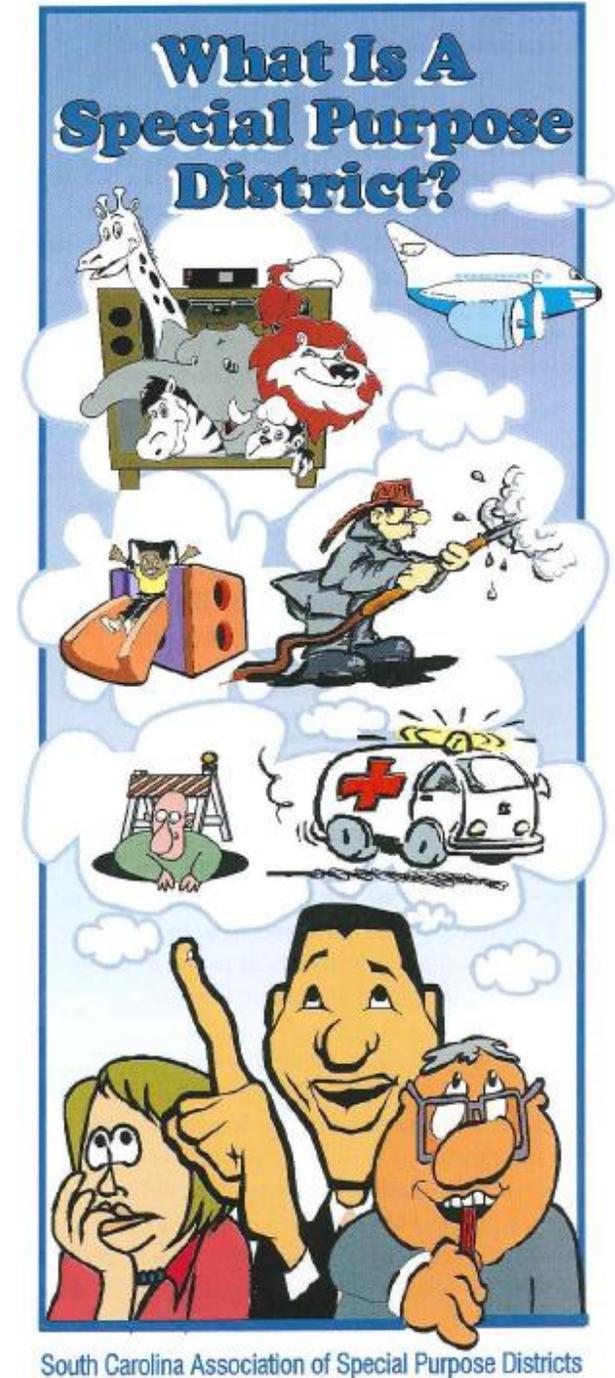
In 1973, the Home Rule Act enacted by the state legislation granted counties the power to provide services previously provided by cities and SPDs.

CURRENT STATUS

Currently, over 200 SPDs provide a variety of services to the citizens of South Carolina. These organizations are governed by appointed or elected commissions, and are funded by ad valorem taxes, user fees, or a combination of taxes and fees. In order to pay for capital improvement projects, many SPDs sell general obligation bonds.

In the past, attempts have been made to consolidate or eliminate SPDs. The services that they currently provide would then revert back to the counties to provide. Consolidation offers no benefits to citizens, as SPDs allow communities to exercise the highest form of democracy by giving local citizens the ability to control local services. SPDs promote efficient and effective local government operations.

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