



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

To: News Media, Community Leaders, and Concerned Citizens

From: Bamberg County Administration

Date: December 6, 2023

Re: Bamberg Continues to Boom with New Veterans Affairs Office and Health Department

Bamberg, South Carolina (December 2023) – “Bamberg is booming” has become the mantra of one of the poorest counties in South Carolina.

Throughout 2023, Bamberg County’s record progress and development has been inspiring to witness and has given its citizens hope for brighter days ahead. The entire Bamberg community as well as dignitaries from across the state will have even more reason to celebrate this Friday. In fact, Bamberg County Council will host another ribbon-cutting ceremony in the former hospital building that is being transformed into a law enforcement and health and human services complex. The grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony of the new Bamberg Veterans Affairs Office and Health Department will occur this Friday, December 8 at 11 a.m. at 50 Dickinson Extension, Suites H and V, Bamberg, SC. The grand opening of the Ed Darnell Law Enforcement Center, also housed in the former hospital building, occurred in July, and the building is also the future home of the Coroner’s Office.

Friday’s program will include a video presentation and overview of the project from County Administrator Joey Preston as well as participation from County, City, and State officials, including Bamberg County Veterans Affairs Officer Craig Walker, County Council Vice Chairman Evert Comer, Mayor Nancy Foster, City Councilman Corey Ramsey, and SC Representative Justin Bamberg (District 90). Additionally, special guests from DHEC (Dr. Edward Simmer, Director), DHEC-LowCountry Region (Region Senior Consultant Dennis Thompson and Public Health Director Taylor Lee), and South Carolina Department of Veterans Affairs (Major General [RET.] Todd B. McCaffrey, Secretary) will serve as special speakers.

Bamberg County Veterans Affairs Officer Craig Walker said he is “thrilled about the new VA office and health department because it will provide Bamberg veterans and patients a state of the art facility where they can get the treatment and resources they need.”

Furthermore, Bamberg County Council Chairman Dr. Jonathan Goodman said it will be another “great day for Bamberg County and a testament of the good progress that is possible through hard work, perseverance, and collaboration.”

“This day has been a long time coming, and I am so happy to see the transformation of the old hospital building into something that will be so beneficial to our veterans and citizens. We look forward to celebrating this momentous occasion and encourage Bamberg County citizens to join in the revelry,” said County Administrator Joey Preston.

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For more information on this press release, email info@bambergcounty.sc.gov.