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Forums to focus on Upstate planning

Ten at the Top meetings to be held in Oconee, Pickens in October

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SENECA — Ten at the Top, created to foster regional collaboration and cooperation in the 10-county Upstate region, is holding community forums in Oconee and Pickens counties in October.

Residents in the two counties can start registering for their respective forums beginning Thursday.

The community forums offer residents another opportunity to participate in creating a shared vision of how the region will deal with rapid Upstate growth in the coming years.


Hybl

It is projected that over the next two decades the Upstate will add 234,000 new residents, 118,000 new households and 203,000 new jobs.

Pickens' forum is set for Oct. 5 at DunBurks in Easley, while Oconee's forum is set for Oct. 11 at Gignilliat Center in Seneca. All forums are scheduled from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Ten at the Top Executive Director Dean Hybl encourages residents to take part in the community meetings even if they completed the recently concluded Regional Vision Survey.

"These face-to-face forums will give you a chance to provide more targeted input about what matters most to you as we look toward the future of the Upstate," Hybl said.

Hybl said more than 7,000 residents have had a hand in crafting the regional vision so far.

"We know there are many more people who have an opinion about the future of the Upstate, but have not yet had a chance for their voices to be heard," Hybl added.

Community forum also will be held at eight other counties in the Upstate in October and November.

The forums will come on the heels of the Ten at the Top Regional Vision Summit on Sept. 28 at the Carolina First Center.

To register for the community forums, call (864) 288-2313 or register at www.sharedupstatevision.org, beginning Thursday.

"We genuinely want to hear your opinion and are making every effort to hold these meetings in locations that will help us engage as wide an audience as possible," Hybl said.

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