

Ten at the Top 2018 Action Plan

Moving the Upstate to the Next Level



Since 2010, Ten at the Top (TATT) has focused on the mission of fostering trust and collaboration through partnerships and regional efforts that impact economic vitality and quality of life across Upstate South Carolina.

In 2018, TATT will be coordinating initiatives and collaborative partnerships that will create long-term measurable impacts for economic vitality and quality of life in the 10-county Upstate region.

Call to Action—Moving to the Next Level

With the population in the Upstate continuing to grow annually and projected to reach 1.75 million by 2040, we are at a critical juncture as a region. The recent Shaping Our Future study showed that based on our current trend model, the Upstate will develop more land within our urban footprint over the next 25 years than has been developed in the history of the region. While most Upstate residents express a desire for a future where growth is handled differently than in our neighboring areas of Charlotte and Atlanta, our current policies and investments are challenged by the potential for a different growth outcome. Issues such as traffic congestion, access to transportation & housing choices, pollution and maintaining our natural resources are critical to our current and future growth. In addition, workforce, education, senior needs, child well-being and supporting our entrepreneurs are additional issues that must be addressed at the local and regional levels.

2018 Primary Action Areas

Transportation, Mobility & Connectivity: In 2018 TATT will unveil the transportation, mobility and connectivity vision and strategies developed through the Connecting Our Future initiative. TATT will then continue convening coalition partners to implement strategies identified during the process.

Regional Workforce: In 2018 TATT will partner with other regional and local organizations to develop a web portal and marketing strategy for talent recruitment in the Upstate. In addition, TATT will be working with local school systems, technical colleges and others around a regional employability credential initiative.

Sustainability & Natural Resources: TATT will continue coordinating the Upstate Professional Planners Group, which in 2018 will be holding a workshop series as follow-up to the Shaping Our Future growth study. In addition, as convener of the Upstate Air Quality Advisory Committee, TATT will be holding a workshop on sustainable energy.

Entrepreneurial & Small Business Support Network: Recognizing the important role entrepreneurs and small businesses play in growing the Upstate economy, in 2018 TATT will continue to convene a network of incubators and other organizations that provide support for entrepreneurs and small businesses. In addition, TATT will continue to grow the Alternative Capital Providers Network.

Senior Needs: After developing an inventory and asset map of senior support organizations in the Upstate, in 2018, TATT will work with the South Carolina Office on Aging and local partners to continue building awareness of current and future needs of the growing senior population in the Upstate.

Child Well-Being: As coordinator of the Upstate Child Well-Being Network, in 2018 TATT will continue facilitating opportunities for discussion and to learn about successful initiatives and programs that are supporting children across the Upstate.

2018 Major Regional Programs and Events



Upstate Regional Summit: Winning the Future – September 25, 2018 – More than 800 Upstate business and community leaders are expected to participate in this regular regional event. The primary theme for the 2018 Summit is preparing the Upstate Region to “Win the Future” in areas within economic vitality and quality of life.

Pique: Young Leaders Elevating the Upstate – March 2018 – Bringing together more than 250 young professionals from across the Upstate, Pique provides an annual opportunity to look at key regional issues from the vantage point of how young professionals can be engaged and impactful within the community.

Culture Counts Regional Forum – January 24, 2018 – Arts & culture play an important role in the Upstate both as a valuable component of the local vibrancy and as an economic driver for the region. During this regional forum, TATT will unveil the Upstate Cultural Asset Map that includes the wide array of arts & culture venues and programs across the region. The forum will also include a discussion on the role arts & culture plays in growing the Upstate economy.

Connecting Our Future Vision & Strategies Unveiling – May/June 2018 - The results from the Connecting Our Future initiative will be unveiled during a regional event designed to continue growing stakeholder involvement and support for improving transportation, mobility and connectivity in the Upstate.

Celebrating Successes: Great Things Happening Across the Upstate – November 2018 – This annual event provides an opportunity for TATT to showcase individuals, organizations and businesses that are making the Upstate a special place to live, learn, do business and raise a family.

Getting to Know Your Neighbors Upstate Bus Tours – three in 2018 – Since 2015, TATT has been conducting day trips across the region to provide a “hands on” opportunity to learn about some of the things that make each community within the region unique and integral to the overall success of the region. In 2018 TATT will be returning to Anderson, Spartanburg and Greenville counties to explore different parts of those counties than during the first trip to those three parts of the region.

2018 Projected Outcomes

- ⇒ Development of the Connecting Our Future transportation, mobility and connectivity vision and implementable local and regional strategies.
- ⇒ Creation of an initial set of regional indicators that can help evaluate how the Upstate is impacting some of the key issues facing the region.
- ⇒ Unveiling of Culture Counts asset map and arts & culture inventory. Continued development of additional regional inventories and asset maps to help continue to grow awareness of resources available in the Upstate.
- ⇒ Development of a uniform Upstate employability credential program.
- ⇒ Initial development of a regional talent recruitment initiative.
- ⇒ More than 3,000 participants in TATT events, workshops, committees and programs.
- ⇒ More than 300,000 pageviews for the Upstate Information Hub
- ⇒ Engagement of representatives from more than 400 organizations, businesses and local governments in TATT programs events and committees.



Ten Counties. One Upstate. Stronger Together.