



SC DEPARTMENT *of*
**ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES**

The Sooner the Better: Coordinating with Economic Development Allies on New and Prospective Industry

November 3, 2025



SC DEPARTMENT *of*
**ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES**

Air Quality

Land & Waste Management

Coastal Resources

Water

Regional & Laboratory Services

Science • Service • Sustainability





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SCDES Culture & Values

- Transparency & Accountability
 - Customer Service
 - Compliance Assistance
 - Community Engagement
 - Continuous Improvement
 - Collaborative Partnerships & Problem Solving
-



How We Help

Initial Overview

- SCDES Roles and Processes

Permitting Needs Assessments

- Project specific and site-specific focus
- Connect with program staff

Pre-application Meetings

- One-on-one conversation with individual programs

Partner Meetings And Site Visits

Status Update Meetings And Inquiries

- Recurring or need-based

Existing Industry Questions & Coordination

Permitting and Community Engagement



Why Is Community Engagement Important?



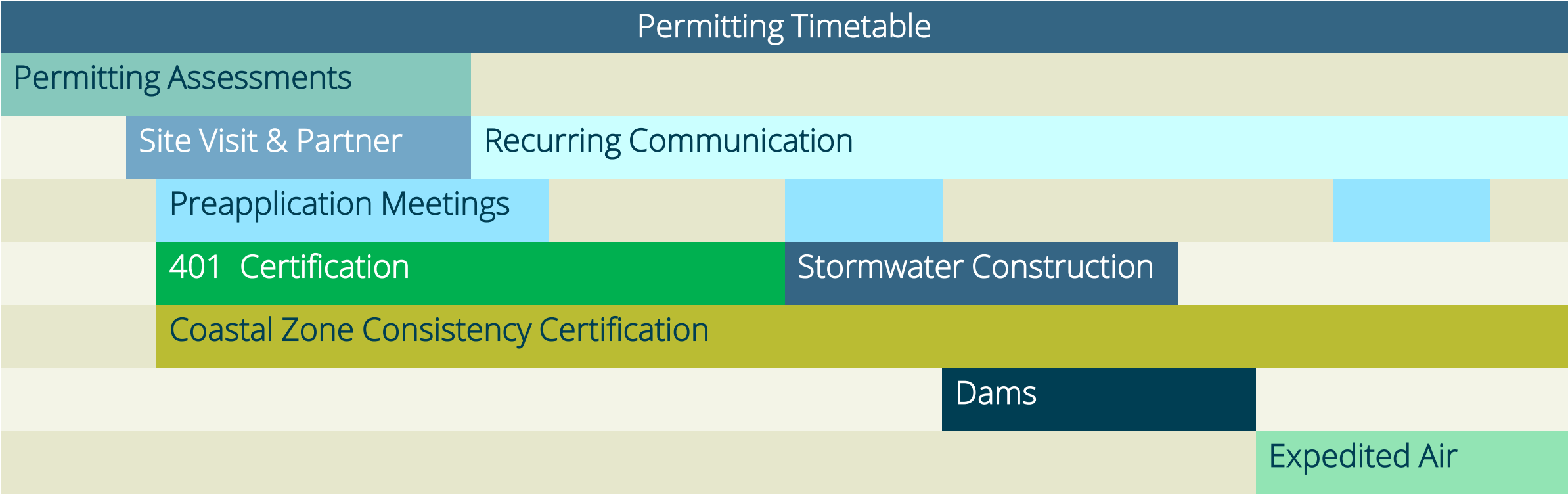
Why Is Community Engagement Important?

- Better informed community/organization
- Relationship builder
- Collaborative problem-solving

Coordinated Planning

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What is Meaningful Community Engagement?



What is Meaningful Community Engagement?

- Community-needs bases
 - How does the Community self identify?
 - What are the demographics?
 - Age
 - Language
 - Highest level of education



What Methods Are You Using for Community Engagement?



Methods Used for Community Engagement?

**Newsletters
Emails**

Postcards

**Community
Councils**

**Meetings (in-
person, virtual,
hybrid)**

**Social Media
(Facebook, X,
Instagram,
LinkedIn)**

Radio

Television

**Faith-based
organizations**

Whatever the Community Uses

Permit Central Best Practices

- Connecting early and often
- Full permitting needs assessment
- Pre-application meetings
- On-going status updates



Working Collaboratively

- SC Department of Commerce
- Economic Development Allies
- Utility Companies
- US Army Corp of Engineers
- SC Department of Natural Resources
- Local Governments
- Community Leaders



How can we help?



ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE



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Get in touch

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