



Bond Referendum Questions 2000, 2006, 2012, 2014, 2018

2000

(\$40,000,000 OBLIGATION BONDS)

Shall Beaufort County, South Carolina issue general obligation bonds, not to exceed \$40,000,000, for the purpose of land preservation, by purchasing open land, development rights and conservation easements in all areas of Beaufort County, in order to alleviate traffic congestion in high growth areas and to protect water quality, natural lands, wildlife areas, farmland, parkland, coastal areas, rivers and wetlands, provided that all expenditures shall be prioritized based upon an official criteria and ranking system established for the County, and subject to an annual independent audit?

Explanation: If this question is approved, then Beaufort County will be authorized to issue up to \$40 million in general obligation bonds. The bond funds will allow Beaufort County to act to preserve open land. Beaufort County already collects a property tax of two mills dedicated to protection of open space which will be used to pay the bonded indebtedness. Bond funds may be used only for the purposes stated in the ballot question.

None of the funds may be used for any other purpose, or for administrative salaries. An annual audit will verify that the funds are used as required by law.

2006

(\$50,000,000 OBLIGATION BONDS)

Shall the County be empowered to issue, either at one time as a single issue or from time to time as several separate Issues, general obligation on bonds of the County in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$50,000,000, the proceeds of which shall be used for the purpose of defraying the costs of the County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program which preserves land by purchasing open land, development rights and conservation easements in all areas of Beaufort County, in order to alleviate from traffic congestion in high growth areas and to protect water quality, natural lands, wildlife areas, farmland, parkland, coastal areas, rivers and wetlands, legal fees and costs of Issuance of such bonds provided mat all expenditures shall be prioritized based upon the official criteria and ranking system established for the County and subject to annual audit.

2012

(GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000,000)

Shall Beaufort County, South Carolina issue general obligation bonds, not to exceed \$25,000,000, representing a borrowing that at no time shall exceed 1 mill in debt service repayment, for the purpose of land preservation, by purchasing open land, development rights and conservation casements in all areas of Beaufort County, in order to alleviate truffle congestion in high growth areas and to protect water quality, natural lands, wildlife areas, farmland, parkland, recreational areas, coastal areas, rivers and wetlands, provided that all expenditures shall be prioritized based upon an official criteria and ranking system established for the County, and subject to an annual independent audit and provide that an amount, not to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the amount borrowed may be spent on improvements, outside the scope of general property maintenance, to those lands which have been acquired by Beaufort County, South Carolina under previous rural and critical land programs and all such lands

acquired under this current proposed borrowing?

2014

(GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000,000)

Shall Beaufort County, South Carolina issue general obligation bonds, not to exceed \$20,000,000, representing a borrowing that at no time shall exceed 1 mill in debt service repayment, for the purpose of land preservation, by purchasing open land, development rights and conservation easements in all areas of Beaufort County, in order to alleviate traffic congestion in high growth areas and to protect water quality, natural lands, wildlife areas, farmland, parkland, recreational areas, coastal areas, rivers and wetlands, provided that all expenditures shall be prioritized based upon an official criteria and ranking system established for the County, and subject to an annual independent audit and provide that an amount, not to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the amount borrowed may be spent on improvements, outside the scope of general property maintenance, to those lands which have been acquired by Beaufort County, South Carolina under previous rural and critical land programs and all such lands acquired under this current proposed borrowing?

2018

(GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS)

Shall Beaufort County, South Carolina, issue general obligation bonds, not to exceed \$25 million, for the purpose of land preservation, by purchasing open land in Beaufort County in order to protect water quality, protect local waterways such as the Port Royal Sound, and local creeks and rivers such as the Okatie, Broad and May Rivers, wildlife areas, wetlands, natural lands, farmland, coastal areas, shellfish beds, and nursery areas for recreational and commercial fisheries, and beaches, and provide buffers for the Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort. All expenditures shall be subject to an annual independent audit and an amount not to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the funds created by this referendum may be used to improve existing and newly acquired open space and natural areas protected under this program?