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\$35M renovation project

Improvement aims to modernize city hall

Ruth Cronin

Greenville News

USA TODAY NETWORK - SOUTH CAROLINA

The city of Greenville has unveiled plans for an expansive city hall renovation, which could cost between \$35 and \$40 million.

Project plans would transform the 53-year-old building into a more modern hub for city offices and services. The

aim is to give the city building a more welcoming presence on Main Street, according to city manager Shannon Lavrin.

"The goal with that project has been to have a building that is as welcoming as I feel like this community is," Lavrin said.

The renovation will replace the building's dark exterior with a modern glass façade, which lead architect Meg Terry

of DP3 Architects said is a nod to the city's transparency and openness.

The new design will bring the city hall entrance closer to Main Street and at pedestrian level, Terry said.

The new lobby will be city hall's "front porch" with a Greenville-centric canopy, which is still being designed. Terry said that the design will have a direct connection to the city, such as a tree canopy.

"The thought behind that is it creates this sort of beautiful patterning of light as you walk down Main Street or you're

in the lobby, so it kind of keeps the space alive throughout the day," Terry said.

The lobby could also include a coffee shop or retail space to invite people into city hall, according to Terry.

Inside, floors one through six will become home to city departments, while floors seven through 10 will be remodeled and held for future growth or potential tenant rental space, according to the city's website.

Project plans show that the rear of

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Spartanburg County Sheriff Bill Rhyne speaks to the media about the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer outside of the Spartanburg County Courthouse. TERRY BENJAMIN II/GRENVILLE NEWS

A \$10M upgrade begins at historic building

Ruth Cronin

Greenville News

USA TODAY NETWORK - SOUTH CAROLINA

A pillar of downtown Greenville's historical buildings, Greenville Summit, is undergoing a more than \$10 million renovation project.

The 1912 brick building was originally built as a hotel, known as Imperial Hotel and Hotel Greenville. Today, the building offers 101 affordable housing units to seniors.

Greenville Summit property owners, JE Properties, held a groundbreaking ceremony on May 19 to celebrate the start of construction.

"The location here in the heart of Greenville says a lot," Greenville Mayor Knox White said at the event. "We have housing opportunities for all people right in the heart of downtown, right in the shadow of all the new condominiums and apartments that are built all around."

Joseph Eddy, president of JE Properties, said that the company put \$3 million into the property when they bought it in 2018, but many of the original fixtures now need replacing.

Renovations will add \$120,000 in improvements to each of the 101 units, including new kitchens, bathrooms, windows, flooring and HVAC units, Eddy said. The renovation will also re-point the exterior brick re-install cornice that was destroyed during Tropical Storm Helene.

The funding for the updates come from a partnership between federal, state and local governments.

About 20 percent of Greenville Summit residents were formerly homeless and in 2025 the complex had 381 applications from seniors, according to the city.

"Today marks another essential step in preserving comfortable, stable, affordable homes for some of our most vulnerable citizens," said city council member Dorothy Dowe.

The 114-year-old building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and all renovation plans have

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'Too many people are dying'

County targets deadly summer roads

Terry Benjamin II Greenville News | USA TODAY NETWORK - SOUTH CAROLINA

Law enforcement leaders delivered a blunt warning ahead of the summer travel season: Too many people are dying on Spartanburg County roads, and officials say unsafe driving is to blame.

At a press conference on May 21 in front of the Spartanburg County Courthouse, Spartanburg County Sheriff Bill Rhyne, Coroner Rusty Clevenger, S.C. Highway Patrol Captain J.E. Rogers, and 7th Circuit Solicitor Barry Barnette spoke to the media about a joint agency initiative during the summer. This initiative is to combat the "100 Deadly Days of Summer," which is a nationwide time of the year historically known for a sharp spike in fatal traffic accidents.

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Blue balloons float near crime scene tape for Mark Garrett, a detective with the Anderson County Sheriff's Office who died in an accident while off-duty near the corner of Beaverdam Road and Anderson Highway (U.S. Highway 29) in Williamston.

KEN RUINARD/USA TODAY NETWORK - SOUTH CAROLINA



"We'll receive information to strategically deploy our officers. We're not out here going after people doing 45 in a 35-mile-an-hour zone. We're specifically addressing those aggressive tactics, known for people losing their lives on our roads in Spartanburg."

Sheriff Bill Rhyne
Spartanburg County

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