Powdersville — #1 of 10: Mean Commute to Work by City, in Minutes (2024)

Powdersville has the longest commute in the Upstate

Source: ALEX Intelligence · Published November 18, 2026

Swipe for insights →

Photo: Chris Pruitt · CC BY-SA 3.0 · Wikimedia Commons

THE DATA

36.1

Mean Commute to Work by City, in Minutes (2024)

Powdersville leads the Upstate in average commute time, reflecting deepening suburban sprawl and infrastructure lag in newly developed areas.

The 36.1-minute average commute in Powdersville is not just a number—it's a signal of where development is outpacing transit planning. This is not a city of dense downtowns or walkable neighborhoods; it's a place where growth is pushing outward, with new homes and jobs separated by distance and limited public options. The data reveals that even as the Upstate expands rapidly, the most recent build-out zones are where the cost of mobility is highest.



Photo: SC National Guard · Public domain · Wikimedia Commons

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2024 · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-18-upstate-sc-commute-place-long

01

Growth is outpacing infrastructure

The fact that Powdersville leads in commute time is not an outlier—it’s a pattern. This creates a feedback loop where longer commutes attract more car-dependent development, reinforcing sprawl and reducing the viability of alternative mobility models. The market is growing, but the cost of that growth is measured in time, fuel, and productivity loss.

Photo: Chris Pruitt · CC BY-SA 3.0 · Wikimedia Commons

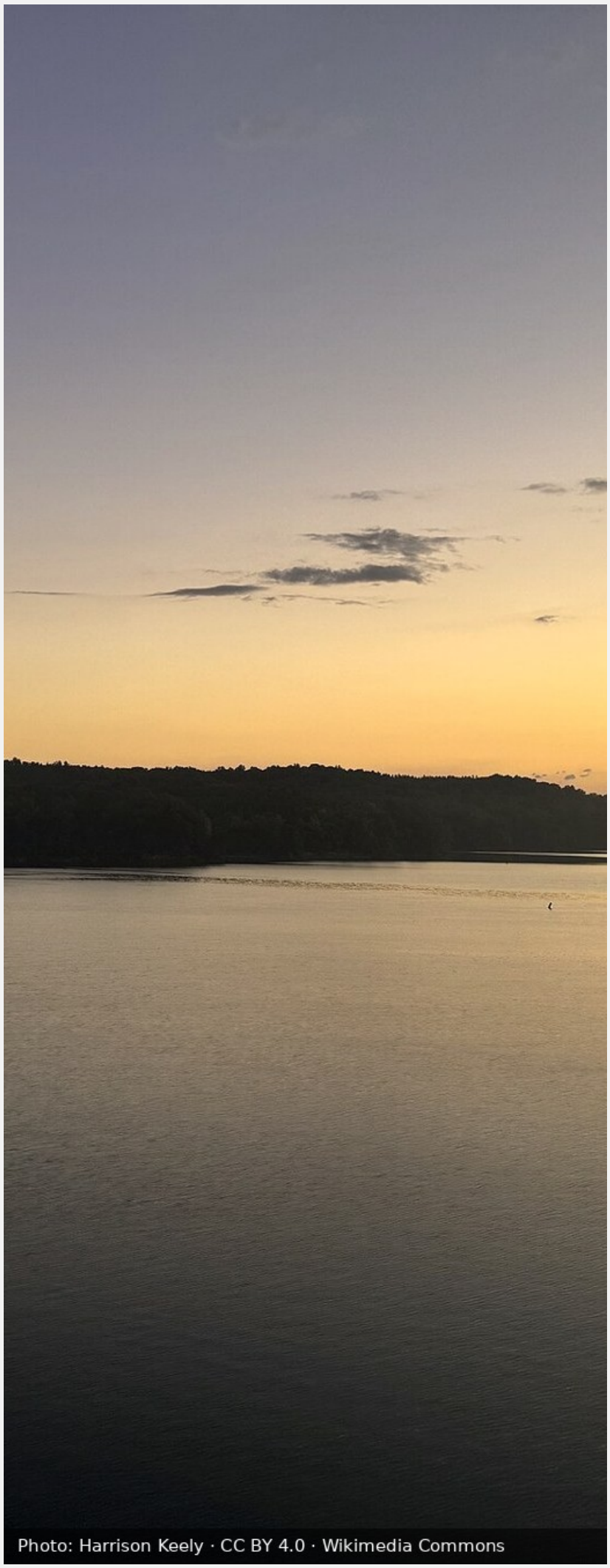


Photo: Harrison Keely · CC BY 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

02

Commute length is a proxy for value erosion

While developers may see Powdersville as a high-opportunity zone, the 36.1-minute commute is a hidden devaluation signal. In real estate, time is money—longer commutes reduce the perceived quality of life and can depress property appreciation over time. The market may reward growth today, but it will penalize sprawl tomorrow.

Real Estate Strategy & Intelligence Leader. Democratized Blue Ocean Strategist & Operator.

Diane Hart Alexander, MBA, MHA

Chair & CEO, ALEX Companies

Designated Broker, Alexander Tiffany Southwest, LLC dba ALEX.realestate, et.al.

Texas License #574877-B · Broker License #565194-BB

diane@alex.realestate · +1 713.591.9902

ALEX

ALEX Intelligence
deep intelligence

ALEX Real Estate
genius real estate

ALEX Advisory
uncontested strategy

ALEX Cares
purposeful philanthropy