



City Manager's Report

City Departments

2-18-2025

City Manager – Sam Sanders (he/him)

- Looking forward to joining Mayor Wade in welcoming local government administrators from across the state as we gather for the VLGMA (Virginia League of Government Management Association) Winter Conference, Feb 19-21; shout out to DCM Ashley Marshall who is serving as co-chair of this convening in our city.
- Preparing my remarks for the upcoming State of the Community hosted by the Chamber of Commerce on February 21 from 8-10am at the Bolick Center at Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC).
- Feb 4: Visited with consultant from Eocene and city staff from Parks & Recreation and the Office of Sustainability; the pop-in meeting provided a good conversation about the ongoing work to manage and improve the city's tree canopy; more to come on this item.
- Feb 9: Visited Congregation Beth Israel to speak with the community about efforts to address affordable housing and homelessness, traffic, and substance abuse.
- Feb 10: Interviewed finalists for City Attorney.
- Feb 11: Participated in virtual interviews of candidates for Human Resources Director.
- Feb 12: Attended annual Jaunt Stakeholders Meeting.
- Action Taken: we accepted the new Albemarle County appointed representatives, Kristie Hagen a social worker @ UVA Health and Jason Eversol, a Crozet resident and Tech/Healthcare entrepreneur; they replace outgoing board members Bill Wuensch and Caetano de Campos Lopes.

Deputy City Manager for Social Equity – Ashley Reynolds Marshall (she/her)

- DCM Marshall has been appointed to the National League of Cities (NLC) 2025 Race Equity And Leadership (REAL) Council. DCM Marshall was elected to a one-year term to develop and guide programs among local elected officials from similar communities. The appointment was announced by NLC President Steve Patterson, Mayor of Athens, Ohio.
- DCM Marshall was also invited to participate in National League of Cities (NLC) NLC's REAL team's inaugural Equity Practitioners Cohort.

Deputy City Manager for Operations – James Freas (he/him)

- Served as a panelist at an event hosted by Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia (HOME of VA) at the Haven on February 5. The event focused on zoning and affordable housing 1 year following the adoption of the new zoning ordinance. Other panelists were Sunshine Mathon, Executive Director of Piedmont Housing Alliance, and Carmelita Wood, President of the Fifeville Neighborhood Association.

- Attended the Groundbreaking Ceremony for Kindlewood Phase 2 on January 17. Phase 2 will include a Community Resource Center and a Financial Opportunity Center in addition to the affordable residential housing units.

Department of Human Services – Director Misty Graves (she/her)

- The City's Co-Response team ANCHOR will travel to Durham, NC to train and network with their local crisis response services staff and administration. The goal of the trip will be to bring back lessons learned and work towards implementing more best practices.
- The Housing Navigation Team supports City residents in finding stable housing options that meet their needs and budgets. Participants receive individual support and coaching, referrals to existing resources in the community, and may join an eight-week healthy eating and budgeting class. There are limited funds to help with applications fees. If you are interested in joining, please contact Roxanne Jones at jonesrm@charlottesville.gov for more information or 833-524-2904.
- The Department of Human Services would also like to highlight the outstanding contributions of Kamisha Spencer, Program Supervisor of Community Based Services. Her long-standing commitment to the City and its community members is recognized in the most recent issue of Albemarle Family Magazine: <https://albemarlemagazine.com/kamisha-spencer/>

Neighborhood Development Services – Director Kellie Brown (she/her)

- As part of the Move Safely Blue Ridge Regional Safety Action Plan, East High Street has been identified as an area of major concern and an ideal candidate for a demonstration project to make the intersections at Stewart Avenue and Meade Avenue safer for all users. A public open house will take place at Burnley-Moran Elementary School on February 25 at 5:30 pm to review potential design options for a low-cost set of improvements that will be deployed this year. Please join City staff and partners from the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission to discuss the benefits of these options. Online survey will be available soon at <https://movesafelyblueridge.com/>.

Parks & Recreation – Director Riaan Anthony (he/him)

- Summer camp registration is currently open! The sites for general camp this year are Summit Elementary and Johnson Elementary. General summer camp runs from June 16 through July 25. Two weeks of Ultimate Adventure Camp will also

be held where campers experience daily field trips from July 28 through August 8.

- The Daddy Daughter Dance returns Friday, February 14 and Saturday, February 15! Tickets are still available at: [Parks and Recreation - Activity Search](#).
- Both Adaptive and Senior programming are in full swing. We still have spaces left on some of our senior activities which include monthly crafting classes, trips to the Richmond Black History Museum, spring hikes, movie nights, and more! To learn more and register, contact seniors@charlottesville.gov.
- The City Market is open for vendor registration! The deadline to become a 2025 Season Reserve Vendor for the Saturday City Market is February 17. Non-Reserve vendors can apply throughout the 2025 season. The registration window for Farmers in the Park, our Wednesday evening market at Pen Park, will open March 1.
- Garden plots are open for renewal until Friday, February 7. Registration for new gardeners (selected by lottery with City residents receiving priority) is open. Residents can register February 3 through February 21. Non-Residents can register February 17 through February 21.
- Trails & Greenways
 - Washington Park Ramp (VDOT project) construction begins mid-January with completion expected by mid-May.
- Meadowcreek Golf Course
 - The golf course is open again after being closed for nearly six weeks due to snow and ice. Tee times can be made online at: www.meadowcreekgolf.org.
 - Registration for Spring Youth Golf Programs via First Tee – Virginia Blue Ridge are open. Register online at: [First Tee - Homepage | First Tee](#)
- It's almost time for spring league registration! Parks & Rec will be offering:
 - Spring Adult Basketball League (Men's 35+ & Women's Recreational). Registration dates are March 3 through March 21 and costs are \$300 per team.
 - Spring Adult Volleyball League. Registration Dates: February 24 through March 30 and costs are \$300 per team.
 - Spring Adult Softball League. Registration Dates: OPEN Now until February 28 and costs are \$500 per team.
- Master Plan
 - The full draft of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan is available online at: [Charlottesville Parks and Recreation Master Plan | EngagePros](#).
 - Public comments are available online through February 16.
 - The adoption schedule for the Master Plan is as follows:
 - February 11, 5:30 pm: Planning Commission, City Council Chambers (to be rescheduled due to inclement weather)
 - March 17, 6:00 pm: City Council Meeting (1st Reading), City Council Chambers

- April 7, 6:00 pm: City Council Meeting (2nd Reading), City Council Chambers

Utilities – Director Lauren Hildebrand (she/her)

- The Department of Utilities' Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey is now open. Utilities values customer feedback and welcomes the opportunity to gather information that helps us continue, and build on, our range of services, programs, and initiatives. Customers can access the survey through Utilities' electronic newsletter or at www.surveymonkey.com/r/cvilleutilities2025. Paper copies of the survey are available upon request by contacting Utilities Outreach at 434-970-3686. All responses will be kept completely confidential. Thank you in advance for your participation!
- The Department of Utilities is excited to announce that the Arbor Day Foundation's Energy-Saving Trees Program is back for its fourth year and is now a biannual event! To date, 800 trees have been given away, and Utilities customers in the City of Charlottesville have an opportunity to continue the tree-mendous success of this program by receiving one of 200 additional free trees to plant on their property. The strategic planting of trees helps conserve energy and reduce energy bills for individual households, while simultaneously providing additional benefits to the broader community. Tree reservations are limited to one tree per service address and made on a first come, first served basis beginning Monday, March 3. Reservations can be made by accessing Utilities' interactive tree portal provided by the Arbor Day Foundation at www.arborday.org/charlottesville. For more information about the Energy-Saving Trees Program, please contact Utilities Outreach at utilitiesoutreach@charlottesville.gov.