



# **City Manager's Report**

*City Departments*

**3-17-2025**

### **City Manager – Sam Sanders (he/him)**

- 3/4 Received a briefing from UVA leadership ahead of the Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting for the Board of Visitors Convening
- 3/5 Met with an internal staff group to discuss event possibilities to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Downtown Mall and 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence next year during 4th of July weekend; joined by CACVB executive director, Courtney Cacatian
- 3/6 Completed professional development training with the American Association of Airport Executives in support of my service as a member of the CHO Airport Authority
- 3/10 Met with Judith Selzer and Marta Keane to introduce the new JABA Executive Director. Congratulations Marta on your retirement!
- 3/10 Monthly meeting with Dr. Gurley to discuss priorities with Charlottesville City Schools
- 3/11 Monthly meeting Jeff Richardson to discuss priorities with Albemarle County

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

- During March 2025, please be sure to high-five a social worker! Thank you to the City Council for recognizing National Social Worker Month through a proclamation provided to Mr. Leon Henry, Director for the Department of Social Services, at their first meeting of the month! Thank you to Deputy Director Jenny Jones and her staff for all their hard work. And belated thank you to Deputy Director Mary Jane Skidmore and her Benefits team for their hard work that was celebrated in February 2025 during Benefits Professionals Month!
- Attended the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference, March 9-12, 2025, by serving as a member of the REAL (Race, Equity and Leadership) Council and a member of the inaugural NLC REAL Centering All People Practitioners cohort.
- Co-hosted the VLGMA Winter Conference as conference co-chair at the Omni in Charlottesville in February 2025. The conference engaged local government managers across the Commonwealth in educational opportunities and collaborative networking.

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

- Served on the Innovative Zoning for Thriving Communities panel at the Virginia Local Government Management Association (VLGMA) Winter Conference along with NDS Director Kellie Brown, who shared insights from her time in Arlington. Other panelists were from Roanoke and Danville, and City Manager Sanders served as moderator. The panel discussed how innovative zoning strategies can

shape more inclusive, equitable, and livable communities. Mitchell Silver, former NYC Parks Commissioner and Raleigh, NC Planning Director also spoke at the conference and participated in the panel.

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

- Community Attention Foster Families (CAFF) is actively searching for families in Charlottesville, Albemarle, and surrounding communities. The next information session is on April 10 at 6:15 PM via Zoom. The first steps to becoming a foster parent are to register for this session: <https://www.charlottesville.gov/260/Become-a-Foster-Parent>. For ongoing updates about CAFF opportunities, please consider following Community Attention Foster Families on Facebook.
- The Community Attention Youth Internship Program (CAYIP) will have a spring session from April 7 - June 1. Applications are due March 21. Youth ages 14 – 21 are eligible to apply for an engaged and meaningful experience to build job skills and earn a stipend! Applications are online: <https://www.charlottesville.gov/256/Community-Attention-Youth-Internship>. For ongoing updates about CAYIP opportunities, please consider following @CAYIPCville on major platforms.
- As part of the Council's Strategic Goal of Partnerships, on February 27, City staff collaborated with partners to host a Resource Fair at Carver Recreation Center. This fair showcased several youth- and family-serving agencies to increase awareness of their services and establish relationships. It was well attended!

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

- Master Plan
  - A full draft of the Charlottesville Parks and Recreation Master Plan is available online at: [Charlottesville Parks and Recreation Master Plan | EngagePros](#).
  - The upcoming comment and adoption schedule is as follows:
    - March 11 – Planning Commission Meeting, 5:00 PM | City Council Chambers
    - March 17 – City Council Meeting (1st reading), 6:00 PM | City Council Chambers
    - April 7 – City Council Meeting (2nd reading), 6:00 PM | City Council Chambers
- Meadowcreek Golf Course
  - Interior renovations at the golf shop will begin in mid-March and continue through June. Improvements include new flooring, updated lighting, bathroom fixture upgrades, fresh paint, and new furniture.

- Food & Beverage Service is available Thursday – Sunday, 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM. More details, including the menu, can be found at: [Meadowcreek Golf Course | Charlottesville, VA Golf](#).
- Programs & Events
  - Adaptive Summer Camps – Both six-week camps are full, but there are four spots remaining in the end-of-summer specialty camp week.
  - Senior Water Exercise – Now available twice a week! The Arthritis Foundation recommends water exercise two-three times per week, so join us to stay active and healthy.
  - Charlottesville Family Camp Expo – Parks & Rec attended the February 23, 2025 expo to promote summer camps. Spots are still available for City and non-City residents in summer and adventure camps.
  - Spring Break Camp (March 31 – April 4) – Limited spots remain, so register soon!
  - Annual Eggstravaganza (April 5) – Join us at McIntire Park for a fun-filled morning of music, egg hunts, and more! The event runs from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.
  - Farmers in the Park – Applications for reserve status vendors are open until April 1. Reserve vendors receive a 25% discount by pre-paying for the season's market fees. Contact [citymarket@charlottesville.gov](mailto:citymarket@charlottesville.gov) for details.
  - Friday Open-Gym Volleyball – Starting March 14, the Herman Key Rec Center will host open-gym volleyball Fridays from 8:45 – 11:00 PM. No registration required—drop in for practice or a pickup game!
  - Senior Basketball Open-Gym – Seniors are encouraged to stay active with Wednesday sessions from 12:00 – 2:00 PM at the Herman Key Rec Center.
  - For more information on programs and events, visit [Charlottesville Parks & Recreation](#).

## **Utilities – Director Lauren Hildebrand (she/her)**

- The Department of Utilities is excited to offer a newly expanded \$500 attic insulation rebate. Complementing Utilities' no-cost home weatherization program and energy efficiency initiatives, this rebate is available to customers who have their attic insulation upgraded. Upgrading attic insulation is one of the most cost-effective weatherization measures customers can take to help ensure the building envelope of their house is providing maximum protection from the outside elements. A properly insulated house increases comfort in every season, reduces energy costs year-round, and improves overall home energy efficiency. The attic insulation rebate is available to customers living in older existing single-family homes that use natural gas for home heating who have the installation performed by a licensed contractor. Over 21,000 area homes were built before

Virginia enacted insulation code requirements in 1970, meaning many homes in Charlottesville could be under-insulated and in need of an upgrade. More information on the attic insulation rebate, as well as other incentives from Utilities, can be found by going to [www.charlottesville.gov/utilities](http://www.charlottesville.gov/utilities).