



City Manager's Report

*Offices of the City Manager
Elected & Appointed Officials*

12-2-2024

City Manager – Sam Sanders (he/him)

- 11/18 Met with leadership of The Haven to discuss the needs of the unhoused in our community
- 11/19 Participated in the Rivanna Board Meetings with these highlights from each:
 - Rivanna Solid Waste Authority
 - Rivanna has supplied the Blue Ridge Food Bank with a supply of insulated grocery bags for distribution to the public
 - Fiscal Year audit was presented with no finding; the board accepted the audit as presented
 - Presentation of landfill challenge forthcoming with limited alternatives;
 - 21 years of remaining landfill space in VA
 - We currently use a landfill site in Henrico with 17 years of remaining space
 - Looking at alternate resources that are needed and all ideas are on the table
 - Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority
 - Recognition of Dave Tungate for his appointment to serve as the 1st Deputy Director of Rivanna Authorities
 - 10th Annual Imagine a Day Without Water Art Contest
 - Fan Favorite Voting 11/18 – 12/04
 - Link to online voting can be found on the Rivanna [website](#)
 - Announcing winners December 11th
 - Continued a discussion on the regional planning effort, a newly required state effort to have regions discuss water needs collectively and assist one another in solving them
- 11/20 Met with Ben Allen and his team from The Equity Center to discuss community safety initiatives including the interruption of gun violence
- 11/20 Met with leadership of the Blue Ridge Area Coalition on Homelessness to discuss the needs of the unhoused in our community
- 11/21 Attended a joint meeting of the Airport Authority Board and Airport Commission where we celebrated the long tenured service of Stephen Hiss and Don Long
- 11/22 Participated in the Fall Board Meeting of the VA 1st Cities where we reviewed the legislative agenda of the group and heard from multiple speakers on the things we might expect from the General Assembly and Congress

Deputy City Manager for Administration – Eden Ratliff (he/him)

- Deputy Fire Chief Recruitment: Participated in interviews to identify the next leader for the Fire Department's deputy chief position.
- Courthouse Security Mediation: Attended a mediation between the City and County Sheriffs to address security protocols for the new courthouse.

- Election Day Emergency Operations Planning: Facilitated planning efforts to ensure robust emergency operations readiness for Election Day.
- Executive Recruitment: Collaborated with a recruiter to develop detailed recruitment profiles for the City Attorney and Human Resources Director positions.
- Strategic Planning Framework: Continued to support the development of the City's strategic planning framework, working with 112 City Strategists to align priorities with Council's strategic outcome areas.

Office of Communications and Public Engagement (CAPE) – Director Afton Schneider (she/her)

- The 27th annual Grand Illumination is coming up on Friday, December 6th at Ting Pavilion. Folks of all ages can visit the Holiday Market, play games, win prizes, collect cool giveaways at City Hall Plaza, and enjoy live music from local and regional artists during the Holiday Concert. And, we even used ranked choice voting to name the tree this year! Great practice for the City Council primary election next year.
- Our biweekly community newsletter, City Scoop, is now LIVE! You may sign up to receive the newsletter via email [here](#), you can find a link on our website and social media platforms, and you can also find copies in City Hall and at a few locations on the Downtown Mall.
- Reminder: The City's public affairs tv program, Inside Charlottesville, airs every Friday and Sunday at 7:00 PM and every Saturday and Monday at 9:00 AM on Charlottesville TV10 – Comcast Channel 10 in the City of Charlottesville and surrounding counties. We also have a free Roku app for TV10 which folks can find by searching for "Charlottesville TV10" on Roku.
 - December's episode includes "On the Spot" with City Manager Sanders, updates from the Charlottesville Fire and Police departments, Grand Illumination highlights, Parks and Recreation happenings, a recap of the fire department's most recent graduation, education on FOG (fats, oils, and grease) from the Utilities department, and a "Get to Know Your Government" segment with our new Neighborhood Development Services Director, Kellie Brown.

Downtown Job Center – Roy Fitch (he/him)

- Attended the UVA Pipelines & Pathways Career and Community Fair at John Paul Johns Arena on Thurs Nov 14th.
- Attended Race Forward: Facing Race National Conference in St. Louis, MO held Nov 19th – Nov 22nd.

Office of Sustainability – Director Kristel Riddervold (she/her)

- Office of Sustainability is looking forward to participating the upcoming December 6th Grand Illumination event!
- In the spirit of bringing together community members who are interested in sustainability and climate action, the Office of Sustainability and Community Climate Collaborative are hosting a series of Climate Cafés. Climate Cafés are open and inclusive space to share ideas, resources, information, and opportunities for local and regional action. December's café will spotlight Generation 180's advocacy tools and resources as our featured partner in our discussion on "all things EVs", focusing on increasing access to electric vehicles, expanding existing charging infrastructure, and improving transportation equity. Join the discussion on Friday, December 13th from 9:30 to 10:30 AM at The Bradbury! Register [HERE](#).
- Imagine a Day without Water Art Contest Fan Favorite Voting - The City Water Conservation Program, in collaboration with Albemarle County Service Authority and Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority, is asking the community to help select the fan favorite in the 10th annual Imagine a Day without Water Art Contest. The 2024 contest challenged youth to show us "What's Your Drop in the Bucket" in their artistic creations, and they got some inspiring submissions. Voting closes December 4th and winners will be announced December 11th. To learn more about the campaign and vote for your favorite entry, visit Charlottesville.gov/ArtContest.
- Two electric school buses, funded in part by federal Clean School Bus Program rebates, were purchased by CAT in November; anticipating delivery in summer/fall 2025.
- The Climate Program applied for and was awarded a federal Clean Bus Planning Award through the National Renewable Energy Lab. This award will provide free technical assistance in developing a Charlottesville school bus electrification plan. The project kicked off in November and is anticipated to be completed in six months.
- The Climate Program Manager participated in a presentation on the Importance of Local Climate Action to the Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce's Leaders Lab participants. Other program participants were representatives from the Community Climate Collaborative and Albemarle County's Climate Program.
- The Resilient Together Project Team gave a project update to a joint session of the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County Planning Commissions. Prior to the presentation, the RT Team released a [progress update report](#).
- The Climate Program provided a programmatic update as well as a Resilient Together update at the November meeting of the of the Land Use and Environmental Planning Committee (LUEPC).

Office of Human Rights – Director Todd Niemeier (he/him)

- The Office of Human Rights (OHR) continues to work with the federal department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) toward interim certification as a Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP). In November, HUD requested that the OHR make additional changes to the Charlottesville Human Rights Ordinance prior to interim certification. OHR staff anticipates presenting the recommended changes to Council in January 2025, pending a prior informal review by HUD.
- The Human Rights Commission is finalizing its annual policy recommendations for City Council. In December 2024, Commissioners intend to present their recommendations, focusing specifically on housing, services for people experiencing homelessness, and eviction prevention.
- The OHR has opened eleven cases of discrimination in calendar year 2024, as of the date of submission of this report. Details regarding the casework of the office can be found in the monthly reports presented to the Human Rights Commission as part of the regular meeting agenda packets.

Office of Finance – Director Chris Cullinan (he/him)

- Algreatus Batton, Centralized Safety Coordinator in Risk Management, successfully completed his Associate Safety Professional (ASP) credential from Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) that signifies a professional's foundational knowledge of safety, health, and environmental (SHE) principles. The ASP certification is a globally recognized credential for professionals dedicated to improving workplace safety. It validates expertise in critical areas such as risk assessment, hazard control, safety management systems, incident investigation, and regulatory compliance.
- For the second year in a row, the City has received the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to the City of Charlottesville for its Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This award, in conjunction with awards for budgeting and financial reporting, places the City as one of only 300 “Triple Crown” winners of GFOA’s most prestigious awards from amongst 21,000 member jurisdictions. The PAFR can be found on the Finance Department’s website under “Financial Reports”. Special recognition goes to Philip Spence for his time and efforts to produce the PAFR in accordance with the award guidelines.

Circuit Court Clerk's Office – Llezelle Agustin Dugger (she/her)

- The Bureau of Justice Assistance of the Office of Justice Program of the U.S. Department of Justice selected the Charlottesville Circuit Court to receive training and technical assistance (TTA) through their Price of Justice: Rethinking the Consequences of Fines and Fees Program. This is a two-year commitment from DOJ, and only five cities are selected nationwide.