



City Manager's Report

City Departments

2-17-2026

City Manager – Sam Sanders (he/him)

- February 4:
 - The City Manager's Office (CMO) celebrated the contributions of Ashley Reynolds Marshall for her service to the City of Charlottesville for almost five years. Members of the teams she supported and our LEADTeam joined in two moments of appreciation where she was offered many thanks for her work. Ashley takes on the role of Chief of Community Services for the City of Savannah, GA on February 17.
- February 5:
 - Participated in the City's annual recognition event where we celebrate the service anniversaries of employees who have worked for the City for 10 years or more. We will have a separate event for five-year anniversaries next month. I again offer my appreciation and congratulations to all employees serving the City and thank those who are reaching those five-year milestones as well.
 - Attended the first cross-departmental Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) construction team meeting – this is the delivery of a long-awaited effort to focus on cross-department collaboration in the execution of the work funded in the CIP. I look forward to delivering projects on time and on budget and this effort will support that improvement.
- February 6:
 - Held the first staff meeting of the fully reorganized City Manager's Office. It's great to see the vision come together and to see the capacity to deliver for City Council and the community at the level desired and expected.
- February 8:
 - Spoke to members of the congregation at Beth Israel about City priorities, including transit investments and neighborhood safety.
- February 10:
 - Provided a welcome to the participants in the CPD Hispanic Community Police Academy, sharing perspective on the role of the City Manager and expressing the City's support for all residents feeling safe and protected in the Charlottesville community.
- February 11:
 - Attended the ECC Management Board meeting.

Assistant City Manager (ACM) – Evan Pilachowski (he/him)

- ACM Pilachowski met with community leaders throughout January and February 2026 to familiarize himself with the community and better understand the needs of its neighborhoods and citizen groups. He looks forward to continued collaboration with these stakeholders.

- Notable meetings included introductory discussions with Lisa Wittenborn of the Rivanna Conservation Alliance; Anne Coates and Meghan Sobbott of the Thomas Jefferson Soil & Water Conservation District; Peter Krebs of The Piedmont Environmental Council; and Bill Mawyer and the leadership team of the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority and Rivanna Solid Waste Authority. Councilor Fleisher and Councilor Snook also attended the latter meeting. These conversations provided valuable insight into each organization's work with the City, current initiatives and projects, and helped establish a foundation for future collaboration.

Assistant to the City Manager – Steve King (he/him)

- On February 5, we had the inaugural meeting of the cross-department Capital Improvements Project (CIP) team. These meetings will provide opportunities for all departments that touch the implementation of our CIP to collaborate.

Utilities – Director Lauren Hildebrand (she/her)

- Utilities Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey
 - 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 build on our range of services, programs, and initiatives. Customers can access the survey through Utilities' February electronic newsletter at www.charlottesville.gov/utilities, or by going to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/cvilleutilities2026>. 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.
- FOGbuster Program
 - The Charlottesville Department of Utilities is excited to launch the FOGbuster Program. This reimagination of the Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Program was created to energize the proper disposal of FOG within the community and encourages everyone to become a FOGbuster and help take down the odious FOG Monster and the Slime Syndicate of Filthy Fats, Icky Oils, and Grimy Grease. FOG produced from cooking, as well as thick or creamy food products, should never be disposed of in the sink. The buildup of FOG can cause blockages in household plumbing and wastewater infrastructure that can lead to messy, costly, and potentially hazardous overflows. The FOGbuster program will help Utilities customers properly dispose of their FOG and tackle the FOG Monster like a pro. For more information on FOG, our free FOG kits, and to become a FOGbuster by watching our new FOGbuster video, visit www.charlottesville.gov/fog.

- Charlottesville Utilities Storm Drain Art Contest Voting
 - Voting for the Charlottesville Utilities Storm Drain Art Contest kicks off February 16. The Department of Utilities has assembled a panel of judges to select a winner from the Youth Category and a winner from the Open Category, with the top entries in contention to become the Fan Favorite winner via online voting by the community occurring between February 16 and March 9. The designs are a creative interpretation of the theme “Only Rain Down the Drain”, intended to engage, educate, and motivate the community to prevent pollutants from entering our waterways through storm drains. The three winners will paint their artwork on one of three storm drain inlets, as well as receive a \$500 Visa gift card each. To vote for your Fan Favorite design, go to www.charlottesville.gov/stormwater.

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

- Registration
 - Summer Camp Registration is now open for City residents. For program details and online registration, visit [Splash – Parks and Recreation](#).
 - New PGA Junior Golf Camps are open for registration at Meadowcreek Golf Course. Additional information is available on the [Meadowcreek Golf Course website](#).
 - Spring Program Registration will open on Monday, February 23 at 10:00 AM. A full list of programs and online registration can be found on [Splash – Parks and Recreation](#).
- Landscape Services
 - Annual tree maintenance on the Downtown Mall was completed as scheduled. One tree was removed, and several others received routine maintenance. The Urban Forester coordinated closely with Neighborhood Development Services, Public Works, and the contractor to complete the work efficiently while minimizing disruption to businesses and Mall patrons.
- Trails & Greenways
 - Construction of the new ADA- and bicycle-accessible ramp connecting West Madison Avenue through lower Washington Park to East Madison Avenue is complete. This project supports a Safe Route to School for Trailblazer Elementary students and improves ADA and bicycle access to the lower park area. A ribbon-cutting event will be scheduled soon.
- Programs

- General Summer Camp and Ultimate Adventure Camp registration for City residents opened on Monday, February 2 at 10:00 AM.
 - Registration for non-City residents opened today, February 17, at 10:00 AM.
- Special Events
 - The Enchanted Garden Winter Ball was a sold-out success. Guests enjoyed a live DJ, refreshments, and a festive winter-themed experience.
 - The Father/Daughter Dance from this past weekend was also a success. Local dads, uncles, and grandpas enjoyed good food and good music.
- The department is partnering with UVA students as part of an applied course focused on vehicle and pedestrian circulation systems in public parks, using Riverview Park as a case study. Students will examine how circulation patterns are shaped by competing priorities, including environmental stewardship, user experience, and operational efficiency. The work will focus on traffic movement, access control, parking design, emergency vehicle routing, and multimodal transportation integration.
 - As part of this effort, students will evaluate access management strategies such as improving circulation efficiency, identifying secondary exits, and separating flows between different user groups. The outcome will be a concept-level Riverview Park Access Management Plan that supports safety, operational needs, and an improved visitor experience.