



HARRISONBURG | VA
FRIENDLY BY NATURE



April 14, 2026, City Council Meeting

Title

Harrison House Project Update

Summary

The Public Works Department will present an update on the Harrison House Project. No action is needed by Council.

Recommendation

N/A

Fiscal Impact

The City has set aside a \$500,000 match to fund this project.

Context & Analysis

In 2014, the City of Harrisonburg acquired the historic Harrison House from Asbury United Methodist Church with a vision to restore this key landmark. The restoration project was supported by a pledge from the Margaret Grattan Weaver Foundation, promising \$500,000, which the City would match with an equal amount. However, in 2023, due to the closure of the Foundation, the funds were transferred to the Community Foundation with a condition that they be utilized within three years.

In 2024, the City submitted a VA250 Grant application to assist with renovations, however, the project was not selected for funding.

Following the notification from the VA250 Grant, City staff prepared a Request for Proposal (RFP) for architectural firms to provide design services for a project to remove a portion of the Hall House and create a new terrace space. The Hall House removal will reestablish the original Harrison House structure, and the terrace will provide the public with a new shared space to allow viewing of the structure. The terrace will also provide connection to the remaining portions of the Hall House and to Denton Park. Included with this agenda item is a rendering provided by the selected architectural firm.

Next steps for the project are to complete the design and proceed to construction. Construction is anticipated to be completed in 2027.

Options

N/A

Attachments

1. Presentation