

**Work Session Agenda
Staunton City Council
Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers
February 12, 2026
5:00 p.m.**

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------|---|
| 5:00 p.m. | 1. | Consideration of Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas |
| 5:05 p.m. | 2. | Presentation on the Augusta County Military Memorial – “The Garden that Heals” |
| 5:20 p.m. | 3. | Closed Meeting for the Provision of Legal Advice and a Prospective Business (Includes Dinner Break Until Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.) |

**Regular Meeting Agenda
Staunton City Council
Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers
February 12, 2026
7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation/Moment of Silence—Campbell

Mayor's Report

Additional Items by Members of Council

REGULAR MEETING

A. Consent Agenda

A.1. Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Regular Meeting of January 22, 2026

**A.2. Consideration of Resolutions Confirming and Ending the
January 23, 2026 Declaration of Emergency**

A.3. Authorization of Staunton Crossing Utility Easement

**A.4. Consideration of Resolution to Update Bylaws for Bicycle &
Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

**A.5. Consideration of Proclamation to be Presented in Council
Chambers in honor of Brain Injury Awareness Month (March)**

**A.6. Consideration of Fiscal Year 2026 Virginia Commission for the
Arts – Arts in Practice Grant**

**All items will be voted on in one (1) motion. If so requested by any member
of Council, an item placed on the consent agenda shall be removed and
taken up as a separate matter at the end of the Regular Meeting.**

**B. Public Hearing and Consideration of a Request by Stuart Armstrong
to Rezone 912 W Beverley Street from R-4, High Density Residential
District, to B-5, Mixed Use Business District Conditional**

**C. Consideration of Updated Work Plan for Bicycle & Pedestrian
Advisory Committee**

Matters from the City Manager

Matters from the Public*

Adjournment

***Public Participation** For instructions on how to participate in a Public Hearing and Matters from the Public portions of the City Council meeting visit www.staunton.va.us/council.

Per **Council Procedure Memorandum No. 5, Grant Applications**, grants that do not require City funds or property to be contributed as a matching share do not require City Council approval. However, Council's procedure requires that the City Manager report all such grants to Council no later than the second meeting of City Council following their approval and submittal by the City Manager. Recently approved and submitted grants include:

1. **Information Technology:** *Virginia Department of Emergency Management, GIS Grant, \$5,000.* The grant will reimburse some of the costs associated with GIS software and in supporting NG911 services for public safety.

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	City Council
Item #	1	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Integrity Engagement	
Subject:	Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas	

Background: Consistent with Procedural Memorandum No. 3, attached are draft meeting agendas for City Council's consideration and for approval as Council prefers.

Suggested Motion: I move to approve the Work Session agenda and the Regular Meeting agenda [as presented] [with the following changes: as to the Work Session, the addition/deletion of _____; as to the Regular Meeting, the addition/deletion of _____].

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	City Council
Item #	2	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Engagement	
Subject:	Presentation on the Augusta County Military Memorial – “The Garden that Heals”	

Background: The mission of the Augusta County Military Memorial is to preserve the legacy of those citizens of Augusta County, Staunton and Waynesboro, Virginia who served in the United States Military.

Mr. David Zimmerman, representing the Augusta County Military Memorial and Friends of Augusta County Veterans Memorial, will update City Council on a veteran’s memorial and garden that will be constructed at the Augusta County Government Complex in Verona. The design is currently underway and information can be found on their website at <https://augustacountymilitarymemorial.org/>.

The Augusta County Military Memorial is not asking for a financial contribution from the city. They are simply seeking to provide information and answer questions about the memorial and garden being planned. The City of Staunton Seal, along with the City of Waynesboro’s and Augusta County’s, is intended to be featured on the monument itself.

Attachment: Not applicable.

City Manager’s Recommendation: Not applicable

Suggested Motion: Not applicable.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	City Council John C. Blair, II City Attorney
Item #	3	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence	
Subject:	Closed Meeting for the Provision of Legal Advice and a Prospective Business	

Suggested Motion: I move to enter a closed meeting for (i) consultation with legal counsel, the Staunton City Attorney, regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice concerning a potential agreement with the Staunton Redevelopment and Housing Authority and the operations of the Staunton Police Department pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8); and (ii) discussion of a prospective business where no previous announcement has been made of the business' interest in locating in the vicinity of Frontier Drive in the City of Staunton pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(5).

Second. Discussion. Vote – Clerk of Council to poll members of Council.

After the closed meeting: I move that Council reconvene in an open meeting and certify to the best of each member's knowledge that only lawfully exempted public business matters were discussed and that only public business matters as identified in the closed meeting motion were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting.

Second. Discussion. Vote –Clerk of Council to poll members of Council.

City Manager: Leslie M. Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	City Council
Item #:	A	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Integrity; Engagement Strategic Area: An Informed and Engaged Community	
Subject:	Consent Agenda	

Background: As provided in [Council Procedure Memorandum No. 14](#), it is the policy of City Council to have the City Manager place routine, noncontroversial items on a Consent Agenda. Briefings for each item included on the Consent Agenda have been prepared in the manner and format of regular business items on the agenda, with each item described in sufficient detail to provide the public with an appropriate understanding of such item. All matters listed on the Consent Agenda will be enacted by one motion and as a single item. There will be no separate discussion of an item. If discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of a member of City Council and considered separately at the end of the regular meeting agenda.

The Mayor will inquire whether any member of City Council desires to remove any item from the Consent Agenda and to place such item on the regular meeting agenda for separate consideration.

Suggested Motion (if no items removed): I move to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Suggestion Motion (if one or more items removed): I move to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of item(s) _____, and that item(s)_____ be moved to the end of the regular agenda for discussion and a separate vote.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	City Council
Item #	A.1	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Integrity Engagement	
Subject:	Approval of Minutes	

Background: Draft meeting minutes are attached for City Council's consideration and for approval as Council prefers.

Attachment:

Attachment 1 – Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2026

Suggested Motions: I move to approve the work session and regular meeting minutes of January 22, 2026 [as presented] [with the following changes: _____.]

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard



City Council
WORK SESSION
January 22, 2026
5:15 p.m.

Council Members present: Mayor Edwards, Vice Mayor Arrowood, and Councilors Campbell, Overholtzer, Park, Shepherd, and Woods.

Note: Councilor Shepherd arrived at 5:18 p.m.

Mayor Edwards called the meeting to order: Mayor Edwards called this meeting of Staunton City Council to order.

Councilor Overholtzer moved to approve John Blair as Acting City Clerk.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Woods and carried as follows:

Ms. Park	aye	Mr. Shepherd	N/A
Mr. Overholtzer	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
Ms. Woods	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye		

1. Consideration of Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas

Consistent with Procedural Memorandum No. 3, the agendas were presented for Council consideration.

Councilor Woods moved to approve the work session and regular meeting agendas as presented.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Overholtzer and carried as follows:

Ms. Park	aye	Mr. Shepherd	N/A
Mr. Overholtzer	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
Ms. Woods	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye		

2. Joint Budget Work Session—City Council and School Board (Caucus Room)

The Staunton City School Board and City Council met in a joint work session, as in prior years, to discuss general items of mutual interest, such as capital improvement projects and budget development.

Kristin Siegel, Chair of the School Board, called the Board's meeting to order. She thanked the Council for its adherence to the funding formula as well as for City staff's assistance in the onboarding of Superintendent Eric Irizarry and the Board's Finance Director, Katina Claytor-Frye.

Councilor Campbell, the Council's liaison to the School Board, presented a PowerPoint slide deck about the Council's upcoming capital improvement projects including the upcoming Uniontown water and sewer infrastructure project and the needed replacement of a raw water pipeline replacement at the North River.

Dr. Irizarry presented a PowerPoint slide deck about the School Division's upcoming capital improvement projects. He stated that the Division's capital needs are divided into three tiers with Shelburne Middle School renovations as the top tier need, followed by elementary school renovations in the second tier, and the Dixon Educational Center and Operations Center as the third tier. He also highlighted the Virginia School Construction Assistance Fund (SCAF) Program grants as a possible source of funding for school capital projects. The presentation concluded with a video featuring Shelburne Middle School teachers and students advocating for renovations at Shelburne.

After the presentations, the Council and Board discussed the importance of House Bill 334 in this year's General Assembly which would permit a 1% sales tax increase to be used exclusively for school capital needs.

Mr. Campbell asked Dr. Irizarry how far along a project has to be to be eligible for a SCAF grant. Dr. Irizarry said that construction plans must be presented in order for a project to be eligible.

Mayor Edwards and Chair Siegel thanked both bodies for their participation in the Work Session and Chair Siegel adjourned the School Board meeting.

3. Update by Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission

On February 24, 2022, City Council adopted a resolution to establish an Equity and Diversity Commission, now known as the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission. The Commission was tasked with objectively evaluating existing data, studies, and reports from available sources concerning social and racial equity in the City of Staunton that evaluate social determinants and inequitable outcomes within the City of Staunton. Following a public hearing in October 2023, the Commission presented its final report and recommendations to City Council on December 14, 2023.

A Public Hearing was held in February 2024 on the Commission's recommendations and City Council authorized staff to proceed with implementation of the recommendations. On April 25,

2024, the Council approved a resolution to permanently establish the DEI Commission and appointed new members in the fall of 2024. As part of this resolution, the Commission will partner with the City to advance the report's recommendations and will provide an annual report to the Council.

DEI Commission Chair AnhThu Nguyen presented the update to Council. Ms. Nguyen explained that the Commission currently has two subcommittees, a Data and Research Subcommittee and a Community Connections Subcommittee. The Data and Research Subcommittee is focused on Goal B of the 2023 Report: Promote Values of DEI in City Policies, Procedures, and Staff Representation. That Subcommittee is currently examining the recruitment, hiring, and retention of City employees. The Community Connections Subcommittee is focused on education to increase resident engagement with various City initiatives including the Comprehensive Plan. The Subcommittee is currently conducting a “Who We Are” campaign about residents’ different backgrounds and shared goals.

Ms. Nguyen stated that in 2026, the Commission will focus on Board and Commission Outreach, conducting a Community Mutual Aid Fair, and a Youth Art Fair.

Mayor Edwards thanked Ms. Nguyen and others on the Commission in attendance for their work on behalf of the City.

4. Closed Meeting for Disposition of Publicly Held Real Property

Vice-Mayor Arrowood moved to enter a closed meeting for consideration of the disposition of publicly held real property located at the Staunton Crossing development site pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) and to discuss the performance of the Staunton City Manager pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1).

The motion was seconded by Councilor Overholtzer and carried as follows:

Ms. Park	aye	Mr. Shepherd	aye
Mr. Overholtzer	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
Ms. Woods	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye		

The Council reconvened after the closed meeting.

Councilor Woods moved that Council reconvene in an open meeting and certify to the best of each member’s knowledge that only lawfully exempted public business matters were discussed and that only public business matters as identified in the closed meeting motion were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Park and carried as follows:

130	Ms. Park	aye	Mr. Shepherd	aye
131	Mr. Overholtzer	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
132	Ms. Woods	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
133	Mr. Campbell	aye		

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135 The January 22, 2026 Staunton City Council Work Session adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

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John Blair
City Clerk

**REGULAR MEETING OF STAUNTON CITY COUNCIL****Thursday, January 22, 2026****7:00 p.m.****Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Mayor Michele D. Edwards
Vice Mayor Brad D. Arrowood
Adam F. Campbell
Jeff L. Overholtzer
Corrie R. Park
Blake N. Shepherd
Alice L. Woods

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Leslie Beauregard, City Manager
John Blair, City Attorney

Mayor Edwards called the meeting to order: Mayor Edwards called this meeting of Staunton City Council to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

The invocation/moment of silence was given by Vice Mayor Arrowood.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Edwards thanked the City Manager's Office and the Department of Public Works for a recent mailer she received about the trash pick-up schedule as well as what materials can be recycled by the Staunton Recycling Center.

She also highlighted a letter she received commending the City Manager and Sheriff's Office.

Finally, she noted that she was happy to see progress on the Gypsy Hill Pool House.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Councilor Shepherd stated that he attended the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service at the First Presbyterian Church sponsored by Mary Baldwin University. He stated that he was happy to see the entire City Council in attendance.

Councilor Campbell highlighted the potential winter storm this weekend and asked residents to adhere to the Boy Scout motto of "Be Prepared." He also asked that residents be patient and try to help each other with the effects of the winter storm.

Councilor Park stated that the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service is a highlight of her year. She thanked the city departments for the work they will put in this weekend, and she asked that residents stay off city streets and check on their neighbors.

Councilor Overholtzer stated that he is pleased with the number of applicants for City boards and commissions. He also praised the enthusiasm of the board and commission applicants and continued to urge people to volunteer for these opportunities.

Councilor Woods thanked Josh Knight for his work on social media to encourage applicants for City boards and commissions.

Councilor Woods made the following motions out of the Nominations Committee:

I move that the Staunton City Council reappoint Isaac Grant to the Economic Development Authority for a four-year term commencing March 1, 2026 and ending February 28, 2030.

I move that the Staunton City Council reappoint Don Bosserman to the Economic Development Authority for a four-year term commencing April 1, 2026 and ending March 31, 2030.

I move that the Staunton City Council reappoint Suzie Dull to the Economic Development Authority for a four-year term commencing May 1, 2026 and ending April 30, 2030.

I move that the Staunton City Council appoint Kristina Arbogast to the Economic Development Authority for a four-year term commencing February 1, 2026 and ending January 31, 2030.

I move that the Staunton City Council appoint Hans Kettering, Robin Miller, and Isaac Izzillo to three-year terms on the Housing Commission commencing February 1, 2026 and ending January 31, 2029.

I move that the Staunton City Council appoint Brad Arrowood to serve as the Council Liaison to the Housing Commission.

The motion did not require a second, and carried as follows:

93	Ms. Woods	aye	Ms. Park	aye
94	Mr. Shepherd	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
95	Mr. Campbell	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
96	Mr. Overholtzer	aye		

REGULAR MEETING

A. Consent Agenda

A.1. Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Regular Meeting of January 8, 2026

A.2. Consideration of Ordinance Amending City Clerk Provisions in the Staunton City Code and Appointing John Blair as City Clerk

A.3. FY 2026 2nd Quarter Financial Report

A.4. Consideration of Marketing Support of Businesses During Downtown Tunnel and Street Repairs Project

Mayor Edwards made the following statement:

“Per Procedure Memorandum No. 14, it is the policy of City Council to have routine, non-controversial items placed on a Consent Agenda. All items on the Consent Agenda will be voted on in one motion. If separate discussion of an item is requested by any member of Council, that item shall be removed and considered separately at the end of the regular meeting agenda.”

Mayor Edwards asked if any Councilmembers desired to remove any item from the Consent Agenda to be placed on the regular meeting agenda for separate consideration.

Councilor Overholtzer moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Woods and carried as follows:

Ms. Woods	aye	Ms. Park	aye
Mr. Shepherd	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
Mr. Overholtzer	aye		

B. Consideration of Basic Plan of the Regional Emergency Operations Plan

Chief Jason Ball stated as required by the Code of Virginia, Augusta County, and the cities of Staunton and Waynesboro, have recently completed a review and update of the regional Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Staff with the Central Shenandoah Planning District facilitated the update. Virginia State Code requires localities to renew their Emergency Operations Plan on a four-year cycle. This updated plan will replace the 2020 plan, which was re-adopted by City Council on August 14, 2025 until the updates were completed.

Chief Ball highlighted that the Plan focuses on Emergency Services functions. He said there is still work to do on different annexes to the Plan.

Mayor Edwards asked what is the most difficult part of the plan to implement. Chief Ball stated that cooperation among various entities. However, he said that the City has great relationships with other agencies and community partners.

Mayor Edwards asked if the plan incorporates volunteer efforts. Chief Ball said it does include the Red Cross and the CERT team in Augusta County.

Councilor Campbell noted that it's interesting that the plan focuses on functions instead of emergency types.

Mayor Edwards asked Chief Ball to talk about emergency alerts. Chief Ball stated that Everbridge is the City's communications message service. This enables the City to communicate by text, phone, and email during emergencies.

Councilor Shepherd asked if there was still work to be done.

Chief Ball answered in the affirmative. He said there is still work to be done on the Plan's annexes.

Councilor Overholtzer moved that Council approve the Resolution as presented adopting the revised Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Emergency Operations Plan.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Shepherd and carried as follows:

Ms. Woods	aye	Ms. Park	aye
Mr. Shepherd	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
Mr. Overholtzer	aye		

C. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing Virginia Department of Transportation Inventory Adjustment

Lyle Hartt, City Engineer, stated construction of the public infrastructure of South View Section 4, including Rolling Ridge Court and the extension of Stonewall Jackson Boulevard, was accepted by the City into its public street system in September 2025. The City wishes to add these newly

constructed streets to the City's Urban Maintenance Inventory registered with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), as is required to receive reimbursement from VDOT for the maintenance of such qualifying roads. To accomplish this, City Council needs to adopt the attached resolution. A sketch of the new sections of the streets is referenced in the resolution, and is also attached to the materials provided to Council.

Councilor Campbell said that there were a number of mark ups for the developer to correct. He asked if they have been corrected? Mr. Hartt stated that they have been remedied.

Councilor Overholtzer thanked City staff for working with the residents in the neighborhood.

Vice-Mayor Arrowood moved that City Council adopt the proposed resolution authorizing the Virginia Department of Transportation to add Rolling Ridge Court and the extension of Stonewall Jackson Boulevard, as shown on Exhibit A of the resolution, to the City's local system of roads in the Urban Maintenance Inventory.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Overholtzer and carried as follows:

Ms. Woods	aye	Ms. Park	aye
Mr. Shepherd	aye	Vice Mayor Arrowood	aye
Mr. Campbell	aye	Mayor Edwards	aye
Mr. Overholtzer	aye		

D. Update on Phase I of the Downtown Tunnel and Street Repairs—Byers Street

Lyle Hartt, City Engineer, states that in response to the identified tunnel and street repairs needed downtown and at the Wharf following the August 2020 floods, the City has developed a comprehensive strategy that addresses fixing the infrastructure and mitigating the impacts on the City's residents and businesses. In August 2020, two devastating floods, two weeks apart, impacted the City of Staunton, principally areas in downtown and at the Wharf. A summary of previous updates can be found in Attachment 1.

Phase I – Byers Street Repairs

The first phase will be to repair the tunnel section under Byers Street so that the street can be reopened to all modes of transportation and act as a detour when the work occurs on Johnson Street. Attachment 3 is the Byers Street traffic plan as presented by Wiley|Wilson. The entirety of the eastern portion of the Wharf parking lot will be closed, which means no vehicles will be able to enter onto Byers St. from Johnson St. And while much of the on-street parking on Byers St. will remain, some spaces may need to be closed off. There is a private residence with a driveway accessing their property on Byers St., and those property owners will maintain access during construction.

Phase I is expected to mobilize in early February. City staff will provide an update on the construction and answer questions.

Mr. Hartt concluded by thanking Josh Knight for establishing the project website for the public and stakeholders.

Vice-Mayor Arrowood asked if the timeline presented is subject to change. Mr. Hartt stated that the timeline is an estimate, but as the work gets underway in areas that haven't been touched in decades, it could change the timeline. However, this is the current best guess for the timeline of work.

Councilor Overholtzer stressed that great efforts are being taken in the marketing campaign and by City staff to inform residents and others that businesses at the Wharf will remain open and accessible during the construction.

Councilor Shepherd asked if the Byers Street U turn would still be available. Mr. Hartt replied in the affirmative.

MATTERS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Ms. Beauregard presented updates and information on the following items:

There will be a Comprehensive Plan stakeholder meeting for the deaf community at the Staunton Public Library on January 28, 2026 at 5:15 p.m. And ASL interpreter will be on sight.

She thanked Councilor Campbell for urging residents to be prepared for the coming winter storm. She noted that parking will be prohibited in parts of downtown in order for snow plows to operate. She said that parking in city lots and parking garages is free during the winter storm.

She also urged residents to stay off the roads on Sunday if at all possible. If residents need to be on the road, she asked that they take their time and have an emergency plan.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mayor Edwards read the following statement:

"This part of City Council's agenda is entitled matters from the public. It is a time that Council sets aside to hear from citizens and others about a wide variety of subjects. A copy of the Staunton City Council's 'Matters from the Public' rules is available in paper form at the Clerk's desk and online at the City of Staunton webpage. You are asked to familiarize yourself with those rules before commenting. Please come to the podium or raise your hand, identify yourself, and complete your remarks within five minutes."

Erica Zipser stated that she is a twelve-year Staunton resident, the daughter of an immigrant, a mother, disabled, and queer. She stated that ICE is terrorizing the country and highlighted the murders of Minneapolis and Portland residents by federal agents. In both instances, she noted that

277 local police would not aid individuals who called the police. She stated that she emailed the
278 Staunton Police Department on January 9, 2026 to ask if residents can call SPD for help if they
279 are assaulted by ICE or DHS agents. She did not receive a response. She emailed the SPD again
280 on January 15, 2026 with the same question and has not received a response. She noted Governor
281 Spanberger's recent actions regarding ICE and the Virginia State Police and DOC. She said the
282 Staunton Police Department should take this a step further and commit to protect residents and
283 other people in their jurisdiction.

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285 Aaron Barmer thanked the Department of Public Works employees in advance for their work
286 during the coming winter storm. He also urged Staunton residents to help each other and to stay
287 off the roads during the coming winter storm. He thanks the Staunton Fire and Rescue Department
288 as well as the Augusta Rescue Squad for their work during the upcoming winter storm and hoped
289 that the Staunton Police Department and Sheriff's Office would have an uneventful winter storm.
290 He congratulated Governor Spanberger, Lieutenant Governor Hashmi, and Attorney General Jones
291 on their recent elections and said he and his neighbors would work with them to remove the
292 foulness of Jim Crow from Virginia. He stated that the members of Council were abdicating their
293 authority by not calling for a special session in which there could be discourse with members of
294 the public. He also stated that Jim Williams and the Staunton Police Department would not keep
295 Staunton safe if ICE comes to Staunton. He stated that ICE agents include J6ers, and unreformed,
296 pardoned Proud Boys.

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299 **ADJOURNMENT**

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301 There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.
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John C. Blair, II
Clerk of Council

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	Leslie M. Beauregard, City Manager John C. Blair, II City Attorney
Item #	A.2	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Excellence Strategic Area: An Informed and Engaged Community	
Subject:	Consideration of Resolutions Confirming and Ending the January 23, 2026 Declaration of Emergency	

Background: After consultation with the Fire Chief, Director of Public Works, and a representative from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, the City Manager, acting in her capacity as the director of emergency management, declared a local emergency pursuant to Virginia Code Section 44-146.21 on January 23, 2026 in anticipation of a prospective winter storm.

Virginia Code Section 44-146.21 requires the Staunton City Council to confirm the January 23, 2026 Declaration of Local Emergency at its next regular meeting or at a special meeting.

Additionally, Virginia Code Section 44-146.21 requires the Staunton City Council to take appropriate action to end the Declaration of Emergency.

The Staunton City Manager, in consultation with City staff, believes it is appropriate for the City Council to end the Declaration of Emergency.

Attachments:

Attachment 1—January 23, 2026 Declaration of Emergency

Attachment 2—Resolution Confirming the January 23, 2026 Declaration of Emergency

Attachment 3—Resolution Ending the January 23, 2026 Declaration of Emergency

City Manager Recommendation: Adopt the resolutions as presented.

Suggested Motions: I move to adopt the resolution confirming the January 23, 2026 Declaration of Emergency as presented.

I move to adopt the resolution ending the January 23, 2026 Declaration of Emergency as presented.

City Manager: Leslie M. Beauregard

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
BY THE CITY OF STAUNTON
LOCAL DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 44-146.21 authorizes the declaration of a local emergency;

WHEREAS, Leslie M. Beauregard, City Manager and Emergency Management Director of the City of Staunton, Virginia finds and declares:

1. That due to a forecasted severe winter storm which may result in significant winter precipitation including, but not limited to, snow and ice and temperatures projected to be below freezing for several days that may result in transportation difficulties and power outages; and

2. The severe winter storm may result in substantial injury or harm to the population of Staunton, Virginia or substantial damage to or loss of property or natural resources and may involve governmental action beyond that authorized or contemplated by existing law because governmental inaction for the period required to amend the law to meet the exigency would work immediate and irrevocable harm upon the citizens or the environment of the City of Staunton, Virginia.

WHEREAS, such conditions necessitate the declaration of the existence of a local emergency, to the fullest extent permitted by law; and

WHEREAS, these recitals are an integral part of this declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Virginia Code § 44-146.21, subject to confirmation of Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, Leslie M. Beauregard, City Manager and Emergency Management Director for the City of Staunton, Virginia, declares the existence and continuance of a local emergency in the City of Staunton, to the fullest extent permitted by law; and

IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED that, to the fullest extent permitted by law, during the existence of such emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Local Emergency Management Director, Local Emergency Management Coordinator, and local emergency services planning organization or committee and City staff shall be those prescribed by state law and the ordinances, resolutions, and authorized plans of the City of Staunton in order to mitigate the effects and otherwise address such emergency.

IT IS FURTHER DECLARED that pursuant to Virginia Code Section 44-146.21, the Staunton City Council shall consider the confirmation of this Emergency Declaration at its February 12, 2026 Regular Meeting.



Leslie M. Beauregard,
City Manager and
Emergency Management Director

Date: January 23, 2026

Time: 4:18 p.m.

State of: Virginia

City of: Staunton, to wit:

The foregoing Declaration of Local Emergency was acknowledged before me this 23rd day of January, 2026, by Leslie M. Beauregard, City Manager and Director of Emergency Management.



Morgan Smith,

Notary Public Registration # 7765887

My commission expires: 1/31/26

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
CONSENTING TO AND CONFIRMING DECLARATION OF A LOCAL
EMERGENCY BEGINNING JANUARY 23, 2026**

Recitals

- A. Virginia Code § 44-146.21 authorizes the declaration of a local emergency;
- B. Section 11 of the Charter of the City of Staunton also grants broad powers to City Council;
- C. Leslie M. Beauregard, City Manager and Emergency Management Director of the City of Staunton, Virginia declared a local emergency on January 23, 2026; and
- D. These recitals are an integral part of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia:

1. CONFIRMS, RESOLVES, AND DECLARES, pursuant to Virginia Code § 44-146.21 and such other applicable laws, including, but not limited to, the powers granted by the Charter of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that on January 23, 2026, the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, could not and did not convene due to the exigent circumstances and that a local emergency did exist throughout the City of Staunton, Virginia, and

2. RESOLVES that Council **CONSENTS** to and **CONFIRMS** the City Manager's January 23, 2026 Declaration of Emergency, and **RATIFIES** and **AFFIRMS** that all City officials are granted such authority, pursuant to extant law, in such circumstances to take all actions, to the fullest extent permitted by law, to prevent or alleviate the damage, loss, hardship or suffering threatened or caused or being caused by such local emergency.

Introduced: February 12, 2026
Adopted: February 12, 2026
Effective:

Michele D. Edwards, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

The Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia:

Introduced: February 12, 2026
Adopted: February 12, 2026
Effective: February 12, 2026

Michele D. Edwards, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	City Council John Blair, II City Attorney
Item #	A.3	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Strategic Area: An Economically Vibrant Community	
Subject:	Authorization of Staunton Crossing Utility Easement	

Background: The Staunton City Council and the Staunton Economic Development Authority (EDA) entered into a Contribution Agreement on November 11, 2010. The Contribution Agreement requires the Council to provide its consent for the EDA to convey or relinquish any property interest in the Staunton Crossing property. The Council's consent is necessary for the establishment, relocation, or vacation of utility easements.

In order for the new water tower located at Staunton Crossing to receive electricity, it is necessary to grant an electric easement to Dominion Energy (Virginia Electric Power Company).

The EDA considered the easement at its February 5, 2026 meeting and authorized the EDA Chair to execute the easement if the Staunton City Council grants its permission pursuant to the 2010 Contribution Agreement.

Attachment: Proposed Easement

City Manager's Recommendation: Authorize the Staunton Economic Development Authority Chair to sign the electric easement.

Suggested Motion: I move that the Staunton City Council authorize the Staunton Economic Development Authority Chair to sign the electric easement as presented in a form approved by the Staunton Economic Development Authority's legal counsel.

City Manager: Leslie M. Beauregard



Right of Way Agreement

THIS RIGHT OF WAY AGREEMENT, is made and entered into as of this _____ day of _____, by and between **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA ("GRANTOR")** and VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY, a Virginia public service corporation, doing business in Virginia as Dominion Energy Virginia, with its principal office in Richmond, Virginia ("**GRANTEE**").

WITNESSETH:

1. That for and in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency whereof is hereby acknowledged, **GRANTOR** grants and conveys unto **GRANTEE** its successors and assigns, the perpetual right, privilege and exclusive easement over, under, through, upon and across the property described herein, for the purpose of transmitting and distributing electric power by one or more circuits; for its own internal telephone and other internal communication purposes directly related to or incidental to the generation, distribution, and transmission of electricity; for fiber optic cables, wires, attachments, and other transmission facilities, and all equipment, accessories and appurtenances desirable in connection therewith, for the purpose of transmitting voice, text, data, internet services, and other communications services, including the wires and attachments of third parties; and for lighting purposes; including but not limited to the rights:

1.1 to lay, construct, operate and maintain one or more lines of underground conduits and cables including, without limitation, one or more lighting supports and lighting fixtures as **GRANTEE** may from time to time determine, and all wires, conduits, cables, transformers, transformer enclosures, concrete pads, manholes, handholes, connection boxes, accessories and appurtenances desirable in connection therewith; the width of said exclusive easement shall extend **FIFTEEN (15)** feet in width across the lands of **GRANTOR**;

1.2 Paragraph is for granting overhead rights within this Right of Way Agreement and is intentionally not included.

1.3 to apportion, lease, or license the voice, text, data, internet service, and other communications rights herein in whole or in part to third parties as may be useful or practical, including the rights to transmit third party data and the right to apportion, lease, or license surplus communications capacity to third parties for the exercise of such rights.

2. The easement granted herein shall extend across the lands of **GRANTOR** situated in **City of Staunton**, Virginia, as more fully described on Plat(s) Numbered **82-25-0012**, attached to and made a part of this Right of Way Agreement; the location of the boundaries of said easement being shown in broken lines on said Plat(s), reference being made thereto for a more particular description thereof.

3. All facilities constructed hereunder shall remain the property of **GRANTEE**. **GRANTEE** shall have the right to inspect, including but not limited to the airspace above the property controlled by **GRANTOR**, reconstruct, remove, repair, improve, relocate on and within the easement area and make such changes, alterations, substitutions, additions to or extensions of its facilities as **GRANTEE** may from time to time deem advisable.

This Document Prepared by Virginia Electric and Power Company and should be returned to: Dominion Energy Virginia, 1719 Hydraulic Road, Attn: R/W, Charlottesville, VA 22901

Initials: _____

Parcel ID No: 12412

DEVID No(s): 82-25-0012

Page 1 of 4



Right of Way Agreement

4. **GRANTEE** shall have the right to keep the easement clear of all buildings, structures, trees, roots, undergrowth and other obstructions which would interfere with its exercise of the rights granted hereunder, including, without limitation, the right to trim, top, retrim, retop, cut and keep clear any trees or brush inside and outside the boundaries of the easement that may endanger the safe and proper operation of its facilities. All trees and limbs cut by **GRANTEE** shall remain the property of **GRANTOR**.

5. For the purpose of exercising the right granted herein, **GRANTEE** shall have the right of ingress to and egress from this easement over such private roads as may now or hereafter exist on the property of **GRANTOR**. The right, however, is reserved to **GRANTOR** to shift, relocate, close or abandon such private roads at any time. If there are no public or private roads reasonably convenient to the easement, **GRANTEE** shall have such right of ingress and egress over the lands of **GRANTOR** adjacent to the easement. **GRANTEE** shall exercise such rights in such manner as shall occasion the least practicable damage and inconvenience to **GRANTOR**.

6. **GRANTEE** shall repair damage to roads, fences, or other improvements (a) inside the boundaries of the easement (subject, however, to **GRANTEE's** rights set forth in Paragraph 4 of this Right of Way Agreement) and (b) outside the boundaries of the easement and shall repair or pay **GRANTOR**, at **GRANTEE's** option, for other damage done to **GRANTOR's** property inside the boundaries of the easement (subject, however, to **GRANTEE's** rights set forth in Paragraph 4 of this Right of Way Agreement) and outside the boundaries of the easement caused by **GRANTEE** in the process of the construction, inspection, and maintenance of **GRANTEE's** facilities, or in the exercise of its right of ingress and egress; provided **GRANTOR** gives written notice thereof to **GRANTEE** within sixty (60) days after such damage occurs.

7. **GRANTOR**, its successors and assigns, may use the easement for any reasonable purpose not inconsistent with the rights hereby granted, provided such use does not interfere with **GRANTEE's** exercise of any of its rights hereunder. **GRANTOR** shall not have the right to construct any building, structure, or other above ground obstruction on the easement; provided, however, **GRANTOR** may construct on the easement fences, landscaping (subject, however, to **GRANTEE's** rights in Paragraph 4 of this Right of Way Agreement), paving, sidewalks, curbing, gutters, street signs, and below ground obstructions as long as said fences, landscaping, paving, sidewalks, curbing, gutters, street signs, and below ground obstructions do not interfere with **GRANTEE's** exercise of any of its rights granted hereunder. In the event such use does interfere with **GRANTEE's** exercise of any of its rights granted hereunder, **GRANTEE** may, in its reasonable discretion, relocate such facilities as may be practicable to a new site designated by **GRANTOR** and acceptable to **GRANTEE**. In the event any such facilities are so relocated, **GRANTOR** shall reimburse **GRANTEE** for the cost thereof and convey to **GRANTEE** an equivalent easement at the new site.

8. **GRANTEE's** right to assign or transfer its rights, privileges and easements, as granted herein, shall be strictly limited to the assignment or transfer of such rights, privileges and easements to any business which lawfully assumes any or all of **GRANTEE's** obligations as a public service company or such other obligations as may be related to or incidental to **GRANTEE's** stated business purpose as a public service company; and any such business to which such rights, privileges and easements may be assigned shall be bound by all of the terms, conditions and restrictions set forth herein.

9. If there is an Exhibit A attached hereto, then the easement granted hereby shall additionally be subject to all terms and conditions contained therein provided said Exhibit A is executed by **GRANTOR** contemporaneously herewith and is recorded with and as a part of this Right of Way Agreement

10. Whenever the context of this Right of Way Agreement so requires, the singular number shall mean the plural and the plural the singular.

Initials: _____

DEVID No(s): 82-25-0012

Page 2 of 4

Right of Way Agreement

11. **GRANTOR** covenants that it is seised of and has the right to convey this easement and the rights and privileges granted hereunder; that **GRANTEE** shall have quiet and peaceable possession, use and enjoyment of the aforesaid easement, rights and privileges; and that **GRANTOR** shall execute such further assurances thereof as may be reasonably required.

12. The individual executing this Right of Way Agreement on behalf of **GRANTOR** warrants that they have been duly authorized to execute this easement on behalf of said Economic Development Authority of the City of Staunton, Virginia.

NOTICE TO LANDOWNER: You are conveying rights to a public service corporation. A public service corporation may have the right to obtain some or all these rights through exercise of eminent domain. To the extent that any of the rights being conveyed are not subject to eminent domain, you have the right to choose not to convey those rights and you could not be compelled to do so. You have the right to negotiate compensation for any rights that you are voluntarily conveying.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, GRANTOR has caused its name to be signed hereto by authorized officer or agent, described below, on the date first above written.

Economic Development Authority of the City of
Staunton, Virginia

By: _____

Title: _____

Commonwealth of _____ Virginia _____

City/County of _____

I, _____, a Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia at Large,
do hereby certify that this day personally appeared before me in my jurisdiction aforesaid

_____, _____ on behalf of the Economic Development,
(Name of officer or agent) (Title of officer or agent)

Authority of the City of Staunton, Virginia whose name is signed to the foregoing writing this _____ day of
_____, _____ and acknowledged the same before me.

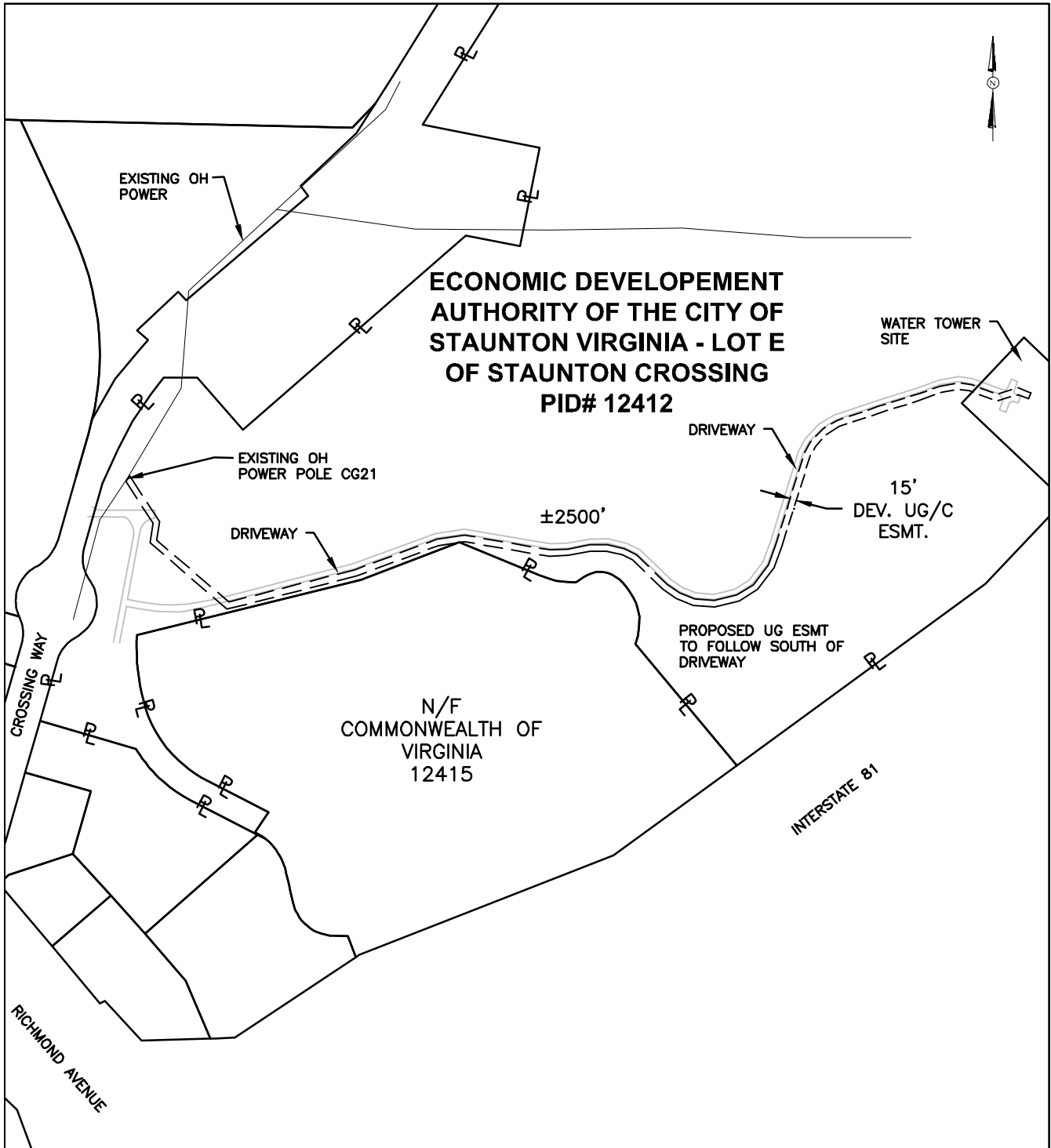
Given under my hand _____, 20_____

Notary Public (Print Name)

Notary Public (Signature)

Virginia Notary Reg. No. _____

My Commission Expires: _____



LEGEND - - - Location of Right-of-Way Boundary - P - Indicates Property Line is Right-of-Way Boundary *NOTE: The centerline of the facilities in the field determine the centerline of the easement.	Region	Local Office	State	PLAT TO ACCOMPANY UG/C RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY doing business as Dominion Energy Virginia
	Western	Blue Ridge	VA	
	County-City		Grid Number	
	Staunton		F1130	
	Work Request No.	DEVID No.	Scale	
	10713175	82-25-0012	Not to Scale	
	Date	By		
	11/12/2025	R. Mason		
OWNER INITIALS _____				Page 4 of 4

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	Rodney Rhodes Community Development Director Meggie Taylor Long Range & Comprehensive Planner
Item #	A.4	
Department:	Community Development – Planning Division	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Inclusion & Equity; Excellence; Engagement; Environmentally Conscious Strategic Areas: A Resilient and Sustainable Community; A Healthy Community; An Informed and Engaged Community	
Subject:	Consideration of Resolution to Update Bylaws for Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee	

Background: At the November 18, 2025 and December 16, 2025 meetings of the Staunton Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), members reviewed the committee's founding resolution and bylaws. The committee discussed necessary updates to better reflect its evolving role, current priorities, and operational needs. The proposed changes aim to align the committee's governing documents with its current activities in active transportation advocacy and community engagement.

Discussion: Staff is presenting a resolution to amend the BPAC bylaws. The attached resolution incorporates the following key updates:

- **Clarification of Role (Section 2d):** Language has been included to explicitly state the committee's function "to promote active transportation through community engagement, and to conduct public education campaigns on relevant policies and best practices." This addition confirms the role of the committee regarding public outreach.
- **Committee Composition (Section 3a-d):** The resolution updates the composition requirements to ensure broader representation and operational capacity. This includes the addition of one member to the committee roster and adjustments to the specific composition requirements for appointees.
- **Administrative Updates (Section 3):** The text has been updated to reflect current departmental titles, changing references from "Director of Planning & Inspections" to

"Director of Community Development." Additionally, the text specifies the process for the annual election of a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

Attachment: Staunton Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee Resolution

City Manager's Recommendation: Adopt the resolution, as presented.

Suggested Motion: I move to adopt the resolution, as presented.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

1. The Staunton Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee is hereby reaffirmed to advise the City Council, City Manager, and City staff on the implementation of city plans, and to serve as a community liaison regarding the safety, education, and development of a walkable and bikeable community. The Staunton Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee shall have the following duties:
 - a. to prepare a bicycle and pedestrian program work plan setting forth goals and objectives, subject to approval by City Council;
 - b. to review the work plan annually and propose updates to it, as needed, with such updates subject to approval by City Council;
 - c. to review data inventories on walking and biking in the City; and
 - d. to make an annual report to City Council concerning the activities of the committee and the fulfillment of the goals and objectives set forth in the work plan.
2. The Staunton Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee shall generally have the following additional duties, to the extent requested by the City Council or City Manager or designee as to specific matters:
 - a. to advise city staff on bicycle and pedestrian related matters;

- 41 b. to assist in implementation, and achievement of the goals, of any bicycle and pedestrian plan
42 that may be adopted by the City;
43 c. to work with the City to achieve safe bicycle and pedestrian connectivity for all citizens;
44 d. to solicit input and feedback from community members and local advocates on bicycling
45 and pedestrian matters, to promote active transportation through community engagement,
46 and to conduct public education campaigns on relevant policies and best practices;
47 e. to perform such additional functions or duties as may be so identified as to specific matters
48 by the City Council or City Manager or designee.
49

50 3. The Staunton Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee shall consist of seven members to be
51 appointed by City Council, at least one of whom shall be a sworn law enforcement officer of the
52 Staunton Police Department. The Council shall give first consideration to the following
53 categories of applicants:

- 54 a. a representative of a bicycle or pedestrian advocacy group;
55 b. a representative of an organization concerned with education and safety;
56 c. a representative of a business organization; or
57 d. an interested private citizen concerned with non-motorized transportation issues.
58

59 Each committee member shall be appointed by City Council for a two (2) year term. The
60 Committee shall annually elect from its membership the following officers by a majority vote of
61 a quorum of the Committee:

- 62 • A Chair, to serve as presiding officer;
63 • A Vice Chair, to preside in the absence of the Chair; and
64 • A Secretary, to be responsible for taking minutes of the meetings.
65

66 4. The Director of Community Development shall be responsible for the assignment of staff
67 support to the committee in the exercise of its functions, powers and duties.
68

69 5. All meetings of the committee shall be open to the public and otherwise held in accordance with
70 the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
71

72 6. Nothing in this resolution shall modify or curtail the functions, duties or authority of other
73 public bodies, including the Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Commission.
74

75 Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026.
76
77
78

79 _____
80 Michele Edwards, Mayor
81

82 _____
83 John Blair, Clerk of Council

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	City Council
Item #	A.5	
Department:	City Council	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Engagement	
Subject:	Consideration of Proclamation to be Presented in Council Chambers in honor of Brain Injury Awareness Month	

Background: Per [City Council Procedure Memorandum No. 19](#), all proclamations presented in Council Chambers must be approved by City Council at the preceding regular meeting.

The item before City Council is the approval of a request for a proclamation to be presented in Council Chambers at the March 12, 2026 Council meeting. The proclamation is in recognition of **Brain Injury Awareness Month**. Should Council approve this proclamation, it will be prepared for presentation at the beginning of the Regular Meeting on March 12, 2026.

Attachment: Not applicable

City Manager's Recommendation: Not applicable

Suggested Motion: I move to approve the requested proclamation in recognition of **Brain Injury Awareness Month**, for presentation at the March 12, 2026 City Council meeting.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	Sarah Skrobis Director of Library Services
Item #	A.6	
Department:	Library	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Value: Engagement Strategic Area: A Healthy Community	
Subject:	Consideration of Fiscal Year 2026 Virginia Commission for the Arts – Arts in Practice Grant	

Background: Arts in Practice Grants expand access to high-quality artist-led residencies throughout Virginia, ensuring that Virginians can experience enriching educational programming through dynamic artist-led residencies. Arts in Practice activities must be facilitated in-person but may vary in duration and format. These activities are designed to support a diverse range of learning environments for participants of all ages, and/or professional development opportunities for educators. We are inviting local artist Brigitte Huson to teach a three-part series of painting classes to library patrons.

Community Focus:

The library's mission includes providing access to information which help fulfill the educational and recreational needs of our city. The expense and availability of art classes can be barriers to many in our community who wish to participate and learn. By providing these classes free of charge at a welcoming, accessible location such as the Staunton Public Library, we expand opportunities for underserved members of our community. We will advertise these classes as we do all our programs by including it on many different platforms to reach as many citizens as possible. Inclusion in the library's quarterly program guide as well as on our social media pages and other community calendars and boards.

Fiscal Impact: This grant program is designed to reimburse eligible organizations for up to \$2,000 that partner with artists on the VCA Teaching Artist Roster. Grant awards to organizations must include a 15% cash match. The total cost is \$900 for our three planned classes. Because this grant requires a cash match, per City Council Procedure Memorandum No. 5, submitting an

application for this grant requires approval by City Council. The city's 15% match (\$135 total) for the grant will be paid with existing funds in the library's Special Programs budget line.

City Manager's Recommendation: Recommend that City Council authorize staff to apply for the Arts in Practice Grant.

Suggested Motion: I move City Council authorize staff to apply for the Arts in Practice Grant.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, Virginia

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	Tim Hartless Planning Manager
Item #	B	
Department:	Community Development— Planning and Zoning	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Strategic Area: An Economically Vibrant Community	
Subject:	Public Hearing and Consideration of a Request by Stuart Armstrong to Rezone 912 W Beverley Street, Parcel Identification Number 9168, from R-4, High Density Residential District, to B-5, Mixed Use Business District Conditional	

Background: Stuart Armstrong is requesting a rezoning of 912 W Beverley Street from R-4, High Density Residential District, to B-5, Mixed Use Business District Conditional. The property is located on the south side of W Beverley Street in the block between Montgomery Avenue and Stafford Street and located in the Newtown Historic District. The property consists of a building which is approximately 14,136 square feet (two floors) on a lot that is approximately 16,500 square feet. The building was constructed in the early 1900s and opened as the Dunsmore Business College. The business college closed in 1977. For a short time, the building was home to the Valley Mission but has mostly been vacant since the early to mid-1980s.

A current zoning map, proposed rezoning map, and recommended land use map of the requested area are attached.

Analysis: The current R-4 zoning of the property allows for a range of residential uses including single-family, two family, and multi-family. The 16,500 square foot lot size allows for up to seven multi-family units. Over the years, staff has had many conversations with various

developers related to reuse of this building but the seven-unit limit, the parking required for those units, and the lack of space available onsite to construct those parking spaces has always been a challenge to make redevelopment work. As a result, the building has been vacant for the past 40 years.

If the rezoning is approved, the applicant plans to create low-income multi-family units for seniors. If the B-5 conditional zoning is approved, the number of units permitted here will be determined based on the amount of parking that can be provided (not based on lot size as with R-4). For senior housing, one parking space is required for every two units. It is worth noting that B-5 zoning does allow for off-site parking (parking on other properties); however, in this case, all surrounding zoning is residential and parking is not a permitted principal use in residential zoning districts. So, required parking for the proposed use must be located on the 912 W Beverley Street property. This will likely be accomplished with the construction of a small parking lot or parking deck on the rear of the property, accessed from Anderson Street. Under the current R-4 zoning, there is a minimum 25-foot setback from Anderson Street which makes construction of a parking deck infeasible. However, in the B-5 district, no setback is required for construction of a parking deck.

Proffers Offered by the Applicant: City staff conducted a review of the proposed rezoning and generally supports the request. However, staff did express concerns with the wide range of business uses that are permitted in B-5. In response to those concerns, the applicant has offered proffers to make this a B-5 conditional zoning request. The conditions proffered, eliminate all business uses and limit the use of the property to those uses permitted in the R-4, High Density Residential District.

Rezoning is only the first step in multi-step process to redevelop the property for the intended use. A site plan will be required for construction of any parking facilities and a building permit will be required for a change in building code use group. Site plan and building permit approval cannot occur until after the applicant has demonstrated that they can provide the required number of parking spaces onsite.

Surrounding zoning is all R-4, High Density Residential. Surrounding uses include a mixture of single-family and multi-family dwellings.

The “Generalized Land Use and Development Guide, Future Land Use Map” *Staunton, Virginia, Comprehensive Plan 2018 – 2040*, designates this area as Neighborhood Residential. These are older neighborhoods which can be characterized by large housing units on small lots. One of the policies of this designation is to encourage the development of in-fill housing units that are compatible with the existing facilities and structures. The existing Dunsmore building (14,136 SF) is far too large to be used for only one single-family unit. If the property is to be reused, multi-family use is the most reasonable use.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

At its meeting on January 15, 2026, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing. During the public hearing two people spoke in opposition to the request expressing concerns with the limited amount of parking currently available on Anderson Street. On a 4-0 vote, the Commission unanimously voted to recommend approval of the request.

Attachments:

Attachment 1—Application and Supporting Documents

Attachment 2—Vicinity Map

Attachment 3—Current Zoning

Attachment 4—Proposed Rezoning

Attachment 5—2018-2040 Future Land Use Map for the Area

Attachment 6—Proffers Offered by the Applicant for Conditional Zoning (showing strikethrough of business uses)

Attachment 7—Draft Ordinance

Suggested Motion: I move that Council adopt the ordinance and approve the conditional rezoning as recommended by the Planning Commission.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard



Application for Rezoning

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Planning & Zoning Division

Applicant: STUART ARMSTRONG Date: 12.3.25

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone #s: Primary: [REDACTED] Secondary: [REDACTED]

Email address: [REDACTED]

If the applicant is NOT the owner of the property in question, explain. A copy of a pending contract or option agreement shall be attached hereto and made a part of this application.

Name of person to be notified in addition to the applicant and/or property owner:

Name: NEHEMIAS VELEZ

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone #: [REDACTED]

Email address: [REDACTED]

Location of property:
912 W. BEVELEY ST

Legal description of property:
LOT 1 ON PLAT SHOWING BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT

Purpose of request: REZONING TO SUPPORT PROPOSED ADAPTIVE USE PROJECT

Map Provided: YES ☒ NO ☐

Present zoning classification of property: R-4

Requested zoning classification: B-5

List permits pending approval of this rezoning: NONE

Fee Paid (\$250) YES ☒ NO ☐ *check or cash only

Applicant must provide 19 copies of complete application

Signature of applicant: [Signature]
(Owner / Agent)



Photo #1 – Map from GIS showing location of property.



Photo #2 – View of the property approaching from the west on W. Beverley Street.

Adaptive Reuse of the Historic Dunsmore Business College

History, Need, Economic and Social Impact Analysis

Case Statement

The following information about the adaptive reuse of the iconic Dunsmore's Business College (DBC) is reflected in a historical context, the current need for very low-income senior housing, the economic implications for the city and community, and the positive social impact of such development. The findings are presented to inform city officials, planners, and stakeholders, offering an objective basis for decision-making and strategic planning in alignment with the city's housing policy and community goals.

1. Historical Overview and Context of Dunsmore

The origin of the DBC can be traced back as a replication of Mr. Dunsmore's efforts in West Virginia where he returned from his pursuit of a formal education to his rural community where the primary economy grew out of the coal industry. Mr. Dunsmore felt the best way he could give back to his hometown was by establishing a small community school/college that provided training in the basics of business so that those not working in the coal mines could gain sustainable employment (mainly women) to support and grow the industry while making the area prosper and attracting additional capital for other businesses. Once established and flourishing Mr. Dunsmore was offered a teaching position in the 1880's, which is now Mary Baldwin/Stuart Hall, which was known as a women's seminary school. Building on his success in West Virginia, he decided to raise the funds to hire the infamous architect, T.C. Collins, to design the current Dunsmore Business College building at 912 West Beverley Street in Staunton. The building was built in 1905, just in time and in alignment with the suffragette movement in that Mr. Dunsmore embraced the potential of women in business/leadership that culminated in the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920, giving women the right to vote.

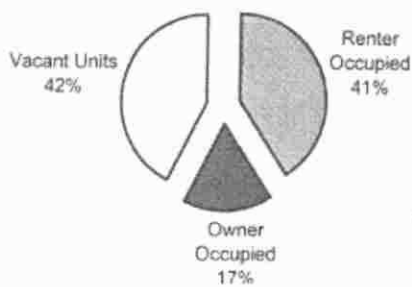
It should be noted too that Mr. Dunsmore was ahead of his time in that the establishment of Virginia's Community College network didn't officially happen by the General Assembly until 1966, fifty years later. This new strategy in offering a secondary alternative over the next decade led to the closing of the DBC in 1977. It was later briefly used as a soup-kitchen/mission to the point the maintenance and lack of off-street parking caused its final demise in that it has now been vacant for over four decades.

In 2005 the city pursued a state CDBG planning grant to research how best to approach the significant housing decay on the west end of the Newtown Neighborhood to conduct a needs analysis primarily focused on the 800 and 900 blocks of West Beverley, Anderson and

Heidenreich. At the time, the City Manager, Bob Stripling and his Economic Development Director, Bill Hamilton, reached out to Stu Armstrong, Executive Director of Piedmont Housing Alliance, who was recommended by Mr. Huja, Charlottesville City's Chief of Community Development and long-time professional associate of Mr. Stripling. Mr. Armstrong had an in-depth experience in leading four different neighborhood revitalizing projects from 1998 to 2010 using a variety of complex public and private funding sources at the state, regional and local level.

Mr. Armstrong in 2005 began doing what he did in Charlottesville by quietly reviewing the key characteristics of the targeted area and learning the ownership of various dilapidated/vacant properties that were contributing to the depreciating values within a two or three block area. From the city's planning grant information, the targeted area characteristics were in 2005 dismal to say the least (see two charts below), but with the right vision, strategic investing, and competent partners, Mr. Armstrong felt things could be turned around.

Current Housing Mix in Target Area



Targeted Area Characteristics in 2005

Future Potential Housing Mix in Target Area



Targeted Area Characteristics Nearly Completed

Note: Less the Dunsmore Business College

2005

Newtown Statistics Target Area Statistics	# of Units	%
Total Housing Units in Target Area	108	100%
Renter Occupied	44	41%
Owner Occupied	18	17%
Vacant Units	46	43%

Future Development

New Newtown by 2009 Target Area Statistics (POTENTIAL)	# of Units	%
Total Housing Units in Area	121	100%
Renter Occupied	34	28%
Owner Occupied	87	72%
Vacant	0	0%

Mr. Armstrong rolled up his sleeves and began working on gaining site control by reaching out and negotiating terms with a variety of stakeholders/investors and by 2007 had acquired 9 houses, 4-lots and two buildings within the targeted area totaling over \$1M. Since then and surviving the

2008 “Great Recession” with a key additional investment of \$1.6M, Mr. Armstrong successfully converted the vacant homes into owner occupied units, donated four vacant lots to Habitat for Humanity (also personally raised \$500K for HH) and renovated the 800 West Beverley building into four loft-style apartments and a multi-purpose space (art studio) on the ground floor. The DBC is one of the final pieces of the puzzle to complete the Newtown Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative.

2. Current Need for Senior Housing in Dunsmore

The need for “Extremely Low-income” senior housing (less than 30% of the area median income or less than \$19,830 per year for a 1-person household), has been well documented by way of several housing studies produced locally, regionally, in Virginia and nationally. At the local level, the city has dedicated staff time to conducting public meetings, presenting their findings to update the city’s Comprehensive Plan documents, CDBG program plan and recently established a new Affordable Housing Commission as part of the city’s action plan and housing policy strategy. At the regional level, the Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge and the Regional Planning District Commission have produced reports with some goal, objectives and recommended action items from their multi-year efforts, and all noted the need to address the housing cost burden on vulnerable seniors and families, especially due to the lack of new housing developments targeting their needs. The Staunton Redevelopment Housing Authority (SRHA) just this past week shared its current Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) waiting list data that shows there are one hundred thirty-seven (137) seniors earning on average \$13,997 or only 21% of the area median income for a single occupancy household. The SRHA HCV waiting list illustrates a DIRECT and current critical need beyond the typical data used from current U.S. Census data figures. If the Dunsmore project can move forward, it is expected to provide up to 15 new one-bedroom units targeting extremely low-income seniors.

At a national level, the demand for senior housing is rising rapidly due to demographic shifts. Census data shows that the proportion of residents aged 65 and above is expected to increase by 20% over the next decade. There are approximately 10,000 baby-boomers turning 65 years old per day creating excess demand on housing stock especially in milder climates and communities with high-quality accessible healthcare, cultural amenities, convenient transportation, and low-taxation.

Nationally, existing senior housing options are limited, with current facilities nearing capacity due to retiring baby-boomer trends and especially in lower-taxation states like Virginia. Waitlists for assisted living and independent senior apartments have grown, highlighting a gap between supply and demand. Many seniors want to stay in their community near family, friends, and support. The lack of suitable, affordable, and accessible housing options risks displacement, social isolation, and increased pressure on local healthcare resources.

3. Economic Impact Analysis of Developing Senior Housing at the Dunsmore

Investing in senior housing development generates substantial economic benefits for the City of Staunton; Construction projects create jobs, stimulate local businesses, increase municipal tax revenues, and ***most importantly will build its local SRHA's capacity to do more innovative projects by way of public/private partnerships, while leveraging additional critical technical and financial assets beyond the city's current reach.***

The addition of this new senior housing can also be expected to:

- Generate construction and related service jobs during the development phase (according to the National Home Builders Association, there are 24 jobs/\$1M of new development. The Dunsmore project is currently expected to be well above \$3M or 30 times the city's current real estate assessment.
- Provide ongoing and sustainable employment for property management (SRHA) maintenance, administration, and other professional support staff along with services from the nonprofit and for-profit sectors.
- Enhance property values in Newtown by revitalizing an underused building.
- Contribute to the city's tax base through property and sales taxes (at least 30 times its current tax assessed value.

4. Social Impact Assessment

- The social benefits of senior housing extend beyond the immediate needs of older adults. The Dunsmore purpose-built adaptive reuse will foster:
- Social engagement (a "SMART" equipped community room for services and programming)
- Reduce isolation and support health and well-being.
- Accessible transportation, and proximity to social events and places downtown as well as some essential services.
- For the wider community, senior housing helps families remain together/nearby and supports intergenerational connections.
- By promoting inclusion and diversity, senior housing in Newtown will enhance the city's social fabric and resilience.
-

Conclusion

The Dunsmore Business College history, its current scale and location within Newtown, the special professional experience of its current ownership, the city's housing policy alignment, the state, regional and local support, underscores and represents a unique opportunity to set an example of how **"getting to YES"** on behalf of vulnerable seniors living within the Staunton area can be continually supported if resolutely decided upon.

The economic and social benefits of such development are clear, offering a path forward that aligns with the city's strategic vision and enhances its role as a caring, inclusive community.

If there are any questions regarding this submittal, please contact:

Stu Armstrong – Owner

[REDACTED]

Nehemias Velez – Executive Director of Staunton Redevelopment Housing Authority

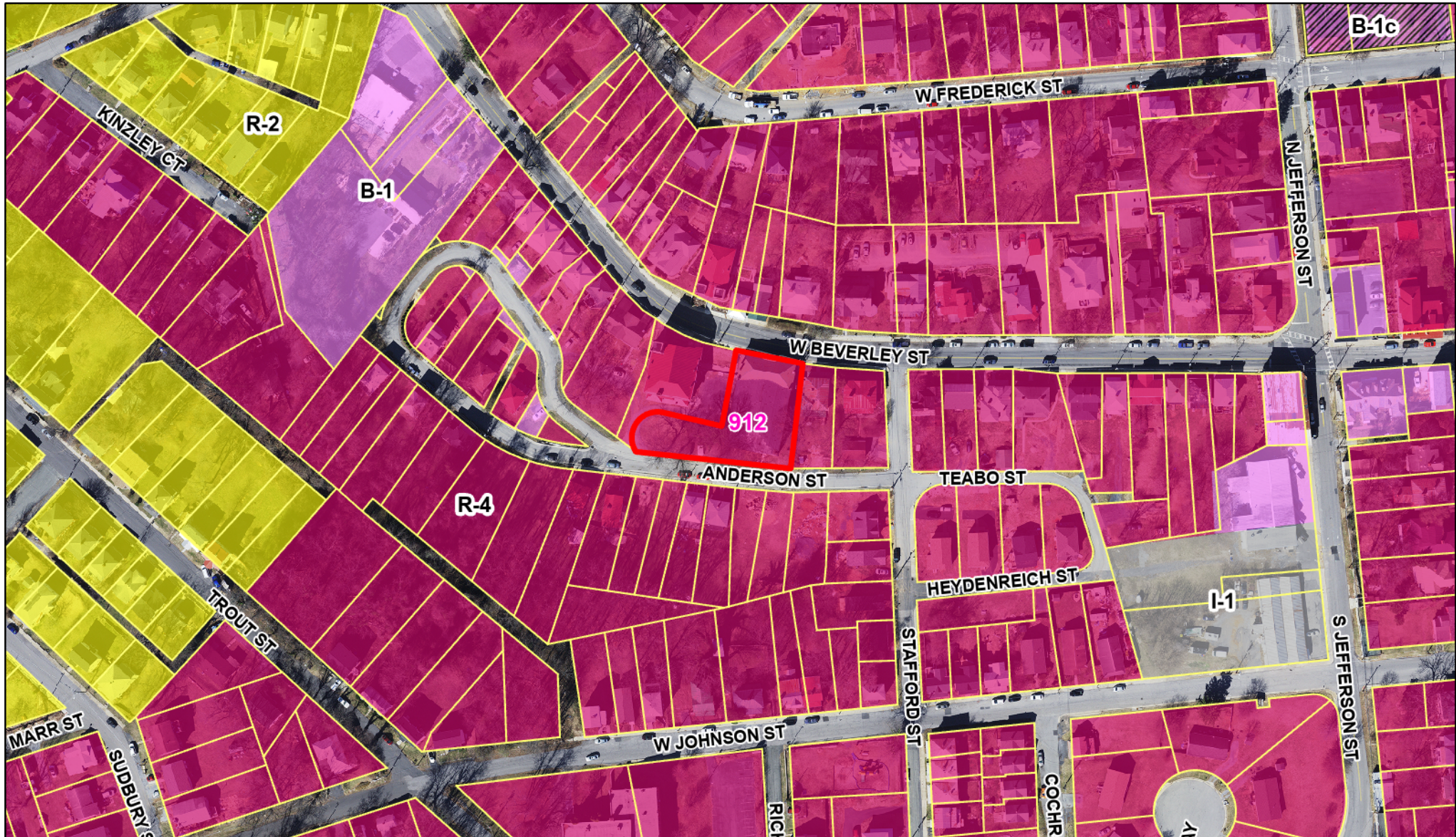
[REDACTED]

Vicinity Map: 912 W Beverley St

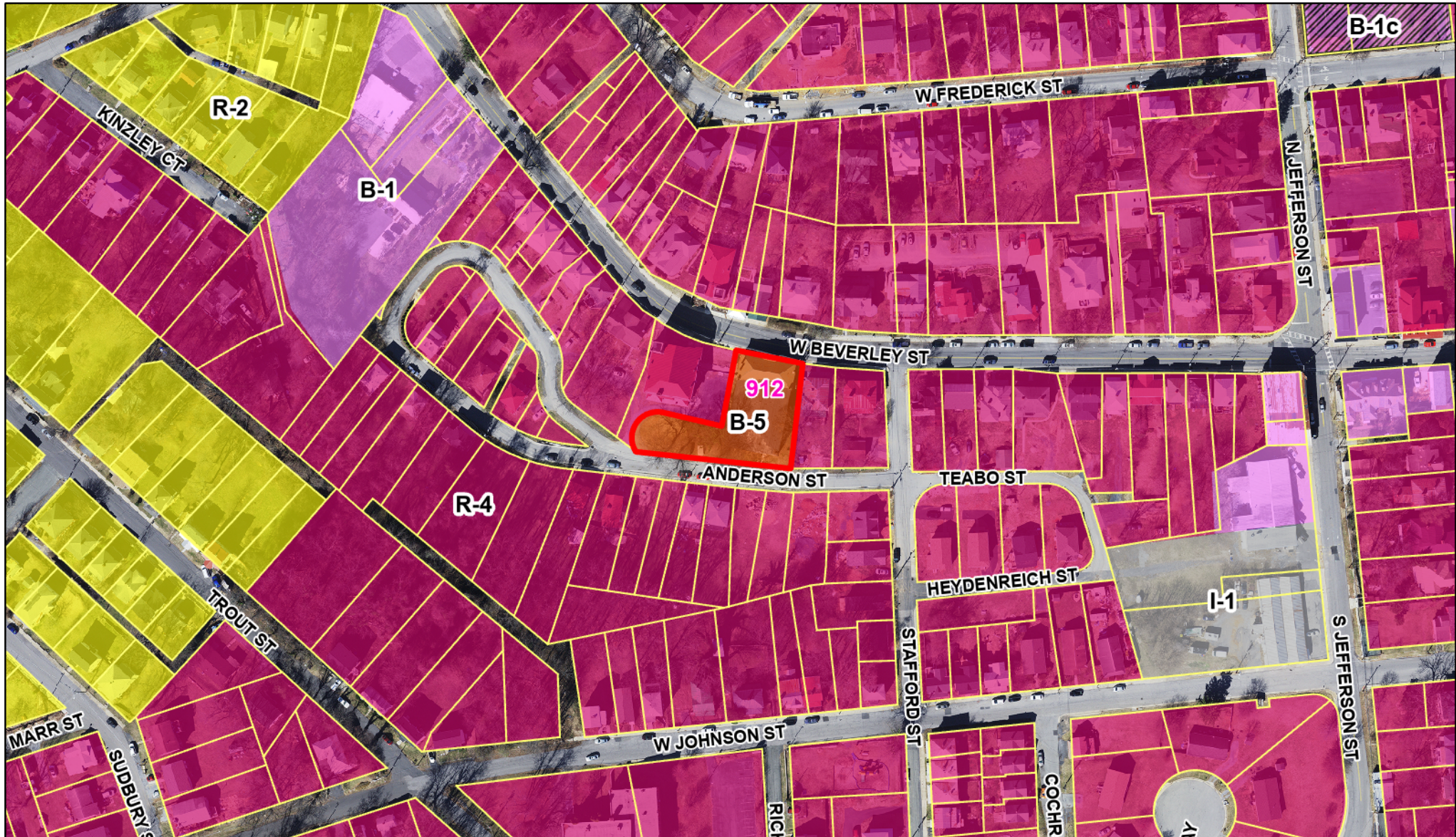
Attachment 2



Current Zoning: 912 W Beverley St Attachment 3



Proposed Rezoning: 912 W Beverley St Attachment 4



Future Land Use: 912 W Beverley St Attachment 5



Future Land Use



- CONSERVATION/RECREATION/OPEN SPACE
- PLANNED FARM DEVELOPMENT
- PUBLIC/SEMI-PUBLIC

- LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- LOW DENSITY PLANNED RESIDENTIAL
- MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- MEDIUM DENSITY PLANNED RESIDENTIAL
- HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

- TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT
- LOW DENSITY PLANNED RESIDENTIAL
- NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTIAL
- PROFESSIONAL

- PLANNED BUSINESS
- BUSINESS
- PLANNED INDUSTRIAL
- LIGHT INDUSTRIAL
- HEAVY INDUSTRIAL

Additional Layers

- Lot_Lines
- Selected Property

0 50 100 200 Feet

**Proffers Offered For Conditional Rezoning
912 W Beverley Street
Dunsmore Business College Property**

B-5, MIXED USE BUSIENSS DISTRICT CONDITOAL

18.71.020 Permitted principal and accessory uses.

The following uses of buildings and premises shall be permitted in the B-5 district; provided, that drive-up facilities and facilities for dispensing motor fuels shall not be permitted in conjunction with any of the uses permitted in the district:

~~(1) Any use permitted in the B-2 general business district.~~

(2) Any use permitted in the R-4 high density residential district.

(3) Parking areas and parking lots.

(4) Parking decks and parking garages; provided, that:

(a) No portion of such structure located along a principal street frontage shall be used for parking or related circulation of vehicles, but such portion shall be devoted to other permitted principal uses which shall have a depth of not less than 20 feet along the principal street frontage or to means of pedestrian or vehicle access; provided, that vehicle access along such street frontage shall be permitted only when no other street or alley is available for adequate access. In the case of a portion of a story located along a principal street frontage and having less than five feet of its height above the grade level at the building facade along the street frontage, the provisions of this subsection prohibiting parking or related circulation of vehicles shall not apply; provided, that parking spaces shall be completely screened from view from the street by structural material similar to the material of the building facade.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (4)(a) of this section, parking spaces contained therein shall be screened from view from abutting streets by structural material of not less than 45 percent opacity.

(c) Not less than one exit lane and one entrance lane shall be provided for each 300 parking spaces or major fraction thereof contained within the structure, and any card reader or other access control device at an entrance to a parking deck or parking garage shall be provided with not less than one stacking space situated off the public right-of-way.

(5) Accessory uses and structures, including ATMs accessible only from the interior of buildings devoted to permitted principal uses other than individual dwelling units or lodging units.

In all other respects, the provisions of SCC 18.71, B-5 Mixed Use Business District, remain the same.

Stuart Armstrong, Applicant

Ordinance No. 2026-____

**AN ORDINANCE REZONING
FROM R-4, HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT,
TO B-5, MIXED USE BUSINESS DISTRICT CONDITIONAL,
ALL OF THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND
LOCATED AT 912 W BEVERLEY STREET
(PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 9168),
IN THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA**

Recitals

A. It appears by deed dated July 16, 2020, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the City of Staunton, Virginia, as Instrument Number 200003439, that Stuart C. Armstrong, acquired from Staunton Development Solutions, LLC, the property that is known by present numbering as 912 W Beverley Street ("the property") with further description provided in the deed, a copy of which is annexed and incorporated herein by reference;

B. Stuart C. Armstrong. has applied to the City of Staunton for a zoning classification change for the property, under the provisions of the Staunton City Code, from R-4, High Density Residential District, to B-5, Mixed Use Business District Conditional;

C. The proposed rezoning is consistent with the provisions of Staunton City Code Section 18.215.060(1) and is necessary so that the owner may develop the property for low-income senior housing;

D. The Planning Commission of the City of Staunton conducted a public hearing on the application at its January 15, 2026 meeting and after study, review, and consideration of the comments made during the public hearing, has properly heard the matter and recommended approval;

E. This matter has been properly advertised, heard, and considered; and

F. These recitals are an integral part of this ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that the property known as 912 W Beverley Street (Parcel Identification Number 9168), in the City of Staunton, Virginia, is **HEREBY REZONED** from R-4, High Density Residential District, to B-5, Mixed Use Business District Conditional with conditions listed below based on the proffers offered by the applicant, on the basis that the rezoning would serve the interests of public necessity, convenience, general welfare, and good zoning practice.

The applicant proffers and the Staunton City Council accepts that the property known as 912 W Beverley Street shall be limited to the following uses if rezoned to the B-5 Mixed Use Business District Conditional Zoning Classification:

**B-5 Mixed Use Business District Conditional
912 W Beverley Street**

Permitted principal and accessory uses.

The following uses of buildings and premises shall only be permitted in the B-5 district; provided, that drive-up facilities and facilities for dispensing motor fuels shall not be permitted in conjunction with any of the uses permitted in the district:

(1) Any use permitted in the R-4 high density residential district.

(2) Parking areas and parking lots.

(3) Parking decks and parking garages; provided, that:

(a) No portion of such structure located along a principal street frontage shall be used for parking or related circulation of vehicles, but such portion shall be devoted to other permitted principal uses which shall have a depth of not less than 20 feet along the principal street frontage or to means of pedestrian or vehicle access; provided, that vehicle access along such street frontage shall be permitted only when no other street or alley is available for adequate access. In the case of a portion of a story located along a principal street frontage and having less than five feet of its height above the grade level at the building facade along the street frontage, the provisions of this subsection prohibiting parking or related circulation of vehicles shall not apply; provided, that parking spaces shall be completely screened from view from the street by structural material similar to the material of the building facade.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (4)(a) of this section, parking spaces contained therein shall be screened from view from abutting streets by structural material of not less than 45 percent opacity.

(c) Not less than one exit lane and one entrance lane shall be provided for each 300 parking spaces or major fraction thereof contained within the structure, and any card reader or other access control device at an entrance to a parking deck or parking garage shall be provided with not less than one stacking space situated off the public right-of-way.

(4) Accessory uses and structures, including ATMs accessible only from the interior of buildings devoted to permitted principal uses other than individual dwelling units or lodging units.

In all other respects, the provision of Staunton City Code 18.71, B-5, Mixed Use Business District, shall apply, remain unchanged, and are hereby restated, confirmed, and reordained.

Introduced:

Adopted:

Effective Date:

Michelle D. Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
John C. Blair,
Acting Clerk of Council

CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA BRIEFING

Staunton, VA

Meeting Date:	February 12, 2026	Rodney Rhodes Community Development Director Meggie Taylor Long Range & Comprehensive Planner
Item #	C	
Department:	Community Development – Planning Division	
Alignment with Staunton Plan (Value/Strategic Area):	Values: Inclusion & Equity; Excellence; Engagement; Environmentally Conscious Strategic Areas: A Resilient and Sustainable Community; A Healthy Community; An Informed and Engaged Community	
Subject:	Consideration of Updated Work Plan for Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee	

Background: The Staunton Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) operates under a formal Work Plan to guide its mission, vision, and annual goals. The previous plan was last updated in May 2022. The committee has recently completed a review of the plan and has prepared an updated 2026 Work Plan to better align with the City's current transportation trends and upcoming initiatives.

Discussion: Staff presents the updated 2026 Work Plan for Council approval. Key updates and strategic shifts from the previous version include:

- **Updated Goals:**
 - **Multimodal Planning:** The plan explicitly positions BPAC as a major stakeholder to provide guidance on the City's upcoming Multimodal Transportation Plan.
 - **Information Hub:** A new objective has been added to support a repository for bicycle and pedestrian information, including centralizing digital resources.
- **Community Liaison Role:** The updated plan refines the committee's role as a vital community liaison, emphasizing its function in bridging the gap between residents and City staff to ensure public input is central to future infrastructure projects.

Attachment: Staunton Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee Work Plan

City Manager's Recommendation: Approve the 2026 Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee Work Plan.

Suggested Motion: I move to approve the 2026 Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee Work Plan.

City Manager: Leslie Beauregard

BPAC Work Plan – updated January 2026

The Staunton Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee (BPAC) Work Plan establishes the committee's Mission and Vision as a foundation to identify organizational linkages, resources, and strategic goals. First adopted in 2016 and last updated in May 2022, this plan reaffirms that a strong non-motorized network is essential for Staunton. Residents and visitors rely on these connections not only for recreation in urban parks like Gypsy Hill and Montgomery Hall, but as vital commuting routes for the essential workforce and access to local businesses and destinations.

Since 2022, BPAC's emphasis has been on cycling improvements as the city designed and completed its first bike routes, on W Beverley Street and Churchville Avenue. Recent efforts have been focused on developing a fuller pedestrian plan (including conducting sidewalk surveys) and laying groundwork for the updating of the Bike and Ped Plan.

Recent trends have brought significant public initiatives and private development proposals that will shape the city, including West End revitalization efforts, projects on Middlebrook Road, and continued growth at Staunton Crossing. These proposals prompt timely consideration of how to meet pedestrian and cycling goals as this development occurs. Accordingly, this Work Plan seeks to solidify BPAC's role in the community and clearly identify areas where the committee can be of the most use.

BPAC Mission

- To foster a more bicycle and pedestrian friendly community by advising the City of Staunton on behalf of its residents and visitors.

BPAC Vision

- To help the community achieve the many benefits of a safe, robust bicycle and pedestrian system and help implement well-designed and cost-effective investments in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.

Linkages

The BPAC has seen strong community support in several areas such as public participation in developing the Staunton Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (SBPP) and Greenways plan. The committee has other linkages or connections to many groups where it could hopefully provide insight on bike and pedestrian initiatives or help leverage resources to complete meaningful projects.

- City Departments
 - Community Development
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Public Works
 - Schools
 - Police
 - Economic Development and Tourism
- VA Department of Transportation (VDOT)
- Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC)
 - Staunton Augusta Waynesboro MPO
 - BRITE Bus System
- Community Groups & Organizations focused on the overall health and wellbeing of our community
- Community Events
- Local bike and/or pedestrian related Businesses
- Property Owners

Resources

The BPAC has limited resources as a volunteer committee that reports to the Community Development Department and the Planning Commission and relies primarily on the support of city staff and partner organizations for the implementation of priorities

Goals and Objectives

The Goals and Objectives listed below are a broad set of activities the group can undertake in the near and long-term as well as annual events or actions. Achieving many of these goals will require several smaller steps. The BPAC work-plan is based on the 5 E's from the American League of Bicyclists. These include Education , Encouragement , Engineering ,Evaluation and Planning, and Equity and Accessibility.

Goal	Next Steps (Objectives)	Timeframe
Support Greenways	• Seek adoption of the Greenways Plan into the Comprehensive Plan • Support implementation	6 – 12 Months
Define Outreach Activities and seek partners & sponsorships for projects and events	• Identify and prioritize existing or upcoming events for collaborative participation with linkage groups. • Improve web and social media presence through the city communications manager	Ongoing
Continue implementation of SBPP	• Revisit the SBBP periodically to consider new objectives as a result of recent and planned development or trends • Identify low-cost, low-risk pilot projects • Prioritize connections to existing pedestrian and bike facilities • Seek support and guidance (Va Dept Conservation & Recreation, VDOT, and other resources) • Support bike safety training and driver education	Ongoing
Support improvements to urban trails	• Identify and suggest ways to improve urban trails • Assist with pursuing a master plan and funding for design and construction of Betsy Bell trails • Support development of new urban trails as described in the Greenways Plan	Ongoing
Encourage policies to work with private entities to improve bicycle and pedestrian connectivity	• Identify opportunities to work with landowners and developers • Seek city policies to require sidewalks and/or connection to trails as development occurs • Seek city policies encouraging connectivity between developments • Serve as an advocate for bicycle and pedestrian travel as needed	Ongoing
Support Development of	• Serve as a major stakeholder for the city's upcoming Multimodal Transportation Plan	1-2 Years

Multimodal Transportation Plan		
Support a repository for bicycle and pedestrian related information	• Centralize Digital Resources: Collaborate with City staff to curate a dedicated webpage or online hub that houses current trail maps, safety guides, and relevant local ordinances. • Establish Physical Info Hubs: Identify key community locations (such as the library, visitor center, or rec center) to maintain a stocked supply of printed bicycle and pedestrian brochures and maps. • Audit Existing Materials: Conduct an annual review of all public information to ensure that maps, routes, and safety data are accurate and up-to-date.	Ongoing

Priorities

The following projects have been identified as priorities by the BPAC. They will build on the Goals and Objectives of the work plan and are included in the SBPP, Greenways Plan, or other transportation plans. BPAC members are putting these projects forward as priorities because they can be put into place quickly and cost effectively but also incrementally as opportunities to partner with linkage groups come about. While these projects are beginning, BPAC members will continue to try and meet with linkage groups and find other ways to advocate for improved bicycle and pedestrian safety and infrastructure in Staunton.

The BPAC has been working with the Parks and Recreation Commission to define and implement safety improvements in and around GHP with an initial focus on educational messaging and signage for the bicycle and pedestrian loop, Constitution Drive. To further these safety goals, the committee plans to collaborate with the Parks and Recreation Department on an education and safety outreach event. Additionally, the two groups recommend installing way-finding signage to highlight the Wharf to GHP route from the Greenways Plan.

Acting as a vital community liaison, the BPAC bridges the gap between residents and City staff to ensure public input is central to future infrastructure projects. The committee aims to facilitate community engagement to gather diverse feedback on upcoming bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

The BPAC remains committed to supporting the ongoing implementation of the SBPP. Additionally, the committee will serve as a major stakeholder group to provide guidance on the City's upcoming Multimodal Transportation Plan.

Lastly, the BPAC will work to advance educational programs and policies to enhance Bicyclist and Pedestrian safety such as increasing driver awareness and drawing from lessons learned with the GHP safety improvements (multiple city departments and goals).

Conclusion

The City has consistently received feedback that the public desires safe places to walk, run, and ride bicycles. Beyond recreation, these modes of travel are important to residents and visitors who walk to services and destinations throughout the City, employees (especially of essential businesses) who

rely on non-motorized transportation, and students that want an independent way to travel to school. The BPAC developed this work plan to build on its Mission and Vision to make bicycle and pedestrian travel safer and more accessible in Staunton. It establishes linkages and defines important and achievable Goals and Objectives for improving bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. We look forward to working with our community to put this plan in motion.