

City Scoop



The City of Charlottesville wants to hear from you! We have launched the National Community Survey to gather resident input for strategic planning initiatives.

All residents 18 years and older are encouraged to participate.

The online survey can be found at the link below. Responses are accepted until Tuesday, May 27.

How to Vote in a Ranked Choice Election

On June 17, Charlottesville will hold its first election using ranked choice voting for the two open seats on the Charlottesville City Council.

In a ranked choice election, you don't just vote for one candidate. You get to rank the candidates in the order you like them. Each candidate appears on a separate row. Voters mark the first column for their favorite candidate, the second column for the candidate they like next, and the third column for the candidate they like least.

In a ranked choice election with two winners, candidates need to earn at least 1/3 of the votes to win a seat.

Why 1/3? Because only two candidates can each win more than a 1/3 of the votes. The ballots are counted in rounds until two candidates get enough votes to win.

In Round 1, the first-choice votes are counted. If two candidates each get more than 1/3 of the votes, they both win, and the race is over.

If only one candidate gets enough votes to win in Round 1, the winner's extra votes (above 1/3) go to the voters' second-choice candidates in Round 2. The candidate that wins more than 1/3 of the votes in Round 2 wins the second seat.

Why is Charlottesville Using Ranked Choice Voting?

Ranked choice voting lets voters express their honest views about all the candidates. Under Charlottesville's former election system, voters could support two candidates but not express a preference between them, leading many voters to "single shot" or "bullet vote" to avoid hurting their favorite candidate by using their second vote.

To register to vote online, check your registration status, find your polling place, or view a blank sample ballot, please visit the link below.



- **May 27**
 - **Planning Commission in CitySpace at 5 PM**
 - **Charlottesville Redevelopment & Housing Authority in Council Chambers at 6 PM**
- **June 2**
 - **City Council in Council Chambers at 4 PM**
- **June 3**
 - **Sister Cities Commission in CitySpace at 4:30 PM**
- **June 5**
 - **Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee in NDS Conference Room at 5 PM**
 - **Human Rights Commission in CitySpace at 6:30 PM**



What's Happening - Relevant Links Found Below!

- The City's splashpads are officially open for the season!
- All outdoor pool facilities will open to the public for the summer season, on Saturday, May 24, offering expanded aquatic recreation opportunities for residents and visitors alike.
- Registration for the City Swordfish Swim Team is now open. Practice begins on May 27.
- Carver Recreation Center has a new Tot Gymnastics Room. Come and check out the new space for your little ones!
- The City Market's Farmers in the Park is operating with extended hours from 3 PM until 7 PM every Wednesday in Pen Park. Beat those weekday blues by exploring a variety of fresh seasonal fruits, veggies, locally-raised meats, handmade crafts, homemade baked goods, and authentic cultural foods from local small businesses.
- Parks & Recreation has a new mobile app that allows customers to access their account, registration, facility schedules, news, and push notifications. Find Charlottesville Parks & Recreation for download on the Apple and Google stores.
- Neighborhood Development Services has launched their short-term rental (STR) outreach campaign. The deadline for applications is June 1. A \$100 late fee will apply to applications submitted more than 14 days after the due date. A community survey to provide feedback and frequently asked questions can be found online.
- Youth Council has vacancies to fill! They are looking for City students to serve as advisors to the Charlottesville City Council on topics that matter most to local youth. Students grades 8-12 may apply now to begin their term in fall 2025.
- May is almost over, but the Charlottesville Bike Month Festivities sure aren't! Check out Bike C'ville's online calendar to close out this year's Bike Month with a bang.