

January 9, 2025

City Scoop



Did you know the City of Charlottesville has a monthly public affairs television program? Check out Inside Charlottesville on **Comcast Channel 10** in Charlottesville and surrounding counties on Fridays and Sundays at 7:00 PM and Saturdays and Mondays at 9:00 AM.

You can also find episodes on our website and **Charlottesville TV10 on Vimeo**.

Spend Your Say at the Community Budget Forums!

Curious about how decisions are made on the City's budget, and how your feedback can help? Please join the City of Charlottesville for the City Manager Community Budget Forums, a fun, interactive way to learn about the proposed FY27 budget and share what matters most to you.



At each forum, attendees will receive \$10,000 in “Monopoly money” to spend at different budget stations, each representing a strategic priority. It’s your chance to show where you think City Council should invest in the fiscal year ahead.

City staff will be available at every station to answer questions, explain how the budget supports City services and programs, and talk through long-term goals. The feedback and monetary results will then be presented to City Council to help inform upcoming budget decisions.

Community Budget Forum Schedule:

Tuesday, January 13

- CitySpace
- 100 5th Street NE, Charlottesville, VA 22902
- 6:00–8:00 PM

Wednesday, January 14

- Walker Upper Elementary School – Cafeteria
- 1564 Dairy Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903
- 6:00–8:00 PM

Thursday, January 15

- Charlottesville Middle School – Cafeteria
- 1000 Cherry Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22903
- 6:00–8:00 PM

Additional information about the proposed budget can be found [here](#) and City Council’s strategic priorities can be found [here](#). We hope you’ll join us, spend some “cash,” and help shape Charlottesville’s future!

Charlottesville E-Bike Grant Program is Back for 2026. Sign-Ups Open Now!

First quarter sign-ups for Charlottesville’s E-Bike Grant Program are open now through January 31, 2026. Visit the [E-Bike Grant Program](#) at [Connect Charlottesville](#), the City’s new community engagement platform, to register.



In 2025, nearly 100 community members were awarded \$1000 vouchers to put toward the purchase of an e-bike at one of three participating local bike shops. This year, the program has been redesigned to better serve a greater number of Charlottesville residents. The new tiered system calibrates voucher amounts based on income level, thus allowing us to support a greater number of vouchers.

All City of Charlottesville residents, aged 18 or older, are eligible for the program. Fill out the [online application form](#) to enter the drawing. 36 vouchers will be awarded each quarter, 12 each from the following three categories:

- Tier 1: \$500 - available to all City residents 18 years of age or older.
- Tier 2: \$1000 - available to all City residents aged 18 years or older and earning less than 80% of area median income (AMI).
- Tier 3: \$1500 - available to all City residents aged 18 years or older that are enrolled in SNAP, WIC, TANF, or Medicaid.

Grantees must be able to provide a valid form of identification and proof of residency to claim their voucher. Recipients can redeem their vouchers at participating local bicycle shops: [Endeavor Cycles](#), [Blue Ridge Cyclery](#), and [Blue Wheel Bicycles](#).

Quarterly entry periods align with the first month of each quarter, with voucher recipients being notified on the first Wednesday of the following month. For the current quarter, interested residents must submit their entries by 5:00 PM EST on January 31, 2026 and the drawing will take place on Wednesday, February 4, 2026.

For more information and to enter the quarterly voucher drawing, visit the [Charlottesville E-Bike Grant Program website](#).

Upcoming Meetings

January 12

- City Council at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers

January 15

- Charlottesville Redevelopment & Housing Authority at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers
- Human Rights Commission at 6:30 PM at CitySpace

January 20

- City Council at 4:00 PM in Council Chambers

January 21

- Board of Architectural Review at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers



What's Happening

- The Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee's neighborhood walking series is back for 2026! The first walk of the year is this Sunday, January 11 at 10:00 AM through the Woolen Mills neighborhood. Meet at the Wool Factory. Get your steps in, explore new trail projects, and find places to build a better, more connected community!
- Unsure what to do with your Christmas/holiday tree? Public Works has you covered! **Christmas and holiday tree pick-up service** will begin Monday, January 12. Trees must be at the curb by 7:00 AM and be free of ALL decorations, stands, and nails. The trees will then be mulched and offered to the public at no charge.
- Charlottesville's Climate Café series is back for 2026! Join us on Friday, January 16 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM at The Bradbury for a discussion led by Cultivate Charlottesville, Market Central, and the IRC in Charlottesville on expanding urban food production and distribution. Come for the coffee and pastries, and stay for the climate connections! **RSVP online today**.
- 2026 is your year for staying in the know on all things local climate action. Connecting with the Climate and Sustainability Action Dashboard is an easy way to learn more about what the City is doing to reduce pollution and how you can play a role in building a safer, healthier, and more resilient community. Visit **climateaction.charlottesville.gov** for simple ways you can save energy, reduce emissions, and more!
- Charlottesville Utilities wants to remind everyone of the importance of winterizing their home's plumbing. Preventing frozen pipes in your home will save you the headache and inconvenience of costly repairs and interrupted service. Please visit **www.charlottesville.gov/water** for simple step-by-step instructions on measures that help prevent pipes from freezing, and keep the winter cold from damaging your home's plumbing!
- Annual tree pruning maintenance on the Downtown Mall began on January 5 and is expected to take 5-10 days. Please be aware that foot traffic may be slowed in certain areas and pedestrians are encouraged to remain alert and exercise caution when approaching work zones.

- The community is invited to put on their thinking caps and creatively illustrate the importance of stormwater pollution prevention and submit artwork communicating the theme, "Stormwater Pollution Prevention: Only Rain Down the Drain". Three winners will paint their artwork on one of three stormwater drain inlets, and receive a \$500 Visa gift card each. The submission deadline is February 9, 2026. More information can be [found online](#).
- The Charlottesville Fire Department is launching a community-driven strategic plan, and they want your help! Please join them on Monday, February 2 from 6:00-8:00 PM at Carver Recreation Center (233 4th Street NW) for an interactive workshop where you can share your experiences, expectations, and ideas.

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