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## **Public Invited to Stormwater Improvement Plan Open House**

HARRISONBURG, Va. – Harrisonburg Public Works is looking for the community's input as it prepares future steps for improving its stormwater program and addressing the effects of runoff on local waterways.

The public is invited to the first of two inperson public meetings on Tuesday, May 7, where attendees will have the opportunity to view recent Stormwater Improvement Plan survey results and information on current stormwater improvement plan efforts. There will be opportunities for attendees to share their feedback on their own stormwater experiences in Harrisonburg through different open house activities.

An anonymous public survey, available in eight languages, was recently released asking community members about their experience with flooding around their homes or neighborhoods. It also asked participants to provide feedback on potential stormwater improvement project locations, prioritize initiatives and address concerns related to water quality, water quantity and climate change impacts. Results of the survey will be displayed at the Open House.



Information gathered at the Open House will help inform updates to Harrisonburg's Stormwater Improvement Plan. The plan will serve as a guiding framework for the City to strategize efforts in meeting water quality targets. Originally

developed in 2017 to identify projects that could help the City meet water quality targets for 2024, this update aims to chart a course toward achieving goals for 2028 while developing localized action plans.

"We received great feedback from the community survey and thank participants for sharing where there are problems occurring and what is most important to them," Harrisonburg Sustainability and Environmental Manager Keith Thomas said. "Now we would like the opportunity to share our findings with you and ask additional questions at the open house. We strive to have a wealth of information, from the eyes of our community members, when updating our Stormwater Improvement Plan in order to improve the health of our local waterways and stormwater experiences of the Harrisonburg community."

There will be two opportunities on May 7 to attend: from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Harrisonburg City Council Chambers, 409 S. Main St., or from 4 to 6 p.m. at the (Pleasant View Inc.) Harrisonburg Day Program Building, 151 Commerce Drive, Harrisonburg.

Those who wish to attend the Open House event but cannot are welcome to share their thoughts and ask questions by emailing <u>Stormwater@harrisonburgva.gov</u> or calling 540-434-5928. Open House visual aids and materials will be posted to the project webpage at <u>www.harrisonburgva.gov/swip</u> shortly after the event.

The **City of Harrisonburg** is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 55,990 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at <u>www.HarrisonburgVA.gov</u>.

You can also follow Harrisonburg Public Works on Facebook.

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