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For Immediate Release
January 7, 2014

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Community Invited to Share Ideas for Upcoming Budget

Harrisonburg, VA – Harrisonburg City Council and staff are beginning the process of developing the budget for fiscal year 2014-2015.

The city operates on a fiscal year from July 1 to June 30. A balanced budget must be submitted to City Council by April 30 every year. Before City Council adopts the budget, two public hearings must be held to receive input from the community. According to city code, the budget must be adopted at least 30 days before the end of the fiscal year, which would be by May 30.

Currently, the city manager is working with department directors to prepare a budget to present to City Council. While staff is working on the budget, community members are also invited to participate in a new aspect of this year's budget preparation process.

Are there items that the city should spend more or less money on and is there something that is not included in the current budget that should be?

Residents now have more of an opportunity to comment on the budget before a public hearing is held.

A survey has been posted to [Be Heard Harrisonburg](http://BeHeardHarrisonburg.org), which serves as a public forum where the community is invited to participate and engage in conversation with the city and other residents.

This survey will be open to all community members and registration to Be Heard Harrisonburg is not necessarily required but is recommended for future engagement through this site.

To access the survey, simply visit www.BeHeardHarrisonburg.org and click on "surveys" at the top of the webpage.

More information about the city's current budget is available at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/budget.

*Who will notify you if an emergency-related event is happening in Harrisonburg or Rockingham County? Sign up to receive free alerts through the **Harrisonburg and Rockingham County Emergency Alert System** by visiting www.HREmergencyAlert.com.*

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