



For Immediate Release
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City Seeks Input through Online Survey

Harrisonburg, VA – The City of Harrisonburg is seeking input from citizens on the growing culinary scene in Harrisonburg.

In an effort to capture some of the energy associated with the growing food related businesses and ignite the entrepreneurial spirit, the city partnered with Rockingham County, the Shenandoah Valley Small Business Development Center and Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance on a grant funded pilot program to promote the development of new food related business ideas in the region. The “What’s Cooking” program (<http://www.valleysbdc.org/whatscooking/>) launched in October and has nearly 30 participants working on the development of new food businesses.

The program is styled after business plan competitions, with the final competition to be held in mid April 2015. While the winter period is fairly quiet, the participants are busy attending workshops and honing their business concepts.

The city is asking citizens to share their thoughts and opinions regarding the expanding culinary scene in Harrisonburg. A new survey has been posted to Be Heard Harrisonburg, the city’s online forum, soliciting thoughts on what types of food businesses citizens would like to see open or expand, as well as their thoughts on the growing niche industry of food trucks.

The online survey has been created and is available at www.beheardharrisonburg.org.

*We want to hear from **YOU!** Do you have a new idea for Harrisonburg? Let us and other members of the community know what that idea is. Participate in a discussion, support other ideas, and give feedback on community projects. This is **YOUR** chance to **Be Heard Harrisonburg** by visiting www.BeHeardHarrisonburg.org.*



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