City Works to Update Comprehensive Plan

Harrisonburg, Va. – The city’s Planning Commission and the Planning and Community Development Department have begun the process to update the city’s comprehensive plan.

The comprehensive plan presents a vision of Harrisonburg’s future. It identifies steps to move toward that vision by providing information about current conditions, long-term goals and objectives, and recommended implementation strategies. This plan addresses a wide range of issues including land use, housing, education, transportation, recreation, the preservation of historic and natural resources, and economic development. It serves as a guide for the community and helps city leaders with setting policies and decision making.

“We encourage members of the public to be active in the process of updating the comprehensive plan,” explained Thanh Dang, city planner. “The plan covers a lot of topics, so there is a lot of information to take in, but this is a very important document that helps to shape the city into what our residents envision.”

Four committees will be formed to help guide the conversations of this update and each committee will focus on a different set of topic areas.

The committees are land use and transportation, education and culture, community facilities, and economic development. Applications to participate on these committees can be found at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/yourplan and they are due by March 1.

By law, the comprehensive plan must be reviewed by Harrisonburg’s Planning Commission at least once every five years. Planning Commission will review the plan, receive recommendations, update the plan, and present an updated plan to City Council for adoption.

For a more detailed timeline, to review the complete plan, and for additional information, visit www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/yourplan.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 50,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.