



# HARRISONBURG | VA FRIENDLY BY NATURE



For Immediate Release – March 11, 2020

Contact: Michael Parks, Harrisonburg Director of Communications  
540.432.7701  
Michael.Parks@harrisonburgva.gov

## City seeks proposals for Comprehensive Housing Study

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The City of Harrisonburg is moving forward on a Comprehensive Housing Assessment and Market Study focused on recommended strategies and actions for meeting the City’s housing needs.

The study, which is currently open for proposals, will serve as a housing needs assessment for the City and stakeholders, providing an analysis of affordability for homeownership and renting through all population segments of the City. It will detail current and trending demographics and housing stock, as well as project future demands for housing and analyze regulations and obstacles preventing the market from effectively responding to the housing demand.

Completing a comprehensive housing study is a key tenant of the Harrisonburg City Council vision plan, which seeks to ensure “Available Housing for All.” That vision also led to the creation of a community stakeholders committee focused on producing a plan for addressing homelessness, which has been meeting monthly since Summer 2019. City staff discussed the study and what it hopes to accomplish with those stakeholders prior to releasing the request for proposals.

“We’re eager to complete this study so we can better understand the state of the full housing market in Harrisonburg and pinpoint what areas we need to address for our community,” Harrisonburg City Manager Eric D. Campbell said. “Once we receive recommendations from this study, based on national best practices, we will be in a much better position to start taking concrete steps toward fulfilling our mission when it comes to Harrisonburg’s housing.”

The request for proposals, which is available at the City’s website, identifies 11 areas of interest that the study should cover. Those areas are: demographic data; economic conditions; homeownership market; rental housing market; students and student housing; housing with support services; current programs, organizations and projects; trends and needs; financial gaps; barriers; and recommendations. More areas of interest could be added during the study process.

The City will accept proposals for the comprehensive housing study until April 3.

*The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 54,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov).*



###