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For Immediate Release – Oct. 25, 2022

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Ande Banks named Harrisonburg City Manager

HARRISONBURG, Va. – Ande Banks, a lifelong resident of The Friendly City and a longtime leader in the community, has been elevated to the position of Harrisonburg City Manager following a nationwide search for the next City of Harrisonburg lead executive.

Harrisonburg City Council officially appointed Banks to the position at their Tuesday, Oct. 25, meeting. The appointment is the culmination of a multi-month process that included interviews with candidates from across the country and a wealth of input from community members about what they would like to see in their next city manager. With feedback showing residents and City employees seeking above all else a manager with integrity who was honest and had the ability to inspire others, City Council knew Banks was the right choice.

“Time and again, Ande has proven himself to be a caring leader who is dedicated to the City of Harrisonburg staff and the people of our community,” Mayor Deanna Reed said. “He is committed to advancing our mission of making sure all in Harrisonburg receive distinctive, reliable delivery of high-quality City services. There is no one we trust more to lead our organization forward for many years to come with what’s best for the Harrisonburg community always at the forefront.”

Banks, who has served as interim city manager since January 1 following the resignation of City Manager Eric Campbell, is no stranger to leadership positions in Harrisonburg. The City’s deputy city manager since 2017, Banks also previously served as assistant to the city manager from 2016 to 2017, and as the City’s director of special projects and grants management from 2009 to 2016. Prior to that, he was district representative to a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 2001 to 2009.

As a mainstay of Harrisonburg’s local government for many years, Banks is thrilled to continue leading the City forward on the many projects and initiatives he has been part of – including fulfilling the City’s Harrisonburg 2039 Vision Plan.

“I am incredibly grateful for the trust Harrisonburg City Council has placed in me, and with the opportunity to continue to lead a tremendous group of men and women who make up your City of Harrisonburg staff,” Banks said. “Over the years we have



(Above) Ande Banks was named Harrisonburg City Manager on Tuesday, Oct. 25. Banks has worked with the City since 2009.

accomplished much for our community, and knowing that I will get to be part of shaping the future of City services for a place I have loved and called home my entire life is humbling. Thank you to all who are part of making Harrisonburg such a special community.”

Banks attended the Senior Executive Institute at the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service in 2019, completed his Master’s in Public Administration from JMU in 2017, achieved a Certificate in Local Government Management from Virginia Tech in 2013, and earned a Bachelor of Science in History from Eastern Mennonite University in 1997. He is a member of the International City/County Management Association, the Virginia Local Government Management Association, and the American Society for Public Administration.

The appointment became official Tuesday evening.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to 51,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



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