POLICE DEPARTMENT
101 North Main Street
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802
Emergency 911
Non-Emergency 540-434-4436
Chief Stephen P. Monticelli

For Immediate Release
January 24, 2017

Contact: **Sergeant Charles Grubbs**
Community Services Unit
(540) 437-2650
charles.grubbs@harrisonburgva.gov

HPD Hosts 22nd Annual Citizen Police Academy

Harrisonburg, VA – The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) will soon be hosting its 22nd annual Citizen Police Academy. This program is an exciting opportunity for citizens of Harrisonburg to learn about the various duties and responsibilities the members of HPD carry out each day.

Not only do participants receive an in-depth knowledge of HPD, they will also get insight into how the department functions though a multitude of scenarios that apply to policing in today's society. Participants will learn through both hands-on and classroom experiences about HPD's Major Crimes Unit, Police K-9's, SWAT Operations, Drug and Gang Units, shoot department weapons in a controlled environment, and complete a ride along with a patrol officer.

The Citizen Police Academy enhances community partnerships and strengthens the police departments focus while providing an opportunity to educate citizens.

"If you have ever wondered why the police took a specific action or how they carry out their duties each day, this academy is an excellent opportunity to get involved and understand why," says Officer Brooke Wetherell. "I strongly encourage anyone considering this opportunity to apply. Together, we can create an environment where our actions, policies, and voices are united toward a goal of stronger relationships and safer communities."

The academy will be held each Tuesday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. beginning March 7 at the Public Safety Building in Harrisonburg.

Applications are available online at www.harrisonburgva.gov/police or in the Public Safety Building, 101 North Main Street. Completed applications need to be returned by Friday, February 24.

###

The City with the Planned Future