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PUBLIC WORKS
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City seeks community input to shape safer streets in Harrisonburg

Nov. 17 meeting, questionnaire to focus on transportation safety needs, opportunities

HARRISONBURG, Va. – Harrisonburg Public Works is inviting community members to help shape a city-wide initiative to identify transportation needs and develop solutions that improve safety and connectivity for all.

The Safe Streets Harrisonburg campaign includes four planning efforts: the Roadway Safety Action Plan, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, the Safe Routes to School plan and the Complete Streets Design Guide. Community members are encouraged to give their feedback through an online questionnaire and at an upcoming public meeting.

Community members will be able to attend an open house meeting next month, visit pop-up events around the area and participate in an online questionnaire about the initiative, named Safe Streets Harrisonburg, which brings together four coordinated planning efforts: the Roadway Safety Action Plan, Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, Safe Routes to School Plan and Complete Streets Design Guide. Together, these plans will help shape future transportation investments, policies and improvements throughout Harrisonburg.

Community members can learn more about this effort and provide feedback at the open house meeting Tuesday, Nov. 17, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at the Lucy F. Simms Continuing Education Center, 620 Simms Ave. City staff will be available to answer questions and Spanish-language interpreters will be available The online questionnaire to provide your input is available now at Safe Streets Harrisonburg, and can be completed before or after the open house.

The first round of public engagement will focus on community values, concerns and opportunities. Community members are encouraged to share where they feel safe or unsafe while traveling, the challenges they experience on streets and sidewalks and the changes that could make it easier for people to walk, bike, roll, use transit and drive.

“This effort considers safety for everyone traveling in Harrisonburg,” Public Works Planning Manager Jakob zumFelde said. “We want to hear how you get around the city, and what opportunities you see to improve streets in the city and enhance the safety of people who use them.”

Feedback from this first round of engagement will help the project team understand local priorities and shape the strategies considered in the plans. Harrisonburg Public Works will come back to the community with more information in 2027 following these meetings and after reviewing survey results. Learn more about this effort and the plans involved at https://engagekh.mysocialpinpoint.com/safe-streets-hburg.

Questions and comments may be submitted to Public Works Outreach and Communications Specialist Melissa Dixon by emailing melissa.dixon@harrisonburgva.gov or calling 540-434-5928.

*The **City of Harrisonburg** is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 56,879 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.*

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