

# ***CITY REPORT***



**July 2024**  
**Week 29<sup>th</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>**

*"The Regional crossroads and destination that offers small-town Charm while providing big-city opportunities"*

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# CITY REPORT



## Executive Summary

The City of Waycross is integrating and training staff to enhance customer service and increase capability, while collecting and utilizing data driven analytics to drive future decision making. Additionally, the city is reassessing all procedures, processes, and programs to ensure proficiency & compliance and is adequately postured to better serve the community.

The City of Waycross is reevaluating the Capital Improvement plan to ensure it better aligns with the Operating budget to meet future requirements and deliverables as outlined in the Strategic Business Plan (working). Additionally, the Commission's priorities are to ensure safety, create a prosperous business climate, and to govern with transparency and effective communication.

Honorable Mayor

District 1  
Commissioner

District 2  
Commissioner

District 3  
Commissioner

District 4  
Commissioner

District 5  
Commissioner



Mr. Michael-Angelo James



Vacant



Ms. Sheinita Bennett Ms.. Katrena Felder



Mrs. Diane Hopkins

Vacant

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## **Priorities**

The City's priorities remain connected to enhancing customer service and communication, community engagement & development, and economic growth.



<https://www.facebook.com/p/City-of-Waycross-Government-100069328174806/>

## **Week's Priorities:**

1. Continuous evaluation of city processes and systems that lead to better efficiency and customer service.
2. Community Clean up.
3. Community interaction/engagement (5).
4. Grant Research and City Growth Opportunity execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Mayor, Commission, City Manager Travel & Training:** None.

**Projects:** None.

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**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** City updated Priorities, Vision, and Mission.

**Service Delivery:**

- *Effective Communication*
- *Customer Service*
- *Efficiency & Proficiency*
- *Business Models & Practices*
- *Data Driven*

**Infrastructure:**

- *Streets and Roads*
- *Buildings*
- *Overpass & Bridges*
- *Canals & Alleys*
- *Retention Ponds & Stormwater*

**Quality of Life:**

- *Affordable Housing*
- *Job Creation*
- *Recreation Programs*
- *Outreach Programs*
- *Community engagement & Partnership*

**City Workforce:**

- *Development*
- *Pay*
- *Morale*
- *Training*
- *Promotion*

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**Vision:**

*The city of Waycross is a dedicated workforce enhancing quality of life while driving service excellence in support of its citizens and communities.*

**Mission:**

*To provide open, honest, and fiscally responsible quality public services to the citizens of Waycross.*

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## **City Manager weekly focal point**

### **Property tax assessments information:**

<https://www.investopedia.com/financial-edge/0610/your-property-tax-assessment-what-does-it-mean.aspx>

[https://georgiadata.org/sites/default/files/property tax guide for georgia citezens 0.pdf](https://georgiadata.org/sites/default/files/property_tax_guide_for_georgia_citezens_0.pdf)

<https://www.ajc.com/politics/georgia-senate-passes-cap-on-property-tax-assessment-hikes-part-2/ZT27EDDHHZGGZFY2ADAMRX7PIM/>

<https://www.warecountytax.com/general-information.html>

<https://www.qpublic.net/ga/ware/exemptions.html>

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## **Marc Hawkins Community Improvement Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/community-development.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Animal Shelter at full capacity.  
Blighted properties execution.  
Land Bank meeting, 31 July 2pm.  
Directorate Policy update execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

**Projects:** Continuing Education class, 29 July 10-12:30pm; Lee Hardware, 621 Albany Ave.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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**Director weekly focal point.**

**Week of – 07/19/2024 – 07/25/2024**

## **Building Permit (turned in / pending approval)**

Commercial

Location: 951 S City Blvd / Home2Suites

Contractor: Lala Development

Job Valuation: \$ 4,500,000.00

Permit Fee: pending

## **Building Permit (approved)**

Commercial

Location: 506 Isabella Street

Contractor: Joe Dixon Construction

Job Valuation: \$ 75,000.00

Permit Fee: \$ 375.00

## **Code/Ordinances of the week**

Sec. 52. Ad valorem taxes.

[https://library.municode.com/ga/waycross/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=PTICHLRELA\\_SPACH\\_S52READVATADUDA](https://library.municode.com/ga/waycross/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTICHLRELA_SPACH_S52READVATADUDA)

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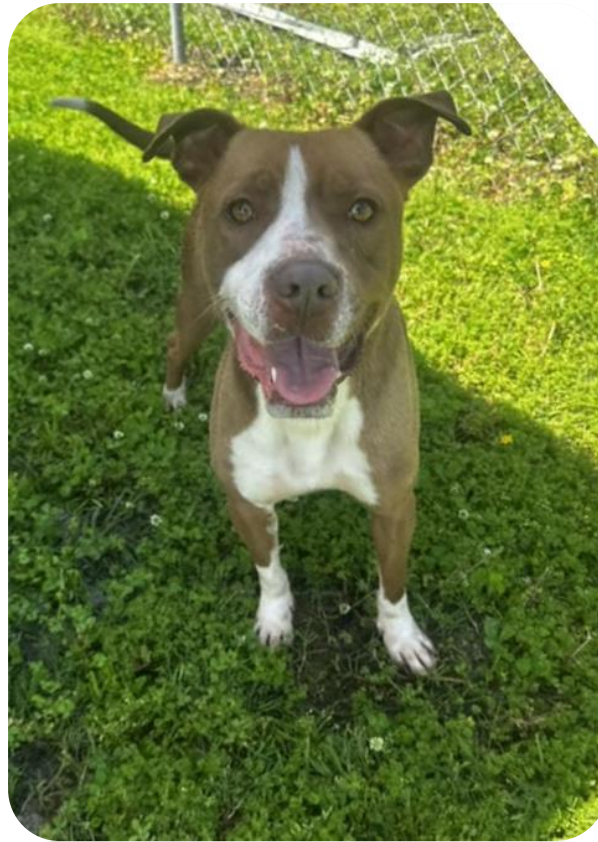
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Pets Looking to be adopted!



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## **Patrick Simmons Business Integration & Information Systems Director**



**[Systemshttps://www.waycrossga.gov/business-integration-information-systems.php](https://www.waycrossga.gov/business-integration-information-systems.php)**

### **Week's Priorities:**

Tyler Tech Development meeting execution.

MyCivic (Tyler Tech App) Meeting execution.

Podcast taping/editing execution.

Website update execution.

Okefenokee Entrepreneurship Planning meeting execution.

Family Justice Center Grand Opening execution.

ADG Data Transfer to Tyler computer software execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

MyWaycrossGA App lunch.

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District Dashboard.

Wi-Fi Upgrade.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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## Director weekly focal point.



The new City App will launch on Aug 5<sup>th</sup>. This interactive tool will provide easy access to City services, contact information, news updates, event calendars, and much more, all at your fingertips. With the City of Waycross Mobile App, residents can now connect electronically with City Hall for service requests and report non-emergency matters 24/7. This will streamline citizen engagement and enhance communication between residents and the city. Please download at the App or Play

store.

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## **David Eddins Protective Service (Fire) Chief**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/fire-department.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Recruit Training execution.

Application promotion execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None

**Projects:** Wi-Fi update Station #1

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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## Director weekly focal point

Type of Incident	June	Year To Date
Structure Fire	2	14
Vehicle Fire	0	10
Brush & Other Outside Fire	3	25
Medical Assist	51	233
Vehicle Wrecks, Other	16	97
Hazardous	10	27
Service Call	19	135
Good Intent	9	81
False Alarm	19	101

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<b>District</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>Year To Date</b>
District 1	18	118
District 2	33	126
District 3	20	152
District 4	39	183
District 5	16	127
Mutual Aid	3	18



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## **Tommy Cox Protective Services (Police) Chief**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/police-department.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Waycross Family Justice Center Grand-opening execution.

Major Case review execution.

National Reaccreditation execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Special Operations Renovation execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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## **Director weekly focal point**

<b><u>Court Cases</u></b>	<b><u>Current month/Year to Date</u></b>	
Driving under the Influence	<b>10</b>	<b>35</b>
Speeding Citation/Speeding Warning	106	253
All Warnings		1439

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## **Marissa Hendrix Human Resources Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/human-resources.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Onboarding new employees' execution.

Employee Handbook policy execution.

Retirement application, loss reports, workers compensation cases processing execution.

Job Posting: Highways & Streets Supervisor, Firefighter, Light Equipment Operator (CDL-B), Traffic sign & Signal Tech I execution.

CALEA data research execution.

**Funding updates:** None.

**Traveling and Training:** None.

**Projects:** None.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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## **Greg Smith Finance Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/finance.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Future Projects cost estimate execution.

FY25 Budget execution.

Grant application execution.

**Funding updates:** None.

**Traveling and Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Line of Credit research execution.

Meter replacement software execution.

Excess real estate execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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**Director weekly focal point.**

## **T-SPLOST & SPLOST**

### **Waycross & Ware County 2024 T-SPLOST Proposal**

#### **What is a Single County T-SPLOST?**

- A Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) is a sale tax used to fund capital projects proposed by the county and city governments. The Transportation Investment Act (TIA) or T-SPLOST is a regional sales tax for transportation purposes **ONLY**.
- 100% of the funds that are collected by this initiative will be spent on transportation projects in THIS COMMUNITY.



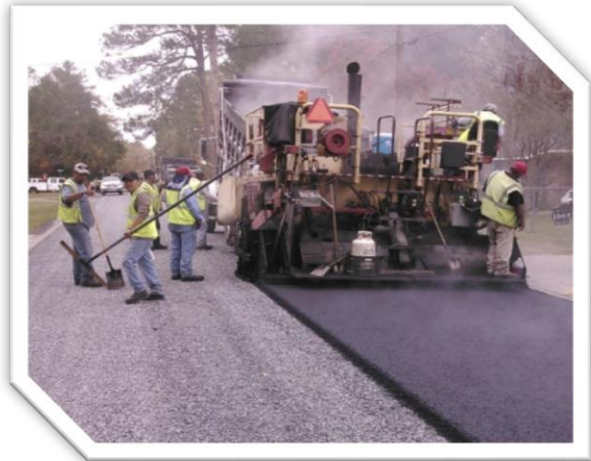


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## How much money will be raised with a Single County T-SPLOST?

- Assuming the max rate of 1.0% is leveraged for 5 years, it is projected that Waycross and Ware County will generate approximately \$45 Million from April 2024 to March 2029.
- These funds will be shared equally (50/50) between Ware County and the City of Waycross.



## How can the money be spent?

Funds can only be spent on transportation purposes, which is defined in O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-260(5) as:

*"...the tax are to be used in whole or part for capital outlay projects consisting of road, street, and bridge purposes, then authorized uses of the tax proceeds shall include: (A) Acquisition of rights of way for roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; (B) Construction of roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; (C) Renovation*

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*and improvement of roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths, including resurfacing; (D) Relocation of utilities for roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; (E) Improvement of surface water drainage from roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; and (F) Patching, leveling, milling, widening, shoulder preparation, culvert repair, and other repairs necessary for the preservation of roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths...”*

**Note:** A minimum of 30% of revenue generated must be consistent with the Statewide Strategic Transportation Plan.

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## **James Smart Public Works Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/public-works.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Memorial, Dorothy/Colley, Plant Ave, and Oak Street house;  
mower crew/tractor execution.

Fun Day(Mary St. Park)

Cleaning Canals execution.

Potholes & Grates execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Storm Drain cleaning execution.

Spring Cleanup District 2.

Ossis Davis Home demolition execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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## **Public Works City Services**

### **Sanitation Services**

**Garbage:** Only the rollout may be used for disposal of residential garbage. If one container is not sufficient, the city will provide an additional container for residential, \$6.99, and commercial, \$11.13. Your container must be curbside the evening before your collection day. After the collection, the emptied container must then be removed from the curbside and returned to your storage area. Call City Hall at 912-287-2900.

**Yard Trash:** Yard trash should be placed on the curb or city right of way in one large pile (not on the street). Your yard trash must be ready for collection by 7:00 AM on your collection day.

**Limbs should be cut in 8-foot lengths and be no larger than 8 inches in diameter.** Tree removal will not be collected; this includes limbs, tree trunks, stumps, or stump grindings. Do not place yard trash next to any immobile objects such as light poles, mailboxes, cars, etc. For further information, call the Public Works office at 912-287-2955.

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**Household Special Pickups:** This refers to the removal of large bulky items such as appliances, mattresses, furniture, carpet, and other household items. Customers may call weekly by Thursday at noon to schedule a pickup of five items or fewer. Collections are Friday of each week. Call the Public Works office at 912-287- 2955 to schedule your pickup.

**More than 5 Item Household Collections:** Customers having larger loads may call and request a special pickup. A special pickup fee of: ¼ load \$36.23, ½ load \$77.63, and full load \$155.25 must be paid in advance to City Hall. You will then be issued a pickup date on Tuesday or Friday. Call the Public Works office at 287-2955 to schedule a pickup.

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## **Director weekly focal point**



The City of Waycross Drainage system is a 27 mile canal system. The city drainage system starts with its catch basins system, then flows through the city's pipe system, then into the canal system and finishes at the Satilla river. During the city's peak summer months, the vegetation in the canal grows at an accelerated rate and although unseen actually helps with drainage. The true problem that faces the drainage system is the amount of trash going through the system that becomes blockage during the process.



# CITY REPORT



## Engineering

<https://www.waycrossga.gov/engineering.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

FY 2024 Paying Projects bid process; 29 August execution.

Parks bid process; 12 September execution.

Unpaved roads bid process; (tentative next week) execution.

**Funding updates:** None.

**Traveling and Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Ossie Davis sinkhole repair

- ***Construction can be lengthy; we do our best to not inconvenience citizens but there may be delays.***

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

**Your TIA, SPLOST, (L)TSPLOST, TSPLOST, and LMIG dollars in action over the last 10 years. Over one hundred miles of street pavement, Box & Culvert replacement, and Drainage replacement.**



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## **2014-Present** **Completed**

### **TIA 1-Paving**

Albany Ave

Knight Ave

**\$2.5M**

### **2014 SPLOST-Paving, Powerline relocation, Box & Culvert Replacement**

Plant Ave

Hatcher Street

Gilmore Street

Howe Street

Buchanon Street

Seminole Street

Lee Ave

Blackshear Ave

**Dewey Street**

**\$3.7M**

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## **2018 TSPLOST-Paving, Drainage**

Haines Ave

Screven Ave

Tebeau Street

Jane Street

Hanover Street

Richmond Street

Crawford Street

Beville Street

**\$2.4M**

## **Regional TSPLOST 2019-Paving, Culvert replacement**

Brunswick Ave

Riverside

**\$500K**

## **LMIG 2019-Paving, Culvert replacement**

Daniel Street

Striping Projects

Central Avenue

Morningside Drive

**\$550K**

## **Currently under construction/survey/design**

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## **SPLOST 2014-Pavement**

Greenwood

Browns Alley

E. Hamilton

Deputy Street

Barbara Street

Johanna Street

Hamilton Street

Boulevard Street

Satilla Lane

Georgia Street

Morehouse

## **TSPLOST 2018-Pavement**

Gilmore Street(N)

Kentucky Ave

Parkway Drive

Palmetto

Old Brunel Street

Nicholls Street

Brunel Street

Garlington Heights

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## **LMIG 2023-Paving**

Oak Street

Isabella Street

## **SPLOST 2023-Pavement, Construction**

Albany Ave Overpass

## **LMIG 2024-Paving**

Parkway Drive

Palmetto Drive

## **TIA 2-Paving**

Oak Street

Gilmore Street

Forrest Ave

Grove Ave

Myers & Roosevelt

Blackwell Street

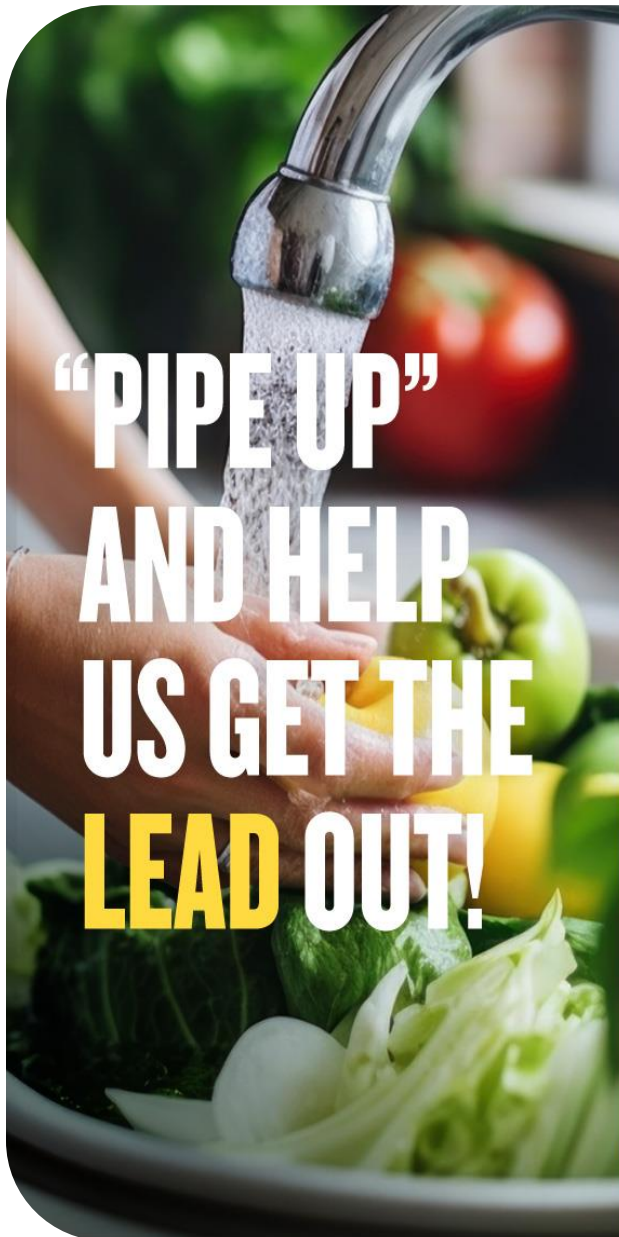
Ware Street

Cherokee Circle

Scruggs Street

Archer Street

# CITY REPORT



**“PIPE UP”  
AND HELP  
US GET THE  
LEAD OUT!**

**We are committed to providing our citizens with a **safe and reliable** water supply.**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) to protect public health and reduce exposure to lead and copper in drinking water. It is estimated that there are between 6 to 10 million lead service lines still in existence in our country. **The primary source of lead in drinking water, when present, is pipes.**

To help us determine whether your home might have lead-containing plumbing materials and if further testing is recommended—**we need your help.** Simply scan the QR code below using your smartphone’s camera or QR code reader app to participate in a brief survey.

**Your participation is greatly appreciated** and your input is vitally important.

*Waycross*

Opportunity in every direction.

[waycrossga.gov](http://waycrossga.gov)



მსაჯობის ქალაქი  
ცხოვრობის შესანიშნავი ადგილი  
*მანტალოა*



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## **Water and Wastewater**

### **Week's Priority:**

#### **Collections and Distribution**

Fire Hydrant, 926 Glenmore Ave

#### **WATER LEAKS**

1505 Georgia Ave.

305 Center St.

601 Fern St.

1401 Cherokee Dr.

518 Crescent St.

#### **MAINTENANCE**

Weekly preventative maintenance task execution.

Lift station inspections and mowing execution.

Temps- Water Plant Spring cleanup.

US1 refueling.

#### **WWTP**

Lab permit and process control samples execution.

Regulatory paperwork execution.

Belt Press execution.

#### **Water Plant**

Normal daily operations and well inspections.

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**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel and Training:** None.

**Projects:**

WWTP Upgrades.

Sweat Street sewer rehab.

Primary sludge line rehab.

Ossie Davis Sewer rehab.

US1 Sewer main replacement.



# ***CITY REPORT***



## **City Hall Meeting Community/Business Meetings**

These monthly meetings allow community members and local businesses to meet with the city manager and staff and discuss any concerns or ideas they may have. All interested parties are encouraged to attend these meetings, which will be held monthly. The meetings will be held in the commission chambers at City Hall and will provide an open forum for discussion.

- 1. Codes Information Sharing Session every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday monthly at 12:00 pm**
- 2. Landlords/Realtors every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly at 12:00 pm.**
- 3. Business Development every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday monthly at 1:00 pm.**
- 4. Community/Faith Outreach every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday monthly at 12:00 pm.**
- 5. City update every 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday monthly at 12pm.**