



## **COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025**

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Columbia City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at City Hall (Council Chambers), 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. and the following members were present: The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., The Honorable Will Brennan, Mayor Pro-Tempore, The Honorable Aditi Bussells, The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, The Honorable Peter M. Brown, and The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore Hammond, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **INVOCATION**

The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr. offered the invocation.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

*No one appeared at this time.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Council is asked to approve the April 15, 2025 Budget Workshop Minutes and April 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the April 15, 2025 Budget Workshop Minutes and April 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.



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### **PRESENTATIONS**

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager recognized Public Service Recognition Week. She expressed appreciation to the City Council and the 2,300 City of Columbia employees for their dedication and commitment to serving and supporting the community.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager recognized Professional Municipal Clerks Week. She commended City Clerk Erika Hammond and Assistant City Clerk Levanie Summerville for their dedication and hard work.

Mr. Kenya Bryant, Interim Director/Parks and Recreation, introduced Mr. John Katz as the new program manager for Finlay Park. Katz will oversee daily operations, including construction, staffing, and the park's grand opening. With over 30 years in sports and entertainment, he previously led the Columbia Fireflies, taught at USC, and worked in international football and construction.

2. Mayor's Campaign Against Breast Cancer Check Presentation to Prisma Health Midlands Foundation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Ms. Dargan Davis, Manager Events for the Prisma Health Midlands Foundation shared that through collaborative efforts over \$542,000 has been raised in revenue. She praised the hard work put into the Isabel Law Breakfast and the fundraising efforts throughout the year.

Mayor Rickenmann expressed gratitude for the partnerships and community sponsors that contributed to the city's fundraising success. He presented an \$18,000 check from the Mayor's Campaign against Breast Cancer to the Prisma Health Midlands Foundation.

3. Asian American and Pacific Islander Month Proclamation - The Honorable Aditi Bussells

Dr. Bussells emphasized the importance of recognizing the contributions of the growing Asian American and Pacific Islander population in South Carolina. She praised Governor McMaster for formally recognizing AAPI Month and looks forward to upcoming cultural events.

Dr. Bussells and members of City Council proclaimed May 2025 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Month in the City of Columbia.

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Ms. Angela Yong, Event Chair announced the Tour of Tea event which will take place on Wednesday May 7, 2025 at the Columbia Museum of Art's Boyd Plaza from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The event will celebrate eight different Asian countries through food, tea, and cultural performances.

4. Drinking Water Week Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mr. Clint Shealy, P.E., Assistant City Manager/Columbia Water thanked the Mayor, City Manager, and City Council for their unwavering support. He also acknowledged his team that maintains the system year round. The City of Columbia distributes around 70 million gallons of clean drinking water through 25,000 miles of pipeline and serves over 400,000 residents.

Mayor Rickenmann and members of City Council proclaimed May 4 – May 10, 2025 as Drinking Water Week in the City of Columbia.

5. National Historic Preservation Month Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor and the 2025 Mabel Payne Historic Preservation Award - Ms. Amy Moore, Principal Planner/Planning and Development Services Department

Ms. Amy Moore, Principal Planner/Planning and Development Services introduced Mr. Scott Garvin as the 2025 Mabel Payne Historic Preservation Award recipient. As a developer and architect, Garvin has led key rehabilitation projects in Columbia and preserved historic character while adapting buildings for modern use. His work has helped revitalize the city for nearly two decades.

Mr. Scott Garvin, Garvin Design Group was honored and said his desire is to continue sharing the stories of our community through historic preservation.

Mayor Rickenmann and members of City Council proclaimed May 2025 as National Historic Preservation Month in the City of Columbia.



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6. National Bike Month and Bicycle Safety Month Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Ms. Lucinda Statler, Planning Administrator/Planning and Development Services thanked the Mayor and City Council for supporting safer, more equitable cycling. She highlighted ongoing efforts like the South Main Cycle Track, River Drive's buffered bike lane, and a community workshop near the Vista Greenway. She also shared upcoming events from the cycling community including:

- COLA Bike Collective Screening of "The Street Project" – Nickelodeon Theatre, May 6, 2025
- Preservation Bike Ride – May 19, 2025

There was discussion about event accessibility for beginner riders.

Mayor Rickenmann and members of City Council proclaimed May 2025 as National Bike Month and Bicycle Safety Month in the City of Columbia.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 7 THROUGH 21**

Upon a single motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve **Consent Agenda Items 7** through **21**.

7. Council is asked to approve the Renewal of Polaris (formerly AvailWeb) Warranty and Software, as requested by the Columbia Police Department on April 1, 2025. Award to Utility Associates, Inc., using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$88,063.00. The term of the contract is from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026. This vendor is located in Decatur, GA. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Police Administrative Services - Cloud Based Software Solutions (1012402-632170). The original budget amount is \$88,063.00.*

8. Council is asked to approve the Renewal of Trend Micro Security Products, as requested by the Information Technology Department on April 15, 2025. Award to SHI International Corporation using the OMNIA Partners Cooperative Agreement in the amount of \$100,065.00. This vendor is located in Piscataway, NJ. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Information Technology – Maintenance and Service Contract (1011120-638200). The original budget amount is \$100,065.00.*

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9. Council is asked to approve the Annual Renewal of Finance Enterprise Software Subscription and Maintenance, as requested by the Budget, Program Management and Grants Office on April 4, 2025. Award to CentralSquare Technologies, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$267,907.50. The term of the contract is from May 31, 2025 to May 30, 2026. This firm is located in Lake Mary, FL. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Program Management Office - Cloud Based Software Solutions (6218950-632170). The original budget amount is \$267,907.50.*

10. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Vehicles and Equipment for Columbia Water, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to the following vendors using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$193,127.50. – *Approved*

| <b>Item</b>                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Vendor</b>                                     | <b>Vehicles/Heavy Equipment</b>                                                                                       | <b>Procurement Method</b>        | <b>Amount</b>       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| a.                                                                                                                                                                        | Love Chevrolet<br>Columbia, SC                    | Two (2) 2025 Chevrolet Silverado Regular Cab Pickup 2WD Trucks for the Water Division, as requested on April 2, 2025. | SC State Contract<br>#4400036883 | \$109,195.00        |
| <i>Funding Source: Utilities Water Distribution and Maintenance - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital (5516203-658500). The original budget amount is \$109,195.00.</i> |                                                   |                                                                                                                       |                                  |                     |
| b.                                                                                                                                                                        | Blanchard Machinery<br>Company<br>W. Columbia, SC | One (1) Mini Cat Excavator for the Water Division, as requested on April 2, 2025.                                     | SC State Contract<br>#4400031291 | \$83,932.50         |
| <i>Funding Source: Utilities Water Distribution and Maintenance - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital (5516203-658500). The original budget amount is \$83,932.50.</i>  |                                                   |                                                                                                                       |                                  |                     |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                                              |                                                   |                                                                                                                       |                                  | <b>\$193,127.50</b> |



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11. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Vehicle Equipment and Accessories for recently purchased Tahoes for the Columbia Police Department, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to the following vendors using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$215,702.43.  
– *Approved*

| <b>Item</b>                                                                                                                                      | <b>Vendor</b>                           | <b>Description</b>                                                                                                           | <b>Procurement Method</b> | <b>Amount</b>       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| a.                                                                                                                                               | TD Synnex Corporation<br>Greenville, SC | Installation of new Getac Laptop and Havis dock equipment, as requested by the Columbia Police Department on March 28, 2025. | SC Contract #4400031905   | \$84,841.68         |
| <i>Funding Source: Capital Replacement– Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital (6308972-658600). The original budget amount is \$84,841.68.</i>   |                                         |                                                                                                                              |                           |                     |
| b.                                                                                                                                               | Motorola Solutions<br>Chicago, IL       | Installation of new Enhanced radios, as requested by the Columbia Police Department on April 2, 2025.                        | SC Contract #4400021163   | \$130,860.75        |
| <i>Funding Source: Capital Replacement – Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital (6308972-658500). The original budget amount is \$130,860.75.</i> |                                         |                                                                                                                              |                           |                     |
| <b>Total Amount:</b>                                                                                                                             |                                         |                                                                                                                              |                           | <b>\$215,702.43</b> |

12. Council is asked to approve a new Construction Contract for Roof Replacement at Animal Services, as requested by the Support Services Division on February 28, 2025. Award to Roofing Professionals, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$71,250.00, which includes the base bid of \$62,150.00 and Bid Alternate #1 of \$9,100.00. The contract will take effect upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed with an end date sixty (60) days from commencement. This firm is located in Lexington, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: General Support Services - Buildings and Fixed Equipment (1011201-659300). The original budget amount is \$71,250.00.*

*Roofing Professionals, LLC is the prime contractor and will provide roofing repair services at 62.55% (\$44,567.00) of the total contract amount.*

*The following subcontractors/suppliers will provide additional services/supplies:*

*ABC Supply Company, located in Columbia, SC, will provide low slope roofing*



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*materials at 33.73% (\$24,033.00) of the total contract amount.*

*Equipment Share, located in Columbia, SC, will provide hoisting and lifting equipment at 3.51% (\$2,500.00) of the total contract amount.*

*Barnhills Services, located in Columbia, SC, will provide Port-a-John services at 0.21% (\$150.00) of the total contract amount.*

13. Council is asked to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for Utility Relocation: Arcadia Lakes Drive East Bridge over Cary's Lake Dam, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to SCDOT in the amount of \$92,671.48. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Water Capital Projects - Utility Conflicts (5529999-WM335522-658650). The original budget amount is \$92,671.48.*

14. Council is asked to approve a new Contract for Hurricane Helene Debris Grinding Services, as requested by the Solid Waste Division on March 10, 2025. Award to L-J, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$184,841.29. The initial term of the contract will take effect upon issuance of Notice to Proceed with an end date approximately 45 days from commencement. This vendor is located in Cayce, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Solid Waste Storm Debris - Special Projects (2534402-638500). The original budget amount is \$184,841.29.*

15. Council is asked to approve Contract Change Order#1 for Project SS7565; Lower Kinley Creek Sewer Improvements, as requested by Columbia Water on April 14, 2025. Award to McClam and Associates, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,006,747.50. The current term of the contract ends on May 14, 2026 and this change order extends the contract to September 21, 2026. This firm is located in Little Mountain, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Projects - Lower Kinley Creek Sewer Improvements - Capital Projects Costs (5529999-SS756501-658650). The current budget amount is \$11,795,072.30. The budget amount for this change order is \$1,006,747.50. The revised budget amount is \$12,801,819.80.*

*The prime contractor, McClam & Associates, will provide additional services for rock removal and subcontractor coordination at 33.95% (\$341,747.50) of the amendment amount.*



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*The following subcontractor/supplier will provide additional services/supplies:*

*Horizontal Unlimited located in Westminster, SC, will be providing rock bores at 66.05% (\$665,000.00) of the amendment amount.*

16. Ordinance No.: 2025-026 - Approval for Granting an Easement to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. along a Portion of City-Owned Property Located at 4013 W. Beltline Boulevard and identified as Richland County TMS#11610-05-26 for Relocation and Installation of Electric Lines for the Storage Canopy Addition Project; CIP Project #SS7528; CF#250-661 – *Approved on second reading.*

*First reading approval was given on April 15, 2025.*

17. Ordinance No.: 2025-027 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Columbia and Southeastern Technology Centers, LLC for the sale of 2221 Devine Street, Richland County TMS #11312-02-03 – *Approved on second reading.*

*First reading approval was given on April 15, 2025.*

18. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 201 Stoneridge Drive, 0.23 acre N/S Stoneridge Drive, 0.25 acre E/S Timothy Drive, 0.24 acre Jacob Road, 0.24 acre E/S Timothy Drive, and 365 Jacob Road, TMS# 07212-02-05, 07212-02-07, 07212-02-01, 07212-02-02, 07309-04-01, and 07309-04-02 – *Approved on second reading.*

*Ordinance No.: 2025-022 - Annexing 201 Stoneridge Drive, 0.23 acre N/S Stoneridge Drive, 0.25 acre E/S Timothy Drive, 0.24 acre Jacob Road, 0.24 acre E/S Timothy Drive, and 365 Jacob Road, Richland County TMS # 07212-02-05, 07212-02-07, 07212-02-01, 07212-02-02, 07309-04-01, and 07309-04-02 into the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Incorporating said property into Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 and the Official Zoning Map – Approved on second reading.*

*Proposal: Request to annex the property, assign the land use classifications of Community Activity Corridor (AC-2) and Urban Edge Mixed Residential (UEMR), and assign zoning of Employment Campus District (EC) for a pending annexation. The property is currently classified as Mixed Residential (High Density) and Mixed Use Corridor, and zoned Institutional (INS) and Residential 3 (R3) by Richland County.*



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*Council District: 2*

*Applicant: Reg & D, LLC and URA's, LLC*

*Staff Recommendation: Approval*

*PC Recommendation: 03/13/2025; Approval (8-0)*

*First reading approval was given on April 15, 2025.*

19. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 702 Dixie Avenue (portion), TMS# 09309-06-02 (portion) – *Approved for second reading.*

*Ordinance No.: 2025-023 - Annexing 702 Dixie Avenue (portion), TMS# 09309-06-02 (portion) into the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Incorporating said property into Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 and the Official Zoning Map – Approved on second reading.*

*Proposal: Request to annex the property, assign the land use classification of Urban Core Residential Small Lot (UCR-1) and assign zoning of Residential Mixed District (RM-1) for a pending annexation. The property is currently classified as Mixed Residential (High Density) and zoned Residential 4 (R4) by Richland County.*

*Council District: 1*

*Applicant: Tracy Sweatt, Bridgette Phillips, and Marcella McCoy*

*Staff Recommendation: Approval*

*PC Recommendation: 03/13/2025; Approval (8-0)*

*First reading approval was given on April 15, 2025.*

20. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 1222 and 1230 House Street, 2502 and 2506 Youman Street, and 1225 McDuffie Avenue, TMS# 11411-10-13, 11411-10-14, 11411-10-01, 11411-10-02, and 11411-10-03 – *Approved on second reading.*

*Ordinance No.: 2025-020 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 1222 and 1230 House Street, 2502 and 2506 Youman Street, and 1225 McDuffie Avenue, TMS#s 11411-10-13, 11411-10-14, 11411-10-01, 11411-10-02, and 11411-10-03 – Approved on second reading.*



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*Proposal: Request to rezone the property from Residential Single Family – Small Lot District (RSF-3) to Residential Mixed District (RM-2).*

*Council District: 2*

*Applicant: Anthony A. Dicks, Friendship Development Corp*

*Staff Recommendation: Approval of rezoning of the 3 western parcels: 1222, 1230 House Street and 2502 Youman Street to Residential Mixed District (RM-2). Denial of rezoning of the 2 eastern parcels: 1225 McDuffie Avenue and 2506 Youman Street. See Case Summary for details.*

*PC Recommendation: 03/13/2025; Approve all five parcels (8-0)*

*First reading approval was given on April 15, 2025 for 1222 and 1230 House Street, 2502 and 2506 Youman Street, and 1225 McDuffie Avenue, TMS# 11411-10-13, 11411-10-14, 11411-10-01, 11411-10-02, and 11411-10-03.*

21. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT AND TEXT AMENDMENT for 1500-A Main Street (the Seth Thomas Clock), right-of-way adjacent to 1500 Main Street, TMS# 09014-09-16 – *Approved on second reading.*

*Ordinance No.: 2025-024 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 1500-A Main Street (right-of-way adjacent to 1500 Main Street), Richland County and amending the Unified Development Ordinance of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Appendix A: Type 1 Landmarks – Approved on second reading.*

*Proposal: Request to rezone the property from City Center Design Overlay District (OV-CC) to City Center Design Overlay District (OV-CC), Historic Preservation Overlay District (OV-HP, Individual Landmark, Type 1) and amend the Unified Development Ordinance, Chapter 17, Appendix A: Type 1 Landmarks to establish the property as a City of Columbia Landmark.*

*Council District: 2*

*Applicant: Richard Burts, owner*

*Staff Recommendation: Approval*

*PC Recommendation: 03/13/2025; Approve (8-0)*

*D/DRC Recommendation: 08/15/2024; Recommended Approval*



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*First reading approval was given on April 15, 2025.*

### **CONSIDERATION OF BIDS, CONTRACTS AND CHANGE ORDERS**

22. Council is asked to approve American Institute of Architects (AIA) Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment #1 for Project CP901201; a Construction Manager At-Risk (CMAR) Project for the City of Columbia Public Safety Complex at 400 Laurel Street, as requested by General Services on April 3, 2025. Award to Reeves Young, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$4,427,739.00. This firm is located in Buford, GA. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: General Capital Projects - 400 Laurel Street - Professional Services (4039999-CP901201-636600). The current budget amount is \$15,660.00. The budget amount of this amendment is \$4,427,739.00. The total revised budget amount is \$4,443,399.00.*

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve American Institute of Architects (AIA) Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment #1 for Project CP901201; a Construction Manager At-Risk (CMAR) Project for the City of Columbia Public Safety Complex at 400 Laurel Street, as requested by General Services on April 3, 2025. Award to Reeves Young, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$4,427,739.00. This firm is located in Buford, GA.

### **ORDINANCES - FIRST READING**

23. Ordinance No.: 2025-040 - Consenting to the Inclusion of Property in a Multi-County Industrial/Business Park (604 Huger, LLC/617 Devine Street Associates, LLC, Richland County TMS #R08915-13-03) – *Approved on first reading.*

*Endorsed by the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee on April 29, 2025.*

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. Brown, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2025-040 - Consenting to the Inclusion of Property in a Multi-County Industrial/Business Park (604 Huger, LLC/617 Devine Street Associates, LLC, Richland County TMS #R08915-13-03).

### **RESOLUTIONS**

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24. Resolution No.: R-2025-018 - Approval for Acquisition of 0.03 acre (1,511.97 Sq. Ft.) portion of 2409 Santee Avenue and identified as Richland County TMS#11409-07-27; CIP Project #SD8438; CF#250-596 - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2025-018 - Approval for Acquisition of 0.03 acre (1,511.97 Sq. Ft.) portion of 2409 Santee Avenue and identified as Richland County TMS#11409-07-27; CIP Project #SD8438; CF#250-596.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

25. Council is asked to approve an allocation of \$30,000.00 to SC Black Pages USA for the 28th Annual Black Expo. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Hospitality Tax Fund*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Ms. Herbert, Council voted unanimously to approve an allocation of \$30,000.00 to SC Black Pages USA for the 28th Annual Black Expo.

26. Council is asked to approve an allocation of \$25,000.00 to the Soda City Football Club for the FC Women's Program. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Hospitality Tax Fund*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve an allocation of \$25,000.00 to the Soda City Football Club for the FC Women's Program.

Councilor Brennan highlighted the growing popularity of soccer in Columbia and the Midlands, noting the recent success of local club Soda City FC. In partnership with the Rosewood Merchants Association and Richland School District One, the city will welcome its first women's semi-professional soccer team. They are set to begin play at Memorial Stadium in late May. The season will feature eight games with more announcements to come.

Dr. Bussells echoed support for women's sports, noting Columbia's continued investment following the Coach Dawn Staley statue unveiling. She emphasized the city's broader goal of empowering women and creating future opportunities in athletics.



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### **CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS, REFERRALS, AND NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Bussells reported that the Health, Social and Environmental Affairs Committee met on April 22, 2025 to review storm water trends and the impact of major storm events.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Bill Frye expressed concerns about parking. He explained that parking challenges affect access, equity, and economic health. He proposed low-cost improvements such as updating the parking app, adding a 10-minute grace period, and improving signage. He presented a letter outlining seven parking recommendations.

There was discussion about continuous changes and the necessity for input from the public.

Mr. Lee Carroll, Save Our Kids requested a speed bump at 1600 Lorick Avenue due to an increase in young children in the area. He also noted the lack of [landlords] accepting Section 8 vouchers. He also submitted a proposal for free summer camp for families unable to afford those currently listed in the Youth Services Guide.

Reverend Karen Romestan, Unity Minister/ Unity of Augusta spoke in support of Ordinance No.: 2021-021. She drew on scripture and urged faith communities to show that Columbia is loving and merciful.

Mr. PJ Whitehurst, Safe Space Coordinator at Reformation Lutheran Church spoke in support of Ordinance No. 2021-021. He expressed concern over the potential repeal of the ordinance, emphasizing that conversion therapy should be recognized as a form of child abuse.

Ms. Christina Picozzi, Executive Director of the Harriet Hancock Center spoke in support of Ordinance No.: 2021-021. She presented a letter along with signatures from the community, encouraging City Council to continue to uphold the ordinance. The current ordinance protects both LGBTQIA+ youth and adults while affirming they are valued and belong in Columbia.

Mr. Curtis Keisler, spoke in support of Ordinance No.: 2021-021. He emphasized that the current ordinance targets unethical conduct, not personal beliefs or speech and aligns with the city's responsibility to protect public health and safety.

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Ms. Raéven Kelly Dinwoodie, member of Reformation Lutheran Church spoke in support of Ordinance No.: 2021-021. She emphasized the importance of reflecting Christ's unconditional love through social justice and full inclusion of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Mr. Matthew Butler, Board President of the Harriet Hancock Center spoke in support of Ordinance No.: 2021-021. The ordinance does not infringe on religious liberty; it only applies to licensed professionals and upholds professional standards.

Dr. Wynn Purvis, LPC-S, LCMHC-S, NCC spoke in support of Ordinance No.: 2021-021. She clarified that conversion therapy is not legitimate therapy and warned that its continued association with counseling deters individuals from seeking necessary mental health care.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 27 and 28**.

27. Receipt of legal advice relating to a pending, threatened or potential claim pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)
  - *Marvin Haygood vs. Marvin Bookert and City of Columbia*
28. Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(5)
  - *Project Catalyst*
  - *Project Sparrow*
  - *Project Huger*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.



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Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC  
City Clerk