



# HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

**MAY 2017**

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May 24, 2017

CONTACT: Jean Moore, Assistant Director, Henrico County Planning Department

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*Henrico to hold June 8 open house on Route 5 Corridor/Marion Hill study*

The Henrico County Planning Department will hold an open house Thursday, June 8 for residents and other members of the public to provide input for a study of the Route 5 Corridor/Marion Hill areas.

The open house will be held from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Varina Area Library, 1875 New Market Road. The meeting's informal structure will allow the public to attend at their convenience and to ask questions and discuss the study one on one with Planning staff.

Henrico's 2026 Comprehensive Plan identifies Route 5 (New Market Road) and Marion Hill as special focus areas that warrant further study because of certain characteristics, challenges or opportunities. Route 5 is a state-maintained road that extends about 14 miles through the Varina District. Development along the road has historically been rural in character, but it also has included suburban-style single-family developments mixed among small farms and homes built on large lots. Marion Hill is a neighborhood along Route 5 that features single-family homes built around World War II in a variety of architectural styles and arranged in a grid pattern.

The Route 5 Corridor/Marion Hill study will evaluate the character of both areas and make recommendations to guide the county's review of development proposals while also respecting the agricultural, residential and commercial development present along the corridor.

In the months ahead, Planning will provide workshops and other opportunities to allow the public to provide more-focused input and to begin to form the study's goals and strategies. The Route 5 Corridor/Marion Hill study ultimately will be presented to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors for review and approval.

To learn more about the study and to provide input through a survey and an interactive map, go to [henrico.us/projects/route-5-corridor-marion-hill-study](http://henrico.us/projects/route-5-corridor-marion-hill-study). Information also is available by calling (804) 501-4602.

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May 19, 2017

CONTACT: John A. Vithoukas, Henrico County Manager

PHONE: (804) 501-4386

*Smither named director of Henrico's Department of Finance*

Henrico County Manager John A. Vithoukas has appointed Edward N. "Ned" Smither Jr. to serve as director of the Department of Finance, effective July 1.

Smither has served Henrico since 2013 as director of the Accounting Division in Finance. He will succeed Eugene H. Walter, who has delayed his retirement until June 30 to ensure an orderly transition within the department.



As director of Finance, Smither will be responsible for the management and supervision of the divisions of Real Estate Assessment, Treasury, Management and Budget, Accounting, Purchasing and Revenue. He also will serve as commissioner of revenue and treasurer for Henrico. Finance will have a \$13.6 million budget and a staff of 163 for fiscal 2017-18.

Smither holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Richmond.

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May 17, 2017

CONTACT: Neil Luther, Director, Henrico County Division of Recreation and Parks  
PHONE: (804) 501-5119

### **Henrico receives 2017 Playful City USA honor *County joins neighboring localities in regional recognition***

Henrico County has been recognized as a 2017 Playful City USA community by KaBOOM!, a national nonprofit organization that encourages bringing balanced and active play into the daily lives of all children.

The 2017 Playful City USA program recognizes 258 communities across the country for transforming ordinary places into playful spaces and using play as a solution to challenges facing their residents. Nationwide, these communities feature more than 14,000 safe and engaging play spaces that serve more than 4 million kids.

“Henrico is committed to the safety and well-being of our community,” County Manager John A. Vithoulkas said. “Thanks to the leadership and vision of the Board of Supervisors, Henrico has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to improving the state of play for children of all ages and abilities. As a visit to any of our many wonderful parks, playgrounds or athletic fields will quickly attest, Henrico places a priority on serving the needs of its youth with the very highest quality in recreation programs and facilities.”

Henrico’s designation is based on several key initiatives, including its Summer Blast program, which provides opportunities for recreation and enrichment to thousands of youth during summer break; new spray parks; and the Challenger Field and Buddy Ball League, which give special-needs athletes a chance to play an organized sport. The Henrico Division of Recreation and Parks supports its Challenger Day program in partnership with Henrico County Public Schools, I Have a Dream Foundation, Capital One and a local youth sports organization.

Henrico’s designation joins those of the city of Richmond, town of Ashland and counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, New Kent and Powhatan. Collectively, the localities represent the first region fully recognized through the Playful City USA program.

The Capital Region Collaborative and Sports Backers worked with Henrico and neighboring localities to earn recognition after helping Richmond to secure the honor in 2016.

“After seeing the benefits from the city’s designation last year, it was clear we needed to spread the effort to include the entire region,” said Ashley Hall, manager of the Capital Region Collaborative. “We’re proud of the regional commitment to playability, a subject that connects across our region’s eight priority areas – from education and quality place, to the James River and healthy community.”

In addition to prestige and an improved standing to compete for grants and other funding, benefits to a Playful City USA designation include access to KaBOOM! resources and two road signs to promote the recognition.

Active play provides benefits beyond entertainment, said Jeff McIntyre, director of the Sports Backers' Active RVA initiative.

“Active play is crucial to the well-being of kids, families and their communities,” he said. “In a playable environment, children’s creative adventures on the playground create a foundation for classroom learning. For adults and families, play creates connections, expands social networks and helps to build stronger and safer neighborhoods. It shows our commitment to providing all members of the community with enhanced opportunities to be more active.”

To review a full list of Playful City USA communities and to learn more about making play an easy choice for kids, go to [playfulcityusa.org](http://playfulcityusa.org). You also can join the conversation with leaders across the country using #PLAYceforkids on Twitter and Facebook.

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May 9, 2017

CONTACT: Carla Cosby, Administrative Assistant, Capital Region Workforce Partnership  
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*Resource Workforce Center set for grand opening, open house May 19*  
*Regional job support center has relocated to Turner Road in Chesterfield*

The Capital Region Workforce Partnership and the Capital Region Workforce Development Board will celebrate the new location of its workforce center in Chesterfield County with a grand opening and open house Friday, May 19.

The Chesterfield Resource Workforce Center has relocated to 304 Turner Road, off Midlothian Turnpike, west of Chippenham Parkway.

The grand-opening ceremony will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. Gov. Terry McAuliffe is expected to attend along with state and local officials and business leaders on the board. The open house will follow from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The grand-opening ceremony and open house are open to the news media and public.

The partnership operates three Resource Workforce Centers to assist individuals with job-skills development, educational advancement and credential attainment. The centers are open to employers and individuals 18 and older who are unemployed or underemployed.

The other workforce centers are at 203 E. Cary St. in downtown Richmond and 121 Cedar Fork Road in eastern Henrico County. The partnership and board promote job development and economic strength in an area that encompasses the city of Richmond and the counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent and Powhatan. Henrico serves as the grant recipient and fiscal agent for the board.

The Chesterfield Workforce Center previously operated at 7333 Whitepine Road. The new facility, which is near a GRTC Transit System bus line, is easily accessible to residents of Chesterfield and Richmond. For more information, go to [resourceva.com](http://resourceva.com) or send email to [turnerrdopening@henrico.us](mailto:turnerrdopening@henrico.us).

### **Capital Region Workforce Centers**

Chesterfield Resource Workforce Center  
304 Turner Road  
North Chesterfield, VA 23225  
(804) 652-3490

Downtown Resource Workforce Center  
203 E. Cary St.  
Richmond, VA 23219  
(804) 652-3240

Eastern Henrico Resource Workforce Center  
121 Cedar Fork Road  
Henrico, VA 23223  
(804) 952-6116

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May 8, 2017

CONTACT: Lt. Shawn M. Sears, Animal Protection Unit, Henrico County Police Division  
PHONE: (804) 727-8801

*Henrico to offer rabies vaccinations for pets May 20*

The Henrico County Police Division will provide rabies vaccines for dogs and cats from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 20 at the Henrico County Government Center, 4301 E. Parham Road.

Pet owners must register and pay at the cashier's office in the Administration Building before seeing a veterinarian on the first level of the adjacent parking deck.

Each vaccine costs \$10 and must be paid in cash. A rabies tag and certificate of inoculation are included. Pets from all localities are welcome. Cats must be in carriers.

Under Virginia law, dogs and cats 4 months of age and older must be vaccinated for rabies.

Henrico dog licenses will be available for \$10 for a one-year license and \$15 for a three-year license. Officers will be available to discuss license options and vaccination requirements.

For information, call the Animal Protection Unit at (804) 727-8801.

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May 1, 2017

CONTACT: Nicki Moon, Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator, Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services  
PHONE: (804) 727-8413

*Crisis Intervention Team honored by National Alliance on Mental Illness*

Members of the Henrico County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) and other county mental health employees have been recognized by the Central Virginia branch of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI-CVA) for their work to strengthen mental health services to the community.

Eight employees of Henrico were among those honored April 20 at the NAMI-CVA annual awards banquet in Richmond.

- Marty Shephard received the Mental Health Services Award for her assistance to CIT as controller for Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services (MH/DS).
- Rachel Shrewsbury earned the CIT Officer of the Year Award as the lead CIT instructor for the Henrico Police Division. She also serves on the CIT STAR (Services to Aid Recovery) team, which supports at-risk individuals in hopes of averting a mental health crisis.
- Nicki Moon and Christy Parker of MH/DS; and Lt. Cindy Wood, Sgt. Dustin Eddington and Sgt. Donnie Green of Police were among the recipients of the Distinguished

Community Partner Award. They shared the award as leaders of the Central Virginia Crisis Intervention Team (CVACIT) Coalition. Also honored were CIT staff from the city of Richmond, Chesterfield County, Hanover County and District 19, which encompasses nine localities in the Petersburg area.

- Colin Connelly, a certified peer counselor with MH/DS, received the Members Choice Award.

Henrico established its CIT in 2008 to strengthen the care of residents experiencing psychiatric crisis. Supported by the Police and Fire divisions, the Sheriff's Office and MH/DS, the team has been recognized as a model program in Virginia.

Among its accomplishments, CIT was one of the first programs in the country to include fire and emergency medical personnel when law enforcement and mental health professionals are dispatched to a mental health crisis. CIT also was among the first programs to teach all first responders the basics of crisis intervention.

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May 1, 2017

CONTACT: Veta Herbaugh, Executive Assistant, Henrico County Board of Supervisors  
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*Brookland meeting May 10 to discuss opioid crisis*

Brookland District Supervisor Harvey L. Hinson will host a town hall meeting on Wednesday, May 10 to discuss the opioid crisis in Henrico County.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the Henrico County Government Center, 4301 E. Parham Road.

Hinson will be joined by County Manager John A. Vithoukias and members of the Henrico Heroin Task Force. For more information, call (804) 501-4208.