

THE CITY OF LYNCHBURG AGENDA



City of Lynchburg
City Council and City Schools Joint Meeting
April 29, 2025 | 4:00 pm
I.T. Conference Center, 3550 Young Place, Lynchburg, VA 24501

- I. Welcome and Introductions *Larry Taylor, Mayor*

- II. City and Schools Joint Committee's Recommendations *Dr. Martin Day, School Board Vice Chair,
Co-Chair of the Joint Committee
Dr. Sterling A. Wilder, Councilmember
Co-Chair of the Joint Committee*

- III. Good of the Order/Closing Remarks *Larry Taylor, Mayor*

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**MEETING DATE**

April 29, 2025

PRESENTED BY

Dr. Martin Day, School Board Vice-Chair

AGENDA ITEM # II

City and Schools Joint Committee's Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendations will be provided by Dr. Day, Vice Chair, Lynchburg City School Board.

SUMMARY

The City Council & School Board Joint Committee ("The Committee") was formed by the Lynchburg Mayor and School Board Chair on Feb. 12, 2025.

The purpose of the Joint Committee was to explore policy matters and funding that concerned both governing bodies. The Committee provided a collaborative review, analysis, and recommendations regarding the use of infrastructure funds. The Committee met bi-weekly, to work on topics including, but not limited to, the following:

- Identify long-term goals and develop a short-term action plan
- Identify the location of the student population and determine system capacity
- Overview of building conditions and major maintenance needs
- Budget and capital improvement program
- Ongoing revenue and efficiency considerations

The Committee met on Feb. 27, Mar. 12, Apr. 3, and Apr. 10. Except for "student location and capacity", which the committee decided it could not reasonably address, it did review and discuss information on all the topics listed. The Committee considered over 30 possible recommendations based on information provided by both City and Schools staff, and ultimately decided on eight recommendations to be presented to the full bodies of both the School Board and City Council.

PRIOR ACTION(S)

The Committee met on Feb. 27, Mar. 12, Apr. 3, and Apr. 10.

FISCAL IMPACT

Depends on the approval of the provided recommendations.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. FinalReport
2. Recommendations

REVIEWED BY

Recommendations of the City/Schools Joint Committee

The City Council & School Board Joint Committee (“The Committee” below) was formed by the Lynchburg Mayor and School Board Chair on Feb. 12, 2025. Without a clear statement of purpose at the time of its creation, it began its first meeting by clarifying what it understood its purpose to be:

The purpose of the Joint Committee is to explore policy matters and funding that concern both governing bodies. The Committee will provide collaborative review, analysis, and recommendations regarding the use of infrastructure funds. The Committee will meet bi-weekly, or at the discretion of the Co-Chairs, to work on topics including, but not limited to the following:

- *Identify long-term goals and develop short term action plan*
- *Identify location of student population and determine system capacity*
- *Overview of building conditions and major maintenance needs*
- *Budget and capital improvement program*
- *Ongoing revenue and efficiency considerations*

It met on Feb. 27, Mar. 12, Apr. 3, and Apr. 10. Except for the second bullet (which the committee decided it could not reasonably address) it did review and discuss information on all of these topics. It then considered over 30 possible recommendations based on that information, ultimately deciding on the eight presented below. We believe that these recommendations will help Lynchburg better provide for its public schools, the students they serve and initiate more constructive relations between City Council and the School Board in the future.

The Committee understands that it has no authority to compel any action of City Council or the School Board or to intervene in their decision making; it can only recommend. But we hope that both bodies will take these recommendations seriously. The recommendations themselves are in boldface. In some cases some explanation (in standard typeface) and links to relevant documents (in blue) are included..

Recommendations Regarding CIP Planning

1. The order of planned CIP allocations should be reversed: 30M, 20M, 10M. The City Manager’s proposed CIP plan (see [here](#)) scheduled those allocations differently: in very rough numbers \$10M in FY 2026, \$30M in FY 2027 and \$20M in FY 2028. The committee recommends reordering the schedule as indicated making more of the funds available in FY 2026.

2. Once adopted the city should not alter its school-related CIP plan through FY 2030 without prior consultation with the School Board.

Recommendation Regarding Schools' Operating Budgets

3. The city should support LCS's full request for a \$5.5M increase in the city's allocation to its operational funding.

Recommendations Regarding School Facilities Planning

4. Repairs to the track at E. C. Glass should be a high priority.

5. We recommend that the School Board adopt the plan coming to it from the Facilities and Finance Committee. This is in reference to the plan recommended to the School Board by its Facilities and Finance Committee, and detailed in a [presentation by Dr. Copeland](#) to the board at its April 1 meeting. (See also [this](#).)

6. The School Board should make a decision to close a second elementary school in fiscal year 2026-27.

7. We recommend that no new school buildings be constructed during the current CIP cycle (FY2026-2030).

Recommendation Regarding City and Schools Collaboration

8. Either this committee or a similar one should continue, meeting at least quarterly to discuss cost savings ideas involving both city and school resources, including possible mergers of closely related city and school departments in FY2027.

With these recommendations The Committee believes that it has completed the work assigned to it and in keeping with the limited time frame intended at its conception understands that it is now to be dissolved.

Dr. Martin Day (co-chair): _____

Dr. Stirling Wilder (co-chair): _____

Mr. Daryl Conner: _____

Mrs. Letitia Lowery: _____

Mr. Marty Misjuns: _____

Mrs. Jacqueline Timmer: _____

City & Schools Joint Committee

Final Report
April 29, 2025

Formation

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Recommendations Regarding CIP Planning

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Conclusion

With these recommendations The Committee believes that it has completed the work assigned to it and in keeping with the limited time frame intended at its conception understands that it is now to be dissolved.