



City of Cayce
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Fall 2022

City Reflections

A Letter from Mayor Elise Partin



Council and staff attend many education classes through the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) to stay up to date on topics that affect our community and to be the best leaders and servants we can be. MASC's mission is "to offer the services, programs and tools that will give municipal officials the knowledge, experience and tools for enabling the most efficient and effective operation of their municipalities in the complex world of municipal government."

The purpose of local government is to "enable individuals to join together in recognizing and solving community problems." We pride ourselves on our communication to our citizens in the form of announcements, press releases and making documents available on the City's website. But we take it further with public engagement sessions like the ones held for the City's Comprehensive Plan, Meet with the Mayor before Council Meetings, Public Comment at Council Meetings, active neighborhood groups, Soiree on State, Fall Fest and many other City events.

In 2021, the Municipal Association's board of directors adopted a strategic plan that included restoring civility in government as a top priority. An ideal system of governance enables citizens to work together constructively, whatever their differences of opinion, and treat each other with patience, tolerance and respect.

Local government is about solving practical problems, and anything that interferes with effective, respectful communication, can hinder the vital jobs we do.

What other ways do you want to gather? Gathering allows us to connect and know each other but also allows us to know about the issues that you see. If we have an issue or a question, where do we start? If it's with a neighboring property, have we talked to our neighbor (social media doesn't count)? If it's with a developer, have we called them to ask for the details? Is it the City's? If so, have we called staff to ask the details? Council and staff have a demonstrated history of a focus on

customer service, communication, fairness, being proactive and taking care of our citizens and our City.

At times courageous conversations are needed where people admit to not having all the answers and show a willingness to listen. We are here to have those conversations and to listen to you to contribute to the health and collaborative spirit of our community. City Council and staff pledge to you that we will build a stronger and more prosperous community by advocating for civil engagement, respecting others and their viewpoints, and finding solutions for the betterment of our city.

Elise Partin

Back to School Bash

The Cayce Police Department's "Back to School Bash" will take place at Spires Recreational Center at 1500 Dunbar Road on August 6 from 2-5 p.m. This annual event helps to provide the youth of the Cayce community with free school supplies. The Cayce Police Department wants our future leaders to have the resources they need to be successful in school and in their lives and would like to thank our community partners who make this event possible. Please follow the Cayce Police Department's page for more information, caycepd.com.



Calendar of Events

Fighting Fires

The Cayce Fire Department received its first graduate of the Firefighting Program from the Lexington 2 Innovation Center, Briar Gates. Briar is an 18-year-old from Gaston, SC who, through the Firefighting Program, received his necessary certifications to immediately join the Cayce FD after graduating. This innovative program has provided the Cayce Fire Department with a new recruiting tool that allows the department to see recruits mature as individuals while establishing a relationship early on. Briar will also serve as a liaison between the Cayce Fire Department and the Lexington 2 Innovation Center.

August

- 2 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 2 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 3 Museum Commission Mtg., 4 p.m.
- 8 Beautification Foundation Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 11 Events Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Lexington District 2 School Begins
- 15 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 15 Planning Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 16 Housing Authority Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 17 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 29 Neighborhood Leader's Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 31 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

September

- 5 City Offices Closed - Labor Day
- 6 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 6 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 7 Museum Commission Meeting, 4 p.m.
- 8 Events Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Beautification Foundation Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 19 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 19 Planning Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 26 Neighborhood Leader's Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 27 Public Safety Foundation Mtg., 5:45 p.m.
- 28 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

October

- 1 Cayce Fall Fest, 12-6 p.m.
- 4 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 4 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 5 Museum Commission Mtg., 4 p.m.
- 10 Beautification Foundation Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 13 Events Committee Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Fall Plant Exchange, 10 a.m.
- 17 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 17 Planning Commission Mtg., 6:30 p.m.
- 18 Housing Authority Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 19 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 26 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day
- 31 Neighborhood Leader's Mtg., 5:30 p.m.

Sanitation Reminder

The City of Cayce Sanitation Department would like to remind all residents to place roll carts near the curb prior to 7:30am on your scheduled day for service. As we enter the fall season, please remember bagged leaves will be given priority over unbagged leaves.

* September 5 Garbage, Yard Trash and Recyclables will be picked up on Wednesday, September 7.



Program of the Year

The Cayce Police Department is proud to announce that its School Resource Officer (SRO) Program was honored by the South Carolina Association of School Resource Officers; naming the Cayce Police Department with SRO Program of the Year. This award is presented to the SRO Program with the highest level of performance in schools, student-oriented enhancement, school violence prevention, extracurricular programs, community support, and overall performance/dedication to the SRO Program. Congratulations also to Lt. Danielle McCord, SC Law Enforcement Administrator of the Year, and Officer Mandy Fournier, Regional SRO of the Year. These SROs are mentors, coaches, counselors, and caregivers every day in our schools.



Employee of the Year

During the annual Cayce Employee Appreciation Luncheon held May 18th, Robert Denny was chosen as the City's Employee of the Year. Robert has been with the City of Cayce for 15 years and works as the Building Maintenance Technician. His co-workers nominated him for his tireless dedication to the City. Robert is known for taking on additional tasks daily to assist other employees on top of his own work, even during the COVID pandemic, when he was cleaning two to three times a day to keep staff and citizens healthy. Robert always has a smile on his face and is always pleasant and in good humor. He is an invaluable part of Cayce and deserving of the Employee of the Year!



Michael Yates Retires

A well-known City employee to many of the Cayce Riverwalk Park's visitors, Michael Yates, recently retired from the City. For the last 8 years Michael has been a common sight along the Riverwalk Park, greeting visitors and residents any time they visit and working hard to keep it beautiful and safe. Michael will be greatly missed by the Parks Department and the frequent visitors of the Riverwalk. Thank you Michael for your years of service to our City!



Cayce Fall Fest is Back!

The City of Cayce Events Committee is excited to announce that the Cayce Fall Fest is back! This FREE culturally diverse event will be held Saturday, October 1, 2022 from noon - 6pm in Granby Gardens Park and features performances by local bands. This year's headlining band is Mystic Vibrations, a four-piece Reggae band with music that speaks love, unity, and peace.



The festival also includes a FREE kid's area with obstacle courses, a face painter, games and hay rides. You can also expect great international food and drinks (including beer and wine), a dance floor with a DJ, local art vendors and much more to create a family friendly event for all ages. Join us for a fun-filled pet friendly day for the entire family!

New Museum Exhibit

Come see the new, temporary exhibit at the Cayce Historical Museum on the Columbia Speedway. The exhibit, "The Cradle of Stock Car Racing," opened in July 2022 and will be open for the next year. Find out why this speedway in Cayce was revered and what famous NASCAR racers got their start racing there.



Irrigation Meter

Did you know that on average, a residential lawn irrigation system uses 13 gallons of water per minute (GPM)? Over a billing cycle that spans two months, that can add up to a significant increase in your water and sewer bill.

A simplified calculation to show how 20 minutes of watering daily is calculated for a bill: 13 GPM X 3 Zones X 20 minutes per day (60 days per billing cycle) = 46,800 gallons of water for Lawn Irrigation.

Since sewer is billed based on water used, that equates to \$117.46 extra on the sewer portion of the bill for Cayce Inside City Residents! The Cayce Water and Sewer Billing Department offers an Irrigation Meter that can be installed to help eliminate the extra charges on your sewer bill. Currently the City can tap off of your existing service line and install a box and meter for \$350.00 which is far lower than any other surrounding providers! If interested in having an irrigation meter installed, please contact the Cayce Water and Sewer Billing Department at 803-796-9020, ext. 1.

Work with Us

The City of Cayce has many career opportunities available including, but not limited to Administrative Coordinators, Crew Members, Groundskeepers, Lab Technicians & Water Plant Operators.

The easiest way to apply is through the City of Cayce website, caycesc.gov. Click on Career Opportunities. There you will see all available positions as well as the City application. You can complete the application and mail it in or drop it off at City Hall.

The City of Cayce is proud of all our employees and wants to serve them the best way possible. The City offers BlueCross BlueShield State Insurance, which the employee portion is paid by the City, South Carolina State Retirement, 14 paid Holidays and many other perks.

Come join the City of Cayce Family!

Jury Pool Selection

In January of each year, the Cayce Municipal Court requests and receives a new disc from the local Election Commission with every resident who is currently registered to vote. The Clerk of Court then uploads that disc into the court computer system. When it is time to pull jurors, the system randomly picks 175 names from that data base.

Since March of 2020 due to COVID 19, SC Supreme Court Chief Justice Beatty has allowed the courts to do paper strikes. The Court staff mails out a juror questionnaire to the 175 names with a stamped self-addressed envelope for those to be sent back to the court. The questionnaires that are returned are then reviewed, and the court staff will deem the person qualified or disqualified based on the questionnaire. Those that are qualified are then randomly presented to the Prosecutor, the Defense Attorney, and the Defendant to be chosen for a specific trial.

Cayce Municipal Court is looking forward to returning to a normal jury qualification process in the fall of 2022 due to Chief Justice Beatty lifting COVID 19 restrictions. Court staff will be mailing out notices for citizens to appear in court to be presented and qualified in person instead of the additional step of filling out and returning a questionnaire. Cayce Municipal Court believes that jurors perform a vital role in our justice system. Without the participation of our citizens, we would not be able to move forward with many trials.