

# City of North Charleston Newsletter

District 4 and Surrounding Areas



**Dr. Charmaine Palmer-Roberts**  
Councilwoman, District 4

 843-819-9170

Thank you for your continued trust and engagement. As we work together to strengthen our community, I remain committed to transparency, progress, and service. Your voice matters—please stay connected, stay informed, and stay involved.

*C. Palmer-Roberts*



## Excellence in Financial Reporting: North Charleston Honored by GFOA



Mayor Reggie Burgess and Rob Jarrett, Director of Finance

The City of North Charleston has once again been recognized for our commitment to transparency and accountability!

We're proud to announce that our Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, has earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

This is the highest honor in governmental accounting and a testament to the hard work of our Finance Department in going above and beyond to serve our community with integrity.

# Senior Center

I will continue to share updates as key milestones are reached. Thank you to all the residents and partners who have advocated for this much-needed investment in the health and well-being of our seniors. Together, we're building a stronger, more inclusive community for all generations.

# Crime Watch

On June 10, 2025, I attended the City of North Charleston's Mini CompStat meeting, where the launch of a new Crime Map Dashboard was announced. This public tool allows users to view major crime data by city, neighborhood, police zone, or council district. The dashboard features customizable date ranges, with officer activity shown as a density map and crimes marked as points—providing transparency without sharing any personal information.

<https://nchas.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/1e226f429068419d88eb7885e9db7704>



## Patriot Boulevard Widening

On, June 26, 2025, Council approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with Dorchester County related to completion of design and permitting for the widening of Patriot Blvd between Wescott Blvd and Weber Blvd.

## Palmetto Commerce Project

Charleston County continues to make steady progress on the Palmetto Commerce Interchange Project, a critical infrastructure effort aimed at improving traffic flow and supporting economic growth in our region.

To stay informed and view the latest updates, please visit the official project website: [www.palmettocommerceinterchange.com](http://www.palmettocommerceinterchange.com)

## Dorchester Road Widening

This project aims to widen the roadway and enhance intersections from Old Trolley Road to the Charleston County line.

A **public meeting** will be held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Fort Dorchester High School (8500 Patriot Boulevard, North Charleston, SC 29420).

The meeting will be held in person, and all community members are encouraged to attend and provide input.

For more details on this project—please visit: [www.dorchestertransportation.com](http://www.dorchestertransportation.com).

# FESTIVAL CENTRE

5051 Ashley Phosphate Road  
- District 1



# REZONING APPLICATION Revitalization Project

The current owners of Festival Centre have officially withdrawn their application to rezone a portion of the parking lot for multifamily use. According to the latest update, they are in the process of adjusting their plans.

As more information becomes available, I will be sure to share updates and outline the next steps for community awareness and engagement.

## Addressing The Unhoused with Compassion and Collaboration

Recently, an unhoused gentleman attempted to settle on Patriot Boulevard (in District 1) and Ashley Phosphate Road (in District 6), both of which sits in close proximity to District 4. As soon as this matter was brought to my attention, I acted immediately by contacting the proper individuals within the city. Working alongside our Homeless Coordinator, Brandon Lilienthal, dedicated city staff and the City of North Charleston Police Department, we were able to secure safe placement for this individual.

Given the complexity of addressing homelessness, there is no easy solution—and no one person can make the difference alone. It requires collaboration, resources, and a shared commitment across agencies and communities. The unhoused community continues to be a growing challenge throughout the Lowcountry, and as elected officials, we remain committed to seeking thoughtful, long-term solutions rooted in compassion and care.

I welcome any constructive ideas from residents that can be brought forward for consideration and discussion at the city level. Together, we can work toward meaningful and lasting impacts.

Thank you all for your patience.

### Congratulations, Class of 2025!

I want to extend my warmest congratulations to the Class of 2025 on this incredible achievement. Your hard work, perseverance, and dedication have brought you to this proud moment. As you embark on the next chapter of your life—whether it's college, career, military, or another path—I wish you continued success, growth, and fulfillment in all your future endeavors. The best is yet to come!



As a reminder, the city has been reviewing the PRIME Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2020, as required by state law. Subsequent to the Planning Commission meeting that was held on June 9, 2025, the Review draft is being updated to address the comments received, and it will be scheduled for the Planning Commission's consideration for a recommendation to City Council at the Monday, July 14, 2025, meeting (beginning at 6 pm in City Council Chambers).

#### Other Key Dates:

- August 14, 2025, City Council meeting (7 pm in City Council Chambers)
  - Advertised public hearing
- August 21, 2025, Public Safety Committee meeting (5:30 pm in the Buist Conference Room)
  - Final opportunity for public comment (speakers must sign up to speak by 5:15 pm that day)
- August 28, 2025, City Council (7 pm in City Council Chambers).
  - Final adoption of the Five-Year Review by City Council



# ROPER ST FRANCIS HEALTHCARE

BROKE GROUND ON FUTURE ROPER HOSPITAL CAMPUS IN  
THE CITY OF NORTH CHARLESTON



## CITY OF NORTH CHARLESTON WELCOMES HISTORIC HEALTHCARE MILESTONE

The City of North Charleston is proud to be the home of a historic investment in the future of healthcare in the Lowcountry. On June 11, 2025, Roper St. Francis Healthcare officially broke ground on its transformative new Roper Hospital campus.



This \$1.2 billion project marks a major milestone that will reshape the region's medical landscape and serve as a cornerstone for the next generation of care in our community. North Charleston is honored to support this bold vision that will expand access, innovation, and economic opportunity for years to come.



Spanning 27 acres in the heart of North Charleston, the future campus will be the size of 20 football fields—a true testament to vision, scale, and innovation. Heralded as one of the most advanced hospital construction projects in the South, the monumental build is projected to generate a staggering \$2.5 billion economic impact and create approximately 3,600 related jobs.



Councilwoman Dr. C. Palmer-Roberts; Councilman K. Skipper; Mr. D. Briggman, Asst. to the Mayor; Councilwoman R. Jerome; Councilwoman N. Brown; Councilman M. Brown; Councilman C. Emde; and Councilman B. Hudson

**The new campus is slated for completion in 2029, ushering in a new era for Roper St. Francis Healthcare as it builds on its 170-year legacy of service and excellence.**

The campus will feature:

- A full-service, 24-hour emergency department equipped for trauma and critical care
- Multiple state-of-the-art operating rooms, including hybrid suites
- Comfort-focused inpatient units with advanced quality features
- A medical office building housing outpatient and specialty services
- A vegetated green belt connecting facilities across the campus
- Enhanced security systems, including weapons-recognition technology
- A fresh café, featuring a test kitchen where local chefs will be featured



# NORTH CHARLESTON

# JULY 4th

## FREE!

### RIVERFRONT PARK

GATES OPEN 5pm • FIREWORKS 9pm  
FOOD + BEVERAGE VENDORS ON SITE!

**LIVE MUSIC**  
MOTOWN THROWDOWN  
DJ Natty Heavy and DJ DNYCE

**BRING chairs + blankets**  
**DO NOT BRING**  
grills, sparklers or outside fireworks

#### Summer Reminder: Golf Cart Safety

As we enjoy the warmer months, golf carts are a popular way to get around our neighborhoods. Please remember to ride responsibly and follow all local and state laws.

Be sure to:

- ✓ Only operate golf carts on roads where they're legally allowed
- ✓ Obey all traffic signs and signals
- ✓ Never let minors drive without proper supervision
- ✓ Avoid riding after dark unless your cart is equipped with proper lights and permitted to do so

Let's keep our streets safe and enjoyable for everyone this summer!



## NEED TO KNOW.....

South Carolina has enacted a hands-free driving law that prohibits drivers from using handheld devices while driving, effective September 1, 2025.

Hands-Free Driving Law



**Overview:** The South Carolina Hands-Free Driving Act prohibits drivers from holding or using handheld wireless devices (including cell phones, tablets, and GPS devices) while operating a vehicle. Only hands-free technology, such as Bluetooth or mounted devices, is permitted.

#### Effective Date: September 1, 2025.

For the first six months, law enforcement will issue warnings for violations, after which fines will be imposed.

**Penalties:** After the warning period, the first offense will result in a **\$100 fine**, while subsequent offenses will incur a **\$200 fine** and two points on the driver's license.

## NORTH CHARLESTON 2025 Farmers Market

Presented by **ROPER** **ST. FRANCIS HEALTHCARE**

### PARK CIRCLE

## EVERY THURSDAY

## May 8-October 30

3pm-7pm **PARK CIRCLE PAVILLION**  
4800 Park Circle

- FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE
- SPECIALTY FOODS
- ART & CRAFT VENDORS

FEATURED FOOD TRUCK EACH WEEK!