



ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
Kevin Bronson
Office of the City Administrator
Westminster, South Carolina

June 26, 2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

Historic Building Survey

When SCDOT demolished the old Highway 76 bridge, it entered into an agreement with the South Carolina Department of Archives and History to document and catalog Westminster's historic buildings. As part of that effort, New South Associates was retained to conduct historical research and prepare the necessary documentation.

New South has completed a significant amount of research and is now seeking input from the public to determine whether residents may have additional information, photographs, stories, or other historical resources that could enhance the project or provide leads for further research. The focus of the study is on buildings constructed prior to 1976, and the consultants are particularly interested in learning more about the history, ownership, and significance of those structures.

Representatives from New South Associates will speak at the Westminster Rotary Club meeting on July 7 and will also host a public meeting later that evening. Please see the attached information for meeting details.

If you know individuals who may have historical knowledge of Westminster, family records, photographs, or information related to buildings constructed before 1976, please share this information with them and encouraging them to attend.

As a final note, the City of Westminster is not funding any portion of this project. The work is being funded entirely by the State of South Carolina as part of the bridge replacement process.

Palmetto Clean Fuels

Palmetto Clean Fuels, an initiative of the South Carolina Energy Office in partnership with the US Department of Energy, seeks to promote fuel efficiency, cleaner fuels, and cleaner fuel infrastructure. Palmetto Clean Fuels ([PCF Website](#)) strives to reduce greenhouse emissions and petroleum consumption through a focus on stakeholder engagement, technical assistance, and technology integration. As a part of goals Palmetto Clean Fuels is pleased to share a new statewide education campaign, Drive Electric South Carolina, that seeks to provide clear, accurate information about electric vehicles for families. Visit www.DriveElectricSC.com to learn more.

The William Bartram Statue Project

Tapping into the network of enthusiasts who appreciate the legacy of William Bartram is an important component—and a compelling reason—for creating a lasting tribute to Bartram in downtown

Westminster. City staff secured Oconee County Accommodations Tax funding as well as a donation from the Westminster Lazy Dasiey Garden Club to commence the development of a standalone website for the project. The web site development is expected to be completed in July.

Downtown Streetscape Update

Main St is nearly at final grade. The retaining wall contractor will be done by end of next week. Sidewalk demolition will begin on the Lucky St portion next week. *(No Updates)*

The streetscape project is paid for with a combination of Community Development Block Grant, Appalachian Regional Commission Grant and Oconee County C-Funds.

This Week in Rec: An Update from Recreation Director Herb Poole

- Our softball teams competed in North Augusta in the South Carolina Athletic Programs State Tournament State Tournament this past weekend. Our 10u & 12u teams both won the state tournament. Our 8u & 15u teams both finished 3rd in the state.
- Our 10u all star baseball team will be participating in the Diamond Youth Baseball State Tournament beginning July 4 in Gilbert.
- Fall sports registration ends June 26. Fall sports include baseball, softball, soccer, football, cheerleading, and volleyball. There is a possibility of us being able to accept some late registrations.
- Lunches have been provided by the SDOC this summer. Next week the SDOC will take a week off. However, we still plan on serving lunches with the help of donors. Donors can contact us at 864 647 3208 or use the July 4th week donation link on our Facebook page to donate.
- We are planning our first travel baseball tournament of the summer on July 4-5. Details of the event will be shared once they are finalized.

Horton Outdoor Recreational Area

Ribbon cutting to be scheduled – likely for August 2026. *(No Updates)*

Lucky Street, James Street, and Highland Avenue Water Improvements

Notice to Proceed was issued March 25, 2026. Construction schedule details 90 days to Substantial Completion, 105 days to Final Completion. Lucky St Water Main is 100% complete. Mimosa St Extension Water Main install is completed as well. James St & Highland Ave are set to begin on June 29th pending no delays. *(No Updates)*

Electric Undergrounding Project

UPA has completed all boring. Pads have been set. 100% of the wire has been pulled. 80% of terminations have been made. Waiting for delivery of switchgear. *(No Updates)*

SCADA Upgrade Project

The Notice to Proceed was issued March 26, 2026. The project schedule details 150 Days to Substantial Completion, 180 Days to final completion. The radio survey has been completed with excellent results. The design is in development, and radio delivery is expected in the second week of July. *(No Updates)*

Unity Tank Upgrade

The Unity Tank project is being funded through the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority (SC RIA) and the City's 2025 Combined Utility System Bond. The DES construction permit has been approved, and the project is awaiting approval from RIA to start the bidding process.

Board of Zoning Appeals

The Board of Zoning Appeals will be holding a public meeting on July 13th. The meeting agenda is attached.

Westminster Planning Commission

Nothing to report.

OJRSA

Past and future meetings are available on OJRSA's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@OconeeJRSA>

PMPA

Nothing to report.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July 3, 2026 City Offices Closed in Observance of Independence Day

Special Events Calendar

City of Westminster Historic Building Survey – July 7, 2026 Westminster Depot

See attached flyer for more information.

United Way Oconee County 2026 Backpack Distribution – July 24, 2026 Blue Ridge Elementary School

See attached flyer for more information.

South Carolina Apple Festival – September 3-5, 2026 Downtown Westminster

Read more about the festival here: <https://visitoconeesc.com/sc-apple-festival/>

South Carolina Bigfoot Festival – October 9-10, 2026 Downtown Westminster

For more information: <https://www.scbigfootfestival.com/schedule>

Veterans Day Parade – November 11, 2026

Time TBD. Main Street, Westminster.

Christmas Parade – December 4, 2026

Time TBD. Main Street, Westminster.

**City of Westminster Board of Zoning Appeals
July 13, 2026 at 5:00pm
Westminster City Hall
100 E. Windsor St**

- I. Call to order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Invocation**
- IV. Swearing In of New Members**
- V. Consideration of Variance Request for 1109 E. Main Street (TMS # 530-22-08-007)**

Public Hearing

The applicant requests a variance in the property to allow for construction of a commercial building with the standard Waffle House dimensions.

The applicant is demolishing the original structure at this address and is seeking to construct a new building, expanding from a 40 foot front building setback that already exists to a 15 foot front building setback. The applicant requests a 25 foot variance because the current setback significantly reduces the buildable area and prevents them from developing a commercial building that includes parking, circulation, and landscaping while allowing space for a building that matches the proposal.

Staff finds that the variance request meets the standard for granting a variance from strict interpretation of the zoning code.

- VI. Member Comments**
- VII. Adjourn**

Join Us!

WESTMINSTER SC

City of Westminster
Historic Building Survey

LOCATION

Westminster Depot
(129 E. Main Street)

Tuesday, July 7th

Starting at
5:30PM

The City of Westminster and New South Associates are working together to **identify and record historic buildings and sites** within the community.



*homes, churches,
cemeteries,
businesses,*

*parks,
neighborhoods*

built before 1976

We are hosting a public meeting to provide information about the project and the survey process. Westminster residents are invited to attend, ask questions, and share information and stories about the town's history.

We would love to hear from you and hope you join us!





UNITED WAY
Oconee County

2026

BACKPACK DISTRIBUTION

Friday, July

24th

4pm-7pm

while supplies last

Open to ALL Oconee Co.
School District students
grades 1st-12th

Distribution held at:
**Blue Ridge Elementary School
Parking Area**
995 S Oak Street
Seneca, SC 29678

***Drive-thru Pickup:**
We ask that children be present.
Max 3 backpacks per car.*

**FREE
hot dogs!**

