



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

October 16, 2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

Westminster City Council Special election to fill vacated Seat

- **City of Westminster Special Election: Tuesday, January 26**
- **Candidate Filing Opens:** 12pm Friday, October 23
- **Candidate Filing Closes:** 12pm Friday, October 30
- **In-person VR Deadline:** Wednesday, December 23
- **Online VR Deadline:** Sunday, December 27
- **Postmark VR Deadline:** Monday, December 28
- **Oconee County Holiday Schedule:** office closed Thursday, Dec 24 – Monday, Dec 28
- **Early Voting:** Monday, January 11 – Friday, January 22 (M-F, 8:30am-5:00pm)
- (Please note the office will be closed on Monday, January 18, 2027 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.)

Westminster GoGov App

The Westminster GoGov app will be utilized as an additional communication tool with City residents and City utility customers (and anyone in the world that chooses to install the app on their smart phone). The app went live today and anyone with a smart phone can now download it.

IOS link: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/city-of-westminster-sc/id6806054298>

Android link:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.govoutreach.westminstercitysc&hl=en_US

Additional information is available on the attached sheet.

One Percent Sales Tax Referendum

A one-percent sales tax referendum will appear on the ballot for City of Westminster residents. According to data provided by the South Carolina Department of Revenue, net taxable sales within the city limits average approximately \$2,665,417 per month. The proposed sales tax is intended to dedicate half of the revenue generated to property tax relief for eligible property owners within the city limits whose homes are assessed at the 4% rate as primary residences. The remaining half would be invested in local projects that benefit the community. Please see the attached Notice of Referendum for additional information about the proposed measure.

SCDOT to close, detour Snow Creek Road bridge over Snow Creek for replacement in Oconee County

The South Carolina Department of Transportation will close and detour Snow Creek Road (S-37-51) to replace the bridge that crosses over Snow Creek in Oconee County beginning Monday, October 19. The

closure is estimated to last until Thursday, March 18, 2027, weather permitting. A detour will be in place for this closure. A map can be found below.

Corridor Study – Traffic Counts on Highway 123

The Appalachian Council of Governments, in partnership with Freese and Nichols, is conducting a corridor study along US-123 in Oconee County. This study will extend from the SC-93 intersection near Clemson to the US-123/US-76 split on the west side of Westminster. Staff from Quality Counts collected data on Tuesday, September 29, and Wednesday, September 30th. Next steps will be a coordination meeting and project drive-through which is scheduled for the week of October 19, 2026. More information will be shared as the project develops.

Downtown Streetscape Update

There will be a ***Streetscape Ribbon Cutting in front of the gazebo next to the Depot to officially open the revitalization of Main Street and Retreat Street on Tuesday, October 20th @ 11:45 am.*** See attached flyer.

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

The William Bartram Statue Project

The Westminster William Bartram Statue Project website is available at <https://www.williambartramsc.com>

This website will be used to inform the public about the project and seek donations to make it a reality. Once the project is complete the website will then be used to promote places and activities in Oconee County that inform, educate and entertain those interested about Bartram's legacy and the natural environment.

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

- We will be picking up food boxes compliments of the Community Tree this coming Saturday morning. We will distribute these throughout the weekend to community families.
- Basketball registration will be held soon. Details will be available in the next day or two.
- Sponsors are needed for the upcoming basketball season. Contact us on 864 647 3208 or message us on Westminster Recreation Department Facebook messenger for more information.
- We had 2 teams recently win the Oconee County Tournament in volleyball. One of our 12u teams and one of our 14u teams were recently crowned champions.
- The 2026 Oconee County Fall Baseball & Fall Softball Tournaments will be held at the Horton Outdoor Recreational Area October 19-22.
- This coming weekend we will host a USSSA Travel Baseball Tournament at the Horton Outdoor Recreational Area and the Hall St Ballfield. Teams from Inman, Duncan, Moore, Clemson, Simpsonville, Williamston, Liberty, Fountain Inn, Greenville, Spartanburg, Anderson, Seneca, Walhalla and Westminster will be participating.
- Next weekend we will host a Top Gun Softball Tournament at the Horton Outdoor Recreational Area. Follow our website for schedules toward the end of next week.

- We continue to encourage the community to drop off non-perishable food and other items in the blessing box outside the Rec Department. As the weather gets cooler jackets, coats, gloves, etc. may be appropriate to leave in the box as well.
- Don't forget about using the Batter's Box (our indoor batting cage). The usage is picking up a bit as the weather is getting cooler. Contact us at 864 647 3208 or Westminster Recreation Department Facebook messenger to make reservations.
- Remember to use the City Of Westminster SC app on your cell phone to receive Rec Department notifications for registration, cancellations, and other information.

Lucky Street, James Street, and Highland Avenue Water Improvements

These projects are complete, they include:

Lucky Street water main, extension of Mimosa Street water main, Highland Avenue 6" water main which tied into to Norris Street, James Street 6" water main (tied into Main Street).

Electric Undergrounding Project

UPA has completed all boring. Pads have been set. 100% of the wire has been pulled. 90% of terminations have been made. Switchgear has been delivered; preparation for final testing is in progress. The fiber contractor is on-site to complete the line installation to the substation. Inspection was conducted October 8, 2026, all installations passed. Removal of the overhead lines has now begun.

SCADA Upgrade Project

Project is nearing completion – components have been installed, testing as well as software installation is almost complete.

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 bids received were over the allocated budget set by SCRIA. Additional discussions are scheduled with SCRIA to determine the availability of additional funds or project scope amendments.

Police Activity Report

Chief Miller's report for police activity in September is attached.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Nothing to report.

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

October 27, 2026 at 9:00 am OJRSA Finance & Administration Committee at OJRSA

~~October 2026 at 10:00 am PMPA Board Meeting at PMPA~~ *(No October Board Meeting)*

November 2, 2026 at 4:00 pm OJRSA Board Meeting at OJRSA

November 10, 2026 at 6:00 pm City Council Meeting at the Westminster Fire Department

November 11, 2026 Veterans Day – City offices closed – Veterans Day Parade in downtown Westminster

November 12, 2026 at 9:00 am OJRSA Reconstitution Committee and Executive Committee at OJRSA

November 19, 2026 at 8:30 am OJRSA Operations & Planning Committee at OJRSA

Special Events Calendar

Music on Main by the Westminster Music Centre – October 17, 2026 Main Street Westminster

Cruise-in starts at 3:00 pm with the concert starting at 5:00 pm.

Artists are Reedy River String Band and the Matt Phillips & Whats Good.

More information is available here: <https://www.westminstermusiccentre.org/>

Boo on Main - October 30, 2026 6:00-8:00 pm– Main Street Westminster *(New Date)*

See attached flyer.

Veterans Day Parade – November 11, 2026 Downtown Westminster

Time TBD.

Arbor Day Celebration – mid-day December 4, 2025

Details to come...

Christmas Parade – December 4, 2026 Downtown Westminster

Time TBD.

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Referendum will be held in the City of Westminster, South Carolina (the "City"), on November 3, 2026, for the purpose of submitting to all persons qualified to vote in the City, under the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina the following question:

Ballot Question

Must a one percent sales and use tax be levied in the City of Westminster, South Carolina for no more than eight years for the purpose of allowing a credit against certain municipal ad valorem tax liability and for the purpose of raising the amounts specified for the following purposes?

Project	Amount
1. Police Department building renovations	\$507,334
2. Yousef Mefleh Memorial Fields public parking lot	\$130,000
3. Fire Department Helo Pad	\$ 95,000
4. Depot Parking Lot resurfacing	\$100,000
5. Westminster Fire Dept storage facility	\$100,000
6. Horton Outdoor Recreational Area parking lot with shade structures	\$800,000
7. City Hall/Police Dept public parking lot	<u>\$509,000</u>
Total	\$2,241,334

and pending the receipt of such sales and use tax, must the City of Westminster be authorized to issue and sell not exceeding \$2,241,334 aggregate principal amount general obligation bonds of the City of Westminster to defray the costs of the capital projects described above plus issuance costs, and to pledge to the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds the receipts of the sales and use tax authorized hereby, net of amounts required to be applied to the credit pursuant to Section 5-41-170, provided that in the event such sales and use tax is inadequate for the payment of such bonds, such bonds shall be payable from an ad valorem tax imposed on all taxable property in City of Westminster?

Yes [] No []

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: All qualified electors of the City of Westminster desiring to vote in favor of imposing the tax for the stated purposes and authorizing the bonds shall vote "YES," and all qualified electors opposed to levying the tax and authorizing the bonds shall vote "NO."

The question is being submitted pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 41, Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976 as amended, and an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Westminster, South Carolina enacted on August 11, 2026 (the "Ordinance"). The referendum ordered by the Ordinance includes the authorization of the imposition of a sales and use tax and the issuance of not exceeding \$2,241,334 of general obligation bonds of the City. If a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting in the Referendum vote in favor of the question, a one percent sales and use tax will be imposed in the City of Westminster for eight years, beginning on May 1, 2027, and will continue to April 30, 2035. The receipts from the Sales and Use Tax will be applied (i) to pay the cost of the projects listed above in the manner set forth in the Ordinance and (ii) 50% of the revenues collected will be used to provide a nonrefundable credit against existing municipal ad valorem tax liability on property assessed pursuant to Section 12-43-220(c) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended.

From: SCDOT Public Engagement <media-scdot.org@shared1.ccsend.com>
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2026 9:02 AM
To: Kevin Bronson
Subject: SCDOT to close, detour Snow Creek Road bridge over Snow Creek for replacement in Oconee County

External Sender - From: (SCDOT Public Engagement <media-scdot.org@shared1.ccsend.com>)

This message came from outside your organization.



Office of Public Engagement
(803) 737-1270 | media@scdot.org

SCDOT to close, detour Snow Creek Road bridge over Snow Creek for replacement in Oconee County

Columbia, S.C. (October 12, 2026) - The South Carolina Department of Transportation will close and detour Snow Creek Road (S-37-51) to replace the bridge that crosses over Snow Creek in Oconee County beginning Monday, October 19.

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SCDOT asks that drivers slow down and pay attention when driving near the work zone.



About SCDOT

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is the state agency with oversight of South Carolina's network of highways and bridges, including responsibilities such as planning, design, construction, financing, and roadway safety. To ensure the nation's fourth-largest highway system is prepared to serve the needs of South Carolina's growing economy and population, SCDOT has developed a Strategic 10-Year Plan that addresses improvements to the state's highway and bridge systems. Learn more at [scdot.org](https://www.scdot.org).

-END-

SCDOT Public Engagement | 955 Park St | Columbia, SC 29203 US

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Westminster Chief of Police Monthly Report

September 2026

Offenses/Incident Reports	37
Vehicle Accidents	8
Use of Force Incidents	0
DUI	2
Arrests	21
Citations Issued	51
Warnings Issued	124
Traffic Stops	175
Security Checks	80
Total Calls	611
Training Hours	20

09/01 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on Toccoa Highway which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for several traffic violations.

09/04 WMPD took an incident report in reference to missing money

09/04 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on W. Oak Highway which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for several traffic violations.

09/04 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on E. Main St which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for several traffic violations.

09/05 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on Long Creek Highway which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for several traffic violations.

09/06 WMPD arrested male subject for AB 2nd after a incident that occurred at Johnson St Apt.

09/06 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on E. Main ST which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for several traffic and drug violations.

09/08 WMPD responded to a overdose death that occurred on Jenkin St

09/09 WMPD arrested male subject for a incident that involved his dogs

09/10 WMPD took a larceny report from Dollar General

09/11 WMPD took a Grand Larceny report from a incident that occurred at construction site on E Main St

09/11 WMPD took an incident report in reference to 2 male subjects fighting on S. Hampton St

09/14 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on Lucky St which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for several traffic violations.

09/14 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on E. Main ST which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for narcotic.

09/15 WMPD conducted a DV 2nd investigation that occurred on Bulter St.

09/19 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on Toccoa Highway which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for DUI and several other traffic violations.

09/20 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on N. Bibb St which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for several traffic violations.

09/22 WMPD arrested a male subject for Distribution of Meth 2nd after making contact with him at Spinx

09/23 WMPD arrested a female for shoplifting from Spinx

09/24 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on S. Hampton which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for outstanding warrants out of the county.

09/25 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on N. Pew St which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for DUI and Drug Violations.

09/26 WMPD conducted a traffic stop on West Windsor St which resulted in the arrest of a male driver for several traffic violations.

09/26 WMPD responded to a natural death call at a residence on McNair St.

09/27 WMPD is currently investigating a Burglary 2nd call at a residence on Bulter St

09/28 WMPD arrested 2 male subjects for outstanding warrants from another agency

Chief Notes

09/01 Rotary Meeting

09/04 Funeral Service for Columbia Police Officer

09/08 Staff and Council Meeting

09/09 Crime Stoppers Golf Tournament

09/10 Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting

09/11-12 Apple Festival

09/14 Crime Stoppers Luncheon ,Geo Gov Meeting, YMCA Boad Meeting

09/15 Rotary Meeting, Bigfoot Meeting

09/16 Interviews

09/18 Interviews

09/22 Rotary Meeting

09/24 PD staff Meeting

09/29 Rotary Meeting

09/30 Chiefs Conference

Fred Miller

Chief of Police



BOO **ON MAIN**

**OPEN YOUR DOORS
TO THE KIDS!**

SAVE THE DATE:

★ **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30** ★

6PM - 8PM

★ **MAIN STREET WESTMINSTER**

**PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES
SHOULD HAVE CANDY AVAILABLE
FOR TRICK-OR-TREATERS.**

For more information contact:

ilewis@westminstersc.org

864-873-1830

