



# City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

Department of Planning & Community Development  
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To: Kurt Hodgen, City Manager  
From: Planning Commission and  
Department of Planning and Community Development  
Date: July 1, 2016  
Re: Public Utilities Request End of Harmony Drive (Rockingham County)

**Summary:** Consider a Public Utilities Request from Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community (VMRC) to provide water service onto property within Rockingham County.

**Background:** The subject property is identified by Rockingham County's tax maps as parcel 93-7-L1 and is located at the western end of Harmony Drive, which is also the City/County boundary. The applicant desires to install an irrigation system to provide water for gardens, where food is grown.

Per Section 7-2-4 (b) of the City Code, all uses, other than residential uses involving fewer than ten units, requesting to be connected to the City's water and sewer infrastructure, shall be reviewed by Planning Commission and then forwarded to City Council for final approval or rejection. As this request is for an irrigation system, it requires Planning Commission review and City Council approval.

**Key Issues:** Currently, there is water infrastructure within Harmony Drive right-of-way, which terminates at a fire hydrant located near the end of the pavement. If approved, the applicant would install a new 1" irrigation service, meter, and frost proof hydrant on the VMRC property within Rockingham County. The applicant has been informed that an approved backflow prevention device is required when installing the new service and they should work closely with the Department of Community Development to ensure correct installation and inspections occur.

The proper application has been completed and the Public Utilities Department has completed the preliminary review of the request and has no issues with the requested service.

**Environmental Impact:**

N/A

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Prior Actions:**

N/A

**Alternatives:**

Rather than approving the public utilities request as applied for herein, denial of the application would otherwise require the applicant to obtain water service from an approved method within Rockingham County.

**Community Engagement:**

N/A

**Recommendation:**

Staff has no concerns and the Public Utilities Department supports this application for the extension of water service into Rockingham County. Staff recommends approval.

**Attachments:**

1. Extract (2)
2. Site maps (2)
3. Public utilities application (10)

**Review:**

Planning Commission recommended approval (6-0) of the public utilities request for the end of Harmony Drive within Rockingham County, as presented.