



March 7, 2017

## An Open Letter to the Citizens of Portsmouth

As we continue to realize City Council's vision of celebrating our history while embracing our future as a prosperous, lifelong learning, safe, and friendly city; as City Manager, in my third year, I am even more excited about what the future holds for the New Portsmouth.

One of my guiding principles, to create a bright and prosperous future, redefined by collaboration, unification and rededication through citizen and community engagement, serves as a catalyst for increasing many opportunities for participatory government and transparency.

In that regard, I encourage you to visit the city's homepage to interact with **Balancing Act & Taxpayer Receipt**. These two interactive and unique engagement tools provide you with an opportunity to demonstrate to us how you will balance the municipal budget, and allocate funding across different categories. Based upon the information that you enter and how you choose to allocate funding for services, Taxpayer Receipt will provide you an unofficial receipt. I am sure that you will find this tool fun and engaging. We will use all of the information gleaned from budget community engagement forums and online survey to continue to formulate the FY2019 Proposed Operating Budget.

Finally, I invite you to join the Portsmouth Family **Monday, March 26, at 4 p.m.** in the Portsmouth City Hall City Council Chamber, at 801 Crawford Street • 6th Floor, as I present the FY2019 Proposed Operating Budget.

Thank you for your consideration as we continue to work together tirelessly to make the best decisions necessary to achieve our city's vision and to create the New Portsmouth.

Sincerely,

**Dr. L. Pettis Patton**  
City Manager



**Office of the City Manager**

801 Crawford Street • 6th Floor • Portsmouth, VA 23704 • Office: (757) 393-8641 • Fax: (757) 393-5241