



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE
CITY COUNCIL SECOND MONTHLY MEETING
City Hall - 2nd Floor Meeting Room | 160 6th Ave. E. | Hendersonville, NC 28792
Wednesday, April 23, 2025 – 4:00 PM

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA**
3. **PRESENTATIONS**
 - A. Employee Wellness Program Update – *John Connet, City Manager*
 - B. Presentation of Pavement Condition Inventory – *Brian Pahle, Assistant City Manager, Brent Detwiler, Public Services Director and Tom Wooten Public Works Director*
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Request for Letter of Support for Hands On Children’s Museum and Science Center – *Lyndsey Simpson, Council Member*
5. **ADJOURN**

The City of Hendersonville is committed to providing accessible facilities, programs and services for all people in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you need assistance or an accommodation for this meeting please contact the City Clerk no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting at 697-3005.



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

SUBMITTER: John Connet, City Manager **MEETING DATE:** 4/23/2025
AGENDA SECTION: PRESENTATION **DEPARTMENT:** Administration
TITLE OF ITEM: Employee Wellness Program Update – John Connet, City Manager

SUGGESTED MOTION(S):

NA

SUMMARY:

City Manager John Connet will provide an update on the City's wellness program

BUDGET IMPACT: \$ NA

Is this expenditure approved in the current fiscal year budget? NA

If no, describe how it will be funded. NA

ATTACHMENTS:

None



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

SUBMITTER: John Connet, City Manager **MEETING DATE:** 4/23/2025
AGENDA SECTION: PRESENTATION **DEPARTMENT:** Administration
TITLE OF ITEM: Presentation of Pavement Condition Inventory – *Brian Pahle, Assistant City Manager, Brent Detwiler, Public Services Director and Tom Wooten Public Works Director*

SUGGESTED MOTION(S):

NA

SUMMARY:

City staff will provide a presentation of our most recent Pavement Condition Inventory. The inventory is used to evaluate the condition of City streets. We will also discuss how this inventory is used to prioritize street improvement projects.

BUDGET IMPACT: \$ TBD

Is this expenditure approved in the current fiscal year budget? NA

If no, describe how it will be funded. NA

ATTACHMENTS:

None



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

SUBMITTER: John Connet, City Manager **MEETING DATE:** 4/23/2025
AGENDA SECTION: NEW BUSINESS **DEPARTMENT:** Administration
TITLE OF ITEM: Request for Letter of Support for Hands On Children's Museum and Science Center – *Lyndsey Simpson, Council Member*

SUGGESTED MOTION(S):

I move that the City Council approve the Letter of Support for Hands On Children's Museum and Science Center.

SUMMARY:

Council Member Simpson has requested that the City Council provide a letter of support for Hands On Children's Museum and Science Center.

BUDGET IMPACT: \$ NA

Is this expenditure approved in the current fiscal year budget? NA

If no, describe how it will be funded. NA

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed Letter

Fact Sheet

Dear Representative, Balkcom,

I am writing to urge your support for Hands On! Children's Museum as you and other members of the state legislature consider providing one-time financial support for the development of the future Hands On! Science Center in downtown Hendersonville.

For nearly twenty years, Hands On! has been a beacon of educational enrichment for children in our community. The museum fosters a love for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects in a fun and interactive way. The future Science Center project will provide a completely new learning experience for older youth ages twelve and up.

The Science Center will serve as a pipeline to support the Made in Henderson County Apprenticeship Program. The interactive Science Center will feature learning experiences that directly reflect STEM industries within Henderson County and Western North Carolina.

Henderson County and Western North Carolina are home to a growing number of high-paying STEM careers. There are numerous local career pathways through vocational programs, certifications, associate degrees, and apprenticeships—many of which local youth are not aware of. By raising awareness of STEM career opportunities, particularly in the areas of Advanced Manufacturing and Agriculture, the Science Center will serve as a catalyst for inspiring older youth to pursue rewarding STEM careers without having to leave their community.

The future Science Center will support the Made in Henderson County Apprenticeship Program in partnership with the Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development, Henderson County Schools, and Blue Ridge Community College.

Thank you for your service to our state and for considering financial support through the state legislature for the Hands On! Science Center Project. Hands On! Children's Museum is an important resource for our children and older youth, and support from the State of North Carolina will be instrumental to the success of this project.



BUILDING TOMORROW'S STEM WORKFORCE IN HENDERSON COUNTY

Hands On! Children's Museum first opened its doors of discovery in 2007, featuring a variety of engaging exhibits designed to educate the mind and captivate the imagination of young children.

Since the completion of the museum's first expansion in 2022, Hands On! consistently attracts over **60,000 visitors** each year. As the demand for the museum grows, support from the community *inspires* Hands On! to think boldly about its future.

Our community lacks indoor opportunities for **youth ages twelve and up** to have fun and meaningful STEM learning experiences.

As our economic development grows in Henderson County, it is imperative to cultivate a future workforce that is prepared to pursue local careers in STEM to advance our innovation economy.

To address these needs, Hands On! will create an innovative and engaging destination experience for youth aged twelve and older, designed to spark their interest in science and inspire them to pursue careers in STEM fields.



COMING SOON:
THE HANDS ON! SCIENCE CENTER!
8,000 square-feet of DISCOVERY and WONDER!



The new **SCIENCE CENTER** will be a state-of-the-art 8,000 sq. ft. destination experience designed for youth ages 12 - 15. The **SCIENCE CENTER** will be located on the lower level of the existing 13,500 sq. ft. children's museum.

EXPERIENCES WITHIN THE SCIENCE CENTER INCLUDE:

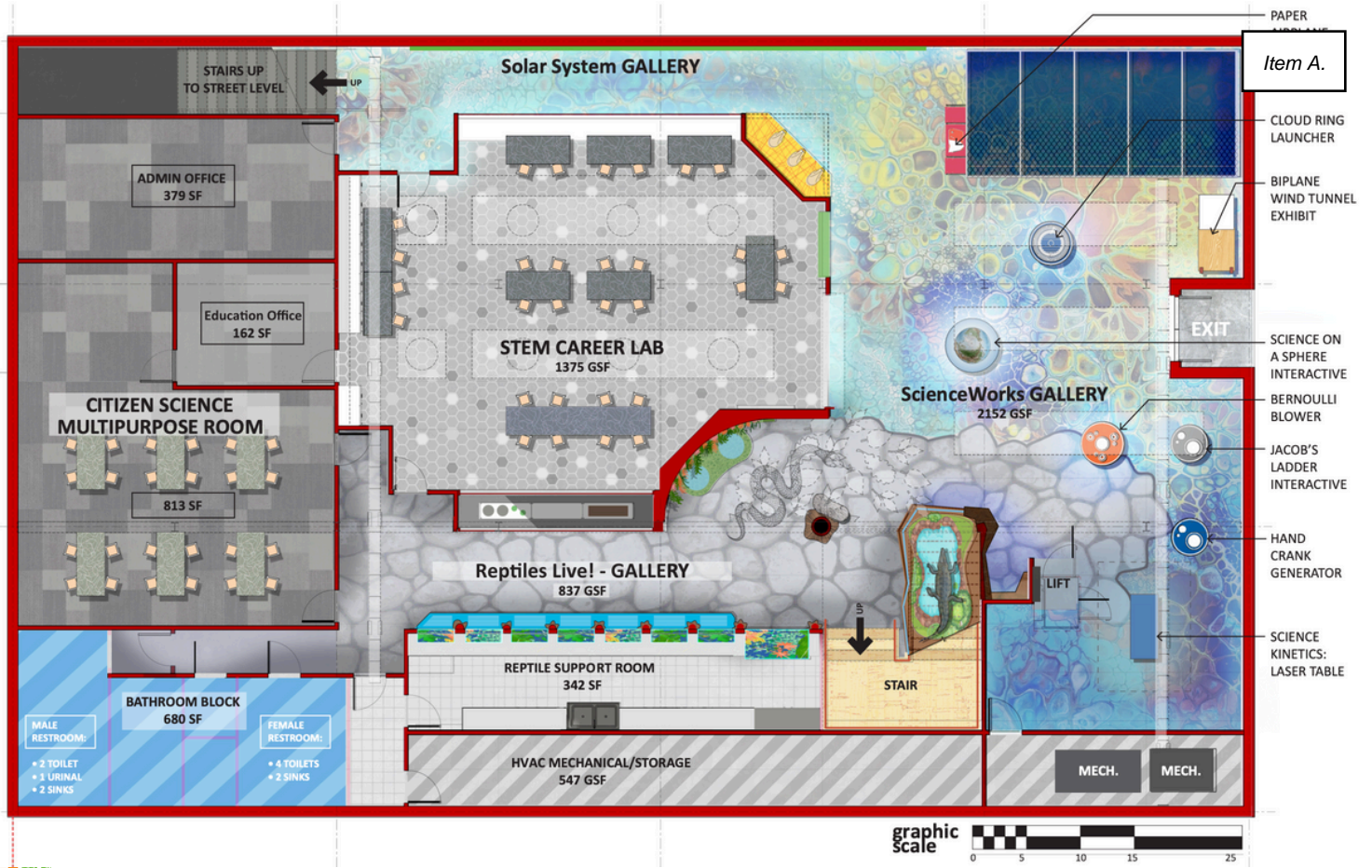
- **STEM Career Lab**
- **Live Animal Gallery**
- **Interactive STEM Exhibits**
- **Citizen Science Classroom**
- **AND MUCH MORE!**

The **SCIENCE CENTER** will feature a variety of interactive learning experiences that will inspire and motivate Henderson County Youth to realize their potential in a STEM career.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Joseph C. Knight, Director and CEO
Hands On! Children's Museum
joseph@handsonwnc.org | 828-697-8333 x223



Science Center Floor Plan - LOWER LEVEL OF CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

haizlipstudio



The **SCIENCE CENTER** will lead the way in developing the future STEM workforce needed to grow the advanced manufacturing and agriculture STEM sectors in Henderson County.

LOCAL YOUTH will discover STEM career pathways available within Henderson County and WNC, allowing them to pursue STEM careers without leaving the region.

RETAINING LOCAL TALENT is essential for growing our economy and preserving the culture and heritage of our region.