



Fall 2025

City Reflections

A Letter from Mayor Elise Partin

Cayce, S.C. is a special place. We have abundant natural beauty, a rich cultural heritage, and the best people you'll find anywhere—honest, hardworking, civic-minded folks who care about their community and their neighbors. We have second-to-none recreational opportunities, a vibrant arts scene, great schools and a thriving business community.

Our quality of life is among the best in the Midlands, even as our taxes and fees are among the lowest. Thanks to careful growth planning, we have the lowest traffic congestion of any Midlands city. And we're a safe city; we have a first-rate police force and some of the best police response times and lowest crime rates in the region.

In recent years we've made much progress in areas that have historically presented challenges for the city. One example is our hugely successful State Street revitalization effort—long one of my priorities as mayor—the latest development in which was the news that a new eatery, George Robert's Restaurant, will soon open on the 1300 block of State Street.

On the business side, we routinely receive high marks for our fiscal management, including the honors from the national Government Finance Officers Association. When I first took office, my central focus was restoring our lost AAA credit rating and putting the city on sound financial footing. Today, our high standards for financial management help us to both keep taxes low and ensure quality services.

Of course, we face our share of problems. And there's the politics. Despite our many successes, an undercurrent of politics can sometimes divide city government and the community at large...and certainly makes it difficult to govern. But navigating such challenges is part of life for any elected leader. There's still no place I'd rather be.

Ours is a wonderful city. I'm blessed to call Cayce home and honored beyond words to represent you as Mayor.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.



Elise Partin

Council Corner



Mayor Pro Tem Tim James, District 1

Flooding along Knox Abbott Drive and the Avenues has been a long-standing challenge. The City has been working behind the scenes for over a decade to find a lasting solution. Thanks to a \$10 million grant from the South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP), the Avenues Drainage Improvement Project is underway. This major project will take over a year to complete and will include road closures and work near private property. Parts of Guignard Park will also be closed at times during this project. We are doing what we always strive to do by over communicating as much as possible so everyone stays informed. There is a dedicated website for the project, we sent out City wide mailers, there are signs about road closures, contractor doorhangers, real-time texts and email alerts, a project information phone line (803.939.9321), media coverage, a Cayce Drainage Facebook page, roll cart flyers for homeowners and hand delivered flyers for businesses that will be affected. To stay informed, sign up for road closure alerts at CAYCEDRAINAGE.COM. There is tons of information on this website as well that will help you stay in the know on this significant project. We know this is an inconvenience and appreciate your patience as we work to improve the stormwater drainage for the City of Cayce.



Byron Thomas, District 2

Investing in our parks means investing in our families. Before I joined City Council, Glenwood Park was lifeless and outdated, and throughout my district, I saw many crooked or broken basketball goals in front yards. I pushed for the renovation of Glenwood Park, and I'm grateful my fellow council members supported it. I'll continue working with Council to improve even more parks across our community. Since joining Council, I've made it a priority to bring meaningful, positive change to District 2 and the City of Cayce. One initiative I'm especially proud of is leading the effort that made Cayce the first city in Lexington County to pass a hate intimidation ordinance, a measure that also received full Council support. So much good is happening in Cayce, and I'm committed to making sure our community hears about it and has every opportunity to be part of it. I will continue to fight for progress and to uplift our beautiful city. I've also hosted a range of community-focused events. If you'd like to be notified of future events, please email me at Byron4Cayce@gmail.com text 803-293-5585 or follow my [Byron4Cayce](#) IG & Facebook pages



Hunter Sox, District 3

I hope each of you had a wonderful summer and are excited to go back to school! I wanted to share a few updates that are really exciting for our City: Cayce is home to 663 businesses that generate just over \$1 billion in gross revenues and contribute \$2.6 million in business license revenue. We have listened to each of you, and we understand the importance of growing the right way and keeping costs low for our citizens! I am also committed to standing up for our small business owners and appreciate each and every business that chooses to call Cayce home. One of the many things that makes Cayce a wonderful place to live is our trails and parks. We have made recent upgrades to Churchill Heights, Glenwood Park, and the William J. Cayce/M Avenue park by adding Wi-Fi, adding basketball goals, and replacing fences and other maintenance items. These meaningful updates continue to create safe and accessible outdoor spaces for families. Our public spaces are a key component of having a competitive local economy. An enormous project that we are working on is the Airport Boulevard corridor. We are transforming this roadway with new sidewalks, lighting, landscaping, and signage to create a more welcoming gateway into the City of Cayce and that attracts the investment and partnerships that reflect the kind of city we want to be!



Phil Carter, District 4

It is hard to believe that it is time to go back to school! A big thank you to our Cayce Police Department for hosting the Back to School Bash and school supply drive on July 31! As a father and grandfather, I know that our families spend a lot on school supplies – and many times, our amazing teachers even spend their own money on supplies for their classrooms. Our Cayce police officers have done a great job of helping families and teachers prepare for the school year! I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and happy first day of school to our Lexington School District Two students on August 7! If I can ever assist you, contact me anytime at 803-518-9384 or phillipacarter@yahoo.com!

Welcome Our New City Manager

The City of Cayce is proud to announce the appointment of Michael Conley as our new City Manager, effective July 3. Mr. Conley brings a wealth of experience and a strong background in local government leadership. Prior to joining Cayce, he served as Assistant County Administrator for Kershaw County and spent five years as their Director of Planning and Zoning.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina – Wilmington, Mr. Conley has also completed several prestigious leadership programs, including Leadership South Carolina, the Local Government Leadership Institute, and the Community Health Institute Leadership Academy. He is actively involved in the City/County Management Association, the International City/County Management Association, and the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association.



Under Cayce’s Council-Manager form of government, the City Manager is responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations, implementing City Council policies, managing the City’s budget and personnel, and ensuring high-quality services for residents. We are excited to welcome Mr. Conley and look forward to the continued progress and innovation he will bring to our community.



What Are Water and Sewer Licensed Operators?

Licensed water and sewer operators are professionals certified to manage, maintain, and oversee the operations of systems that treat and distribute drinking water to our customers, and collect and treat wastewater from our customers. Operators provide a variety of tasks that are centered around providing crucial services to residents and businesses, allowing water to be delivered to your tap and allowing you to flush your toilets without worry. Operators are required to adhere to state regulations and industry standards. In addition, operators are required to obtain multiple levels of licensing certifications through the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, and take continuing education classes. If you are looking for a rewarding career in one of the most essential jobs known, apply for one of our openings in Utilities at: <https://caycesc.gov/employment.php>.

Congratulations to these Utilities employees who have reached significant milestones in passing licensing exams in the past year.

Water Treatment:	Biological Wastewater Treatment:	Wastewater Collections:	Water Distribution:
Denis Bergeron (B and A Levels)	Bryan Havener (C & B Levels)	Garry Bush (C, B, & A Levels)	Garry Bush (A Level)
Glendon Butler (E Level)	Ray Wagner (B Level)	Jamie Summers (B Level)	Dustin Nelson (D Level)
Chad Dulinsky (C Level)			Ray Wagner (A Level)
Tim Levi (E, D, C, B, & A Levels)			



Photo Credit: Soda Citizen

New Fire Engine

The Cayce Fire Department recently received a new fire engine. This engine is replacing a 1999 engine that faithfully served the community for twenty-six (26) years. This new fleet addition is equipped with the latest in technology and safety features, allowing our firefighters and the community to be better prepared for emergencies. This engine will be the primary response unit to any emergency within the city and surrounding jurisdictions, through automatic aid agreements. Thank you to Council and staff who see the need in providing necessary equipment to carry out our mission.

Fire Safe Community

In June of 2025, the Cayce Fire Department received its designation as a "Fire Safe" community, for the second year in a row. The Fire Safe designation is given to fire departments across the state who demonstrate effective fire prevention practices, developing partnerships with business in the community, and delivering effective messaging to the community members we serve. This is no small feat and requires a lot of planning and organizing. Being recognized as a Fire Safe community serves as a testament to the dedication our firefighters have in making our City a safe place to live.





Six Mile Creek

The City's Utilities Division has completed the first part of a multiphase project to rehabilitate the Six Mile Creek Sewer Interceptor. This is the City's largest sewer transmission line that serves the western half of the City's service area. The first phase of this project included rehabilitating approximately 2,600 feet of 30-inch and 36-inch pipe.

Sak Construction was selected through a competitive bidding process to construct this work. Work began on March 2025 with bypassing and cleaning of the line. A liner that was specially designed for large diameter sewer mains was manufactured and brought to the site for installation. The liner was then inserted into the existing line, using the manholes as entry and exit points, and cured with steam to fit snug against the walls of the pipe. As each section between manholes was completed, the manholes were internally coated with epoxy to prevent corrosion and then new covers and frames were installed. The final product took two months to complete, but is expected to last for at least 50 years. Utilities staff secured a grant through the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority in the amount of \$1,000,000 to assist in funding this project. In addition, Utilities staff provided the engineering design, bid, and construction oversight for this project.



Museum

Proudly on display in the Victorian Room of the Cayce Historical Museum is an original garment that once belonged to a relative of a past Cayce employee. It is most likely from the early 1900s, based on the narrow sleeve that was favored in the early part of the Edwardian period. It was done with both sewing machine and hand sewing, many home sewists would still employ hand sewing, especially on delicate seams and buttonholes. A common practice in historical sewing is piecing, it's not uncommon to find extant garments with skirts pieced together where there wasn't quite enough fabric. This dress is no different, the skirt has been pieced, and you can spot it if you know where to look.

Friendly Reminders

SANITATION: Please make a note that leaves, pine straw and yard debris have to be kept separate from all trash piles and remember, bagged leaves get priority of pickup over unbagged leaves. During leaf season, yard debris might not always be picked up the same day as your route pick up day but will be picked up as soon as possible.

Please keep ALL garbage bagged and keep garbage and recyclables separate. If you have any questions, contact your Sanitation Department at 803-205-4434. We look forward to assisting you!

PARKS: When visiting our many parks please remember to charge your cell phone, be aware of the wildlife and keep an eye out for pop-up storms. Our Rangers and Park attendants are there if you need assistance. Stay cool and enjoy all the beautiful parks we have!

Fall Fest Goes Country

The City of Cayce's Fall Fest will return October 4. This free event is held 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Granby Gardens Park, located at 1800 12th Street. Join in on the fun with live music, food vendors, craft vendors and a kid's area with face painters, balloon artists, inflatables, and more! This year's music lineup includes West Columbia native, Coley Williams, Willie Wells and the Blue Ridge Mountain Grass, and headliner Kendall Lanford Music. This event is open to all, including friendly pets!

New Director of Development

The City of Cayce is pleased to welcome Luke Godbold as our new Director of Development. Mr. Godbold brings extensive experience in economic and community development. He most recently served as the Community & Economic Development Director for Lake City. His prior roles include Interim Project Manager for the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation and Economic Development Specialist for the North Eastern Strategic Alliance.



City of Cayce
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caycesc.gov

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Calendar of Events

Glenwood Park Reopening

On August 5 from 3:30-4:45 p.m., we're celebrating the grand reopening of Cayce's Glenwood Park! Cool off with 'Popsicles in the Park' - perfect for a summer day! We hope that our Lexington Two students, teachers, and athletes will join us to celebrate with a fun game of 3v3 with our Cayce School Resource Officers on the brand-new basketball court! Join us for games, music and popsicles - a great way to kick off back-to-school on August 7. Glenwood Park is located between Hazel and Glenn Streets in Cayce.

August

- 5 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 5 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 6 Museum Commission Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 14 Events Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 18 Beautification Foundation Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 18 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 18 Planning Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 20 Council Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 26 Public Safety Foundation Mtg., 5:45 p.m.
- 27 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

September

- 1 City Offices Closed - Labor Day
- 2 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 2 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 3 Museum Commission Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 8 Beautification Foundation Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 11 Events Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Zoning Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Planning Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 16 Housing Authority Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 17 Council Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 23 Public Safety Foundation Mtg, 5:45 p.m.
- 24 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

October

- 1 Museum Commission Mtg., 5 p.m.
- 4 Cayce Fall Fest, 12-6 p.m.
- 7 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 7 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 9 Events Committee Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 13 Beautification Foundation Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 20 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 20 Planning Commission Mtg., 6:30 p.m.
- 22 Council Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 28 Public Safety Foundation Meeting, 5:45 p.m.
- 29 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

Note: Zoning Board only meets when a zoning appeal needs to be reviewed. If they do not meet, the Planning Commission meets at 6 p.m. rather than 6:30 p.m.

**Sept. 1 Garbage, Yard Trash and Recycling will be picked up on Wednesday, Sept. 3.*