



## Cayce Welcomes New Assistant City Manager

The City of Cayce is pleased to announce that Wesley Crosby has joined the team as the new Assistant City Manager. Wesley brings over 20 years of experience from the Town of Lexington, where he began his career writing grants and progressed to the role of Assistant to the Town Administrator. In his new position, Wesley will be instrumental in advancing key projects, including the development of the 12,000 Year History Park Visitor Center. The City is excited to welcome Wesley and looks forward to benefiting from his extensive knowledge and expertise.



## Cayce Cool Down

Summers are so hot in South Carolina and for that reason Cayce introduced a new event last summer—the *Cayce Cool Down*. The event was a huge success and kids and adults alike had a great time! Picture water slides, water balloons, water soakers, slip and slides and sprinklers all laid out in Granby Gardens Park for you and your family's enjoyment. This free event is being held Saturday, July 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will be a blast for kids of all ages and there will be free sno cones as well. Come join us for the Cayce Cool Down!



## Whole Sole Award

At our April 1 City Council meeting, we had the honor of surprising and thanking a team that is behind the scenes but plays a critical role for our city and our citizens! Congratulations to our outstanding Cayce IT Team on being nominated by our staff as the recipients of the Cayce Whole Sole Award!

Their work impacts every aspect of making our government work effectively and efficiently! Congratulations to Jamie Beckham, Chris Bowe and Ryen Kelly!

## Communications Corner

The City of Cayce has several new communication features! After each city council meeting, we publish “Council Cliffs Notes” to keep our citizens informed. We are also sharing our Cayce Business Spotlight several times a month and sharing it on our city social media.

At the beginning of each month, we post a video to highlight one of our Cayce parks, a tip from our code compliance team, and our featured job of the month! Make sure you are following the City of Cayce on Facebook and Instagram to see each of these new communication features!



City of Cayce  
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[caycesc.gov](http://caycesc.gov)

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# Cayce Times

Summer 2025

## City Reflections

*A Letter from Mayor Elise Partin*



How do cities keep costs low? It takes commitment, and it means enacting a detailed plan, which is something we've done well. One way to keep costs down, of course, is to make sure we're being responsible with taxpayer dollars. That means prioritizing public safety, so when you need help our police cars and fire trucks don't break down on the way to you, which happened in the past before I took office, and also requires expensive fixes. It means taping budget flyers on your roll cart to keep you informed about city finances (without having to pay postage costs to get them to each home). It means replacing the generator that's about to fail instead of paying to rent one - wasting money - when it does. It means keeping our good employees because we have given them a cost of living adjustment and affirm the good work they do. Did you know it costs 4x more to get a new employee than to keep the good one you have?

Another way is to create more economic freedom by being business-friendly. We have a meaningful, measurable track record of success in this realm. Our team is great to work with and our taxes and fees are among the

lowest in the entire region (even as our quality of life is among the best)! The tax you pay to the city on your home is one of the lowest in the region—in some cases \$100 lower than our neighboring cities. Our water and sewer rates are HALF of what most of the other providers in the area charge. Our team is very efficient in the work they do and provide some of the best customer service around. The more small businesses we have, the better the quality of life in our city. We have more places to shop local and to eat with our friends and family. We have more places for students to work after school and in the summer. And we have more hands carrying the costs of running a city, which means we all pay less. Two years ago I brought a best practice to council to encourage commercial building owners who have kept their buildings vacant for over a decade to bring life to their space—to create a fun place for us to meet up and see neighbors, to create vibrant work spaces that means more jobs. It would have ultimately reduced your tax burden. It didn't pass then, but Council has asked for that ordinance to come back up and I'm excited about what that means for our City. While we have so many great small businesses

opening up now like The Party and Event Store, Tacos Nayarit, and more, we still have small businesses that are stuck next to vacant spaces where they don't have the benefit of more customers but the drawback from feeling like they are open in an iffy space. My priority will always be to make sure that we are a great place to live, to work, and to play. Thank you for being a part of that success.

PS - THANK YOU to all who came out to Soiree on State, and to all those who helped organize it. Events like this are important because they showcase all that our city has to offer for prospective residents and businesses. They draw people closer together, and help neighbors get to know each other a little better. In a real way, they strengthen the community. A heart-felt “thank you” to everyone who helped once again make Soiree on State a success.

*Elise Partin*

## Calendar of Events

### Sanitation Reminders

Please keep leaves and pine straw separate from all other piles, and keep in mind, bagged leaves get priority 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.

### May

- 6 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 6 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 7 Museum Commission Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 8 Events Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Beautification Foundation Mtg, 5:30 p.m.
- 19 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 19 Planning Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 20 Housing Authority Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 21 Council Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 26 City Offices Closed - Memorial Day
- 27 Public Safety Foundation Mtg., 5:45 p.m.
- 28 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

### June

- 3 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 3 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 4 Museum Commission Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 9 Beautification Foundation Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Events Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 16 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 16 Planning Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 18 Council Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 19 City Offices Closed - Juneteenth
- 24 Public Safety Foundation Mtg, 5:45 p.m.
- 25 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

### July

- 2 Museum Commission Mtg., 5 p.m.
- 4 City Offices Closed - Independence Day
- 8 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 8 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 10 Events Committee Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 14 Beautification Foundation Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Housing Authority Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 21 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 21 Planning Commission Mtg., 6 p.m.
- 22 Public Safety Foundation Meeting, 5:45 p.m.
- 30 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

*Note: Zoning Board of Appeals 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.*

*\*May 26 Garbage, Yard Trash and Recycling will be picked up on Wednesday, May 28.  
June 19 Garbage, Yard Trash and Recycling will be picked up on Wednesday, June 18.  
July 4 Garbage, Yard Trash and Recycling will be picked up on Wednesday, July 2.*



### Cayce Fire Department Launches TEA Program

Cayce’s Community Risk Reduction Manager Lindsay McDade with the Cayce Fire Department launched a study the first week of March in partnership with The Courage Center and Hoof Beat Ranch. The study will provide data on the Therapeutic Equine Activities (TEA) program focused on supporting individuals in recovery while improving overall mental wellness. The TEA program is funded by South Carolina Opioid Recovery Funds (SCORF).

HISTORY

Through the Muffin Cares program, Animal Assisted Interventions with Muffin the Therapy Horse have become a huge success. Muffin helped start the conversation on why overdose is the number one cause of accidental death in Lexington County. Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) touches people among all demographics; and the awareness campaign includes the dangers of fake pills, disposing of unwanted medications, and the impact of addiction.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Horses are prey animals, meaning they are on the constant lookout for danger. They live in the moment and are very perceptive of body language and nonverbal communication. They can play a key role in addressing the stigma of mental health. Muffin Cares expanded to the TEA program to provide support for individuals in recovery and teach mental health resiliency skills. Participants are educated through the horse and human partnership on mindfulness, emotional self-regulation, self-care, and problem solving, to name a few.

The program is currently being piloted at the Lexington location of The Courage Center and was recently featured on WLTX and WIS.

### Council Corner



**Mayor Pro Tem Tim James, District 1**

Summer is a great season to enjoy family, friends and the many outdoor activities Cayce offers, where you can bike ride or walk the Riverwalk or just pack a lunch and enjoy a picnic with family in one of our parks or along the river. While you enjoy the tranquility of our city, please thank those who work hard to ensure its safety and beauty, such as those who work the parks daily, our Sanitation crews magically making your trash disappear weekly, our police officers patrolling while we sleep and the fire officers always ready to respond to an emergency. Enjoy your summer and encourage safe driving throughout our neighborhoods- Watch for Children Playing!



**Byron Thomas, District 2**

I’ve partnered with the Cayce-West Columbia Branch Library and Village Idiot Pizza to help encourage our teenagers in Lexington Two School District to read over the summer. By participating in the library’s summer reading program, teens (grades 9 - 12) will have from May 30- Aug. 1 to complete the summer reading challenge! They will receive a free book when signing

up and at completion students will be awarded exciting prizes and a FREE LARGE Pizza voucher, redeemable at any Village Idiot Pizza location, for the family to share!!! The Cayce-West Columbia Library’s summer reading kickoff party is June 10th from 5-7PM at the library and Village Idiot is sponsoring the pizza! Working with “Keep the Midlands Beautiful”; (KMB) a NEW FREE mural is at One Love Mart, painted by Muralist Jahna Blyben. She did an amazing job bringing the message of *keeping our planet clean and safe* to life!



**Hunter Sox, District 3**

Warm weather is finally here, which means spending more time outdoors and many upcoming Cayce and Midlands events! There are plenty of new opportunities to get outside this year, with the new Cayce Pickleball Complex featuring 16 courts at Henry C. Moore Park. Specific to District 3, we recently completed upgrades to Glenwood Park, including new basketball goals, a

resurfaced court, a new shelter, a water fountain, new benches, and refreshed landscaping. If you are not signed up for my e-newsletter and would like to be, please email your contact information to [HunterSoxforCayceCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:HunterSoxforCayceCouncil@gmail.com). Have a great summer!



**Phil Carter, District 4**

Thank you to our Cayce staff, business sponsors, local vendors, artists, and musicians that made this year’s Soiree on State a great success! In the coming months, we are looking forward to the Cayce Cool Down, Cayce Character Camp, end of school festivities and the grand reopening of Cayce’s Glenwood Park! Don’t forget to utilize the new kayak access area

on the Cayce Riverwalk as part of your summer fun! In addition to the newsletter we mail to you each quarter, you can also follow our city on social media for updates. I hope you will join us at our upcoming Cayce City Council meetings and share your feedback. The agendas are always posted on our website and social media. I want to give a special thank you to our Cayce teachers. As a father, grandfather and a former school board member for Lexington District Two, I know how hard you work to shape the lives of our young people; and thus, our community and our future! I hope each of you have a safe and wonderful summer. Please contact me anytime at [phillipacarter@yahoo.com](mailto:phillipacarter@yahoo.com)!

### Welcome Our New Police Chief

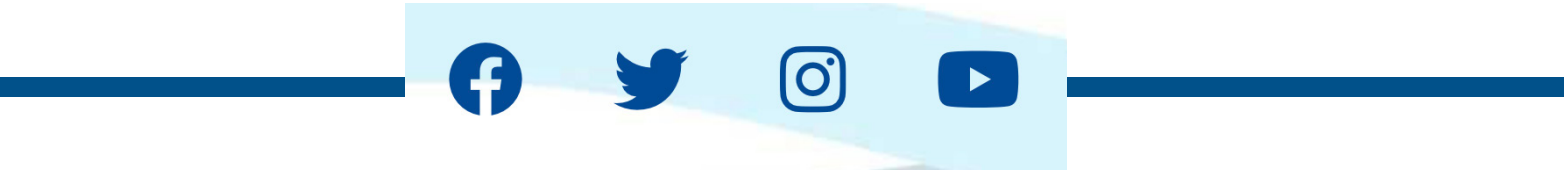
Bruce Wade began his career at the Evans Correctional Center in Bennettsville, SC in 1998 as a Correctional Officer. He worked with the West Columbia Police Department beginning in 2005; where he was named Police Captain over Investigations in 2012 before being named the Assistant Chief in 2021. Through a partnership between the City of West Columbia and the City of Cayce, Wade has served in an advisory role at the City of Cayce Police Department over the last three months and officially started with the City of Cayce on April 15.



Cayce City Manager, Jim Crosland, says, “We are thankful for Asst. Chief Wade’s diligence at the advisory level. We welcome him as our new Cayce Police Chief. He is highly regarded in the field of policing; and, through his time with us in this role, he has a keen understanding of the needs of our community.”

Wade will earn his Doctor of Criminal Justice (D.C.J) in September 2025. Additionally, he has a Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Columbia College. He is a graduate of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, the FBI Command College, and the Local Government Leadership Institute.

Cayce Mayor, Elise Partin, stated, “Our citizens want to know that when they call for help that someone will be there. They want to know that their Police Department is focused on crime prevention and citizen safety. Our team does that, but they do it best when they are supported with great leadership. I’m excited for Bruce to provide that and give that guidance and support to our amazing team. His impressive education and background provide a great example for our officers and will be a benefit for our city and citizens!”



### DPH and DMH Make Move to Cayce

The City of Cayce is excited to welcome more than 1,200 employees with the South Carolina Department of Public Health to the former Dominion Energy Building on Cayce’s 12th Street. In 2023, the South Carolina General Assembly passed a law that split the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) into two separate agencies. The employees on the public health side of the agency, as well as some employees from the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, recently began a three phase move to the new Cayce offices.

The Department says that their people-first approach will continue to help improve our state’s overall health with the goal of becoming the healthiest state in our nation.

“DPH is extremely excited for more than 1,100 of our employees to now call Cayce home,” said Dr. Ed Simmer, the agency’s director. “We look forward to being both good neighbors and a great place for people to come to work. Our agency vision is of healthy people living in healthy communities, and that starts right here in Cayce!”

Cayce’s City Manager, Jim Crosland, stated, “We are thrilled to welcome the Department’s team to our city! They will find we have incredible restaurants, 20 miles of walking trails, and the convenience of coming to work each day to a location that is central to three major highway systems!”



Photo Credit: Soda Citizen

### Know Your Flood Risk

The City of Cayce is home to numerous streams, creeks, and the Congaree River. While these bodies of water are often scenic and offer numerous opportunities for recreation, they also come with the potential hazard for flooding. The City of Cayce participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which requires that the City has a Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance that regulates construction or renovations on properties located in special flood hazard areas. Owners of properties located within these areas should check with the City of Cayce’s Planning and Development Department if they plan on performing any repairs, renovations, additions, or any new construction within these areas to make sure that the ordinance requirements for flood damage prevention are being met. If a resident lives in areas subject to flooding, being prepared is very important in order to protect property and lives. Here are a few things that property owners can do to help make sure that property damage is kept to a minimum.

1. Check with the City’s floodplain manager to find out details of their property such as base flood elevation.
2. Have a flood plan that includes shutting off utilities to the property such as electricity and gas services and an evacuation plan.
3. Purchase a flood insurance policy. Regular homeowners’ insurance does not cover flood damage and most FEMA grant funds require a flood insurance policy be in effect at the time the damage occurred.
4. Protect natural floodplain functions. Maintain stormwater drains and detention areas to allow the floodplain to function as it should
5. Consider permanent flood protection measures such as elevating the structure 1 foot above the base flood elevation and elevating utilities such as electrical panels and central air conditioning/heating units.

Any residents with questions regarding their property in a flood hazard area may contact Stuart Jones, the City of Cayce’s Floodplain Manager at 803-550-9502. Being aware and being prepared go a long way in protecting properties and lives.

### City of Cayce Career Opportunity

The City of Cayce is seeking a skilled and qualified Electrician to join our team! This position requires a minimum of two years of electrical work experience and a Journeyman’s Electrician License. If you are passionate about providing excellent electrical services and are looking for a rewarding career, we encourage you to apply on the City’s website under the Employment tab.

The City of Cayce is proud of all our employees and wants to serve them the best way possible. The City of Cayce offers State Health Insurance and the Employee Portion is paid by the City. We also participate in South Carolina State Retirement, 14 paid Holidays and many other great perks. The easiest way to apply is to go onto the City of Cayce website, under Career Opportunities all available positions are listed as well as the application. You can complete the application and email it, mail it in or drop it off at City Hall. Come join the City of Cayce Family! See [caycesc.gov](http://caycesc.gov) website for more information.