



**TO:** Hampton Planning Commission  
**FROM:** Henry Godfrey, Junior Youth Planner  
**DATE:** January 10, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** Monthly Youth Planner Report

The Hampton Youth Commission (HYC) focused its efforts in December on getting ready for the annual HYC Grants Public Hearing. In preparation, commissioners examined applications, interviewed applicants, and made recommendations to approve, deny, or amend the applicant's requested budget. The Grants Hearing was rescheduled from December to take place Monday, January 13, 2025 from 6pm-8pm in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 22 Lincoln Street.

In addition, staff has been meeting with Alternatives Inc. to develop a training schedule for the youth commissioners. The training is intended to include a multitude of personal, professional, and life skills that would lend themselves to the commissioners' personal and academic lives, but also be reinvested into HYC events. The training has three main principles based on the commissioner's feedback. Be Accessible and Be Interactive are the first two. The final point involves connecting commission-related business, activities, and developments to personal, academic, or professional contexts that could be easily understandable and relatable to the average high school student. This last point came out of the Commission's collaboration with the budget department staff on the CIP proposal. For example, by teaching high school students how to budget their personal bank account, the goal is to relate this concept to understanding the City's budgeting processes.

Lastly, The Commissioners have requested opportunities to try out lobbying and grass-roots organization. In response staff is looking into conducting a pilot run of a Lobbying effort in Richmond to take place in either February or March. Staff is coordinating this effort with the Youth Advisory Group (YAG), and the World Changers. The hope is to mobilize all three groups, as a collective, to lobby on behalf of the Youth from Hampton next year.

If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact Henry Godfrey, Junior Youth Planner at [henry.godfrey@hampton.gov](mailto:henry.godfrey@hampton.gov) or 757-728-5224.