



TERESA WILSON
CITY MANAGER

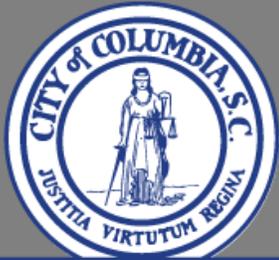
City Manager's Spotlight



The City Manager's Spotlight provides details about what is happening in the City of Columbia in an effort to keep citizens informed about City operations. The City Manager's Spotlight on March 2015 reflects on the South Carolina Environmental Conference, 2015 MDA Boot Drive, All About Water and Sewer Presentation, Go Red Fashion Show, OBO Social Media Workshop, CPD's Public Command Meeting and more.



Run. Grow. Transform.



We Are Columbia

**MARCH
2015**

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SOUTH CAROLINA ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS CITY OF COLUMBIA



Over 1,500 water and wastewater professionals attended the annual South Carolina Environmental Conference (SCEC) held on March 15 - 17, 2015. The City of Columbia was featured in approximately 11 of the seminars. Water and Sewer staff partner with consultants in an effort to be recognized as a regional leader in water and sewer services in the southeast.

Known as the state's largest environmental conference, the event was hosted by the Water Environment Association of SC (WEASC)

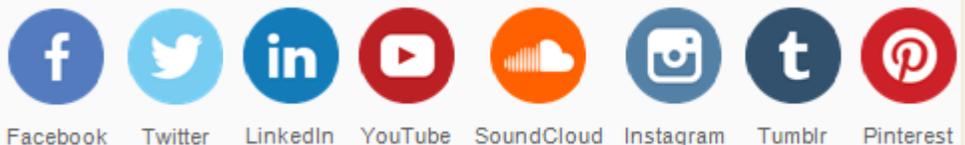
and the SC Section of the American Water Works Association (SCAWWA). For more details on SCEC, visit <http://www.scecwater.com/>.

SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP HELD FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

The Office of Business Opportunities, in partnership with ECI-Find New Markets, held a social media workshop for small businesses on Thursday, March 26 at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 1301 Gervais Street.

The training was designed to teach small businesses strategies and tactics for social media sites including Twitter, Google+, Facebook, Pinterest, Tumblr and LinkedIn to better serve their businesses.

For more information about future workshops, contact the Office of Business Opportunities at 803-545-3950.



ALL ABOUT WATER AND SEWER PRESENTATION

The final All About Water and Sewer presentation presented to City Council on March 10, 2015 is now available online at COCWaterSewer.com.

Links to the presentation and the supplemental chapters can be found below:

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[1: Previous Data](#)

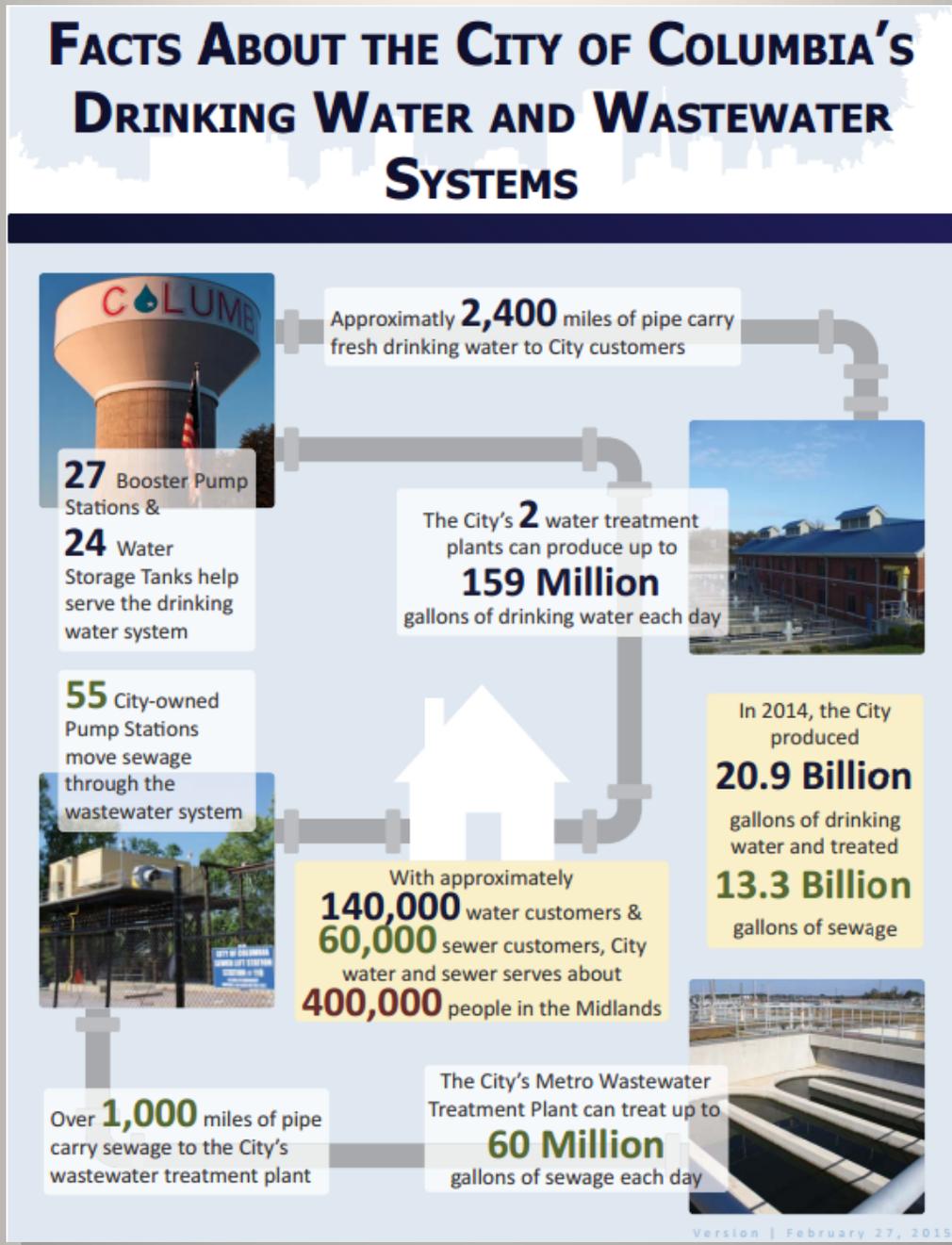
[5: Contractual Overview](#)

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2015 MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION'S BOOT DRIVE



The Columbia Fire Department (CFD) announced the 2015 MDA Boot Drive on March 17 during the City Council meeting. Chief Aubrey Jenkins and Trent Tomco, SC Muscular Dystrophy Association's (MDA) Ambassador kicked off this year's campaign by passing around the boot to City Council, City Staff and citizens during the meeting. Chief Jenkins said, "We hope to surpass last year's donations of \$143,214 and we will with everyone's help, so when you see a Firefighter please make a donation."

MDA's relationship with the Columbia Fire Department goes back more than 50 years. The drive grew in the late 1990's when they were allowed to collect in the intersections and on duty. At that time, the department was inspired by the grandson of Retired Battalion Chief Taylor McEntire who was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy. Taylor's spirit continues to be a driving force behind the drive that has helped families throughout the Midlands. For more information about the MDA, visit www.mda.org.

CFD staff and Muscular Dystrophy Association representatives announced the 2015 MDA Boot Drive during the City Council meeting on March 17.

INNOVATEHER!



The City of Columbia's Office of Business Opportunities (OBO), in partnership with Columbia College and the USC-Columbia Technology Incubator, is excited to announce Columbia's participation in InnovateHER!

InnovateHER! is a national women's business challenge sponsored by the Small Business Administration (SBA) seeking innovative products and services that help impact and empower the lives of women and families.

The SBA anticipates that cash prizes totaling \$30,000 will be awarded this year to the three highest-rated contestants in the final round of the competition. For more information about this national event, visit sba.gov/InnovateHER.

CITY MANAGER WILSON RECOGNIZED WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH WITH PSA

For 35 years now the month of March has been known across both the United States and South Carolina as Women's History Month. On March 12, City Manager Teresa Wilson was honored to record a public service announcement (PSA) for WFMV radio station to recognize Women's History Month. See a snippet of the PSA below.

"As the first African American female city manager for Columbia, SC and one of very few female city managers across the country, I am reminded each day of the numerous women who have had a significant impact on my life. I cannot imagine where I would be without the work and dedication of women such as Judge Mildred Weathers McDuffie, Mrs. Shirley Mills and of course, my mother, Mrs. Teresa Hendrix Wilson.

They all have special stories and have made sacrifices that are woven into the fabric of my history.

As I imagine that glass ceiling with many cracks in it, I look forward to the day when we finally break the glass for all women and especially for the future success of all little girls, like my daughter."



City Manager Teresa Wilson recorded a PSA at WFMV radio station on March 12 in honor of Women's History Month.

~Teresa Wilson

COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT HOSTS FIRST PUBLIC COMMAND MEETING



Columbia Police Chief William “Skip” Holbrook hosted his first Public Command Staff meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 9 a.m. Citizens from all across Columbia were in attendance.

In the meeting, command staff introduced themselves to citizens and discussed recent statistics in the regions they cover. Citizens were able to see crime statistics, planned improvements and solutions regarding crime concerns and the department’s overall progress.

Chief Holbrook plans to hold bimonthly Public Command Staff meetings for citizens to attend, focusing on his goal for transparency in the police department.

For more information about the Columbia Police Department, visit ColumbiaPD.net.



City Manager Wilson, Chief Holbrook, CPD Staff and citizens attend the first public Command Staff meeting at Earlewood Park.

NATIONAL YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK



National Youth Violence Prevention Week is held annually to raise awareness and educate students, teachers, school administrators and staff, school resource officers, parents and the public on effective ways to prevent and reduce youth violence. Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine initiated the City's involvement with National Youth Violence Prevention Week.

Various activities were planned throughout the week of March 23 - 27 that demonstrated the positive role young people can have in making their schools and communities safer. All events were free and open to the public.

Violence Prevention Expo: Dozens of agencies and organizations were on hand to provide information on a variety of programs, resources, activities and events that will assist youth in making better life choices.

Protecting Our Children: Seminars on cyber bullying, gangs and sexual assault.

"The Insiders" – South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice: "The Insiders" is a special group of juveniles who travel throughout the state encouraging troubled children and promoting community awareness of the prevalence and consequences of juvenile crime.

The Aftermath of Youth Violence: A panel discussion for youth and adults to ask questions about the effects that youth violence has had on their lives and families.

Game Night: A Night of Non-Violence: City community centers operated on extended hours of "play" so that our youth could engage in positive activities.

CITY SUPPORTS EDUCATION AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The City of Columbia is honored to support the importance of personal career development for students. On Thursday, March 26, 2015, the Public Relations Department participated in the annual Career Fair at W. A. Perry Middle School. Staff was able to meet with the students and share work experience and insight. In addition, they focused on providing details about the development of careers over time and the specific experiences and education required.

The goal of the career fair was to expose students to professions within South Carolina's sixteen career clusters.

Additional resources about South Carolina's sixteen career clusters are shown below:

- [Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources](#)
- [Architecture & Construction](#)
- [Arts, A/V Technology, & Communications](#)
- [Business Management & Administration](#)
- [Education & Training](#)
- [Educators Guide](#)
- [Finance](#)
- [Government & Public Administration](#)
- [Health Science Hospitality & Tourism](#)
- [Human Services](#)
- [Information Technology \(IT\)](#)
- [Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security](#)
- [Manufacturing](#)
- [Marketing](#)
- [Science, Technology, Engineering & Math \(STEM\)](#)
- [Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics](#)

GO RED FASHION SHOW



The City's inaugural Go Red Fashion Show was held on Friday, March 20 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Citizens were encouraged to help honor and support the women affected by heart disease, the #1 killer of women, by attending the Go Red Fashion Show. A majority of the proceeds benefited the American Heart Association.

The fashion show featured celebrity models, a "City Kids" segment, attire from local retail sponsors and fashions by Sergio Hudson, a nationally renowned designer and winner of "Styled to Rock."



To view the Go Red Fashion Show, visit the [City's YouTube page](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact me with your concerns, suggestions and hopes for our City. I take pleasure in my service to each of you!

Jeresa Wilson



We Are Columbia

City Manager
1737 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: 803-545-3026
Fax: 803-545-3051
E-mail: CityManager@ColumbiaSC.net