



PEOPLE FIRST

WELCOME CARLOS CLANTON!



Norfolk City Councilman Carlos Clanton was recently sworn in as the new co-chair of the St. Paul's area Advisory Committee. Clanton was elected in November to represent Norfolk's Super Ward 7, which encompasses the St. Paul's area of our city. He will lead the Advisory Committee alongside Councilman John P. Paige (Ward 4).

Clanton is a Norfolk native, has served as both Chair and Vice Chair of the Norfolk Public Schools Board, and made history as the youngest appointed and first African American Director for the Norfolk Division of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Training with a Minor in Leadership from Old Dominion University and is currently completing a Master of Public Administration (MPA).

Paige and Clanton will continue to lead the group of 22 Norfolk residents selected to represent a full range of community voices and stakeholders in the transformation of St. Paul's. Clanton says he's excited about this new challenge, and shares, "Leadership is not about a title or position; it's about listening, serving, and empowering others to reach their full potential."

The Advisory Committee meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, 800 Tidewater Drive in Norfolk. The meeting is open to the public.

PARTNER WITH US!



People First is the mandate and mantra of all of the work we are doing to transform the St. Paul's area of Norfolk. We work first and foremost with former Tidewater Gardens residents in the areas of housing, education, job security, and health and wellness.

People First, USI is the group hired by the City of Norfolk to carry out this work, but it could not be done without community partners who offer services and help for residents. If you have a business or organization that would like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you. For more information, call the People First team at 757 390 4625.

CONGRATULATIONS!



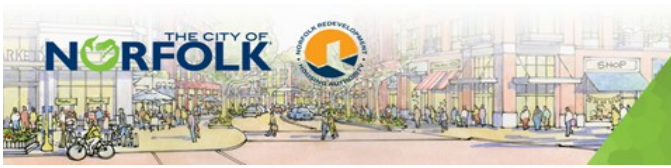
Congratulations to Norfolk Mayor Kenneth Cooper Alexander, Ph.D. and Donovan Duncan, Executive Vice President, Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI), who were both honored by the Urban League of Hampton Roads during its 41st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Leaders Awards. The sold-out event brought together 1,300 attendees to celebrate the enduring power of Dr. King's dream and honor local leaders who embody his vision of equality, advocacy, and service.

The awards recognized extraordinary individuals for their contributions to the Urban League's program pillars of education, health, economic development, and housing. Both Mayor Alexander and Donovan Duncan received awards for their transformative work in housing former Tidewater Gardens residents.

Mayor Alexander's leadership has been a driving force in the transformation of Norfolk's housing landscape. From the outset of the transformation of the St. Paul's area, he held regular community meetings, ensuring that the voices of residents were at the heart of the vision for change. His commitment to putting people first was evident as he worked tirelessly to hold staff from the City and NRHA accountable, ensuring that the community's needs were met throughout the process. His steadfast dedication to revitalizing the lives of former Tidewater Gardens residents has been nothing short of transformative, earning him the Urban League's recognition for his role in providing new housing opportunities.

Likewise, Donovan Duncan's leadership of USI's Norfolk team that is implementing the Mayor's People First initiative has been instrumental in making this vision a reality.

**ST. PAUL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**  
The next meeting will be held on March 18, 2025 from 6-7:30pm at the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, 800 Tidewater Drive in Norfolk.  
You can find the presentations and meeting minutes of previous meetings [here](#).  
**Questions?**  
Please email us at [stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov](mailto:stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov).



**THIS MONTH  
IN ST. PAUL'S**

**FEBRUARY  
2025**

**DEVELOPMENT**

**TIDEWATER GARDENS UPCOMING PHASES  
VENDOR FAIR: February 26, 4 to 6 p.m.**  
at Black Brand Offices  
520 E. Main Street in Norfolk, VA 23510

**CALLING ALL MINORITY, WOMEN-OWNED,  
SECTION 3 BUILDING TRADES.**

Join us to learn about contract opportunities for the \$120 million dollars upcoming construction projects

Brinshore and its partners Banc of America Community Development Corporation (BACDC), BBRM Norfolk Partners, LLC and other future development partners comprise the joint venture that is the Housing Implementation Entity of the Choice Neighborhood Initiative (CNI) redevelopment of Tidewater Gardens public housing. The Brinshore-led Development Team (“Developer”) recognizes, and believes in, the importance of economic inclusion in the redevelopment of the Tidewater Gardens community. The Developer’s intention is to leverage the capacity building opportunities of the development projects to create pathways of advancement for individuals, families and businesses across a spectrum of current starting points.

Harkins Builders, Phase B1 and B2 general contractor, will bring a Norfolk First commitment to hiring, contracting, and a continued tradition of diversity and inclusion in all phases of the project.

- + Discover new business opportunities
- + Establish new business relationships
- + Meet the project developer and general contractor teams
- + Learn about SWaM, Section 3, their benefits
- + Network with other MBE/WBE firms
- + about project scope and future contract opportunities

For more information about the redevelopment of Tidewater Gardens please visit [norfolktidewater.com](http://norfolktidewater.com)



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!**

We need your help! The City of Norfolk is looking for volunteers to join a committee that will help review the I-264/Downtown interchanges project.

Norfolk recently received federal funds to study and improve this highway system. The goal is to make it safer and better for all types of transportation. The project will look at traffic patterns and create early designs for improvements. The most important part of the project is getting feedback from the community.

If you’re interested in joining or want more information, please contact [stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov](mailto:stpaulstransformation@norfolk.gov).