Albemarle County

Legislation Text

File #: 20-521, **Version:** 1

AGENDA DATE: 10/21/2020

TITLE:
An Ordinance to Amend County Code Chapter 1, General Provisions

SUBJECT/PROPOSAL/REQUEST: Public hearing to consider the adoption of an ordinance to amend County Code Chapter 1, General Provisions, to revise the rules of constructing the County Code when referencing gender pronouns

ITEM TYPE: Regular Action Item

STAFF CONTACT(S): Richardson, Kamptner, Russell

PRESENTER (S): Greg Kamptner

LEGAL REVIEW: Yes

REVIEWED BY: Jeffrey B. Richardson

BACKGROUND: The County has prioritized working towards a more diverse, inclusive and equitable organization, and a review of the County's policies, processes, and ordinances is ongoing to ensure they reflect the County's priorities.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Quality Government Operations: Ensure County government's capacity to provide high quality service that achieves community priorities

DISCUSSION: In a review of County Code § 1-102, Rules of Construction, the reference to "Gender" is currently defined as: "A word used in the masculine includes the feminine and the neuter." Staff recommends amending the reference to "Gender pronouns," defined as: "A word used in the masculine or the feminine, in particular "he," "she," "him," and "her," includes all gender identities."

Staff believes this amendment creates a more inclusive reference, and the County Attorney has prepared a draft ordinance (Attachment A) to make this change.

BUDGET IMPACT: There is no budget impact.

RECOMMENDATION:
Staff recommends that the Board adopt the proposed ordinance (Attachment A) after the public hearing.

ATTACHMENTS:
A - Proposed Ordinance