In 2010, Mary Bunting became the first female city manager for the City of Hampton/ Virginia. Bunting grew up in Hampton and is a product of the Hampton School System. She began her career with the City of Hampton as an assistant to the city manager in 1990 and was promoted to assistant city manager in 1995.

Highlights of her career include the creation of the award-winning 3-1-1 Customer Call Center; consolidation of several departments to lower administrative overhead and enhance customer services; development of nationally recognized youth and family prevention efforts; leadership in joint-land use planning with Joint Base Langley-Eustis and subsequent purchase of properties in the Langley clear zone to protect and enhance the base; oversight of emergency management and recovery efforts for several hurricanes and major storms; and/ initiation of multiple award-winning citizen budget outreach efforts. Because of these initiatives/ Hampton was recently named an All-America City for the third time.

In 2012, Ms. Bunting was honored as a White House Local Innovation Champion of Change. She has also received the International City-County Management Program Excellence Award for Strategic Leadership & Governance. Bunting has a Master of Public Administration degree from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Johns Hopkins University. She is also a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute.

Mary and her husband Mark have three children - Parker/ Carter and Hannah.