



Approved for Distribution
/s/ Beverly R. Cameron

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Tomzak and Members of City Council
FROM: Beverly R. Cameron, City Manager
DATE: September 20, 2011
SUBJECT: City Manager's Update

Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:

Earthquake and Hurricane Damage – Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities staff responded to these emergency events by performing facilities damage assessments, taking immediate corrective measures as needed, and arranging for other emergency repairs by selected contractors. Facilities affected by the August 23 earthquake were the City Museum (Old Town Hall), Circuit Courthouse, Police Headquarters, Visitor's Center, Fire Station #1, City Hall, Bass Ellison, General District Courthouse, FRED Transit, Old Stone Warehouse, and the Central Rappahannock Regional Library. Damage ranged from minor cosmetic cracking in walls to more extensive damage such as the chimney collapse at the Museum and damaged ceiling in the General District courtroom. Staff members met with FEMA and State officials at various sites and provided findings and estimated damages. Total damages were estimated at \$64,000.

Damage from the August 27 hurricane ranged from roof leaks at six facilities to a failed septic tank pump due to power outage at Old Mill Park. Facilities with hurricane damage were FRED Transit, Bass Ellison, City Hall, Police Headquarters, Executive Plaza, Fire Station #1, Fire Station #2, and Old Mill Park. Total damages were estimated at \$4,000.

Park News – Despite the recent natural disasters, the City parks continue to receive general improvements. These improvements include new trash cans and benches at Riverfront Park, new benches and fencing at Powhatan Park, new fencing and playground improvements at Maury Playground, and new memorial bricks in the walkway at Memorial Park.

Safety Training for City Employees - On September 14, the Safety Office coordinated chain saw operation and safety training for seventy City of Fredericksburg Public Works employees. The training was conducted by Stihl Mid-Atlantic representative Matt Cecil. Through the combination classroom and hands-on training in the use of chain saws, Public Works employees are better prepared to safely conduct daily operational tasks as well as to quickly and safely respond to clean up efforts as may be required after major weather events. Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities employees are scheduled to receive this valuable training on September 22.

Eagle Scout Projects – Eagle Scout Zach Rodenberg completed the blazing of a new trail in Cobblestone Park. Zach created the trail over three weekends to provide walkers with a beautiful, shaded path through natural wetlands, leading to Hazel Run. Eagle Scout John Iden has installed four bluebird boxes and two benches along the Cobblestone Park trail to complete his project. Eagle Scout Joe Hall has completed his project by installing a new kiosk at Powhatan Park.

Recreation Banquet – The Parks and Recreation Commission Banquet will be held on Thursday, November 17 at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House. This year will mark the 25th anniversary of the event, and the banquet will feature Congressman Rob Wittman as the keynote speaker. All are invited to join the Parks and Recreation Commission in recognizing and honoring the valued volunteers and business partners for their tremendous contributions.

Fire Department Golf Tournament - On September 10, the Fredericksburg Fire Department sponsored its 17th Annual Golf Tournament at Meadows Farms Golf Course. This year's benefactor was the Rappahannock Council on Domestic Violence "Children's Division". Through the participation and generosity of the various tournament sponsors, the department will be able to donate \$7,300 to this worthy cause. Over the past sixteen years, the Fire Department has been actively involved in the golf tournament as a service project to support those in the community with need. Several different charitable organizations have been past recipients of the proceeds from the tournament including the Rappahannock United Way, Cans for Burned Children, and the UVA Burn Center.

Government Finance Officers' Association Certificate of Achievement - The City recently received notification that the comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2010, qualifies for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. The receipt of this award represents the City's twenty-first consecutive year for this noteworthy distinction.

2011 World Police and Fire Games - Sergeant Lloyd Holland and Officer Bill Hyer of the Police Department competed in the [2011 World Police and Fire Games](#) held August 25 – September 5 in New York City, and both came home with medals in their events. Officer Hyer won a Bronze Medal in his age group for racquetball and Sergeant Holland earned a Gold Medal in Powerlifting and a Silver Medal in Bodybuilding. The Powerlifting event combined the weights achieved by each competitor in the bench press and dead lift. Sgt. Holland impressively bench-pressed 281 pounds and dead-lifted 441 pounds, for a combined total of 722 pounds to win this event in his age group. The World Police and Fire Games had over 17,000 competitors from around the world, and these two officers represented the Fredericksburg Police Department as awesome athletes and excellent role models for physical fitness.