



MEMORANDUM

TO: Timothy J. Baroody, City Manager
FROM: Mark Whitley, Assistant City Manager
RE: Ordinance to Create Several Planning Fees to Support an Archaeological Program for the City of Fredericksburg
DATE: May 5, 2021 (for the May 11, 2021 Regular Meeting)

ISSUE

City Council is asked to adopt several planning fees that will help pay for the City's new archaeology program.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval on second reading. This ordinance was considered at a public hearing on April 20, 2021 and passed first reading on April 27, 2021.

BACKGROUND

{May 5 Second reading update: The separate ordinance to implement the archaeology program has now been adopted. Ordinance 21-08 was adopted by City Council on April 27, 2021.}

The City Council is currently considering the adoption of an ordinance (separate from the attached) to require the preservation and accommodation of archaeological resources during land development processes after a multi-year process to develop the ordinance. The changes were originally adopted in 2020, but were suspended as a result of the pandemic and are now before Council for re-consideration. The ordinance to change the UDO for the archaeological program was considered by City Council on April 13, 2021, and is in process of approval. Through this archaeological program, the City seeks to identify and protect archaeological resources in order to enhance Fredericksburg's historical record and disseminate these discoveries to the public. The program has long been prioritized and pursued by the City.

The primary expense for the archaeology program's budget will be professional on-call archaeological services for evaluation and monitoring. In addition, public education through annual publication, workshops, exhibits, or other means is vital to the program and central to its purpose. The annual program budget is estimated at \$50,000, but this number will be variable based on the number of projects submitted and reviewed annually. Once the program is functioning for a period of time, analysis of the actual costs and number of projects completed annually will determine if there is a need for a permanent staff archaeologist.

The proposed fees allows some costs to be shared throughout the City, as the program provides a public benefit through education initiatives and is structured to allow the City to respond to unexpected discoveries citywide. For large-scale projects, property owners or developers bear much of the cost of archaeological investigation. For small-scale projects, investigation and monitoring is funded by the City. For most individual homeowners, the only associated costs will be these application fees.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY 2022 budget estimates approximately \$7,000 will be collected in the upcoming fiscal year as a result of these fees.

Attachment: Ordinance Adopting Several Planning Fees to Support an Archaeological Program for the City of Fredericksburg



MOTION:

**May 11, 2021
Regular Meeting
Ordinance No. 21-13**

SECOND:

RE: Adopting Several Planning Fees to Support an Archaeological Program for the City of Fredericksburg

ACTION: APPROVED: Ayes: 0; Nays: 0

FIRST READ: April 27, 2021

SECOND READ: _____

SEC. I. Introduction, purpose and authority.

The City Council of the City of Fredericksburg has established an archaeology program as part of the City's Unified Development Ordinance.

The City Council would like to adopt several planning fees that will help pay for the program. The City Council has authority to do so under the Code of Virginia §15.2-2286.

SEC. II. Adopting planning fees.

Fee Description	Current	Proposed	Change
Zoning & Land Use Permit Fee			
Minor Site Plan: Archaeological Review Fee	\$0	\$60	\$60
Major Site Plan: Archaeological Review Fee	\$0	\$120	\$120
Grading Plan: Archaeological Review Fee	\$0	\$120	\$120
Other Development Review Fees			
Archaeological Review for Residential Lot Grading Plan (Individual Lots not within a subdivision which has an approved major site plan)	\$0	\$60 per Dwelling Unit	\$60

SEC. III. Effective date.

This ordinance shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Approved as to form:

Kathleen Dooley, City Attorney

Clerk's Certificate

I, the undersigned, certify that I am Clerk of Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and that the foregoing is a true copy of Ordinance No. 21-13 duly adopted the City Council meeting held on May 11, 2021 at which a quorum was present and voted.

***Tonya Lacey, MMC
Clerk of Council***