



**MEMORANDUM**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Timothy J. Baroody'.

**TO:** Mayor Greenlaw and Members of City Council  
**FROM:** Timothy J. Baroody, City Manager  
**DATE:** October 6, 2021 (for October 12, Council meeting)  
**SUBJECT:** City Manager's Update

---



Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:

**LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE** in the **November 2nd General Election is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 12** in the Voter Registrar Office at 601 Caroline Street, 5th floor. Or by 11:59 p.m. online at the VA Department of Elections' Citizen Portal [vote.elections.virginia.gov](https://vote.elections.virginia.gov)

This election will include the City of Fredericksburg election of Ward specific City Council and School Board members. Additionally, it includes the selection of City Sheriff, Commonwealth's Attorney, Treasurer and Commissioner of the Revenue. As well as the State Governor, Lt.

Governor, Attorney General, and House of Delegates candidates will be chosen. Early in-person voting runs through October 30, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the Registrar's Office at the Executive Plaza, 601 Caroline Street, 5th floor. Saturday in-person early voting is on October 23 and October 30 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Last day to request a by-mail ballot is October 22. Please note the Registrar's Office will be closed on Monday, October 11.

For more information please visit <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/.../Voter-Registration...> or call 540-372-1030.

**Rappahannock Area Health District**

**FREE COVID-19 TESTING**

**NO DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED  
ALL AGES WELCOME**

**Wednesdays @ Stafford Hospital**  
101 Hospital Center Blvd, Stafford  
**3PM – 6PM**  
**DRIVE-THRU CLINIC**

**Thursdays @ Family Life Center**  
400 Bragg Hill Dr, Fredericksburg  
**1PM – 4PM**

**To register:**  
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/rappahannock/freecovid19testing>  
*\*Pre-registration is recommended but not required*

**For questions, contact  
RAHD's Call Center:  
(540) 899-4797  
M-F 8:00-4:30**





**WHY COVID-19  
COMMUNITY TESTING  
IS SO IMPORTANT**

Testing helps identify active illness in individuals who have mild or no symptoms. These individuals can still spread the disease to others, some of whom may be at risk for severe illness due to COVID-19, such as the elderly and people with underlying medical conditions.

By identifying active cases of COVID-19 through testing, we can provide guidance on isolation from others for a period of time to help interrupt the spread of the virus in our community.

Identifying active illness can lead to quick identification of cases, quick treatment for those people and immediate isolation to prevent spread. Early testing also helps to identify anyone who came into contact with infected people so they, too, can be quickly treated.

Testing also is important in the bigger public health picture on mitigation efforts, helping investigators characterize the prevalence, spread and contagiousness of the disease.

**COVID-19 Vaccines Update** – FREE COVID-19 Testing and FREE Vaccination Clinics are available now! To find a vaccine provider near you, visit [vaccinate.virginia.gov](https://vaccinate.virginia.gov), call 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682), or text your ZIP code to GETVAX (438829) for English or VACUNA (822862) for Spanish. Call center representatives are available from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Weekly COVID-19 videos are being created and produced by the City of Fredericksburg featuring Fire Chief Jones on case numbers and information to know. See [www.fredericksburgva.gov](https://www.fredericksburgva.gov) for updates.

Drive smart, FXBG. We're starting our

**TRAFFIC  
SAFETY  
INITIATIVE**



**Traffic Safety Initiative** – The Police Department has launched a traffic safety initiative to target areas in the City where distracted driving and speeding have become a public safety concern. Drivers, be advised that the Police Department will be heavily enforcing speeding, reckless driving, disregard of stop signs, and failure to obey red lights. Want to avoid a ticket? Drive smart and safe, #FXBG.



**The Freedom Rides Historical Marker** – The University of Mary Washington and the City of Fredericksburg on September 22 unveiled a historical marker commemorating Fredericksburg, Virginia as the first stop of the Freedom Rides on May 4, 1961. Dion Diamond, a Freedom Rider, was the featured speaker at the event. Pictured are Vice-Mayor Frye, Dion Diamond, and Christopher Williams assistant director of the James Farmer Multicultural Center at UMW.



**Riverfront Park Opening on October 9<sup>th</sup>** – Riverfront Park, located along Sophia Street in Historic Downtown Fredericksburg, is preparing for a partial opening to the public on Saturday, October -- the same day a ceremony will be held to mark the completion of the nearby Chatham Bridge.

This nearly 4-acre public space will feature Rappahannock River views with open space, event space, an interactive water feature, a meadow area, and a children’s play area. Limited river access will also be a feature, complemented by upgraded dock infrastructure. (Motorized boat launch and fishing opportunities remain available at City Dock.)

Originally anticipated to open in the spring of this year – construction was delayed due to supply chain issues and playground equipment safety inspections. Some fencing will remain around the riverfront meadow and the open event space so that the vegetation can properly establish. (More than 100 trees are being planted now, and the event space is being over seeded.)

Solar-powered lighting has been installed and smart-technology infrastructure will provide free public Wi-Fi and security cameras once the park opens. Abundant parking is available across the street in the Sophia Street Parking Garage, with free parking available for the first 4 hours (and then \$1 each additional hour).

Riverfront Park is prepared for future improvements as well. The park is fully plumbed and pad ready for future restrooms, pending the new FEMA map updates expected next year. The stage area is prepped with all electrical work, and City staff is already working to attract private donations for a potential stage. The park will also be a central hub for pedestrian activity as Fredericksburg continues to pursue trail development, with efforts that will eventually link Motts Run Reservoir to Dixon Park. The park's signage will also work to interpret and share the City's rich history with new audiences who visit.

The City investment in this park is a fraction of the \$40+ million in public investments (more than half is the Commonwealth's Chatham bridge project) in the past decade or so in Downtown with trails, colonial lights, brick pavers, Small Area Plans, the public parking garage, etc. These investments are meant, in part, to create sustainability for our business community as they increasingly upgrade properties and create jobs in our Downtown Fredericksburg.

These investments (public and private) are creating the next level of positive evolution in the region's only authentic and historic downtown - with long established heritage assets, a thriving foodie scene, an enviable arts scene, and now a more robust entertainment and gathering space. With these projects, the City is reconnecting and better activating our riverfront while supporting the revitalization of the Sophia Street corridor. With the addition of the Bankside Trail project, the City is pushing better connectivity to Stafford County trails and the East Coast Greenway. This connectivity strategy brings more focus and future opportunity to the Old Stone Warehouse and other important properties. With continued vegetation management, increased vistas, and many of the other opportunities identified by the City sponsored Streetsense study, the City is poised to bring significant energy to long envisioned *Face the River* initiatives. In the heart of the city, this new park is where it all comes together.

For more information on the Riverfront Park project, please visit <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/982/Riverfront-Park-Project>

**Board and Commission Openings** – Are you a city resident? Passionate about your community? Serving on a board or commission can be an excellent way to shape government initiatives in your community. The City is currently seeking applicants for the following:

- Architectural Review Board
- Arts Commission
- Board of Building Codes Appeals

- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Memorials Advisory Commission
- Rappahannock Area Community Services Board

To learn more and apply, visit: <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/221/Boards-Commissions> or please feel free to call the City Manager's office at 540-372-1010.

**100 Block of William Street Stormwater Pipe Replacement** – Work continues on the replacement of the William Street storm sewer system, between Caroline and Sophia Street, which began in early August. Ashburn Contracting Corporation (ACC) has been awarded the contract to install the system designed by The Timmons Group. ACC will complete the project in phases. The Sophia Street intersection is part of the first phase of the project to be finished before Chatham Bridge completion. The final phase will conclude the first week of November, 2021. Three of the four project phases are designed to occur during evening/overnight hours. All traffic in this vicinity will experience detours thru November. Parking may be temporarily impacted during construction. Alternate parking includes the parking deck located on Wolfe Street between Sophia and Caroline- the first 4 hours are free (then a dollar each additional hour). Construction will accommodate customer traffic, businesses in the proximity to the construction are not anticipated to experience prolonged interruptions. Access to businesses remains a critical objective during this project. Additional information is available on the following City webpage- <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/476/Stormwater-Management>.



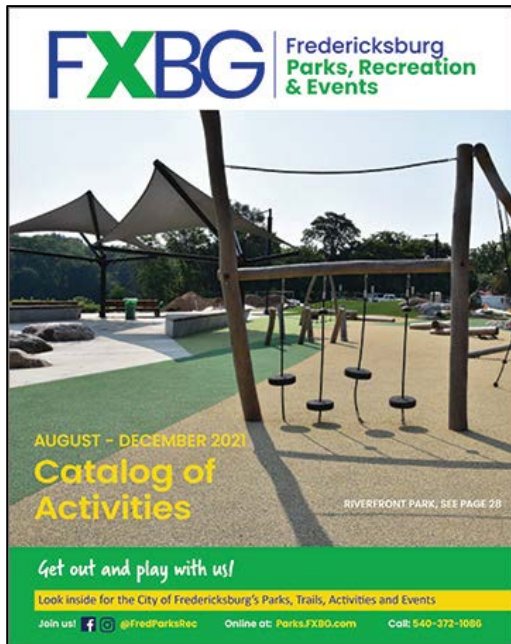
**Christmas Parade Registration** – The registration for the Fredericksburg Christmas Parade is open until October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. A maximum of 80 entries will be accepted into the parade. See

[www.fredericksburgchristmasparade.com](http://www.fredericksburgchristmasparade.com) for more details. The Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 4 in downtown.



**Become a Foster Parent** – Fredericksburg Social Services is now seeking Resource Foster Parents. Our department especially needs people who are willing to care for ages 7 and up and sibling groups. Our Resource Foster Parents do not have to live in the City of Fredericksburg to

foster. Foster care is temporary substitute care arranged for children who cannot remain in their homes due to abuse and/or neglect. To learn more about becoming a Resource Foster Parent or a Foster to Adopt Parent, please call 540-372-1032, ext. 241 or visit [Fredericksburgva.gov/507/Foster-Care-Adoption](http://Fredericksburgva.gov/507/Foster-Care-Adoption).



**Fall Catalog** – The Parks, Recreation and Events Fall Catalog of Activities is now available. They are excited to offer socially distanced programs for children and adults this season! Find out about the many special events, nature programs, special interest classes and youth sports that are being offered now through December. Plus, be sure to check out the full listing of city parks and trails for your family and friends to get outside and enjoy this autumn. Read the catalog [online](#) or pick up your print copy at the Dorothy Hart Community Center.

**The Fredericksburg Farmers Market** is open for the season. The farmers market is located in Hurkamp Park and open every Saturday, 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. now through October, with an expanded list of vendors. Art in the Park has returned again this year, and is held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays from 9:00am – 1:00pm now through October. More information is available online at [fxbgfarmersmarket.com](http://fxbgfarmersmarket.com) or please call 540-372-1086.

**Fall Programs** – Our Parks, Recreation and Events team is continually working on fun and safe programs for this upcoming season. See the full [listing](#) which continues to expand.





**Fred Focus**

**Fred Focus** – The [Fredericksburg Department of Economic Development and Tourism](#) is pleased to bring you Fred Focus, a weekly e-newsletter that goes out every Thursday and keeps you up-to-date on Fredericksburg business and tourism information and events. This week's [edition](#).