



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: January 6, 2022 (for January 11, Council meeting)
SUBJECT: City Manager's Update

Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:



Fredericksburg Restaurant Week is January 14 – 23 - Attention all Foodies! It's the one of best weeks of the year...Downtown Fredericksburg Restaurant Week! This semi-annual event is the perfect opportunity to sample some of Downtown Fredericksburg's local dining scene. Learn more at www.fxbgrw.com.

Route 1 Renamed – After 99 years, Virginia's Jefferson Davis Highway is now renamed to Emancipation Highway in the City of Fredericksburg. On January 1, 2022, the century-old name of Jefferson Davis Highway was to be removed from U.S. Route 1 statewide per the General Assembly's [HB 2075](#). The renaming of certain sections of Jefferson Davis Highway, was signed into law on March 30, 2021 with an effective date of January 1, 2022.

New signage was begun to be installed on Route 1 within the City boundaries by our Fredericksburg Public Works staff, but had to be stopped due to the January 3 snow storm. The road signage work is expected to continue next week, weather depending. Additionally, many City departments have been working to update a number of systems to accommodate new address information, while preserving the current address data. Letters were sent in September

and October to property owners and businesses to those who have Jefferson Davis Highway addresses in the 22401 zip code to provide them information on what they need to do. On December 6 reminder letters were sent out to property owner and tenants. The City is working closely with the Post Office and other City Departments to prepare for the changes and make the process as easy as possible. A public information meeting was held on October 7, 2021. See our [website](#) for more information.

Update on Delinquent Utility Accounts – Beginning January 3rd, 2022, the City of Fredericksburg will reinstate penalties and cutoffs on all delinquent utility accounts. The City had previously suspended penalties and cut-offs due to the global pandemic. If your account is currently in a delinquent status, this change may impact you. To inquire about your account status, please contact the Utility Billing Office at 540-372-1182. To make a payment, please contact the Treasurer’s Office at 540-372-1001 or visit our website <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/531/Utility-Billing-Office>

COVID-19 Vaccines Update –The Community Vaccination Center offers vaccines in Central Park located at 1877 Carl D. Silver Parkway - **Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.** Appointments are not required, but are recommended. To find an appointment, visit vase.vdh.virginia.gov and input "22401" into the zip code search bar to schedule an appointment at the Central Park community vaccination center, or call 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682, TTY users call 7-1-1). Assistance is available in English, Spanish, and more than 100 other languages. Have vaccine questions or need help scheduling? Contact the RAHD COVID-19 Call Center at (540) 899-4797, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Update on Key Revenues – We are pleased to report some unaudited results for a couple of key revenues for FY 2022. At an approximate halfway point in the year, real estate revenue collected to date is \$18.1 million. There will be an adjustment of approximately \$450,000 to this revenue for the Stormwater Management Fund, leaving a net of \$17.65 million – on pace to meet the budget forecast of \$35.4 million.

Personal Property Revenue for the 2nd half billing (i.e. Autumn 2021) was forecasted for \$5.2 million, and the City has received \$4.8 million so far. Based on prior year collection history, the City should be in good shape to meet budget forecast.

Sales Tax – The sales tax revenue continues to exceed forecast pace. Through the first three collection months of FY 2022, the City’s receipts are approximately 15% in excess of last year at the same period, and the City is on-track to exceed the budget forecast of \$13.15 million.

Meals Tax – Meals Tax is also on pace for recovery to pre-pandemic levels. The City’s collection to date of \$4.6 million is on track to exceed the budget forecast of \$10.2 million.

The performance of the sales tax and meals tax may provide City Council with an opportunity to fund with current revenue one or two additional smaller capital projects that had been included in the CIP as debt-funded – thus saving both debt capacity and interest costs going forward in the future. Staff will be preparing a budget amendment for Council’s consideration to provide that opportunity later this winter.



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.

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:

- Board of Building Codes Appeals
- Board of Zoning Appeals – Alternate members needed
- Fredericksburg Arts Commission (member specific, see specifics)
- Memorials Advisory Commission

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



Winter Programs – Our Parks, Recreation and Events team is continually working on fun and safe programs for the season. Keep updated on all the activities

available. See the full [listing](#).



The Parks, Recreation and Events newest Activity Catalog is now available! The Winter and Spring issue features parks, trails, activities and events here in the City of Fredericksburg. Find exciting new programs being offered this season for children and adults. Read it online now at <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/370/Catalog-of-Activities>



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](#).