



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: February 16, 2022 (for February 22, Council meeting)
SUBJECT: City Manager's Update

Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:



Ceremony Held for Unveiling Historical Panel Recognizing the 1950 Walker-Grant High School Graduates -

On February 10, the City unveiled a historical panel commemorating the Walker-Grant High School demonstration that occurred in June 1950. The panel is located in front of the Dorothy Hart



Community Center, 408 Canal Street. Speakers included Mr. Sonny Holmes, who championed that the City told this story. During the unveiling ceremony, the names of the 27 graduates were read by Dr. Marci Catlett, Superintendent of City Schools.

In June 1950, the largest Walker-Grant High School graduating class, needing a location for their commencement ceremonies, were denied access through the front doors of the Fredericksburg Community Center due to the color of their skin. With help from Shiloh Baptist Church (Old Site), the graduates held their ceremony at the church, but not before protesting in front of the Fredericksburg Community Center with signs that read "This Entrance Closed to US."

This was the fifth installation of a history panel/historical marker in the past 14 months related to City Council's Priority to "continue telling a more complete history of our diverse community, including the history and contributions of African Americans." The earlier installations feature: The Green Book, Freedom Riders Challenge a Nation, French John's Wharf, and a State Historical Marker on the First Stop on 1961 Freedom Rides. The City's commitment to develop and share stories that showcase the diversity of our region is critical to ensuring that Fredericksburg is a city where WE means everyone. Additional information is on VisitFred.com. [The video of the event on facebook.](#)



Region's First Team Trained to Respond to Mental Health Calls

–The Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT) is a collaborative effort between the Fredericksburg Police Department and the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board (RACSB). The goal is to de-escalate situations involving persons in crisis and connect them to resources that may help address their needs. The CIRT

will follow up with individuals, family members, and caregivers after a crisis to see if there are additional services needed.

"I am thrilled to partner with the RACSB to provide this important service to the City of Fredericksburg. The CIRT will help people in crisis access the resources they need quickly, officers will experience less stress and trauma, and the RACSB will make an even bigger impact by reaching a broader audience. This partnership will make our community healthier and safer," said Police Chief Layton.

"Rappahannock Area Community Services Board and all RACSB emergency services staff are motivated and excited to see the inception of our co-response program in partnership with the Fredericksburg Police Department. Individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis will now have an opportunity for an enhanced law enforcement response to continue to best serve the individuals in our community and provide the best outcomes for those in crisis." said Kari Norris, Emergency Services Coordinator.

The team is comprised of one patrol officer and one Rappahannock Area Community Services clinician specializing in crisis intervention. They will be dispatched and serve as the primary unit for calls regarding mental health crisis, suicidal threats, suicide attempts/self-harm, and emergency custody order/temporary detention order service. They will also be able to self-dispatch or request to assist the primary officer on calls likely to create a crisis for an involved person, including death investigation, homicide, child abuse, sex offense, domestic violence, missing person, barricade, and other serious crimes or events. The CIRT will work four 10-hour shifts built around analysis of high-demand times for mental health calls.

This CIRT will help reduce the risk of violent encounters during a call, reduce the need to issue an emergency custody order on a person who the team can assist, shorten the emergency custody order process by conducting pre-screens during their interaction, and reduce the likelihood of future volatile situations by linking people in need to the services that will help them.

The new police officer position is funded through June 2023 by a grant the police department requested from the Department of Criminal Justice. The City intends to continue funding this full-time police officer position after the grant obligation period ends.

COVID-19 Vaccine Site and Mobile Testing Clinics –The Rappahannock Area Health Department (RAHD) is increasing access to free COVID-19 testing with the recent addition of the CTC+ initiative, a vendor operated van with testing staff that will travel throughout the region to support expanded testing in communities that have low access to testing. The initiative involves discontinuing the Community Testing Center (CTC) at the FredNats Stadium, which held its last day of operations on Thursday, February 10. The addition of the CTC+ will allow for testing at flexible community testing sites. Similar to the fixed site CTC, the testing vendor will offer free Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing for COVID-19 to individuals 3 months and older. PCR test results are usually available within a few days and are very effective in detecting an active COVID-19 infection, even if asymptomatic. Scheduling for the CTC+ mobile clinics is available at <https://qrco.de/bcgjeW>. To find all available COVID-19 testing centers in Virginia, visit <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/.../protect.../covid-19-testing/>. To get free at-home COVID-19 test kits as part of a federal program (4 kits per residential address), visit www.covidtests.gov/.

The Community Vaccination Center continues to offer vaccines in Central Park located at 1877 Carl D. Silver Parkway - **Monday through Sunday from 8am to 6pm**. 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 8:00am to 4:30pm.

Fire Chief Mike Jones offers weekly informational videos on COVID-19 and its impacts. See the February 16 edition at <https://youtu.be/Wj174bR6LSc> and on www.fredericksburgva.gov

71st Annual Fredericksburg Fine Arts

Show & Sale will be held on Friday, March 11 through Sunday, March 13.

This show features 275 artworks from a variety of artists and mediums. The public is invited to this FREE event held at the Dorothy Hart Community Center, 408 Canal Street. Show hours are: Friday, March 11 - 10am – 8pm; Saturday, March 12 - 10am- 6pm; and Sunday, March 13 - 10 am-4pm. Sponsored by the



Woman’s Club of Fredericksburg and Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation and Events. For more information please call 540-372-1086 or visit FXBGparks.com.

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
- 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.

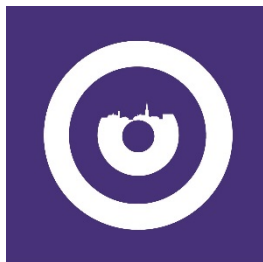


Winter Programs – Our Parks, Recreation and Events team is continually working on fun and safe programs for the season. Keep updated on all the activities

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](#).