



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: November 17, 2021 (for November 23, Council meeting)
SUBJECT: City Manager's Update

Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:



Shop Local – It's almost the most wonderful time of the year, and Fredericksburg is gearing up for the holiday celebrations. Here are some of the highlights:

- The annual [Holiday Open House Weekend](#) was held November 13-14. Downtown Fredericksburg decked their halls and looks and feels festive for the upcoming season. Be sure to try out the annual Window Wonderland challenge!

- The annual Christmas Tree Lighting

Ceremony will be held on November 20 at Hurkamp Park at 4:30 p.m.

- Small Business Saturday is on November 27, a great time to shop local and support our many small businesses including restaurants.
- The Rappahannock Fredericksburg Rotary Club will again have Santa's Mailbox on the corner of Caroline and George streets near [FORT To-Go](#) from November 27 through December 19. All letters received will get a response directly from the North Pole. Don't forget a return address so Santa can mail the note.
- The Fredericksburg Christmas Parade will return to downtown Fredericksburg on Saturday, December 4th starting at 5:30 p.m. Find out more parade information at [fredericksburgchristmasparade.com](#).
- The [51st-annual Holiday Candlelight Tour](#) will be held on December 10-12.
- On-street parking spaces that typically have two-hour limits will have four-hour limits during the holiday season.

Check out [VisitFred.com](#) for updates!

Holiday Giving Opportunities to Assist Needy Families – Fredericksburg Social Services are in need of sponsors to adopt children's wish lists this holiday season. They also welcome any financial assistance or gift card donations (Wal-mart, Target). If you are interested in adopting a family for the holidays please contact Sevonia Williams via email sevonia.l.williams@dss.virginia.gov or at 540-372-1032, extension 235.

Senior Stockings – Fredericksburg Social Services is seeking stocking stuffers to spread joy this season. You can help by donating items to DSS by December 6th. See flier attached for list of items and details. Please call or email Liz Smith at 540-372-1032 ext. 255, elizabeth.smith1@dss.virginia.gov for more information. *Please see flier attached.*

COVID-19 Vaccines Update – Beginning on Thursday, November 4, the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is available for children ages 5 to 11, following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration. Locations include: Pediatric offices, Family Practice Offices and Community Vaccine Centers and Retail Pharmacies. Additionally, the new 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.

Weekly COVID-19 videos are still being created and produced by the City of Fredericksburg staff featuring Fire Chief Mike Jones on case numbers and the most update information to know related to the virus and its impacts. See www.fredericksburgva.gov for updates.

Redistricting in City of Fredericksburg – Redistricting is the process of redrawing the boundaries of districts that elect representatives who serve specific geographic areas. Redistricting occurs every 10 years following the United States census and is governed by state law. The local redistricting process determines which neighborhoods and communities are grouped together into a district for purposes of electing City Council and City School Board members. By making sure wards have approximately the same number of people, redistricting can help to ensure residents have equal representation on City Council and the City School Board. This schedule is compressed due to the late release of Census data and the state requirement that new districts be adopted by December 31, 2021. Information is provided on our [web page](#). At the November 9 Council Work Session meeting alternative ward boundaries were discussed.

On November 16 the first of two public information meetings was held to hear comments, at the Walker-Grant Center, 210 Ferdinand Street.

November 23, 2021 - Formal Council public hearing at City Hall, 715 Princess Anne Street at 7:30pm in Council Chambers.

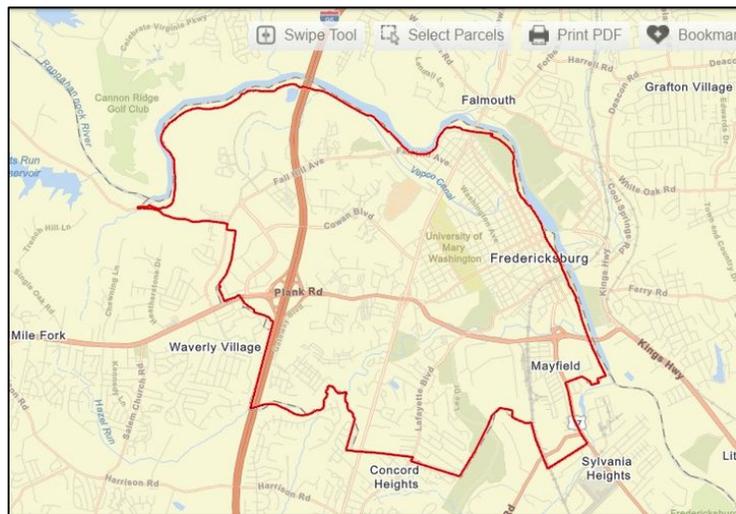
December 7, 2021 - Public information meeting to hear comments at the Dorothy Hart Community Center, 408 Canal Street beginning at 6:30pm.

December 14, 2021 – Redistricting discussion at City Hall, 715 Princess Anne Street in Council Chambers at 7:30pm.

Please feel free to email redistricting@fredericksburgva.gov or call at 540-372-1010 with any questions.

Announcing the City's New Upgraded Geographic Information System (GIS)

– The City of Fredericksburg has a new, upgraded Geographic Information System (GIS) which includes the same great functionality while being more user friendly. The City's Information Technology Department worked with Timmons Group on the project, which allows users to look up an array of information about



Fredericksburg and its properties. Visitors to the site will find several new basemaps, as well as options for a Google Street view and an Eagle view. The new site, called “FXBG Web LoGIStics” is available by visiting fredericksburgva.gov and clicking the GIS button located on the home page. [Click here to check it out.](#)

The new GIS has been integrated into the City's Property Search platform, which allows people to look up information about available commercial properties for sale or lease. [Click here to check that out.](#)

Jefferson Davis Highway Renaming – After 99 years, Virginia’s Jefferson Davis Highway is to be renamed Emancipation Highway in the City of Fredericksburg. By January 1, 2022, the century-old name of Jefferson Davis Highway is to be removed from U.S. Route 1 statewide.

Why is the highway name being changed? On July 14, 2020 City Council passed a [Resolution 20-57](#) in which they urged Virginia General Assembly to remove the name Jefferson Davis Highway from U.S. Route 1 statewide and replace it with a name that promotes our shared values of unity, equality, and a commitment to a better future for all Americans. [HB 2075](#), renaming certain

sections of Jefferson Davis Highway, was signed into law on March 30, 2021 with an effective date of January 1, 2022.

The portion of Route 1 within the City boundaries will be updated with new signage by our Fredericksburg Public Works staff and this road signage work is expected to take several weeks. Additionally, several City departments are working to update a number of systems to accommodate new address information, while preserving the current address data. This transition is expected to take several months. 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. 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>



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, click link to see specifics)
- 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 Clerk of Council's office at 540-372-1010.



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](https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/507/Foster-Care-Adoption).

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



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](#).



The Fredericksburg Department of Social Services is in the holiday spirit and they need your help!!

As we all know, many of the seniors in our community live alone and many times don't have family or friends that are nearby or that they are close to and that makes the holidays extremely hard and a lot less joyful.

To help add twinkle to the eyes of some of them, FDSS is embarking on a stocking stuffer drive. They would like to collect enough stocking stuffer items to fill at least 24 stockings this holiday season. Last year, we were able to give out SIXTY-FIVE stockings!! That was sixty five seniors who were smiling and happy and thankful that someone thought of them!

If you would like to help spread joy to our area seniors, please call or email Liz Smith at 540-372-1032 ext. 255, elizabeth.smith1@dss.virginia.gov You can also create an online order (Amazon, Walmart, etc.) and send it directly to FDSS, 608 Jackson St., Ste. 100, Fredericksburg, VA 22401, attn. Liz Smith.

Donate for Senior Stockings by Dec. 6:

lotions* hard candy* sugar free candy* crossword/word search* pens* nail kits* individual tissue packages* individual snacks* small calendars* pill boxes* socks Men's and women's)* book marks* nail files* toothpaste/brushes * chap stick* soap* mints* Cookies* drawings by kids* small craft projects* note cards

(Please have items to DSS by December 6, 2021).

Anything that you think that your mom, dad, grandma, grandpa, aunt or uncle would like! Even items that you would like!!

Thank you all for taking the time to think about this as we get ready to launch into the holiday season!!!

