



CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA  
**CITY COUNCIL**

Council Chambers, 715 Princess Anne Street  
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401

HON. MARY KATHERINE GREENLAW, MAYOR  
HON. WILLIAM C. WITHERS, JR., VICE -MAYOR, WARD TWO  
HON. KERRY P. DEVINE, AT-LARGE  
HON. MATTHEW J. KELLY, AT-LARGE  
HON. BRADFORD C. ELLIS, WARD ONE  
HON. DR. TIMOTHY P. DUFFY, WARD THREE  
HON. CHARLIE L. FRYE, JR., WARD FOUR

**Council Work Session**  
**May 10, 2016**

**Removing Aged Traffic Signals at Certain Intersections**  
**Frazier & Associates Technical Memorandum on Potential Revision to Liberty Place**

**The Council** of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held a work session on Sunday, May 10, 2016, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room.

**Council Present.** Mayor Mary Katherine Greenlaw, Presiding. Councilors William C. Withers, Jr., Kerry P. Devine, Timothy P. Duffy, Bradford C. Ellis, Charlie L. Frye, Jr. and Matthew J. Kelly.

**Others Present.** City Manager Beverly R. Cameron, City Attorney Kathleen Dooley, Public Works Director Doug Fawcett, Deputy Superintendent of Traffic Shawn Beavon, Director of Economic Development Karen Hedelt, Assistant Director of Economic Development Bill Freehling, Planning and Building Services Director Charles Johnston, Zoning Administrator Michael Craig, Development Administrator Marne Sherman, Consulting Engineer Charlie O'Connel, President of the Wack Company Cathy Wack, President of Development for the Wack Company Tom Wack, Eleanor Krause, MV+A Architects, Jack Hollon , MV+A Architects and Clerk of Council Tonya B. Lacey.

**Removing Aged Traffic Signals at Certain Intersections.** Mr. Fawcett and Mr. O'Connel presented a PowerPoint presentation and they covered the goal of a traffic signal warrant analysis, which intersections were studied, the 8 types of warrant analysis, additional criteria considered, they showed a sample warrant and the discussed the conclusion and recommendations for each of the intersections (Hanover and Little page Streets, Hanover Street and Kenmore Avenue, William and Littlepage Streets, Princess Anne and Canal Streets and Fall Hill Avenue and Germania Street). They also discussed the next steps.

Councilor Devine expressed her concern with the timing of the removal of the light at the Fall Hill Avenue and Germania Street. She suggested going to a flashing red so that the kids driving to school could get used to it.

Mr. Cameron explained that cost was not the reason for removing the lights at these intersections but he said it cost \$250,000 to signalize the intersections. Mr. O’Connel stated that none of the intersection warranted needing signals.

Councilor Kelly was concerned that due to the higher traffic volume downtown will the removals of the traffics lights cause more bottlenecking. Mr. Fawcett stated the looked at these and if any area creates more traffic and generates more traffic they may have to look at putting more signals in. He said they are always checking intersections to see whether they warrant traffic signals.

After a sight distance question from Councilor Ellis in regards to William and Charles Street, Mr. O’Connel explained the sight distance requirements and how they work. He explained that the Charles ad William Street interjection must have some a stopping point that visible and is working.

Councilor Frye stated that he disagreed with the removal of the light at Germania and Fall Hill Avenue because there are school busses, many pedestrians and student in this area and he fells there will be problems at this intersection. Councilor Duffy was also concerned with this intersection. He also said that the Kenmore –Hanover intersections tend to back up during games and the stop signs may work better. Mr. Fawcett added that there is a slug of activity on Germania and Fall Hill in the mornings and in the afternoon but during the rest of the day it is pretty average. He said this was a balancing act. Councilor Devine noted that there was a speaker who had come speaking about how difficult it was to cross the intersection so she would like to see additional pedestrian signage or lighting. Mr. O’Connel stated that the light could be left there flashing and it can be reversed if removing the light does not work. He suggested the flashing beacon to grab the attention of motorist.

Vice-Mayor Withers suggested having school flashing signs on both sides of Fall Hill Avenue to slow the traffic and Councilor Kelly suggested a raised paved road to slow traffic.

**Frazier & Associates Technical Memorandum on Potential Revision to Liberty Place.** Cathy Wack responded to some of the suggestions in the Frazier & Associates report written by Kathleen Frazier she stated that they disagreed with some of the statements. The first statement that “the chosen aesthetic was out of context with this area of

Fredericksburg and that historically in this area lots were narrow and deep establishing some historic pattern which needs to be respected” Ms. Wack noted that this block has no historical aesthetic or pattern. She said when Dutton & Associates, LLC did the phase one architectural survey the lot was developed in the 1880’s as a grocery store, stock yard, large sheds, tenement houses that were small in number and size and the lots were deep. In the twentieth century, there was an expansion of the grocery store, additional sheds, a blacksmith, restaurants and a veterinary hospital. By the late 1940’s early 1950’s everything was demolished except for a house on the corner of Douglas and Amelia and a Safeway store was build. The first half of the built history of the lot was mixed commercial development, shed, horse stables and the last half was a grocery store and she said that was not a historical pattern that needed replicating. She said the Wack Company has always been good stewards of the Cities built environment and they have diligently listened to City Council, staff and the Planning Commission.

Ms. Krause and Mr. Hollon presented the elevations and the product of the work after listening to the City Council, staff and Planning Commission. The revised elevations are attached. After reviewing the new elevations Council was in support of the look of the building and they were appreciative of all the work that had been done to come to a great project. They stated this was the first real mixed use project and it needed to set an example.

**Adjournment.** There being no further business to come before the Council at this time. Mayor Greenlaw declared the work session officially adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Tonya B**

**Lacey**\_\_\_\_\_

**Tonya B. Lacey  
Clerk of Council  
City of Fredericksburg**