



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Greenlaw and Members of City Council
FROM: Beverly R. Cameron, City Manager
DATE: November 4, 2014
SUBJECT: City Manager's Update

Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:

College Heights Water Improvements Project Will Begin in December - The next major portion of the Spratt PPEA project, improving water flow to areas of College Heights and the University of Mary Washington, will begin the third week in December. The project will begin with boring beneath Route 1 and the installation of a large water line along Rappahannock Avenue. Work is scheduled to continue until the first week of January. The next phase of the project will commence with the installation of larger water lines along Payne and Dandridge Avenues. Completion of the project is estimated to be mid-summer 2015. Check the [website](#) for more details as the project begins.

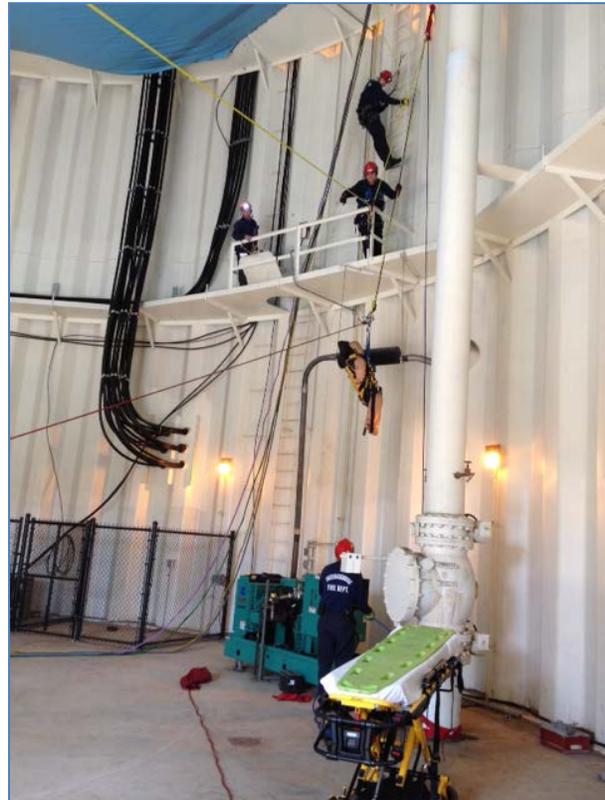
Fall Hill Avenue Widening and I-95 Bridge Replacement Project Public Meeting - On Tuesday, December 2 the Virginia Department of Transportation will hold an informational meeting from 5-7 p.m. at James Monroe High School located at 2300 Fall Hill Avenue. Information will be available about the project schedule which is planned to begin in early 2015, and how daily travel will be impacted during construction. Fall Hill Avenue will be widened between the new bridge over the Rappahannock Canal and Briscoe Lane located just west of I-95. The project will also replace the Fall Hill Avenue Bridge over I-95, and will extend Mary Washington Boulevard to connect with Fall Hill Avenue in a roundabout.

Flag Retirement Ceremony - The second annual retirement ceremony for American and Virginia flags collected through the city's participation in the [Retire Your Old Glory](#) program is scheduled for Saturday, November 8 at 2 p.m. The ceremony will be held at the Izaak Walton League of America Park located at 12400 Herndon Road in Spotsylvania County and will be conducted by the Fredericksburg-Rappahannock Chapter of the Izaak Walton League. Boy Scouts of America Troop 835 and other local troops from the Boy and Girl Scouts will also participate in the ceremony.

The flags to be respectfully retired during this ceremony are those collected at bins placed by the City of Fredericksburg at City Hall and at the Dorothy Hart Community Center. The first flag retirement ceremony was conducted in November 2013, during which over

200 flags were retired. Over 160 flags have been collected in the bins since that time and will be retired during the November 8 ceremony.

Confined Space Rescue Training - On October 28, the Fire Department and Safety Office invited members of the Public Works department to participate in their annual Confined Space Rescue Drill. As these employees regularly enter confined spaces such as ditches and underground infrastructure in the course of their daily duties, the lessons learned during the mock emergency rescue drill could prove to be invaluable. Additional confined space training and rescue drills are scheduled for the future, with personnel from Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and Public Facilities slated to attend.



Downtown Trick-or-Treating - On October 25, the city's Community Police Officers participated in another successful Halloween annual tradition by partnering with downtown merchants to host trick-or-treating at stores in the historic district. Officers handed out trick-or-treat bags at Riverfront Park from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. to scores of costumed children who were then warmly welcomed by the retailers in the downtown corridor with candy and other goodies.

Building Upgrades at Police Headquarters - Two scheduled upgrades to the police facility at 2200 Cowan Boulevard have been completed with support and assistance from Information Technology staff:

- Contractors have upgraded and replaced the security cameras throughout the building to digital equipment that has greatly enhanced quality and clarity. Additionally, cameras have been added to the prisoner transfer sally-port area and a second camera was installed in the booking room to increase the coverage for those critical areas.
- Contractors have replaced the external and internal card-reader door lock systems throughout the building. This system had become unreliable after reaching the end of its expected service life.

Rappahannock Canal Cleaning - Lower Water Level - Earlier this year, the water level of the Rappahannock Canal was lowered about two feet to accommodate the construction of the Fall Hill Avenue bridge. Although the bridge project has been completed, the canal water level will continue to be maintained at a lower level over the fall/winter months to allow for a Public Works project of cleaning trash and debris from the bottom of the canal and removing leaning trees along the banks. The Public Works Department will also perform repairs to the canal pump and associated electric panel at the river intake station, which were damaged by floods earlier this year.



Building Construction Report for September 2014 - A summary of the September building report is attached for review.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Beverly R. Cameron, City Manager
FROM: Chuck Johnston, Director of Community Planning & Building
DATE: October 31, 2014
SUBJECT: Building Statistics

The following provides information for building activity in the City. So far this fiscal year, the number of new single family homes and new commercial projects has declined compared to this point last year. The number of single family renovations remains comparable, while there is a healthy uptick in commercial renovations.

	<u>Sept 2014</u>	<u>Sept 2013</u>	<u>FY to Date Sept 2014</u>	<u>FY to Date Sept 2013</u>
<u>Single Family Residential Permits</u>				
<i>New Building</i>	0	1	2	11
<i>New Plumbing/Electrical/Mechanical/Other</i>	2	2	4	7
<i>Certificates of Occupancy</i>	2	5	6	13
Existing Building	17	22	50	53
Existing Plumbing/Electrical/Mechanical/Other	42	49	115	124
<u>Multifamily/Commercial Permits</u>				
<i>New Building</i>	0	0	1	5
<i>New Plumbing/Electrical/Mechanical/Other</i>	3	2	18	29
<i>Certificates of Occupancy</i>	3	4	7	12
Existing Building	35	16	93	47
Existing Plumbing/Electrical/Mechanical/Other	55	57	205	123
Occupancy Permits for Existing Buildings	11	11	41	35
<u>Inspections Performed</u> Building and Site	558	487	1808	1700

Commensurate with the drop-off in new constructions, utility fees have also declined so far this fiscal year.

UTILITY FEES COLLECTED –

Water Tap	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 2,600.00
Water Availability	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 19,800.00</u>	<u>\$ 29,610.00</u>	<u>\$ 71,100.00</u>
SUB TOTAL	\$ 0.00	\$ 19,800.00	\$ 34,310.00	\$ 73,700.00
Sewer Tap	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 10,200.00	\$ 5,100.00
Water Availability	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 20,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 58,510.00</u>	<u>\$ 75,000.00</u>
SUB TOTAL	\$ 0.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 68,710.00	\$ 80,100.00
<u>TOTAL</u>	\$ 0.00	\$ 39,800.00	\$ 103,020.00	\$ 153,800.00