



## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mayor Greenlaw and Members of City Council  
**FROM:** Beverly R. Cameron, City Manager  
**DATE:** March 1, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** City Manager's Update

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Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:

***Parking Promotion Occurring Near 'Restaurant Row'*** – The 40-space lot at 904 Princess Anne Street will be free for night and weekend parking in March. This promotion is offered to encourage more use of the lot which is near the heart of "Restaurant Row" on William Street. The lot is available to the public 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., Monday through Friday, and all day on weekends and holidays. Staff members from Public Works and Economic Development and Tourism have been coordinating the promotion, which has included distributing marketing fliers to nearby restaurants, notifying the media and posts on social media. The marketing flier also points the public to the 18-space lot behind Virginia Partners Bank's headquarters, which is available to the public 6 p.m. to 8 a.m., Monday through Friday, after 12 noon on Saturday, and all day on Sunday, free of charge. Once it opens in a month or so, the lot at 1016 Charles St. will provide the public with another 46 parking spaces on weeknights and weekends. Staff will continue looking for opportunities to increase the inventory of public parking in downtown Fredericksburg. (See attached flyer for more details.)

***Dominion Virginia Power Announces Plans to Rebuild An Existing High-Voltage Transmission Line*** – Dominion Power plans to rebuild an existing high-voltage transmission line that extends approximately 34 miles from the Four Rivers Substation in Hanover County to the Fredericksburg Substation. An informational open house will take place Tuesday, March 15 from 5 – 8 p.m. at James Monroe High School to discuss the plans. No new right-of-way is necessary. The new structures will vary in height and the average for the entire line will be approximately 4 ½ feet taller than the current structures. For more information about this project, visit the Dominion website at [www.dom.com](http://www.dom.com) and search "Four Rivers." You can also send an email to [powerline@dom.com](mailto:powerline@dom.com) or call 888-291-0190 to speak with a member of the Electric Transmission team. (See attachment for more details.)

***EDT Quarterly Retail Report Shows Lower Vacancy Rates*** – The Department of Economic Development and Tourism distributed its [Quarterly Retail Report](#) on February 18. Store occupancy rates throughout the city remained solid for the 2015 third quarter. Local taxes from retail sales and meals increased. A summary of retail activity in Central Park, Eagle Village, and Downtown is included in the report.

***New City Hall Voice over IP Phone System*** – The Department of Information Technology, along with project team members from departments in City Hall, replaced the legacy analog telephone system which was no longer supported by the manufacturer. The new VoIP system is an all-in-one phone system integrating voice, email notification, instant messaging, presence notification, advanced call routing, conferencing and fax. The system operates over the City's current network and eliminates the need for costly analog phone lines, saving the City approximately \$16,000 annually in telecommunication costs. The system allows for easy expansion at a lower cost than the old system. The installation included computer software that provides each user a better overview of the status of incoming calls, call queues, caller ID, voice mail and address books. This system integrates the various departments at City Hall with Parks and Recreation, Public Facilities, Commonwealth Attorney, Information Technology, City Attorney and Fire Administration.

***Hours For The Dorothy Hart Community Center*** – Effective March 1, the Dorothy Hart Community Center will be open Monday - Thursday from 8:30 am – 8:30 pm, with registration available from 9:00 am – 8:00 pm. On Fridays, registration is available from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, with the building closing at 4:30 pm. For more information, call the office at 372-1086 ext. 256.

***Cox Communications Awards Funding to Parks and Recreation and Public Facilities*** – Recently, Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities was awarded \$13,700 in funding from Cox Communications to support Picnic in the Park, Soap Box Derby, Children's Art Show and First Night.

***Storage Facility Leased for Fire Department and Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities*** – The Fire Department and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities are ready to occupy a leased storage facility located on Harkness Boulevard in the Battlefield Industrial Park. The 14,500 square foot warehouse space provides ample storage for fire apparatus and other large equipment, as well as room for several small offices. Before acquiring this space, much specialized equipment had to be stored outside, unprotected from the weather.

***Sergeant Peterson Retires for Second Time from Fredericksburg Police Department*** –

Sergeant Peterson started his career with the Fredericksburg Police Department in February 1975. Paul worked as a patrol officer and general assignment detective until he was promoted to Sergeant in 1991. Paul worked as a fun-loving, hard-working, and always fair supervisor until he retired from full-time service in February 2009. After retirement, he decided to stay on as an Auxiliary Sergeant and accepted the responsibility of managing the Auxiliary Police Officer Program. Paul was an excellent supervisor for the program and has now retired from the Auxiliary Force



effective January 1, 2016. Sergeant Peterson dedicated 41 years of tireless public service to the citizens of Fredericksburg as well as service to the men and women here at the Fredericksburg Police Department. He will be sorely missed but we wish the very best in retirement.

***Fredericksburg Police Department Provides Safety Seminar for Faith-Based Organizations*** – On Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Kuebler provided a Safety and Security Seminar to faith-based organizations in the City of Fredericksburg. Seven representatives from several organizations attended and learned about contemporary challenges to provide safety and security at their places of worship, how to identify and mitigate risks to their faith community, crime and violence prevention strategies, and how to develop a safety and security policy for their organization. The Fredericksburg Police Department will continue to offer the Safety and Security Seminar to faith-based organizations throughout the year.

***Face the River Initiative Update*** – After the committee’s presentation to council on January 26, City staff met to discuss staff involvement in the process, potential regulatory considerations, and potential next steps. The committee has continued to meet with representatives of stakeholder groups, such as the Friends of the Rappahannock to ensure that they are involved in the project. Staff met with Fredericksburg Main Street representatives on Wednesday, March 3 to further discuss the project. There is also a meeting set for Friday, March 5 with the Tri-County / City Soil and Water Commission.

# PUBLIC PARKING OPTIONS ON WEEKNIGHTS & WEEKENDS IN DOWNTOWN FREDERICKSBURG



## 1016 Charles St.

46 parking spaces will soon be available to the public in this lot at the corner of Charles and Amelia Streets weeknights and weekends. More details coming soon.



## 904 Princess Anne St.

This 40-space lot off Charles and Princess Anne Streets is available to the public 6 p.m.-6 a.m. Monday-Friday and all day on weekends. [Park here for free throughout the month of March!](#)



## 410 William St.

This 18-space lot behind Virginia Partners Bank's HQ is available to the public 6 p.m.-8 a.m. Monday-Friday, after noon on Saturday, and all day on Sunday, free of charge.

*Don't forget the many 24-7 public lots along Sophia Street including the garage at Wolfe Street, which is free for the first three hours, \$8/day maximum weekdays and \$2/day maximum weekends!*

# FOUR RIVERS-FREDERICKSBURG TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD

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**Dominion Virginia Power is committed to providing safe and reliable energy now and in the future.**

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## **Dominion Plans To Rebuild An Existing Transmission Line**

Dominion is committed to providing safe, reliable and affordable power to customers. In order to comply with North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) reliability criteria, Dominion must rebuild an existing high-voltage transmission line by 2018.

This important project will be within the existing right of way corridor that extends approximately 34 miles from the Four Rivers Substation in Hanover County to the Fredericksburg Substation in the City of Fredericksburg.

The existing transmission line in this corridor serves Hanover County, Caroline County, Spotsylvania County and the City of Fredericksburg. (*See map on reverse.*) The line was originally built as 230 kilovolt (kV), but has been operating at 115kV since 1990. After carefully analyzing load forecasts, Dominion has found that rebuilding the line to new 115kV reliability standards will continue to provide reliable electric service for customers far into the future.

This aging infrastructure must be rebuilt to ensure its continued safe and reliable operation. The existing wood H-frame structures will be replaced with new weathered steel H-frame structures. The new structures will vary in height and the average for the entire line will be approximately 4½ feet taller than the existing structures. The increase in height is due to modern reliability standards and terrain.

## **Dominion's rebuild project will:**

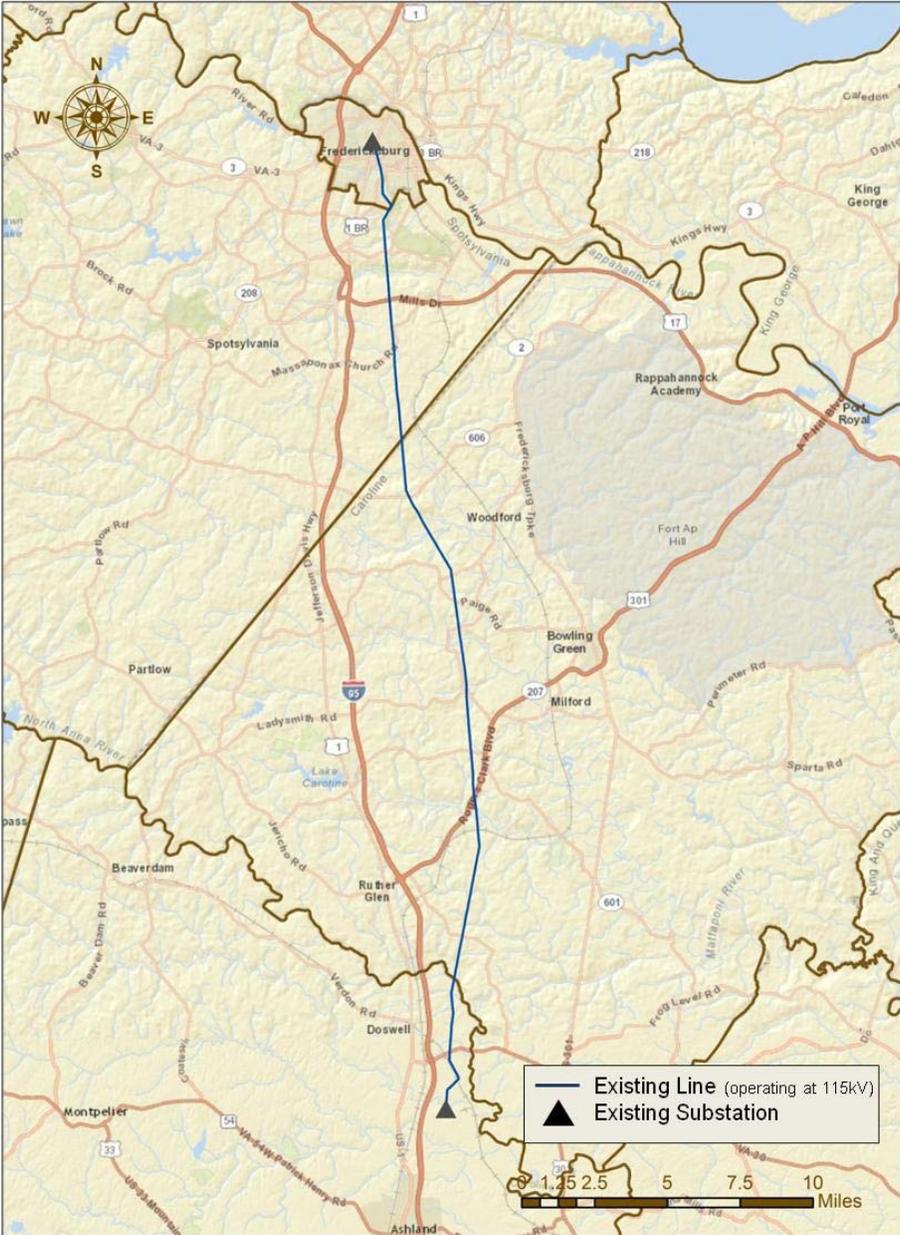
- Help strengthen the electrical grid
- Comply with mandatory NERC reliability standards
- Replace aging infrastructure
- Improve overall reliability for the community

## **Target Schedule**

<b>Summer 2015</b>	Initial outreach to local officials
<b>January/February 2016</b>	Outreach to the State Corporation Commission and local officials
<b>February 2016</b>	Public outreach and notification of intent to construct
<b>Early 2016</b>	Apply for necessary permits for construction
<b>March 2016</b>	Public open house events
<b>Spring 2016</b>	Construction scheduled to begin, pending receipt of applicable permits
<b>Summer 2018</b>	Target date for project completion

# KEEPING VIRGINIA'S POWER RELIABLE WHILE KEEPING THE IMPACTS MINIMAL

Learn about Dominion's environmental stewardship, wetlands protection and more at [www.dom.com](http://www.dom.com).



If you have further questions, please contact our Electric Transmission team by sending an email to [powerline@dom.com](mailto:powerline@dom.com) or calling 888-291-0190.

