



# CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

## Fire Department

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### City Marks Advent of Full Operations for Advanced Life Support Service

The City of Fredericksburg marks an important step forward in emergency services August 27 when Advance Life Support will be fully operational with two medic units providing emergency medical response any time of the day or night. The two ALS medic teams and vehicles will be available to respond to 911 medical calls.

“It is rewarding to open this expanded emergency medical care to our citizens, businesses and visitors,” said Mayor Mary Katherine Greenlaw. “This is a significant advance for the City and the well-being of the public we serve.”

Advance Life Support is the highest level of service in emergency medicine in staff training and certification as well as the equipment available to treat medical emergencies.

The Fredericksburg City Council set a priority in 2014 to establish around the clock advanced medical service to address the burden of increased medical calls. The Council approved funding for more staff and equipment to achieve 24/7/365 ALS care and the Fire Department has steadily acted on the plan to expand medical services. Additional staff has been hired and two new medic units will go into service to fulfill the Council’s goal.

“As our population grows, so grows the volume of calls we have for medical emergencies,” said Fire Chief Eddie Allen. “We are grateful we have the support of the City Council to move ahead with two ALS medic units and staff in full operation.” In 2019 the City’s 911 center received 5623 calls for medical assistance. For 283 calls, all City units were busy in the City so mutual aid assistance from Stafford County was called.

The Fredericksburg Rescue Squad will continue its night and weekend operations, said Chief Allen. “We greatly appreciate their commitment to emergency medical care in the City.”

The Fire Department will host an open house at Fire Station 1 at 601 Princess Anne St. Tuesday, August 27 at 4:30 p.m. A new medic unit will be on-site for touring and EMS will demonstrate capabilities of the unit’s equipment. A short informational ceremony will be also be held, led by Chief Allen and Mayor Greenlaw.

