



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Greenlaw and Members of City Council
FROM: Timothy J. Baroody, City Manager
DATE: February 8, 2023 (for February 14 Council meeting)
SUBJECT: City Manager's Update

Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:

Black History Month – As a community dedicated to diversity, equity and inclusion, we are proud to celebrate Black History Month each year by fostering and sharing the history, achievements and contributions of African Americans in Fredericksburg and beyond. We invite you to celebrate with us in our local Black history here in Fredericksburg. Share in our notable Black American stories.



Support our local Black-owned businesses. Find [events](#) and ways to get involved.

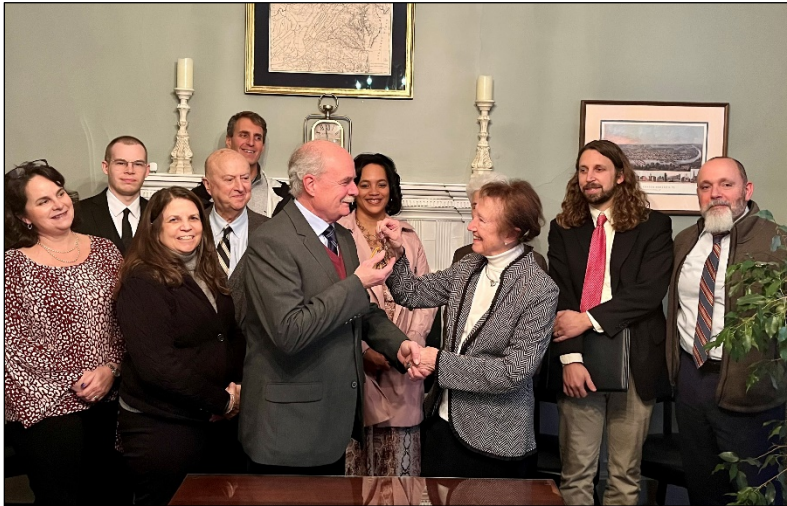
CIVIL RIGHTS TRAIL

The City of Fredericksburg in partnership with the University of Mary Washington's James Farmer Multicultural Center requests the pleasure of your company at the unveiling of the City of Fredericksburg's Civil Rights Trail "Freedom, a Work in Progress".

Thursday Feb 23 2:00pm | **Jepson Alumni Executive Center**
1119 Hanover St
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

For event inquiries, please email Victoria at: vamatthews@fredericksburgva.gov or call 540-372-1216

Civil Rights Trail – The City in partnership with the University of Mary Washington's James Farmer Multicultural Center is unveiling the City of Fredericksburg's Civil Rights Trail "Freedom, a Work in Progress" on February 23 at 2pm. The event will be held at the University of Mary Washington's Jepson Alumni Executive Center, 1119 Hanover Street. All are welcome to attend.



Mary Washington Monument and Lodge Donated –

Washington Heritage Museums (WHM) is the new owner of the historic Mary Washington Monument and Lodge property in Fredericksburg.

The City donated the 1.36-acre property at 1500 Washington Avenue earlier this month to WHM, which plans a small museum about the monument at the Lodge. The building will also

serve as WHM's headquarters.

WHM currently manages and promotes four Fredericksburg properties that provide rich content and context to the lives of early Americans and the extraordinary Washington family, including Mary Washington's home just a few blocks away. The tie-in between the Monument property and Mary Washington's home will encourage visitors to trace her footsteps from her home to Meditation Rock, through one of the most beautiful sections of Fredericksburg, passing historic Kenmore, another Washington family treasure. The new interpretation will also help us interpret the lives of people about whom we are still learning – those who were enslaved.

City Council approved the conveyance to WHM in December. The conveyance included the grave of Mary Washington, the Mary Washington Monument, Meditation Rock, the Gordon Family Cemetery, the Lodge, and the sloping land leading down to Memorial Park below. Click here for details: <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/.../ViewFile/Item/16332...>

Pictured: Fredericksburg Mayor Mary Katherine Greenlaw hands the keys to the Mary Washington Lodge property to WHM Board Chairman Chuck Fennell earlier this month while surrounded by City and WHM officials.

Accessory Dwelling Units Ordinance Proposal Community Outreach – A series of [community meetings and public hearings](#) will be held, over the next few months, to develop an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) ordinance for housing options and affordability in neighborhoods throughout Fredericksburg. With citizen input, the process will shape the proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance that permit the construction of ADUs. [See Frequently Asked Questions.](#) For more information, please call the Planning Department at (540) 372-1179.

72nd Fine Arts Show & Sale – Call for Artists to enter the Annual Fredericksburg Fine Arts Show



& Sale. Don't miss this once-a-year event! It's an open show welcoming a wide range of artists, styles and mediums at the Dorothy Hart Community Center. The entry deadline is **February 17, 2023** or maximum of 275 artworks, whichever comes first. Find entry information and register online at: <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/1306/Fine-Art-Show>.

Proceeds from this show benefit the Woman's Club of Fredericksburg's charitable programs and Parks, Recreation and Events programs. For information please contact [Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation & Events](#) by calling 540-372-1086 or emailing prfrontdesk@fredericksburgva.gov.

NIKE Reuse-A-Shoe Program – Parks, Recreation and Events are teaming up with the Woman's Club of Fredericksburg to collect worn athletic shoes to donate to the Nike Reuse-A-Shoe Program. Nike will take any brand of athletic sneakers through this program where the worn athletic shoes are ground up and the scraps are separated by material type (rubber, foam, or textile fluff) and incorporated into new items!



Ask your friends and relatives if they have used athletic shoes to donate. Bring them to the Dorothy Hart Community from

now until **May 1st**. The Woman's Club of Fredericksburg will collect them from the center and take them to a Nike drop-off location. Do not donate sandals, dress shoes, boots or shoes with metal (like cleats or spikes). Thanks for helping us do our part for the environment!



Train Bridges Rehabilitation Project – Intermittent lane closures at Fredericksburg VRE Train Bridges began January 16 as the VRE Rehabilitation Project begins with bridge work inspections.

Short term, intermittent lane closures on Charles, Princess Anne, Caroline, and Sophia Streets began the week of January 16th in the immediate area around the Fredericksburg [Virginia Railway Express](#) Express (VRE)/Amtrak

station. The contractor for VRE’s rehabilitation project will begin preliminary inspections of the bridges crossing over these roads. This will involve rotating closures of one travel lane at a time under a bridge for a duration of approximately seven days. This preliminary work is anticipated to be completed by the end of March 2023.

Following the conclusion of these inspections, bridge repair work is scheduled to begin in March 2023 and run through the first part of 2024. The same travel lanes that were closed for inspections will be closed again, one at a time, for approximately 60-day periods, to complete minor concrete repairs. Drivers and pedestrians in the area around the train station are asked to remain cautious and watch for signage and work areas throughout the year.

These lane closures and bridge repairs are one part of VRE’s Fredericksburg Station Rehabilitation Project, which is an \$11 million investment that includes lengthening the station’s platform and other improvements to enhance passenger safety and convenience.

For information on the Fredericksburg Station Rehabilitation Project, please visit <https://projects.vre.org/project?Project=Fredericksburg%20Station%20Rehabilitation>.

For additional questions, please contact Virginia Railway Express at 800-743-3873 and by email at FredericksburgStationRehabilitation@vre.org.

Traffic Safety Initiative – The Police Department continues 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. **“The City of Fredericksburg has issued over 2,295 speeding citations since January 2022. Want to avoid a ticket in the City of Fredericksburg – follow posted speed limits, it is that simple,”** stated City Manager Tim Baroody. 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 (member specific, to see specifics)
- Board of Zoning Appeals (Alternate members needed)
- Memorials Advisory Commission
- Parking Advisory Committee
- Recreation Commission

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.



The Parks, Recreation and Events Winter & Spring Catalog is now available! Get out and play with us! Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation and Events is offering many special events, nature programs, special interest classes and sports being offered. Read it online here: <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/370/Catalog-of-Activities>

Pick up your paper copy from the Dorothy Hart Community Center. Registration is now open online: <https://secure.rec1.com/VA/fredericksburg-va/catalog> and in person at the Dorothy Hart Community Center, 408 Canal Street. Questions? Give us a call at 540-372-1086 or

email prfrontdesk@fredericksburgva.gov.



Winter Programs – Our Parks, Recreation and Events team is continually working on fun programs for the season. Keep updated on all the activities available. 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](#).