



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Greenlaw and Members of City Council
FROM: Timothy J. Baroody, City Manager
DATE: June 21, 2023 (for June 27, 2023 Council meeting)
SUBJECT: City Manager's Update

Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:



New Historical Highway Marker – An Unveiling Event was held for the new historical highway marker commemorating the “Great Exodus from Bondage” and honoring John Washington on Wednesday, June 21. The ceremony was held at the Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall followed by the unveiling of the new marker at 900 Princess Anne

Street. John Washington was an enslaved man who escaped to freedom on April 18, 1862, during the Civil War. He later wrote a [narrative of his life](#). Washington used to live on the second floor of the building. The City of Fredericksburg and the University of Mary Washington’s James Farmer Multicultural Center worked together on the marker and ceremony. The marker unveiling was part of Fredericksburg’s continuing efforts to better tell its full history, which recently included the creation of a [Civil Rights Trail](#). Five additional historic markers have also been placed around the City since 2020 commemorating aspects of Fredericksburg’s African-American history.

Fourth in Fredericksburg – Many events are planned in Fredericksburg for the upcoming holiday. Daytime events begin at 7:30am with the Fallen Heroes 5K Race, followed by the 9:30am Children’s Roll N’ Stroll and the 10-4pm Festival of the Streets and more! The 600-900 blocks of Sophia Street, 100 blocks of Hanover and Charlotte Streets will be closed from 2am – 6pm on Tuesday, July 4. There will be signs in place to indicate the parking restrictions.

Evening events conclude with Fireworks over Virginia Credit Union Stadium and Pratt Park. Find details online: <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/fourthinfoxbg>
Fourth in Fredericksburg is on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FourthinFXBG>
Where to park in FXBG? <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/744/Parking>
See all the details here [Fourth in FXBG website](#)



Around the Town Trolley –The City “Around the Town” free trolley service for locals and tourists every Friday and Saturday, 5:00pm and 8:30pm, has begun for the summer. Please note that on the first Friday of each month additional stops are added to stop at art galleries. Read about the trolley stops and details here: <https://fxbg.com/plan-your.../around-the-town-free-trolley/>



Where to park? The free trolley stops are located close to parking lots and garages that have ample availability on weekend evenings. View the [Downtown Parking Map](#)

<https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/744/Parking> for the location of available lots. Parking options include:

- Parking garage at Wolfe and Sophia streets
- Parking garage at William and Winchester Streets
- The “VRE parking lot” at Frederick and Caroline streets

- The many surface lots along Sophia Street
 - The parking lot at the corner of Charles and Amelia streets
- Just look for the “Around the Town” trolley stop signs and hop aboard!
 Questions? Stop in the Visitor Center at 706 Caroline Street for details.



Fresh produce, grass fed beef, baked & canned goods... the vendors at our FXBG Farmers Market offer such a great variety of products! Check them out on Saturdays, 7am - 1pm in Hurkamp Park, 500 William Street.



Happy summer! Are you looking for an easy summer project with the family? Head outside to the street side of your residence and take a look. If you can't quickly find your address number while standing there, it's likely even more difficult for first responders driving to you.

Whether the address number is on your house, mailbox, or curb, clearly visible numbers make it easier for us to find you in an emergency.

Remember that emergencies happen at night too. Use reflective numbers or lighting to ensure we can find your residence when it's dark!

Water Bill Assistance – Need assistance paying your past due water bill? Virginia's Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) may be able to help! Applications are being accepted now to help Virginia residents pay their water and wastewater bills.

You may be eligible if you:

- have at least one U.S. citizen or eligible legal permanent resident and:
- have household income below 150% of the federal poverty level,
- have water or wastewater services that are disconnected or be in danger of being disconnected,
- be responsible for paying the water bill.

Local departments of social services will not be accepting or processing applications for this program. To apply for the LIHWAP or for questions about the program visit <https://virginalihwap.com/lihwap> or call 1-888-373-9908.

Hydrant Maintenance Flushing Program – Public Works crews will continue the annual maintenance flushing program throughout the summer months. You may see a hydrant draining water for some time as part of the process. If you have concerns or questions, please call (540) 372-1023.



The Parks, Recreation and Events Summer 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](#).

Pick up your paper copy from the Dorothy Hart Community Center. Registration is now open [online](#) 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.





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](#).



DO YOU NEED ASSISTANCE PAYING YOUR PAST DUE WATER BILL?



Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) may be able to help!

LIHWAP is a program that will help eligible low-income households by providing a one-time payment directly to their water and/or wastewater provider. LIHWAP runs through September 2023 or until the funds are exhausted. The Virginia Department of Social Services has selected Promise Network to administer LIHWAP.

How Do I Know if My Household Qualifies for LIHWAP?

If your household water or wastewater services have been cut off or you have received a disconnection notice, you may be eligible!

Local departments of social services will not be accepting or processing applications for this program.

Virginia Department of Social Services, Division of Benefit Programs



Eligible households must have at least one U.S. citizen or eligible legal permanent resident and:



- » Have household income below 150% of the federal poverty level,
- » Have water or wastewater services that are disconnected or be in danger of being disconnected,



- » Be responsible for paying the water bill.

To apply for the LIHWAP or for questions about the program visit VirginiaLihwap.com or call 1-888-373-9908.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES