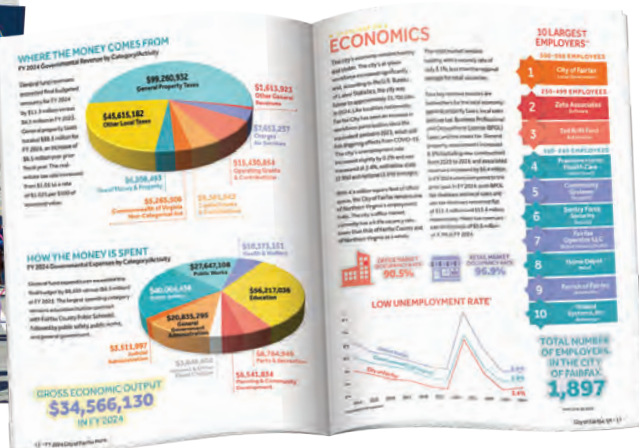
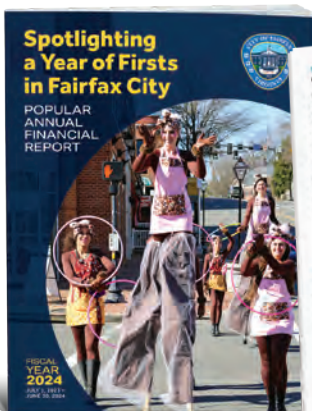




City Publishes First Popular Annual Financial Report



BRYAN FOSTER SERVING AS INTERIM CITY MANAGER

Fairfax City Council unanimously appointed Bryan Foster to serve as interim city manager. Foster was hired through a contract agreement with Baker Tilly Advisory Group LP, a public sector executive recruitment firm. His first day was Jan. 27.

continued on page 6

The City of Fairfax published its very first Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR), which provides a snapshot of the city's financial activities during fiscal year 2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024).

The report includes key statistics and insights drawn from the city's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and other sources. This information provides a clear picture of the city's funding sources, expenditures, and debt obligations, and highlights our commitment to maintaining a safe, welcoming, and financially sound community.

The PAFR program was created by the Government Finance Officers Association to help state and local

governments communicate complex financial information in an accessible and engaging way. The city plans to submit the PAFR for GFOA's award consideration and to join the esteemed "Triple Crown Winners Circle," an exclusive group of local governments with annual audits, budgets, and PAFRs recognized by GFOA.

Read the report online at fairfaxva.gov/government/finance/audit-reports. Printed copies will be available at city-owned buildings. (Fun Fact: The city's annual audit has been recognized by GFOA for 43 consecutive years, and the city budget has been recognized for 31 consecutive years!)



INSIDE CITYSCENE

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CITY NEWS

City Launches New Business License and Tax Portal

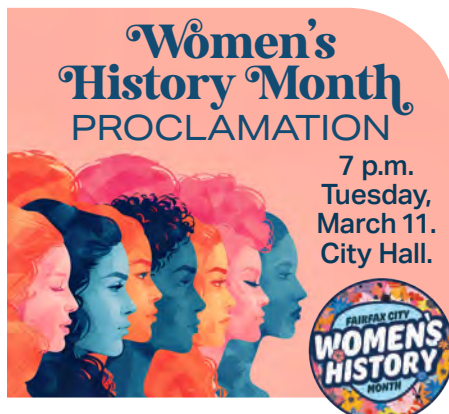
City businesses have a new website portal to make paying business-related taxes easier and more convenient. The portal — fairfaxva.gov/business taxes — allows business taxpayers to file and pay business licenses (due March 1) and business tangible personal property. Additionally, customers may file and remit meals taxes and transient occupancy taxes through this portal. The sign-in page includes a tutorial. Info: Page.Johnson@fairfaxva.gov, 703-385-7885

2024 Business Recycling Report Due March 1

City business owners must submit their annual commercial recycling reports to the city electronically by March 1 using a form on the city website. The report details the actual or estimated weight or volume of recycled materials provided by the business' recycling vendors. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Commercial Recycling Report")

Senior Center Craft and Vendor Market, March 8

Discover a treasure — or sell one of your own — at the 2025 Craft & Vendor Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 8 at the Sherwood Center. The event, sponsored by the Young at Heart Senior Center Advisory Council, supports the popular and ever-active city senior center. Info: fairfaxva.gov/seniorcenter, 703-273-6090



Vendor Opportunities Abound for City Events, March 13

The city is known for its many special events, and opportunities abound for vendors in various categories, including arts and crafts, business, and food. Applications are due March 13 for Fall Festival arts, crafts, and business vendors, and Holiday Craft Show arts and crafts vendors. Visit fairfaxva.gov/specialevents for a complete list of vendor opportunities and associated deadlines.

Home Heating Assistance Available Through March 15

City residents who need help with heating bills this winter may apply for Fairfax County Family Services Crisis Assistance through March 15. Crisis assistance can be used to pay bills for utilities that are in danger of being disconnected. Info: fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/public-assistance-employment-services



St. Patrick's Day Ceili, March 16

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Irish social dancing from 2-5 p.m. March 16 at Historic Blenheim. Dancers of all levels are welcome to step onto the dance floor to live music by the Shepherd's Pie Ceili Band. Experienced dancers will be on hand to guide beginners. Please wear light shoes (no tap shoes). Small desserts to share are welcome. Cost is \$12/adults; \$6/youths (must be accompanied by an adult). Info: 703-385-7858

Wastewater Lateral Repair and Replacement Reimbursement

City of Fairfax Wastewater Utility customers, both residential and business, are entitled to reimbursement of expenses paid to repair or replace a lateral within public property. A lateral is the pipe that conveys used water from homes

and businesses to the public sanitary sewer main. Customers fund this benefit through annual payments of \$18 or \$36 per year.

In most cases, the City of Fairfax will reimburse customers for a portion of the cost of replacement of the entire lateral, on private property, from the home or business to the curb or sidewalk. Trenchless technology is strongly recommended.

Reimbursements may also be approved for the replacement of the entire lateral line from the home to the main line on public property or in the right-of-way or for repairs in the right-of-way only. Repairs on private property are not eligible for reimbursement.

Property owners must obtain contractor quotes and apply for reimbursement before work begins, even for emergency work.

Info: fairfaxva.gov/publicworks, click on "Wastewater Lateral Repair and Replacement Program"

Curbside Leaf Collection Schedule for April

On Tuesdays in April, vacuum trucks will collect loose leaves raked to the curb in residential neighborhoods that receive city curbside refuse collection service. Please rake leaves to the curb by 7 a.m. on collection days: April 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. Bagged leaves are not collected in April. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "leaves"), 703-385-7995

Real Estate Tax Relief, Rent Relief Applications Due April 15

The City of Fairfax provides real estate tax relief and rent relief for senior citizens and city residents with permanent and total disabilities. Virginia offers a real estate tax exemption for the primary residence of certain disabled veterans and their surviving spouses. Tax and rent relief applications are available from the Finance Department; please call for an appointment. Applications for city relief programs are due April 15. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "tax rent relief"), 703-359-2486

continued >>>

Free Income Tax Preparation, Filing Options

Qualified Fairfax City residents have options for free tax preparation and filing.

VITA — Households that earned less than \$67,000 in 2024 may qualify for free tax preparation service from the Volunteer Tax Assistance program.

Sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service, VITA helps households maximize their tax returns and avoid the fees businesses charge to prepare taxes. In-person VITA services are available at several sites in Northern Virginia. Walk-ins are welcome, no appointments are needed. *Info: nvacash.org, DFSVITA@FairfaxCounty.gov; 703-533-5320 (please leave a message)*

IRS Free File — Qualified taxpayers can prepare and file federal income tax returns online using guided tax preparation software. It's safe, easy, and at no cost to you. Those who don't qualify can still use Free File Fillable Forms. Individual tax filers, regardless of income, can use IRS Free File to electronically request an automatic tax-filing extension. *Info: irs.gov, search "Free File"*

Yard Waste Curbside Collection Rules Enforced

DO NOT PLACE YARD WASTE IN PLASTIC BAGS

It is the law in Fairfax City: when placing yard waste at the curb for disposal, residents must use paper bags, twine, or refuse receptacles for curbside yard waste debris. **Yard waste placed in plastic bags will not be collected curbside.**

Info: refuserecycling@fairfaxva.gov, 703-385-7837



COUNCIL REPORTER



PLEASE NOTE: summaries have been edited. To read the full Council Reporter, visit fairfaxva.gov and click on "City Meetings" or scan the QR code at left.

COUNCIL ACTIONS OF JAN. 14, 2025

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- Approved, unanimously, the minutes of the Dec. 3, 2024, special meeting and the Dec. 10, 2024, regular meeting.

ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING

- Approved, unanimously, city councilmember appointments to regional and city boards and commissions for the city council term ending Dec. 31, 2026. The complete list is included in the staff report at fairfaxva.gov/citymeetings.

COUNCIL ACTIONS OF JAN. 21, 2025

ACTIONS OUT OF CLOSED MEETING

- Approved, unanimously, the appointment of Bryan D. Foster as acting city manager, effective Jan. 27, 2025, in accordance with City Code section 2-96(b). Compensation to Baker Tilly Advisory Group LP for this engagement is governed by the executive placement services contract no. CTR035203, dated Jan. 17, 2025.

COUNCIL ACTIONS OF JAN. 28, 2025

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- Mayor Catherine Read presented a proclamation acknowledging February as Black History Month in the City of Fairfax.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Awarded, unanimously, a construction contract for an estimated \$3.13M to Ardent Company, LLC, for the Government Center Parkway extension. This project connects Waples Mill Road with Jermantown Road and includes bike lanes and sidewalks. It is funded with Smart Scale, RSTP, and NVT A 70% funding, with no local funds required.
- Approved, unanimously, 2025 special event requests under the City Council Road Race and Road Closure Policy. Approved events include The Asian Festival on Main, Ride of the Patriots, Running for the Kids, and the Turkey Trot 5K.

ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING

- Approved, unanimously, the city council procedural and operational resolutions. This series of resolutions adopted at the beginning of each term dictates the rules and procedures for the council, rules governing public participation at regular council meetings, remote participation for the mayor and council, and procedures regarding mayor and council benefits, equipment, and reimbursement.



Adam Nimoy:
On Reconciling with my Father

Thursday, March 27 7 p.m.
Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center
3740 Blenheim Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22030

FALL FOR THE BOOK

Adam Nimoy: On Reconciling with My Father, Leonard Nimoy
7 p.m. March 27.

Stacy C. Sherwood Center.
Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Free.

Reservations required:
eventbrite.com/e/adam-nimoy-on-reconciling-with-my-father-tickets-1216997114129

In ***The Most Human: Reconciling with My Father Leonard Nimoy***,

Adam Nimoy explores his complicated and often tumultuous relationship with his father, Leonard, the iconic half-Vulcan science officer he portrayed on *Star Trek*. Despite their differences, father and son traveled parallel paths from divorce to addiction, and finally to recovery. More importantly, Adam Nimoy shares how he and his father reconciled with the help of AA meetings and over Shabbat dinners. George Takei says, "The fact that Leonard and Adam found a way to rebuild their relationship should resonate with anyone who struggles with difficult family dynamics."

LANGUAGE ARTS 123 COMPETITION

Topic: Conflict Resolution
Submission Deadline:
Friday, March 28.

Cash prizes!

Open to participants from fourth grade and older. Rules and info:
fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts/city-of-fairfax-commission-on-the-arts/competition-2022

MAIN STREET COMMUNITY BAND MUSIC WE'VE MISSED!

4 p.m. Sunday, March 2.
Katherine Johnson Middle School.
Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 seniors

ARTSCREEN "FIELD OF DREAMS"

7 p.m. Friday, March 7.
Sherwood Center. Free.
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

FUNDAY MONDAY "OH SUSANNAH"

Music for Children
10:30 a.m. Monday, March 10.
Sherwood Center. Free.



BONITA LESTINA OLD TOWN HALL PERFORMANCE SERIES
The Baltimore Composers Forum:
"Intersegmenta 38"
8 p.m. Friday, March 14.
Sherwood Center. Free.

CITY OF FAIRFAX BAND FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 15.
Fairfax High School.
Tickets: fairfaxband.org.



VA OPERA A LOVING COMMUNITY

3-4 p.m. Monday, March 17.
Sherwood Center. Free.

"A Loving Community" is a play with music commissioned by Virginia Opera as its educational touring program for the 2024-25 season. Intended for ages 15 and up, this roughly 60-minute production will feature music and history relevant to the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s, including excerpts from the new opera *Loving v. Virginia* premiering in April. The program will be performed by the opera's four emerging artists with piano accompaniment. A digital study guide and resource lists will also be available. Accompanying the production will be a set of display panels, created and curated by the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia, to visually illustrate the historical context that led to this significant decision and its impact on the larger 20th- and 21st-century American civil rights landscape.

BONITA LESTINA OLD TOWN HALL PERFORMANCE SERIES

John J. "JJ" Mitchell, Organist
8 p.m. Friday, March 28.
Truro Anglican Church,
10520 Main Street. Free.

FRIDAY MORNING MUSIC CLUB

Noon Friday, March 28.
Sherwood Center. Free.

FAIRFAX ACADEMY - MCT FEST (MUSIC & COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY)

7 p.m. Saturday, March 29.
Fairfax High School.



City Budget Review Continues

The city has begun discussing the FY 2026 proposed budget — and your input is vital to this conversation. The budget is a detailed description of how taxpayer money is spent.

It explains the city's goals, proposed programs, and activities for the upcoming fiscal year. Read and download the proposed budget document (and current-year budget) at fairfaxva.gov/budget and download and watch the Feb. 25 presentation to the city council at fairfaxva.gov/citymeetings.

Provide feedback to the mayor and city council:

- via publichearing@fairfaxva.gov
- by speaking at council meetings
- via eComments (details at fairfaxva.gov/citymeetings).

The city continues to seek public input until the council adopts the final budget on May 6.

City council meetings and work sessions are held at Fairfax City Hall. Watch them live and archived on the city website, and live and replayed on Channel 12 (Cox/Verizon).

FY26 BUDGET REVIEW SCHEDULE

March 4: Budget work session

March 11: Budget public hearing; consideration of real estate tax rate to be advertised

March 25: Budget public hearing

April 1: Budget work session

April 8: Budget public hearing, budget work session, introduction of proposed C&I, wastewater, stormwater utility, and Old Town Service District rates

April 22: Public hearing for proposed real estate tax rate, C&I, wastewater, stormwater utility, and Old Town Service District rates; introduction of the FY 2026 proposed budget appropriations; FY 2025 quarterly financial review; budget work session

May 6: Public hearing on proposed FY 2026 budget appropriations; budget adoptions

Women's Storytelling Festival
 March 20 - 23, 2025
 in Fairfax City, VA and online
bettersaidthandone.org/womens-festival

Craft & Vendor Market
March 8, 2025
9am - 2pm
Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center
 3740 Blenheim Blvd, Fairfax, VA
 For all ages! **FAIRFAX CITY** YOUNG AT HEART **SENIOR CENTER** Free for the public!
 Advisory Council
craftvendor2025@outlook.com

FAIRFAX HisTree DAY
April 26
10am - 4pm
Historic Blenheim
3610 Blenheim Blvd.
FREE EVENT!
www.fairfaxva.gov/histreeday

MAKING *History*

Frederick Douglass: Advocate for Equality, through March 2

In this traveling banner exhibition, viewers can learn about Frederick Douglass' escape from slavery, his work as an abolitionist, and his tireless fight for equality for all individuals in the Jim Crow era. Explore Douglass' impact and his life through his words, photographs, and documents, and hands-on activities. Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center. Free. Info: fairfaxva.gov, search "advocate"



Women's History Month Hands-on History Room, March 1-31

Celebrate Women's History Month in March with self-guided activities for visitors of all ages. Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center. Free. Info: fairfaxva.gov/womenshistorymonth



School Day Out: Free Family Fun, March 31

School's out on March 31, but the fun and learning continue for all with free activities for students of all ages as we close out Women's History Month. Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center. Free. Info: fairfaxva.gov/womenshistorymonth

The Fairfax Story, Wednesday-Monday

Explore *The Fairfax Story* at Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center through artifacts, maps, images, and fun facts in a permanent exhibit that tells the story of the people who have called Fairfax home. The museum is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Monday. Free. Info: fairfaxva.gov/visitors

Historic Blenheim Guided Tours, Tuesday-Saturday

Learn more about Historic Blenheim, famous for its "diary on the walls" left by Federal soldiers on the attic and house walls of the Historic Blenheim home. Tours are conducted at 1 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Free. Info: fairfaxva.gov/blenheim

Fairfax Courthouse and Historic Records Center Guided Tours, Fridays

Tour the 1799 Fairfax Courthouse and Historic Records Center (4000 Chain Bridge Road) at 3 p.m. on Fridays (excluding holidays and other court closures). Free. Info: 703-246-4168

Bryan Foster, Interim City Manager

continued from page 1

Foster has 28 years of local government experience, most recently serving as deputy city manager for the City of Manassas, Va., until early 2024. His previous experience includes serving as director of public utilities for the City of Portsmouth, Va.; county administrator for Halifax County, Va.; and town manager of Altavista, Va. He holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy and Economics from the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.

Foster is leading the city through the fiscal year 2026 budgeting process and performing all duties and responsibilities of the city manager. The mayor and council will determine when to move forward with the recruitment process for the next city manager.



HELPING HANDS

THE CITY NEEDS PEOPLE LIKE YOU SERVE ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Board of Building Code Appeals (two vacancies; one mechanical or plumbing vacancy and one for city resident);

Board of Zoning Appeals (one vacancy for city residents);

City Grievance Panel (five vacancies for city residents); **Commission on the Arts** (one vacancy for George Mason University representative and one vacancy for city resident);

Commission on Aging (one vacancy); **Environmental Sustainability Committee** (one vacancy for city resident);

Fairfax Coordinating Council for Adults and Adults with Disabilities (one vacancy for city resident); **Human Services Committee** (one vacancy for city resident);

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (one vacancy for city resident).

To apply, visit fairfaxva.gov and search "boards and vacancies," or call 703-385-7935.

EGG-STREME

TEEN EGG HUNT

THURSDAY, APRIL 17
8PM
HISTORIC BLENHEIM
3610 BLENHEIM BLVD.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/specialevents to register.

Title VI Complaint Process

As a resident of the City of Fairfax, you are afforded rights, opportunity, and legal protection from discrimination under Title VI. You can expect to be treated fairly and equitably, to have access to decision-making and to share feedback, and to receive full benefits of services, activities, and programs without delay.

The city takes all allegations of discrimination seriously and commits to identifying, proactively addressing, and eliminating discrimination in all forms. You have the right to file a formal Title VI complaint if you believe that you — individually or as a member of a specific class of person — have been excluded from participating in, denied benefits, or subjected to discrimination and unequal treatment based upon race, color, or national origin, under any program or activity provided by the City of Fairfax.

Complaints must be filed no later than 180 days after the date of the alleged act of discrimination or in a continuing course of conduct, the date on which conduct stopped. The time for filing may be extended or waived in the interest of justice.

You may file your Title VI complaint in four ways:

1. Using the online form.
2. Downloading a paper complaint form and emailing or mailing the completed form to the Title VI coordinator.
3. Submitting your complaint verbally in person or via phone with the Title VI coordinator.
4. Submitting your complaint through the Fairfax City Resolve (311) reporting system.

Complaint forms are available in Spanish and can be translated to other languages upon request.

All complaints will be directed to the city's Title VI coordinator for initial review and action. The assigned investigator will issue findings in a report, and the city manager will inform the complainant of the final decision in writing within 90 days of the complaint receipt. Complainants can appeal against the written decision within 10 days of the date of the decision letter. *The privacy and identity of the complainant are protected throughout the process.*

Learn more: fairfaxva.gov/government/city-manager/title-vi

Digital Preservation Project Continues

The Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University is overseeing a project to create a digital archive of graffiti left behind by Union and Confederate soldiers at six historic sites included in the Northern Virginia Civil War Graffiti Trail.

The project is funded through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The online resources created by the Off the Wall: Digital Preservation of Civil War Graffiti Houses project will provide insights into the lived experience of war in America from 1861-65. The archive will be available to scholars, students, and the public.



George Mason University undergraduate students Silas Fransen (left) and Will Daniels work together to photograph interior walls at Historic Blenheim. One of the goals of the project is to demonstrate the feasibility of using inexpensive equipment to document the interiors of historic buildings.



Reception Held at the Sherwood Center for the Inaugural Rogue Arts Project Exhibition

Debra Wright (second from left) was selected by The City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts to curate local artwork for exhibitions in the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center. Wright, founder of the Rouge Arts Project, held a reception on Jan. 22 to celebrate the opening of the inaugural show. Works by eight local artists are on display – and for sale, with a percentage of the proceeds going to the Sherwood Center.

City Hall • 10455 Armstrong St. • Fairfax, VA 22030

The City's communications and marketing office produces the *Cityscene* every month.

Interim City Manager Bryan Foster (bryan.foster@fairfaxva.gov)

Mayor Catherine S. Read

City Council

(mayorandcouncil@fairfaxva.gov)

Anthony T. Amos

Billy M. Bates

Stacy R. Hall

Stacey D. Hardy-Chandler

Rachel M. McQuillen

Thomas D. Peterson

School Board

(schoolboard@fairfaxva.gov)

Carolyn S. Pitches, chair

Kristina M. Cecere

Sarah M. Kelsey

Amit S. Hickman

Lauren A. Bartelme

Cityscene includes news about upcoming events and performances, city projects and initiatives, and city council actions. Information is subject to change after publication.

Report problems and request services at fairfaxva.gov/resolve.



To request this information in an alternate format, call 703-385-7800 (TTY: 711).

Follow us: @CityofFairfaxVA



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

FAIRFAX CITY

Affordable Housing Survey



Please take the Affordable Housing Survey

Help us understand housing affordability challenges and barriers in Fairfax City. Your input will be used in the city's affordable housing and homelessness strategic plan and by city offices such as Human Services and Community Development and Planning.



BE HONEST

Responses will be kept completely confidential

PLEASE COMPLETE BY MARCH 15

TAKES LESS THAN 15 MIN.

Scan this QR code or visit surveylegend.com/s/5vnf
Info: jamie.ergas@fairfaxva.gov, 571-567-6987

FAIRFAX CITY CLIPS

It's easier than ever to subscribe to Fairfax City's e-newsletters. Text keyword to 888-492-1526. Keywords for popular e-newsletters:

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(CloseUp)

Sustainability

(environmental sustainability)

CityArts

(arts, performances, concerts)

CityPD

(arrests and crime reports)

Transportation

(transportation projects and news)

Museum

(exhibits, programs)