



city scene

AUGUST 2024

**ANNUAL LABOR DAY
CAR SHOW**
September 2, 2024
8AM - 2PM
4081 University Dr.
labordaycarshow.org

Understanding the City's First Formal Title VI Program

The City of Fairfax City Council affirmed the city's commitment to non-discrimination with the adoption of the city's first formal Title VI program in November 2023.

With this program, the city ensures that all activities, programs, and services, and participation in such, are delivered without discrimination under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and its related authorities. Title VI provides that *no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin shall be discriminated against*; its related authorities expand these protections to prohibit discrimination based on disability, age, income status, sexual orientation, gender identification, and persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), and that benefits of programs are not delayed or denied.

The city strives to not only meet these mandates but to serve all beneficiaries of city services in a manner that is transparent, equitable, and inclusive.

The adopted Title VI program developed during the past year is rooted in the city's specific needs and reflective of existing resources and practices. The process for developing the formal Title VI program included a review and gap analysis of current operations, interviews with city departments and staff who will play a role in implementation, interviews with community leaders, and a resident survey to gather community sentiment. The effort also included meeting with local and regional jurisdictions with similar population sizes, services, and Title VI programs.

The information gathered
continued on page 4

MAYOR'S MESSAGE Fall Festival and Yom Kippur

The City of Fairfax realized in 2022 that our Fall Festival, held annually on the second Saturday of October, would fall on Yom Kippur in 2024. Much discussion ensued about moving the event, and ultimately it was decided to leave it on its regularly scheduled Saturday (Oct. 12).

We make every effort to schedule events around religious holidays, recognizing that in such a multi-cultural region there are many faith communities whose members seek accommodations for their observances. We understand the significance of Yom Kippur to the Jewish community.

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CITY NEWS

Virginia Sales Tax Holiday, Aug. 2-4

From Aug. 2-4, purchase qualified items tax-free: clothing and footwear, school supplies, hurricane and emergency preparedness items, and Energy Star™ and WaterSense™ products. *Info: tax.virginia.gov/virginia-sales-tax-holiday*

National Night Out, Aug. 6

The 41st Annual National Night Out will be held from 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, rain or shine. National Night Out promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to help make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Neighborhoods host block parties, cookouts, and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, and more. *Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "National Night Out")*

Slow Down for Students

On Aug. 19, students return to Fairfax County Public Schools. Classes begin Aug. 26 at Northern Virginia Community College and George Mason University. Additionally, Mason students will move into housing on the Fairfax campus Aug. 18-25. Here are some important safety tips to remember:

- Stop for school buses where students are loading or unloading.
- Watch out for school crossing guards and obey their signals.
- Look out for students throughout the community, but especially on crosswalks and near schools.
- Avoid distractions.

Fairfax County Health Department provides free immunizations for Fairfax County Public School students. *Info: fairfaxcounty.gov/health/immunization*



Back-to-School Praise in the Park

House of Wood Neighborhood Outreach Inc. is hosting Back-to-School Praise in the Park from noon to 6 p.m. Aug. 3 at Providence Park. The nonprofit organization will provide donated school supplies to local families in need. The event includes food, face painting, fingerprinting, and safety presentations from the fire department, as well as words of encouragement and music from 4-6 p.m. Providence Park is located at 10735 West Drive.

Speed Cameras in Use During School Year

The city has speed enforcement cameras in school zones during certain hours of the school day. The cameras are in school zones on Blenheim Boulevard, Route 236/Main Street, and Jermantown Road, near the city's four schools and two Fairfax County schools (Woodson High School and Frost Middle School). *Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "photo enforcement")*

Academic Assistance is as Close as Your Library Card

If you have a Fairfax County Public Library card, you can access dozens of online resources to help students of all ages succeed. No computer? No problem: all library branches, including the City of Fairfax Regional Library (10360 North St.), have free Wi-Fi and computer access. FCPL cards are available for free for all who live, work, and own property in Fairfax City. *Info: fairfaxcounty.gov/library*

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:

CityNews

(news and videos)

CitySchools

(CloseUp)

Sustainability

(environmental sustainability)

CityArts

(arts, performances, concerts)

CityPD

(arrests and crime reports)

Transportation

(transportation projects and news)

Museum

(exhibits, programs)

City Offers EV Charging at City Hall, Old Town Hall

Fairfax City provides four public electric vehicle charging stations: two at City Hall and two at Old Town Hall. EV charging is free for the first three hours, after which there is a charge of 43¢/kWh. *Info: EVchargers@fairfaxva.gov*

Community Farmers' Markets, Saturdays and Sundays

Shop for fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods, and more at the Saturday Market and Sunday Market at 10500 Page Ave. (adjacent to the Historic Fairfax Courthouse). Sponsored by the Downtown Fairfax Coalition, the markets are held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through late October. *Info: fairfaxsatdaymarket.com, fairfaxsundaymarket.com*



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 JUNE 11, 2024

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- Mayor Catherine Read acknowledged June 19, 2024, as Juneteenth; June 17-23 as National Waste and Recycling Workers Appreciation Week; and June as CPR Month.
- Mayor Catherine Read and Fire Chief John O'Neal presented a check for \$19.28 to the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department to transfer ownership of Fire Station 3 to the city.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

- Approved, unanimously, the adoption of the agenda, and deferred to July 9 the public hearing and Council action on N29 Apartments (WillowWood Phase I), 10306 Eaton Place.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approved, unanimously: May 28, 2024, regular council meeting minutes; and setting personal property tax relief at 29.25% in Fairfax City for 2024.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Approved, unanimously, an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 14 regarding shared micro-mobility devices for hire, which set the application fee at \$150, the permit fee at \$7,500, and the per-device fee at \$75.
- Approved, unanimously, an appropriation resolution for \$266,912 for various federal, state, and other grants received by the city.

ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING

- Approved, unanimously, the introduction of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of general obligation school bonds of the city, in the maximum principal amount of \$220M to finance costs related to a program of capital improvement projects for the public school system of the city and requesting that the Fairfax Circuit Court order a special election on the question of issuing such bonds. The public hearing was set for June 25, 2024.

Councilmember Lim was absent from the meeting and did not vote on any item.

COUNCIL ACTIONS ON JUNE 25, 2024

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- Mayor Catherine Read acknowledged the Finance Department for receiving the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the FY 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

- The Homelessness Task Force presented its final report and recommendations.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approved, 5-0-1, June 11, 2024, special meeting and regular meeting minutes. (*Councilmember Lim abstained.*)
- Approved, unanimously, four changes to the City of Fairfax Purchasing Resolution, which follow Virginia General Assembly procurement-related bills.
- Approved, unanimously, award of a construction contract to Lighting Maintenance Inc. for about \$666,302 per year for up to five years. This replaces the aging natural gas lamps, which will be removed as the new LED streetlights are installed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Approved, unanimously, allowing a special use permit to increase the capacity of a home daycare service from four to six children at 4024 Barbour Drive.
- Approved, unanimously, an ordinance authorizing the issuance of general obligation school bonds of the city, in the maximum principal amount of \$220M to finance costs related to a program of capital improvement projects for the public school system of the city and requesting that the Fairfax Circuit Court order a special election on the question of issuing such bonds.
- Deferred to July 9 the public hearing and Council action on amendments to Zoning Ordinance provisions for erosion and sediment control, storm drainage facilities, and Chesapeake Bay Preservation.

**10TH ANNUAL
FAIRFAX CITY
ROCK
THE BLOCK**

Sponsored by: **DELTA DENTAL**

4th Fridays • May - October
Old Town Square • 6:30- 9:30pm
10415 North St., Fairfax

Live Music / Food Trucks / Beer Garden

AUGUST 23
Firekite

SEPTEMBER 27
Dr. Fu & Herr Metal

OCTOBER 25
The Rockets



LIVE LIFE IN THE ARTS KIDZ KORNER

Saturdays,
10:30–11:15 a.m.
FREE.

Aug. 3: My Gym

Aug. 10: SUPERHERO
Training with **The HULK!**

Aug. 17: Music with Marsha
(of Marsha and the Positrons!)
This performance will be
inside Old Town Hall.



ALL-NEW OUTDOOR SHOW FROM HIDEAWAY CIRCUS

4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Aug. 24
4:30 p.m. Aug. 25
Van Dyck Park

Showcasing a dazzling array of
10 world-class performers, Canvas
Sky blends the wonder of a classical
circus with a poignant, contemporary
storyline, all underscored by entirely
original music. Tickets range from
\$25 to \$65. hideawaycircus.com



Title VI Program

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informed the formal Title VI
program's system of policies and
procedures. The city's goals for
the program include:

- Assigning roles, responsibilities, and procedures for ensuring compliance with Title VI and related regulations and directives.
- Ensuring that people impacted by city programs and projects receive due services, benefits, and opportunities regardless of race, national origin, age, sex, or disability.
- Preventing discrimination in city programs and activities, whether those programs and activities are federally funded or not.
- Establishing procedures for identifying impacts in any program or activity that may create



MAKING *History*

Dairy Day at Willcoxon Farm, Aug. 8
Fairfax City celebrates Historic Blenheim's history as a thriving dairy farm with Dairy Day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 8. Visitors of all ages can learn how dairy farming impacted the region through the mid-20th century — and make ice cream and butter. Free at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Blenheim Blvd.; signups are needed. *Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Dairy Day")*

Traveling Exhibition: *Immigration: An American Story*, through Aug. 9
View documents, maps, and images that tell select stories of those who came to America — some by force and others by choice. Free at Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St. *Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Immigration Story")*

Traveling Exhibition: *Who Can Vote: A Brief History of Voting Rights in the U.S.*, Aug. 11- Oct. 11

This traveling banner exhibition from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History examines voting rights with an emphasis on the role of the U.S. Constitution and the interplay between the states and federal government in determining who is allowed to vote. Free at Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St. *Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Who Can Vote")*

Historic Tours

Old Town Fairfax Guided Walking Tours, Aug. 31, Sept. 28, Oct. 26

Take an hour-long tour of Old Town Fairfax with a knowledgeable guide on the last Saturday of the month through October. Tours step off at 11 a.m. from the Fairfax Courthouse, 4000 Chain Bridge Road. Free, but space is limited. Reserve your place through Eventbrite or call 703-385-8414.

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*

Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House Guided Tours, Saturdays

Take a guided tour with a knowledgeable docent through the Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House, the oldest residence in Fairfax City (10386 Main St.). The house is open from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays through September. Free. *Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Pozer")*

Self-Guided Tours

Take a self-guided walking tour of Old Town Fairfax using a brochure available on the city website and from the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center. Free. *Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Map of History")*

illegal adverse discrimination against any person, minority populations, low-income populations, persons with LEP, and all protected Title VI populations.

- Establishing procedures to annually review Title VI compliance within specific program areas within the city.
- Setting forth procedures for filing and processing complaints by persons who believe they have been subjected to illegal discrimination under Title VI in the city's services or programs.

This framework for local efforts to ensure compliance with Title VI and related authorities regarding non-discrimination is captured in the city's *Title VI Implementation Plan* posted on the city website.

Learn more: fairfaxva.gov, (search "Title VI")



Susan Mullen Named Daniels Run Elementary School Principal

Mullen Brings More Than 20 Years of Experience

The City of Fairfax Schools welcomes Susan Mullen as principal of Daniels Run Elementary School. Mullen comes from Loudoun County Public Schools, where she served as an administrator and principal at John W. Tolbert Jr. Elementary School. Mullen received a bachelor's degree from George Washington University and dual master's degrees in educational curriculum and education in leadership from Chapman University and George Mason University.

"We are thrilled to have Ms. Mullen join the City of Fairfax Schools community and we welcome her to Daniels Run Elementary School," said City of Fairfax Schools Superintendent Jeff Platenberg. "Ms. Mullen brings a wealth of experience, knowledge, and enthusiasm with her and we are excited to begin a new school year with such a talented leader."



Girl Scout Community Project Focuses on Pets

Junior Girl Scout Troop 55065, based at Providence Elementary School, completed the Bronze Award, the highest award attainable as fifth-grade Junior Girl Scouts. Their project focused on helping animals in our community.

The scouts conducted research and took field trips to Hidden Oaks Nature Center and the Fairfax County Animal Shelter to learn how to care for pets and for animals in the wild. They made toys for pets from upcycled materials like clothing. They braided rope toys for dogs, turned socks into fish-shaped toys for cats, made pom poms for cats, and made cat scratchers from cardboard Girl Scout cookie boxes.

In April, scouts showed Fairfax HisTree Day attendees how to make DIY pet toys at the event and shared flyers and coloring pages with facts



and instructions for making the toys at home. Some people took homemade pet toys home to their pets. Toys made at the event were donated to Homeward Trails Animal

Rescue. Using money from cookie sales, the scouts purchased pet care items for the Fairfax County Animal Shelter.

Keep up the good work, girls!



HELPING HANDS



Tim Killian, Environmental Sustainability Committee

Tim Killian has served on the Environmental Sustainability Committee for 10 years. He has lived in the city since 2012.

I jumped at the chance to share my expertise in environmental compliance support with the city. It has been fulfilling to apply what I know professionally to my community.

I see the ESC's primary objective as education and outreach on environmental and sustainability issues in the city. It flows both ways: we provide insight, guidance, and expertise, and we serve as a trusted advisor to

the mayor and city council on these issues. We also serve to enlighten, educate, and share with residents how our actions – including recycling, composting, invasive plant removal, and solar — can improve and enhance our environment.

The thread of environment and sustainability is woven into almost every aspect of city projects and planning. Just look at the *Comprehensive Plan*: environment and sustainability are mentioned in nearly every chapter.

The ESC's main challenge is time. We have been behind the clock: key decisions in development issues have been made by the time ESC is involved. To make our input more meaningful and timelier, we have shifted our focus to impacting city policies that dictate requirements to developers, rather than to specific projects themselves.

I am proud to share my time and apply my expertise on behalf of my city. I enjoy direct interaction with the public at special events like Fall Festival and HisTree Day, and engagement with the mayor and city council at meetings and work sessions. My fellow ESC members share my passion for applying our expertise and enthusiasm to improving the city's natural environment, and each brings unique strengths across environmental and sustainability issues.

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 resident);
- Commission on the Arts** (one vacancy for George Mason University representative);
- Economic Development Authority** (one vacancy for city resident);
- Environmental Sustainability Committee** (one vacancy for city resident);
- Housing and Healthy Communities Advisory Board** (vacancies to be determined);
- Human Services Committee** (one vacancy for city resident);
- Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board** (one vacancy for city resident);
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** (one vacancy for city resident);
- City Grievance Panel** (vacancies for city residents; number to be determined).

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



Subscribe to see what you're missing!

**[youtube.com/
user/cityoffairfaxva](https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoffairfaxva)**



Fair Woods Parkway Neighborway

neigh•bor•way

/ˈnābər.wā/

a street with low vehicle volumes and speeds that accommodate safe bicycle travel through signage, pavement markings, and/or traffic calming



Fairfax City is implementing a neighborway along Fair Woods Parkway (formerly Plantation Parkway). The city's bicycle plan defines a neighborway as a street with low vehicle volumes and speeds that accommodate safe bicycle travel through signage, pavement markings, and/or traffic calming. The concept plan was approved at the March 26, 2024, City Council meeting, and the city has now developed detailed design plans – and has identified an opportunity to reduce costs and construction impacts by coordinating the neighborway improvements with scheduled street maintenance and repaving. Construction is expected to begin in August, weather permitting. For more information, visit engage.fairfaxva.gov/fair-woods-parkway-neighborway



Stormwater Utility Credit Program Update

City Council recently amended the Stormwater Utility Credit Program Manual, retaining numerous credit opportunities, revising some, and adding new ones. Here are the various credits (with definitions) to help you determine which actions you may want to take on your property.

EXISTING NON-STRUCTURAL (ACTIVITY) CREDITS:

No Fertilizer Pledge. Stop using fertilizer, or continue not using fertilizer, on your property. With this credit, you are eligible for a 5% credit on your SWU bill. The No Fertilizer Pledge is effective for one year and can be renewed annually.

Nutrient Management Plan.

Develop a nutrient management plan with a Virginia-certified nutrient management planner and implement the plan on your property. With this plan, you are eligible for up to a 10% credit, based on the percentage of the parcel covered by the nutrient management plan. This credit is effective for a three-year period and can be renewed by either developing an updated plan or documenting the continued implementation of an existing plan.

REVISED NON-STRUCTURAL (ACTIVITY) CREDITS

Tree Canopy Expansion. Plant tree sets on your property. Tree sets consist of two trees, at least one-inch caliper, that are planted at least 12 feet apart. Trees must be native to Northern Virginia. With this credit, you are eligible for up to a maximum of three billing units (BU). This credit is effective for two years and can be renewed by providing proof of ongoing care and maintenance of the originally planted trees that generated the credit, or through the replacement of any trees that were planted in the intervening period.

Trees, Litter, and Creeks (TLC)

Stewardship Program. Participate in volunteer cleanup activities and events for litter and debris cleanup, storm drain marking and monitoring, planting native trees during a city-sponsored event, or removal of invasive plants from the resource protection area (RPA). With this program, you are eligible for a credit of one BU for every four hours of participation, with a maximum of three BU credits or 1% for every two volunteer hours on the activity, earning a maximum of 15% credit per event, whichever is greater. You can use up to three approved TLC activities or events to qualify for SWU credit each year. You may apply for this credit annually.

NEW NON-STRUCTURAL (ACTIVITY) CREDITS

Tree Preservation Credit. You can document the preservation of trees on your property. Preserved trees must be healthy, unaffected by invasive species, and at least 12 inches in diameter. You can count multiple trees for 50 inches or more in total. With this credit, you are eligible for one BU credit on your SWU bill. Approved tree preservation credits are valid for two years, and you can reapply for the credit biannually.

EXISTING STRUCTURAL CREDITS

The city has retained numerous other credits for stormwater management facilities, commonly referred to as BMPs, that are in good condition, regardless of their age. Credit calculations for BMPs are based on the age of the BMP and the percentage of the property that is treated by the BMP. Read more about them in the revised credit manual.

Visit fairfaxva.gov/stormwaterutility to learn more about the stormwater utility credit program or to view the Stormwater Utility Credit Manual. To ask questions or share comments about the city's stormwater utility, email stormwaterutility@fairfaxva.gov.

Mayor's Message

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Some of the considerations around our decision were the limited number of weekends in a year and moving it up a week or back a week meant we now overlapped with other area events. Vendors who come to our event annually plan their schedule well in advance, and moving the date would force them to choose among multiple events on the same weekend.

The nature of religious holidays that move around the calendar means conflicts will occur periodically. We make every reasonable effort to move events if we can. We value the many faith traditions celebrated in our city, and a scheduling conflict such as this does not mean we have not considered the impact. We strive to meet the needs of many faith traditions as well as our civic obligations to the wider community. We appreciate your understanding.

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

Cityscene is produced by the city's Communications and Marketing Office

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- Large Print
- Recorded
- Braille

Cityscene is mailed to city residents and businesses by the first of the month and published on the city website. It is published by the Communications and Marketing Office to inform the public of government actions and events of interest in the city. Information is subject to change after publication.

Cityscene is available in large print, Braille, and audio upon request.

Para solicitar ayuda con servicios de la ciudad o preguntas sobre esta publicación, por favor llame al 703-385-7800 (TTY: 711).

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To report a problem or request a service, please use Fairfax City Resolve. Look for the "Report" button on fairfaxva.gov.

DID YOU KNOW ...

IMPROPER BATTERY DISPOSAL CAN SPARK FIRES?



Improper disposal of any household battery, or item with a battery, can cause fires in trash and recycling trucks and at disposal centers. This can cause millions of dollars in

damage and — most importantly — severe safety risks to our collection crew, residents, city, and environment.

Never put batteries in regular trash or recycling. Please dispose of them separately at the I-66 Transfer Station (4618 West Ox Rd) or I-95 Landfill (9850 Furnace Road). You can collect a box of dead or decayed batteries and dispose of them all together once it is full. *Info: fairfaxva.gov/HHW.*

SAVE THE DATE



Sept. 21
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This free family-friendly event showcases a variety of dance groups from around our area. Many will offer mini-dance lessons, so bring your dancing shoes! At 2:30 p.m., feel free to join us onstage as we learn and perform the official dance choreographed for National Dance Day 2024!



CURIOS CITIZENS

Can I walk my dog off-leash?

No, all dogs must be leashed. Dogs license tags (\$20 for life-time) must be affixed to a collar. Vaccinations must be current. All dog excrement must be picked up by the dog's owner. The city's noise ordinance prohibits "loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noises," such as barking, from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. The city dog park is located at 11000 Berry St.