

Fairfax Update

News from around Town...



December 2018

Town Hall Closed for the Holidays

Town Hall is closed for furlough from December 24, 2018 thru January 1, 2019. We will reopen on January 2, 2019. During this time, we will only be able to conduct limited building inspections and will have limited ability to respond to Public Works requests.

Please have a Safe and Happy Holiday!

Wireless Communication Facilities (5-G networks)

On September 26, 2018, the Town Council adopted an urgency ordinance to immediately establish standards for wireless telecommunication facilities (aka 5G wireless networks) to ensure that the Town is able to limit disruption to the public right-of-way as well as impose aesthetic regulations on new facilities. The urgency ordinance provides an extensive and comprehensive list of procedures and regulations that allow the community, applicant and Town staff to understand how facilities are regulated, installed, maintained and operated within the Town. This ordinance was in response to an FCC ruling which would significantly preempt local authority to regulate certain aspects of wireless telecommunications facilities.

This urgency ordinance is only an interim ordinance and must be replaced with a "regular" ordinance. Towards that end, the Planning Commission has had held 3 meetings to discuss the regular ordinance and has forwarded its comments on the ordinance to the Town Council for consideration at the Council's January 16, 2019 meeting.

Challenging the FCC Ruling on 5-G Networks

In addition to establishing local standards, the Town also joined a nationwide coalition to challenge the FCC ruling regarding 5-G networks. Specifically, the Town joined the "Smart Communities" coalition which consist of localities, special districts, and local governmental associations collectively representing over 31 million residents in 11 states and the District of Columbia. The current status is that the coalition has filed a "Motion to Stay Effective Date of FCC Order" in the US Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit.

FEMA Recertification of 5% Reduction in Flood Insurance

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary program that encourages and rewards communities for going beyond FEMA's minimum requirements. By joining CRS, the Town earns a flood insurance premium reduction for its residents. These reductions range from 5% to 45% depending on our CRS classification (1-10 with 1 receiving a 45% reduction), which is determined by the number of activities that the Town gets credited for.

The Town initially applied for the CRS program in 2015. In 2017, FEMA completed its review and gave the Town a rating of 9 for its flood related activities. As a result, effective October 1, 2017, residents received a 5% reduction in their flood insurance rates. CRS also requires the Town to continue to maintain and document the activities that helped it get a lower rating and to annually recertify its program to FEMA.

In August 2018, FEMA reviewed our documentation and recertified the Town's CRS 9 rating, which continues the 5% reduction in flood insurance rates.

Special Council Meeting scheduled for December 31st

On December 31, 2018, the Council has scheduled a special meeting at noon in the Women's Club to consider bids received for the Parkade Improvement Project. The Parkade Improvement project is the reconstruction of the parking lot in downtown. In addition to reconstructing the parking lot, the project does include ADA improvements such as curb ramp reconstruction, expanded tree wells, stair replacements, and other improvements. The project does not affect existing on-street parking or traffic circulation. The special meeting is required to demonstrate that the Town is meeting the grant deadline of 12/31/18.

For more details on the project, go to www.townoffairfax.org and select the 12/5/18 Council meeting item #19.

Winter/Spring/Summer Recreation Guide

Our new guide is on the presses. Keep an eye out for it in your mailbox and if you are not on our mailing list, stop by Town Hall in January to pick up a copy. Or [click here](#) and see the digital version now.

It's full of wonderful classes, events and inspiration!



Open Gym over the holidays with Flying Dutchman Gymnastics!

Drop in and play! Open Gym Dec 26, 28 Jan. 2 and 4th

9:30am – 12:30 ages 0-5

12:30-2:30 Ages 5 and up.

\$10/session.

We hope these fun activities make winter a bit more warm and cozy!



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