

# Fairfax Update

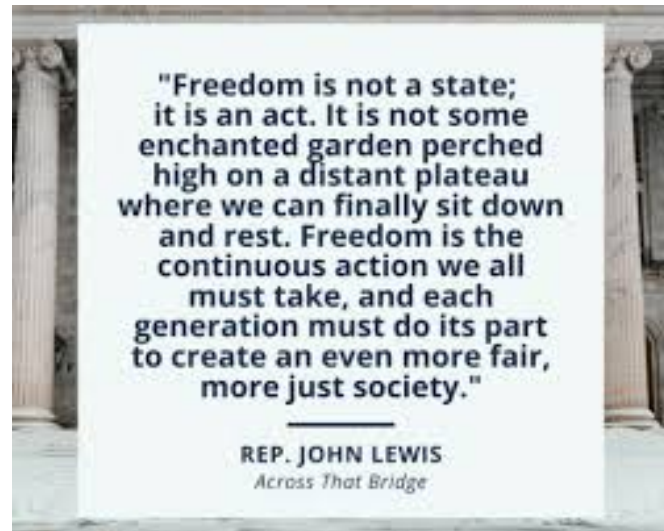
News From Around Town...



August 7, 2020

## A Message from the Mayor to the Community

In his Eulogy for John Lewis, Barack Obama recounted his last conversation with the Congressman. Obama told him: "in this moment, we are seeing people in our big cities and rural towns taking to the streets, men and women, young and old, straight Americans and LGBTQ Americans, Blacks who long for equal treatment and whites who can no longer accept freedom for themselves while witnessing the subjugation of fellow Americans."



Obama reminds us that real courage comes from people trying to be better, truer versions of ourselves. John Lewis taught us not to "turn on each other, but turn towards each other, and not to sow hatred and division, but to spread love and truth."

In the wake of the murder of George Floyd, John Lewis's words are particularly profound and reverberate throughout the Country. This intergenerational Black Lives Matter movement powered by raw energy, vision, anger, solidly grounded in an understanding of the history of the oppression of BIPOC, is predominantly youth led. Reading through dozens of John Lewis's speeches and quotes, his timeless words speak to this moment in time and provide wise

guidance for a way forward.

“By appealing to conscience and standing on the moral nature of human existence, nonviolence nurtures the atmosphere in which reconciliation and justice become actual possibilities.”

— *John Lewis*

The intersectionality of the COVID 19 pandemic, it's grossly disproportionate effect and number of cases in Marin's Latinx community, the vulnerability and fear we ALL feel about becoming infected and infecting others, and the simultaneous cry for racial equity and social justice throughout the County requires a collective response. There is no untangling the threads of the challenges we face, and no exemptions from the calls to action to be taken on a multitude of fronts.

I am proud to report that volunteerism in Fairfax is at an all-time high and growing. We have 23 community members who have applied to participate in the newly formed Racial Equity Social Justice Committee and all will be interviewed on August 12th. We have people sewing masks and ready to distribute to community members, businesses and visitors. We have people assisting businesses to set up safe social distanced outdoor dining and shopping spaces, and 150 volunteers still standing by to assist those in need of help with groceries, or to provide moral support and connection. A former Town Council member often said that Fairfax has an “embarrassment of riches”. We are indeed blessed.

Thank you Fairfax for rising to the occasion, and playing your part, and please go to [www.townoffairfax.org](http://www.townoffairfax.org) to see how you can get involved.

Renee Goddard  
Mayor, Town of Fairfax

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### **Highlights from Special July 15<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting**

The Council convened a community listening session and received comments from over 48 attendees regarding the proposed Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee (RESJ), police services/budget, and other related issues.

After the community listening session, the Council took the following actions:

- Approved the formation of a Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee (RESJ).
- Approved the concept of the Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee forming a Subcommittee to discuss Police Practices and Public Safety Budget/Service Alternatives.
- Assigned Vice-Mayor Ackerman and Councilmember Hellman to

the RESJ.

- Directed staff to move forward with the regular application process.
- Decided that RESJ members can be residents, business employees/owners, and/or own a business in town with a commercial location.
- Agreed to retain a professional facilitator to assist the committee and allocate staff resources to assist the RESJ.

The RESJ and its Police subcommittee is subject to the Brown Act, which requires the meetings to be open and properly noticed to the public. For more detail, [click here](#) to find the staff report for the meeting.

### **Highlights from August 5<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting**

- Provided additional direction on the formation of the Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee (RESJ) including the interview process and establishing the RESJ will consist of 2 Councilmembers and 11 community members. Twenty-two people applied for the RESJ. The Council will interview all 22 eligible applicants on August 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Accepted the audit for FY18-19.
- Approved the expansion of the Measure F (Special Municipal Tax) Oversight Committee to include two additional community members. The current Committee composition consist of two Councilmembers, the past and former Town Treasurer, a representative from the PARC and Volunteer Board. This would add two more members, bringing the total to 8 Committee members.
- Approved the workplan for the use of County Measure A park funds.
- The Council adopted the FY20-21 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget. The budget did reallocate \$100,000 from the Police Budget toward the newly formed Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee. The one-time allocation will help pay costs for a facilitator to assist the RESJ in its discussions, any needed studies , and/or seed funding for future programs to be developed.

For more detail, [click here](#) to find the staff reports for the meeting.

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### Mask Up, Marin!

Covering your nose and mouth with a face covering can be a fashionable and easy way to protect others from the spread of COVID-19. #MaskUpMarin



### ¡Póngase Máscara Marin!



Cubrirse la nariz y la boca con una cubierta facial es una manera moderna y fácil de proteger a los demás de la propagación de COVID-19.

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## **Town of Fairfax sitio web se puede traducir al español**

El sitio web se puede traducir al español usando el ícono del globo que se encuentra en la barra verde de cada página.

Our website can now be translated into Spanish (and other languages) using the globe icon found on the green bar at the top of each page.

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## **2020 Election**

The next Fairfax General Municipal Election will be held on November 3, 2020, for the election of three members to the Town Council, each for a term of four years.

The nominations period for persons wishing to run for Town Council opened on July 13, 2020, and closes on August 7, 2020.

If you are interested in running for office, please read "[How to Run for Office](#)" and then contact the Town Clerk, Michele Gardner.

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## **Outdoor Dining and Retail Permits**

In an effort to temporarily streamline Town regulations regarding outdoor dining and other business uses (e.g., outdoor retail), the Town Council has created a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) process for private property and an encroachment permit process for public property such as parking spaces. These programs will allow restaurants and other businesses to temporarily expand their operations outside for such uses as dining, retail, or exercise classes.

Click the button below for information on the encroachment permit. Please contact the Planning Department at (415) 453-1584 or Ben Berto, Planning and Building Services Director at [bberto@townoffairfax.org](mailto:bberto@townoffairfax.org) for information on the TUP.

Temporary Outdoor Dining and Retail -  
Application

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### **Fairfax Library is Open for Curbside Service**

Wednesdays 3-7  
Thursday 3-7  
Friday 11-3  
Saturday 11-3

Patrons can place items on hold using our [online catalog](#). Patrons will be notified by email that their item on hold is available. Patrons should call (415) 453-8151 when they are in front of the library during curbside service hours. Returns are accepted during curbside hours.

# Want to test or improve your recycling knowledge?

Time is running out! Enter our contest through the Where Does it Go, Joe? app before it ends on August 10th.



Download for free on the App Store or Google Play Store!



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## Upcoming Events

### Town Council Meetings

#### Special Meeting - August 12th 6pm

The Council will be conducting interviews of the 22 people who applied for the newly formed Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee (RESJ). The Council intends to make appointments to the RESJ at its September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

#### Special Meeting - August 19th

The Council will be considering two matters: 1) options for refinancing the Town's current unfunded pension obligations and potential savings to the Town and 2) the creation of a residential rental assistance program to help families adversely impacted by COVID-19.

See the [Public Meetings](#) page for the Agendas and info about these virtual meetings.

## **Presentation on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. History**

*Marin County has postponed this learning session that had been scheduled for Wednesday August 5th to a later date because of conflicts with other community events.*

*The county has not announced the new date of the learning session regarding the name of Sir Francis Drake Boulevard. We will update you when we get more information.*

A Marin County historian, a representative from local indigenous tribes, and a history professor are lined up to be the featured guests for online learning session August 5 about Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, one of Marin's primary thoroughfares. The session was prompted by a grassroots effort to have the road renamed because of its namesake's documented history as a 16<sup>th</sup> century slave trader.

[Click here to learn more about this presentation and how to view it online.](#)

## **Fairfax Community Farmers Market**

**Every Wednesday**  
**Bolinas Park**  
**4-8pm**

The market started the first week of May and runs through mid October! Of course there will be safety measures in place to keep the farmers and the community safe.

[Click here to learn more about the Fairfax Community Market!](#)

## **Fairfax Food Pantry**

**Saturday mornings from 8-10am**  
**Fairfax Community Church**  
**2398 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Fairfax.**

The Fairfax Food Pantry continues to be open. Drive through or walk up service is available. In addition to our regular bagged groceries, folks will be receiving 15lb produce boxes as part of the **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)**.

We currently have enough volunteers, however, please sign up through the [Fairfax Volunteer Match program](#) and we contact you as the need arises.

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## Town of Fairfax COVID-19 Resources

Visit our dedicated webpage:

[www.townoffairfax.org/coronavirus-updates-resources](http://www.townoffairfax.org/coronavirus-updates-resources)

- Information about Building and Planning services that are still available as well as guidelines.
- Links to the EDD, SBA and Utility Companies.
- Online classes thru Fairfax Recreation and Age Friendly Fairfax.
- Information and resources are updated regularly so check back often.

### Additional Website Resources:

Discover who is open for delivery, curbside pick up and more on the new and easy-to-use website: [www.fairfaxopenforbusiness.com](http://www.fairfaxopenforbusiness.com), where you can also join an email list to receive specials and updates.

The website, [MarinRecovers.com](http://MarinRecovers.com), connects Marin County residents, business owners, community leaders, and public health professionals to collaborate on reopening the economy and community in a safe manner.

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### Fairfax Recreation

Summer fun continues in week 2 of Camp Fairfax. The kids are having a great time and we are so happy to be providing this service to the community!



Check out this fun video camp dad, David Driver, made for us!



We have class offerings for all ages - [check out our website](#) for more information.

Join Our Mailing List

