



Mayor Alexander's trip to Washington, D.C.: Mayor Alexander advocated for our city in Washington D.C. this week. The Mayor met with Senator Warner, Senator Kaine, Congressman Scott and Congresswoman Luria. The Mayor briefed our delegation on Norfolk's Army Corps Coastal Storm Risk Management project, St. Paul's people-focused revitalization, development within the Harbor Park area, and how the city is maximizing our Opportunity Zones designation. The Mayor met with Advisors to the President, the Office of Management and Budget, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers advocating for resources in upcoming federal budgets. The Mayor also met with former Senator John Warner who celebrated his 92nd birthday last week.

Light Rail Extension Study: City staff met with HRT on Thursday to begin the next phase in the ongoing effort to extend light rail service to Naval Station Norfolk. Similar to the work HRT performed last year on the west side of the city, which resulted in a "no-build" recommendation, the new study will utilize data and input from the community and city leadership to determine the viability of a light rail extension to Naval Station Norfolk that travels through the east side of the city. The study is projected to take 24-30 months to complete and is funded primarily with state grant money awarded to HRT.

Transportation District Commission: On Thursday, February 28, Councilwoman McClellan attended the Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) Commission Meeting. The HRT Executive Director presented the FY20 budget of approximately \$100M, which is a 1.08% increase over their FY19 Total Budget. HRT Transit Service levels will remain the same for the City of Norfolk for the FY20 fiscal year. The HRT Commission will evaluate the budget over with an expectation of adopting the FY20 budget at the May 23rd Commission Meeting.

People First Offices Open: The People First team is expanding its operations with three offices conveniently located in Tidewater Gardens. The offices located at 447, 453 and 461 Walke Street will provide residents with easy access to People First team members, from 8:30am until 5:00pm, Monday-Friday. The People First initiative launched at the St. Paul's Area Redevelopment community meeting on August 22, 2018. Comprised of a large network of partners, the People First initiative provides a range of support services customized to meet the needs of residents. Participation in People First is completely voluntary. Currently the team is providing one-on-one support to 187 Tidewater Gardens families in the first move-out phase. Tailored financial classes, rent ready and housing choice voucher workshops are underway and more are planned.

Chief Wise Recognized as Virginia Career Fire Chief of the Year: On Saturday, February 23, Governor Ralph Northam recognized ten recipients of the 2018 Governor's Fire Service Awards. The honor of Virginia Career Fire Chief of the Year went to Team Norfolk's recently retired fire chief, Jeffrey Wise. Several of his accomplishments include successfully increasing the medical billing recovery from 1.8 million to more than 7 million dollars through active interventional steps, consistently attaining several grants from FEMA such as the Assistance to Firefighters Grant and ensuring that partnerships were developed with stakeholders such as Hampton Roads Transit.



Norfolk Schools Receive Grant to Create More Diverse Workforce: The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) awarded grants totaling \$50,000 to help a projected 337 provisionally licensed minority teachers in seven school divisions attain full state licensure. The funds will cover tutoring costs and fees for the content-knowledge assessments required by the state Board of Education for full licensure. Norfolk was the only locality to receive the maximum grant of \$10,000. Improving teacher diversity is part of the VDOE strategy to close the diversity gap between teachers and students.

Norfolk Happening Now! Upcoming Events for Your Awareness

March 1 (7-9:30pm) **Admirals Hockey Game** @Norfolk Scope Arena

The Admirals take on the Reading Royals on home ice!

March 3 (1-3pm) **Admirals Fan Event** @Virginia Zoological Park

An exclusive event for Virginia Zoo Members and Norfolk Admirals Season Pass Holders only! Come meet some of your favorite Admirals hockey players, get their autographs, and take a spin around the Admirals' inflatable "ice" rink. There will be also appearances from the Admirals and Zoo mascots and Zoo animal ambassadors.

March 4 (8 am) **Second Train to Norfolk Celebration** @Amtrak Station

Ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the addition of a second train servicing Norfolk

March 5 (Informal Session 5:00 & Formal Session 7pm) **City Council Meeting** @City Hall

Informal session held on 10th floor conference room. Formal session held on 11th floor

Video highlights of the latest happenings in Norfolk!

[St. Paul's Financing Charrette](#)



**SIXTY-DAY TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS AND MEETING TOPICS**

UPCOMING ITEMS FROM FEBRUARY 28 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:

- **Richard Katz (Applicant)** change of zoning to allow surface parking for Cogan's Pizza at 811-815 44th St
- **James Flanigan (Applicant)** closure of a portion of Shumadine Road between 37th St and 38th St
- **EDC Ventures, LLC (Applicant)** change of zoning at 8506 Chesapeake Blvd and 1020 Fishermans Rd to allow a residential development
- **Tidewater Communications LLC (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow the replacement of a 545-foot tall AM/FM Radio Tower
- **Colonial Heights Church of Christ (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow a religious institution to operate a daycare center at 831 Mayfield Ave and 833 Marvin Ave
- **Reaver Beach Brewing Company (Applicant)** conditional use permits to allow for a new microbrewery to operate with limited entertainment options at 3800 and 3808 Colley Ave and 737 Michigan Ave
- **The Bold Mariner Brewing Company (Applicant)** conditional use permits to allow for a new microbrewery to operate with limited entertainment options at 1901 E. Ocean View Ave and 9638 Capeview Ave
- **Development Certificate – Aldi** – Modification of a previously approved 21st Street PCO (Pedestrian Commercial Overlay) Development Certificate to allow renovations to the façade at 730 W 21st St

March 5, 2019

WORKSESSION

BRIEFINGS:

- Norfolk Coastal Storm Risk Management Study
- ODU Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Chesterfield Heights: Final Design
- Planning Updates

March 26, 2019

WORKSESSION

BRIEFINGS:

- Downtown Improvement District Renewal
- NEON District Incentives
- **Presentation of Budget**

UPCOMING ITEMS FROM MARCH 28 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:

- **East Beach Living Apartments (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow the construction of a multi-family apartment community with 96 dwelling units and 4,400 square footage of commercial space on the ground floor at 7950 Shore Dr
- **Ghent Business Association (Applicant)** zoning text amendment to allow tattoo parlor as a principal use by conditional use permit and by-right as an accessory use in the PCO-Colley and PCO-21st Street Districts

- **Grace Baptist Church (Applicant)** change of zoning to allow a religious institution at 6401 Tidewater Dr
- **TMX Intermodal (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow a trucking terminal at 405 E 20th St
- **Benchtop Brewing Company (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow an expansion to an existing microbrewery at 1129 Boissevain Ave
- **Stony's (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow the operation of a restaurant at 8166 Shore Dr
- **Smartmouth Brewing Company (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow an existing microbrewery to operate with live entertainment and extended hours at 1309 Raleigh Ave
- **Glass Light Hotel & Gallery (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow for a new hotel to operate a banquet hall with live entertainment options and extended hours at 201 Granby St
- **Jessy's Taco Bistro (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow a nightclub to operate at 328 W. 20th St
- **Robyn Thomas (Applicant)** conditional use permit to operate a nightclub with on-premises alcohol sales and live entertainment with a disc jockey and dance floor until 2:00 a.m. at 218 W. 25th St

April 2, 2019

WORKSESSION

BRIEFINGS:

- Budget Worksession 1

April 9, 2019

WORKSESSION

BRIEFINGS:

- Budget Worksession 2

April 10, 2019

- Public Hearing: Operating, CIP, RE Tax Increase (if needed), and Annual Plan

April 23, 2019

WORKSESSION

BRIEFINGS:

- Budget Worksession 3

May 7, 2019

WORKSESSION

BRIEFINGS:

- Budget Worksession 4
- Public Hearing: RE Reassessment; Council Chambers 6:00

May 9, 2019

- Budget Worksession 5 (extra meeting, if needed)

May 14, 2019

WORKSESSION

BRIEFINGS:

Budget Adoption

Council Interests

School Board Meeting, 2/20/2019

Office of Budget & Strategic Planning

Work Session, 4:00 p.m.

Educational Planning – School Board voting on Educational Planning recommendations was scheduled for the Business Meeting later in the evening of February 20. During the Work Session, Norfolk Public Schools administration provided maps of proposed school zone boundary changes and answered questions regarding the issues before the School Board. After discussion of the plan to convert Lake Taylor to serving grades 3-8, the School Board agreed to vote on the main recommendations of the plan but defer action on recommended middle school path changes for students attending Coleman Place, Ingleside, and Sherwood Elementary Schools to give more time to evaluate transportation plans and how those changes would affect demographics.

Some School Board members expressed disappointment that the final recommendation for the plan to change school start times deferred implementation until the 2020-2021 school year. Melinda Boone, NPS Superintendent, agreed that she would prefer a faster timeline but felt that the community feedback warranted giving schools and parents time to fully navigate having options in place for after-school care for younger students who would be released earlier. The School Board agreed to language that would specify ranges rather than specific start times to keep flexibility for final planning before implementation.

Advisory Committees Discussion – The School Board briefly discussed the policies surrounding advisory committees. School Board member Rodney Jordan pointed out a further need to clarify committee roles in some cases; for example, the Educational Planning Task Force, which was convened as part of the consulting work done by Cooperative Strategies, does not strictly fit the definition or procedures used for standing advisory committees, but still needs to have a means of recruiting new members. Noëlle Gabriel, School Board Chair, agreed that further clarification was needed.

The School Board adjourned to closed session at 5:30 p.m.

Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Special Presentation – Dr. Patricia Turner, one of the seventeen black students chosen to integrate Norfolk Public Schools in 1959, shared some of her story with the School Board to mark sixty years since the re-opening of the schools which had closed during the first part of the 1958-1959 school year to avoid integration. The Norfolk Cosmopolitan Club additionally honored Turner by donating a copy of her book for each school.

Superintendent's Report – NPS Activities featured in the Superintendent's Report for the month included Chinese classes at Richard Bowling Elementary, the Wolf Trap Institute partnership helping teachers at Jacox Elementary use arts in their classes, the Norfolk Technical Center's carpentry classes, the annual STEAM Day at Granby Elementary, the Midyear Leadership Institute, Norfolk Southern employees volunteering their time at Tidewater Park Elementary, and Ruffner Academy's recent fundraiser featuring a concert by the Norfolk State University Jazz Ensemble.

Clerk's Report – March recognitions included Music in Our Schools Month, National School Social Workers Week, and Youth Art Month. Boone asked NPS's top administrators to join her in a special recognition to the School Board's dedication in honor of the ongoing School Board Appreciation Month in February.

Citizen Comment – Twelve speakers signed up to comment on agenda and non-agenda items. Of these, five were concerned with the amount of recess allowed for NPS students. Other topics included School Board

accountability and leadership, the need for periodic fumigation for bed bugs at Ocean Air Elementary and general infrastructure concerns, inappropriate interventions for a English Learner student placed in Special Education classes, and updates on the rally for school funding at the General Assembly.

Consent Agenda – Rodney Jordan, School Board Member, asked to pull approvals of minutes from September 19 and October 17, 2018, from the Consent Agenda, over concern that they did not identify individual speakers and subjects. The School Board agreed to pull them for correction and approval at a future meeting. The School Board unanimously approved the modified Consent Agenda.

Tonya Bhasin, School Board Member, asked to remove the School Board Accountability Plan from the discussion agenda on the grounds that the administration and some members of the committee tasked with drafting it had not been given ample time to remove it. Gabriel denied the request, saying that the School Board would discuss it but further decisions about it would reflect the will of the Board.

Personnel Matters – The School Board voted 4-3 to carry out three hiring decisions as recommended by the Superintendent.

Monthly Financial Report – The School Board unanimously approved the monthly financial report with no questions.

School Start Times – The School Board unanimously resolved to move forward with changing school start times in the 2020-2021 school year. The Superintendent is to report back on implementation progress no later than December 2019.

Educational Planning – The School Board voted 6-1 to approve the plan to convert Lake Taylor Middle School to serve grades 3-8 in the 2019-2020 school year, move the Poplar Hall Elementary pre-kindergarten to second grade program to Fairlawn Elementary, and close Poplar Hall Elementary. Jordan, who voted against the plan, expressed continued concern over the potential effects on Southside STEM Academy.

Accountability Plan – The School Board voted 4-3 to approve the School Board Accountability Plan as revised by Lauren Campsen, School Board Member, despite Bhasin’s continued protest, Boone’s questioning whether it truly reflects VDOE goals, and Jordan’s objections to not receiving a version clearly showing the changes since the last draft. Campsen and Carlos Clanton, School Board Vice Chair, expressed the desire to move forward with the intention that the plan to be “a living document.”

Matters of the Board – The School Board unanimously approved contributing \$1,000 from the School Board budget to the Booker T. Washington High School’s upcoming 102nd anniversary celebration for a scholarship. Jaelin Mitchell, Student School Board Member, will be receiving the Hampton Roads Community Foundation’s Hampton Roads Youth Leadership Award on May 9. Adele Martin, School Board Member, thanked the Norfolk Public Library Board for meeting with the School Board. Boone announced that both Maury and Norview High Schools won their basketball games and would be moving into post-season play. Jordan expressed his general disappointment with the process and hope that the Board would take accountability for problems when it has substituted its will for judgments of the Superintendent.