

April 16th, 2019

CYPT News

Annual Dues:

If you haven't already it is time to pay your annual association dues of \$15.00 per household. Mail your check made out to CYPT CA along with the information sheet to Larry Rossen at 1228 Smith Cove Circle. There is an extra half page on that same sheet that you can use to update our database.

Easter Egg Roll:

Unfortunately I had to cancel the egg roll scheduled for last Saturday due to the weather but its back on for this Saturday, the 20th at 10AM. The roll will be located at the Cypress Point Country Club around the left side of the building as you face its front. Open to all CYPT kids ages 3-8 and its free.

Weblin Farm:

The Planning Commission met on 10 April at City Hall and the re-zoning proposal for the development of the Weblin Farm property on Moore's Pond Rd passed 8-2. The next step for the developer is to take the proposal to the full city council. I represented Cypress Point in more than just an interested fashion as several properties on Club Head (west) are adjacent to the property in question. More information will come out as I get it.

Garage Sale:

Our annual garage sale is coming up fast. It will be on Saturday 27 April and starts at 8AM and runs through noon. All can participate. The cost is \$5.00 per association member in good standing and \$20.00 for those that haven't paid their dues-but we'll fill out an application for you at that time and get you right up to speed. This event is conducted in conjunction with the CHKD plant and bake sale so we benefit from their advertising as well. It would be helpful if you sent me an email (wfilbert@gmail.com) so we can plot you on the map and direct people your way.

"Something in the Water"

By now you are probably aware of the big festival at the oceanfront on April 27th. As you might imagine all city police departments are "all hands on deck". Your association, along with others is hosting a cook-out for the police officers at the precinct headquarters on Saturday. Our way of saying thanks.

May 8th Association Meeting:

Our next association meeting is May 8th at 7PM and will be held at the Cypress Point club house. We have two guest speakers lined up: Ms. Kim Robinson from Brookdale Alzheimer's/dementia Care who will showcase some educational opportunities upcoming for health care professionals and Dr. Brian Kurisky from Virginia Wesleyan who will present Segment 1 of a 3 part series on Cyber-Security for the Over 55 crowd.

CYPT Crime Stats (March 1st-April 16th):

a.	03/08/19	1100 block Lawson Cove	Embezzlement
b.	03/12/19	5200 block Chipping LN	Fraud, Identity Theft
c.	04/04/19	5300 block Brookstone LN	Larceny from Motor Vehicle
d.	04/10/19	5300 block Kindlewood DR	Assault, Simple, Domestic

Virginia Beach News:

City Manager Proposes More Funding for Top Priorities

The proposed FY 2019-20 budget adds funding for flood and sea level rise mitigation

projects.

City Manager Dave Hansen's proposed <u>FY2019-20 budget</u> is designed to help ensure Virginia Beach's status as a strong, vibrant city by responding to each of the City Council's 10 strategic goals while allocating significant resources to the City's top five priorities as identified by the governing body and residents.

Public enemy No. 1 in Virginia Beach is the threat of recurrent flooding and sea level rise. Many of the proposed increases in taxes and fees in this budget are dedicated to funding the infrastructure projects necessary to combat it.

Priority 1: Storm Water Management, Recurrent Flooding & Sea Level Rise

This is the most pressing challenge facing our city.



During a retreat earlier this year, council members

agreed that addressing backlogs in storm water maintenance and dealing with flooding should be the City's top priority. This budget provides the sustained funding necessary to grow the City's storm water program, hire the necessary staff and accelerate project design, construction, operations and maintenance to more rapidly reduce our flooding risks.

All possible funding sources, including federal and state dollars will be explored, however we may need to act independently to protect our community from this looming threat by generating the necessary revenue to accelerate and expand flood mitigation initiatives.

The FY 2019-20 budget increases the funds designated for these areas in the six-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) by 41%. This reflects 25 new projects added to the CIP. But, those increases just begin to address sea level rise.

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Earlier this year, an independent <u>study by Dewberry</u> revealed that, in the long term, the City will need to spend \$2 to \$5 billion on projects to address sea level rise and climate change.

Because the City anticipates the need to continue funding storm water projects well into the future to address the issues created by sea level rise, in addition to the 1.5¢ real estate tax increase and 3.5¢ daily storm water rate increase, this budget also includes a 3.5¢ increase in the daily storm water rate for each of the following five years to build up the funds needed to undertake these necessary projects. However, staff is conducting an analysis of the daily storm water rate with the intention of developing options that would reduce the regressive nature of a single rate for all residences across the city so that residences that generate less runoff (due to less impervious surfaces) would pay a lower rate.

Priority 2: Public Safety

Virginia Beach continues to strive to be the safest city in the country.



At their February 2019 retreat, the City Council recommitted to the goal of being "the Safest City in the Nation" and Virginia Beach is steadily progressing toward earning that title. The City continues to rank among the safest large cities in the country and regularly has one of the lowest crime rates of any large city in America despite the fact that we have fewer officers per capita than most cities our size.

Over the past five years, more than 137 full time positions have been added to the City's public safety departments and several more are included in the FY 2019-20 budget as well. The proposed budget adds:

- Additional positions in the Police Department as part of a process to hire civilian employees in support roles (i.e. public safety analyst) which would allow 12 sworn officers currently staffing these roles to return to field duty.
- Positions have also been added in the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney to respond to the additional workload related to reviewing body worn camera footage.
- This budget provides additional staffing for the Animal Care and Adoption Center as well.
- The budget adds additional staff to VBPD's School Bus Stop Arm Program which helps keep students safe as they get on and off the bus.

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Finally, funding has been included in the Proposed Budget for the first phase of staffing for the new Burton Station Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Station. While construction on the station is not anticipated to be completed until the fall of 2020 (FY 2020-21), 15 firefighter positions will be hired for a January 2020 academy to allow for sufficient time to complete training prior to the opening of the station. Eight EMS positions will also be added in May of 2020 in anticipation of the station's completion.

Priority 3: Transportation

This budget invests in our transportation infrastructure by moving forward with several major projects.

When the state drastically cut new road construction to cities, Virginia Beach chose to commit local funding to ensure continued growth and construction rather than allowing our road infrastructure to lag behind population growth. In so doing, Virginia Beach was able to maintain momentum that saw us through the most financially challenging years in recent history.

In addition to the large number of new road projects programmed to begin this year and next, this budget continues to invest in our transportation infrastructure by moving forward with the North Great Neck/London Bridge/Virginia Beach Boulevard intersection improvements, Elbow Road Extended Phase II-D, rural road ditch cleaning and Sandbridge Road – Nimmo Phase VII-A.

Additionally, Virginia Beach has partnered with Chesapeake to cost-share a new bus route from Greenbrier to our Town Center on a 30-minute cycle time.

But transportation infrastructure is more than just roads. This budget also includes more money and people to keep our ditches and storm water ponds clean and functioning, to expand our transportation network with more walking and biking trails, maintain our intelligent transportation system and to expand high-speed Internet access throughout the city.

Transportation is important to growing the economy. Attracting a strong workforce, enhancing mobility, and transportation improvements are major components of the Comprehensive Plan. Transportation issues include safety concerns and congestion mitigation strategies and programs. Researching ways to better serve the mobility needs of our aging population and setting policies for emerging technologies such as autonomous vehicles are important components of a 21st century transportation program.

A total of \$67 million has been dedicated to the Roadways CIP section for the coming fiscal year and more than \$290 million more throughout the six-year CIP program. During FY 2019-20, the City will embark on construction of 10 different projects. This will join seven projects that were initiated in FY 2018-19.

Roadway Projects Beginning Construction

Project	Construction Start	
	*Construction Start is when the contract is advertised	
Laskin Rd. Bridge Replacement	Jan. 2019	
Laskin Rd. Phase 1-A	Jan. 2019	
Landstown Rd. Imrovement Phase I	March 2019	
West Great Neck Rd. Sidewalk	March 2019	
Nimmo Pkwy. Phase II-A	March 2019	
Pungo Ferry Bridge Rehabilitation	April 2019	
First Colonial Road & Virginia Beach Blvd. Intersection Improvements	May 2019	
General Booth/Camp Pendleton Intersection Improvements	July 2019	
Providence Rd. Sidewalk	July 2019	
Independence Bldvd./Baxter Rd. Sidewalk	September 2019	
Shipps Corner Rd. Improvements	October 2019	
West Neck Rd. Phase IV	October 2019	
Elbow Rd. Extended Phase II-B	November 2019	
Rosemeont Rd. Phase III	December 2019	
Upton Dr. and Dam Neck Improvements	December 2019	
Shore Dr. Phase III	January 2019	
Parliament Dr. Sidewalk Phase II	March 2019	

New projects added to the six-year CIP are designed to alleviate congestion at major intersections and reduce delays, improve public safety through traffic calming, and provide greater resiliency for our rural roads to maintain ingress/egress during flooding events.

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Priority 4: Education & Public Schools

Good schools are the backbone of a successful city.



Investing in education has historically been a top City Council priority. The quality of our public schools and the education our children receive are vital to our success in attracting businesses and residents.

This budget includes funding to continue to move to full-day kindergarten and improve school safety. However, it does not include the tax increase the School Board requested after they submitted the adopted school budget.

The City continues to provide more funding than is required by the Virginia Standards of Quality (SOQ) by approximately \$272 million in FY 2019-20. And, for the second consecutive year, 100 percent of schools tested in VBCPS earned full state accreditation from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Superintendent's Estimate of Needs includes a net increase of 78.7 full-time positions. This includes 42 positions connected to the implementation of full-day kindergarten, as well as additional elementary guidance counselors, high school teachers, elementary behavioral intervention specialists, psychologists, special education teacher assistants, special education teachers, academy teacher positions, a program compliance teacher and an interpreter.

The CIP also continues to address aging school infrastructure. Virginia Beach Public Schools will receive \$56.8 million in FY 2019-20 and a total \$256 million over the course of the six-year program to modernize and replace buildings. Major projects funded in this section include the replacements of Thoroughgood Elementary and Princess Anne High School and initial funding for the replacement of Bettie F. Williams Elementary School.

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Priority 5: Economic Growth & Jobs

A growing economy helps keep taxes low.

Continuing our strong collaborative relationship with the military will be more essential than ever as the City finds ways to preserve our economic vitality.

Equally important are the City's investments in the tourism industry. In order to grow the local economy and to keep taxes low, the City has dedicated significant resources toward maintaining and developing infrastructure and tourism related projects. Virginia Beach is on the cusp of creating the year-round destination needed to maximize our resort and make it the preferred Coastal City on the East Coast. For FY 2019-20 the proposed budget includes investments in the resort area with projects such as the Sports Center, Oceanfront bathrooms, Something in the Water Festival, Dome Site and infrastructure improvements such as 17th Street Improvements — Phase I Pacific to Cypress. All of these projects are being supported by the Tourism Investment Program (TIP), which is funded largely from tourist-related taxes.

This budget prioritizes activities that respond to the issues identified in the disparity study by promoting entrepreneurship, small business start-ups, Small, Women-and Minority Owned (SWaM) business contracting through sheltered bidding, small business information forums and accountability for meeting our subcontractor minority participation goals.

Other economic initiatives focus on economic expansion and revitalization of certain areas of the city as well as working proactively to address a district investment program by providing matching capital investment grants for businesses within managed or commercial districts; the potential expansion of Town Center; continuation of building the biomedical park and targeted industry cluster development; revitalization of the ViBe District as an attractive component for creative businesses; attracting higher paying technology jobs; and improvement of broadband access. The MAREA subsea cable is fully operational and is the fastest submarine cable in the world. The Virginia Beach Development Authority is adding additional conduit infrastructure to the Corporate Landing Business Park to support expansion of new data center developments.