

Town of Front Royal

2014 Year in Review



2014 - Growth & Accomplishment

The Town of Front Royal Town Council continued to advance strong leadership that resulted in the completion of a number of major projects and initiatives. The year 2014 saw the Town embark on a number of partnerships that resulted in growth and will result in new projects in the future. The Town's dedicated staff continue their service to our community to improve Front Royal now and for the future.

Partnerships

The Town of Front Royal has partnered with several organizations to improve service to our citizens, complete needed projects, and enhance our community. The Town has partnered with Warren County and the Economic Development Authority to design and construct the Leach Run Parkway. We have also partnered with Warren County to develop an online permitting software package that will allow developers to submit a development plan online to the Town and County removing the need to submit separate permit applications to the Town for Zoning approval and the County for Building Permit approval. Finally, we have partnered with a number of local property owners to install overhead canopy lighting on Main Street to enhance the small Town feel at night in downtown.



Taste of the Town



The Front Royal Independent Business Alliance hosted the inaugural “Taste of the Town” event on September 19, 2014. The event drew a large attendance of residents to sample food from a number of local restaurants. FRIBA plans to continue to host a Spring and Fall “Taste of the Town” in 2015.

Avtex Property Released

September 20, 2014 was recognized as Avtex Day in Front Royal as the former Superfund site was delisted by the Environmental Protection Agency. Its release will allow the Economic Development Authority to pursue reuse of the site as a commercial and light industrial development. Mayor Timothy W. Darr and Congressman Robert W. Goodlatte participated in the celebration of the property’s release through discussion of their memories of the property and the effort of all involved to remediate the site. The

Town has rezoned the property to Mixed Use Campus District to allow both commercial and light-industrial development.



Happy Creek Trail Dedication

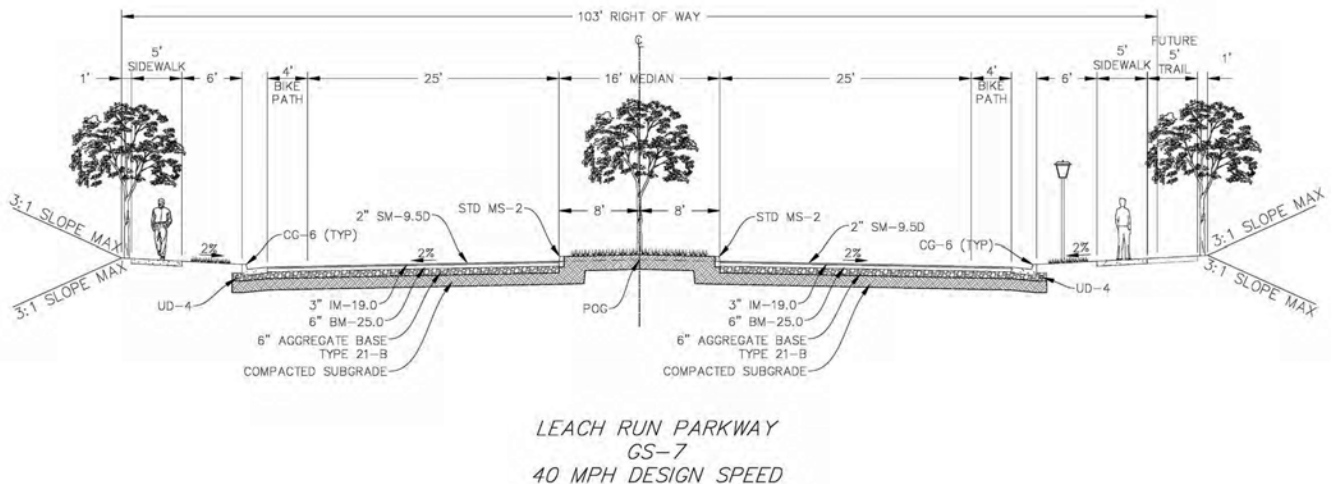
The Town of Front Royal dedicated the Happy Creek Trail on September 22, 2014. The trail runs from Main Street to Criser Road and is part of the Royal Shenandoah Greenway that will provide citizens a four mile walkway through the Town and County. The Town will develop the survey and design for our final portion of the trail along Criser Road in 2015.



Leach Run Parkway

The Town continues to work with the Economic Development Authority and Warren County towards the completion of the design and construction of the Leach Run Parkway. The Parkway is proposed to be a four-lane, limited access roadway to connect

John Marshall Highway and Happy Creek Road to include bike lanes and sidewalks. The project is anticipated to be bid in the Spring of 2015 and construction completed in the summer of 2016.



Police Headquarters

The Town of Front Royal has purchased a 5.24 acre lot from the Economic Development Authority at the corner of Kendrick Lane and Monroe Avenue for the construction of our new Police Headquarters. The Town has received several proposals from architectural firms to design a new building. The Town anticipates proceeding with the award of the design contract in the Spring of 2015.



Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Town of Front Royal has awarded the construction of improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant to Adams Robinson Enterprises for \$44,471,000. The total project cost for design, construction, administration, and inspection is \$53,400,000 with \$11,875,000 being funded by a WQIF grant, \$2,530,000 funded by Warren County for the Septage Receiving Station, \$2,195,000 already spent by the Town for the design and dewatering equipment, and \$36,785,000 being financed by the Town at a zero interest loan.

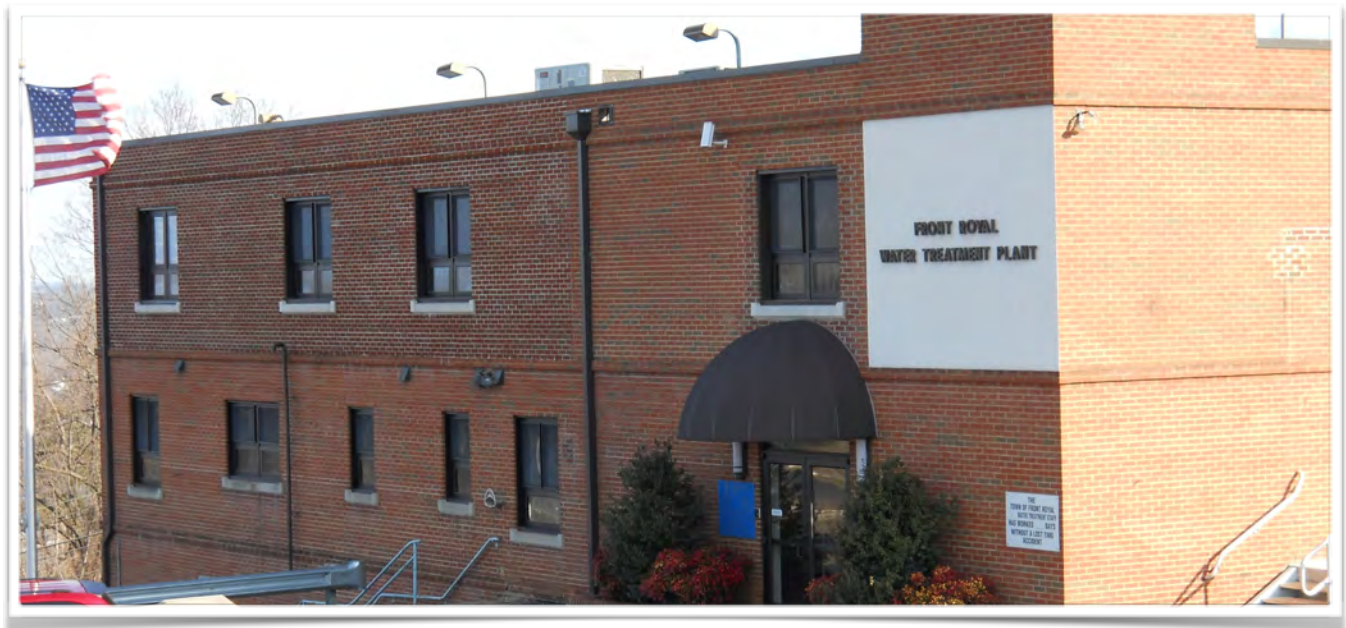
The project will upgrade the treatment technology to reduce nutrient discharge from the plant to comply with the Chesapeake Bay Act and will upgrade the capacity to 5.3 million gallons per day from 4.0 million gallons per day. The additional capacity should provide

capacity for anticipated development for the next twenty-five years. The project is anticipated to be completed in 2017.



Water Treatment Plant & System Upgrades

The Town awarded a contract to Caldwell and Santmyer to upgrade the Water Treatment Plant and install system upgrades at certain storage tanks to improve water



quality and achieve compliance with recent treatment requirements. The work includes the installation of ultra-violet treatment systems at the plant, additional chemical feed improvements, additional aeration improvements at storage tanks, and other

enhancements. The project award was for \$2,684,000 and is anticipated to be completed by October 2015.

Administration Building Time Capsule

On December 8, 2014, Town Council dedicated a time capsule that was placed in the entrance foyer of the Administration Building located at 102 East Main Street. The time capsule includes letters, photos, news clippings, and other Town documents provided from local organizations, schools, businesses, Town Council, and the Warren Heritage Society.



Riverton Substation

The Town's Department of Energy Services has been constructing a new substation to serve the citizens in the Riverton area. Located on Strasburg Road, the new substation feeds the Town 13.2Kv power. The \$1.1 million substation project was approved by Town Council in 2010. Outside of the site grading, the entire substation was constructed by Town crews.



Recognitions

During 2014, the Town was recognized for service and performance with the following awards:

- 2014 Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence for Hospitality - Town Visitor's Center
- GFOA Award for Financial Reporting Excellence - 27th Year - Finance Department
- Lowest Municipal Electric Rates in Virginia - 2nd Year - Energy Services Department
- Excellence in Waterworks Operations/Performance Award - Water Treatment Plant

Communication

The Town continued to develop new opportunities to communicate with residents. Along with our Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn pages, the Town developed a new mobile app and developed several public service videos. The Town's mobile app is available in Android, iPhone, and Windows Phone stores. Users can view Council meetings, report service issues and outages, and view announcements from the Town. The Town's public service videos include information about our Finance Department, obtaining Zoning Permits, fire hydrant flushing, our Visitor's Center, pedestrian/bicycle safety, and fireworks safety. Videos are available on the Town's website and the Town's Vimeo channel.

Business Outreach

The Town developed our FrontRoyalWorks.Com website to provide a resource to new and existing Front Royal businesses. The website includes information and links about developing a business in Town. It provides links to resources to assist in developing Business Plans, marketing, and other issues critical to the success of a business. The website also provides a list of the successful Town businesses that have operated for over 10 years.



Front Royal Limited Partnership

The Town of Front Royal completed the boundary adjustment process with Warren County to add 605 acres of property owned by the Front Royal Limited Partnership. The property was incorporated into Town as Agriculturally zoned property. The property owner initiated an owner-requested boundary adjustment request that was ultimately approved by a three judge panel on September 30, 2014.

Year in Photos

