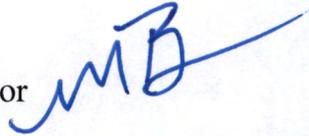


COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 12, 2024
TO: York County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Mark L. Bellamy, Jr., Interim County Administrator 
SUBJECT: Invitation from Zweibrücken

We have received a letter from Zweibrücken, Germany, inviting a delegation of ten from York County to visit their city from June 20 to June 27, 2024.

If you are interested in attending or have questions regarding this opportunity, please contact Brian Fuller, Assistant County Administrator.

Schott/3326

Attachment:

- Letter dated January 9, 2024, from Mayor of Zweibrücken, Germany



Rosenstadt | ZWEIBRÜCKEN

Der Oberbürgermeister

Board of Supervisors
Mr. G. Stephen Roane, Jr.
224 Ballard Street
P. O. Box 532
Yorktown, Virginia 23690-0532

January 9, 2024

Dear Mr. Roane,

on behalf of the city council and the residents of Zweibruecken, I wish you and all other members of the Board of Supervisors a Happy New Year. May it be not only a happy one but a healthy and successful year as well.

Today it is with great pleasure that I extend a formal invitation to our partners in York County. We invite you to send a delegation of ten persons to visit your German sister city from June 20 to Juni 27, 2024.

It is with great anticipation that I look forward to the visit of our American friends. May the exchange strengthen the long relationship between our two cities for the future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marold Wosnitza

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 10, 2024

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mark L. Bellamy, Jr., Interim County Administrator 

SUBJECT: Proposed Waterfront Facilities Public Forum - *Rescheduled*

As you know, due to the inclement weather expected on January 9, the public engagement forum was rescheduled. The forum will now be held on Thursday, January 18, 2024 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Freight Shed located at 331 Water Street. Please note that this information has also been placed on the County website in an effort to notify the citizenry and to encourage their attendance and participation.

The primary purpose of the forum remains the same, which is to discuss and receive public input on the proposed developments for the County's waterfront facilities, including:

- Replacement of the Dockmaster's Building with the construction of a new one-story office building.
- A new office is proposed to be erected on property located behind the parking terrace to accommodate the County's waterfront staff due to constraints of the proposed Dockmaster's Building being one story.

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 10, 2024

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mark L. Bellamy, Jr., Interim County Administrator 

SUBJECT: Public Meeting -Route 17 and Yorktown Road Sidewalks

A public meeting has been scheduled by the County's Department of Public Works on Wednesday, January 17, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Public Works Office. The meeting will discuss the project design and schedule for the following projects:

- **George Washington Memorial Highway (Rt. 17)** - Sidewalk to be located on the east side of George Washington Memorial Highway between Yorktown Library and the existing Villas at York condominiums sidewalk that currently ends southeast of the Villas of Yorktown site and shortly after the intersection with Cook Road.
- **Yorktown Road** - Sidewalk to be located on the south side of Yorktown Road between Bethel Baptist Church of Yorktown and Tabb High School.

If the Board or County residents have questions related to the two projects, they may contact Elizabeth Mertz-Guinn, Engineering Manager at 757-890-3780 or by email to Elizabeth.mertz-guinn@yorkcounty.gov.

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 12, 2024
TO: York County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Mark L. Bellamy, Jr., Interim County Administrator
SUBJECT: Strategic Priorities Report



Background:

In January 2016, during its annual retreat, the Board took a strategic step forward in shaping the future trajectory of the County. The Board adopted a set of Strategic Priorities, recognizing the need for a cohesive framework to guide key facets of governance. This deliberate initiative aimed to provide clear direction for decision-making, budgeting, capital improvements, programming, and the delivery and implementation of County programs.

The adoption of these Strategic Priorities was not a casual choice; it represented a conscientious effort to instill focus and purpose into the County's operational landscape. By establishing this roadmap, the Board sought to create a foundation for informed decision-making, prudent financial management, and effective execution of initiatives. These priorities were intended to serve as a compass, aligning the County's actions with a unified vision and fostering a strategic approach to community development.

The Board's Strategic Priorities have shaped and influenced the County's trajectory over the years. From the intricacies of daily decision-making to the broader strokes of capital investments and program implementations, the adoption of these priorities serves as a testament to the County's commitment to purposeful and forward-thinking governance. The Strategic Priorities are listed below:

- Exemplary Public Safety
- Excellent Educational Opportunities
- Value-Driven Economic Development
- Maximize Outstanding Communications and Customer Service
- Environmental Stewardship with a Focus on Resiliency
- Quality Technology Investments

Actions Taken:

The objective of this report is to capture specific items per category, ensuring a focused and concise presentation of information. This approach underscores our commitment to showcasing and emphasizing initiatives that contribute directly to our overarching organizational goals.

The staff has successfully adjusted ongoing projects to align with the strategic priorities that were adopted. These adaptations specifically apply to areas like the Capital Improvements Program and day-to-day operations, indicating a proactive approach to ensuring consistency with organizational goals. Additionally, the staff consistently provides guidance to steer the ongoing progress of projects, demonstrating their active involvement in ensuring that initiatives remain aligned with the adopted strategic priorities.

Exemplary Public Safety

- **York/Poquoson Law Enforcement Building:** The new law enforcement building symbolizes the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office's dedication to providing high-quality law enforcement services, meeting the community's expectations. Due to the insufficient space in the existing 7,000-square-foot building, the upcoming facility, spanning almost 52,000 square feet, will offer the necessary workspace and create a more inviting environment for all residents. The anticipated opening of the building is in March, 2024.
- (CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029)
- **Fire Station 7:** Due to increasing demands on fire stations in the north County, and with the closure of Crossroads, a unique opportunity was achieved to offer long-term fire and rescue capabilities, cost savings, and improved response times for the upper portion of the County. Fire Station opened in September, 2023.
- **Fire Apparatus:** The new fire apparatus replaces outdated and less reliable equipment, including pumpers, pumper/tankers, aerial ladder units, and advanced life support medic units. Older apparatus may be more prone to mechanical failures, compromising the reliability required for swift and effective emergency responses. Investing in new fire apparatus is essential to maintain a high level of operational readiness, adapt to technological advancements, and ensure the safety and effectiveness of firefighting and rescue operations.
- (CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029)

Excellent Educational Opportunities

- **Yorktown Library Expansion:** The Yorktown Library underwent a significant expansion, adding 10,000 square feet, and renovated the existing 8,905 square feet—marking the first renovation since 1984. The upgraded facility now features 11 study rooms, a dedicated area for teenagers, a new computer location, and a 100-seat auditorium. The goal is to create a more versatile space, catering to both collaborative and individual needs. The renovation aims to provide a conducive environment for individuals to connect with one another and easily access the resources they need.
(CIP Project Year FY2022-2027)
- **Seaford Elementary School Renovation:** The construction project involves multiple enhancements to the existing infrastructure, including the creation of nine new classrooms, expanding the media center and main offices, conducting roof repair and coating, replacing windows, expanding classrooms, enlarging the cafeteria, establishing a bus loop, and upgrading athletic fields. These comprehensive improvements aim to address various aspects of the facility, encompassing academic spaces, administrative areas, and recreational facilities, thereby enhancing the overall functionality and efficiency of the educational environment.
(CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029)
- **School Court Repair:** Court maintenance contributes to the advancement of physical education by providing an environment for activities and fostering support for physical fitness. The funding is allocated to support the life-cycle maintenance of the County's sports facilities, encompassing the resurfacing, seal coating, and color coating of 34 existing tennis courts and 38 basketball courts located at school and park sites. This investment aims to ensure the longevity and quality of these recreational spaces, contributing to the community's overall well-being and enjoyment of sports activities. The County has recently completed tennis court renovations at York High School and Grafton High School. In the near future, this maintenance will also occur at Tabb High School.
(CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029)

Value-Driven Economic Development

- **Economic Development Authority Grants - 2023:** The Department of Economic and Tourism Development offers several different incentive programs for businesses in the community. Grants that are offered include items such as business growth, commercial corridor property improvement, commercial property demolition, E-Commerce, Google Virtual Tour, and home-based business transition. The total grants paid in 2023, totaling \$258,047.39, encompassed grants awarded in the years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

- Ribbon Cutting Events - 2023: Ribbon-cutting events mark the official opening of a new facility, business, or project. The Department of Economic and Tourism Development assisted with 24 ribbon-cutting events in 2023.
- Economic Development Specialist: A newly appointed Economic Development Specialist was hired to manage the business retention program and act as the primary representative for regional small business initiatives, including the Peninsula Home-Based Business Network and Start Peninsula. The Economic Development Specialist's main responsibility is to efficiently connect with members of the York County business community. Another objective is to improve the effectiveness of the business retention program and actively contribute to regional small business initiatives, promoting collaboration and community support.
- Updated Informational Outreach: Economic and Tourism Development has recently launched a new website along with updated promotional materials, including fliers, brochures, and a video series. The videos, narrated by existing businesses, highlight the diverse benefits of the County, aiming to offer both current and prospective businesses a thorough understanding of the advantages available. The goal is to strengthen the connection with businesses and position York County as an appealing destination for business ventures.

Maximize Outstanding Communications and Customer Service:

- Active Transportation Infrastructure Outreach/Projects: The establishment of walkways and bikeways plays a crucial role in creating secure spaces for pedestrians and bicyclists. By offering designated areas for these activities, potential conflicts among various road users are minimized, contributing to enhanced safety. In 2023, eight community outreach meetings were held on sidewalk projects including Route 17, Yorktown Road, Lakeside Drive, Grafton Drive, Villa Way, and Siege Lane. Sidewalks were installed in Yorktown, specifically near the Victory YMCA across York Hampton Highway, and in Lackey.
- (CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029)
- Regional Radio Project: The Regional Radio System provides emergency services for York County, Poquoson, Williamsburg, and most recently, James City County. Regular updates are essential for maintaining the system's efficiency, reliability, and compatibility with evolving technologies in emergency response. An example of this technology benefit was evident in February when emergency calls from James City County were immediately transferred to York County following an electrical fire at the James City Call Center. No emergency calls were missed during this time

period. A merger has occurred with James City County in 2023. The system continues to address the needs within the multiple jurisdictions of York, James City County, Poquoson, and Williamsburg.

- (CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029)
- Backup Power - Emergency Shelter and Disaster Support Customer Service: Emergency shelter backup power is crucial for ensuring the continuity of essential services and the safety of individuals during critical situations. In the event of power outages caused by natural disasters, infrastructure failures, or other emergencies, having a reliable backup power source becomes paramount. It allows emergency shelters to maintain lighting, heating or cooling systems, medical equipment, and communication tools, ensuring a secure and functional environment for evacuees and emergency responders. This backup power capability is vital for supporting ongoing operations, providing a lifeline for vulnerable populations, and enabling efficient coordination of relief efforts, ultimately contributing to the resilience and effectiveness of emergency response systems. Most recently, a backup generator was purchased in partnership with the City of Poquoson at the YMCA to enhance resilience and respond effectively to hurricanes.
- (CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029)
- **Environmental Stewardship with a Focus on Resiliency**
 - Pump Station Rehabilitation Projects: Pump station rehabilitation is crucial for maintaining the functionality and reliability of water and wastewater infrastructure. Regular rehabilitation efforts are essential to address issues such as corrosion, mechanical wear, and outdated equipment, ensuring optimal performance and preventing potential disruptions to the system.
 - In 2023, the County rehabilitated the Brandywine Pump Station and Hollywood Pump Station.
 - In 2024, other pump stations scheduled for rehabilitation include those located on Hickory Hills Drive, Baptist Road, and Don Juan Circle.
 - (CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029, respectively)
 - Stormwater Rehabilitation Projects: Stormwater rehabilitation projects are essential for addressing the adverse impacts of urban runoff and enhancing overall water quality. Aging or inadequate stormwater infrastructure can lead to increased flooding, erosion, and pollution in water bodies.
 - Country Lane Stream Restoration Project. The County restored an eroded stream and upgraded the culverts under Country Lane near Dodd RV.

- Wormley Creek Culverts. Culverts were installed under Route 17 and Cook Road to help alleviate flooding in the Edgehill Subdivision.
- Siege Lane Pond: The County constructed a pond to provide water quality benefits for the James River Watershed and to help alleviate flooding issues on Jennie Drive.
- (CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029, respectively)
 - New Quarter Park Kayak Launch/Improvements: As in Back Creek Park, New Quarter Park is also set to undergo enhancements, including the addition of a kayak/canoe launch, along with various minor improvements. This project aims to expand recreational opportunities, providing a designated area for water-based activities and implementing minor changes to enhance the overall park experience further.
- (CIP Project Year FY2022-2027)
 - Underground Utilities: Beautifying the County by eliminating overhead utilities and placing them underground along major transportation corridors holds significant importance as it directly influences the overall visual aesthetics of the region. The appearance of these corridors greatly impacts the first impression for residents and visitors alike. These improvements contribute to a positive and welcoming atmosphere, making the County a more desirable place to live, work, and visit while enhancing the overall quality of life for its residents. The new Law Enforcement building will benefit from this initiative as the plan to bury overhead power lines is consistent with this initiative.
- (CIP Project Years FY2023-2028; FY2024-2029)

Quality Technology Investments

- Financial Software Replacement: The County's financial software system underwent an upgrade, transitioning from the Bright system to Avenity in key offices such as the Utility Billing, Commissioner of the Revenue, and Treasurer's Office. This upgrade signifies a technological advancement aimed at improving efficiency and functionality in financial operations within these specific departments. The new software is expected to offer enhanced features and capabilities, streamlining processes related to utility billing, revenue assessment, and treasury functions, thereby contributing to

- a more effective and modernized financial management system.
(CIP Project Year FY2022-2027)
- Biomedical Equipment: Biomedical equipment is critical as it plays a vital role in diagnosis, treatment, and patient care. Updated and advanced equipment ensures accurate and efficient medical processes. EMS equipment that has become unsupported by the vendor or the inability to receive parts poses a risk in the outcome of patient care.
(CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028)
- York Hall Microphone Equipment Replacements: The new microphones recently acquired are an improvement in the audio equipment, aimed at enhancing sound quality. The equipment will be used in meetings such as the Board of Supervisors or School Board meetings and will offer better clarity of the meetings.
(CIP Project Years FY2022-2027; FY2023-2028)

Although we acknowledge that these highlighted projects may not encompass all ongoing initiatives, our intention is to showcase specific areas of focus that are consistent with the guidance of the Board's Strategic Priorities. The report aims to spotlight completed and upcoming projects and activities from the past two years, emphasizing achievements and those currently in progress. It is our intent to provide the Board with reports every six months due to the size of the projects. In future memorandums, we aim to highlight specific projects that are in alignment with our strategic priorities.

Schott/3326