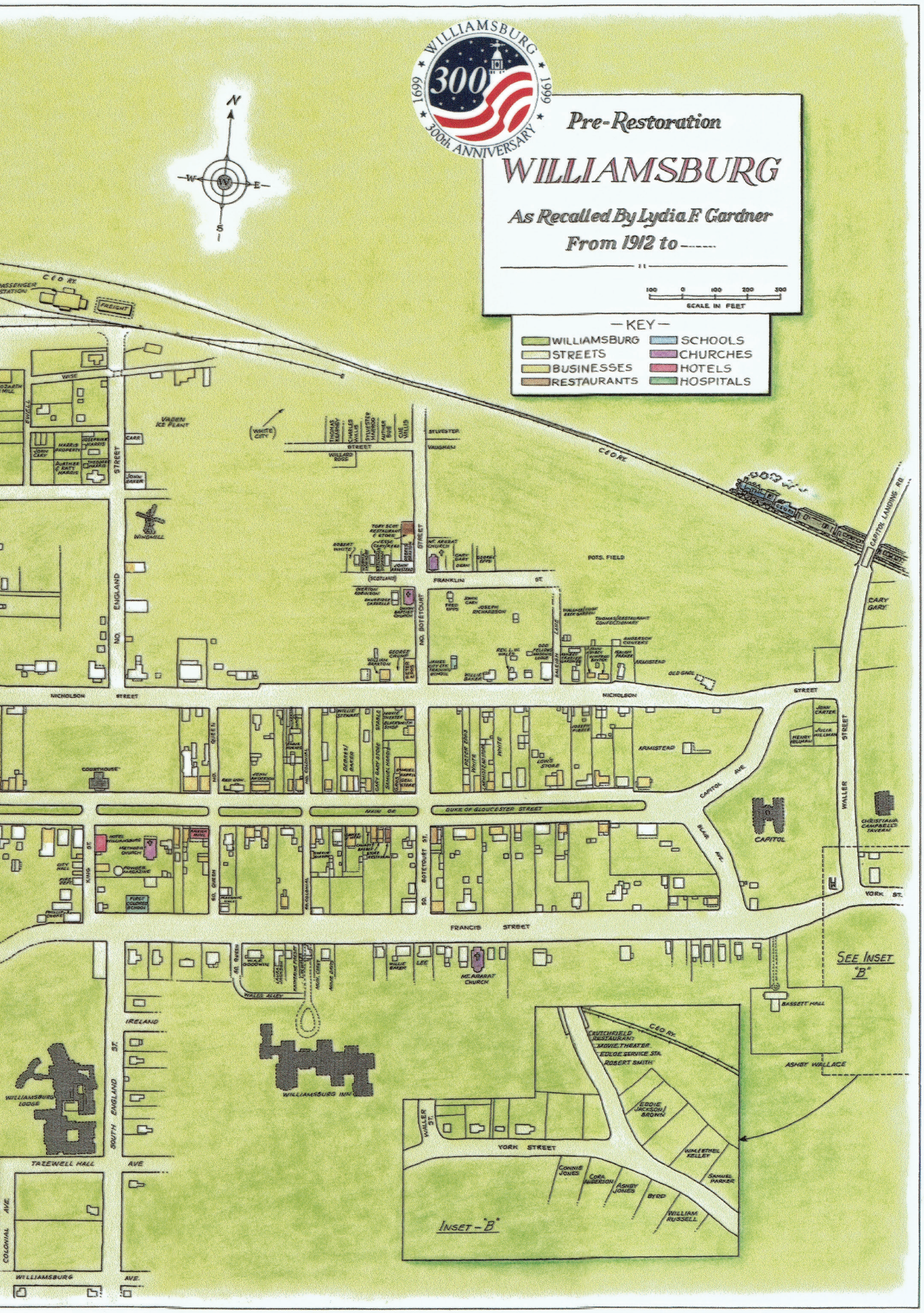
# FY 2021 COMMUNITY PROFILE

CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG
1699
VIRGINIA'S COLONIAL CAPITAL

The College of William and Mary
C & O. RY.
SEE INSET-"C"
HIGHLAND PARK
INSET-"C"
HENDERSON ST.
ROSCROFT ST.
UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
BANKS
DUNNING ST.
BURBANK ST.
HUBERT ALEXANDER
LEONARD ASHBY
RUBY DEWITT
NORTH HENRY
ROBERT BRAXTON
PAUL BRAXTON
JOHN BAKER
LAWRENCE SKINNER
ARCHIE RUCKER
FRED CRAMFORD
ALEXANDER GOODALL
WILLIAM CUMBER
NORMAN HORNSBY
RICHARD ROBERTS
LEWIS
BESSIE DUGANT
SIDNEY JOHNSON
BRAXTON COURT
ROOSEVELT HARRIS
LISBON GERST
DR. J.B. BLAYTON
R.G. PARKER
LITTLETON RICHARDSON
HERBERT COOKE
ANDREW JONES
J.B. BLAYTON
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MATTIE SWISHER
MILTON BRYS
MELVIN WESTFIELD
JAMES MUNDON
CLAY STREET
QUETTA VADEN BROWN
LUCILLE WRIGHT
HUGO JOHNSON
WM. PARKER
BILLY DOVE
HENRY WRIGHT
TISHA HALL
WM. CUPID
BETTY BROWN
MATTIE BRAXTON
DEACON SPEARMAN
TYLER
OLDSMOBILE DEALERSHIP
THEODORE HARRIS
ANTHONY JONES
PRESTON CRUMP
EARNEST CRUMP
EDWARD COLES
WATER TOWER
MILTON BETTS
NEW COVENANT HOLINESS CHURCH
JOHNSON BROWN
BUTLER
SCOTLAND ST.
SCOTLAND STREET
HARRIS ST.
HENRY ST.
NORTH
LANE
PRINCE GEORGE ST.
NASSAU ST.
(TYLER)
GREEN PARK
PALACE
GOVERNOR'S PALACE
WILLIAMSBURG PUBLIC SCHOOL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CEMETERY
BRUTON CHURCH EPISCOPALIAN
(RICHMOND ROAD)
RICHMOND AVE.
ROBERT BRAXTON
NORTH BOUNDARY ST.
LIBRARY
(TUCKER HALL)
SCIENCE HALL
WREN BUILDING
GYMNASIUM
COLLEGE AVE.
EWELL BLDG.
TALIAFERRO BLD.
INFIRMARY
DORMITORY
DINING
BIOL. LAB.
CHEM.
JEFFERSON HALL
(JAMESTOWN ROAD)
GENOC
JAMES CUMBER
MAIN OR.
DUKE OF GLOUCESTER STREET
BOUNDARY ST.
HENRY ST.
NASSAU ST.
COLE PROPERTY
WILLIAM TALIAFERRO
EXECUTIVE BLDG.
FRANCIS STREET
(FRANCE STREET)
FRANCIS
SOUTH
EASTERN STATE HOSPITAL C 1910
THURMAN BUILDING
THOMPSON BUILDING
PUBLIC HOSPITAL LTS
INFIRMARY
BARBER BUILDING
MONTAGUE BUILDING
DINING
TAYLOR BUILDING
CUSTIS PROP.
IRELAND
FUTURE NEWPORT AVE.
LEVI WASHINGTON
NEWPORT AVE.
HERBERT COOKE
CRUMP LANE
MISSOURI WHITTERSON
JACKSON
CARTER COLES HARRIS JAMES
LUCY LEE
WEZEKIEH
CELIA COLES
GARDNER
SAMUEL HARRIS
LUCY CRUMP
NANNIE DOVE (LORENZO)
NOW (PHILLIP R. COOKE)
SAMUEL JOHNSON SR.
NOW (MASONIC LODGE)
SAMUEL JOHNSON JR.
INSET-"A"
SEE INSET-"A"
FRED EPPS
NAT. REID
HERBERT COOK
CRUMP LANE
CARTER COLES HARRIS JONES
LUCY LEE


WILLIAMSBURG
300
1699
1999
300th ANNIVERSARY
Pre-Restoration
WILLIAMSBURG
As Recalled By Lydia F. Gardner
From 1912 to ------
100 0 100 200 300
SCALE IN FEET
— KEY —
WILLIAMSBURG
STREETS
BUSINESSES
RESTAURANTS
SCHOOLS
CHURCHES
HOTELS
HOSPITALS
N
W
E
S
C & O RY.
FREIGHT
VADEN ICE PLANT
WINDMILL
NO. ENGLAND STREET
NO. BOTETOURT STREET
FRANKLIN ST.
POTS. FIELD
CAPITOL LANDING RD.
CARY GARY
NICHOLSON STREET
COURTHOUSE
ARMISTEAD
CAPITOL AVE
WALLER STREET
CAPITOL
CHRISTIANA CAMPBELL'S TAVERN
YORK ST.
MAIN OR DUKE OF GLOUCESTER STREET
FRANCIS STREET
SEE INSET "B"
BASSETT HALL
ASHBY WALLACE
MT. ARARAT CHURCH
WALES ALLEY
IRELAND
WILLIAMSBURG INN
WILLIAMSBURG LODGE
SOUTH ENGLAND ST.
TAZEWELL HALL AVE
COLONIAL AVE.
WILLIAMSBURG AVE.
CRUTCHFIELD RESTAURANT
MOVIE THEATER
EDLOE SERVICE STA.
ROBERT SMITH
EDDIE JACKSON/BROWN
WM. & ETHEL KELLEY
SAMUEL PARKER
CONNIE JONES
CORA ANDERSON
ASHBY JONES
BYRD
WILLIAM RUSSELL
INSET - "B"

# WILLIAMSBURG VIRGINIA

## WHERE THE PAST MEETS THE FUTURE

Williamsburg was founded as the capital of the Virginia Colony in 1699 and celebrated its 300th Anniversary in 1999. The original capital of Jamestown was the first permanent English-speaking settlement in the New World founded in 1607. Colonial leaders petitioned the Virginia Assembly to relocate the capital from Jamestown to Middle Plantation, five miles inland between the James and the York Rivers. The new city was renamed Williamsburg in honor of England's reigning monarch, King William III. From 1699 to 1780 Williamsburg was the political, cultural, and educational center where the dream of American freedom, independence, and self-government was nurtured by the leadership of patriots such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason, and Peyton Randolph. [1]

Williamsburg was one of America's first planned cities. Laid out in 1699 under the supervision of Governor Francis Nicholson, it was to be a "new and well-ordered city" suitable for the capital of the largest and most populous of the British colonies in America. A succession of beautiful capitol buildings became home to the oldest legislative assembly in the New World. The young city grew quickly into the center of political, religious, economic, and social life in Virginia.

Williamsburg also became a center of learning. Famous political leaders emerged from the College of William and Mary, which had been founded in 1693, such as Presidents Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, and John Tyler. Today, the College of William and Mary is the second-oldest higher learning institution in the United States. In 2018, the university ranked number 32 in National Universities and number 7 in Best Undergraduate Teaching. [2] Although William and Mary has a 325-year history, it remains a cutting-edge research university that is innovative, vibrant, and engaged. As a public university, William and Mary is an important partner in the region's economic success, both in terms of local and regional impact as they collaborate with businesses, non-profits, and the public sector to strengthen the economic core. [3]

The first hospital established in America for the care and treatment of mental illness was founded in Williamsburg in 1773. The public hospital was built near the College of William and Mary in what is now known as Colonial Williamsburg. The hospital is still in operation today; however, it is no longer in the original restored building but is located on the outskirts of Williamsburg.
In 1789, the capital was again moved, this time up the James River to Richmond, where it remains today. Williamsburg reverted to a quiet college town and rural county seat. In retrospect, Williamsburg's loss of capital city status was its

salvation, as many 18th-century buildings survived into the early twentieth century. The restoration of Williamsburg began in 1926, after the Rector of Bruton Parish Church, the Reverend Doctor W.A.R. Goodwin, brought the city's importance to the attention of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who then funded and led the massive reconstruction of the 18th century city we see today. National attention soon focused on the restoration effort. During a landmark visit in 1934, Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed its main thoroughfare, the Duke of Gloucester Street, "the most historic avenue in America."

# WILLIAMSBURG TODAY

Today Colonial Williamsburg is still the only place that takes you back to a time when our country was being born, and the ideals that established America were being defined. In the Historic Area of the city, the 18th century is happening right now. You can step back in time and experience the people who made America. [4]

Just a few blocks away, Merchants Square offers 21st century shopping and dining experiences. On Saturday mornings from March through November, you can enjoy a Saturday morning at Williamsburg's Farmers Market. Flowerbeds and benches offer a tranquil setting for market shopping while listening to live music. This award winning producer-only market offers produce, fruit, fish, meats (including free-range chickens, beef, lamb and pork), artisan cheese, honey, peanuts, baked goods, pasta, handmade soap, potted plants, cut flowers, and many other offerings.

The Shops at High Street offer the perfect combination of dining, entertainment and shopping. This area also offers a special community of luxurious condominiums, townhomes, and apartments – a vibrant downtown within a neighborly embrace.

Midtown Row, Williamsburg's new city center, is currently under construction in the heart of Williamsburg. This unique experience-based retail, entertainment, and residential district is adjacent to the campus of William & Mary, less than a mile from Colonial Williamsburg, and less than five miles from Jamestown, Yorktown, Busch Gardens, and Water Country USA. The development is designed to be a pedestrian and cycle friendly community with a village green featuring outdoor programing and community events. The district includes restaurants, 233,047 square feet of retail shops, 6,219 square feet of premium office space, entertainment, and brand new residential apartments accommodating up to 628 residents.

Quarterpath at Williamsburg is a community designed to support a life of wellness. The neighborhood has walking trails, greenspaces, and world-class healthcare. This mixed-use village also features shops, restaurants, and office space.

## EDUCATION

Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools (WJCC) serves the students of the City of Williamsburg and the County of James City. There are 15 schools: 9 elementary, three middle and three high schools. Of the 11,712 students served, about 8.3% are City residents. All WJCC schools have earned full accreditation for the 11th year in a row. WJCC ranked 16th out of 132 Virginia school divisions in Niche's 2017 Best School Districts rankings, scoring an overall A grade in this rigorous assessment of academic and student-life data.

## TOURISM

Tourism has historically been the economic backbone of this region. The area's rich history that birthed a nation provides a journey into the battles and sacrifices that secured the nation's liberty and independence. However, sharing this rich history requires both marketing and infrastructure. Legislation passed by the General Assembly of Virginia (Senate Bill 942) on April 18, 2018, creates a revenue stream to assist with promoting the region's many attractions. The bill established a one percent sales tax for the Historic Triangle (City of Williamsburg, James City County, and York County). Fifty-percent of this tax will fund the marketing, advertising, and promoting of the Historic Triangle as a tourism destination. The other half of this tax will be distributed to the locality in which the tax was collected. Williamsburg will use the City's share of this tax to fund a local Tourism Fund. The goal of the fund is to partner with the private sector in building tourism infrastructure, creating experiences, and marketing local attractions. Grants will be awarded annually through an application process, with the first series of grants being awarded in fall of 2019.

## QUALITY OF LIFE

The City offers numerous festivals and special events throughout the year. Residents and visitors enjoy annual events such as:

- An Occasion for the Arts – an Arts and Music Festival, complete with food vendors
- Scrumptious – a festival featuring music, food, sidewalk sales; and craft beer venues
- Jazz Festival
- William & Mary Global Film Festival
- 2nd Sundays – an arts and music festival every second Sunday from March through December

and many other opportunities throughout the year.

There is no better place to celebrate our nation's birth than in Williamsburg. Activities stretch from morning till after sundown. There are historic reenactments to enjoy as well as concerts, recreational activities, and a variety of foods – everything from hot dogs to gourmet dining. At nightfall, the historic area adds the finishing touch to the celebration with an amazing fireworks display.

The City of Williamsburg has a strong commitment to providing quality parks, recreation programs, and facilities that make Williamsburg a premiere community in which to discover, imagine, and grow. Williamsburg maintains ten parks which provide residents with varied uses from passive activities to structured play. Park amenities include playground equipment, sand volleyball, tennis, basketball, picnic pavilions, athletic fields, and outdoor fitness equipment.

Nestled among the trees is the scenic Waller Mill Park, a 2705-acre park. Featured at the park is a 360-acre reservoir that is open for fishing, boating, pedal boating, canoeing, and kayaking. There are over 7 miles of hiking trails with water and wooded views. Additional park features include an 18-hole disc golf course, a 1.5-acre fenced dog park with agility equipment, playground structures, picnic shelters, grills, wheelchair accessible docks, and watercraft rentals.

The Quarterpath Recreation Center is a 35,000 square foot facility providing a wide array of recreational activities and amenities. Various instructional classes, athletic programs for youth and adults, sports camps, open gym time and special events are held throughout the year at this facility. There are four rooms available for rent that are ideal for meetings, sports banquets, birthday celebrations, and other special events.

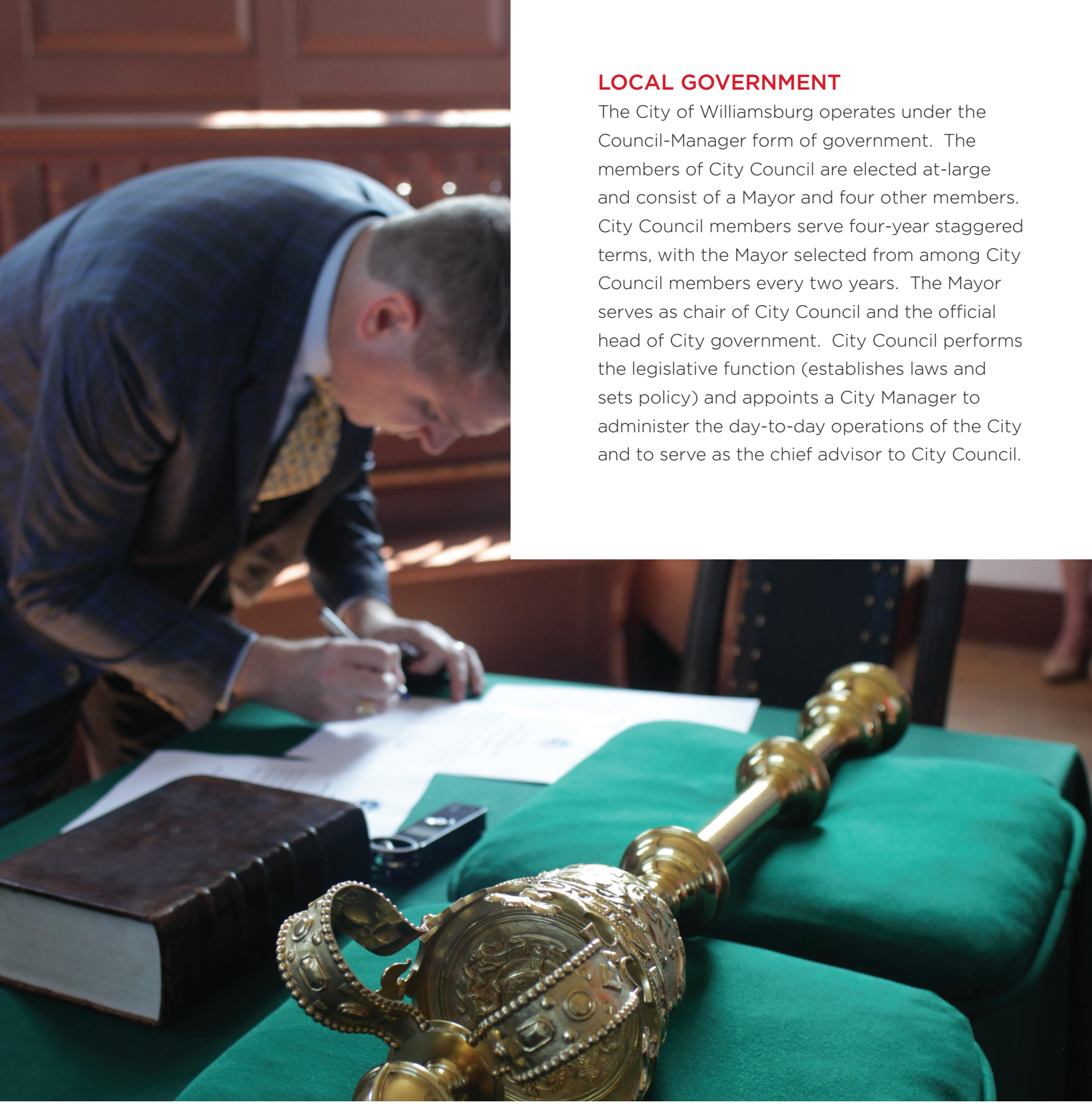
The Parks and Recreation Department is proud to host a variety of Special Events throughout the year that contributes to the individual, social, economic, and environmental health and well-being of our community. You can learn to play pickleball at one of our clinics or participate in one of our pickleball tournaments. Bring Fido to Pups in Pastels, our dog Easter egg hunt or join us at our Canine Carnival. Let your kids drop a line at our Kid's Fishing Derby or go dip netting for the invertebrates that call the reservoir their home in our Water Exploration Program. There are endless opportunities to get outside and get active with Williamsburg Parks and Recreation.

The Williamsburg Regional Library (WRL) enriches lives, opens doors to new learning experiences, and welcomes everyone. Offering collections, programs, and services for citizens of all ages, WRL is a key part of our vibrant community. Residents can watch and listen to thousands of streaming movies and music, as well as downloading ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines at wrl.org. People interested in learning a new life skill such as crocheting, using a green screen, or speaking a new language can access thousands of online instructional videos available on the library website.

Visitors to our library buildings can explore new book displays and discover copies of the hottest bestsellers as well as audiobooks and DVDs, pursue in-depth reading and research, consult expert staff, and experience the visual arts, multi-media presentations, and interactive learning. The library offers a wide

range of film series, talks, book groups, concerts, and performances for all ages. Citizens can be part of a local community of readers and learners, make new friends, bring their family to take part in a hands-on learning activity, or just sit back and enjoy a great read. The Regional Library serves Williamsburg, James City County, and York County with two locations: one in downtown Williamsburg and one in James City County. Also available is a mobile library, which has scheduled stops in neighborhoods, adult care facilities, camps, preschools, and schools.

PHOTO BY WENDY MILLER @ CULTURE FIX

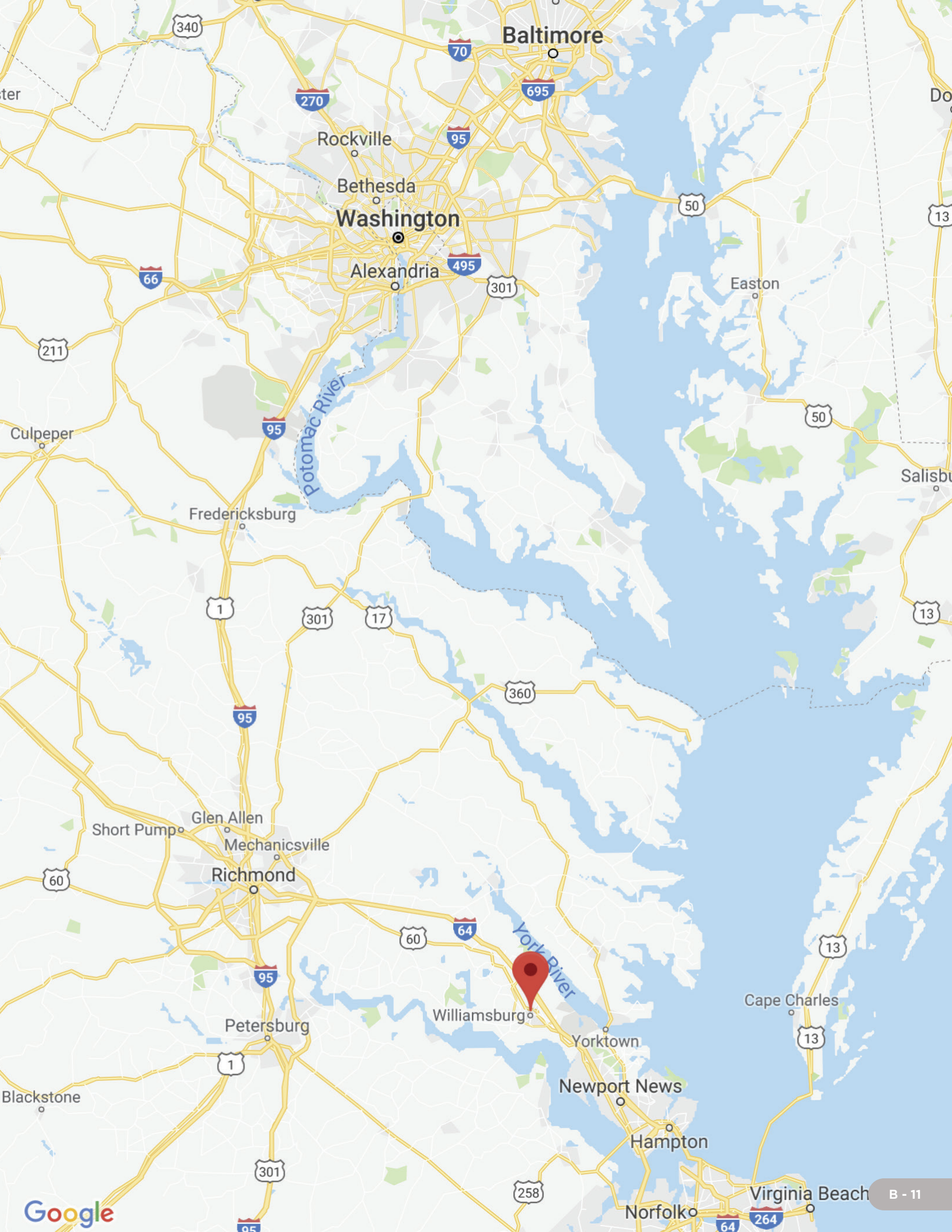


## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The City of Williamsburg operates under the Council-Manager form of government. The members of City Council are elected at-large and consist of a Mayor and four other members. City Council members serve four-year staggered terms, with the Mayor selected from among City Council members every two years. The Mayor serves as chair of City Council and the official head of City government. City Council performs the legislative function (establishes laws and sets policy) and appoints a City Manager to administer the day-to-day operations of the City and to serve as the chief advisor to City Council.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

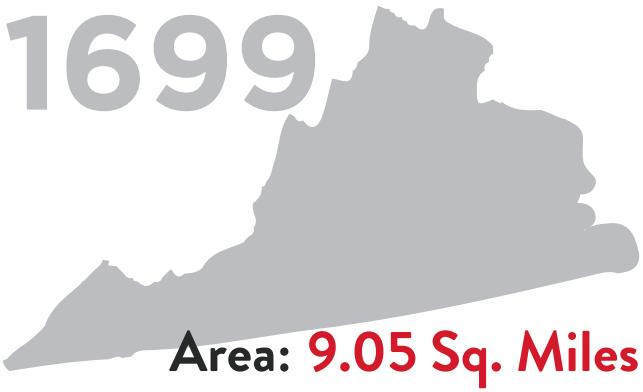
Williamsburg is in the northern part of the Hampton Roads metropolitan area, located on the Virginia Peninsula and bordered by the counties of James City and York. The City is located along I-64, with easy access to Richmond, Virginia, Washington DC and the coast. The City has a unique blend of history, tourism, college, and a small-town feel with the benefit of access to big-city amenities.


Baltimore
Rockville
Bethesda
Washington
Alexandria
Easton
Culpeper
Potomac River
Fredericksburg
Salisbu
Glen Allen
Short Pump
Mechanicsville
Richmond
York River
Williamsburg
Yorktown
Cape Charles
Petersburg
Blackstone
Newport News
Hampton
Virginia Beach
Norfolk
Google

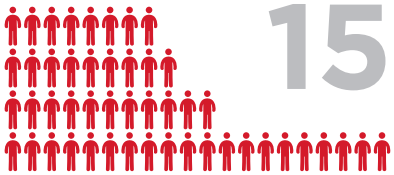
# CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG

## Date Established
by Virginia General Assembly

1699



Area: 9.05 Sq. Miles



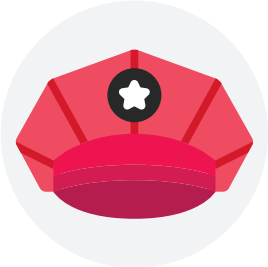
15,183

Population (2018)*

Fireman

40 full-time

25 volunteer



Number of Police Officers

41

Number of Public Libraries (Regional)

2

Number of Items Circulated - FY 2018

1,152,048

## Number of

150 Restaurants

26 Hotels & Motels

## Number of

10 Parks

6 Ball Fields

10 Tennis Courts

## Population by gender

**8.027**
Female

**7.004**
Male

## Population by age

**1.414**
Under 15

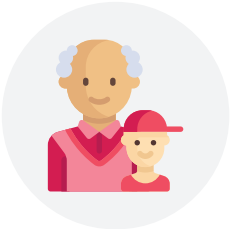
**2.420**
15-19

**4.308**
20-29

**1.495**
30-39

**2.349**
40-59

**1.439**
60-69



**1.606**
Over 70

Weldon Cooper - 2017 estimate

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2. "College of William and Mary." U.S. News, usnews.com/best-colleges/william-and-Mary-3705. Accessed 30 August 2018.

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4. "Explore Colonial Williamsburg." Colonial Williamsburg, colonialwilliamsburg.com/explore. Accessed 20 August 2018.

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Coffee
TIMES
AHEAD

# COMMUNITY PROFILE

williamsburgva.gov