YOU HAVE A CHOICE
YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO RETURN
Find out more inside.
The Tidewater Gardens transformation will intensify this year with more resident relocation, demolition, and the start of construction for neighborhood infrastructure and the first of many new housing developments.

The McDonald's on St. Paul's Boulevard closed in January, and the building will be demolished late this spring to prepare the site for the new Freemason Street extension, which will provide better connection from the neighborhood to downtown. The development team is working closely with the owners of McDonald's to include them back into the redevelopment.

Construction will begin around the Tidewater Gardens neighborhood this spring, so please be on the lookout for signage and increased activity in these areas. Work will begin on Wood Street and Posey Lane at the end of April to support the new housing that will be built on the site with new infrastructure. This year-long project includes all new roadway, streetscape, stormwater, and utility infrastructure. Construction will also start on the new pump station on the corner Fenchurch Street and Wood that will support the new housing proper wastewater management treatment. This is the same pump station featured in the winter newsletter.
Relocation is well underway with over 293 Tidewater Gardens families transitioning to the Housing Choice Voucher program, to another NRHA community, or to other housing of their choosing. Demolition of 16 buildings in Tidewater Gardens along Charlotte, Fenchurch, and Chapel Streets will begin in April. 120-day relocation notices were issued in Tidewater Gardens to households in four buildings.

At this time, there are no plans for the redevelopment of Calvert Square or Young Terrace. If you live in these communities, you can rest assured that you will be extensively engaged before any such plans are made.

Honoring each family’s choice remains a priority for our People First team as we assist Tidewater Gardens residents with relocation. It is important that you start working with People First early in the process.

If you are a Tidewater Gardens resident and you're unsure of what relocation phase you are in or if you have any questions about the process, call People First at 390-4365 so that we can help you navigate it.
RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

“People First contacted me when I was in transition moving from Tidewater Gardens. I want to be a childcare provider. I want to start in home. I want to have a specific room for kids to come in and learn, teach, play. I have it all planned out. I have the dream and I have everything that I need.”

To hear more of Tionna Brittingham's story visit St. Paul's website at www.stpaulsdistrict.org.

HELP KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY SAFE!

NRHA Safety and Security Programs have established Community Care Focus Groups to address the safety needs of our residents, reduce crime, and eliminate opportunities to commit crime. NRHA continues to recruit participation in our focus groups to assist with reduction of crime and anti-social behaviors and increase community involvement. Serving on the Community Care Focus Group allows you an opportunity to provide input and work with staff to develop and implement strategies collectively for the betterment of our communities.

While residents have concerns specific to their communities, crime will continue to be addressed through data analysis by law enforcement with safety programs initiated throughout all communities. We offer a wide range of crime prevention resources and education to our residents through the Security Programs Department.

We need your help and cooperation in this effort to make our communities safer. The outcome that results from your participation not only helps impact the community, but it also ultimately impacts you as a resident. Your voice is important, and we would like to hear from you on how we can build a safer community and offer solutions for improvement, engagement, and empowerment.

You do not need to be part of a formal board to participate in a focus group. If you’re interested in becoming a focus group participant or desire to learn more about our services, please contact Karen Rose by email at krose@nrha.us or 757-314-1699.
COAT DRIVE THANK YOU

The Office of St. Paul's Transformation and People First hosted a coat drive through January for Tidewater Gardens families. As a result, over 300 coats and numerous winter accessories will be distributed to families over the next couple of weeks!

We want to thank our many community partners including Waterside who offered gift cards in exchange for donations at their host location, Elegance Cleaners for donating garment bags to individually wrap each coat, the Norfolk Sherriff’s Office for laundering approximately 250 coats, and Mr. DeAnthony Anderson, U.S. Army and resident, who singlehandedly transported the coats to the Sherriff’s Office in his vehicle.

We also want to thank Gethsemane Community Fellowship for serving as a host site as well as Faith Deliverance Christian Center, United Way, For Kids, Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and residents for the coat donations and hand-knitted hats, mittens, and scarves!

We are so thankful for our many tremendous community partners who really stepped up to make this drive a success to ensure our neighbors stay warm this winter!

If you are a resident in need of a coat, please contact Kaberlyn Johnson at kaberlyn.johnson@urbanstrategiesinc.org or 757-390-4365 or 757-837-1435.
The Norfolk Department of Public Health is vaccinating eligible individuals in Phase 1b. Norfolk residents can preregister for the vaccine by visiting Vaccinate Virginia online at vaccinate.virginia.gov or by phone seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. just call 1-800-VAX-IN-VA. Residents can also search vaccinate.virginia.gov for their preregistration information.

Visit www.norfolk.gov/covid19vaccine to find out if you are eligible to be vaccinated.

TIDEWATER GARDENS RESIDENTS - YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO RETURN!

We pledged to you that if you desire a home in the new St. Paul’s community, you will have one. With the approval of the Right to Return Policy, this pledge is being put into action!

For more on the Right to Return ordinance and the criteria to be eligible to return, visit stpaulsdistrict.org or contact People First at 390-4365. Stay tuned for information on a virtual meeting on the Right To Return in April.

Section 3 is a provision of the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Act of 1968 that helps foster local economic development, neighborhood economic improvement, and individual self-sufficiency. That means that any recipient of HUD funding is required to provide job training, employment and contracting opportunities for residents in connection to projects and activities in their neighborhoods – which means there will be workforce and job training opportunities available to YOU through the Tidewater Gardens transformation!

Get access to training, employment and contracts for construction, carpentry, masonry, plumbing, landscaping and other opportunities.

If you’re interested, contact Carmen McKinnon by phone at 757-390-4625 or 757-264-2859 or by email at Carmen.McKinnon@urbanstrategiesinc.org. You can also visit the People First office at 453 Walke St.
Norfolk Public Schools students have begun returning to in-person learning with PreK – 5th grade students and students with disabilities returning to the classroom. Middle school students will begin the hybrid schedule on Monday, April 12 and high school students will begin on Monday, April 26.

For the most up to date information on the return to in-person instruction, visit www.npsk12.com/Page/17555 or contact your child’s school.
SAVE THE DATE!

If you’re a property manager or a current or prospective landlord, you’ll want to mark your calendar for the NRHA Virtual Landlord Summit on Tuesday, April 20!

Learn more about the Housing Choice Voucher and how to navigate the Eviction Moratorium as well as tips on the best leasing and applicant screening practices, tax strategies and more.

Visit nrha.us or follow Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority on Facebook & Twitter to stay up to date on registration and details for the Summit.