

# Why Fredericksburg, Virginia?

- ✓ One of the fastest-growing localities in Virginia.
- ✓ Located on the East Coast's busiest interstate, I-95. State Route 3, U.S. 1 also run through city.
- ✓ Halfway between Richmond and Washington. 60 percent of U.S. population within 750 miles.
- ✓ Rappahannock River runs through the city, and parks and trails take advantage of this.
- ✓ Downtown train station offers Virginia Railway Express commuter service to Washington as well as Amtrak connectivity up and down the East Coast.
- ✓ Active Main Street program, Economic Development Authority.
- ✓ Robust tourism and technology incentives programs and proven ability to execute.
- ✓ Home of the University of Mary Washington.
- ✓ Outdoor opportunities abound: Trails, Rappahannock and Potomac rivers, fishing and hunting.
- ✓ Easy access to major cities, beaches, mountains.
- ✓ Within an hour of three international airports. Regional airport nearby for general aviation.
- ✓ Downtown provides center of the region, offers strong sense of place.
- ✓ Central Park and Celebrate Virginia South offer Wegmans grocery store, national retailers.
- ✓ Among lowest real estate taxes in region.
- ✓ Virginia consistently named among best places to do business.
- ✓ Unemployment rate below 5 percent.
- ✓ Mary Washington Hospital provides employment, regional healthcare solution.
- ✓ Tourism attractions focused on outdoors, heritage, culinary and the arts.
- ✓ Beautiful downtown homes and offices within easy walk of art galleries, restaurants, retail.
- ✓ Regular downtown events bring in visitors, shoppers.
- ✓ Abundant fiber provides high broadband penetration rates.
- ✓ Lower-cost real estate, labor compared with Northern Virginia.
- ✓ Less traffic, easier pace of life compared with Northern Virginia.
- ✓ Public water and sewer, natural gas, reliable electrical service from Dominion Energy.
- ✓ Highly educated workforce, many of whom want to work closer to their homes.
- ✓ Active arts community, cultural opportunities.
- ✓ Diverse housing stock.
- ✓ Numerous exciting mixed-use downtown projects in the works.

***For more information contact:***

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Mary Washington Hospital

**U.S. News & World Report 2017-18  
“Best Hospitals”**

Mary Washington Hospital is the second-best hospital in the Washington metro area, according to U.S. News & World Report.

MWH also ranked sixth in the state among approximately 123 Virginia hospitals surveyed and received “high-performing” ratings in six adult procedures or conditions: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), colon cancer surgery, heart failure, hip replacement, knee replacement and lung cancer surgery.

**UMW Rated Among Nation’s Best**

Once again, college selective guide publications have recognized the University of Mary Washington among the nation’s best colleges, ranking the University for exceptional value, low student debt and superior academic programs. Among them, *Kiplinger’s Personal Finance* magazine named UMW to its list of the 300 Best College Values for 2018. The University also was rated among the publication’s top 100 best value public colleges.



University of Mary Washington Convergence Center



Rob Davis & Abbas Haider, Cofounders, Aspetto, Inc.

**Aspetto Named to Forbes 30 Under 30**

Abbas Haider and Rob Davis were at the University of Mary Washington when they founded Aspetto, which makes bullet-resistant clothing as a comfortable and fashionable antidote to body armor. Aspetto has raised \$300,000 in seed funding and expects 2017 revenue to exceed \$2.5 million. Customers are background-checked and include the State Department and GSA.

**Great Place to Work and Fortune Magazine**

Wegmans has been named one of the 2018 FORTUNE 100 Best Companies to Work For, according to global research and consulting firm Great Place to Work and Fortune. This year marks the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the FORTUNE 100 Best Companies to Work For list. Wegmans has been on the list every year, and this year ranks #2.



Wegmans ~ Celebrate Virginia South