

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland Status and Information Report Report No. 9 for 2020



May 1, 2020

To Mayor Thompson and Town Council,

The goal of the Status and Information reports is to share relevant information in a timely fashion. The Status and Information Reports are distributed to the Town's elected officials, residents, and employees. Status and Information Reports are also available to businesses and visitors through the Town website. The reports are published in English and Spanish. The next Status and Information report will be published on May 15, 2020.

Upcoming Meetings

<p>Legislative Meeting and Real Property Tax Rate Public Hearing</p>	<p>Tuesday, May 5, 2020 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://zoom.us/j/98610133147?pwd=V3dHdEhHRzVCdE9ub3pqV09CeTJ0Zz09 Or call: 301-715-8592</p> <p>Meeting ID: 986-1013-3147 Password: 789282</p>
<p>Special Legislative Meeting</p>	<p>Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://zoom.us/j/97883319327?pwd=Z3pYSkV5RStFMEdoWmpLWWxIOGZwUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592</p> <p>Meeting ID: 978-8331-9327 Password: 817285</p>
<p>Special Legislative Meeting, Work Session and Public Hearing for Charter Amendment</p>	<p>Tuesday, May 19, 2020 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://zoom.us/j/93082526906?pwd=T0ZFSngxVklRZW0yaWhMeTBXOVhJUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592</p> <p>Meeting ID: 930-8252-6906 Password: 081450</p>

Employee Recognition

- Employee Anniversaries: Please join me in extending a sincere thank you to the following team members for their years of dedicated service to the Town's residents:

- Garey Davis 6 Years of Service
- Paul Smith 4 Years of Service

Best wishes on your work anniversary and thank you for your dedicated service!

- COVID-19 Response: The staff team has and continues to demonstrate dedication to the community, resourcefulness, creativity, and resilience as we work together through this difficult time. Kudos, for a job well done, as we continue to hope for a timely resolution!

Community Engagement

- Community Input: Input from the community is welcomed and encouraged as we navigate a new medium for holding public meetings. The public is invited to join the meetings virtually or e-mail comments to community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov. The internet or a smart phone are not the only ways to join in. You may also call from a landline to listen to the meeting and provide comments or call Town staff prior to the meeting and we will assist you with submitting your comments. We look forward to hearing from you!
- 2020 Census Forms: Riverdale Park households received their invitations to respond to the 2020 Census in mid-March. It is imperative that everyone responds as soon as possible online at www.2020census.gov, by phone at [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020), or by mail. The Town currently has a response rate of just over 50%. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to complete their 2020 Census forms today!
- Prince George's County Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP): Each summer the Town participates in the SYEP, a program that provides County students with workplace experience during the summer months. The Town recently received notice that the 2020 SYEP has been cancelled due to the uncertainty caused by COVID-19. We look forward to participating in the program when it resumes.
- International Property Maintenance Code: Currently the Town follows the Prince George's County Property Maintenance Code which is based on the 2000 International Property Maintenance Code. The County's code is only applicable to residential structures. The 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) applies to both residential and commercial structures and has been discussed at Council meetings over the last several months. Community Input is encouraged and welcomed. Comments may be e-mailed to Community_Input@riverdaleparkmd.gov.
- Trash Concerns App Streamlines Process: In partnership with Bates Trucking and Trash Services, the Town has launched a dedicated Trash Concerns app on our website! The Trash Concerns app can be used to order a new trash can, report missed recycling, and any other trash related concerns. http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/ho.../trash_concerns/index.php.



- **Social Media Outreach:** The Leadership Team, along with key team members from the Office of Administrative Services, continues to review and improve the Social Media Outreach initiative to expand our reach in sharing information. The Town’s website remains the primary source for electronic information. Facebook and secondary Twitter accounts will expand efforts to amplify our messaging. At this time of great change, it is important that residents and businesses assist the Town in growing our social media outreach. We have established a goal to have 1,500 Facebook followers by May 31, 2020 and we are almost there. As of today, you have increased followers to 1,467. We now know that 1,600 is possible by the end of the month. If you haven’t visited, liked, and followed our Facebook page please do so. If you already have, encourage your neighbors, friends, and business associates to do the same. Link: <https://www.facebook.com/RiverdaleParkMD/>



- The Town of Riverdale Park (TRP) is also active on the following social media platforms and ask that you join us:
 - Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/riverdaleparkmd_gov/?hl=en
 - Twitter: https://twitter.com/Riverdale_Park
 - Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeaNS8-6xwTyPJculj7vuCQ/videos?view_as=subscriber

Environment

- **ALERT – Change to Bulk Trash Pick-up Services:** Bulk Trash Pick-up from Bates has been suspended until further notice. Bates Trucking has suspended all municipal curbside bulk trash services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Residents are asked to store materials appropriately until regular services resume.
- **Yard Waste Mondays:** Yard waste collection is every Monday. Yard waste should be at the **curbside by 6:00 a.m.** Residents are responsible for the following items:
 - Yard waste must be placed in paper bags or reusable bins that are clearly marked "Yard Waste"
 - Branches and limbs need to be bundled with rope or string (do not use wire), additionally all branches, limbs, and bundles must be:
 - less than 4 feet long,
 - individual branches less than 3 inches in diameter
 - weigh less than 60 pounds
- **Recycling Collection – important note:** The Recycling Collection Program is provided by Prince George’s County. Items will not be collected if the items to be recycled are placed in any type of plastic bag. Town staff continue to receive reports that recycling items placed for pick-up are in plastic bags. Prince George’s County requires that recycling be placed in a blue tote or in a reusable collection container that is clearly marked “RECYCLING” or with an “X.” **NO PLASTIC BAGS OF ANY KIND ARE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE RECYCLING CONTAINER** (i.e., plastic grocery bags, plastic wrappers on soda or water containers). For additional information, please call 311 or 301-883-5810.

Development

- Purple Line Updates:
 - Pedestrian Safety: As work continues along the alignment, the Purple Line construction team is committed to keeping everyone safe. Pedestrians are advised to follow any construction signs and use the open sidewalk(s). Pedestrians are not allowed in the construction work zones. This is for your safety as well as our construction team.
 - Open for Business: Throughout construction the Purple Line will maintain access to all businesses along the alignment for customers as well as business deliveries.
 - Work Hours: Construction work hours alignment wide are 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. unless night hours are noted. Lane closure hours are included in notifications specific to each area as permitted.
 - Northbound Traffic Shift onto Temporary Bridge: Beginning on or about May 30, 2020, northbound traffic will shift onto the permanent Baltimore-Washington Parkway bridge over Riverdale Road. This work may take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m., until the shift is complete. Flagging operations and temporary lane closures will occur.
 - Quintana Street Road Closure: Beginning on or about May 11, 2020, crews will be closing Quintana Street at the intersection of Kenilworth Avenue for road reconstruction. This work will last for approximately one month. The detour can be viewed here: <https://plmdnews.com/1p2>
 - Long-Term Lane Closure on Kenilworth Avenue: On July 8, 2019, the Purple Line implemented a long-term closure of the right-hand southbound lane on Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and Riverdale Road. Barriers will be used to delineate the work zone. Pedestrians and bicyclists are required to stay outside of the construction zone at all times. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends.
 - Lane Closures on Baltimore-Washington Parkway: During the month of May, crews will continue work on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway in the area of the Riverdale Road overpass. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
 - Lane Closures along Riverdale Road: During the month of May, crews will be relocating utilities along Riverdale Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and 67th Place. To conduct this work, lanes will intermittently be closed on 66th Avenue and 67th Avenue. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures with flagging operations will occur.
 - Weekend and Night Closures on Kenilworth Avenue: During the month of May, crews will be working along Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and Riverdale Road. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
 - Weekend Work and Lane Closures on Riverdale Road: During the month of May, crews will be working along Riverdale Road between Kenilworth Avenue and Veterans Parkway.

Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.

- Purple Line Construction Notices: Purple Line construction continues. Residents are encouraged to subscribe for updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, visit purplelinemd.com, find “Construction” and click on “Subscribe for Updates.” The construction hotline is 240-424-5325.
- TRP-RPS - Riverdale Park Station News: For more information on store openings, events, and development news, check out the Riverdale Park Station transit and general websites and social media pages:
 - Transit Website: <http://www.rpstransit.com/>
 - General Website: <http://www.riverdaleparkstation.com>
 - Facebook: Riverdale Park Station: <https://www.facebook.com/TheStationRP/>
 - Twitter: @RDPStation: <https://twitter.com/RDPStation>
 - Instagram: rdpsation: <https://www.instagram.com/thestationrp/>
- Development Activities from April 16, 2020 to April 29, 2020

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	1	53
Building Permits Issued	0	37
Stop Work Orders Issued	1	19

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from April 16, 2020 to April 29, 2020

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	1	107
Exterior Conditions	0	131
Interior Conditions	0	445
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	51
Safety	0	133
Sanitation	0	42
Total Violations Found:	1	909

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	3	212

Fines Issued	0	36
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	0	44
Violation Notices Issued	0	124
Warnings Issued	3	159
Total Services Provided:	6	575

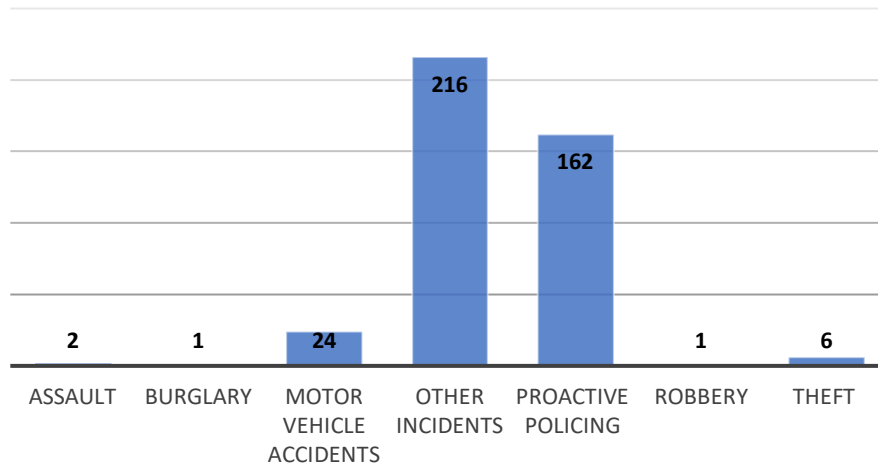
Note:

1. *“FYTD” means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020.*
2. *“Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish” includes violations pertaining to the storage of waste materials in interior or exterior property areas.*
3. *“Exterior Conditions” include, but not limited to; chipping, flaking, and peeling paint, graffiti, storage of inoperable vehicles, damaged accessory structures, driveways, doors, overhangs, roofs, stairways, walls, windows, and other exterior components.*
4. *“Interior Conditions” include, but not limited to; cracks and holes in ceilings, floors, and walls, missing stair railings, water-damaged surfaces, and lack of proper ventilation.*
5. *“Overgrown Weeds” include grass or weeds more than 10 inches in height.*
6. *“Safety” includes, but not limited to; damaged/missing electrical outlets, covers, light fixtures, carbon monoxide and /or smoke detectors, lack of escape windows in bedrooms, missing address numbers, major structural damage, and unsafe buildings.*
7. *“Sanitation” includes, but not limited to; insect/rodent infestation, mildew/mold on surfaces, uncleanliness, and storage of hazardous waste.*

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Public Safety

412 Calls for Police Service 04/16/2020 to 04/29/2020



Calls for Service defined: A call for service is any activity performed by a sworn police officer in the performance of their assigned duties. Calls for service covers both proactive activities such as area checks and traffic enforcement, as well as a portion of field investigative reports, traffic accidents, and response to various incidents. Calls received for dispatch are also included in the calls for service total.

Staff are working to enhance reporting capabilities to more accurately differentiate between proactive police actions and responding to dispatched incidents. The above chart illustrates that at a minimum, 162 or 39 percent of calls for service were proactive actions on the part of the Town's police officers.

Proactive Policing includes traffic safety, business and residential checks, field interviews, and quality of life issues.

Other Incidents includes disorderly complaints, fights, suspicious subjects/vehicles, parking complaints, traffic complaints, and assisting individuals.

Highlighted reports:

- Officers observed an illegally parked vehicle in the 5300 block Lafayette Place. A registration check revealed the vehicle was reported stolen through the Prince George's County Police Department. The vehicle was impounded for safekeeping pending notification to the owner.
- Officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue. The driver failed to yield and fled the scene. Through investigative means the driver has been identified and charged with fleeing and eluding.

- Officers responded to the 4400 block of East-West Highway for a disorderly complaint. Officers observed an individual aggressively panhandling and blocking traffic. The individual was issued a criminal citation for disorderly conduct and removed from the roadway.
- Officers responded to a motor vehicle collision in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue. The operator of the striking vehicle failed field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated. Further investigation resulted in the operator being charged with violating the Governor's Executive Stay at Home Order.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a robbery. The investigation revealed the victim was waiting in line to use the bank ATM when the suspects approached from behind. The suspects assaulted the victim and stole a bank deposit bag. The victim was not injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 6300 block of 51st Avenue for a trespassing complaint. A resident reported an individual on their property refusing to leave. The individual refused numerous requests from the officers to leave the property. The individual was placed under arrest and charged with trespassing.
- Officers responded to the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a commercial burglary. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) broke a window to the business to gain entry. Once inside the suspect(s) removed approximately \$1500 worth of merchandise. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 5700 block Riverdale Road for a motor vehicle collision. The operator of the striking vehicle was found to be intoxicated and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated. Further investigation resulted in the operator being charged with violating the Governor's Executive Stay at Home Order.
- Officers responded to a loud music complaint involving a suspicious vehicle in the 5900 block of Taylor Road. Officers contacted the occupants of the vehicle and conducted a records check. The driver was found to have an active arrest warrant through the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6100 block of Baltimore Avenue for a trespassing complaint. The store manager reported an individual inside the business who was previously banned from the property. Officers contacted the individual and confirmed they were previously issued a no trespass order. The individual was placed under arrest for trespassing.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager