Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland
Status and Information Report
Report No. 11 for 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 June 12, 2020.

Upcoming Meetings

Legislative Meeting	Tuesday, June 2, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83404286059?pwd=dlErc1VBd0hiUnVyZHNiYW42QThDdz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 834-0428-6059 Password: 575512
Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review Committee (M-UTC)	Wednesday, June 3, 2020 7:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2103729202 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 210 372 9202
Ethics Commission Meeting	Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85884658531?pwd=bTlRV3Q5cDhndjdZWDdhWW5ZalRVQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 858-8465-8531 Password: 035634
Work Session	Tuesday, June 23, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85197500069?pwd=WEgzU3YrWHpRTEFjNW8vOFNFV0NzUT09

		Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 851-9750-0069 Password: 759784
Legislative Meeting	Tuesday, July 7, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82963697714?pwd=NVhSMzdZTXlvRjR0SExpa0ZJMVQxQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 829-6369-7714 Password: 913226

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:

    - Anthony Mills   2 Years of Service

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

- COVID-19 Response: As conditions change, the staff team continues work to reduce risks, improve service delivery, and ensure our efforts are sustainable. I am thankful for all their efforts in demonstrating dedication to the community, resourcefulness, creativity, and resilience as we work together through this difficult time.

Council Direction Summary

The Mayor and Council provided direction to staff through the following Legislative Actions:
1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-OR-09 regarding the FY2021 Budget and Tax Rates - *Adopted*
2. Motion to authorize Town Manager to sign Cooperation Agreement with Prince George's County, regarding Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban County Qualification for Federal FY 2021-2023 - *Approved*
3. Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-R-14: Call to a Cooperative Approach to address the Economic Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic - *Adopted*

Community Engagement

- Meetings with Staff: Staff are also available for virtual meetings while the Town buildings are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Virtual meetings can be scheduled by phone or by e-mail. If you need assistance with scheduling a virtual meeting, please call 301-927-6381.

- 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, or by mail. The Town currently has a response rate of 58.2%. The State's current response rate is 64.3%. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to complete their 2020 Census forms today!

- 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 established a goal to have 1,500 Facebook followers by May 31, 2020 and we met and surpassed our goal! As of today, you have increased followers to 1,633. We now know that 2,000 is possible. 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

- Cancellation of 2020 Adult Mosquito Spray Program: The Town has received notice from the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) that their adult mosquito spray program, which the Town has participated in for many years, has been cancelled for this year due to budget constraints related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Town staff are working to identify possible options to continue this highly valued service.

   MDA has reported that they anticipate being able to respond to complaints and conduct larviciding activity until they run out of the insecticide that they have in stock. Complaints regarding mosquitos may be submitted via their online form: https://www.doit.state.md.us/selectsurvey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=740Kl54#.

- **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 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: rdpstation: https://www.instagram.com/thestationrp/

- Development Activities from May 14, 2020 to May 27, 2020

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	1	54
Building Permits Issued	0	37
Stop Work Orders Issued	1	21

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from May 14, 2020 to May 27, 2020

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	6	115
Exterior Conditions	3	138
Interior Conditions	0	445
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	4	57
Safety	0	134
Sanitation	1	43
Total Violations Found:	**14**	**932**

Services Provided by Type:

| Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	10	232
Fines Issued	1	37
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	0	47
Violation Notices Issued	7	138
Warnings Issued	2	163
Total Services Provided:	**20**	**617**

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.*

Public Safety

390 Calls for Police Service
05/14/2020 to 05/27/2020
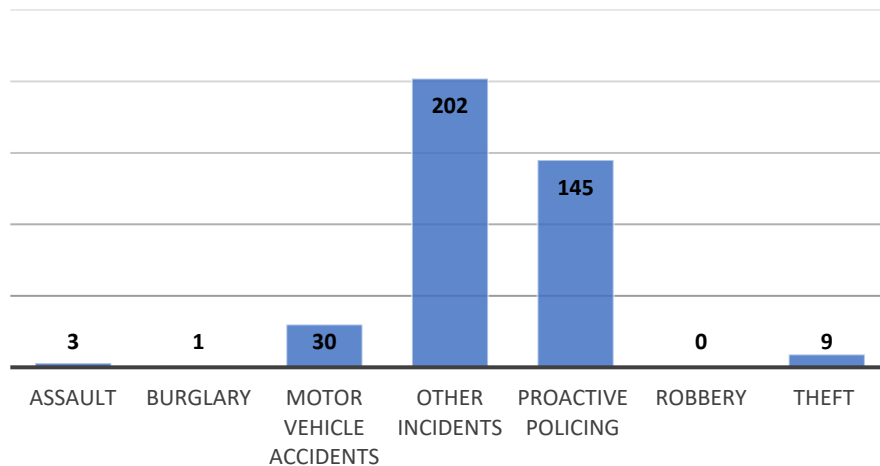
Calls for Service defined: A call for service is any activity performed by a sworn police officer in the performance of their assigned duties. Calls for service covers both proactive activities such as area checks and traffic enforcement, as well as a portion of field investigative reports, traffic accidents, 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, 145 or 37 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 responded to the 5800 block of Riverdale Road for a theft from auto. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) forced entry into the vehicle and removed a purse. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to the 4500 block of Tuckerman Street for a package theft. A suspect has been identified and charged with theft.

- Officers located an elderly person walking in the 4900 block of East-West Highway. The individual who suffers from dementia was safely transported to their residence.

- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a hit and run motor vehicle accident. Responding officers located the striking vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. The operator of the striking vehicle was charged with leaving the scene of a property damage accident.

- Officers responded to a motor vehicle collision in the 5800 block of Good Luck Road. The operator of the striking vehicle failed field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

- Officers responded to a commercial burglary in the 5700 block of Riverdale Road. The investigation revealed the suspect forced entry into the business and removed property. A suspect has been identified and charged with 2nd degree burglary.

- Officers responded to a residence for an individual threatening suicide. Family members reported that an adult in the home was uncontrollable and had threatened to kill himself. Due to the individual's actions and imminent threat of self-harm, the individual was transported to the hospital for an emergency psychological evaluation.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a theft. The investigation revealed two individuals entered the business grabbed several items from the shelves and fled. One suspect has been identified and charged with theft. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to the 4900 block of Queensbury Road for a roommate dispute. The investigation revealed two roommates were involved in a verbal argument which escalated and turned physical. The suspect who punched the other roommate was placed under arrest for 2nd degree assault.

- Officers responded to a business in the 6800 block of Kenilworth Avenue for trespassing complaint. The investigation revealed the suspect who was a former employee of the business was disgruntled and refused to leave. The suspect refused numerous requests to leave the business and was placed under arrest for trespassing and disorderly conduct.

Respectfully submitted,

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager