Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland
Status and Information Report
Report No. 13 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 July 10, 2020.

Upcoming Meetings

Work Session	Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88288842480?pwd=N0YvS0haaVdCbFNyZjlidzFoYldLdz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 882-8884-2480 Password: 837739
Board of Code Appeals Meeting	Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To participate visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83902929487?pwd=ZzZlZmorK0VFRnd5QlhEUzhIcWhxQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 839-0292-9487 Password: 353057
Legislative Meeting	Monday, July 6, 2020 at 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:

    - Joseph Sommerville   13 Years of Service
    - Jose Quinteros   7 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.

Community Engagement

- Happy Birthday Riverdale Park! The Town turned 100 years old on June 14, 2020! Help us celebrate the Town's centennial by participating in our town-wide photo and video contest. We are looking for photos or videos of your favorite places in town, a favorite memory, your old neighborhood, or a fun time you shared with others. We will be sharing the submissions across our social media accounts. Members of the Town's Centennial Committee will be choosing 3 winners from the entries. First place winner will receive a $50 gift card to a restaurant in Town of their choice (so long as the restaurants have gift cards available). Second place winner gets a $25 gift card. Third place winner gets a $10 gift card. BONUS: 20 randomly selected entries will receive a "We Love Town Life!" t-shirt. The end date for submissions is June 30, 2020. Only Town resident entries will be eligible for the prize drawings; all others can submit photos/videos for sharing on our accounts. Please send us a DM via our Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, or email your photos/videos to TRPsocialmedia@riverdaleparkmd.gov. We look forward to celebrating our 100th birthday with you!

- Volunteers Needed to Serve on Committees: The Town of Riverdale Park is seeking volunteers to serve as an alternate member of the Ethics Commission. The Ethics Commission meets several times throughout the year and meeting days/times are flexible. For more information about the Ethics Commission, visit http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/EthicsCommission.cfm. Please contact Town Clerk Jessica Barnes at jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov if you are interested in serving on these important committees.

- 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 telephone 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 59.7%. The State's current response rate is 65.6%. 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. As of today, you have increased followers to 1,665. 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/

  o 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

- Food Forest Progress: The Town is wrapping up construction on the Food Forest on 51st Avenue. The garden beds are constructed, and many of the vegetable plants have been planted. Work on the garden fence will be completed soon, and tools for volunteers will be provided on-

site shortly. If anyone is interested in helping to maintain and grow the Food Forest, please contact Ryan Chelton at 240-825-5333.

- 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#.

- Bulk Trash Pick-up Services Resume: Bulk services were suspended on April 1st due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Bates Trucking resumed bulk services on June 17th. As a reminder, Bulky Trash Collection is provided by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call 301-773-2069. Appointments can also be scheduled online by filling out the Bates Request Form. Only 3 bulk items are permitted per week.

- 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/

- Notices received by Town:
    - Notice was received informing that the Public Hearing Staff Report on Docket R20-01: *Proposed Modifications to Parking Facilities at Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro Station* is available for review and comment from June 18, 2020. The document addresses comments on the proposal received via the telephone public hearing held on April 20, 2020, along with comments received during the public comment period. Comments on the Public Hearing Staff Report will be accepted until 9 a.m. on Monday, June 29, 2020. Comments can be sent via email to WMATAHearingReport@wmata.com or by mail to: Office of the Secretary, 600 Fifth Street NW, Washington, DC 20001. Copies of the staff report can be requested via email at WMATAHearingReport@wmata.com or by calling 202-962-2511.

    - Notice was received from the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), regarding a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP) application affecting the property located at 4707 Oliver Street (Harry Smith House, 68-004-01), located with the Town of Riverdale Park. The application is currently under review. For more information please contact Ashley Hall via email at Ashley.hall@ppd.mncppc.org or by calling 301-952-5395.

- Upcoming Meetings: This feature in the Status and Information reports is provided to ensure awareness of upcoming meetings that <u>may</u> have information or agenda items related to development in or near the Town. Below please find links to the agendas for the Board of License Commissioners, the Planning Board, and the Historic Preservation Commission. Please visit the links for additional information:

    Planning Board: July 16, 2020, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. (Virtual Meeting)
    http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1528&Inline=True

    Historic Preservation Commission: *No information available at time of report.*

    Board of License Commissioners: *No information available at time of report.*

- Development Activities from June 11, 2020 to June 24, 2020

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	0	56

Building Permits Issued	0	40
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	25

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from June 11, 2020 to June 24, 2020

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	4	121
Exterior Conditions	3	147
Interior Conditions	1	446
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	1	60
Safety	1	137
Sanitation	0	43
Total Violations Found:	**10**	**954**

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	16	254
Fines Issued	0	38
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	0	47
Violation Notices Issued	2	146
Warnings Issued	6	171
Total Services Provided:	**24**	**655**

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.*

445 Calls for Police Service
06/11/2020 to 06/24/2020

The chart shows the number of calls for police service by category:

Category	Count
ASSAULT	3
BURGLARY	1
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	38
OTHER INCIDENTS	211
PROACTIVE POLICING	180
ROBBERY	1
THEFT	11
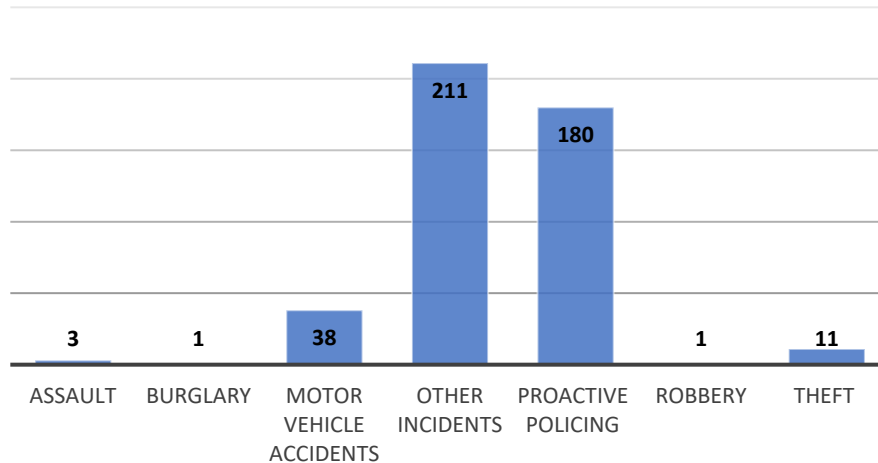
Calls for Service defined: A call for service is any activity performed by a sworn police officer in the performance of their assigned duties. Calls for service covers both proactive activities such as area checks and traffic enforcement, as well as a portion of field investigative reports, traffic accidents, 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, 180 or 40 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 a business in the 6300 block of Baltimore Avenue for a disorderly person. The individual was removed from the property and issued a criminal summons for trespassing after it was learned they were previously banned from the property.

- Officers responded to the 4600 block of Queensbury Road for a single vehicle collision. The operator of the vehicle failed field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

- Officers responded to the 4700 block of Woodberry Street for a theft. The investigation revealed the suspect stole lawn sprinklers from two separate residences. Through investigative means the suspect has been identified and charged with theft.

- Officers responded to the 5700 block of 45th Avenue for a theft. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) removed the airbags from four vehicles. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a hit and run motor vehicle collision involving a pedestrian. Through investigative means the suspect was identified and charged with leaving the scene of an accident. The pedestrian suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

- Officers responded to a business in the 6100 block of Baltimore Avenue for a theft. The investigation revealed the suspect entered the business, grabbed numerous items from the shelves before fleeing. Through investigative means the suspect has been identified and charged with theft.

- Officers observed an abandoned motorcycle in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue. A records check revealed the motorcycle was reported stolen in Howard County. The motorcycle was impounded pending notification to the owner.

- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 4500 block of East West Highway. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant through the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office for failure to appear. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

- Officers responded to the 6600 block of Baltimore Avenue for a robbery. The investigation revealed the victim and the suspect had arranged to meet at the location to sell a laptop computer. The suspect attempted to steal the computer and a struggle ensued. During the struggle the suspect produced a knife and stabbed the victim once in the stomach. Through investigative means the suspect was identified and charged with armed robbery and 1st degree assault. The victim was treated for non-life-threatening injuries.

Respectfully submitted,

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager