Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland
Status and Information Report
Report No. 17 for 2020

August 21, 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 September 4, 2020.

Upcoming Meetings

Council Work Session	Monday, August 31, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86505744068?pwd=R3U2LzV0SkhwN3l5bk9ZU2VIaGVpUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 865 0574 4068 Passcode: 189674
Legislative Meeting	Monday, September 14, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82180801761?pwd=MEttbytjVTNVdWl4RFJFL3hGWVN1QT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 821-8080-1761 Passcode: 333349
Council Work Session	Monday, September 21, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89448429540?pwd=VVZtdDl1SGoxclNLelRucVMzSXdEdz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 894-4842-9540 Passcode: 156266

Employee Recognition

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

  - Gentry Jones, Jr.   3 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.

Administration

- 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.

- Remote Notary Services available: Staff are now available to perform Remote Notary Services for Town residents. Remote Notary Services will be performed through a virtual platform approved by the Maryland Secretary of State. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Denisa Caballero at dcaballero@riverdaleparkmd.gov or Keith Robinson at krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov or call 301-927-6381.

- Volunteers Needed to Serve on Committees: The Town of Riverdale Park is seeking volunteers to serve as an alternate member of the Ethics Commission and members of the Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review Committee (M-UTC).

  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.

  M-UTC meets on the first Wednesday of most months to review development applications. For more information about MUTC, visit https://www.mncppc.org/3352/Riverdale-Park-MUTC.

  Please contact Town Clerk Jessica Barnes at jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov if you are interested in serving on these important committees.

Community Engagement

- Town Assists with RES Food Distribution: The Town was notified earlier this week that Riverdale Elementary School was in need of assistance with an upcoming food distribution. RES was allotted 100 boxes of food but did not have the necessary equipment to pick it up so that it could be distributed to RES families. Town staff quickly mobilized to ensure that the food would arrive safely at RES for distribution.

- 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 63.7%. The State's current response rate is 68.4%. 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 1,734. 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

- Bates Bulk Trash Pick-up Services: As a reminder, Bulk Trash Collection is provided by appointment only. To schedule an appointment for pick-up, call 301-773-2069. Only 3 bulk items are permitted per week.

- Bulk Trash Drop-off Appointments Available: Bulk trash will be accepted, **by appointment only**, every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. from August 1st through September 26th. Appointments may be made by calling 301-927-6381 or sending an email to krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov. Due to COVID-19 safety requirements, no unscheduled drop-offs will be accepted.

  All drop-off appointments will be at the Department of Public Works building located at 5012 Queensbury Road. Town residents are permitted to bring **up to eight acceptable items** for drop-off during their scheduled appointment time. A list of acceptable items is available on the Town's website at http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov/news_detail_T6_R142.php. This will be a contactless drop-off. Residents are required to wear a mask covering their nose and mouth. Residents must be able to remove items from their vehicle.

- Yard Waste Mondays: Yard waste collection is every Monday. Yard waste needs to 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:
  - Staff recently spoke to a representative from the State regarding the status of the Purple Line. The State and Purple Line Transit Partners continue their negotiations. The date by which an agreement needs to be reached has been extended to September 14, 2020. Active negotiations are continuing. The State reports that it remains committed to the project and is hopeful that the current negotiations will be fruitful. Work on the project continues. Staff have noticed that aspects of the project within TRP have slowed. The State is unable to comment on any demobilizations. Town staff will continue to liaise with the State and share information as appropriate.

- o Quesada Road Closure Update: The detour of Quesada Road scheduled to begin on August 21, 2020, has been postponed.

- o Flagging on Campus Drive: Beginning on or about August 24, 2020, crews will be flagging on Campus Drive between the Paint Branch Trail and River Road for construction. From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. traffic may be reduced to one lane for construction.

- Purple Line Construction Notices: Residents are encouraged to subscribe for updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, visit www.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:
  - o General Website: https://thestationrp.com/
  - o Facebook: Riverdale Park Station: https://www.facebook.com/TheStationRP/
  - o Twitter: @thestationrp: https://twitter.com/thestationrp
  - o Instagram: thestationrp: https://www.instagram.com/thestationrp/

- Notices received by Town:
  - o Notice was received informing that a Site Development Concept Plan #32609-2019-0 for the Wells Boulevard Green Streets Improvement Project was filed on August 27, 2019 for review by the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Environment ("DPIE") by the City of Hyattsville. The property consists of approximately three (3) acres along Wells Boulevard/Wells Parkway between Adelphi Road and University Hills Park. The nature of the review includes a conceptual stormwater management plan for proposed development of the subject residential roadway. For more information, contact David Heckman at 410-316-2336.

  - o Notice was received informing of plans to submit a special permit request for a Chase ATM at Riverdale Park Station for review by the Development Review Division of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). The subject property is located at 4501 Van Buren Street, Riverdale Park, MD 20737. The application will permit a walk-up ATM on the western façade of Building 4 within Riverdale Park Station. For more information, contact Nathaniel Forman at 301-572-3237 or email nforman@omng.com.
    - ▪ This special permit isn't a departure from the design standards, but a requirement of standalone ATM's.

- Upcoming Meetings: This feature in the Status and Information reports is provided to ensure awareness of upcoming meetings that may 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: The Planning Board will be in recess from August 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020. The next meeting will be held on September 10th.

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

Board of License Commissioners: A virtual hearing will be held via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 25, 2020. If you would like to attend, click on the link https://mypgc.zoom.us/j/96422108537 and enter the Meeting ID # 964 2210 8537 and Passcode #670182. To access the virtual hearing by phone, please dial 301-715-8592 and enter the Meeting ID # 964 2210 8537 and Passcode # 670182. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Board's Office at 301-583-9980.

- <u>Development Activities from August 6, 2020 to August 19, 2020</u>

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	1	4
Building Permits Issued	1	3
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	0

Permits Issued:

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2021-B-03	4901 Madison Street	Paving Driveway	$4,800
		Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:	**$4,800**
		Est. Investment FYTD 2021 Total:	**$313,800**

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	0	0
Multifamily Licenses Issued	0	0
Single-family Rental Inspection	1	3
Single-family Licenses Issues	0	0
Business License Inspections Conducted	25	44
Business Licenses Issued	0	0

- <u>Neighborhood Improvement Activities from August 6, 2020 to August 19, 2020</u>

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	1	6
Exterior Conditions	8	17
Interior Conditions	3	9
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	4	7
Safety	2	4
Sanitation	1	1
Total Violations Found:	**19**	**44**

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	5	25
Fines Issued	1	3
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	0	3
Violation Notices Issued	9	20
Warnings Issued	2	9
Total Services Provided:	**17**	**60**

Note:

1. *"FYTD" means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021.*

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.*

406 Calls for Police Service
08/06/2020 to 08/19/2020
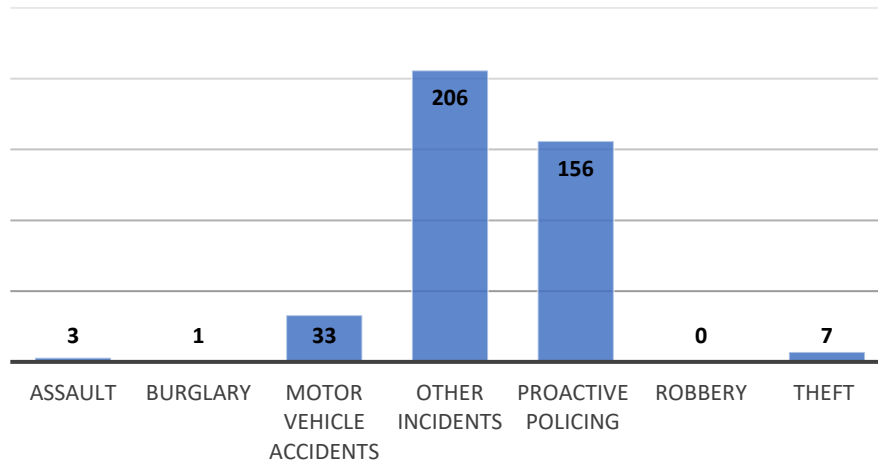
Calls for Service defined: A call for service is any activity performed by a sworn police officer in the performance of their assigned duties. Calls for service covers both proactive activities such as area checks and traffic enforcement, as well as a portion of field investigative reports, traffic accidents, 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, 156 or 38 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 single motor vehicle collision. The operator of the vehicle failed field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a theft. An unknown suspect entered the business and stole several bottles of liquor. Through investigative means the suspect was identified and charged with theft.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5800 block of Riverdale Road for a theft. The investigation revealed the suspects entered the business and inquired about purchasing jewelry. While the employee was distracted the suspects stole $10,000 worth of jewelry. Through investigative means the suspects have been identified and charged with theft.

- Officers responded to a complaint of a suspicious vehicle in the 6000 block of Lafayette Avenue. A records check revealed the 2020 Honda Civic was reported stolen through the Prince George's County Police Department. The vehicle was impounded pending notification to the owner.

- Officers responded to a motor vehicle collision in the 5600 block of Riverdale Road. The operator of the striking vehicle failed field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

- Officers responded to the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an assault. The investigation revealed two individuals were involved in a physical altercation. During the fight, the victim was struck in the head with a bottle. The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment and the investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a suspicious occupied vehicle. Responding officers located the driver of the vehicle unconscious and the vehicle running. The driver failed field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

- Officers responded to the 6300 block of 46th Avenue for a theft from auto. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle and stole several power tools. The investigation is ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager