TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report   Report No. 22 for 2020

October 30, 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 November 13, 2020.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Legislative Meeting	Monday, November 2, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87841944760?pwd=a2RsT2RQMGhLcTZjNDRCUExySWZ3dz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 878 4194 4760 Passcode: 194756
Council Work Session	Monday, November 30, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88469707375?pwd=VnUxcmJLTzFVeTRXc0M2U2tCaVZKQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 884 6970 7375 Passcode: 387686

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:

  - Job Blanco   12 Years of Service
  - Patricia Austin   10 Years of Service
  - Bradley Goshen   3 Years of Services
  - Ivy Lewis   2 Years of Service

- Cristian Gonzalez   2 Years of Service
- Jeremiah Sowers   2 Years of Service
- Denisa Caballero   1 Year of Service

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

Administration

- Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting Transition: In 2021, the Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program is transitioning from a Summary Reporting System to an Incident-Based Reporting System to meet the National UCR Program transition requirement as directed by the FBI. As a result of this transition, the FBI has provided mandatory training to all 18,000 Law Enforcement Agencies across the country.

  Records Manager Tracey Perrin provides UCR data for the Riverdale Park Police Department monthly, and as a part of the nationwide transition completed a four-day NIBRS Training Program conducted by the Maryland State Police and FBI. This training will ensure that our Town will be ready for the transition in 2021.

- 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 members of the Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review Committee (M-UTC).

  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 this important committee.

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Council Direction Summary

The Mayor and Council provided direction to staff through the following Legislative Actions:

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-OR-13 regarding Juneteenth as a Town Holiday - *Adopted*
2. Introduction of Ordinance 2020-OR-14 establishing School Zones and Maximum Speed Limits Town-wide - *Introduced*
3. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign a Novation Agreement regarding a current Town contracted engineering firm - *Approved*
4. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign an agreement with E&R Services, Inc. for an amount not to exceed $30,912 to install sidewalks at Tuckerman Street at the Field of Dreams – *Approved*
5. Motion to send a letter to MDOT SHA and State delegation regarding the Purple Line – *Approved*
6. Motion to send a letter to County Executive Alsobrooks regarding: (a) Nine Pond Project; (b) Root Cause Analysis of flooding event on September 10, 2020 – *Approved*
7. Motion to approve a $10,000 donation to the Greater Riverdale Cares/Route 1 Communities Care Food Program – *Approved*

Community Engagement

- Census 2020 Response: Governor Larry Hogan announced that Maryland finished ninth in the nation for response to the 2020 Census. More than 2.2 million households were counted, representing a total of 99.9 percent of the state's population, exceeding the 2010 Self-Response Rate.

- 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!

- 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. The 2018 International Property Maintenance Code is available for review on the Town's website at http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov/2018%20IPMC.pdf. 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 1,764. 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

- Town Tree Replacement: Staff learned that CKAR's Tree Canopy Project, that planted 300 trees on private property in 2019, may include tree planting on public property including public rights-of-way. CKAR's program, funded by and in cooperation with the County's Department of the Environment and Chesapeake Bay Trust, welcomed the opportunity to work with staff to identify public properties in Town for free professionally planted native trees. The Town lost 30 trees over the last two years- 10 in 2019 and 20 already in 2020. Staff will seek to replace the 30 lost trees through CKAR's and the Town's programs. Additionally, staff will seek to plant at least 13 trees along the 400 linear feet of the Field of Dreams property after the sidewalk installation is completed, bringing the projected total of trees to plant over the next six to eight months to 43. Residents who would like to participate in the CKAR program but whose property cannot accommodate a tree may opt to have a tree planted in front of their home in the public right-of-way. Staff looks forward to continuing this partnership in the future.

- Free Tree Program for Residents: Homeowners are eligible for free professionally planted native trees through the Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization CDC (CKAR) tree canopy project. This project is in collaboration with the Prince George's County Department of the Environment, the Chesapeake Bay Trust and other participating communities and organizations. To request a tree, visit https://ckarcdc.org/community-resources/.

- Leaf Collection: Residents are encouraged to bag their leaves and/or mulch them during lawn mowing instead of pushing them into the streets. It is extremely important to keep storm drains clear of leaves to allow the system optimal performance during a rain event. To support leaf bagging, Public Works staff will distribute five (5) leaf bags to each single-family residence in Town, starting the week of October 19th. FREE leaf bags will also be available for pick up on the third Saturday of the month (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) at the bulk trash drop off at the Public Works building until mid-January. Identification confirming residency is required. Bagged leaves should be set out curbside by 6 a.m. on Monday for collection by the Town's hauler. If residents

choose to mulch their leaves or will otherwise not use the leaf bags, they are encouraged to give them to a neighbor.

- 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.

- 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

- Emergency Repairs Grant Available: The Town is soliciting grant applications from homeowners who reside in Town. Applications will be accepted through Thursday, December 31, 2020. This grant program is designed to assist homeowners with emergency repairs in homes and businesses that would otherwise not be addressed. Residents can be reimbursed for up to $2,000 after work has been completed and paid for. An "emergency repair" is defined as a situation that is life-threatening or one that prohibits someone from living in decent, safe, and sanitary conditions. For more information, please visit http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/residents/emergency_repair_grant.php.

- Purple Line Updates:
  - Resurfacing of Kenilworth Avenue: Beginning on or about October 22, 2020, crews will conduct resurfacing of Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and MD 410 for approximately two weeks, weather permitting. Work may take place from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Temporary lane closures will occur.

- 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:
  - General Website: https://thestationrp.com/
  - Facebook: Riverdale Park Station: https://www.facebook.com/TheStationRP/
  - Twitter: @thestationrp: https://twitter.com/thestationrp
  - Instagram: thestationrp: https://www.instagram.com/thestationrp/

- Notices received by Town:
  - Notice was received informing that the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) is ready to accept the application for Special Permit No. SP-200001 for the project titled Chase ATM at Riverdale Park Station. The subject property is located at 4501 Van Buren Street, Riverdale Park, MD 20737. Once the application is formally accepted, it will be scheduled for a future Planning Board hearing. For more information, contact Nathaniel Forman at 301-572-3237 or the M-NCPPC case reviewer, Jeremy Hurlbutt at 301-952-4277.

- 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:

  Board of License Commissioners: November 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. (Virtual Meeting)
  https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_11042020-1727

  Planning Board: November 5, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (Virtual Meeting)
  http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1548&Inline=True

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

- Development Activities from October 15, 2020 to October 28, 2020

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	1	10
Building Permits Issued	1	8
Stop Work Orders Issued	4	9

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Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	8	20
Multifamily Licenses Issued	1	3
Single-family Rental Inspection	0	14
Single-family Licenses Issued	0	15
Business License Inspections Conducted	0	87
Business Licenses Issued	0	88

- <u>Neighborhood Improvement Activities from October 15, 2020 to October 28, 2020</u>

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	1	20
Exterior Conditions	8	54
Interior Conditions	23	69
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	12
Safety	1	16
Sanitation	0	1
Total Violations Found:	**33**	**172**

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Services Provided by Type:

| Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	5	56
Fines Issued	0	3
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	2	12
Violation Notices Issued	5	45
Warnings Issued	5	27
Total Services Provided:	**17**	**143**

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.*

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Public Safety

505 Calls for Police Service
10/15/2020 to 10/28/2020
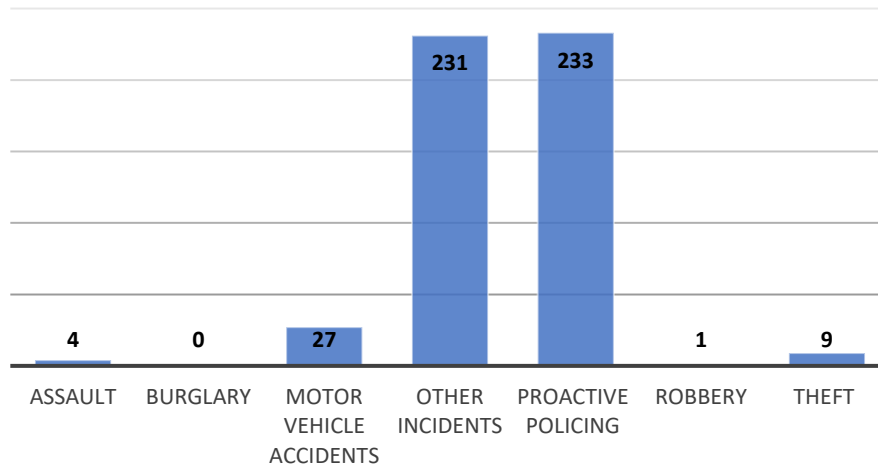
Calls for Service defined: A call for service is any activity performed by a sworn police officer in the performance of their assigned duties. Calls for service covers both proactive activities such as area checks and traffic enforcement, as well as a portion of field investigative reports, traffic accidents, 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, 233 or 46 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 5600 block of Riverdale Road for a suspicious vehicle. The driver was contacted and found to be asleep behind the wheel. Field sobriety tests were administered, and the driver was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

- Officers responded to the 4500 block of Woodberry Street for an attempted robbery. The investigation revealed the suspect approached the victim and asked for a ride. During the ride the suspect produced a knife and demanded money. The victim refused and the suspect exited the vehicle and fled. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to the 6000 block of Baltimore Avenue for a check on the welfare. Several motorists reported an individual running in and out of the travel portion of the roadway. Due to the individuals actions they were transported to the hospital for a psychological evaluation.

- Officers responded to the 4500 block of Riverdale Road for a theft. The victim reported a delivery package stolen from their front porch. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a motor vehicle theft. The victim reported their Nissan SUV was stolen. The victim left their keys inside the vehicle while inside the business. The vehicle was entered into NCIC as stolen.

- Officers responded to a business in the 6100 block of Baltimore Avenue for a theft. The manager reported an unknown suspect entered the business and grabbed several electric razors from the shelf before fleeing. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5000 block of Riverdale Road after observing the vehicle traveling on the sidewalk. The driver was placed under arrest for DUI after failing field sobriety tests.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a theft. The manager reported an unknown suspect entered the business grabbed merchandise and fled without paying for the items. Responding officers located the suspect and after a brief foot pursuit placed the suspect under arrest for theft and resisting arrest.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for an assault. The investigation revealed suspect became disorderly and swatted items off the counter striking an employee. A suspect has been identified and charged with 2nd degree assault and malicious destruction of property.

- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Terrace for a domestic assault. The investigation revealed the victim and suspect were involved in a verbal altercation which escalated and turned physical. The suspect assaulted the victim causing a minor injury. The suspect was placed under arrest for 2nd degree assault.

Respectfully submitted,

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager