TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report   Report No. 1 for 2021

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 January 22, 2021.

CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Town Hall and Public Works Operations Closed	Monday, January 18, 2021	In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Ethics Commission Meeting	Tuesday, January 12, 2021 7:15 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82612427447?pwd=OU5INEI2MFJMelM4RjVCRGNjaVEyZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 826-1242-7447 Passcode: 053896
Council Work Session	Monday, January 25, 2021 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84285776488?pwd=eXBOYnJLVDVBMVdzcXF5ejFoVHVIUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 842-8577-6488 Passcode: 749963

Public Hearing and Legislative Meeting	Monday, February 1, 2021 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84506867780?pwd=eG16eS9aYlN0R0tjazlmTEtWMldUUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 845-0686-7780 Passcode: 885123

Administration

- Meetings with Staff: Staff are available for virtual meetings while the Town buildings are closed to the public 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 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: The Town of Riverdale Park is seeking volunteers to serve as follows:
    - Election Judges for the Town election on May 3, 2021
    - Alternate Election Judges for the Town election on May 3, 2021
    - Members of the Board of Election Appeals for the Town election on May 3, 2021

  Please contact Town Clerk Jessica Barnes at jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov if you have any questions or if you are interested in volunteering.

Council Direction Summary

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

1. Introduction of Charter Amendment Resolution 2021-CR-01 regarding Absentee Voting - *Introduced*
2. Introduction of Ordinance 2021-OR-01 regarding the 2021 Town Election - *Introduced*
3. Motion to approve Mayor's nominations for Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review Committee - *Approved*
4. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter of support regarding Veto Override of House Bill 1236 - *Approved*

Community Engagement

- Notice of Speed Monitoring System Location: This is to give notice in accordance with Transportation Article § 21-809(b)(1)(viii) that beginning January 11, 2021, the Town of

Riverdale Park may activate and operate stationary speed monitoring systems at the following location in the Town of Riverdale Park:

5700 block of Rivertech Court Northbound and Southbound near College Park Academy.

This notice was also run in the *Enquirer Gazette* on January 7th.

- Notice of Public Hearing: The Mayor and Council of the Town of Riverdale Park will hold a public hearing to receive public comments on a proposed amendment to Article V Nominations and Election, Section 509 Absentee Voting, of the Town Charter.

   Place of Meeting: Virtual Meeting via Zoom. To join:
   https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84506867780?pwd=eG16eS9aYlN0R0tjazlmTEtWMldUUT09
   Or call: 301-715-8592 (Meeting ID: 845-0686-7780 Passcode: 885123)

   Time: 7:00 p.m.

   Date: February 1, 2021

   Written Public Comments may be submitted to: The Town of Riverdale Park at 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737 or by e-mail to community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov.

   This notice was also run in the *Enquirer Gazette* on January 7th.

- 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: We need your assistance to grow the Town's social media reach. Please ask your neighbors, friends, businesses, and visitors to follow the Town on social media. Thank you to those who follow the Town on our social media platforms. The Town's social media continues to expand our reach in sharing information. The Town's website remains the primary source for electronic information. Facebook and secondary Twitter accounts 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 1,863. The goal is to reach 2,000 followers on Facebook within the next 2 months. We know this is possible. If you have not 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

- Christmas Tree Collection: The final day for the collection of Christmas trees by Bates will be Thursday, January 14th.

- 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 distributed five (5) leaf bags to each single-family residence in Town in October. 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.

- Leaf Vacuuming: Leaf collection will end on January 15th. The Leaf Vacuuming Schedule is as follows:
  - Mondays and Thursdays: Residences north of 410/East West Highway
  - Tuesdays and Fridays: Residences south of 410/East West Highway

  To make the process work as efficiently as possible, residents should adhere to the following:
  - Rake leaves to the curb and pile leaves away from cars and storm drains as the leaf vacuum cannot reach around cars.
  - Be sure to remove tree limbs, rocks, and other debris from leaves to be vacuumed. These items can damage equipment and cause delays.

- 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 and businessowners. This grant program is designed to assist with emergency repairs in homes and businesses that would otherwise not be addressed. Successful applicants 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 or is needed for the safe and continual operation of a business. For more information, please visit http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/residents/emergency_repair_grant.php.

- Purple Line Updates:
    - Utility Work on Kenilworth Avenue: Beginning on or about January 4, 2021, crews will perform gas relocations along Kenilworth Avenue (MD 201), between River Road (MD 431) and Riverdale Road (MD 410), during the month of January, weather permitting. Work may take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., during the week. Residents will be notified of expected service interruptions by Washington Gas or their contractor. 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/

- 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: January 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting.
  https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_01132021-1776

  Planning Board: January 14, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.
  http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1558&Inline=True

  Historic Preservation Commission: January 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting.
  http://www.pgparks.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_01192021-505

- Development Activities from December 22, 2020 to January 6, 2021

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	0	17
Building Permits Issued	0	14
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	11

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	0	21
Multifamily Licenses Issued	1	18
Single-family Rental Inspection	1	44
Single-family Licenses Issued	9	51
Business License Inspections Conducted	0	99
Business Licenses Issued	4	100

- <u>Neighborhood Improvement Activities from December 22, 2020 to January 6, 2021</u>

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	1	25
Exterior Conditions	1	79
Interior Conditions	0	113
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	15
Safety	6	47
Sanitation	0	7
Total Violations Found:	**8**	**278**

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	8	78
Fines Issued	0	4
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	1	24
Violation Notices Issued	1	84
Warnings Issued	9	47
Total Services Provided:	**19**	**237**

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.*
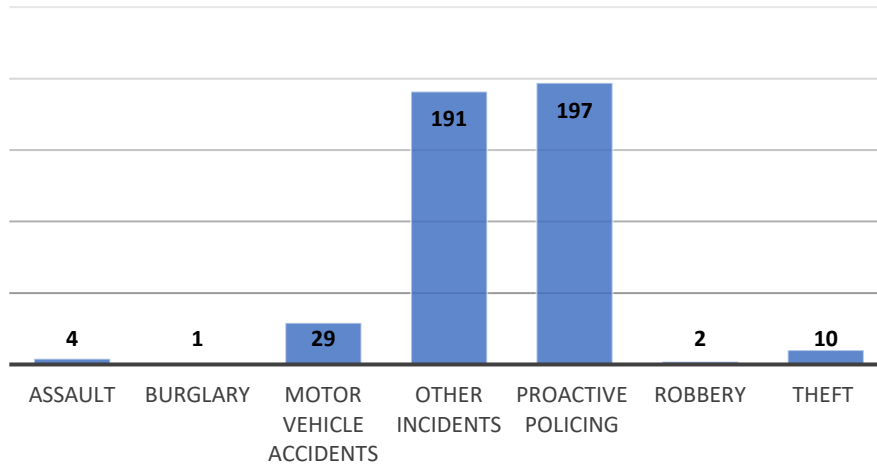
Finance

Dec				YTD Total		
FY2021	FY2020	FY2019		FY2021	FY2020	FY2019
$ 166,531	$ 161,092	$ 155,350		$ 5,597,425	$ 5,284,719	$ 5,265,955
$ 613,932	$672,078	$ 498,462		$ 3,306,402	$ 3,253,552	$ 2,709,987
$ (447,401)	$ (510,986)	$ (343,112)		$ 2,291,023	$ 2,031,167	$ 2,555,968
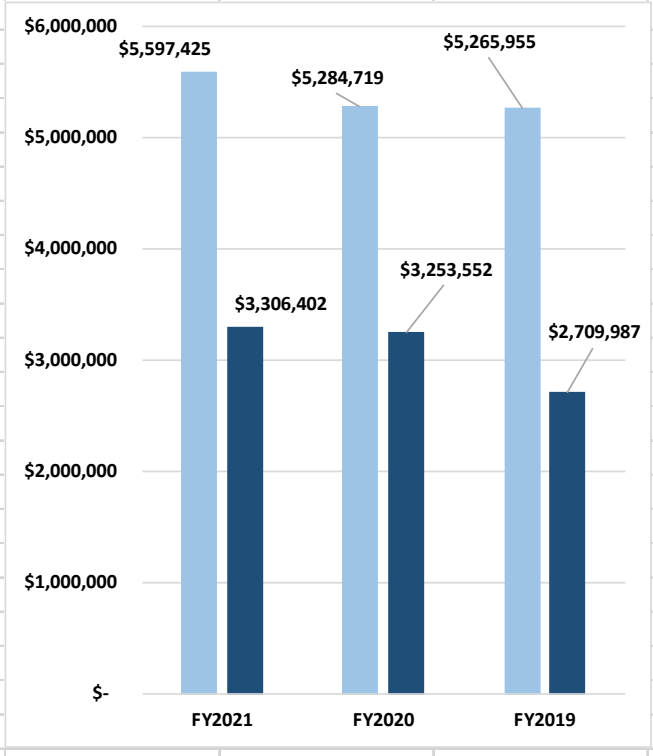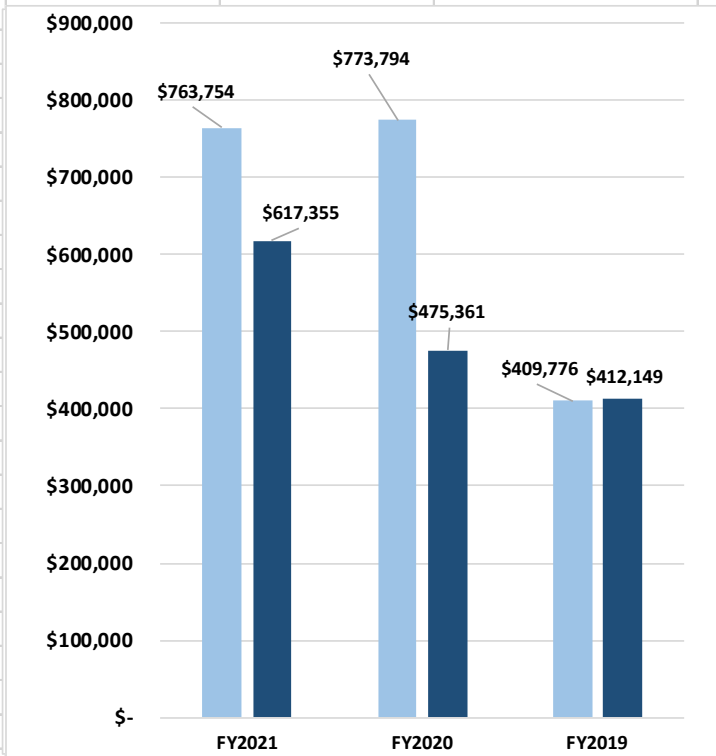
Revenue =

Expense =

434 Calls for Police Service
12/23/2020 to 01/06/2021

Bar chart values: ASSAULT 4, BURGLARY 1, MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS 29, OTHER INCIDENTS 191, PROACTIVE POLICING 197, ROBBERY 2, THEFT 10

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, 197 or 45 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 conducted a traffic stop in the 6600 block of Baltimore Avenue. A record check of the driver revealed an active arrest warrant through the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

- Officers responded to the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a commercial burglary. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) forced entry into the business by breaking the front glass. Once inside the suspect(s) removed property. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to a motor vehicle collision in the 4400 block of East West Highway. The driver of the at fault vehicle was found to be intoxicated. The driver was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated after failing field sobriety testing.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a commercial robbery. The investigation revealed unknown suspects entered the business and went behind the sales counter. The suspects pepper sprayed the employee and took the cash drawer. The employee refused medical treatment and the investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a theft. The investigation revealed an unknown suspect entered the business and removed scratch-off lottery tickets. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to the 6100 block of Baltimore Avenue for a motor vehicle collision. The driver of one of the vehicles was found to be intoxicated. The driver was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated after failing field sobriety testing,

- Officers were flagged down by an employee of a business in the 6200 block of Kenilworth Avenue. The employee reported an individual inside the business armed with a handgun. Officers contacted the individual and located a loaded .38 caliber handgun in the individual's waistband. Search incident to arrest revealed the individual was in possession of 3.7 grams of suspected cocaine.

- Officers responded to the 4600 block of Van Buren Street for a theft. The investigation revealed unknown(s) entered a construction site and removed a large amount of copper piping. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Riverdale Road for a carjacking/shooting. An adult male was discovered suffering from an apparent gunshot wound. Officers and medics attempted to perform life saving measures on the scene. The victim was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased. Prince George's County Police Homicide Detectives responded and assumed the investigation.

- Officers responded to the 5600 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a domestic assault. The investigation revealed the victim was struck in the head with a cellular phone after being involved in an altercation with his spouse. The suspect was placed under arrest for 2nd degree assault. The victim refused medical treatment on the scene.

Respectfully submitted,

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager