

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 3 for 2021

February 5, 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 February 19, 2021.

CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Town Hall and Public Works Operations Closed	Monday, February 15, 2021	In observance of Presidents Day
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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Council Work Session	Monday, February 22, 2021 7:00 p.m.	Virtual meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86471657868?pwd=LzZkTXVEM2ZoOGtpa0ZMSVF1Wk92Zz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 864-7165-7868 Passcode: 191709
Legislative Meeting	Monday, March 1, 2021 7:00 p.m.	Virtual meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82162436703?pwd=R1AvMHdOVXYrNH5T0lveTE4U1BUdz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 821-6243-6703 Passcode: 545465

Employee Recognition

- **Kudos:** Special thanks to the Public Works Team for keeping Town roads and sidewalks safe during the recent weather event. Well done!

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. Motion to re-appoint members of the Board of Code Appeals - *Approved*
2. Motion regarding curb cut request for 5910 Cleveland Avenue - *Approved*
3. Motion to adopt of Ordinance 2021-OR-01 regarding the 2021 Town Election - *Adopted*
4. Introduction of Ordinance 2021-OR-02 regarding 2021 Election Procedures - *Introduced*
5. Introduction of Ordinance 2021-OR-03 regarding Budget Amendment to reflect CARES Act funding - *Introduced*

Community Engagement

- **Resident Resources for Energy Assistance:**
 - **Prince George's County:** The County's website contains a list of energy assistance programs and organizations to assist residents:
<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1677/Energy-Assistance>
 - **Pepco:** Pepco offers a variety of options for energy assistance to include payment arrangements, due date extensions, budget billing, and bill payment assistance. For more information, visit
[https://www.pepco.com/MyAccount/CustomerSupport/Pages/MD/AssistancePrograms\(MD\).aspx](https://www.pepco.com/MyAccount/CustomerSupport/Pages/MD/AssistancePrograms(MD).aspx)

- Energy Assistance Toolkit: The Office of People's Counsel has created an [energy assistance toolkit](#) to help Maryland households facing utility turn-off notices keep their power on. This toolkit includes videos on how to fill out the Office of Home Energy Programs application, application forms, and resource guides.
- Bulk Fuel Assistance: The Fuel Fund of Maryland helps with bulk fuel assistance for the entire state, see the attachment. For more information about the Fuel Fund or to apply for help, [visit their website to fill out an application](#) or call 410-235-9080 for assistance.
- Call for Artists Submissions for Riverdale Park Public Art Initiative - Deadline to Apply is Friday, March 19, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.: On behalf of the Town of Riverdale Park, the Hyattsville CDC is announcing a Call for Artists for the Riverdale Park Public Art Initiative. The Initiative seeks five (5) sculptures of various styles and sizes to display for a one year-long placement, at pre-determined, publicly accessible sites within the Town of Riverdale Park. As part of the Town's plan to create an engaging, publicly accessible outdoor sculpture gallery across its many neighborhoods, we seek site-appropriate sculptural work fitting of each chosen location. All sites have an existing installed concrete footer/pad, specifically designed to accommodate a range of sizes of work and a variety of bases.

Submittals may be of any durable, easily maintained, exposure-ready media, and, due to the planned temporary nature of the initiative's installations should be of existing or nearly completed work. Following a jurying process, the works will be installed by the selected artist for year-long exhibition. At the end of the exhibition term, the works will also be made available for purchase through the Riverdale Park Public Art Initiative website at <https://hycdc.org/rppai>.

Artists across the greater metropolitan region are welcome to apply, especially those who live or have studios within Prince George's County. Local established and emerging sculptors, woodworkers, metalworkers, and artists of any durable media are welcomed.

ARTIST HONORARIUM

At this issuance, the stipend for selection in this Call is \$2,000 per selected work, to include all artist fees, costs for installation, documentation of the installed work, transportation, and insurance.

- 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 1,932. 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

- **Energy Efficiency Resources for Residents:**
 - Weatherization: The [Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development](#) offers programs that provide homeowners of all income levels with resources to improve their home's energy efficiency. Their programs can help with insulation, hot water system improvements, furnace repair or replacement, renewable energy systems, and other health and safety enhancement. [Click here](#) to check out all of their weatherization programs.
- **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:**
 - **Nightly Lane Closures for Utility Relocations on Kenilworth Avenue:** On or about Sunday, January 24, 2021, crews began performing utility relocation work on northbound Kenilworth Avenue (MD 201) between Quesada Road and Rittenhouse Street for approximately four weeks, weather permitting. The overnight work may take place 7 p.m. – 7 a.m. Expect nightly closures of the northbound right-hand lanes. Access to residences and WMATA bus stop #3003333 will be maintained.
 - **Weekend Underground Utility Relocations:** On Saturday, January 23, 2021, crews began performing underground utility relocations at the following Riverdale-area intersections:
 - 64th Avenue at Riverdale Road (MD 410)
 - Eastpine Drive and Patterson Street
 - 66th Avenue at Riverdale Road (MD 410)
 - 67th Avenue at Riverdale Road (MD 410)
 - Riverdale Road (MD 410) at Fernwood Terrace

Work may take place from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Temporary lane closures will occur.

- **On-Street Parking Prohibited on Segment of 64th Avenue:** Between January 19, 2021 and extending through the end of February, on-street parking will be prohibited from the intersection of Riverdale Road (MD 410) and 64th Avenue to the parking entrance for townhomes 6001-6073 64th Avenue, Riverdale, MD. Towing will be enforced 24 hours.

- Utility Work on Riverdale Road: On or about December 7, 2020, crews began performing underground utility work on Kenilworth Avenue (MD 201) northbound and southbound from Riverdale Road (MD 410) to Rittenhouse Street, which is extended through the end of March, weather permitting. Work may take place from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Temporary lane closures with flaggers will occur.
- Utility Work on Kenilworth Avenue: On or about October 12, 2020, crews resumed utility relocations on Kenilworth Avenue (MD 201) between River Road (MD 431) and Riverdale Road (MD 410). Work may take place overnight from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- Work Zone Safety: As work increases along the alignment, the Purple Line team remains committed to keeping everyone safe. Pedestrians and motorists are advised to follow construction signage and use the open sidewalk(s). For the safety of the public and our construction team, entry into construction work zones is not permitted.
- **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: February 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting.
https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_02102021-1794

Planning Board: February 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.
<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1564&Inline=True>

Historic Preservation Commission: February 16, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting.
http://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_02162021-513

- Development Activities from January 21, 2021 to February 3, 2021

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	4	25
Building Permits Issued	4	19
Stop Work Orders Issued	1	13

Permits Issued:

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2021-B-16	6705 45 th Street	Install ATM Machine	\$35,000
2021-B-17	6705 45 th Street	Install Awning	\$3,850
2021-B-18	5905 Harrison Avenue	Single Family House	\$330,000
2021-B-19	4514 Riverdale Road	Remodel Bathrooms and Kitchen	\$150,000
Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:			\$518,850
Est. Investment FYTD 2021 Total:			\$2,512,956

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	0	21
Multifamily Licenses Issued	1	20
Single-family Rental Inspection	3	47
Single-family Licenses Issued	10	62
Business License Inspections Conducted	3	106
Business Licenses Issued	3	105

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from January 21, 2021 to February 3, 2021

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	6	32

Exterior Conditions	6	91
Interior Conditions	5	120
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	1	16
Safety	4	57
Sanitation	0	7
Total Violations Found:	22	323

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	8	95
Fines Issued	1	5
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	2	29
Violation Notices Issued	13	101
Warnings Issued	4	56
Total Services Provided:	28	286

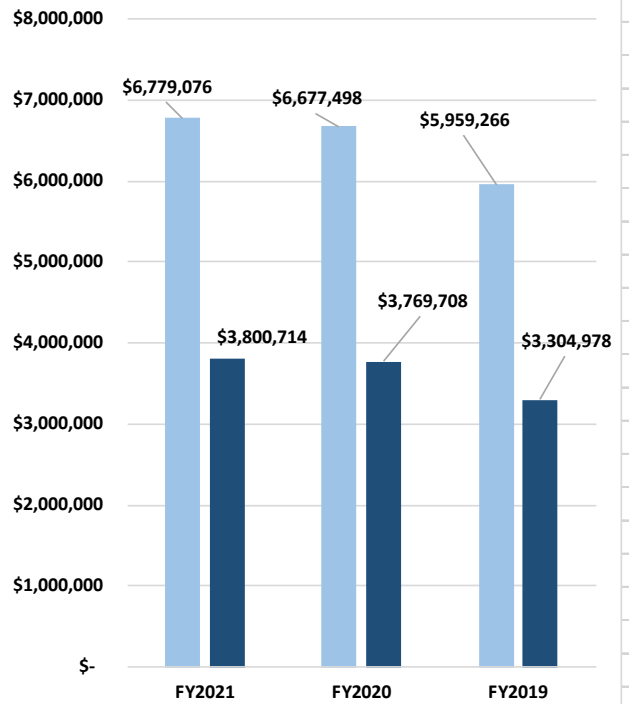
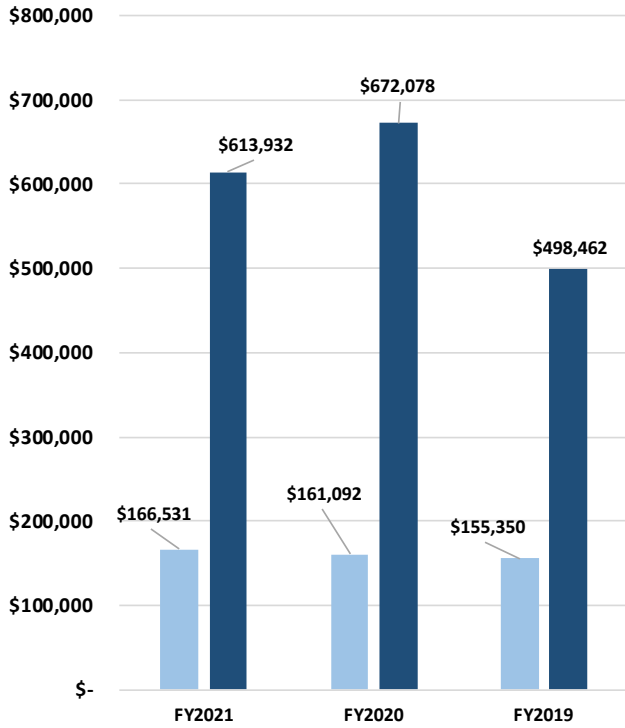
Note:

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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Finance

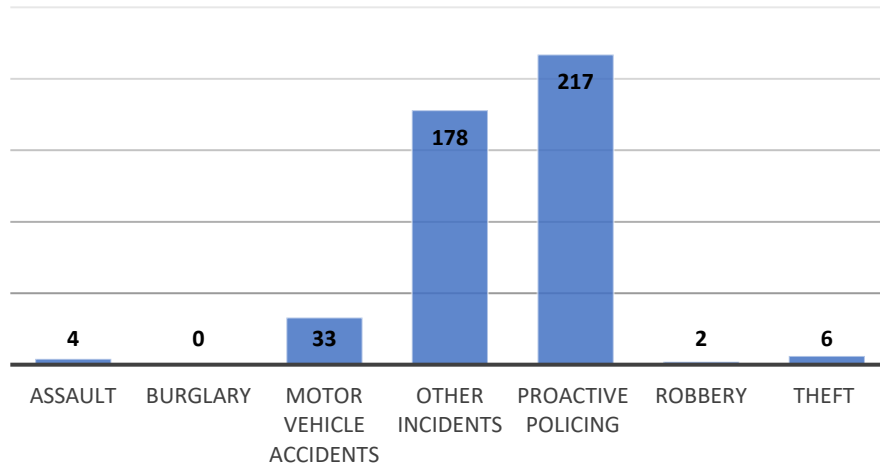
Jan			YTD Total		
FY2021	FY2020	FY2019	FY2021	FY2020	FY2019
\$ 1,203,028	\$ 1,392,779	\$ 693,311	\$ 6,779,076	\$ 6,677,498	\$ 5,959,266
\$ 422,682	\$ 516,156	\$ 594,991	\$ 3,800,714	\$ 3,769,708	\$ 3,304,978
\$ 780,346	\$ 876,623	\$ 98,320	\$ 2,978,362	\$ 2,907,790	\$ 2,654,288



Revenue =	
Expense =	

Public Safety

440 Calls for Police Service 01/21/2021 to 02/03/2021



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, 217 or 49 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 6200 block of Rhode Island Avenue for a robbery. The investigation revealed the victim was walking to her vehicle when two unknown suspects approached. The suspects pushed the victim to the ground and took her purse which contained business funds. The victim was not injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 6600 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a motor vehicle collision. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant for failure to appear for driving without insurance. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5800 block of Riverdale Road for a disorderly complaint. An employee of the business reported an intoxicated individual inside the business causing a disturbance. Officers contacted the individual who refused several requests to calm down and leave the property. The individual was removed from the business and issued a criminal citation for disorderly conduct.
- Officers responded to the 6100 block of Baltimore Avenue for a suspicious person complaint. Officers contacted the individual and records check revealed an active arrest warrant for failure to appear for trespassing. The individual was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop in the 4700 block of Queensbury Road for a reckless driving. The operator of the vehicle attempted to flee but the vehicle became disabled a short distance away. The driver was placed under arrest for fleeing and eluding, operating an uninsured / unregistered vehicle and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Officers responded to the 6100 block of 44th Place for a theft from auto. The victim reported unknown suspect(s) entered their unlocked vehicle and removed a purse.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a robbery. The investigation revealed the victim arranged to meet the suspects through the app Offer Up to sell an iPhone. During the transaction one of the suspects displayed a handgun and stole the victim's phone. The victim was not injured, and the investigation is ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager