

# TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

## Status and Information Report

## Report No. 5 for 2021

March 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 March 19, 2021.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

State of the Town	Monday, March 15, 2021 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88159023559?pwd=SjZra081Qy9ZUXFhcUV4UXoza3JrUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88159023559?pwd=SjZra081Qy9ZUXFhcUV4UXoza3JrUT09</a> Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 881-5902-3559 Passcode: 284645
Council Work Session	Monday, March 29, 2021 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83760575091?pwd=V3Q4YmZ6dFJpdmc ReisvMHhBY2RLUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83760575091?pwd=V3Q4YmZ6dFJpdmc ReisvMHhBY2RLUT09</a> Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 837-6057-5091 Passcode: 095235
Legislative Meeting	Monday, April 5, 2021 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81885957962?pwd=U2VTdzZ0SGs1RVRMNGRSeXkrR3FRUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81885957962?pwd=U2VTdzZ0SGs1RVRMNGRSeXkrR3FRUT09</a> Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 818-8595-7962 Passcode: 681973

<p>FY2022 Budget Public Hearing</p>	<p>Saturday, April 17, 2021 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Join Zoom Meeting  <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84303407844?pwd=NG5UbVM4L1grlddYm1AzbGVnazc0dz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84303407844?pwd=NG5UbVM4L1grlddYm1AzbGVnazc0dz09</a>  Or call: 301-715-8592  Meeting ID: 843-0340-7844  Passcode: 634313</p>
<p>FY2022 Budget Public Hearing</p>	<p>Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Join Zoom Meeting  <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88074071013?pwd=NjJnRmNBZXFLWlZlazzkUklYSzBXZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88074071013?pwd=NjJnRmNBZXFLWlZlazzkUklYSzBXZz09</a>  Or call: 301-715-8592  Meeting ID: 880-7407-1013  Passcode: 893835</p>

### 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:
  - Robert Turner    20 Years of Service
  - Charles Reading    2 Years of Service
  - Louis Speight-Bullock    1 Year of Service

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

### 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 Keith Robinson at [krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov) or call 301-927-6381.

## **Council Direction Summary**

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

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-OR-02 regarding 2021 Election Procedures - ***Adopted***
2. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-OR-03 regarding Budget Amendment to reflect CARES Act funding - ***Adopted***
3. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-OR-04 regarding Improving Neighborhood Safety – Budget Amendment - ***Adopted***
4. Motion to send a letter of support for support for HB0626- Prince George's County - Vehicle Height Monitoring Systems PG 305-21 – ***Approved***

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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 1,942. The goal is to reach 2,000 followers on Facebook within the next 3 weeks. 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](https://www.instagram.com/riverdaleparkmd_gov/?hl=en)
    - Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Riverdale\\_Park](https://twitter.com/Riverdale_Park)

- YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeaNS8-6xwTyPJculj7vuCQ/videos?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeaNS8-6xwTyPJculj7vuCQ/videos?view_as=subscriber)

### Environment

- WSSC Notification System: If there is a water or sewer emergency in or near your neighborhood, get alerts via text or email. Visit <http://wsscwater.com/cns> to register.
- 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](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/residents/emergency_repair_grant.php).

- Purple Line Updates:

- Temporary Closure on Rittenhouse Street: Beginning on or about Monday, March 8, 2021, crews will temporarily close a segment of Rittenhouse Street between Kenilworth Avenue (MD 201) and 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue for approximately three weeks, weather permitting, to perform utility relocations. Work may take place overnight from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., Monday through Friday and as needed, on weekends. Access to driveways will be maintained.

The detour for this closure can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/3stJZUG>

- Lane Closures at Eastpine Drive & Patterson Street Intersection: Crews will continue to relocate underground utilities at the intersection of Eastpine Drive and Patterson Street for approximately one week, weather permitting. Work may take place from 7 a.m. to p.m. Monday through Friday, and as needed, on weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.

- Lane Closures on Kenilworth Avenue: Beginning 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.

- Temporary Lane Closures for Utility Relocations along Baltimore Avenue: Crews have resumed utility relocations along the southbound lane of Baltimore Avenue (US 1) between Hotel Drive and Fraternity Row through the end of March, weather permitting. Work may take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, and as needed, on 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](http://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:

- Scam Alert: If you have received a text from “Maryland-MDot Urgent” addressing “MDot customer” with a link, please ignore the text. This text was not sent by any agency

associated with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), including the MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration. It is SPAM and has been reported to MDOT's IT Department. DO NOT click on the link and DELETE the message. If you did open it and clicked the link, for information on identity theft and ways to protect your identity, see Maryland Attorney General's ID Theft page for help:

<https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/IdentityTheft/default.aspx>

MDOT and its business units would not ask customers to provide this personal information in this way. We take the privacy our customers and their personal information very seriously.

- **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:** *No information available at time of report.*

**Planning Board:** March 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.

<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1568&Inline=True>

**Historic Preservation Commission:** March 16, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting.

[http://arts.pgpc.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/\\_03162021-521](http://arts.pgpc.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_03162021-521)

- Development Activities from February 18, 2021 to March 3, 2021

**Permits: Building / Storage Containers**

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	4	35
Building Permits Issued	4	25
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	13

**Permits Issued:**

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2021-B-22	4517 Tuckerman Street	New Addition	\$45,000
2021-B-23	4814 Tuckerman Street	Repair Porch and Patio	\$8,000
2021-B-24	4710 Ravenswood Road	Solar Panels on Roof	\$34,980

2021-B-25	4503 Oliver Street	New Addition	\$161,000
<b>Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:</b>			<b>\$248,980</b>
<b>Est. Investment FYTD 2021 Total:</b>			<b>\$2,775,936</b>

**Licenses:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Bi-Weekly Totals</b>	<b>FYTD 2021 Totals</b>
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	0	21
Multifamily Licenses Issued	0	20
Single-family Rental Inspection	0	51
Single-family Licenses Issued	0	62
Business License Inspections Conducted	5	120
Business Licenses Issued	5	115

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from February 18, 2021 to March 3, 2021

**Community Standards Violations by Type:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Bi-Weekly Totals</b>	<b>FYTD 2021 Totals</b>
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	11	43
Exterior Conditions	9	104
Interior Conditions	5	126
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	16
Safety	4	67
Sanitation	2	11
<b>Total Violations Found:</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>367</b>

**Services Provided by Type:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Bi-Weekly Totals</b>	<b>FYTD 2021 Totals</b>
Complaint Responses Performed	10	109
Fines Issued	1	7
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	1	32
Violation Notices Issued	9	115
Warnings Issued	8	68
<b>Total Services Provided:</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>331</b>



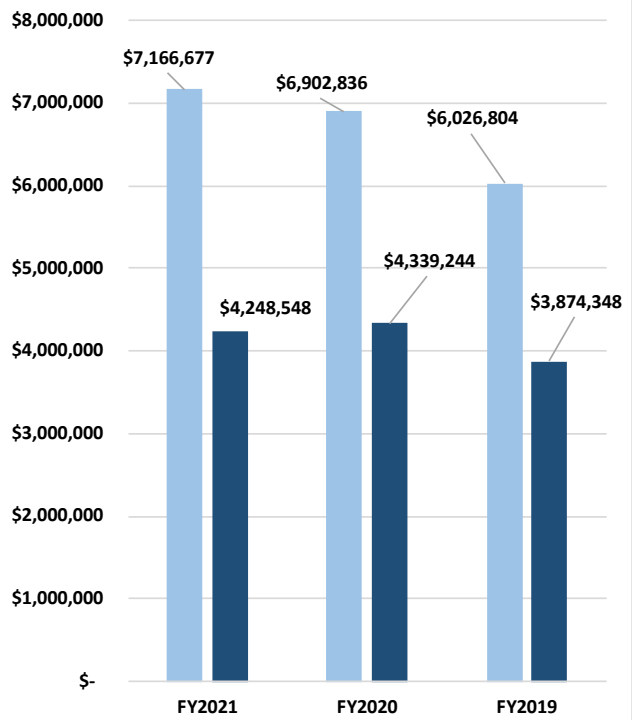
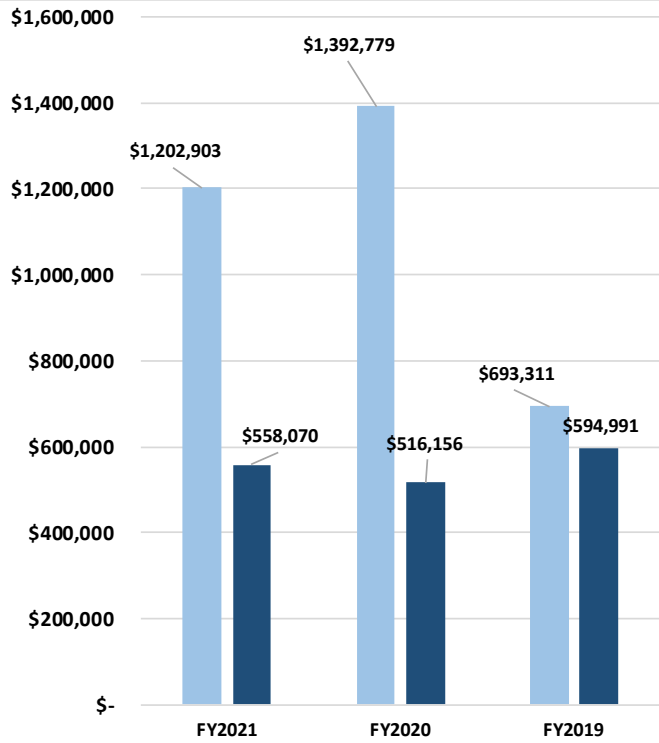
Note:

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**

Feb			YTD Total		
FY2021	FY2020	FY2019	FY2021	FY2020	FY2019
\$ 389,009	\$ 310,012	\$ 67,538	\$ 7,166,677	\$ 6,902,836	\$ 6,026,804
\$ 443,428	\$569,536	\$ 569,369	\$ 4,248,548	\$ 4,339,244	\$ 3,874,348
\$ (54,419)	\$ (259,524)	\$ (501,831)	\$ 2,918,129	\$ 2,563,592	\$ 2,152,456

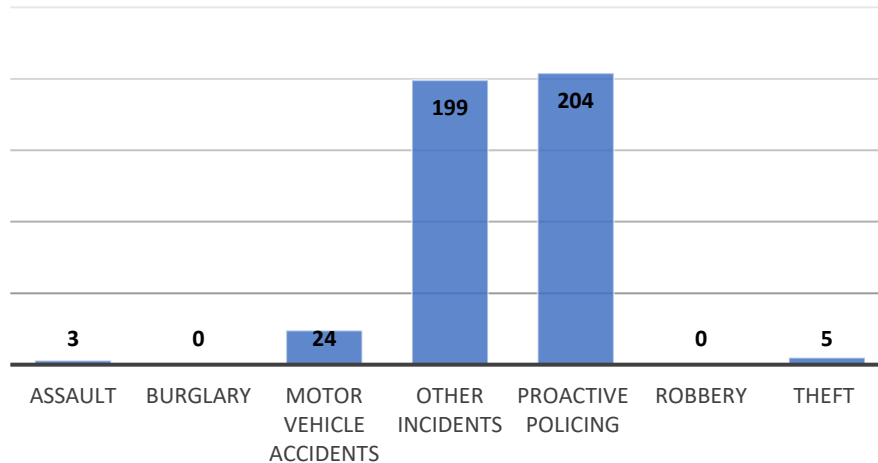


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## Public Safety

### 435 Calls for Police Service 02/18/2021 to 03/03/2021



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, 204 or 47 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 suspicious person stop in the 5600 block of Kenilworth Avenue. A records check revealed the individual to have an active arrest warrant for failure to appear for carrying a handgun. The individual was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a theft. The business owner reported the suspect entered the business and stole two 12 packs of beer. The

suspect was located a short distance away and placed under arrest. A search incident to arrest revealed the suspect was in possession of suspected PCP.

- Officers responded to a business in the 6600 block of Baltimore Avenue for a theft. The store manager reported an individual inside the business shoplifting. The individual was contacted and agreed to return the items. The store manager declined to prosecute, and the individual was issued a no trespass order.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an armed person. A security guard for the business reported an individual had threatened another patron with a box cutter. The suspect was located and arrested without incident. The box cutter was recovered from the suspect.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a disorderly complaint. An employee of the business reported an intoxicated individual that was harassing customers and refusing to leave. The individual was removed from the business and issued a criminal citation for disorderly conduct.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6600 block of Baltimore Avenue for a trespassing complaint. An employee of the business reported an individual inside the business causing a disturbance and refusing to leave. The individual was removed from the business and issued a criminal summons for trespassing.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Terrace for a domestic assault. The investigation revealed the suspect and victim were involved in an altercation. The altercation escalated and suspect struck the victim. While officers were on the scene investigating, the suspect returned and was placed under arrest for 2<sup>nd</sup> degree assault. The victim refused medical treatment on the scene.
- Officers responded to the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a drug complaint. A security guard for the property reported a suspicious vehicle involved in drug activity. Officers contacted the occupants of the vehicle and developed probable cause to conduct a search. During the search officers located 5.3 grams of suspected Cocaine. The individual was placed under arrest for possession with intent to distribute.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for an assault. The investigation revealed there were numerous people involved in a fight inside the business. During the altercation the victim was stabbed three times by an unknown suspect(s). The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment of serious but non-life-threatening injuries. The investigation is ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager