

# Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland

## Status and Information Report

### Report No. 24 for 2019



November 27, 2019

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 December 13, 2019.

#### **CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:**

Town Hall and Department of Public Works Closed	Thursday, November 29, 2019 Friday, November 30, 2019	In observance of Thanksgiving
Residential Trash Collection	Thursday, November 29 <sup>th</sup> NO COLLECTION	Collection will be on Monday, December 2 <sup>nd</sup>

#### **MEETING AND EVENT DATES:**

Legislative Meeting	Monday, December 2, 2019 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Center	Wednesday, December 4, 2019 7:30 p.m.	Town Hall
Children's Holiday Party	Saturday, December 7, 2019 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Holiday Market and Festival of Lights	Saturday, December 14, 2019 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Town Center
Seniors Holiday Luncheon	Wednesday, December 18, 2019 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Crescent Cities Center (4409 East-West Highway)

## 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:
  - Adam Swann 9 Years of Service
  - Alexander Harbitz 3 Years of Service

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

## Council Direction Summary

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

1. Motion to adopt Charter Amendment 2019-CR-01 regarding Article VI Finance, Section 623 Competitive Bidding - ***Adopted***
2. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-OR-06 regarding Small Cell Design Guidelines - ***Adopted***
3. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-OR-09 regarding Noise Control - ***Adopted***
4. Introduction of Ordinance 2019-OR-10 regarding weapons on Town property - ***Introduced***
5. Introduction of Ordinance 2019-OR-11 regarding Chapter 17- Camping - ***Introduced***
6. Motion to allocate \$1,400 from the FY2020 Unallocated Social Concerns line item for coats for Riverdale Elementary School students - ***Approved***
7. Motion to withdraw introduction of 2019-OR-10 regarding weapons on Town property - ***Approved***
8. Introduction of 2019-OR-10 regarding Chapter 65- Weapons on Town property - ***Introduced***
9. Introduction of Ordinance 2019-OR-12 regarding amendments to Chapter 64 Vehicles and Traffic - ***Introduced***
10. Motion to authorize Town Manager to sign a conditioned Agreement of Sale to acquire 5002 Queensbury Road - ***Approved***
11. Motion regarding request for financial assistance to support Thanksgiving Food Basket program - ***Approved***

## Community Engagement

- 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: The Town's Social Media Outreach initiative continues to evolve and expand the reach in sharing information. The Facebook page is an important platform from which the Town can share important news, events, updates, and emergency notifications. The staff team is working to grow our social media reach and has established a goal of 1,500 followers by May 31, 2020. 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:
  - 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**

- Way to go! On November 18<sup>th</sup> Riverdale Park Sustainability Committee member Lora Katz was recognized by Keep Prince George's County Beautiful and Prince George's County Department of the Environment for her work to keep Prince George's County clean, green, and beautiful. Ms. Katz was selected to receive the prestigious Waste Diversion & Recycling Award.



- FREE Leaf Bags: The Town is offering **FREE** leaf collection bags to residents through January 10, 2020. Single and two-family homes are eligible for the leaf bags. Residents need to show ID to receive their **FREE** leaf bags and there is a maximum of 10 bags per request. Leaf collection bags are available at Town Hall (Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

Bagged leaves must be placed at the curb for pick-up on Monday (Yard Waste collection day). Bagged leaves should be placed at the curb on Sunday evening or by 6 a.m. on Monday morning.

Residents are asked to help us to reduce costs of the annual leaf vacuuming program by utilizing the service provided by the Town's residential trash collection company!

- Replacement Totes: Bates requests that damaged trash cans be placed curbside and turned upside down for collection on **Wednesdays**. It is recommended to label the cans as "trash".
- Yard Waste Mondays: Yard waste collection is every Monday. Yard waste should 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**

- Small Business Saturday Neighborhood Champion Event: As part of the Town's efforts to support Small Business Saturday, a community event was held on November 26<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Thanksgiving Farmers Market. As you make your decisions on where to shop, please consider shopping small and shopping local.



- Rhode Island Trolley Trail Wayfinding Maps: In partnership with the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area, Inc. (ATHA), the City of Hyattsville, and the City of College Park, new wayfinding maps of the Rhode Island Trolley Trail are now available. This collaborative effort helps promote local branding and tourism in the Town.

Copies of the maps for the public are available at Town Hall.

- Greater Riverdale Visioning Workshops: As part of the Greater Riverdale Place-Based Initiative, Kaiser Permanente, Maryland Non-Profits, Neighborhood Design Center (NDC), and the Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization Community Development Corporation (CKAR CDC) are hosting visioning workshops to gain insight from those who live, learn, work, worship, and serve in organizations that impact Greater Riverdale. For more information about recent and upcoming workshops in the area, please click [here](#).

In addition, these community partners are continuing to gather public input through their survey about Greater Riverdale. To participate in this survey, please click [here](#).

- Purple Line Construction Notices: Purple Line construction continues. Residents are encouraged to subscribe for updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, visit [purplelinemd.com](http://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:
  - Transit Website: <http://www.rpstransit.com/>
  - General Website: <http://www.riverdaleparkstation.com>
  - Facebook: Riverdale Park Station
  - Twitter: @RDPStation
  - Instagram: rdpstation
- Notices received by Town:
  - An application for a Detailed Site Plan for Standard at College Park (DSP-19068) will be submitted for review to the Development Review Division of Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). The subject property is located at 4321 Hartwick Road in College Park. The nature of the application is to develop the property with a mixed-use residential and commercial project. For more information, please contact Joseph DiMarco at 301-809-4500.
- 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:** December 4, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. (Largo)

[https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/\\_12042019-1470](https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_12042019-1470)

**Planning Board:** December 5, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. (Upper Marlboro)

<http://mncppc.igm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1494&Inline=True>

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

- Development Activities from November 14, 2019 to November 25, 2019

**Permits: Building / Storage Containers:**

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	9	34
Building Permits Issued	4	26
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	12

**Permits Issued:**

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2020-B-20	5017 Riverdale Road	Complete Interior Renovation	\$6,500
2020-B-21	4502 Tuckerman Street	Deck	\$3,000
2020-B-22	5731 Baltimore Avenue	Interior Renovation	\$60,000
2020-B-23	4813 Rittenhouse Street	Interior Renovation	\$30,000
<b>Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:</b>			<b>\$99,500</b>
<b>Est. Investment FYTD 2020 Total:</b>			<b>\$3,038,615</b>

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from November 14, 2019 to November 25, 2019

**Community Standards Violations by Type:**

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	9	50
Exterior Conditions	13	73
Interior Conditions	126	379
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	40
Safety	24	63
Sanitation	3	15

<b>Total Violations Found:</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>620</b>
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**Services Provided by Type:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Bi-Weekly Totals</b>	<b>FYTD 2020 Totals</b>
Complaint Responses Performed	9	123
Fines Issued	0	24
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	3	28
Violation Notices Issued	12	64
Warnings Issued	5	97
<b>Total Services Provided:</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>336</b>

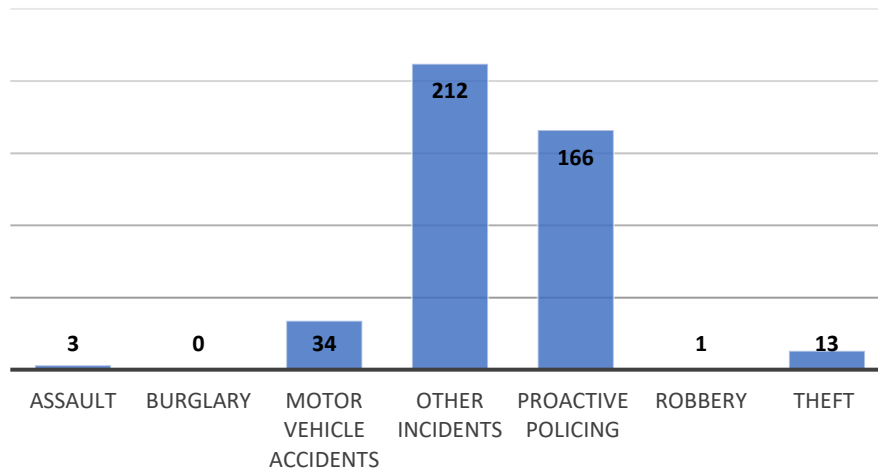
*Note:*

1. *“FYTD” means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020.*
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.*

**INTENTIONALLY BLANK**

## Public Safety

### 429 Calls for Police Service 11/14/19 to 11/25/19



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, 166 or 39 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 citizen assists.

#### Highlighted reports:

- Officers responded to a residence to check on the welfare of an individual. Officers encountered an individual who made threatening statements to hurt themselves. Due to the individual's actions they were transported to the hospital for an emergency psychological evaluation.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a theft. The investigation revealed the victim was walking when the suspect approached from behind and snatched the victim's cellular phone. The investigation is ongoing.



- Officers responded to the 4600 block of Oliver Street for a fraud. The investigation revealed the victim was defrauded of U.S. Currency after receiving a phone call from an individual posing as a representative of the Social Security Administration. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a theft. The investigation revealed the suspect entered the business and stole merchandise. An employee confronted the suspect about the theft and during the exchange the suspect assaulted the employee. Through investigative means the suspect has been identified and charged with theft and assault.
- Officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop in the 6800 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a traffic violation. The vehicle failed to stop and was found abandoned a short distance away. Officers canvassed the area, located and arrested the driver. The driver was charged with operating an unregistered vehicle and fleeing and eluding.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant for failure to appear while driving on a suspended license. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers observed an assault in progress in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue. The investigation revealed the suspect assaulted the victim over a traffic dispute. The suspect was placed under arrest for 2<sup>nd</sup> degree assault.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Carters Lane for an attempt citizen robbery. The investigation revealed the suspect approached the victim in the parking lot and demanded property. The suspect assaulted the victim but was unsuccessful in obtaining any of the victim's belongings. Through investigative means the suspect has been identified and charged with attempt robbery and assault.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager