

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 4 for 2022

February 18, 2022

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 4, 2022.

CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Town Hall and Public Works Operations Closed	Monday, February 21, 2022	In observance of Presidents Day
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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Ethics Commission Meeting	Wednesday, February 23, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87975909162?pwd=YStjb2xtTGNRaWcwTGgrbHJ5WGZsQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 879 7590 9162 Passcode: 579223
Special Legislative Meeting and Work Session	Monday, February 28, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88400234707?pwd=SFRSUW5xcXJHK3Q5dzFmMzNaMnhBUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 884-0023- 4707 Passcode: 579554

Legislative Meeting	Monday, March 7, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85826416624?pwd=dFFQZUczOXg2bUhUZGJheWs1OW1Vdz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 858-2641-6624 Passcode: 579554
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Administration

- **Meetings with Staff:** Staff are available for virtual meetings when the Town buildings are closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Municipal Center Project. 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, Denisa Caballero at dcaballero@riverdaleparkmd.gov, or call 301-927-6381.

Community Engagement

- **Legal Help for Immigration Court:** Free legal advice is available for immigrants who must appear before Maryland’s immigration court because they are at risk of deportation. Children, families, and adults can call 443.703.3054 or go to www.probonomd.org/help-for-immigrants to request to speak to an attorney using WhatsApp.
- **County Food Security Task Force:** In 2020, the Prince George's County Food Security Task Force was established with a goal of identifying challenges and opportunities, and providing recommendations for creating a healthy, equitable, and sustainable food system in Prince George’s County. The 21-member Task Force included stakeholders representing government, not-for-profit, faith-based, food providers, the university & health community, and the private sector.

The Task Force has provided eleven recommendations in its final report - four foundational and seven general - including the creation of a County Food Security office; maximizing participation in federal food programs; establishing communication strategies; and additional incentives to support healthy food options

Read the report and view the Council briefing [here](#).

- FREE COVID-19 Test Kits Mailed to Your Home: Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. For more information, visit <https://www.covidtests.gov/>.
- COVID Care Program: The Prince George's County Health Department's COVID Care Program is for residents who have been exposed to COVID-19 or who are COVID-19 positive. The program assists residents with social service needs, including connecting to health insurance, medical care, and mental health care at a Federally Qualified Health Center, Food, Living situations, Utilities, Transportation, and other needs.

The County will also assist with isolation and quarantine: deliver COVID Care Kits to the homes of people who consent. COVID Care Kits include PPE, cleaning supplies, tissues, toilet paper, and educational materials. Food insecure residents will also receive a 2-week supply of food, including fresh produce, canned goods, and kitchen staples like bread, tortillas, and rice.

If you are aware of Prince George's County residents who has tested positive for or who were exposed to COVID-19 and need services, please refer them to the COVID Care Program at <https://assess.pgchd-phin.app/index.php/181471/lang/en/newtest/Y> Questions can be sent to COVIDcare@co.pg.md.us Those who qualify will be contacted by a Community Health Worker from the Prince George's Healthcare Alliance.

- We Want to Hear from You: The Town of Riverdale Park needs your insight to improve the delivery of information from the Town. In our shared support of small in Town businesses, \$10 digital gift cards are being offered to residents of the Town of Riverdale Park who complete the Communications Survey (while supplies last and one gift card per household). The Communications Survey can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TRPSIRSurvey>



- COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Update: The County Health Department's COVID-19 vaccination clinic has moved to the Prince George's Community College. Residents are encouraged to make an appointment to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Walk-ins will now only be accepted from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, visit: <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3730/COVID-19-Vaccine>.
- Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Vaccination Clinics: The Prince George's County Health Department is also hosting COVID-19 vaccine clinics at various schools throughout the County. COVID-19 vaccines are free and available for residents ages 5 and up at the school-based vaccination clinics. Schedule your child's appointment today at <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3730/COVID-19-Vaccine>.
- Prince George's County Homeownership Preservation Program (HOPP): A partnership has been established between Prince George's County and Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to launch the new Prince George's County Homeownership Preservation Program (HOPP). The program prioritizes homeowners who live within one mile of the Purple Line to provide resources to address the home's critical health, safety, and accessibility related needs to help promote and enable the transfer of generational wealth by preserving homeownership for families in need. Funding is limited, apply [here](#) and/or share the information with your neighbors.

- Senior Call Check: Senior Call Check is a FREE service available to adults 65+ in Maryland. Seniors can receive an automated daily call at a time they designate. After 3 attempts and no answer, the department will contact designated alternates to check on residents. Registration can be completed over the phone at 1-866-50-CHECK (1-866-502-0560) or online <https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/senior-call-check.aspx>
- Maryland Homeowner Assistance Fund: The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development will be launching The Maryland Homeowners Assistance Fund in late 2021. The Fund will be open to homeowners statewide. Visit the Maryland Homeowner Assistance Fund webpage to learn more about the program and the eligibility requirements. <https://dhcd.maryland.gov/Residents/Pages/HomeownerAssistanceFund.aspx>

Complete an Expression of Interest Form and be added to the MD-DHCD's email list. <https://dhcd.maryland.gov/Residents/Pages/HomeownerAssistanceFund/ExpressionofInterest.aspx>

- Water Bill Assistance: The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) has resumed water service turnoffs. WSSC Water is encouraging customers that need assistance to establish convenient payment plans or apply for financial assistance to prevent a water service turnoff.

Contact WSSC Water at 301-206-4001 Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more information, visit the WSSC Water website https://www.wsscwater.com/assistance?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery.

- COVID-19 Test Kit Distribution to Farmer's Market Dollars Program Families: Over the last week, Town staff shipped approximately 240 COVID-19 test kits to the families enrolled in the Farmer's Market Dollars Program. The Town provided these free testing kits to families to assist with the detection of COVID-19 and help mitigate the spread of the virus. The Town encourages residents to get tested if COVID-19 symptoms develop or at least five days after coming into close contact with someone with COVID-19, or when gathering with a group of people, especially those who are at risk of severe disease or may not be up to date on their COVID-19 vaccines.
- 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!
- Trash Concerns App Streamlines Process: 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.gov/how_do_i/trash_concerns/index.php



- Social Media Outreach: 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 2,283. We need your assistance to continue the Town's outreach efforts. 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

- Weatherization Programs: Programs are available to help income eligible households lower their energy bills. The [Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development \(DHCD\)](#) offers programs that may provide help with things like insulation, hot water system improvements, heating/cooling repair or replacement, renewable energy systems, and other health and safety enhancements free of charge. For questions or help with the application call 1-855-583-8976.
- 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.
- JEDA Trucking Bulk Trash Pick-up Services: As a reminder, Bulk Trash Collection is provided by appointment only on Thursdays. Schedule collection by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesdays by calling 240-604-6077 or online at www.jedatruckinginc.com/book-online.
- 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

- **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 Hyattsville Crossing PPS-4-21032. The subject property is located at the north side of East-West Highway between Toledo Terrace and Belcrest Road. The nature of the review is to develop multifamily residential dwellings. Once the application is formally accepted, it will be scheduled for a future Planning Board hearing. For more information contact Tom Haller at 301-306-0033.
 - Notice was received informing that the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) is ready to accept the application for Suffrage Point PPS-4-2105. The address of the subject property is 401h Place and Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781, which is located south of the intersection of Gallatin Street and 40th Place, and northeast of the David C. Driskell Community Park. The nature of the application is for a Preliminary Plan of Subdivision which includes 41 single family attached houses. Once the application is formally accepted, it will be scheduled for a future Planning Board hearing. For more information contact Norman D. Rivera, Esq. at 301-580-3287.
 - The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission provided notice that all properties located within the Maryland-Washington Regional District within Prince George's County (all properties in the County except those located within the City of Laurel) were assigned a new zone on November 29, 2021, with the approval of the Countywide Map Amendment (CMA) by the Prince George's County Council, sitting as the District Council, through the adoption of Council Resolution No. CR-136- 2021 (DR-2). To download the entire CMA resolution of adoption package for CR-136-2021 (DR-2), visit the Prince George's County Council webpage at <https://bit.ly/PGCC-CR1362021>.

Over the next few weeks, the County's official zoning map will be amended in accordance with CR-136-2021 (DR-2). Staff expect the revised zoning map reflecting the technical revisions approved by the Council in CR-136- 2021 to be available in February 2022. To see the Approved Zoning Map (effective April 1, 2022), visit the Zoning Rewrite website at <http://zoningpgc.pgplanning.com/zoning-swipe-tool>. For more information contact the project team at 301-952-4944 or by e-mail at Zoningpgc@pgplanning.com.

- **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 22, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.
https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_02222022-2130

Planning Board: February 24, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.
<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1635&Inline=True>

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

- Development Activities from February 3, 2022, to February 16, 2022

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	1	27
Building Permits Issued	1	25
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	2

Permits Issued:

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2022-B-25	4901 Sheridan Street	6 Foot Fence	\$3,500
Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:			\$3,500
Est. Investment FYTD 2022 Total:			\$2,628,906

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	0	22
Multifamily Licenses Issued	0	20
Single-family Rental Inspection	0	62
Single-family Licenses Issued	12	53
Business License Inspections Conducted	13	113
Business Licenses Issued	18	117

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from February 3, 2022, to February 16, 2022

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	7	77
Exterior Conditions	0	80
Interior Conditions	0	117
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	29
Safety	5	58
Sanitation	0	3
Total Violations Found:	12	364

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	12	164
Fines Issued	0	24
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	9	192
Violation Notices Issued	4	55
Warnings Issued	8	135
Total Services Provided:	33	570

Note:

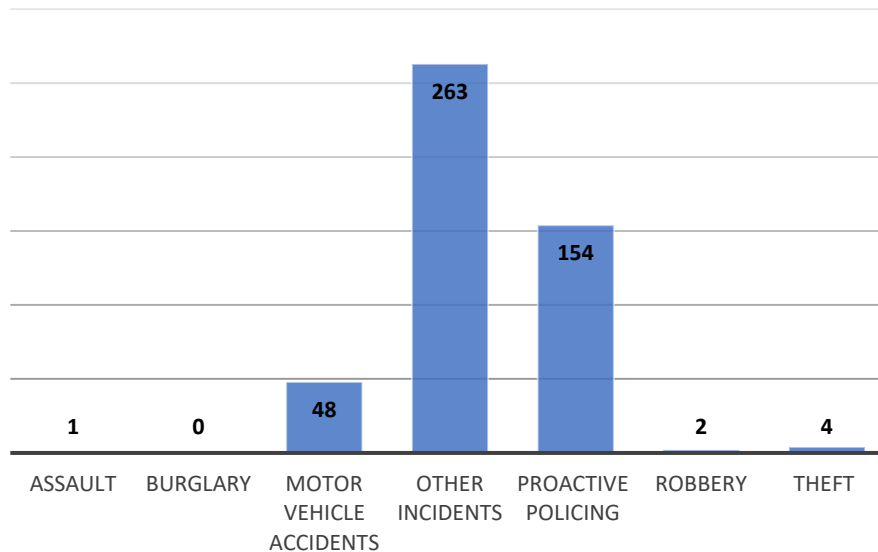
1. "FYTD" means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022.
2. "Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish" includes violations pertaining to the storage of waste materials in interior or exterior property areas.
3. "Exterior Conditions" include, but not limited to chipping, flaking, and 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

472 Calls for Police Service 02/03/2022 to 02/16/2022



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, 154 or 33 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 Incident includes disorderly complaints, fights, suspicious subjects/vehicles, parking complaints, traffic complaints, and assisting individuals.

Highlighted reports:

- Officers responded to the intersection of Baltimore Avenue and Queensbury Road for a motor vehicle collision. The operator of the striking vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers responded to a residence in the 5300 block of Riverdale Road for a check on welfare. The residents reported a family member inside the residence acting erratic and under the

influence of PCP. Due to the individual's actions and for their safety they were transported to the hospital for an emergency psychological evaluation.

- Officers responded to the 5800 block of Riverdale Road for a motor vehicle collision. While the accident was being investigated, a driver of another vehicle struck the rear of a police cruiser which was parked with its emergency equipment activated. The driver of the vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers responded to the 5300 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a robbery. The victim reported he was approached from behind by an unknown suspect who produced a handgun and demanded his property. The victim relinquished his property to include his car keys. The suspect fled the scene in the victim's 2019 Volkswagen. The victim was not physically injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the intersection of East-West Highway and 49th Avenue for a motor vehicle collision. The driver of the striking vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for an armed robbery. The preliminary investigation revealed the victim was servicing the ATM when two armed suspects approached and demanded money. The victim refused and was shot several times by the suspects. After the shooting the suspects fled to an awaiting vehicle and escaped. Responding officers treated the victim by applying tourniquets until the Fire Department arrived. The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment and is expected to survive. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a suspicious person. The individual was contacted, and a records check revealed an active arrest warrant through the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office. The individual was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers responded to the 4400 block of Van Buren Street for a stolen vehicle. The victim reported that she parked her 2017 Chevy Camaro in the parking garage prior to work and when she returned it was gone. The vehicle was entered into NCIC as a stolen vehicle.
- Officers responded to a residence in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Terrace for an attempted suicide. The residents reported a family member was inside the residence threatening to cut themselves. Responding officers were able to deescalate the situation and the individual was transported to the hospital for an emergency psychological evaluation.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager