

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland

Status and Information Report

Report No. 7 for 2019



April 5, 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 April 19, 2019.

Upcoming Meetings:

FY2020 Budget Public Hearing	Saturday, April 6, 2019 9:30 a.m.	Town Hall
FY2020 Budget Public Hearing	Saturday, April 13, 2019 9:30 a.m.	Town Hall
Council Work Session	Monday, April 29, 2019 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Town Election	Monday, May 6, 2019 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Legislative Meeting	Monday, May 6, 2019 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall

Employee Recognition

- Employee Anniversaries: Please join me in extending a sincere thank you to the following team member for their years of dedicated service to the Town's residents:

- Orville Saunders III 2 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 appoint Paul Smith, Director of Finance and Employee Services, as Acting Town Manager effective April 14, 2019 - ***Approved***
2. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement for Lawn Mowing and Maintenance Services with Motir Services, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$66,800 - ***Approved***
3. Motion to authorize staff to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for City of Hyattsville Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN) Coalition and a Municipal Mutual Aid Agreement - ***Approved***
4. Introduction of Ordinance 2019-OR- 04 regarding Competitive Negotiated Sale of 4603 East West Highway – ***Introduced; Fair Summary run in Enquirer-Gazette on April 4, 2019***
5. Motion to authorize Town Manager to send a letter to Prince George’s County Board of Zoning Appeals recommending approval of variance request for 5912 48th Avenue; variances of 5 feet front yard depth and 5.5 feet side street yard depth, and 33 feet front street line setback, 17 .5 feet side street line setback and a waiver of the rear yard location requirement (Ward 3) – ***Approved; Letter sent on April 3, 2019***
6. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-OR-02 regarding Chapter 42 Business Licenses - ***Adopted***
7. Motion to adopt with amendments Ordinance 2019-OR-03 regarding Wireless Telecommunications Facilities in Public Rights-of-Way - ***Adopted***
8. Motion to authorize Town Manager to send a letter to Prince George’s County Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement in support of a Food Truck Hub in Discovery District - ***Approved***
9. Motion to repeal and replace Resolution 2019-R-02 regarding Election Judges - ***Approved***

Community Engagement

- **Field of Dreams Community Meeting:** On Saturday, March 23rd at 9:30 am, the Neighborhood Design Center (NDC) discussed the proposed design concepts and solicited feedback from residents for the Field of Dreams, located at 4701 Tuckerman Street.



Residents' feedback from the meeting and future plans for this project can be found [here](#).

- Earth Day Clean-up: The Town will again partner with the Anacostia Watershed Society for a clean-up event along the Anacostia River. Please plan to join us for this fantastic event!

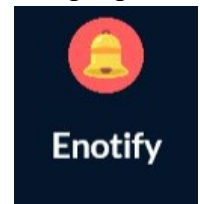
Location: Rinaldi's Riverdale Bowl
6322 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale Park, MD 20737
When: Saturday, April 13, 2019
Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Please contact TJ Sundberg at 301-927-6381 or tsundberg@riverdaleparkmd.gov for more information.

- Volunteers Needed to Serve on M-UTC: The Town of Riverdale Park is seeking volunteers to serve on the Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review (M-UTC) Committee. M-UTC meets on the first Wednesday of most months to review development applications. For more information regarding M-UTC, visit: <https://www.mncppc.org/3352/Riverdale-Park-MUTC>.

Please contact Town Clerk Jessica Barnes at jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov if you are interested in serving on this important committee.

- New Website Feature: Staff are continuously working to find new ways to reach more people and one new way is the launch of the Enotify feature of the Town's website. This feature allows residents and others to subscribe to be notified of updates on pages of their choosing from the Town's website. The notifications are available by e-mail and/or text messages. Staff are working to refine the feature so please check the website for changes and improvements. Links to Enotify are on the homepage, both in the center bar and upper left bar and found here: <http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov/enotify/index.php>.



- Social Media Outreach: The Town's Facebook page is an important platform from which the Town can share important news, events, and updates. In the last several weeks we have gained many new followers and new likes. But we know that more residents, businesses and others who love Riverdale Park can be reached! Staff have established a goal to have over 1,000 likes and followers by the end of May and we have already grown to 909 followers. Together we can improve our reach to share good news and alerts about our Town. 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/#RP1000byMay>



Environment

- UMD Capstone Project Composting Survey: Students from the University of Maryland, in partnership with the Town, are conducting a survey among residents to gauge interest in a potential composting program in Town. For more information, please click on the links below:

English

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfsx8euj728jJvqOQi3cEpYYVxqF1zfiwwZeraFZAPXvO6uw/viewform>

Spanish

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSduz4R3xwXpCNM_Hhuwg8SJVJlwBFBEpcuxQsSuzVeOB1-tQ/viewform

The survey will close on April 14, 2019.

- **Trash Tote Repair/Replacement Process:** To coordinate the replacement of damaged trash totes, residents should call the Town offices at 301-927-6381. The Town's contracted trash service provider will replace the damaged totes. Please note that a replacement tote will not be delivered if the damaged one is not there for pick-up.
- **Recycling Collection – important note:** Recycling will not be collected if the items to be recycled are placed in any type of plastic bag. Town staff have received reports that this continues to be a concern. 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

- **Come Grow with Us! Spring Forward Grant Program:** Starting Wednesday, April 3rd, the Town will start receiving applications for the Spring Forward Grant Program. This grant awards up to \$1,000 to eligible Town businesses in the commercial and mixed-use zones for the purchase or upgrade of technology-related equipment / systems that will increase efficiency, improve environmental sustainability, and / or assist in gaining a competitive advantage in the marketplace.

The deadline to submit applications is May 31st. For more information, please click [here](#).

- **Prince George's County DPW&T Proposed Bus Route Change:** During the March 25th Work Session officials from County DPW&T presented before Mayor and Council to receive feedback on the proposed change to Bus Route #14 for the County's *TheBus* system. The proposed changes are to help increase on-time performance for bus pickup in Town.

For more information, please click on the presentation slide in pdf format below:

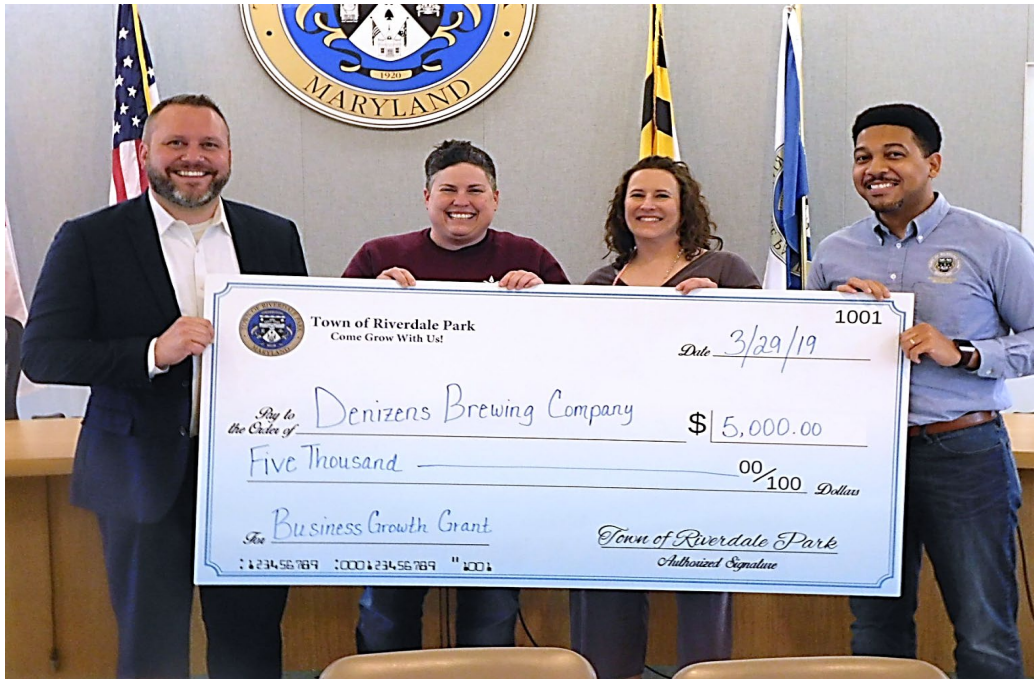


PGC DPWT OT
Route 14 Briefing Pr

- **Come Grow with Us! Business Growth Grant Presentation:** As part of the Town's economic development programs and initiatives, entitled *Come Grow with Us*, the Town awarded \$5,000 to Denizens Brewing Company as an approved applicant for the Business Growth Grant. This grant

program awards up to \$5,000 to new or existing businesses that are making improvements to their structure that cost at least \$50,000 in hard construction.

Denizens is a newly established business located at 4505 Van Buren Street. Denizens invested approximately \$240,000 in hard construction to establish their new business in RP Riverdale Park Station.



- Mixed Use Town Center (MUTC) Meeting: On Wednesday, April 3rd, the MUTC meeting was held at Town Hall to review a project in the MUTC Zone. For more information, please click [here](#).
- Discovery District Meeting: On Thursday, April 4th, staff met with the University of Maryland Office of Innovation and Economic Development. The purpose of the meeting was to explore opportunities for the Town to further collaborate with the Discover District on the marketing and promotion of programs and initiatives related to economic development, innovation, and research.
- Purple Line Parking Study Meeting: On Monday, March 25th, staff attended a meeting hosted by Kittelson and Associates, who is conducting a parking study in the areas near the Purple Line. This study will focus on identifying parking supply along the Purple Line and summarize best parking management practices for impacted communities. Attendees of the meeting included County and MNCPPC officials, along with officials from local municipalities within the Purple Line. The Purple Line Parking Study is expected to be completed by the end of May, or early June.
- Purple Line Construction Updates:
 - Northbound Traffic shift onto Temporary Bridge: Beginning on or about April 27, 2019 northbound traffic will shift onto the temporary Baltimore-Washington Parkway bridge to

- allow for reconstruction of the existing bridge over Riverdale Road. This work will take place during nighttime hours on weekdays, from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m., as well as weekends. Flagging operations will occur.
- Weekend work and lane closures at Baltimore-Washington Parkway: During the month of April, crews will be installing wire walls and traffic signals at the Baltimore-Washington Parkway along Riverdale Road 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures with flagging operations will occur.
 - Weekend work and lane closures on Riverdale Road: During the month of April, temporary lane closures will occur on Riverdale Road between Kenilworth Avenue and Baltimore-Washington Parkway between 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on weekdays and weekends.
 - Weekend work and lane closures on Kenilworth Avenue: During the Month of April, temporary lane closures will occur on Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and Riverdale Road for overhead and underground utility relocations between 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays and weekends.
- **Purple Line Construction Notices:** Purple Line construction is underway. 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, 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 website and social media pages:
 - Website: <http://www.riverdaleparkstation.com>
 - Facebook: Riverdale Park Station
 - Twitter: @RDPStation
 - Instagram: rdpstation
 - **Notices received by Town:**
 - MD 500- Queens Chapel Road Urban Reconstruction Project: The MD 500 project will address operation and safety concerns throughout the corridor while improving multiple modes of transportation in surrounding areas. Work will extend from MD 500 at the Washington, DC line (Eastern Avenue) to MD 208 (Hamilton Street). Construction is scheduled to begin this spring. A public meeting will be held on April 10, 2019, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Hyattsville Middle School (6001 42nd Avenue, Hyattsville 20781). For more information about the project, visit www.roads.maryland.gov or contact Jason Weinberg, Project Manager at 410-545-8959 or jweinberg@sha.state.md.us.
 - **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.

Planning Board: April 11, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. (Upper Marlboro)

<http://mncppc.igm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1466&Inline=True>

Historic Preservation Commission: April 16, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. (Upper Marlboro)

http://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_04162019-257

Board of License Commissioners: April 23, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. (Largo)

https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_04232019-1278

- Development Activities from March 21, 2019 to April 3, 2019

Permits: Building / Storage Containers:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2019 Totals
Inspections Conducted	3	113
Permits Issued	0	75
Stop Work Orders Issued	2	9

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from March 21, 2019 to April 3, 2019

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2019 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	4	112
Exterior Conditions	1	108
Interior Conditions	0	146
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	2	32
Safety	0	288
Sanitation	0	24
Total Violations Found:	7	710

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2019 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	13	204
Fines Issued	0	5
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	2	90
Violation Notices Issued	1	100
Warnings Issued	7	86
Total Services Provided:	23	485

Note:

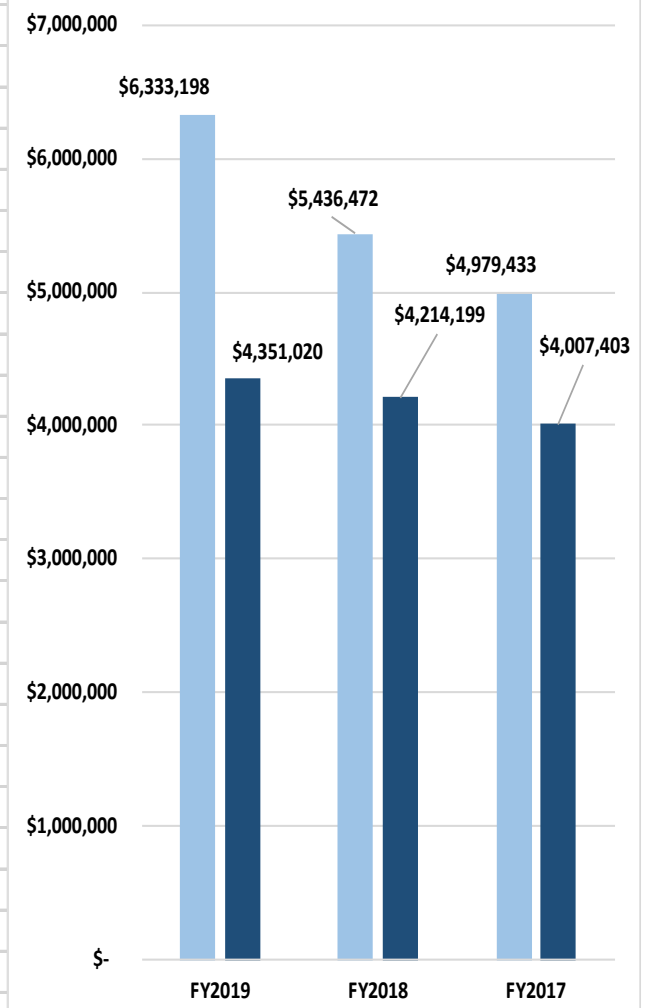
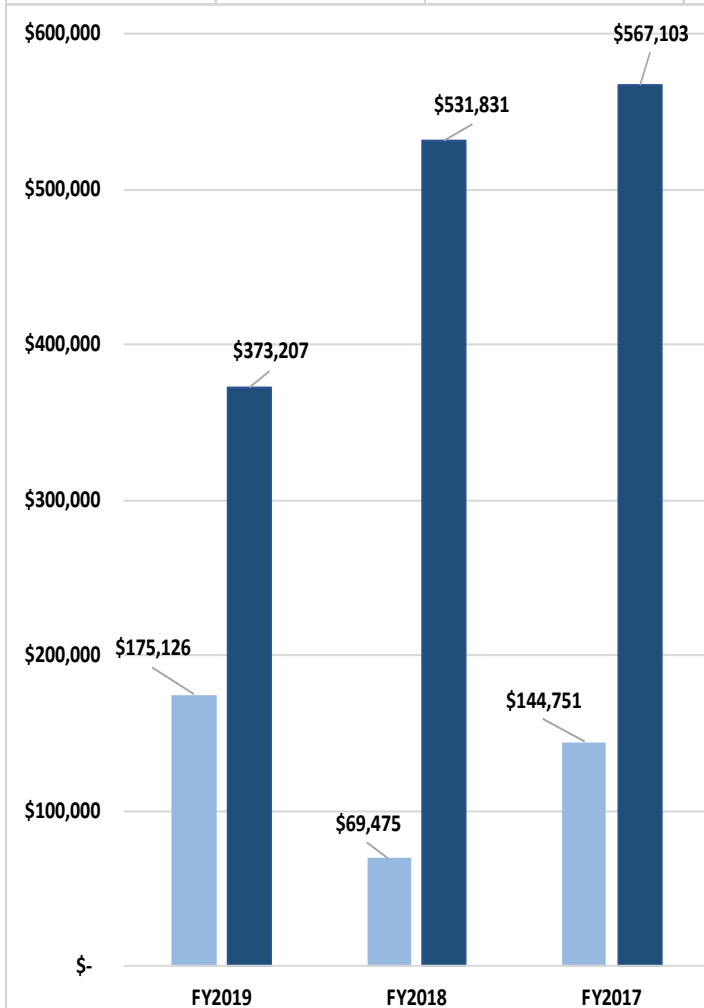
1. "FYTD" means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.
2. "Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish" includes violations pertaining to the storage of waste materials in interior or exterior property areas.

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

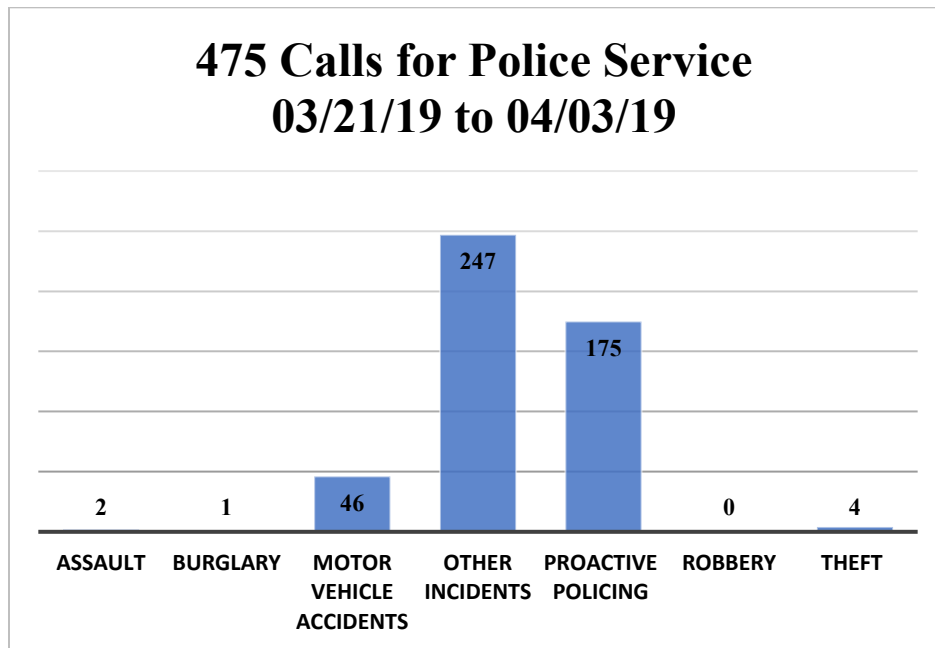
Mar				YTD Total		
FY2019	FY2018	FY2017		FY2019	FY2018	FY2017
\$ 175,126	\$ 69,475	\$ 144,751		\$ 6,333,198	\$ 5,436,472	\$ 4,979,433
\$ 373,207	\$531,831	\$ 567,103		\$ 4,351,020	\$ 4,214,199	\$ 4,007,403
\$ (198,080)	\$ (462,356)	\$ (422,352)		\$ 1,982,178	\$ 1,222,273	\$ 972,030



Revenue =

Expense =

Public Safety



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, 175 or 37 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 the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a traffic complaint. Responding officers located a vehicle stopped in the travel portion of the roadway. The operator of the vehicle was found to be under the influence of alcohol and was placed under arrest for driving under the influence.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a disorderly person. The investigation revealed an intoxicated individual was causing a disturbance

inside the business and refusing the employees request to leave. The individual was escorted from the property and issued a no trespass order.

- Officers responded to the 5600 block of 54th Avenue for a commercial burglary. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) forced entry into a maintenance room, removed property and spray-painted graffiti on the walls. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a vandalism. The business manager reported an unknown suspect became involved in an altercation with another patron. During the altercation the suspect destroyed a large mirror belonging to the business. Through investigative means the suspect has been identified and charged with malicious destruction of property.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a vandalism. The investigation revealed that while the victim's vehicle was parked in the shopping center parking lot, an unknown suspect slashed the victim's tires. Through investigative means the suspect was identified and charged with malicious destruction of property.
- Officers responded to the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a hit-and-run motor vehicle collision. A witness provided Communications with a description of the striking vehicle. Responding officers located the suspect vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. The operator of the vehicle was found to be under the influence of alcohol and was arrested for driving under the influence and failing to remain at the scene of an accident.
- Officers responded to a business in the 4700 block of Queensbury Road for a theft. The investigation revealed the victim placed their cellular phone on the counter when a suspect picked up the phone and fled the business. Officers have reviewed security footage and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for an equipment violation. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant through the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office for failure to appear for driving on a suspended license. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John N. Lestitian", is written over a faint, larger signature.

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager