

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland

Status and Information Report

Report No. 18 for 2020



September 4, 2020

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 September 18, 2020.

CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Town Hall and Public Works Operations Closed	Monday, September 7, 2020	In observance of Labor Day
No Trash or Yard Waste Collection *Collection will occur on the next scheduled collection day.	Monday, September 7, 2020	In observance of Labor Day

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Legislative Meeting	Monday, September 14, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82180801761?pwd=MEttbytjVTNVdWl4RFJFL3hGWVNlQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 821-8080-1761 Passcode: 333349
Council Work Session	Monday, September 21, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89448429540?pwd=VVZtdDI1SGoxclNLeIRucVMzSXdEdz09

		<p>Or call: 301-715-8592</p> <p>Meeting ID: 894-4842-9540</p> <p>Passcode: 156266</p>
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Employee Recognition

- **COVID-19 Response:** As conditions change, the staff team continues work to reduce risks, improve service delivery, and ensure our efforts are sustainable. I am thankful for all their efforts in demonstrating dedication to the community, resourcefulness, creativity, and resilience as we work together through this difficult time.

Administration


- **Framework: COVID-19 Implementation of Additional On-site Work and In-person Services:** In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the staff team implemented numerous changes and made necessary adjustments to ensure that high-quality services continued, the risk of exposure was minimized, and the implemented changes were sustainable. Although Town Hall and the Department of Public Works buildings remain closed to the public, essential and non-essential onsite work has continued. The staff team worked together to develop a framework for the implementation of additional on-site work and in-person services. The one-page summary titled, *Framework: COVID-19 Implementation of Additional On-site Work and In-person Services*, delineates the current operational status and plots the staff team’s path forward in a phased plan. To review the *Framework: COVID-19 Implementation of Additional On-site Work and In-person Services* please [click here](#).
- **Meetings with Staff:** Staff are also available for virtual meetings while the Town buildings are closed 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 now 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 to Serve on Committees:** The Town of Riverdale Park is seeking volunteers to serve as an alternate member of the Ethics Commission and members of the Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review Committee (M-UTC).

The Ethics Commission meets several times throughout the year and meeting days/times are flexible. For more information about the Ethics Commission, visit <http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/EthicsCommission.cfm>.

M-UTC meets on the first Wednesday of most months to review development applications. For more information about MUTC, 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 these important committees.

Community Engagement

- **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!
- **2020 Census:** The deadline to respond to the 2020 Census is September 30, 2020. It is imperative that everyone responds as soon as possible online at www.2020census.gov, by phone at [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020), or by mail. The Town currently has a response rate of 64.3%. The State's current response rate is 69.4%. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to complete their 2020 Census forms today!
- **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. 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:** The Leadership Team, along with key team members from the Office of Administrative Services, continues to review and improve the Social Media Outreach initiative to expand our reach in sharing information. The Town's website remains the primary source for electronic information. Facebook and secondary Twitter accounts will 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 1,738. We now know that 2,000 is possible. 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 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

- 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.
- Bulk Trash Drop-off Appointments Available: Bulk trash will be accepted, **by appointment only**, every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. from August 1st through September 26th. Appointments may be made by calling 301-927-6381 or sending an email to krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov. Due to COVID-19 safety requirements, no unscheduled drop-offs will be accepted.

All drop-off appointments will be at the Department of Public Works building located at 5012 Queensbury Road. Town residents are permitted to bring **up to eight acceptable items** for drop-off during their scheduled appointment time. A list of acceptable items is available on the Town’s website at http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov/news_detail_T6_R142.php. This will be a contactless drop-off. Residents are required to wear a mask covering their nose and mouth. Residents must be able to remove items from their vehicle.

- 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 Updates:

- Pedestrian Safety: As work continues along the alignment, the Purple Line construction team is committed to keeping everyone safe. Pedestrians are advised to follow any construction signs and use the open sidewalk(s). Pedestrians are not allowed in the construction work zones. This is for your safety as well as our construction team.
- Open for Business: Throughout construction the Purple Line will maintain access to all businesses along the alignment for customers as well as business deliveries.
- Work Hours: Construction work hours alignment wide are 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. unless night hours are noted. Lane closure hours are included in notifications specific to each area as permitted.
- Quintana Street Road Closure: On or about June 22, 2020, crews closed Quintana Street at Kenilworth Avenue for road reconstruction until approximately October 1, 2020. The detour can be viewed here: <https://plmdnews.com/lp2>
- Quesada Road Closure: The detour of Quesada Road scheduled to begin on August 21, 2020, has been postponed.
- Long-Term Lane Closure on Kenilworth Avenue: On July 8, 2019, the Purple Line implemented a long-term closure of the right-hand southbound lane on Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and Riverdale Road. Barriers will be used to delineate the work zone. Pedestrians and bicyclists are required to stay outside of the construction zone at all times. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends.
- Lane Closures on Baltimore-Washington Parkway: During the month of September, crews will continue work on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway in the area of the Riverdale Road overpass. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- Lane Closures along Riverdale Road: During the month of September, crews will be relocating utilities along Riverdale Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and 67th Place. To conduct this work, lanes will intermittently be closed on 66th Avenue and 67th Avenue. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures with flagging operations will occur.
- Weekend and Night Closures on Kenilworth Avenue: During the month of September, crews will be working along Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and Riverdale Road. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- Weekend Work and Lane Closures on Riverdale Road: During the month of September, crews will be working along Riverdale Road between Kenilworth Avenue and Veterans Parkway. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.

- Flagging on Campus Drive: On August 24, 2020, crews began flagging on Campus Drive between the Paint Branch Trail and River Road for construction. From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. traffic may be reduced to one lane for construction.
- Campus Drive Sidewalk Closure: On November 11, 2019, the Purple Line implemented a long-term sidewalk closure on Campus Drive between the Paint Branch Trail and River Road. A signed detour is in place to guide bicyclists and pedestrians, that includes the use of stairs and elevators to cross the train tracks at the College Park Metro station. A paratransit service is available, for those who are unable to use the stairs at the College Park Metro station, while the elevator is not operational. The paratransit service will operate Monday-Thursday from 11:30 p.m. to 5 a.m., Friday from 1 a.m. to 7 a.m., Saturday from 1 a.m. to 8 a.m. and Sunday from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. Vehicles will operate in continuous loops alternating from one side of the closure to the other. The Detour can be viewed here: <https://rebrand.ly/6c31sb>
- Road Closure: On March 9, 2020, crews closed a section of Presidential Drive between Campus Drive and Ehrensberger Drive for utility relocations. The closure will last for approximately 10 months. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends.
- Traffic Shift and Lane Closures: During the month of September, crews will be working along Campus Drive between Adelphi Road and Alumni Drive. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur. On March 9, 2020 crews closed the eastbound and westbound right-hand lane on Campus Drive. One lane will remain open in each direction.
- Lane Closures on Campus Drive: During the month of September, crews will be working along Campus Drive between Regents Drive and Baltimore Avenue. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- Lane Closures on Rivertech Court: During the month of September, crews will be working along Rivertech Court near the intersection at River Road. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- Long-Term Lane Closure along River Road: On July 21, 2019, the Purple Line implemented a long-term lane closure along River Road between Rivertech Court and Kenilworth Avenue. One lane of traffic is maintained in each direction.
- Lane Closures on River Road: During the month of September, crews will be working along River Road between Campus Drive and Kenilworth Avenue. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- Weekend Work along Campus Drive: During the month of September, crews will be working at the pump station along Campus Drive adjacent to the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. Work may occur on weekdays and weekends from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- Bus Stop Relocations at College Park Metro: On September 1, 2019, the Purple Line closed the College Park Metro Bus Loop long-term for construction. The bus stops within the bus loop have been relocated to temporary bus shelters along River Road. Please note that buses will queue up at the temporary bus stops from 5 a.m. from 11 p.m. A graphic of the closure can be viewed here: rebrand.ly/hbpq4s
- Campus Drive Work Notice: During the month of September, crews will be working along Campus Drive between Baltimore Avenue and River Road. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- **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:

Planning Board: September 10, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (Virtual Meeting)

<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1535&Inline=True>

Historic Preservation Commission: September 15, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. (Virtual Meeting)

http://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_09152020-375

Board of License Commissioners: September 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (Virtual Meeting)

https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_09222020-1673

- Development Activities from August 20, 2020 to September 2, 2020

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	2	6
Building Permits Issued	1	4
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	0

Permits Issued:

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2021-B-04	5003 Oglethorpe Street	Solar Panels on the Roof	\$33,600
Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:			\$33,600
Est. Investment FYTD 2021 Total:			\$347,400

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	2	2
Multifamily Licenses Issued	0	0
Single-family Rental Inspection	11	14
Single-family Licenses Issued	0	0
Business License Inspections Conducted	19	63
Business Licenses Issued	20	20

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from August 20, 2020 to September 2, 2020

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	3	9
Exterior Conditions	3	20
Interior Conditions	3	12
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	2	9
Safety	3	7
Sanitation	0	1
Total Violations Found:	14	58

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	7	32
Fines Issued	0	3

Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	0	3
Violation Notices Issued	5	25
Warnings Issued	4	13
Total Services Provided:	16	76

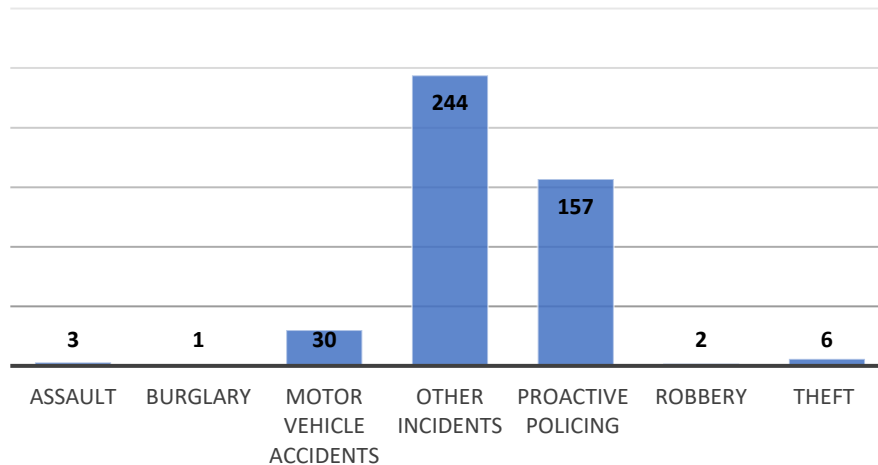
Note:

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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Public Safety

443 Calls for Police Service 08/20/2020 to 09/02/2020



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, 157 or 35 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 a business in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a trespassing complaint. The employees reported an individual inside the business who was previously issued a no trespass order. The no trespass order was confirmed, and the individual was placed under arrest for trespassing and disorderly conduct.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 4500 block of East West Highway. A registration check revealed the vehicle was reported stolen through the Prince George's County Police Department. The operator was placed under arrest for motor vehicle theft. The owner was contacted and responded to the scene to take possession of their vehicle.

- Officers responded to a residential burglary in the 4800 block of Madison Street. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) gained entry through an unlocked window. Once inside the suspect removed jewelry and U.S. Currency. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a disorderly complaint. The manager reported an intoxicated individual refusing to leave the business. The individual was removed from the property and issued criminal summons for disorderly conduct.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an assault. The security guard reported he was assaulted while removing an unruly patron from the business. The suspect has been identified and charged with 2nd degree assault and disorderly conduct.
- Officers responded to the 5600 block of 54th Avenue for a domestic assault. The investigation revealed the victim was assaulted by the suspect who was no longer on the scene. Officers transported the victim to the District Court Commissioners Office to assist with obtaining a Protective Order and filing criminal charges.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5000 block of Ravenswood Road. A records check revealed the driver to have a suspended license and an active arrest warrant for failure to appear. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a trespassing complaint. Employees of the business reported an intoxicated individual refusing to leave the business. The individual ignored several requests from officers and employees to leave the business. The individual was removed from the business and placed under arrest for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a robbery. The investigation revealed the victim was walking up to the bank when the suspect approached and produced a handgun. The victim relinquished a bank deposit bag and the suspect fled to an awaiting vehicle. The victim was not injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Riverdale Road for an attempted armed robbery. The investigation revealed the victim was in the hallway of the apartment building when the suspect approached, displaying a handgun and demanding money. The victim in fear ran into the apartment. The suspect fled the scene. Through investigative means a possible suspect has been identified and criminal charges are pending.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager