



The Riverdale Park Town Crier

A Welcoming Community, Come Grow with Us!

February 2023

Volume 52, Issue 1

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Town of Riverdale Park Contact Information

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
301-927-6381
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (MWF)

Department of Public Works

5008 Queensbury Road
301-927-6381
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Police Department

5004 Queensbury Road
301-927-4343
24-hours

Celebrating Black History Month

Since 1976, every American president has designated February as Black History Month and endorsed a specific theme.

The Black History Month 2023 theme, "Black Resistance," explores how African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms and police killings, since the nation's earliest days. By resisting, Black people have achieved triumphs, successes, and progress as seen in the end of chattel slavery, dismantling of Jim and Jane Crow segregation in the South, increased political representation at all levels of government, desegregation of educational institutions, the passage of Civil Rights Act of 1964, the opening of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History in DC and increased and diverse representation of Black experiences in media. Black resistance strategies have served as a model for every other social movement in the country, thus, the legacy and importance of these actions cannot be understated.

In observance of Black History Month, here a couple of ideas you can participate in to show solidarity and learn about the history of Black Americans' responses to establish safe spaces, to a point where Black life can be sustained, fortified, and respected.

- Support Black-Owned Businesses
- Learn about noteworthy Black figures & their contributions
- Donate to charities that support anti-racism equity & equality
- Purchase, read, and share books by Black authors
- Attend cultural events



El Boletín de Riverdale Park está
disponible en Español!
Asegúrese de escanear el QR Code.



Town of Riverdale Park
www.riverdaleparkmd.gov
Cable Channels: 10 and 71

Mayor

Alan K. Thompson, 202-527-0309
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Council Members

Ward 1 – Richard A. Smith, 202-527-2435
rsmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 2 – Aaron Faulx, 202-527-3130
afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 3 – David Lingua, 301-779-3849
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 4 – Thomas Sadiq, 202-845-6251
tsadiq@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 5 – Karen Mejia, 202-329-7610
kmejia@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 6 – Hala Mayers, 202-527-2637
hmayers@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Administration

John N. Lestitian, **Town Manager**
jnlestitian@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Jessica Barnes, **Administrative Services**
Director/Town Clerk
jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ivy Lewis, **Public Projects and Services Director**
ilewis@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ryan Chelton, **Development Services Director**
rchelton@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Paul Smith, **Finance and Employee Services Director**
psmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Rosa Guixens, **Chief of Police**
rguixens@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356

Brian Carpio, **Fire Chief**
Eng7twr@yahoo.com;
Info@riverdalevfd.com;
www.riverdalevfd.com

The Town Crier is also available on the Town's
Website: www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Submission deadline: 15th of each month

Send submissions to:
towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

2023 Dates to Remember

**Mixed-Used Town Center Local Design
Review Committee (MUTC)**

February 1, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Legislative Meeting

February 6, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Community Conversation

February 11, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom

Town Hall and DPW Operations Closed

Presidents Day - February 20, 2023

Work Session

February 27, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

**Mixed-Used Town Center Local Design
Review Committee (MUTC)**

March 1, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Legislative Meeting

March 6, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

State of the Town

March 13, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Community Conversation

March 18, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom

Work Session

March 27, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Legislative Meeting

April 3, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

**Mixed-Used Town Center Local Design
Review Committee (MUTC)**

April 5, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

FY2024 Budget Public Hearing

April 15, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

FY2024 Budget Public Hearing

April 22, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

Work Session

April 24, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Town Election

May 1, 2023

Council Actions

November 21, 2022

Special Legislative Meeting

Legislative Action Items

1. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Marathon Technology Solutions INC for an amount not to exceed \$157,063 for Neighborhood Safety Camera System (CIP #20PD01) - **Approved**
2. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Brighter Bites in the amount of \$22,000 to address food insecurity in Riverdale Park related to the COVID-19 pandemic - **Approved**
3. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Passion and Compassion in the amount of \$25,000 to address food insecurity in Riverdale Park related to the COVID-19 pandemic - **Approved**
4. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Global Health Projects in the amount of \$26,400 to address food insecurity in Riverdale Park related to the COVID-19 pandemic - **Approved**
5. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with LindaBen Foundation in the amount of \$25,000 to address food insecurity in Riverdale Park related to the COVID-19 pandemic - **Approved**

December 5, 2022

Legislative Meeting

Consent Agenda: Motion to approve consent agenda items: - **Approved**

Fence Permit Request: 6-foot wood fence at 4700 Nicholson Street

Minutes: November 7, 2022, Legislative Meeting; October 31, 2022, Work Session; April 23, 2022, FY2023 Budget Public Hearing

Legislative Action Items

1. Introduction of Ordinance 2022-OR-07 regarding Property Maintenance Code Modifications - **Introduced**
2. Introduction of Ordinance 2022-OR-08 regarding Vacant Property Registration - **Introduced**
3. Introduction of Ordinance 2022-OR-09 regarding Micromobility Standards - **Introduced**
4. Introduction of Ordinance 2022-OR-10 regarding Section O-6 of the Personnel Manual regarding Mandatory Vaccinations - **Introduced**
5. Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-R-16 to extend the Farmers Market Dollars Program - **Adopted**

6. Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-R-17 to extend the Small Business Assistance Grant Program - **Adopted**

7. Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-R-19 to extend the amended Emergency Repair Grant Program - **Adopted**

8. Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-R-20 to extend the Flood Prevention and Damage Mitigation Grant Program - **Adopted**

9. Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-R-21 to extend the Neighborhood Safety Improvement Grant Program - **Adopted**

10. Motion to authorize the waiving of residential permit fees until December 31, 2023 - **Approved**

11. Motion to authorize the donation of \$3,750 for shoes for Riverdale Elementary School (RES) students— **Approved**

New Business

1. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to a sign agreement with Axon to renew and consolidate current contracts for Body Worn Cameras and TASER for an amount of \$182,093.35 - **Approved**
 2. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign a Task Order Contract with Pennoni for Engineering Services for FY2023 CIP Road Improvement Projects for an amount not-to-exceed \$89,768.40 - **Approved**
 3. Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-R-18 to establish the Commercial Appearance Grant Program - **Adopted**
 4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-R-22 to amend the Business Growth Grant Program - **Adopted**
- Motion to extend the expiration date of parking permits through March 1, 2023 - **Approved**

December 20, 2022

Special Legislative Meeting

Legislative Action Items

1. Introduction of Ordinance 2022-OR-11 regarding Permit Parking - **Introduced**
2. Motion to approve Town Manager Performance Review timeline and process – **Approved**

New Business

1. Motion to send a letter of general support for CB-013-2023, CB-014-2023, CB-015-2023, CB-016-2023, CB-017-2023 and CB-018-2023 – **Approved**

Council Actions Continued

January 9, 2023
Legislative Meeting

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items: – **Approved**

Minutes: November 21, 2022, Special Legislative
Minutes; November 21, 2022, Work Session Minutes

Legislative Action Items

1. Introduction of 2023-OR-01 regarding 2023 Town Election - **Introduced**
2. Introduction of 2023-OR-02 regarding Ward Boundaries - **Introduced**
3. Introduction of 2023-OR-03 regarding Ward Boundaries - **Introduced**
4. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-OR-07 regarding Property Maintenance Code Modifications - **Adopted**
5. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-OR-08 regarding Vacant Property Registration - **Adopted**
6. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-OR-09 regarding Micromobility Standards - **Adopted**

Unfinished Business

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-OR-11 regarding Permit Parking - **Adopted**

Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-R-01 regarding Permit Parking Zones - **Adopted**

New Business

1. Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-R-02 regarding appointment of Board of Code Appeals Members - **Adopted**
2. Motion to send a letter to expedite review of easements of Riverdale Pak Station - **Approved**
3. Motion to send a letter regarding additional MARC trains service for Riverdale Park - **Approved**



Fair Summary of Ordinance 2023-OR-01, Ordinance 2023-OR-02, & Ordinance 2023-OR-03

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2023-OR-01, Ordinance 2023-OR-02, and Ordinance 2023-OR-03.

ORDINANCE 2023-OR-01

Ordinance 2023-OR-01 will designate the polling place and hours of operation for the 2023 Town Election to be held on May 1, 2023; designate the type of ballots to be used in that election; and establish the candidate filing deadline and candidate filing fee for the 2023 Town Election to be held on May 1, 2023.

ORDINANCE 2023-OR-02

Ordinance 2023-OR-02 will alter the boundaries of the six wards in the Town of Riverdale Park effective beginning with the Town municipal election to be held on the first Monday in May, 2023; provide for the continuation in office of current Council Members in the wards from which they were elected until a certain time; provide for the repeal of current ward boundaries as of a certain date; and generally relate to the revision of ward boundaries in the Town of Riverdale Park.

ORDINANCE 2023-OR-03

Ordinance 2023-OR-03 will alter the boundaries of the six wards in the Town of Riverdale Park effective beginning with the Town municipal election to be held on the first Monday in May, 2023; provide for the continuation in office of current Council Members in the wards from which they were elected until a certain time; provide for the repeal of current ward boundaries as of a certain date; and generally relate to the revision of ward boundaries in the Town of Riverdale Park.

Ordinance 2023-OR-01, Ordinance 2023-OR-02, and Ordinance 2023-OR-03 are available for inspection by the public on the Town's website www.riverdaleparkmd.gov, by e-mail request to community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov, or by calling 301-927-6381.

RIVERDALE PARK TOWN COUNCIL
BY: JESSICA BARNES, TOWN CLERK

Upcoming Virtual Meetings

Legislative Meeting: February 6, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84078508556?pwd=K09MaHQvdVlJSG1aRG82UmljTzhYzZ09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 840 -7850 -8556

Passcode: 1272022

Com. Conversations: February 11, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84919222356?pwd=KzlxMVJGS2tuUE5LcU1wcW1mdkxtdz09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 849 1922 2356

Passcode: 121522

Town Seal Design Comm.: February 16th at 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85787193417?pwd=dUhZbmX0S01KZ3NhZTA4QkZiL0dYzZ09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 857-8719-3417

Passcode: 1242023

Work Session: February 27, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87638655879?pwd=YWFFRSt0ZVVlcE9KUE8ySHJRYVZzd09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 876-3865-5879

Passcode: 221207

Legislative Meeting: March 6, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88123750696?pwd=U25BaHRlbFRtZEpjVkm4TkRBZVgyUT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 881-2375-0696

Passcode: 20221207

State of the Town: March 13, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89114434442?pwd=dTJrcjRqN09nNjNNcnpGSVJGLzYwZz09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 891-1443-4442

Passcode: 122722

Work Session: March 27, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86121586007?pwd=bE9paEx4YmYyeEI5U1FQY0I2a0t6UT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 861-2158-6007

Passcode: 71222



FY2024 Budget Preparation

FY2024 Budget Development and Adoption Calendar

February 2023

February 6: Mayor and Council Legislative Meeting presentation: Fund Balances and Projections, Capital Improvement Project Updates and Projections

February 27: Mayor and Council Work Session presentation: Revenue, FY2023 Estimated Actuals, FY2024 Projections

March 2023

March 6: Mayor and Council Legislative Meeting presentation: Expenditures, FY2023 Estimated Actuals, FY2024 Projections, and FY2024 Challenges and Opportunities revisited

March 13: State of the Town presentation: Budget Overview

March 27: Mayor and Council Work Session presentation: Budget updates and adjustments

April 2023

April 3: Mayor and Council Work Session: Presentation of the FY2024 Proposed Operating and Capital Improvement Budget

April 15: Budget Public Hearing: Review of Proposed FY2024 Operating and CIP Budget

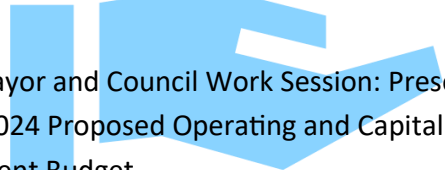
April 22: Budget Public Hearing: Review of Proposed FY2024 Operating and CIP Budget

April 24: Mayor and Council Special Legislative Meeting and Work Session: Review of edits to the Proposed Budget and Introduction of FY2024 Operating and CIP Budget and Tax Rates Ordinance

May 2023

May 2: Real Property Tax Rate Public Hearing

May 22: Mayor and Council Special Legislative Meeting: Adoption Final FY2024 Operating and CIP Budget and Tax Rates Ordinance



Mayor Thompson's Message—February 2023

It's a cold, gray day in the middle of January as I write. That being said, I can tell the days are getting longer, and there were only snow flurries today, so it could have been worse. Happy New Year!!!

Helping Out Residents: I often praise the activities of town staff in my reports, but the response to some emergencies in December really showed that town government is working well.



Alan Thompson, Mayor

Near the end of the day on December 13, I got a phone call from a resident that the natural gas in one of our multifamily buildings was out, and had been out for many hours. Even though it was near the end of the day, staff jumped into action as soon as I contacted the Town. We worked for several hours with the owner to try to get the issue fixed, but as the evening wore on and temperatures were dropping below freezing, we asked apartment management to provide hotel rooms to their renters. After the town helped the apartment management past an internal difficulty of theirs (the town agreed to cover "incidental expenses" if any occurred) all renters were offered a warm place to sleep in nearby hotels. We also opened up town hall as a warming center, should the residents who chose to stay in their apartments need it in the middle of the night. Natural gas was restored the next day, but staff from all departments worked past midnight to make sure that residents would be OK. I was really proud of our staff, and thank them for serving our residents when they needed it most.

I had hoped that this would be the only emergency before the holidays, but that was not to be the case. A different multifamily building had a partial failure of the heating system on December 22, and the forecast was for temperatures in the single digits the next day. Town staff again carefully monitored the situation and worked to ensure that the heat would be working. Fortunately the building management was able to keep their residents warm during the cold snap.

Last but not least, in October I received an email that a person without housing was living in town. We started trying to connect him with social services provided by the County then, but he had refused assistance. Officers from our police department had been regularly checking in on him to make sure he was OK, but we became quite concerned as the late-December frigid weather approached. He continued to refuse assistance, but officers checked several times a day while temperatures were low. He fortunately got through that weather OK, but I was again proud that our staff stepped up to make sure that even our most vulnerable resident was OK – it shows that we care about all of you.

After these events, we are thinking about amendments to both internal processes and our rental licensing program so there will be detailed plans in place should similar emergencies occur in the future.

COVID-19: The COVID-19 pandemic continues, with just under 3,000 deaths per week nationwide. It is the third highest cause of death in the United States for 2022, and even with the relatively low death rates we have seen recently (compared with last January) it is still killing people at a rate that's around a quarter of the rate of death by cancer (there were approximately 11,500 cancer deaths per week in 2022 in the United States, compared to the 3,000 deaths per week from COVID right now).

Mayor Thompson's Message Continued—February 2023

I said it last month, and dozens (hundreds?) of times before that, and I'll say it again: the evidence continues to mount that it is a Really Bad Idea to catch COVID, and you should work hard to avoid exposure to the virus, even if you are vaccinated. The impact of Long COVID can be devastating (and is for around 4 % of people infected with COVID), even if the initial infection is mild and you are young and healthy. The US CDC and Maryland Department of Health tell us that vaccination is incredibly helpful at preventing hospitalization (and worse) during the acute phase of the disease (recent studies show that the bivalent vaccines that came out last fall, as expected when they were approved, provide more than 80 % protection against currently-circulating variants). Unfortunately, these vaccines do little to prevent Long COVID, providing only around 15 % protection. Every little step you take to prevent infection, from wearing one of the N95 masks that the town delivered to you in November while attending an event or shopping, to propping open a door to let in some fresh air at a large indoor gathering, to staying home when you wake up with a scratchy throat, can help to prevent tragedy for yourself (or someone else). Please stay safe. Little measures, if many people practice them, will add up to less sickness and misery in the world.



Development - Apartments: The Legacy Mixed-Use Town Center (LM-UTC) Local Design Review Committee last met in November to review the proposal for “The Lofts”, an apartment complex proposed for the southwest corner of Queensbury and Rhode Island Avenue. The committee provided high-level comments (mostly reflecting their desire to preserve the character of the historic commercial core, and not overwhelm nearby properties). We were hoping to hear back from the developer in early January, but they were not ready so they have promised to present a new design at the meeting on February 1. We are also looking forward to hearing back from the developer with a project at the Chamber's site at the corner of and Cleveland Avenue and Madison Street in Ward 1 – stay tuned!

Redistricting: The Redistricting Committee recommended two maps to the town council in late December. The town council will choose the final map and is allowed to adjust the Committee-recommended maps before adoption. A special work session was held on January 17 to finalize proposed maps, and a map will need to be finalized and adopted at the February 6 legislative meeting to have us ready for elections on May 1.

New Businesses in Town: We have a few new businesses in town this month. The first, which began operations on January 5th, is Catalyst Hotdogs, which has taken over the kitchen at Denizen's Brewing in Riverdale Park Station. I haven't been yet but have heard they are great. The second is Manifest Bread in the historic town center, near the train station. I bought some chocolate babka and an Italian savory pastry (I can't remember the name of that one!) – both were delicious! They are selling sandwiches at lunch time and coffee as well as baked goods.





Contact Me: If you have any questions or comments about any aspect of Town government, please contact me by e-mail (akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov) or phone (202-527-0309 – my town mobile number). I also monitor accounts on Mastodon (@RPMdMayor@forall.social, my preferred social media site right now), Facebook, Twitter (@RPMdMayor), and Instagram. I will get back to you as quickly as I can, but please remember that while I love being Mayor, I have a full-time job elsewhere during the day (as do the other members of the Town Council), and it may take me a little while to get back to you. If you leave me a voice mail (and please do if I don't answer!) I'd be grateful if you could let me know what times are good for me to call you back. I'll be back here in March as spring is tantalizingly close. Take care and stay safe until then!

Snow Season - Rules to Remember

The Department of Public Works is prepared for snow season with a goal to work around the clock as necessary to remove snow and ice quickly and safely. Here are important snow removal facts the Department wants you to remember.

Snow emergency conditions are in effect in the Town of Riverdale Park when Prince George's County, the Maryland State Highway Administration **or** the Maryland State Police declare a **snow emergency**.

When a snow emergency is in effect, please follow these rules:

-  Do not park any vehicle on any part of any street with a posted sign that says **Snow Emergency Street**;
-  Only park on the even-numbered side of non-Snow Emergency Streets (parking on the odd-numbered side of any public street is prohibited during a snow emergency, except if parking is already restricted on one side of the street).
-  Move your car(s) off the street so that snowplows can remove the snow from the street from curb to curb.
-  Clear sidewalks in front of your house and, please, **do not** shovel snow into the roadway.

Be patient during a snow emergency as crews work around the clock to clear your street and nearby public spaces.

Remember your vehicle may be removed and impounded by or under the direction of any duly authorized police officer if you violate these rules and you will be charged a towing or impound fee and be liable for a fine of \$250.

Public Works will only plow Town-owned streets. The State or County is responsible for snow and ice removal on the following roadways:

- ⇒ Kenilworth Avenue (Route 201)
- ⇒ Baltimore Avenue (Route 1)
- ⇒ East-West Highway (Route 410)
- ⇒ Good Luck Road



Calvin Cafritz Enterprises is responsible for snow and ice removal from roadways in Riverdale Park Station.

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>

Report Streetlight Outages

Streetlight outages can be quickly and easily reported through the PEPCO website at <https://pepco.streetlightoutages.com/> or by calling 1-800-735-2258. The online streetlight outage reporting tool is available 24/7.

Emergency Repairs Grant Available

The Town is soliciting grant applications from homeowners and businessowners for the Emergency Repair Grant Program. This grant program is designed to assist with emergency repairs in homes and businesses that would otherwise not be addressed. 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.

Successful applicants can be reimbursed for up to \$2,000 after work has been completed and paid for or \$5,000 if the applicant can demonstrate the emergency repair is due to a natural disaster. Applicants that have a household income of no greater than 50% of the Area Median Income can have the matching requirement waived. Grants require a 1:2 match for the first one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and a 1:1 match thereafter. Grants are subject to funding availability.

For more information, please visit http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/residents/emergency_repair_grant.php or contact ARPA Project Manager, LaVerne Peakes at lpeakes@riverdaleparkmd.gov 301-789-4141.

Register to Vote in 2023 Town Election

How do I register to vote?

The Town of Riverdale Park will hold an election on May 1, 2023 to elect a mayor and all councilmanic seats. Residents may register to vote in one of the following ways:

- If you are a U.S. citizen, a Maryland resident, and at least 16 years old; you may register to vote by using the State of Maryland Voter Registration Application found on the Town's website www.riverdaleparkmd.gov; OR
- If you have, or will have, the Town of Riverdale Park as your primary residence, for at least forty-five (45) days immediately prior to May 1, 2023 (March 17, 2023 to April 30, 2023); are at least 16 years old; do not claim the right to vote elsewhere in the United States; and have not been found by a court to be unable to communicate a desire to vote; register to vote by using the Town of Riverdale Park Supplemental Voter Registry Voter Registration Form found on the Town's website www.riverdaleparkmd.gov.

What forms of identification and proof of residence will be accepted for the supplemental voter registry?

- An identification card issued by a federal, state, or local government entity of the United States or any foreign country or school provided that the identification document contains the applicant's name and date of birth; AND
- A document that establishes your current residence in the Town of Riverdale Park if not already established by (1.) above. Examples include a copy of house or apartment lease, utility bill, paycheck, bank statement, school record, or other document that shows your legal name and current address in the Town of Riverdale Park.

Can I register to vote on the day of the election?

Yes, anyone may register to vote on the day of the election. If you do not have sufficient proof of age and residency, you will need to complete an affidavit in order to vote.

Reminder to new residents: Be sure to update your address with the Prince George's County Board of Elections (BOE). For more information, call the BOE at 301-341-7300 or visit <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1980/Voter-Registration>.

If you have any questions, please contact the Town Clerk at 301-927-6381 (ext. 505).

Absentee (Mail-in) Ballot Applications

Applications for Absentee (Mail-in) Ballots for the May 1, 2023, Town election will be available in next month's edition of the Town Crier.



Farmer's Market Dollars Program

The Farmer's Market Dollars Program is a component of the Town's Partners in Economic Recovery Initiative. The benefits contemplated in this program are subject to funding availability. Riverdale Park residents in need of assistance are eligible to receive weekly Farmers Market Dollar disbursements and may apply at https://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/how_do_i/apply_for/farmers_market_dollars_.php or by scanning the QR code.

The market is held at 4650 Queensbury Road and is open for use by the general public from 3-6:30pm. Proof of Riverdale Park residency is required.



Scan Me: FMD Application

Driving Safety Tips

SPEEDING ENDANGERS EVERYONE ON THE ROAD

- Buckle up
- The speed limit in Town is 20 mph
- Stay focused and alert
- Come to full stops at red lights and stop signs
- Don't follow others too closely
- Allow more time for traveling
- Always use caution when changing lanes



Green Team

Riverdale Park's Sustainability Committee (RPSC or Green Team) meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. The next meeting is February 14, 2023 via Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84004794706?pwd=ejkwSkpHQ3EzeWMrdFRqaHFhOGVxQT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592
Meeting ID: 840 0479 4706
Passcode: 202301

Collection Reminders

Residential Trash: Place residential trash in durable, leak-proof bags before placing it in containers. Close lid tightly to keep rainwater out to reduce spillage. Clean trash can regularly. Place trash can curbside by 6:00 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays or the night before collection.

Yard Waste: Do NOT mix yard waste with household trash. Place yard waste in paper bags or in reusable bins marked as yard waste. Bundle branches and limbs with rope or string (do not use wire). Bundles must be less than 4 feet long and less than 3 inches in diameter and weigh less than 60 pounds. Place yard waste curbside by 6:00 a.m. on Mondays or the night before collection.

Recycling: As a reminder, NO PLASTIC BAGS ARE PERMITTED. Curbside recycling is provided by Prince George's County Department of the Environment. Please call 311 or 301-883-4748, if you have any questions or concerns about this service. Place recycling bins curbside by 6:00 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Bulk Trash: Collection is 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. Please note that bulk trash collection is limited to three (3) items per week. Set out bulk trash scheduled for pickup by 6 a.m. on Thursday.

Report a Concern: To report a concern, call 301-927-6381 or submit a request online. The Trash Concerns app can be used to order a new trash container, report missed collections and report any other trash-related concerns. Visit www.riverdaleparkmd.gov and click on the Trash Concerns icon.

Disposing of Bamboo: Bamboo should be placed in a trash container or tied together in bundles no longer than 4 feet long and 12 inches across. Bamboo may also be dropped off at the Public Works building on Bulk Trash Drop off Saturday but is limited to a maximum of 15 bundles (4 feet by 12 inches) on a given drop off day.

Bulk Trash Drop off Saturday the Public Works facility takes place on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Public Works facility is located at 5012 Queensbury Road.

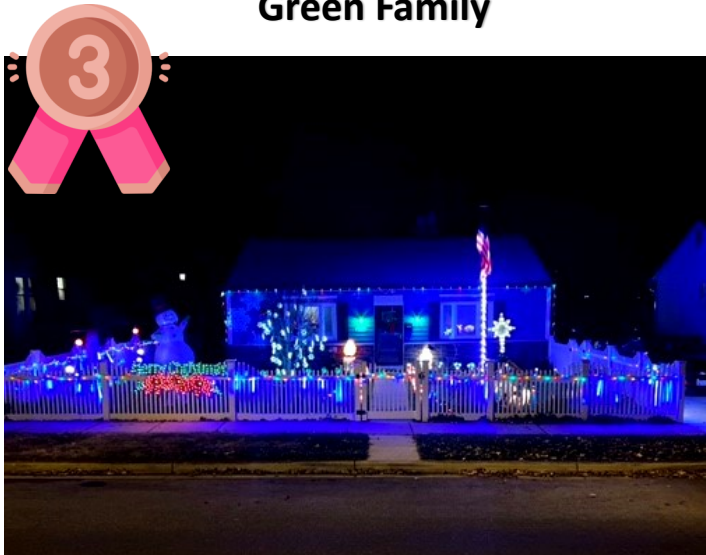
2022 Virtual Festival of Lights Winners



Willis Family



Green Family



Neighborhood Services

If you have concerns regarding a property in your neighborhood, please contact Neighborhood Services. One of the primary duties of the Neighborhood Services team is to educate residents about the Town's community standards. In most cases residents simply do not know that they are not meeting the Town's community standards as defined in the Town Code. In some cases, another community partner such as Prince George's County, may be needed to address your concerns. Information about the Town's community standards can be found on the Town's website, www.riverdaleparkmd.gov, under Town Code and TRP's Vision and Commitment Statements.

If you have any questions regarding property maintenance or the application of Town codes, please contact:

Stephen Smith- ssmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov or 301-927-6381 ext. 508

Jermaine Dixon- jdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov or 301-927-6381 ext. 514

Purple Line Construction Notices

- ⇒ Crews continue construction of the Traction Power Substation (TPSS) foundation located on the cul-de-sac of Patterson Street. Crews will access Patterson Street via 66th Street. Work will include site grading, and construction of the foundation for the TPSS. Work may take place 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and weekends, as needed .
- ⇒ Safety rails have been installed at the future elevated Riverdale Park Station at Riverdale Road at Kenilworth Avenue. Next, the construction team will install formwork, rebar, and concrete for the station.

Purple Line construction is well 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.



Honoring Thurgood Marshall

U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen introduced legislation, S.3863, to replace the statue of Roger Brooke Taney, author of the infamous Dred Scott decision that ruled that African-Americans were not U.S. citizens and that Congress could not prohibit slavery, with a bust of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American to serve on the nation's highest court.



"Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall is an inspiration, a person who propelled his rise from West Baltimore to the highest court in the country through hard work, intellectual evolution and unwavering morality," said Senator Cardin. "A civil rights icon, Thurgood Marshall argued cases that began to bring down the walls of segregation in his home state and nationwide. Among other landmark cases, his arguments in *Murray vs. Pearson* led to the desegregation of the University of Maryland School of Law and his arguments in *Brown vs. Board of Education* led this nation to recognize that the doctrine of 'separate but equal' was antithetical to our ideals of freedom and liberty. I can think of no better person for us to highlight and celebrate in the U.S. Capitol."

Senator Cardin closed out the momentous occasion by stating "as our country continues to grapple with the past and future of civil rights and systemic racism, we should highlight leaders in history that have propelled us towards justice and put an end to the glorification of those who stood in its way. From his neighborhood in Baltimore to the halls of the Supreme Court, Thurgood Marshall worked his entire life to help build civil rights in America from the ground up," said Senator Van Hollen. "Marshall's work is a crucial reminder that we must continue pressing forward. His steadfast legacy should be memorialized in the Halls of Congress and never forgotten."

Source: <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/cardin-van-hollen-introduce-bill-to-install-statue-of-justice-thurgood-marshall-in-us-capitol/>

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

PARTICIPATE, LEARN, AND SHARE YOUR IDEAS

FY2024 Budget Process/Update

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023
9:30 AM VIA ZOOM

To obtain Zoom meeting information please visit www.RiverdaleParkMD.gov

GET YOUR VACCINE!

FREE COVID-19 vaccines & boosters available for ages 5+!

NO APPOINTMENT OR INSURANCE NEEDED!

First United Methodist Church, 6201 Belcrest Rd.

Tuesdays, 11 AM - 7 PM
11 AM - 7 PM: Vaccines & boosters for ages 12+
3 - 7 PM: Vaccines & boosters for ages 5+

Saturdays, 9 AM - 1 PM
Vaccines & boosters for ages 3+

Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult

HYATTSVILLE.ORG/COVIDVACCINE
(240) 832 6952

Stay Connected

@RiverdaleParkMD

@Riverdale_Park_

@RiverdaleParkMD_gov

@Town of Riverdale Park

FOLLOW US

Riversdale Celebrates Black History

Join the Riversdale Kitchen Guild and Special Guest Marvin-Alonzo Greer as they explore the 2023 National Black History theme “Black Resistance” by examining the cultural and geographical foodways of enslaved communities in 19th century Maryland. Learn how enslaved cooks blended multi-ethnic food traditions that have shaped the cultural landscape of the state and discover the stories of the individuals who cooked at Riversdale.

Date: February 26, 2023

Time: 12:00pm—3:30pm

Location: Riversdale Mansion

4811 Riverdale Rd, Riverdale Park, MD 20737





**CALEB SMITH:
YOUNGEST GLIDER PILOT IN
THE NATION**

February 18th, 2023
10:00am-1:00pm

Come listen to Caleb Smith speak about his journey on becoming the youngest glider pilot in the nation on November 2021, and how his success is inspiring the next generation of pilots!



College Park Airport
1909 Corporal Frank Scott Dr.
College Park, MD 20740
301-864-6029

Parks & Recreation
Hennepin
live more, play more

Town Office Extensions

General Inquiries (301) 927-6381: ext. 500, 503

Assistance in Spanish: ext. 500, 503

Town Provided Services (Public Works): ext. 500, 503

Permits and Licensing: ext. 500, 503

Neighborhood (Code-related) Concerns: ext. 508, 514

Business and Economic Development: ext. 509

Accounts Payable: ext. 500

Human Resources: ext. 507

Town Clerk: ext. 505

Police Department (Non-emergency): ext. 560

Manifest Bread

Riverdale Park's Newest Bakery

Manifest Bread was started in 2018 out of passion for homemade goods. The owners Rick & Tyes Cook have both been in the restaurant business for twenty years and were running a home bakery out of their home in Cottage City. They began to look for a welcoming and affordable community to open their first brick and mortar location and choose Riverdale Park. Within 16 months Rick & Tyes completed a complete renovation and full build-out at 6208 Rhode Island Avenue. The current menu includes a full selection of handmade baked goods all made with organic ingredients, delicious coffee and soon to come beer, wine, and liquor. Rick said, “we are very happy with the reception of our products, it’s amazing and we are very fortunate to be here”.



Hours of Operation

Monday - closed

Tuesday - 8am-2pm

Wednesday - 8am-5pm

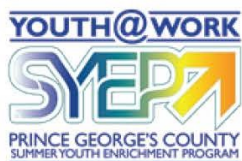
Thursday - 8am-8pm

Friday - 8am-5pm

Saturday - 8am-5pm

Sunday - 8am-5pm





Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SUMMER JOBS!

About Us

The Prince George's County Summer Youth Enrichment Program provides opportunities for young people, ages 14 to 22, across the County to receive career development, job readiness training and employment.

- Earn money
- Explore a career field
- Learn new skills
- Meet new people

Get Ready

Application Dates:

March 1 - March 31, 2023

Program Dates:

July 5 - August 11, 2023

Pay:

Hourly and stipend opportunities are available


@ PGCSYEP

✉ SYEP@co.pg.md.us

🌐 syep.mypgc.us

☎ (301) 883-6200

FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Municipal Center Renovation project, public meetings are being held via Zoom.</p> <p>If you have any questions about how to participate in a public meeting or need assistance, please contact the Town Clerk at 301-927-6381 (extension 505).</p>			<p>1</p> <p>MUTC 7:30 PM</p> <p>Recycling Collection</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm</p> <p>Trash Collection</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Legislative Meeting 7:30 PM</p> <p>Trash & Yard Waste Collection</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Recycling Collection</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm</p> <p>Trash Collection</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Community Conversations</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Trash & Yard Waste Collection</p>	<p>14</p> <p>RPSC (Green Team) 7:30 PM Valentine's Day</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>Recycling Collection</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Town Seal Design Committee 7:30 pm</p> <p>Trash Collection</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bulk Trash Drop-Off</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>President's Day Town Hall & Public Works Operations Closed</p> <p>Trash & Yard Waste Collection</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Recycling Collection</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm</p> <p>Trash Collection</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Work Session Meeting 7:30 PM</p> <p>Trash & Yard Waste Collection</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>Town Hall will be open for in-person services on Mondays – Wednesdays – Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Please note that Town Hall will be closed on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. for lunch.</p> <p>Services are also available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. via phone at 301-927-6381, via email at community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov, and online at www.riverdaleparkmd.gov. If you need immediate assistance at any time, please call 301-927-6381.</p>			

CARRIER ROUTE

PRESORT

PRSRT STD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

HYATTSVILLE, MD

POSTAL PATRON

RIVERDALE PARK, MARYLAND 20737

Town of Riverdale Park
5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, Maryland 20737



Important Phone Numbers

Comcast: www.comcast.com
Customer service: 1-800-934-6489

Pepco: www.pepco.com
To report an outage: 1-877-737-2662
Customer service: 202-833-7500

Prince George's County: www.princegeorgescountymd.gov
Animal Control: 301-780-7200
Assessments: 301-952-2500
Parks and Recreation (maintenance): 301-918-4700
Permitting, Licenses and Enforcement: 301-636-2000
Public Works and Transportation: 301-883-5650

Prince George's County Public Schools: www.pgcps.org
Riverdale Elementary: 301-985-1850
William Wirt Middle School: 301-985-1720
Bladensburg High School: 301-887-6700
Parkdale High School: 301-513-5700

Verizon: www.verizon.com

Washington Gas: www.washingtongas.com
To report a gas leak: 703-750-1400 or 800-752-7520
Customer Service: 703-750-1000

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC):
www.wsscwater.com
To report a water main break or sewage backup: 301-206-4002
Customer service: 301-206-4001 or 1-800-634-8400

Local Organizations

Northern County Soccer Alliance
NCSA@soccer.net or 301-577-3559

Riverdale Park Boy Scout Troop 252
Scoutmaster Bob Killen at 301-483-8455

Madison Hill Homeowners Association
301-583-8857

Riversdale Historical Society
301-864-0420

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market
Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973

Riverdale Park Business Association
www.shoplocalriverdalepark.com

Riverdale Park Arts
Samuel Williams, Jr. at 909-380-4231

Riversdale Chamber Music Society
Robert DiLutis at rdilutis@umd.edu or
www.riversdalechambermusic.com