

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland Status and Information Report Report No. 2 for 2018



January 26, 2018

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 February 9, 2018.

Upcoming Meetings:

Regular Legislative Meeting	February 5, 2018, 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Council Work Session	January 29, 2018, 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall

Administration

- Focus on traffic safety – automated red-light enforcement: On December 4, 2017, the re-implementation of Automated Red-Light Camera Enforcement was authorized. Staff are working with the vendor to finalize the program. The automated system is expected to be online within the next week to ten days. The following intersections will be monitored in the initial rollout of the program:
 - MD-201 (S/B) at River Road
 - River Road at MD-201; and
 - Queensbury Road at Rt. 1

The placement of cameras is based on collision data and will change as dictated by the collision data.

- United States Census 2020: Preparations are well underway for the upcoming 2020 Census. The Town will be working directly with the Prince George's County's Local Update of Census Addresses Operation (LUCA) Coordinator to review the master address file for the Town.

Community Engagement

- Please follow the Town on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RiverdaleParkMD/>
- Vision for Business and Economic Development: As Town staff continue working on codes, programs and initiatives related to Business and Economic Development, it is important to have an updated vision for what Business and Economic Development throughout the Town are to

be. Residents are encouraged to comment and/or recommend input on what should be included in the Town's vision for Business and Economic Development. Please email community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov or call Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk, at 301-927-6381.

- **Campus Community Connection:** In 2016, the Town, along with neighboring jurisdictions agreed to partner with the University of Maryland's iSchool and the National Center for Smart Growth on community based projects. Staff recently met with faculty to discuss one of the projects. The faculty members are exploring a project for students in a capstone course to examine food access and affordability to healthy food choices throughout the Town. The final project description will be disseminated in the next report.
- **County Budget Listening Sessions:** County Executive Baker will be hosting listening sessions for the FY2019 Budget on the following dates:
 - **Tuesday, January 30, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**
Oxon Hill High School, 6701 Leyte Drive, Oxon Hill, MD
 - **Thursday, February 8, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**
Prince George's Community College, Rennie Forum, 301 Largo Road, Largo, MD
 - **Tuesday, February 13, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**
Laurel High School, 8000 Cherry Lane, Laurel, MD

Participants who wish to speak can sign in on-site or call 301-952-4547. Pre-registration is encouraged.

Environment

- **Leaf Collection Reminder:** The leaf vacuuming service ended on January 15th. Residents should put leaves in brown paper bags for collection on Wednesdays (yard waste collection day).
- **P.L.A.N.T. Award:** The Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service has approved the Town's 2017 application for the Green award as part of their People Loving and Nurturing Trees (P.L.A.N.T) Awards program. We expect to receive our award via mail by the end of March, in time for Arbor Day events. A representative from the program will be invited to participate in our upcoming Arbor Day Ceremony in April.
- **Snow and Ice Removal:** As we enter the snow season, please note that Department of Public Works (DPW) staff will be plowing and salting Town streets and parking lots to clear snow and ice. DPW will treat streets in the following order:
 - **Primary Streets** - i.e., Riverdale Road, Taylor Road, Lafayette Avenue, Queensbury Road, etc.
 - **Residential Streets** – i.e., Oliver Street, Madison Street, Rittenhouse Street, 47th Avenue, Somerset Road, Sora Lane, etc.

Major roadways, (Rt. 201, Rt. 1, Rt. 410, Good Luck Road), will be treated by the State and County.

- **What Residents can do to assist with Snow and Ice Removal:**
 - Be patient as DPW crews work around-the-clock to clear the streets.
 - Whenever possible, move parked cars from of the street so that snowplows can remove snow from the street, curb-to-curb.
 - If off-street parking is **not** available, park on the **even side of the street**

- Clear sidewalks in front of your residence and refrain from depositing snow back on to the roadway as this can potentially cause an accident.
- **Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Collection During Inclement Weather Events:** Sometimes inclement weather will delay trash, recycling, or yard waste pick-up. In those cases, Town staff will post a notice on Facebook and Town Announce/Town Talk.

Development

- **Riverdale Park Station Updates:** 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: @RDPSStation
 Instagram: rdpsstation
- **Purple Line Construction Notices:** Purple Line construction is underway. The next twelve (12) months of construction will focus on utility relocation work. 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.
- **Notice of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Public Hearing:** WMATA will be holding a public hearing (Hearing No. 617) on Wednesday, January 31, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. regarding Docket B18-01: Proposed FY2019 Operating Budget and Docket B18-02: Proposed FY2019 Capital Improvement Program and Federal FY2018 Grant Applications. The public hearing will be held at Metro Headquarters Building (600 Fifth Street NW, Washington, DC 20001). An Open House will be held at 5:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.wmata.com/budget.
- **Notice received by Town:**
 - A Detailed Site Plan for Landy Property (DSP-18003), located at the intersection of Toldeo Terrace and Belcrest Road in Hyattsville, will be submitted for review to the Development Review Division of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). For more information, please contact Chris Hatcher at 301-951-0150.
 - The Prince George’s County Planning Department is reviewing a Mandatory Referral application for Proposed Bladensburg Library (MR-1729F) located at 4820 Annapolis Road in Bladensburg. For more information, contact Sara Hays at 301-699-3500 or sara.hays@pgcmls.info.
- **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.

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

Planning Board: February 1, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. (Upper Marlboro)

<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1398&Inline=True>

Board of License Commissioners: February 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. (Largo)

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/02072018-1027>

- **Rental Properties:** Office of Development Services (ODS) conducted a review to identify owners of rental properties in Town that have not applied for a rental license in fiscal year 2018 (FY2018). Notices have been sent to owners of these properties, and ODS will follow up to ensure compliance.
- **M-NCPPC PG Atlas Training:** The ODS Team participated in a training session on the [PG Atlas](#) GIS system provided by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. ODS will explore ways to apply and incorporate GIS data from PG Atlas as a tool to enhance operations.
- **Permits Issued:**

Permit Number	Address	Permit For	Estimated Project Value
2017-B-150	5610 Taylor Road	23x10 Deck with Steps	\$4,000
2017-B-151	4502 Van Buren Street	Revised architectural, structural, and mechanical work for future tenant	\$26,000
2017-B-152	6761 45th Street	Revised architectural, structural, and mechanical work for future tenant	\$26,000
Total Investment			\$56,000

- **Development Activities from January 10, 2018 to January 23, 2018**

Business Licenses:

Applications Received	3
Licenses Issued	4
Notices Issued	4

Rental Licenses:

Applications Received	3
Inspections Conducted	1
Licenses Issued	0
Notices Issued	20
Educational Materials Issued	39

Fines Issued	1
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Permits: Building / Storage Containers:

Applications Received	5
Inspections Conducted	1
Permits Issued	4
Stop Work Orders Issued	1
Violations Observed	6

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from January 10, 2018 to January 23, 2018

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Open Storage of Garbage / Rubbish	3
Exterior / Structural Conditions	4
Overgrown Weeds	0
Public Nuisance / Safety	2
Sanitation	2

Actions Taken:

Complaint Responses Performed	3
Fines Issued	0
Notices Issued	1
Outreach Meetings Conducted	4
Warnings Issued	2



Police

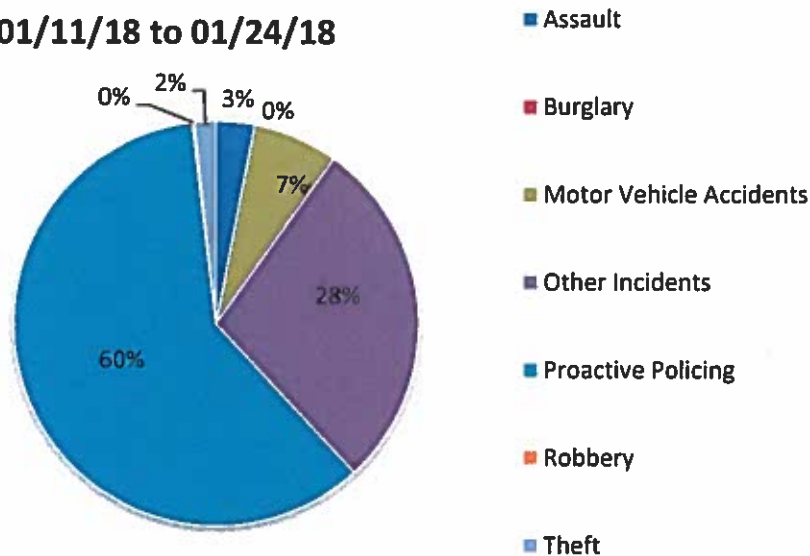
Calls for Service defined: A call for service is any activity performed by a sworn police officer in the performance of their assigned duties. Calls for service covers both proactive activities such as area checks and traffic enforcement; as well as a portion of field investigative reports, traffic accidents, 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 chart below illustrates that at a minimum, 317 or 60% 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.

Calls for Service - 528
01/11/18 to 01/24/18



Highlighted reports:

Officers responded to Riverdale Elementary School for a suspicious person. Officers contacted a male who appeared to be under the influence of drugs. During the contact, officers observed 2 glass vials of suspected PCP in the individual's open cargo pocket. He was placed under arrest for controlled dangerous substance (CDS) possession and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Officers responded to the 4800 block of East-West Highway for a motor vehicle accident. During the accident investigation officers conducted a record check on both drivers. One of the drivers had a suspended license and an open warrant through Montgomery County for failure to appear for driving while suspended. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Officers responded to the 6000 block of Taylor Road for a reported citizen robbery. The victim stated that while walking in the area, she was approached by a suspect who robbed her of her purse. During the altercation the suspect threatened to stab the victim, but no weapon was displayed. The victim was not injured, and the investigation is ongoing.

Officers responded to the 4600 block of East-West Highway for a person armed with a knife. Upon arrival, several construction workers pointed to a male subject in the median. Officers approached the suspect and observed a large knife protruding from his pants pocket. The suspect was immediately disarmed without incident. The investigation revealed the suspect had approached the construction workers with a knife displayed and made suicidal threats. Due to the suspects actions he was transported to the hospital for an emergency psychological evaluation.

Note from Town Manager: I highlighted a similar incident in the last report. We all are aware that police officers face dangerous circumstances. This incident highlights another example of our officers de-escalating and disarming someone seeking to harm himself or others. Again, well done!

Officers responded to 6000 block of Riverside Drive for a vehicle fire. Riverdale Heights VFD responded and extinguished the fire. The vehicle was unoccupied, and no one was injured. The Fire Marshall's Office was notified and will assume investigative responsibility.

Officers conducted a traffic stop for speeding in the 6600 block of Kenilworth Avenue. The driver of the vehicle was unlicensed. A warrant check revealed the driver to have an open warrant for FTA driving while suspended. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Officers responded to the Mobil Gas Station located at 5435 Kenilworth Avenue for a theft from auto. The investigation revealed while the victim was paying for her gas a suspect entered her vehicle and removed her purse. The suspect then ran to a vehicle and fled the scene. The incident was captured on video and the investigation is ongoing.

Update:

The Department has purchased medical trauma kits. The kits will be carried in all police vehicles and are designed to stop external bleeding from potentially serious wounds. This life-saving equipment is an important tool in enhancing public safety.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitan
Town Manager