

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland

Status and Information Report

Report No. 24 for 2017



December 29, 2017

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 January 12, 2018.

Upcoming Meetings:

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

Administration

- **Progress achieved:** Today's report is the 24th Status and Information report for calendar year 2017. As stated above, the goal is to share relevant and timely information. These biweekly reports represent significant progress in advancing transparency and focusing on data. The staff leadership team remains committed to sharing relevant and timely information and will continue to explore opportunities to further reach the stated goals.
- **Staff dedication illustrated:** The Town is fortunate to have a staff team that is dedicated to the community. In the last week, this consistent dedication and partnership with our community was clearly illustrated. Town staff worked to promote, support and organize efforts to assist residents in need. Toys were solicited, funds raised, and with the assistance of the Riverdale VFD, and Santa (played by Corporal Larry Hayes) 36 food baskets and toys for 200 children were delivered throughout the Town. Kudos to the Police Department for leading this effort and thanks to everyone who participated. Thank you for your dedication to the community; well done!

Community Engagement

- **A job well done!** Thank you to everyone who took part in the Town's holiday festivities! A special thank you to those who donated to Toys for Tots and the Hat and Glove Tree at Town Hall and to Flor de la Puebla Bakery for donating treats for the Children's Holiday Party. Thank you to Crescent Cities Center for hosting another wonderful Seniors Holiday luncheon.

- Kudos to the creative students and staff of Riverdale Elementary! Town staff were invited to judge the Holiday Bulletin Board Contest at Riverdale Elementary School this year. The students and staff did an amazing job!
- Upcoming holiday closings: Town Hall and the Department of Public Works (DPW) will be closed on Monday, January 1st. Happy New Year!

Environment

- Holiday Trash Collection Schedule: Trash will **not** be collected on New Year’s Day, January 1, 2018. The next trash collection will be on Thursday, January 4, 2018.
- Christmas Tree Recycling: Live and unadorned Christmas Trees can be placed at the curb on Wednesdays (regular yard waste collection day).
- Leaf Collection Schedule: Leaves will be collected through January 15, 2018. Please note the schedule below:

Curbside Leaf Collection Schedule November 2, 2017 to January 15, 2018	
Day	Work areas within
Monday	Wards 1,3,5 and 6
Tuesday	Wards 2 and 4
Wednesday	Entire Town (regular yard collection day) Bates Trucking Company will collect BAGGED LEAVES . Please do not include tree branches, wood or other debris in the bags.
Thursday	Wards 1,3,5 and 6
Friday	Wards 2 and 4

To make the leaf collection process work as efficiently as possible, residents are encouraged to:

- Rake leaves to the curb, not in the gutter.
 - Pile leaves away from cars and storm drains as the leaf vacuum cannot reach around vehicles.
 - Remove tree limbs, rocks and other debris from leaves to be collected as they can damage the equipment and cause delays.
 - Put bagged leaves out on Wednesdays with the yard waste. Do not put leaves out with regular trash and be sure to use paper bags or a clearly marked container.
- 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.

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: @RDPStation
Instagram: rdystation
- 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.
- Public Hearing Staff Report: The Town has received notice that a Public Hearing Staff Report for Docket R17-02: Proposed Changes to WMATA Facilities at Bethesda, Silver Spring, and New Carrollton Metrorail Stations is now available at www.wmata.com/initiatives. Comments on the report will be accepted until 5 p.m. on January 2, 2018. Comments may be emailed to WMATAHearongReport@wmata.com.
- Notice received by Town:
 - A Stormwater Management Concept Plan for Sacred Heart #54898-2017-0 was filed on November 20, 2017 for review to the Prince George’s County Department of Permits, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE). The site is located at 5805 Queens Chapel Road in Hyattsville. For more information, contact Soltesz at 301-794-7555 or DPIE at 301-883-5710.
 - A Special Permit (No. 170001) and Detailed Site Plan (No. 17054) application will be submitted to the Development Review Division of Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, for Mama’s Care Assisted Living Facility-Congregate Living Facility, located at 4111 East West Highway in Hyattsville. For more information, please contact Heather Dlhopsky at 301-961-5270.
- Decision from Prince George’s County Historic Preservation Commission: The Town received notice that the Historic Preservation Commission approved their staff’s recommendation that Walker-Mowatt Mill Site (Historic Resource 68-002), Tax Map 42, Grid F1, Parcel 3 and its 14.1-acre environmental setting could not be found to meet the Historic Site designation criteria

in Subtitle 29 and should be removed from the Prince George’s County Inventory of Historic Resources. Walker-Mowatt Mill Site was the location of a grist mill that operated from the late eighteenth century until circa 1900 on the Northeast Branch of the Anacostia River. The mill structures were reportedly destroyed by fire in the early twentieth century and no above-ground structures associated with the mill have been present since the historic resource was first documented by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in 1973. The Site is located within the limits of the Town of Riverdale Park and is situated on a 14.1-acre parcel that forms part of a contiguous area of parkland along the Northeast Branch of the Anacostia River.

- **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: January 4, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. (Upper Marlboro)
<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1388&Inline=True>

Board of License Commissioners: January 10, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. (Largo)
<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/01102018-1007>

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

- **Business License Review and Outreach:** Office of Development Services (ODS) is conducting a review of businesses in Town and identifying those that are operating without a Town of Riverdale Park business license. ODS has reached out to approximately 86 businesses to inform them about the Town’s licensing requirements and follow-up is ongoing.

- **Permits Issued:**

Permit Number	Address	Permit For
2017-B-138	6307 46th Avenue	Demo existing covered porch and stairs and construct new 11.5'x11' screen room and 11.5'x9.5' deck with steps
2017-B-139	6405 45th Place	Construct Shed
2017-B-140	6117 54th Avenue	Install 35 roof mounted solar panels

- **Community Standards – Violations noted and Actions taken (12/13/17-12/27/17):**

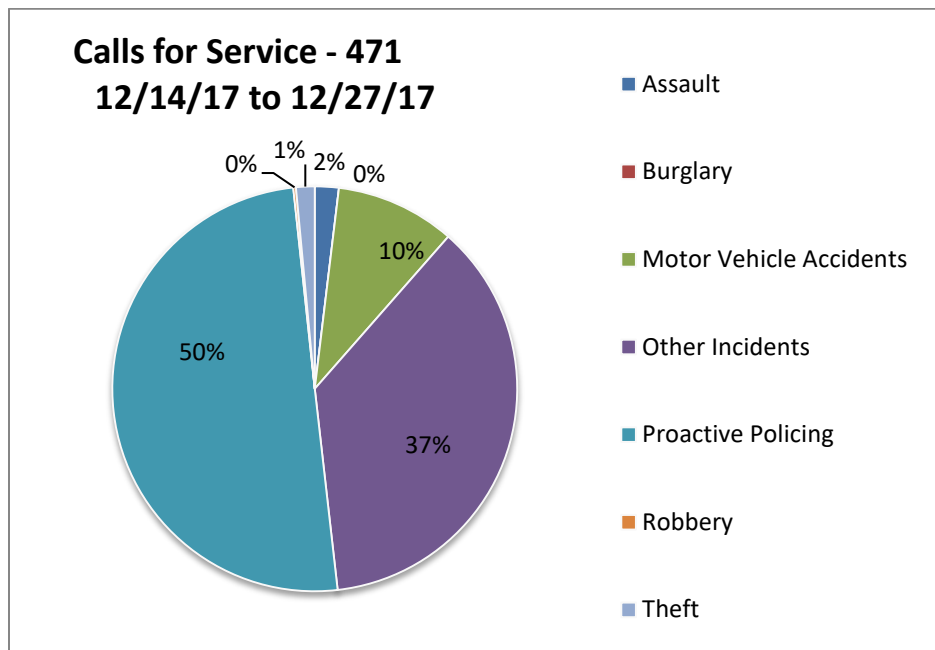
Violations Noted:

Open Storage of Garbage / Rubbish	3
Exterior / Structural Conditions	2
Overgrown Weeds	0
Public Nuisance	1
Safety	1
Sanitation	2

Actions Taken:

Complaint Response	7
Educational Materials	0
Fines	0
Notices	1
Outreach Meetings	5
Warnings	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 above chart illustrates that at a minimum, 236 or 50% 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 4800 block of Madison Street for a domestic dispute. The investigation revealed the incident was a verbal argument. The one subject had an open warrant for 1st degree burglary. The subject was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Officers responded to the 5000 block of Tuckerman Street for a hit and run motor vehicle collision. The investigation revealed the suspect fled from an accident that occurred on Belcrest Road in Hyattsville. While fleeing the original accident, the suspect then struck a parked vehicle in the 5000 block of Tuckerman Street, fled his vehicle, and ran away on foot. The suspect was subsequently apprehended by RPPD officers in the 5000 block of Sheridan Street. The suspect was arrested and charged with fleeing the scene of both motor vehicle collisions.

Officers were flagged down by a victim of a cutting in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue. The victim advised officers that he was cut by a suspect wielding a machete, and provided a description and last location of the suspect. Officers quickly located the suspect who was still armed with the machete. The suspect fled on foot from officers as they approached. Officers engaged in a foot pursuit and eventually apprehended and disarmed the suspect in the 5300 block of 55th Place. The suspect was placed under arrest and charged with 1st degree assault, 2nd degree assault, and carrying a deadly weapon. The victim was treated on the scene by the fire department.

Officers responded to a restaurant in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue to assist security officers with a disorderly patron. The patron was advised he was under arrest after refusing officers' lawful direction to leave the restaurant. During his arrest, he deliberately spat in the face of the arresting officer. Search incident to arrest revealed the defendant was in possession of 4.3 grams of suspected crack cocaine. The defendant was charged with 2nd degree assault on an officer, CDS possession, and disorderly conduct. Additionally, the defendant had an open warrant through the Prince George's County Sherriff's Office for rogue & vagabond.

Officers responded to Riverdale Plaza for a theft. The victim attempted to sell his iPhone 10 through the website "Offer UP". The victim planned to meet the suspect at Riverdale Plaza. During the arranged meeting, the suspect grabbed the victim's phone and fled the scene. The investigation is ongoing.

Officers responded to an apartment complex located in the 5500 block of 54th Avenue to assist security officers with two suspicious males. Security officers had two males detained for trespassing on the property. RPPD officers observed one of the males making furtive movements towards his waistband. Officers conducted a frisk and located a loaded 9mm handgun in the male's waistband. Officers placed the male under arrest and located 13 grams of suspected Marijuana on his person. The individual was charged with carrying a handgun on his person and possession of Marijuana. This case remains an active investigation because of other evidence and property recovered incident to the arrest.

Update:

On 11/14/17 RPPD responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Terrace, Riverdale Park for the report of a cutting. Two suspects were quickly identified and arrest warrants for attempted 1st degree murder were obtained. With the assistance of the PG Sheriff/US Marshall Task Force, one of the suspects was arrested within two days of the incident. On December 15th, the second suspect taken into custody, again with the assistance of the PG Sheriff/US Marshall Task Force. Both suspects are now in custody and awaiting trial.

During the previous two weeks, Riverdale Park police have arrested 7 motorists for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. As we approach New Year's Eve, RPPD is working in partnership with all Maryland Law Enforcement and the Maryland Highway Safety Office promoting Toward Zero Deaths. Law enforcement's goal is to save lives and reduce traffic fatalities on our roadways. Remember, **“Driver Sober or Get Pulled Over!”**

Sgt. Slattery recently completed a 3-week leadership program, Leadership in Police Organizations, sponsored by The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). This intense program focuses on the professional development of future law enforcement managers and is the IACP's flagship educational leadership program. The cost of this program was awarded to our police department free of charge.

Fire

- Notes of interest from The Riverdale Fire Department, Inc.:
 - The Department proudly delivered 3 Santas to Town Center on Saturday, December 17th.
 - The Department participated in the Town's food and toy delivery on Wednesday, December 20th.
 - Despite the wet weather and having two of its three fire trucks out of service, the Department was able to take Santa around the Town on Christmas Eve.
 - The Department responded to a structure on the 5800-block of 45th Avenue on December 11th. It was found that there was a substantial carbon monoxide leak in the structure. An adult and infant were transported to the hospital for a checkup.
- Holiday safety reminders from The Riverdale Fire Department, Inc.
 - Christmas trees are nearing the end of their use so be sure to keep them away from heat sources and always keep water at the base of the tree to keep it from drying out. Once the needles start falling off, it is time for the tree to be recycled.
 - Remember to place wood stove and fireplace ashes outside, in a sealed metal container and away from your house and garage. Never store ashes inside your house!
 - Carbon monoxide KILLS- it is colorless and odorless. If you have any natural gas-powered appliances, (i.e. furnace, hot water heater, stove/oven, etc.) then you have a chance of a carbon monoxide leak. Maintain your appliances and have carbon monoxide detectors, preferably with a smoke detector, installed. See www.carbonmonoxidetectorplacement.com for useful information.
 - Be sure to check your smoke detector batteries. If you need a smoke detector, please go to <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/FormCenter/FireEMS-8/Free-Smoke-Alarm-Request-Form-71>.
 - Have two ways out of your home for each member of your family in case of an emergency.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian
Town Manager