

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland Status and Information Report Report No. 1 for 2020



January 10, 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 January 24, 2020.

CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Town Hall and Department of Public Works Closed	Monday, January 20, 2020	In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
---	--------------------------	---

MEETING AND EVENT DATES:

Ethics Commission Meeting	Wednesday, January 15, 2020 6:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Council Work Session	Monday, January 27, 2020 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Legislative Meeting	Monday, February 3, 2020 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall

A New Year

- As we begin 2020, I begin my fourth year as the Town Manager. The staff team worked hard in 2019 and continued to improve the delivery of services for our residents. I am grateful for the team’s shared efforts. By the end of January, I will publish the 2019 Accomplishments memorandum and shortly thereafter the 2020 Staff Calendar Year Goal document.

I do want to take a moment to thank the Town residents for their input and assistance throughout 2019 and especially thank those who have volunteered their time and talents to move the Town forward. I also, want to convey to the Mayor and Council, on behalf of the staff Leadership Team that we sincerely appreciate the leadership and support. We look forward to a productive 2020.

Employee Recognition

- Welcome Ryan Chelton! Please join me in welcoming Ryan as the Town’s new Director of Development Services. Most recently, Ryan was the Economic Development Planner for the City of College Park. Ryan’s experience and education will serve the Town well and assist the Town in elevating our economic development efforts. Ryan will begin his outreach to the business and investor community in the coming weeks.

Council Direction Summary

The Mayor and Council provided direction to staff through the following Legislative Actions:

1. Motion to authorize Town Manager to sign a conditioned Agreement of Sale to acquire real property (5000 Queensbury Road) - ***Approved***
2. Introduction of Ordinance 2020-OR-01 regarding purchase of 5002 Queensbury Road - ***Introduced***
3. Motion to approve the Mayor’s reappointment of James Davis to the Defined Benefit Plan Board of Trustees – ***Approved***

Community Engagement

- 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 Town’s Social Media Outreach initiative continues to evolve and expand the reach in sharing information. The Facebook page is an important platform from which the Town can share important news, events, updates, and emergency notifications. The staff team is working to grow our social media reach and has established a goal of 1,500 followers by May 31, 2020. 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:
 - 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

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Environment

- Replacement Totes: Bates requests that damaged trash cans be placed curbside and turned upside down for collection on **Wednesdays**. It is recommended to label the cans as “trash”.
- Yard Waste Mondays: Yard waste collection is every Monday. Yard waste should 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 Construction Notices: Purple Line construction continues. Residents are encouraged to subscribe for updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, visit purplelinemd.com, find “Construction” and click on “Subscribe for Updates.” The construction hotline is 240-424-5325.
- TRP-RPS - Riverdale Park Station News: For more information on store openings, events, and development news, check out the Riverdale Park Station transit and general websites and social media pages:
 - Transit Website: <http://www.rpstransit.com/>
 - General Website: <http://www.riverdaleparkstation.com>
 - Facebook: Riverdale Park Station
 - Twitter: @RDPStation
 - Instagram: rdpstation
- 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:

Board of License Commissioners: January 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. (Largo)

https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_01152020-1494

Planning Board: January 16, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. (Upper Marlboro)

<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1497&Inline=True>

Historic Preservation Commission: January 21, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. (Upper Marlboro)

http://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_01212020-318

- Development Activities from December 26, 2019 to January 8, 2020

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	0	41
Building Permits Issued	0	26
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	12

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from December 26, 2019 to January 8, 2020

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	6	65
Exterior Conditions	7	90
Interior Conditions	0	393
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	3	48
Safety	4	70
Sanitation	4	22
Total Violations Found:	24	688

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	7	150
Fines Issued	6	31
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	1	32
Violation Notices Issued	5	80
Warnings Issued	7	117
Total Services Provided:	26	410

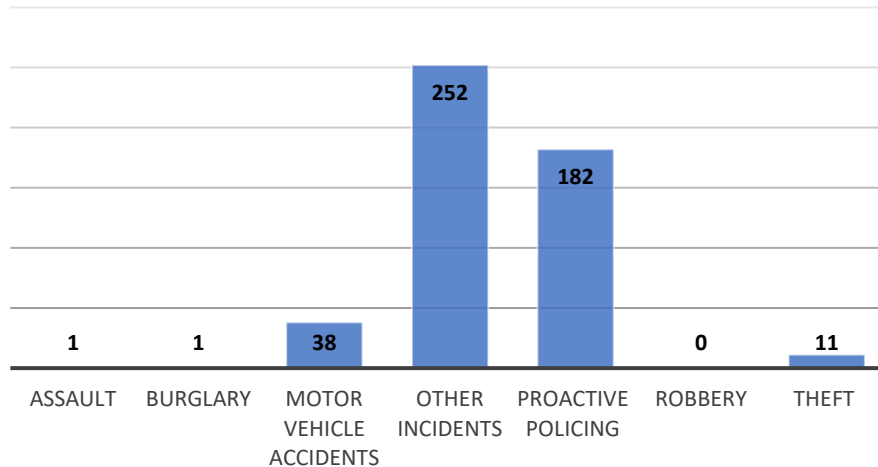
Note:

1. *“FYTD” means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020.*
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.*

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Public Safety

485 Calls for Police Service 12/26/2019 to 1/8/2020



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, 182 or 38 percent of calls for service were proactive actions on the part of the Town's police officers.

Proactive Policing includes traffic safety, business and residential checks, field interviews, and quality of life issues.

Other Incidents includes disorderly complaints, fights, suspicious subjects/vehicles, parking complaints, traffic complaints, and citizen assists.

Highlighted reports:

- Officers responded to a business in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a trespassing complaint. A store employee reported an individual inside the business causing a disturbance and refusing to leave. The individual was removed from the property and advised not to return. A short time later the individual returned to the business and was arrested for trespassing.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5600 block of Lafayette Place for a burglary. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) cut through a fence and removed property from the lot. The investigation is ongoing.

- Officers observed two individuals consuming alcoholic beverages in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue. The individuals were contacted and issued criminal citations for drinking in public.
- Officers responded to an apartment building in the 5300 block of Riverdale Road for a found child. The investigation revealed a 2-year old child was left home alone by their mother. Child Protective Services was notified and took custody of the child. Through investigative means the suspect was identified and charged with child neglect.
- Officers contacted a suspicious person in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue. A records check revealed the individual to have an active arrest warrant for 2nd degree assault. The individual was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop in the 5300 block of Taylor Road for vehicle involved in a hit and run accident. The driver and passenger bailed out the vehicle and attempted to flee but were apprehended after a brief foot pursuit. A loaded semi-automatic pistol was located inside the vehicle. The suspects were charged with having a handgun in a vehicle and leaving the scene of an accident.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a trespassing complaint. Contact was made with two individuals who were drinking alcoholic beverages in the parking lot of the business. The individuals were issued criminal citations for drinking in public and released from the scene.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John N. Lestitian".

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager