

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 21 for 2022

October 14, 2022

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 October 28, 2022.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Redistricting Committee Meeting	Wednesday, October 19, 2022 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81784268981?pwd=YzI BalQ4RUFXZFU3Z3Z6U2NUL3dkZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 817-8426-8981 Passcode: 92122
Walk & Talk	Saturday, October 22, 2022 9:30 a.m.	Walk will begin at Town Hall (5008 Queensbury Road)
Council Work Session	Monday, October 31, 2022 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85116308362?pwd=OWJxWXNiSGw2anZY OkkxYi90bElOZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 851-1630-8362 Passcode: 09012022

Administration

- Virtual Meetings with Staff: Staff are available for virtual meetings. 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.
- Notary Services available: Notary Services are available through the Office of Administrative Services by appointment. Please schedule your appointment at least 24-hours in advance. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Keith Robinson at krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov or call 301-927-6381.

Council Direction Summary

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

1. Motion to excuse absence of Ward 5 CM - ***Approved***
2. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into subrecipient agreement with University of Maryland regarding RISE Zone Rental Assistance Fund - ***Approved***
3. Introduction of Ordinance 2022-OR-06 regarding changes to Ethics Ordinance - ***Introduced***
4. Motion to approve appointments for Board of Elections - ***Approved***

Community Engagement

- Legal Advertisement: The legal advertisement below was run in the *Enquirer-Gazette* on October 13, 2022.

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
FAIR SUMMARY OF
ORDINANCE 2022-OR-06

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2022-OR-06.

Ordinance 2022-OR-06 will make numerous revisions to the Town's Code of Ethics as required by the State Ethics Law; and generally relate to revisions to the Town of Riverdale Park Code of Ethics.

Ordinance 2022-OR-06 is 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.

- Juvenile Curfew Update: Over the 30-day juvenile curfew, the County saw increased engagement with parents and residents, and numerous individuals have reached out to offer assistance. The County also saw a decrease in crime during curfew hours: homicides are down 71%, violent crime is down 38%, and carjackings are down 59%. Due to the success of the curfew, the County is extending enforcement through the end of this year and will reevaluate after the holidays.

A curfew is one tool in the toolbox to combat crime. The County is asking the community to please continue to work with them to reduce violent crime and keep our children safe.

- Coffee with a Cop: Coffee with a Cop was held at the Starbucks in Riverdale Park Station on October 5, 2022. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us!
- Prince George's County Homeownership Preservation Program (HOPP): A partnership has been established between Prince George's County and Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to launch the new Prince George's County Homeownership Preservation Program (HOPP). The program prioritizes homeowners who live within one mile of the Purple Line to provide resources to address the home's critical health, safety, and accessibility related needs to help promote and enable the transfer of generational wealth by preserving homeownership for families in need. Funding is limited, apply [here](#) and/or share the information with your neighbors.
- Maryland Homeowner Assistance Fund: The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development launched the Maryland Homeowners Assistance Fund in late 2021. The Fund will be open to homeowners statewide. Visit the Maryland Homeowner Assistance Fund webpage to learn more about the program and the eligibility requirements.
<https://dhcd.maryland.gov/Residents/Pages/HomeownerAssistanceFund.aspx>
- Water Bill Assistance: The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) has resumed water service turnoffs. WSSC Water is encouraging customers that need assistance to establish convenient payment plans or apply for financial assistance to prevent a water service turnoff. Contact WSSC Water at 301-206-4001 Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more information, visit the WSSC Water website
https://www.wsscwater.com/assistance?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery.
- 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!
- Trash Concerns App Streamlines Process: 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.gov/how_do_i/trash_concerns/index.php
- Social Media Outreach: Thank you to those who follow the Town on our social media platforms. The Town's social media continues to expand our reach in sharing information. The Town's website remains the primary source for electronic information. Facebook and secondary Twitter accounts 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 2,399. We need your assistance to continue the Town's outreach efforts. If you have not 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

- **MDOT Walktober Walkinar Schedule:** Throughout October, the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), in coordination with a several state agencies and other partners, will sponsor a series of 90-minute webinars, or Walkinars, to highlight how we can collectively rally around walking, an activity that is both central to the state’s Active Transportation efforts and a critical component promoting public well-being.
 - Walkinar #3: Walking and Public Health: Research Insights into the Value of Active Living, **Thursday, October 20, 2022, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.**
 - Walkinar #4: Great Partners and Creative Approaches for Promoting Safe Walk Opportunities, **Thursday, October 27, 2022, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

For more information about the free webinars and to register, please visit,

<https://mdot.maryland.gov/tso/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=123>.

- **MEA Announces Low Income Solar Grant Program:** The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) has announced that applications are now being accepted for the Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) Low Income Solar Grant Program. Through the program, MEA will support the design and installation of solar energy systems for a limited number of low-income Maryland households that have received an energy audit and significant energy efficiency upgrades during MEA’s FY18 - FY23 Low-to-Moderate Income Energy Efficiency Grant Program.

In FY23, \$1 million has been made available for the Low-Income Solar Grant Program. MEA anticipates issuing awards for up to 100% of the photovoltaic (PV) solar system design and installation costs, which may include limited funding for roof repair/replacement in the vicinity of the solar array, structural support of the roof (as needed), and mold remediation in areas needed to support the installation of the solar array and supporting equipment.

Applications will be accepted on a competitive basis **until November 15, 2022**, at 5:00 p.m. Projects must meet all eligibility requirements to be considered for award funding. Full program information and application materials can be found online.

Please contact Low Income Solar Grant Program Manager Abigail Antonini at solar.mea@maryland.gov or 410-537-4064 with any questions.

- **Weatherization Programs:** Programs are available to help income eligible households lower their energy bills. The [Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development \(DHCD\)](#)

offers programs that may provide help with things like insulation, hot water system improvements, heating/cooling repair or replacement, renewable energy systems, and other health and safety enhancements free of charge. For questions or help with the application call 1-855-583-8976.

- WSSC Notification System: If there is a water or sewer emergency in or near your neighborhood, get alerts via text or email. Visit <http://wsscwater.com/cns> to register.
- JEDA Trucking Bulk Trash Pick-up Services: As a reminder, Bulk Trash Collection is provided 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.
- 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 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/>

- Notices Received by the Town:
 - Verizon Fios Notice: The contract with Nexstar ends on October 14, 2022, and your Fios TV package contains Nexstar channels. We are working hard to negotiate with them to reach a new agreement. However, Nexstar has proposed charging over 64% more for its programming. Verizon remains committed to making these channels available to our customers, but simply cannot agree to such unreasonable increases. For a full list of channels affected and updates, visit verizon.com/Nexstar.
- 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: October 18, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting.
https://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_10182022-714

Planning Board: October 18, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting. Annual Budget Forum.
<http://mncppc.igm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1680&Inline=True>

October 20, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.
<http://mncppc.igm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1683&Inline=True>

Board of License Commissioners: October 25, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.
https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_10252022-2338

- Development Activities from September 29, 2022, to October 12, 2022

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	0	6
Building Permits Issued	2	8
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	1

Permits Issued:

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2023-B-07	4717 Queensbury Road	2-Story Addition	\$150,000
2023-B-08	5902 Cleveland Avenue	6 Foot Fence	\$9,000
Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:			\$159,000

Est. Investment FYTD 2023 Total:	\$287,050
---	------------------

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	0	6
Multifamily Licenses Issued	2	6
Single-family Rental Inspection	1	50
Single-family Licenses Issued	1	38
Business License Inspections Conducted	8	24
Business Licenses Issued	18	21

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from September 29, 2022, to October 12, 2022

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	0	9
Exterior Conditions	0	14
Interior Conditions	0	3
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	16
Safety	0	2
Sanitation	0	3
Total Violations Found:	0	47

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	6	31
Fines Issued	5	44
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	4	21
Violation Notices Issued	2	16
Warnings Issued	3	55
Total Services Provided:	20	167

Note:

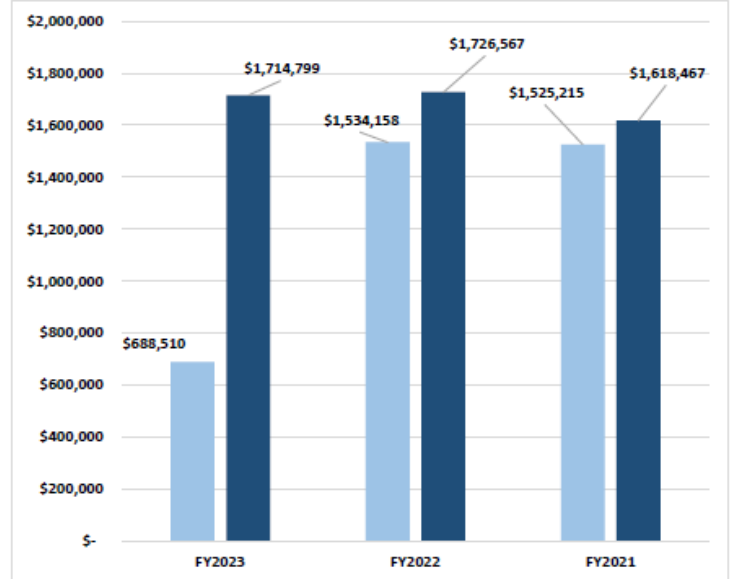
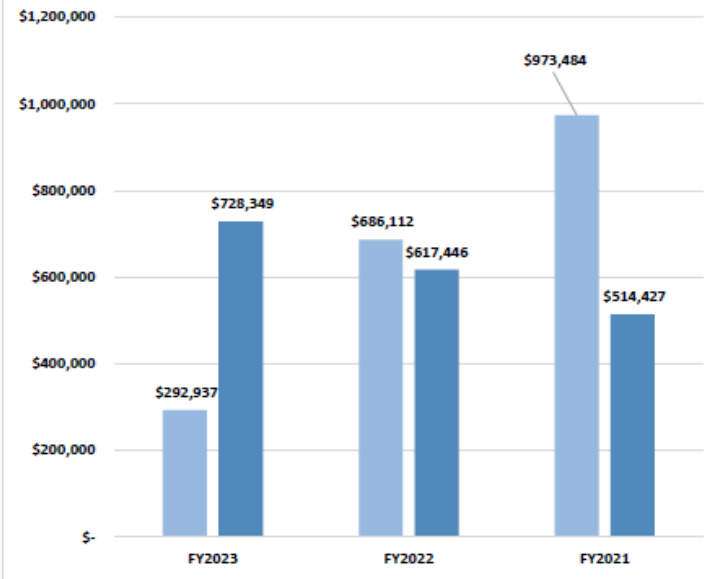
1. "FYTD" means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.
2. "Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish" includes violations pertaining to the storage of waste materials in interior or exterior property areas.

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

Finance

FY2023	FY2022	FY2021		YTD Total		
\$ 292,937	\$ 686,112	\$ 973,484		FY2023	FY2022	FY2021
\$ 728,349	\$ 617,446	\$ 514,427		\$ 688,510	\$ 1,534,158	\$ 1,525,215
\$ (435,412)	\$ 68,666	\$ 459,057		\$ 1,714,799	\$ 1,726,567	\$ 1,618,467

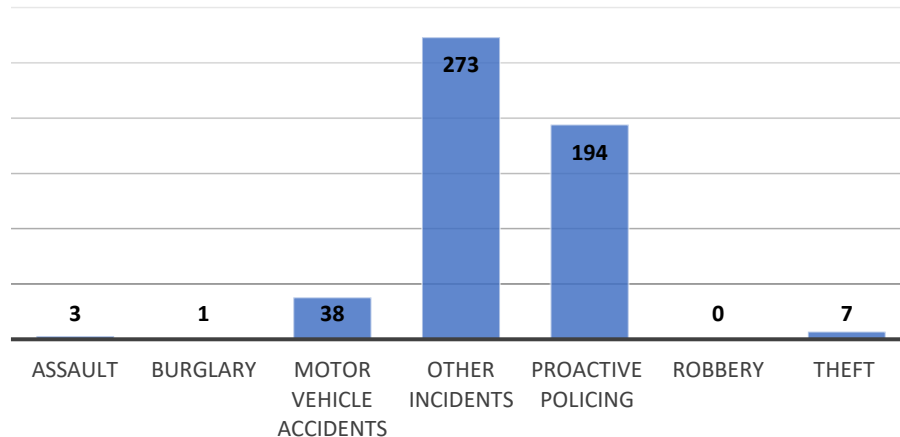


Revenue =	
Expense =	

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Public Safety

516 Calls for Police Service 09/29/2022 to 10/12/2022



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, 194 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 Incident includes disorderly complaints, fights, suspicious subjects/vehicles, parking complaints, traffic complaints, and assisting individuals.

Highlighted reports:

- Officers responded to a business in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an assault. The investigation revealed four unknown suspects entered the business and stole multiple bottles of laundry detergent. An employee attempted to block the exit and was struck by one of the suspects. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5000 block of East West Highway. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

- Officers responded to the 5900 block of Riverside Drive for a burglary. Responding officers found forced entry into a vacant property. One individual was located inside and placed under arrest for 4th degree burglary.
- Officers responded to the 5900 block of Cleveland Avenue for a theft. The investigation revealed overnight unknown suspect(s) removed the victim's personal property from their unlocked vehicle.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Kenilworth Avenue for motor vehicle collision. The operator of the striking vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers responded to the 4700 block of River Road for hit and run motor vehicle collision. A witness provided a description of three individuals running from the scene. Responding officers located the individuals and placed them under arrest. A search incident to arrest revealed two of the individuals were in possession of loaded semi-automatic handguns.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6600 block of Baltimore Avenue for an assault. The investigation revealed the victim was assaulted by an unknown suspect while in the restroom. The victim wasn't injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Carters Lane for stolen vehicle. The investigation revealed the victim's vehicle was left running in the parking lot of a business when unknown suspect(s) got inside and drove off. The vehicle was located abandoned the next day and returned to the owner.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6700 block of 45th Street for a trespassing complaint. Responding officers met with an employee of the business who reported an individual inside the business causing a disturbance and refusing to leave. Officers contacted the individual who refused numerous requests to leave, in the officer's presence. The individual was placed under arrest for trespassing.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a family dispute. The involved parties were contacted, and field interviewed. A records check revealed an individual had two active arrest warrants. The individual was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager