

# TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

## Status and Information Report

## Report No. 20 for 2020

October 2, 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 October 16, 2020.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Legislative Meeting	Monday, October 5, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84423489646?pwd=RjZlV01JRXNEbXZQNxh3eUs3UGxBUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84423489646?pwd=RjZlV01JRXNEbXZQNxh3eUs3UGxBUT09</a> Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 844-2348-9646 Passcode: 261552
Council Work Session	Monday, October 26, 2020 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting. To join: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85400958316?pwd=d0NFK3pQT1EvbTJUcmg3LzFkQzRZQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85400958316?pwd=d0NFK3pQT1EvbTJUcmg3LzFkQzRZQT09</a> Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 854 0095 8316 Passcode: 478554

### Administration

- Riverdale Park Police Department in Compliance with HB1629: RPPD staff worked diligently to compile and submit data to the Office of the Attorney General on certain firearm crimes occurring between August 1, 2015 and July 31, 2019 as required by HB1629. Although the Town is now on the County RMS system, a considerable amount of staff time was required to compile the data. I would like to recognize the RPPD staff team for their hard work and dedication to ensuring that the Town continues to be in compliance with all statutory requirements.

- Meetings with Staff: Staff are also available for virtual meetings while the Town buildings are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 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.
- Remote Notary Services available: Staff are now available to perform Remote Notary Services for Town residents. Remote Notary Services will be performed through a virtual platform approved by the Maryland Secretary of State. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Denisa Caballero at [dcaballero@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:dcaballero@riverdaleparkmd.gov) or Keith Robinson at [krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov) or call 301-927-6381.
- Volunteers Needed to Serve on Committees: The Town of Riverdale Park is seeking volunteers to serve as members of the Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review Committee (M-UTC).

M-UTC meets on the first Wednesday of most months to review development applications. For more information about MUTC, visit <https://www.mncppc.org/3352/Riverdale-Park-MUTC>.

Please contact Town Clerk Jessica Barnes at [jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov) if you are interested in serving on this important committee.

### **Community Engagement**

- 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](mailto: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!
- 2020 Census:
  - The Town participated in a Latino Census program event that was held on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at Tanglewood Park. Families received hot meals as well as assistance in completing the Census, if requested. The Census Bureau set up tables with Census materials and had Census takers on hand to assist.
  - Staff distributed door hangers provided by Prince George’s County to residents of the Town’s multifamily buildings to encourage their participation in the 2020 Census. Outreach will continue as an extended deadline has been announced.
  - The Secretary of Commerce has announced a target date of October 5, 2020 to conclude 2020 Census self-response and field data collection operations. It is imperative that everyone responds as soon as possible online at [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov), by phone at [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020), or by mail. The Town currently has a response rate of 65.7%. The State’s current response rate is 70.8%. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to complete their 2020 Census forms today!
- International Property Maintenance Code: Currently the Town follows the Prince George’s County Property Maintenance Code which is based on the 2000 International Property Maintenance Code. The County’s code is only applicable to residential structures. The 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) applies to both residential and commercial

structures and has been discussed at Council meetings over the last several months. Community Input is encouraged and welcomed. Comments may be e-mailed to [Community\\_Input@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:Community_Input@riverdaleparkmd.gov).

- **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](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/ho.../trash_concerns/index.php).



- **Social Media Outreach:** The Leadership Team, along with key team members from the Office of Administrative Services, continues to review and improve the Social Media Outreach initiative to expand our reach in sharing information. The Town's website remains the primary source for electronic information. Facebook and secondary Twitter accounts will 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 1,750. We now know that 2,000 is possible. 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 and ask that you join us:
  - Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/riverdaleparkmd\\_gov/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/riverdaleparkmd_gov/?hl=en)
  - Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Riverdale\\_Park](https://twitter.com/Riverdale_Park)
  - Youtube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeaNS8-6xwTyPJculj7vuCQ/videos?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeaNS8-6xwTyPJculj7vuCQ/videos?view_as=subscriber)

### **Environment**

- **Free Tree Program for Residents:** Homeowners are eligible for free professionally planted native trees through the Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization CDC (CKAR) tree canopy project. This project is in collaboration with the Prince George's County Department of the Environment, the Chesapeake Bay Trust and other participating communities and organizations. To request a tree, visit <https://ckarcdc.org/community-resources/>
- **Curbside Removal of Flood Damaged Items:** In areas that were impacted by the flooding, the Town will continue collecting discarded items damaged by the recent flooding through Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Residents are asked to have flood damaged items at the curb for pick-up by 2 p.m. There is no pick-up on the weekends.
- **Leaf Collection:** Residents are encouraged to bag their leaves and/or mulch them during lawn mowing instead of pushing them into the streets. It is extremely important to keep storm drains clear of leaves to allow the system optimal performance during a rain event. Public Works staff will distribute five (5) leaf bags to all single-family residences in October. FREE leaf bags will also be available for pick up on the third Saturday of the month (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) at the bulk trash drop off at the Public Works building until mid-January. Identification confirming

residency is required. Bagged leaves should be set out curbside by 6 a.m. on Monday for collection by the Town's hauler.

- **Bates Bulk Trash Pick-up Services:** As a reminder, Bulk Trash Collection is provided by appointment only. To schedule an appointment for pick-up, call 301-773-2069. Only 3 bulk items are permitted per week.
- **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**

- **Emergency Repairs Grant Available:** The Town is soliciting grant applications from homeowners who reside in Town. Applications will be accepted through Thursday, December 31, 2020. This grant program is designed to assist homeowners with emergency repairs in homes and businesses that would otherwise not be addressed. Residents can be reimbursed for up to \$2,000 after work has been completed and paid for. 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. For more information, please visit [http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/residents/emergency\\_repair\\_grant.php](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/residents/emergency_repair_grant.php).
- **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](http://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/>
- **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:** October 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. (Virtual Meeting)  
[https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/\\_10072020-1701](https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_10072020-1701)

**Planning Board:** October 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (Virtual Meeting)  
<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1541&Inline=True>

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

- Development Activities from September 17, 2020 to September 30, 2020

**Permits: Building / Storage Containers**

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	1	7
Building Permits Issued	1	5
Stop Work Orders Issued	3	4

**Permits Issued:**

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2021-B-05	4600 River Road, Suite 300	Office Space Interior Design	\$1,015,000
<b>Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:</b>			<b>\$1,015,000</b>
<b>Est. Investment FYTD 2021 Total:</b>			<b>\$1,362,400</b>

**Licenses:**

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	2	7
Multifamily Licenses Issued	2	2
Single-family Rental Inspection	0	14
Single-family Licenses Issued	0	11

Business License Inspections Conducted	13	87
Business Licenses Issued	17	81

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from September 17, 2020 to September 30, 2020

**Community Standards Violations by Type:**

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	6	18
Exterior Conditions	2	31
Interior Conditions	2	18
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	1	11
Safety	0	9
Sanitation	0	1
<b>Total Violations Found:</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>88</b>

**Services Provided by Type:**

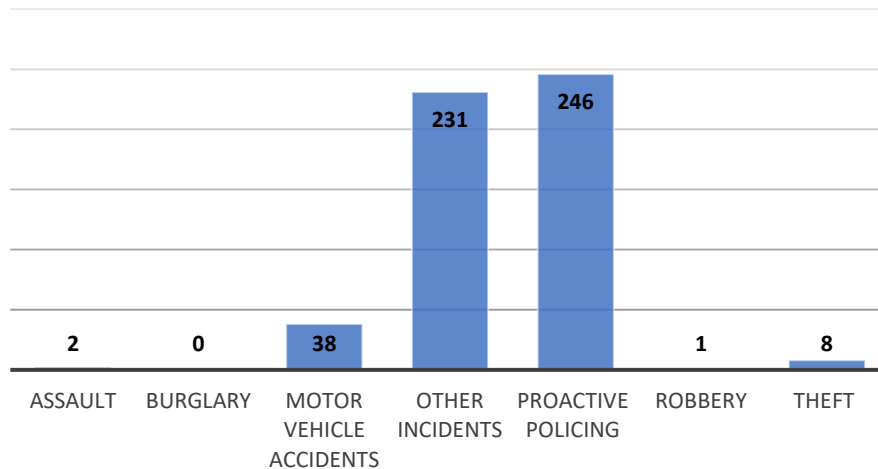
Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2021 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	7	46
Fines Issued	0	3
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	6	10
Violation Notices Issued	5	34
Warnings Issued	3	19
<b>Total Services Provided:</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>112</b>

Note:

1. "FYTD" means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021.
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.

## Public Safety

### 526 Calls for Police Service 09/17/2020 to 09/30/2020



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, 246 or 47 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 assisting individuals.

#### Highlighted reports:

- Officers responded to the 5300 block of Riverdale Road for a domestic assault. The investigation revealed the victim was assaulted by the suspect who was no longer on the scene. Officers transported the victim to the District Court Commissioners Office to assist with obtaining a Protective Order and filing criminal charges.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a single motor vehicle collision. The operator of the vehicle failed field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

- Officers responded to a complaint of a suspicious vehicle in the 5800 block of Baltimore Avenue. A records check revealed the 2008 Honda Civic was reported stolen. The vehicle was impounded pending notification to the owner.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a robbery. The investigation revealed the victim was walking up to the bank when the suspect approached and produced a handgun. The victim relinquished a bank deposit bag and the suspect fled to an awaiting vehicle. The victim was not injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a disorderly complaint. The individual was removed from the property and issued a criminal citation for disorderly conduct.
- Officers responded to the 4500 block of Sheridan Street for a theft. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) removed a package from the victim's front porch. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5800 block of Riverdale Road for a disorderly complaint. An employee reported an intoxicated individual inside the business harassing customers and refusing to leave. Responding officers removed the individual from the business and issued a criminal citation for trespassing.
- Officers observed an individual known to have an active arrest warrant in the 6600 block of Baltimore Avenue. The individual was contacted, and the warrant was confirmed. The individual was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager