

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 22 for 2022

October 28, 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 November 10, 2022.

CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Town Hall and Public Works Operations Closed	Friday, November 11, 2022	In observance of Veterans Day
Town Hall and Public Works Operations Closed	Thursday, November 24, 2022* Friday, November 25, 2022	In observance of Thanksgiving
<i>*There will be no trash collection on Thursday, November 24th due to the holiday.</i>		

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Council Work Session	Monday, October 31, 2022 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85116308362?pwd=OWJxWXNiSGw2anZYQkkxYi90bElQZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 851-1630-8362 Passcode: 09012022
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Legislative Meeting	Monday, November 7, 2022 7:30 p.m.	<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85858418407?pwd=emF3L2FGTERsMm42OUVObk10cEVrUT09</p> <p>Or call: 301-715-8592</p> <p>Meeting ID: 858-5841-8407 Passcode: 10172022</p>
Town Seal Design Committee Meeting	Thursday, November 10, 2022 7:30 p.m.	<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82460709596?pwd=U2Q2TWNhNEFtWk5tZVBOUXZuQU5zUT09</p> <p>Or call 301-715-8592</p> <p>Meeting ID: 824-6070-9596 Passcode: 261022</p>
Community Conversations: Redistricting	Saturday, November 12, 2022 9:30 a.m.	<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83803556989?pwd=VVRyVnpuVnk4zU0lIQ296VUpGYVZtUT09</p> <p>Or call: 301-715-8592</p> <p>Meeting ID: 838 0355 6989 Passcode: 221020</p>
Redistricting Committee Meeting	Wednesday, November 16, 2022 7:30 p.m.	<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83223029520?pwd=OGxIVEZadHZCdDV6VHIMa3dEOVdrZz09</p> <p>Or call: 301-715-8592</p> <p>Meeting ID: 832 2302 9520 Passcode: 9302022</p>

Ethics Commission Meeting	Thursday, November 17, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88512267410?pwd=cjNyUGVvdUEwUmdPQjRoUit3QkF0dz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 885 1226 7410 Passcode: 20221017
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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.

Community Engagement

- Final Walk & Talk and the beginning of Community Conversations: The final Walk & Talk of 2022 was held on October 22nd. We look forward to resuming the Walk & Talks in the spring of 2023. Thank you to everyone who came out to walk, and talk, with us!

As the Walk & Talks end for the year, the Community Conversations are beginning. Community Conversations are envisioned to be smaller gatherings of residents, held on a virtual platform, and will cover topics that are timely and important to residents.

The first Community Conversation will be held on **Saturday, November 12th at 9:30 a.m.** via Zoom and will focus on **redistricting**. Join us to learn more about redistricting and to provide input on draft Ward boundaries.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83803556989?pwd=VVRyVnnpnVk4zU0lIQ296VUpGYVZtUT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592
Meeting ID: 838 0355 6989
Passcode: 221020

- Riverdale Park Police Officers Participate in RES Trunk-or-Treat: On October 24th, Riverdale Park police officers participated in Trunk-or-Treat at Riverdale Elementary School.

- 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.

- 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 2,404. 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

- 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 Updates:
 - Stormwater Drainage and Sitework to Resume Along Riverdale Road - New: On or about October 24, 2022, the crews will begin installation of storm drains along eastbound Riverdale Road between Mustang Drive to the Eastpine Drive through the end of the year. The work will may take place 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and weekends, as needed, weather permitting.
 - Long-Term Traffic Configuration Change on Campus Drive - New: On or about November 21, 2022, crews will implement a new long-term traffic configuration on Campus Drive between Diamondback Drive and River Road. All traffic will be shifted to the north side of Campus Drive and a minimum of one lane in each direction will be maintained. A signed pedestrian detour will be implemented to maintain pedestrian access around the work zone. This traffic pattern will be in place for approximately one year.
- 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: Verizon’s contract with Nexstar expired on October 14, 2022, and Verizon is temporarily unable to provide Nexstar’s programming. Verizon notified subscribers through its website, the Fios TV Message Center and by email of the current negotiation status. For a full list of channels affected and updates, visit verizon.com/Nexstar.
 - Verizon Fios Notice: On or after November 18, 2022, G4 TV (channel 804) will be discontinued by the provider and programming will be removed from the Fios TV channel lineup. Verizon is notifying subscribers through the Fios TV Message Center.
 - Verizon Fios Notice: On or after November 15, 2022, TheGrio HD carried on channel 612, will move to channel 777. Also, on or after November 15, 2022, Newsmax TV carried on channel 115 SD/615 HD will move to channel 116 SD/616 HD. Verizon notified subscribers through the Fios TV Message Center. Access to the Fios TV channel lineup is available 24/7 online at verizon.com/fiostvchannels.
- 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: November 3, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.
<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1686&Inline=True>

Board of License Commissioners: *No information available at time of report.*

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

- Development Activities from October 13, 2022, to October 26, 2022

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

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

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	2	8
Multifamily Licenses Issued	1	7
Single-family Rental Inspection	1	51
Single-family Licenses Issued	3	41
Business License Inspections Conducted	1	25
Business Licenses Issued	3	24

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from October 13, 2022, to October 26, 2022

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	1	10
Exterior Conditions	2	16
Interior Conditions	0	3
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	16
Safety	1	3
Sanitation	0	3
Total Violations Found:	4	51

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	3	34
Fines Issued	6	50
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	3	24
Violation Notices Issued	0	16
Warnings Issued	2	57
Total Services Provided:	14	181

Note:

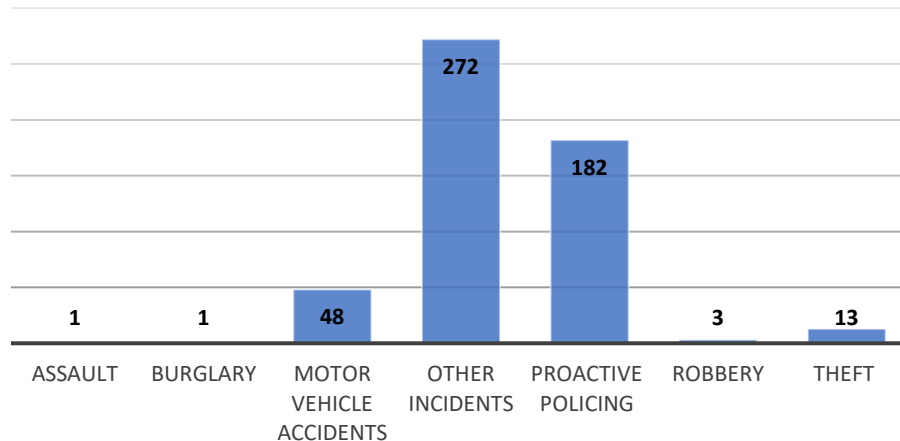
1. "FYTD" means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.
2. "Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish" includes violations pertaining to the storage of waste materials in interior or exterior property areas.
3. "Exterior Conditions" include, but not limited to chipping, flaking, and 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

Public Safety

520 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, 182 or 35 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 attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a stolen Honda in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue. The occupants of the vehicle bailed out and fled on foot. After a brief foot chase the driver was placed under arrest for motor vehicle theft.
- Officers responded to the 4700 block of Somerset Road for a robbery. The investigation revealed the victim was sitting in their vehicle when two unknown suspects approached. One suspect produced a handgun and demanded the victim's property. The victim complied and the suspects fled to an awaiting vehicle. The victim wasn't injured, and the investigation is ongoing.

- Officers responded to the 4600 block of Van Buren Street for a motor vehicle collision. The investigation revealed the operator of the striking vehicle drove over a curb and struck a parked vehicle. The operator failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers responded to a residence in the 5500 block of 54th Avenue for a burglary in progress. The investigation revealed the victim was awakened by noises in the apartment and observed an unknown suspect fleeing with his property. Responding officers located the suspect and placed him under arrest for 1st degree burglary.
- Officers responded to the 6300 block of 49th Avenue for a robbery. The investigation revealed the victim was walking when two unknown suspects approached. One suspect produced a handgun and demanded the victim's property. The victim complied and the suspects fled to an awaiting vehicle. The victim wasn't injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a suspicious occupied vehicle. An employee reported a vehicle in the drive thru line where driver appeared to be passed out. Officers contacted the individual who appeared to be under the influence of narcotics. A probable cause search revealed the individual was in possession of loaded semi- automatic pistol and 164 grams of suspected methamphetamine. The individual was placed under arrest for possession with intent to distribute and carrying a pistol without a license.
- Officers responded to a fight in the 5700 block of Saint Bernard's Drive. Responding officers placed one individual under arrest for assault. Search incident to arrest revealed the individual was in possession of 89 grams of suspected cocaine.
- Officers responded to the 4600 block of Van Buren Street for a theft. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) stole victim's bicycle which was secured outside of the apartment.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6300 block of Baltimore Avenue for a theft. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) removed the victim's purse from an unsecured vehicle.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager