

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 23 for 2022

November 10, 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 23, 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:

Town Seal Design Committee Meeting	Thursday, November 10, 2022 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82460709596?pwd=U2Q2TWNhNEFtWk5tZVBOUXZuQU5zUT09 Or call 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 824-6070-9596 Passcode: 261022
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Community Conversations: Redistricting	Saturday, November 12, 2022 9:30 a.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83803556989?pwd=VVRyVnnpVnk4zU0lIQ296VUpGYVZtUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 838 0355 6989 Passcode: 221020
Redistricting Committee Meeting	Wednesday, November 16, 2022 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83223029520?pwd=OGxlVEZadHZCdDV6VHlMa3dEOVdrZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 832 2302 9520 Passcode: 9302022
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

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 Action:

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-OR-06 regarding changes to Ethics Ordinance - *Approved*

Community Engagement

- First Community Conversation this Saturday- Redistricting: 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 this **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=VVRyVnprVk4zU0lIQ296VUplGVZtUT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 838 0355 6989

Passcode: 221020

Please mark your calendars for the next two Community Conversations scheduled for Saturday, **December 10th** (Walk, Bike, Drive Safety Initiative) and Saturday, **January 21st** (Town Seal Design) at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

- Prince George's County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) survey: Prince George's County Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Management Division (OHS/EMD) is in the process of updating the County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). County residents are asked to complete a survey on hazard mitigation project needs and plan priorities regarding the County's natural hazards. The survey takes no more than 10 minutes and can be completed [here](#).
- M-NCPPC Pedestrian and Bicyclist Behavior Study: Prince George's County has an unacceptably high rate of pedestrian crashes that result in injuries and fatalities. To learn more about crashes involving pedestrians or bicyclists and motorists, the Prince George's County Planning Department has initiated a bicyclist and pedestrian behavioral study.

This study will examine whether the presence and location of transportation facilities affect pedestrian and bicyclist behaviors and how to design facilities that can best anticipate and accommodate people walking and bicycling. The study will also show how pedestrian and bicyclist behavior in the County is affected by common elements of equity as it relates to transportation.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey [here](#).

- 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

- **Deadline Approaching- MEA 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/>

- **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: November 15, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.
<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/11152022-2374>

Historic Preservation Commission: November 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting.
<https://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/11152022-723>

Planning Board: November 17, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.

<http://mncppc.ig2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1689&Inline=True>

- Development Activities from October 27, 2022, to November 9, 2022

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	1	7
Building Permits Issued	0	9
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	1

Permits Issued:

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2023-B-09	4707 Sheridan Street	6 Foot Fence	\$7,000
Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:			\$7,000
Est. Investment FYTD 2023 Total:			\$294,050

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	1	9
Multifamily Licenses Issued	0	7
Single-family Rental Inspection	1	52
Single-family Licenses Issued	0	41
Business License Inspections Conducted	0	25
Business Licenses Issued	0	24

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from October 27, 2022, to November 9, 2022

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	0	10
Exterior Conditions	0	16
Interior Conditions	0	3

Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	16
Safety	1	4
Sanitation	0	3
Total Violations Found:	1	52

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	2	36
Fines Issued	6	56
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	2	26
Violation Notices Issued	1	17
Warnings Issued	0	57
Total Services Provided:	11	192

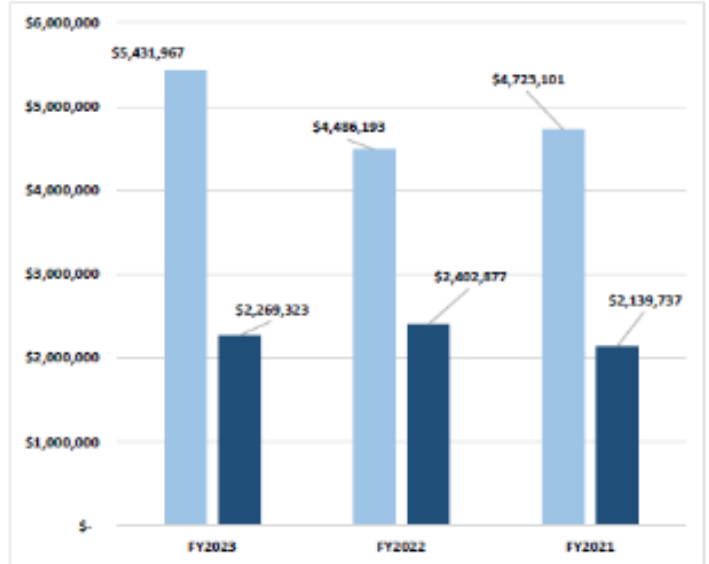
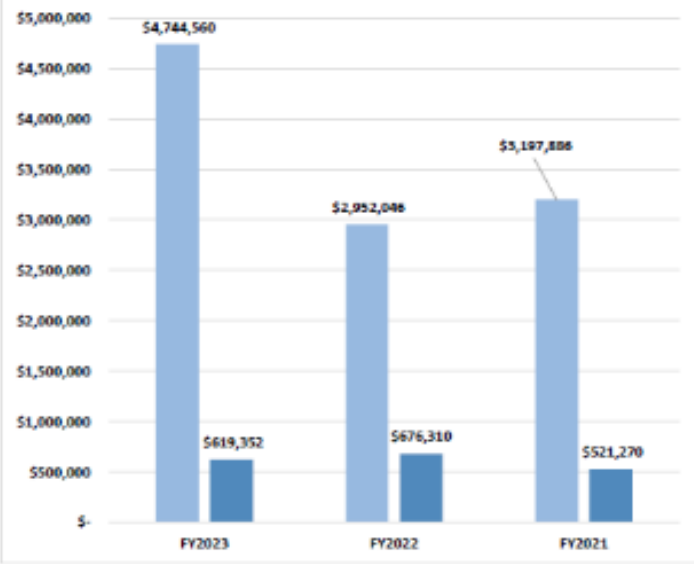
Note:

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.*

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Finance

FY2023			FY2022			FY2021			YTD Total					
FY2023			FY2022			FY2021			YTD Total					
\$	4,744,560		\$	2,952,046		\$	3,197,886		\$	5,431,967	\$	4,486,193	\$	4,723,101
\$	619,352		\$	676,310		\$	521,270		\$	2,269,323	\$	2,402,877	\$	2,139,737
\$	4,125,208		\$	2,275,736		\$	2,676,616							

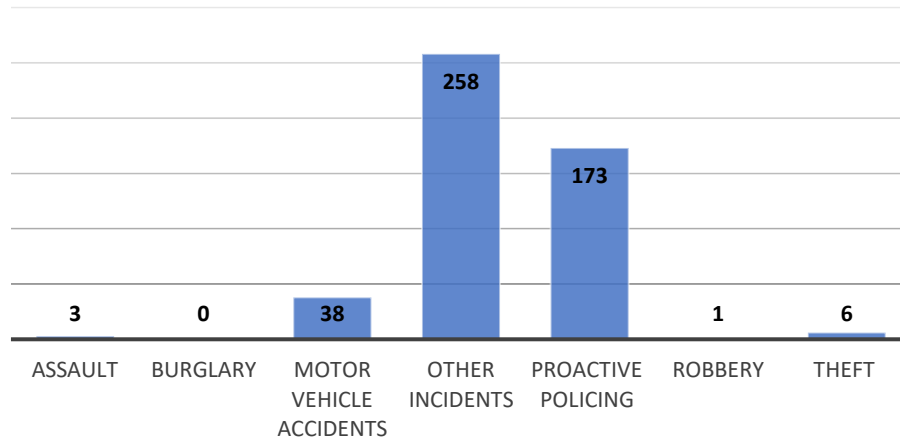


Revenue =	
Expense =	

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Public Safety

479 Calls for Police Service 10/27/2022 to 11/08/2022



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, 173 or 36 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 the 5300 block of Riverdale Road for a theft. The victim reported sometime overnight, unknown suspect(s) stole their 2000 Ford. The vehicle was located and recovered the following day.
- Officers responded to the 4400 block of East West Highway for a motor vehicle collision. One of the operators failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

- Officers responded to a business in the 5800 block of Riverdale Road for an assault. The investigation revealed an employee, and a patron were involved in an altercation. The altercation turned physical, and the employee was assaulted. The employee was transported to the hospital for treatment and the suspect was placed under arrest for 2nd degree assault.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a robbery. The investigation revealed the suspect entered the business and attempted to steal merchandise. When the suspect attempted to exit the business, he was confronted by the manager. The suspect produced a handgun and threatened the manager. Through an investigation the suspect was identified and charged with armed robbery.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5300 block of Riverdale Road. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant for domestic assault. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers responded to 5300 block of Riverdale Road for a missing person. The reporting person advised her 14-year-old daughter had not returned home from school. The child was located unharmed the following day and returned home.
- Officers responded to the 4900 block of Queensbury Road for a suspicious occupied vehicle. Responding officers located the driver passed out, with the vehicle running. The driver failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers were flagged down in the 6300 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an assault. The victim reported the operator of gray Hummer pointed a handgun at him. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle as it exited the parking lot. During a probable cause search officers located a loaded semi-automatic Polymer 80 handgun “Ghost Gun” on floorboard of the vehicle. The operator was placed under arrest for 1st degree assault and having a handgun in a vehicle.
- Officers stopped a person in the 5500 block of 54th Avenue. The officers had prior knowledge the individual had an active arrest warrant for 2nd degree assault. The individual was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop on East West Highway at Kenilworth Avenue for a registration violation. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant for 2nd degree assault. A search of the vehicle incident to arrest revealed a loaded Glock semi-automatic handgun under the driver’s seat. The driver was transported to the Department of Corrections and charged with having a handgun in a vehicle.

Respectfully submitted,

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager