

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 24 for 2022

November 23, 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 December 9, 2022.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Legislative Meeting	Monday, December 5, 2022 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81901383299?pwd=NUpPYTVpWFpTQXF4WEInTmE1RENSUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 819 0138 3299 Passcode: 122622
Redistricting Committee Meeting	Thursday, December 8, 2022 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83658529366?pwd=dlk2ajRyT0NJcHhvaU5RdXFkeDIwdz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 836 5852 9366 Passcode: 112322
Community Conversation: Walk, Bike, Drive Safety Initiative	Saturday, December 10, 2022 9:30 a.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88111911546?pwd=VUpFUWJ3WDhScVN6NUpZWGNkd1ZHZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 881-1191-1546 Passcode: 110822

Work Session	<p>Tuesday, December 20, 2022 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84565243795?pwd=WFdKbG40dWZhQTg3VjlDWXRnT0VwUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 845-6524-3795 Passcode: 102622</p>
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Administration

- **Thank you!** As we prepare for the Thanksgiving Day holiday and begin this holiday season, I want to pause to thank the residents for their involvement in TRP; the volunteers who serve on a variety of Town boards, commissions, committees, and workgroups for sharing their time and talents; the employees who serve the community for continually working to improve service delivery; the non-profit community who works to address food insecurity and other core needs, along with the promotion of the arts, and fresh food options; and the Mayor and Council for their leadership. TRP is an incredible Town – thank you for making it so!
- **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 authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Marathon Technology Solutions INC for an amount not to exceed \$157,063 for Neighborhood Safety Camera System (CIP #20PD01) - ***Approved***
2. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Brighter Bites in the amount of \$22,000 to address food insecurity in Riverdale Park related to the COVID-19 pandemic - ***Approved***
3. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Passion and Compassion in the amount of \$25,000 to address food insecurity in Riverdale Park related to the COVID-19 pandemic - ***Approved***
4. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Global Health Projects in the amount of \$26,400 to address food insecurity in Riverdale Park related to the COVID-19 pandemic - ***Approved***

5. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into an agreement with LindaBen Foundation in the amount of \$25,000 to address food insecurity in Riverdale Park related to the COVID-19 pandemic - *Approved*

Community Engagement

- Small Business Saturday: Be sure to shop Riverdale Park small businesses on Saturday, November 26th (and always).



- Community Conversation on December 10: 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 next Community Conversation will be held **Saturday, December 10th at 9:30 a.m.** via Zoom and will focus on the Walk, Bike, Drive Safety Initiative.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88111911546?pwd=VUpFUWJ3WDhScVN6NUpZWGNKd1ZHZz09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 881 1191 1546

Passcode: 110822

- **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

- **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:**
 - Temporary Lane Closures on Campus Drive - Update: Temporary lane closures will occur as crews continue utility relocations along Campus Drive between Baltimore Avenue (US Route 1) and River Road. Work may occur in two shifts 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. through November 21, weather permitting.
- **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:**
 - Comcast Cable Notice – Price Changes: Rising program costs, most notably for broadcast TV and sports, continue to be the biggest factors driving price increases. While Comcast absorbs some of the costs, the fee increases affect service pricing. As of December 20, 2022, prices for certain services and fees will be increasing, including the Broadcast TV Fee and Regional Sports Network Fee. Customers will receive notices within their bill starting on November 20, 2022.
 - Verizon Fios Notice – change to Fios® TV programming: On or after December 1, 2022, the owners of Afrotainment (ch. 265) and African Box Office (ABO) (ch. 266) are discontinuing these networks and they will no longer be included in the African Pack plus Noire TV package. Verizon is notifying subscribers through the Fios TV Message Center.
- **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: December 1, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.

<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1691&Inline=True>

Board of License Commissioners: December 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting.
https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_12072022-2390

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

- Development Activities from November 10, 2022, to November 23, 2022

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	2	9
Building Permits Issued	0	9
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	1

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	1	10
Multifamily Licenses Issued	1	8
Single-family Rental Inspection	7	59
Single-family Licenses Issued	4	45
Business License Inspections Conducted	3	28
Business Licenses Issued	3	27

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from November 10, 2022, to November 23, 2022

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	0	10
Exterior Conditions	1	17
Interior Conditions	0	3
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	16
Safety	0	4
Sanitation	0	3
Total Violations Found:	1	53

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	4	40
Fines Issued	6	62
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	4	30
Violation Notices Issued	1	18
Warnings Issued	2	59
Total Services Provided:	17	209

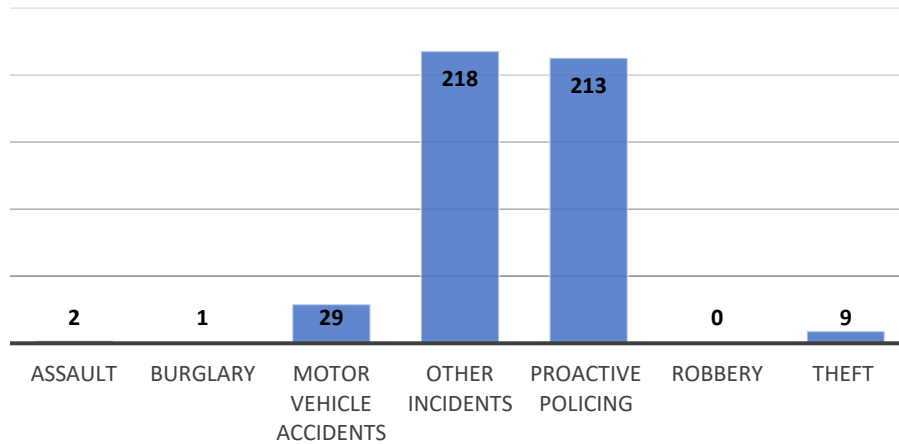
Note:

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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Public Safety

472 Calls for Police Service 11/09/2022 to 11/21/2022



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, 213 or 45 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 2004 Dodge. The vehicle was entered into NCIC as a stolen vehicle.
- Officers responded to the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue 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 5700 block of Riverdale Road for an assault. The investigation revealed the suspect approached the victim and began to punch him for an

unknown reason. The suspect who was still on the scene was placed under arrest for 2nd degree assault.

- Officers responded to the 5800 block of Taylor Road for a family dispute. Responding officers served a temporary protective order and escorted the respondent from the property.
- Officers responded to the 5300 block of 54th Avenue for a theft. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) entered the victim's vehicle and removed U.S. Currency from the glove box.
- Officers responded to the 5300 block of Riverdale Road for a drug complaint. Responding officers encountered a juvenile smoking CDS in the stairwell. The juvenile was placed under arrest and found to be in possession of suspected Fentanyl. The respondent was medically cleared prior to being released to a guardian.
- Officers responded to the 4900 block of Nicholson Street for a theft. The victim reported sometime overnight, unknown suspect(s) stole their 2019 Volkswagen. The vehicle was entered into NCIC as a stolen vehicle.
- Officers responded to the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a reckless driver. Responding officers observed the operator spinning wheels in the parking lot. The driver was contacted and exhibited signs of intoxication. The driver failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a registration violation. The vehicle was impounded and during the inventory search a loaded Glock semi-automatic handgun was found in the center console. The driver was placed under arrest for having a handgun in a vehicle.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a vandalism complaint. The victim reported being involved in a road rage incident with an unknown individual. While stopped in traffic the unknown individual approached the victim's vehicle and damaged the mirror. The investigation is ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager