

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 26 for 2022

December 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 January 6, 2023.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Legislative Meeting	Monday, January 9, 2023 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87439710790?pwd=RjY0MWVrTGw2RjE2VGNHSIBQaTJyZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 874-3971-0790 Passcode: 112222
Work Session regarding Redistricting	Tuesday, January 17, 2023 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81221813070?pwd=WkprK0RHNHE5Mzl5Y3FLQmFmK3VWQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 812-2181-3070 Passcode: 221222
Town Seal Design Committee Meeting	Thursday, January 19, 2023 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86585347298?pwd=R1RoSUI1TVZCSkFqc0dUdjBKSvVRQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 865-8534-7298 Passcode: 20122022

<p>Community Conversation: FY2024 Budget Process/Update</p>	<p>Saturday, January 21, 2023 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88680280474?pwd=Rkw1MnFmeUdiVEQxMHUyYStnSUwrQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 886-8028-0474 Passcode: 111022</p>
<p>Work Session</p>	<p>Monday, January 30, 2023 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87829359712?pwd=M3Vnbi9nVTJvQzJkS3RURnhQOEIHZz09 Or: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 878-2935-9712 Passcode: 112222</p>

Employee Recognition

- **Employee Anniversaries:** Please join me in extending a sincere thank you to the following team members for their years of dedicated service to the Town’s residents:

- LaVerne Peakes 1 Year of Service
- Joseph Walch 11 Years of Service
- Adam Swann 12 Years of Service
- Jeffery Prawdzik 17 Years of Service

Best wishes on your work anniversary and thank you for your dedicated service!

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. Introduction of Ordinance 2022-OR-11 regarding Permit Parking - *Introduced*
2. Motion to approve Town Manager Performance Review timeline and process - *Approved*

Community Engagement

- Menorah Lighting at Riverdale Park Station: Members of the Riverdale Park Police Department attended the Menorah Lighting with Rabbi Eli Backman at Riverdale Park Station on Tuesday, December 20th.
- Annual Toy Drive: On December 22nd, 64 children received toys from the Town's Annual Toy Drive. Thank you to everyone who donated toys this year!
- Holiday Party Bags: Over 125 bags stuffed with holiday goodies were distributed to children in Riverdale Park.



- Community Conversation on January 21: 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, January 21st at 9:30 a.m.** via Zoom and will focus on the **FY2024 Budget Process/Update**.



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88680280474?pwd=Rkw1MnFmeUdiVEQxMHUyYStnSUwrQT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 886 8028 0474

Passcode: 111022

- 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 2,420 on Facebook, 1,459 on Instagram, and 1,092 on Twitter respectively. 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 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/>

- Notice Received from Cafritz Enterprises regarding Parking at TRP RPS Playground: Construction of the foundation for the future trolley car installation in Riverdale Park Station, next to the playground, will begin on Monday, December 12th. To facilitate the construction of the foundation, the parking area in front of the playground will be closed starting at 7:00 a.m. on December 12th and will remain closed for the duration of the project, likely through the end of December.

- Notices Received by the Town:
 - Metro Update- input needed on Metro’s strategic plan progress: This week Metro released an update for customers and stakeholders on the development of a new strategic plan, *#YourMetro, The Way Forward*. The plan will provide a long-term strategy and direct Metro’s day-to-day decision making over the next five plus years. The update outlines draft goals focused on service excellence, regional opportunity and partnership, sustainability, and talented teams.

View here: [#YourMetro, The Way Forward update \(pdf\)](#)
 Provide comments using the [online feedback form](#)

Metro leadership will present a draft plan to the Board of Directors early next year. Following the release of the draft plan, Metro will conduct additional public engagement, including a Compact public hearing, where you will have another opportunity to provide feedback. The final plan is expected to be ready for Board adoption in February 2023, prior to adoption of the FY2024 budget.

- Change to Fios[®] TV programming: On December 15, 2022, Justice Central in HD (ch. 677) was added to the Fios TV channel line-up. On or after January 31, 2023, Justice Central in SD (ch. 186) will be removed from the Fios TV channel line-up. Verizon is notifying subscribers through the Fios TV Message Center.
- An application for a Departure from Design Standards (DDS-22004) related to parking space dimensions for Discovery District, located in the City of College Park, had been submitted to Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Development Review Division. The purpose of the request is to decrease the dimensional requirements of the proposed parking spaces to 9 feet by 18 feet. The application has been filed in conjunction with DSP-22034.

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

- 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: *No information available at time of report.*

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

Planning Board: *No information available at time of report.*

- Development Activities from December 8, 2022, to December 22, 2022

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	3	16
Building Permits Issued	3	16
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	1

Permits Issued:

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2023-B-14	4908 Queensbury Road	Interior Renovation	\$10,000
2023-B-15	4908 Queensbury Road	Deck Installation	\$10,000
2023-B-16	4903 Oglethorpe Street	Construct Wood Garden	\$60,000
Est. Investment Bi-Weekly Total:			\$80,000
Est. Investment FYTD 2023 Total:			\$2,135,336

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	2	11
Multifamily Licenses Issued	2	11
Single-family Rental Inspection	2	62
Single-family Licenses Issued	2	48

Business License Inspections Conducted	65	115
Business Licenses Issued	65	115

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from December 8, 2022, to December 22, 2022

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	0	10
Exterior Conditions	0	18
Interior Conditions	3	6
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	16
Safety	3	8
Sanitation	0	4
Total Violations Found:	6	56

Services Provided by Type:

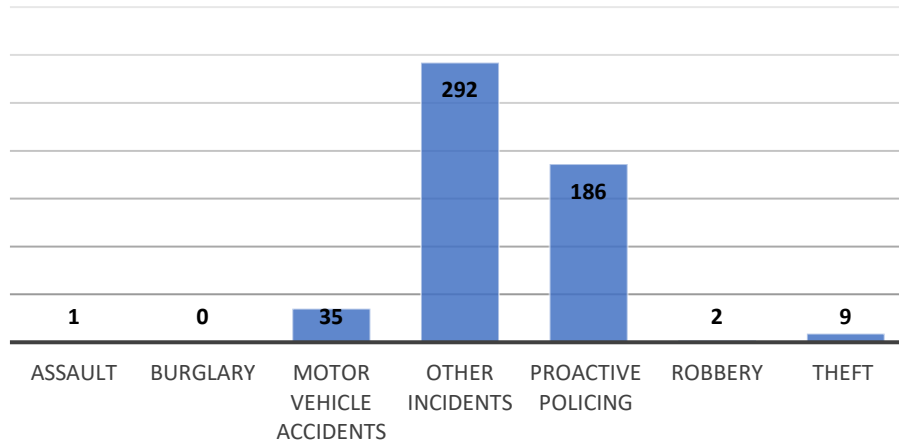
Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2023 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	4	47
Fines Issued	1	66
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	5	37
Violation Notices Issued	1	20
Warnings Issued	0	59
Total Services Provided:	11	229

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.

Public Safety

525 Police Calls for Service 12/08/2022 to 12/21/2022



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, 186 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 citizen assists.

Highlighted reports:

- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5400 block of East West Highway. A records check revealed the driver to have two active arrest warrants for failure to appear. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Riverdale Road for a drug complaint. Responding officers contacted a juvenile inside the stairwell smoking CDS. The juvenile was placed under arrest for trespassing and released to their guardian.
- Officers responded to the intersection of Kenilworth Avenue and East West Highway for a motor vehicle collision. The driver of the striking vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.

- Officers responded to the 6500 block of 47th Avenue for a theft. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) removed a package from the victim's front porch.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 6000 block of Goodluck Road. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant for driving an uninsured vehicle. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a carjacking. The investigation revealed the victim was utilizing a drive-up ATM when two suspects approached, displayed handguns and demanded the victim's vehicle. In fear for his safety the victim relinquished the vehicle. Through an investigation one suspect has been identified and charged with armed carjacking. Investigators are still working to identify the second suspect.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a motor vehicle collision. The driver of the striking vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers responded to the 5500 block of Kenilworth Ave for a robbery. The investigation revealed the victim was approached by two suspects in the parking lot. The suspects displayed handguns and demanded the victim's property. In fear for his safety the victim complied, and the suspects fled to an awaiting vehicle. The victim was not injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 5000 block of Tuckerman Street for a theft. The victim reported unknown suspect(s) entered their unlocked vehicle and removed U.S. Currency.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5600 block of Riverdale Road for a trespassing complaint. The manager reported an individual inside the lobby who had urinated and refused to leave. Responding officers contacted the individual and made numerous requests for the individual to leave which he refused. The individual was removed from the business and placed under arrest for trespassing.
- Officers responded to the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a hit and run motor vehicle collision involving a pedestrian. Responding officers located the victim in the roadway suffering from serious injuries. The fire department transported the victim to the hospital treatment. Despite all life saving measures the victim was pronounced deceased. Prince George's County Police Accident Reconstructionist Unit responded to the scene to assume the investigation.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager