

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland Status and Information Report Report No. 13 for 2018



June 29, 2018

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 July 13, 2018.

Upcoming Meetings:

Regular Legislative Meeting	July 2, 2018, 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Community Walk	July 21, 2018, 9:00 a.m.	TBD
National Night Out	August 7, 2018, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Police Department
Community Walk	August 8, 2018, 6:00 p.m.	TBD
Council Work Session	August 27, 2018, 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall

Administration

- **Staff Retirements:** On June 30, 2018, Director of Public Works Leonard Addison and Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Timmons retired. Director Addison served the Town for 10 years and Lieutenant Colonel Timmons served the Town for 28 years. Please join us in thanking Director Addison and Lieutenant Colonel Timmons for their many years of dedicated service to the Town of Riverdale Park. We wish them the very best!



Community Engagement

- Family Movie Night: Riverdale Police Department and Maryland Park Police will host a FREE Family Movie Night on Wednesday, July 18 at 7:00 p.m. at Riverside Neighborhood Park. Please plan to bring blankets or chairs to enjoy the movie. Popcorn will be available at the event. Please contact RPPD at 301-927-4343 if you have any questions.
- National Night Out: The Town's annual National Night Out celebration will be held on Tuesday, August 7, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Riverdale Park Police Department, 5004 Queensbury Road. Please plan to join us for an evening filled with lots of fun!
- Volunteers and Vendors Needed for Riverdale Park Day: Riverdale Park Day will be held on Saturday, October 6th from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at Riverside Neighborhood Park. Volunteers and vendors are needed to make this fantastic community event possible. Please contact Waverly Pollitt at 301-927-6381 (ext. 500) or wpollitt@riverdaleparkmd.gov for details.
- Please follow the Town on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RiverdaleParkMD/>



Council Direction Summary

The Mayor and Council provided direction to staff through the following Legislative Actions:

June 25, 2018:

1. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to renew the Bates Trash and Trucking contract for one-year - **Approved**
2. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign an extension of electricity provider contract - **Approved**
3. Motion to approve staff funding recommendations for Spring Forward Grant Program (Round 1 and Round 2) - **Approved**
4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-11 to establish the Accessory Structures Grant Program - **Adopted**

Environment

- Upcoming Tree Removal: Multiple trees are scheduled to be removed on Sunday, July 1st. The trees that are being removed are located on 44th Place between East/West Highway and Queensbury Road. Staff anticipates that the streets will be closed from 7:00 am to approximately 6:00 pm. The contractor performing the work will notify residents in the affected area.
- Mosquito Spraying: The Town has received notification from the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) that mosquito spraying for the Town will take place on Tuesdays. Spray season begins on June 4th and is anticipated to end on September 18th. Spraying will begin after dark and may continue until midnight or later. MDA will not conduct spray activity during daylight hours. Please refer to the *Town Crier* for additional details.

- Maryland Department of Agriculture Workshop: On Thursday, June 28th, staff attended a workshop in College Park hosted by the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). The workshop focused on dealing with Asian Tiger mosquitos for health precautions.
- Recycling Reminders: Staff have observed that residents continue to put their recycling in plastic bags. In 2014, the Waste Management Division of the Prince George’s County Department of Environmental Resources required that ALL recycling be placed in the blue totes or in collection cans/containers (i.e., trash cans), 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.
- Trash Tote Repair/Replacement: To coordinate the replacement of damaged trash totes, residents should call the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803. The Town’s contracted trash service provider will replace the damaged totes. Please note that a replacement tote will not be delivered if the damaged one is not there for pick-up. Replacements will take place on Thursdays.

Development

- Riverdale Park Elementary Playground Update: During the week of June 18th, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) started construction on the playground at Riverdale Park Elementary. Depending on the weather, work is expected to be completed within three (3) weeks.



- University of Maryland Capstone Project: On Tuesday, June 19th staff met with professors from the University of Maryland to discuss a project involving UMD students. The project entails a feasibility study on establishing a community garden in Town. This study is expected to be conducted during the upcoming fall semester. Details on the scope of the project is still being considered for implementation.
- Special Recognition and Professional Development Update: Congratulations to Neighborhood Improvement Specialist, Brad Goshen for recently obtaining his certification as a Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector with the International Code Council (ICC)! The Office of

Development Services (ODS) now has fully certified staff with ICC, which demonstrates ODS' commitment to community standards and professional development.

- Riverdale Park Station News: For more information on store openings, events and development news, check out the Riverdale Park Station website and social media pages:
 - Website: <http://www.riverdaleparkstation.com>
 - Facebook: Riverdale Park Station
 - Twitter: @RDPStation
 - Instagram: rdpstation

- Purple Line Construction Notices: Purple Line construction is underway. The next twelve (12) months of construction will focus on utility relocation work. Residents are encouraged to subscribe for updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, visit purplelinemd.com, find “Construction” and click on “Subscribe for Updates”. The construction hotline is 240-424-5325.

- Notice received by Town:
 - The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) is ready to accept Detailed Site Plan No. DSP-17052 for Hillel at the University of Maryland, located at 7505 Yale Avenue in College Park. For more information, contact Larry Taub at 301-572-3274.
 - A Conceptual Site Plan will be submitted to the Development Review Division of M-NCPPC for Magruder Pointe (CSP-18002) located at 4017 Hamilton Street in Hyattsville. For more information, please contact Norman D. Rivera, Esq. at 301-580-3287.

- 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: July 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. (Largo)

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/07112018-1120>

Planning Board: July 5, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. (~~Upper Marlboro~~) *Meeting cancelled.*

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

- Development Activities from June 14, 2018 to June 27, 2018

Rental Licenses:

Inspections Conducted	67
Licenses Issued	1
Notices Issued	24
Fines Issued	0

Permits: Building / Storage Containers:

Inspections Conducted	0
Permits Issued	0
Stop Work Orders Issued	0

• Neighborhood Improvement Activities from June 14, 2018 to June 27, 2018

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	9
Exterior Conditions	2
Interior Conditions	2
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	5
Safety	0
Sanitation	0

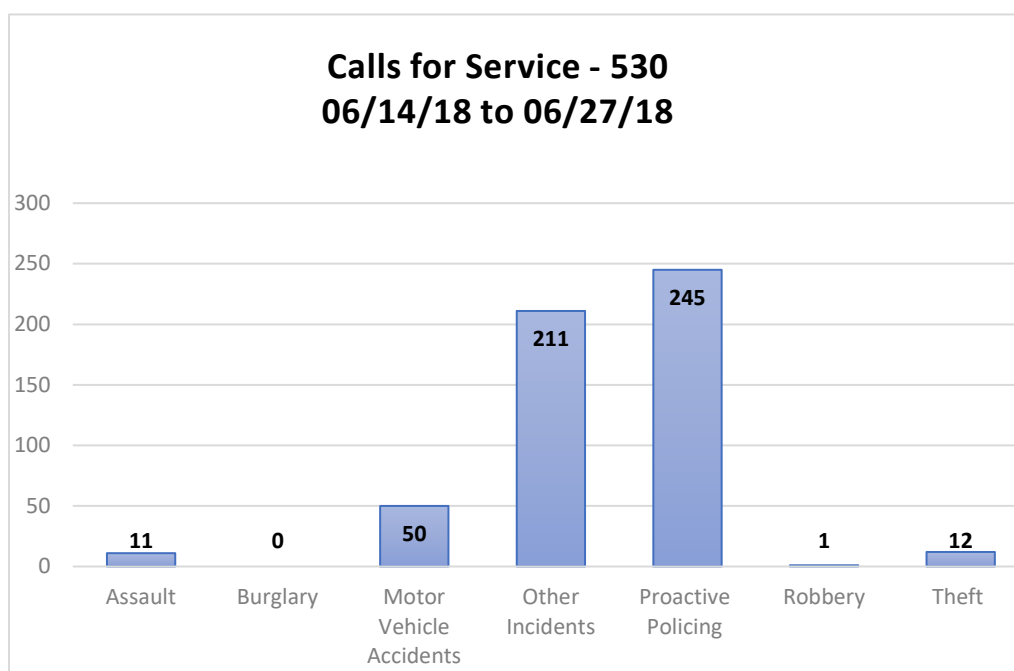
Actions Taken:

Complaint Responses Performed	11
Fines Issued	0
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	6
Violation Notices Issued	7
Warnings Issued	3

Note:

1. "Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish" includes violations pertaining to the storage of waste materials in interior or exterior property areas.
2. "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.
3. "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.
4. "Overgrown Weeds" include grass or weeds more than 10 inches in height.
5. "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.
6. "Sanitation" includes, but not limited to; insect / rodent infestation, mildew / mold on surfaces, uncleanliness, and storage of hazardous waste.

Police



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, 245 or 46% 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 citizen assists.

Highlighted reports:

Officers conducted a traffic stop for speeding in the 5400 block of Spring Lane. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant through the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office for failure to appear for driving without a license. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Officers responded to the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a check on the welfare. A citizen reported the driver of a parked motor vehicle appeared distressed. Officers observed the occupant

was unconscious in the driver's seat. After repeated unsuccessful attempts to wake the occupant, officers forced entry into the vehicle. The occupant was suffering from a possible medical emergency and was treated by the Fire Department.

Officers responded to the police station to meet with a victim of a sexual assault. The victim reported being assaulted by an acquaintance in the 5400 block of Riverdale Road in March of 2018. The victim was transported to PGPD's Sexual Assault Unit to meet with detectives. The investigation is ongoing.

Officers responded to the 5600 block of Nicholson Street for a shooting. The investigation revealed the victim was traveling in a vehicle, when he observed four individuals assaulting one person in the street. The victim attempted to intervene when one suspect produced a handgun and began firing at the victim. The victim's vehicle was struck by gunfire, but no one was injured. The scene was processed, and evidence was recovered. The investigation is ongoing.

Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5600 block of Riverdale Road for suspended registration plates. A records check revealed the driver to have an open arrest warrant through the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office for failure to appear while driving on a suspended license. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Officers responded to the 6300 block of Baltimore Avenue for a commercial armed robbery. Responding officers located two individuals matching the suspects descriptions. Both individuals fled, and one suspect was apprehended almost immediately after a brief foot pursuit. The 2nd suspect was apprehended a short time later hiding in a culvert. A search incident to arrest revealed both subjects to be armed with loaded handguns. Additionally, U.S. Currency, cell phones, and victim's credit cards were recovered from the suspects. The investigation revealed the suspects committed two additional commercial armed robberies outside our jurisdiction earlier in the day. The suspects were charged for those robberies by the respective agencies.



Update:

On June 22, Riverdale Park Police Sergeant German Garcia graduated from the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command (SPSC). SPSC is a dynamic police management program designed to prepare today's progressive public safety managers for senior command positions and is intended for mid- and upper-level supervisory personnel. The intensive ten-week program prepares law enforcement managers for senior positions by uniquely combining academic principles with practical applications. Instructional areas include: contemporary policing, decision

making and problem solving, organizational behavior, statistics, project management, and other leadership and management course work designed to educate tomorrow's law enforcement leaders. Research is a key component of SPSC, and all students are required to write an objective, well-documented staff study addressing a problem or issue currently affecting the student's organization. Because the student's research project comes directly from a timely and critical issue facing that student's agency, the knowledge gained can be used immediately. The \$4,000 program tuition was paid through grants offered by the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association and the Maryland Highway Safety Office. We commend Sergeant Garcia on this professional achievement and for his dedicated efforts to improve law enforcement's service to our community.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John N. Lestitian", written in a cursive style.

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager