

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland Status and Information Report Report No. 14 for 2020



July 10, 2020

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 24, 2020.

Upcoming Meetings

Council Work Session	Monday, August 31, 2020 TBD	Location TBD
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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:
 - Tracey Perrin 19 Years of Service
 - Frederick Quander 15 Years of Services
 - Eli Perper 1 Year of Service

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

- **COVID-19 Response:** As conditions change, the staff team continues work to reduce risks, improve service delivery, and ensure our efforts are sustainable. I am thankful for all their efforts in demonstrating dedication to the community, resourcefulness, creativity, and resilience as we work together through this difficult time.

Administration

- **Meetings with Staff:** Staff are also available for virtual meetings while the Town buildings are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 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.

- Volunteers Needed to Serve on Committees: The Town of Riverdale Park is seeking volunteers to serve as an alternate member of the Ethics Commission and members of the Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review Committee (M-UTC).

The Ethics Commission meets several times throughout the year and meeting days/times are flexible. For more information about the Ethics Commission, visit <http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/EthicsCommission.cfm>.

M-UTC meets on the first Wednesday of most months to review development applications. For more information about MUTC, visit <https://www.mncppc.org/3352/Riverdale-Park-MUTC>.

Please contact Town Clerk Jessica Barnes at jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov if you are interested in serving on these important committees.

- Board of Code Appeals: The Board of Code Appeals met recently to adopt Rules of Procedure and review their first Request for an Appeal Hearing. The Board worked diligently to establish Rules of Procedure that are balanced and transparent. The Rules of Procedure will be posted on the Town's website in the coming weeks. After thorough review, discussion, and input from the Town's attorney, the Request for an Appeal Hearing was dismissed because the remedy requested by the appellant was outside of the Board's jurisdiction. The Board will work with staff to revise the Request for an Appeal Hearing form to provide clarity on the Board's jurisdiction as it relates to the authority granted by Chapter 56 of the Town Code.

Council Direction Summary

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

1. Motion to designate Chair of Board of Code Appeals - ***Approved***
2. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc. for the lease of 4 police vehicles - ***Approved***
3. Motion to adopt Emergency Ordinance 2020-OR-10 regarding CARES Act funding - ***Adopted***
4. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-OR-11 regarding Organizational Structure of Town Government - ***Adopted***
5. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-OR-12 regarding Town Personnel Manual - ***Adopted***

Community Engagement

- Happy Birthday Riverdale Park! The Town turned 100 years old on June 14, 2020! Our photo collection contest ended on June 30, 2020. Members of the Town's Centennial Committee are reviewing your photo submissions and will be choosing 3 winners from the entries. First place winner will receive a \$50 gift card to a restaurant in Town of their choice (so long as the restaurants have gift cards available). Second place winner gets a \$25 gift card. Third place winner gets a \$10 gift card. BONUS: 20 randomly selected entries will receive a "We Love Town Life!" t-shirt. Only Town resident entries will be eligible for the prize drawings. We will be sharing the submissions across our social media accounts shortly; be sure to keep a lookout on our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts for your photos!

- 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!
- 2020 Census Forms: Riverdale Park households received their invitations to respond to the 2020 Census in mid-March. It is imperative that everyone responds as soon as possible online at www.2020census.gov, by phone at [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020), or by mail. The Town currently has a response rate of 60.2%. The State's current response rate is 65.9%. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to complete their 2020 Census forms today!
- International Property Maintenance Code: Currently the Town follows the Prince George's County Property Maintenance Code which is based on the 2000 International Property Maintenance Code. The County's code is only applicable to residential structures. The 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) applies to both residential and commercial structures and has been discussed at Council meetings over the last several months. Community Input is encouraged and welcomed. Comments may be e-mailed to Community_Input@riverdaleparkmd.gov.

- Trash Concerns App Streamlines Process: In partnership with Bates Trucking and Trash Services, the Town has launched a dedicated Trash Concerns app on our website! 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.info/ho.../trash_concerns/index.php.



- Social Media Outreach: The Leadership Team, along with key team members from the Office of Administrative Services, continues to review and improve the Social Media Outreach initiative to expand our reach in sharing information. The Town's website remains the primary source for electronic information. Facebook and secondary Twitter accounts will 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 1,673. We now know that 2,000 is possible. If you haven't 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

- Cancellation of 2020 Adult Mosquito Spray Program: The Town has received notice from the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) that their adult mosquito spray program, which the Town has participated in for many years, has been cancelled for this year due to budget constraints related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Town staff are working to identify possible options to continue this highly valued service.

MDA has reported that they anticipate being able to respond to complaints and conduct larviciding activity until they run out of the insecticide that they have in stock. Complaints regarding mosquitos may be submitted via their online form:

<https://www.doit.state.md.us/selectsurvey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=740K154#>.

- Bulk Trash Pick-up Services Resume: Bulk services were suspended on April 1st due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Bates Trucking resumed bulk services on June 17th. As a reminder, Bulky Trash Collection is provided by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call 301-773-2069. Appointments can also be scheduled online by filling out the [Bates Request Form](#). Only 3 bulk items are permitted per week.
- Yard Waste Mondays: Yard waste collection is every Monday. Yard waste should 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:
 - Pedestrian Safety: As work continues along the alignment, the Purple Line construction team is committed to keeping everyone safe. Pedestrians are advised to follow any construction signs and use the open sidewalk(s). Pedestrians are not allowed in the construction work zones. This is for your safety as well as our construction team.
 - Open for Business: Throughout construction the Purple Line will maintain access to all businesses along the alignment for customers as well as business deliveries.

- Work Hours: Construction work hours alignment wide are 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. unless night hours are noted. Lane closure hours are included in notifications specific to each area as permitted.
 - Temporary closure on Riverdale Road: Beginning on or about July 23, 2020, the Purple Line will implement an overnight closure of Riverdale Road in the area of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway for removal of the temporary southbound bridge. The closure will occur between 12 a.m. and 5 a.m.
 - Overnight Closure of Riverdale Road: Beginning on or about July 9, 2020, the Purple Line will implement a closure of Riverdale Road at the intersection of Baltimore-Washington Parkway for removal of the temporary northbound bridge. Work will take place from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. for approximately one night. The detour can be viewed here: <https://plmdnews.com/an6>
 - Quintana Street Road Closure: On or about June 22, 2020, crews closed Quintana Street at the intersection of Kenilworth Avenue for road reconstruction. This work will last for approximately one month. The detour can be viewed here: <https://plmdnews.com/1p2>
 - Long-Term Lane Closure on Kenilworth Avenue: On July 8, 2019, the Purple Line implemented a long-term closure of the right-hand southbound lane on Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and Riverdale Road. Barriers will be used to delineate the work zone. Pedestrians and bicyclists are required to stay outside of the construction zone at all times. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends.
 - Lane Closures on Baltimore-Washington Parkway: During the month of July, crews will continue work on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway in the area of the Riverdale Road overpass. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
 - Lane Closures along Riverdale Road: During the month of July, crews will be relocating utilities along Riverdale Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and 67th Place. To conduct this work, lanes will intermittently be closed on 66th Avenue and 67th Avenue. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures with flagging operations will occur.
 - Weekend and Night Closures on Kenilworth Avenue: During the month of July, crews will be working along Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and Riverdale Road. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
 - Weekend Work and Lane Closures on Riverdale Road: During the month of July, crews will be working along Riverdale Road between Kenilworth Avenue and Veterans Parkway. Work may occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- Purple Line Construction Notices: Purple Line construction continues. 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.
 - 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:
 - Transit Website: <http://www.rpstransit.com/>
 - General Website: <http://www.riverdaleparkstation.com>

- Facebook: Riverdale Park Station: <https://www.facebook.com/TheStationRP/>
 - Twitter: @RDPStation: <https://twitter.com/RDPStation>
 - Instagram: rdpsstation: <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:

Planning Board: July 16, 2020, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. (Virtual Meeting)

<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1528&Inline=True>

Historic Preservation Commission: July 21, 2020, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. (Virtual Meeting)

Board of License Commissioners: August 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. *No additional information available at time of report.*

- Development Activities from June 25, 2020 to June 30, 2020

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	1	57
Building Permits Issued	1	41
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	25

Permits Issued:

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2020-B-41	5318 Taylor Road	Replace Stairs and Landing	\$4,538
Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:			\$4,538
Est. Investment FYTD 2020 Total:			\$5,169,954

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from June 25, 2020 to June 30, 2020

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	1	122

Exterior Conditions	0	147
Interior Conditions	0	446
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	2	62
Safety	0	137
Sanitation	0	43
Total Violations Found:	3	957

Services Provided by Type:

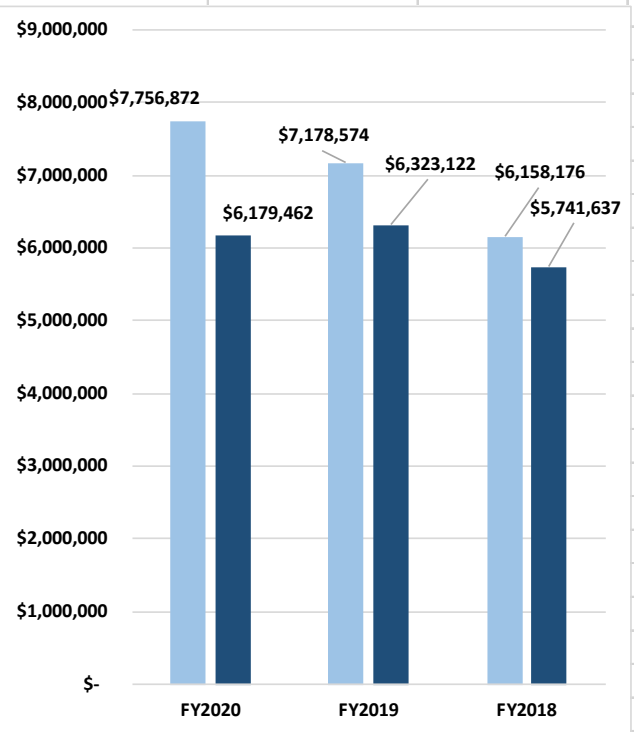
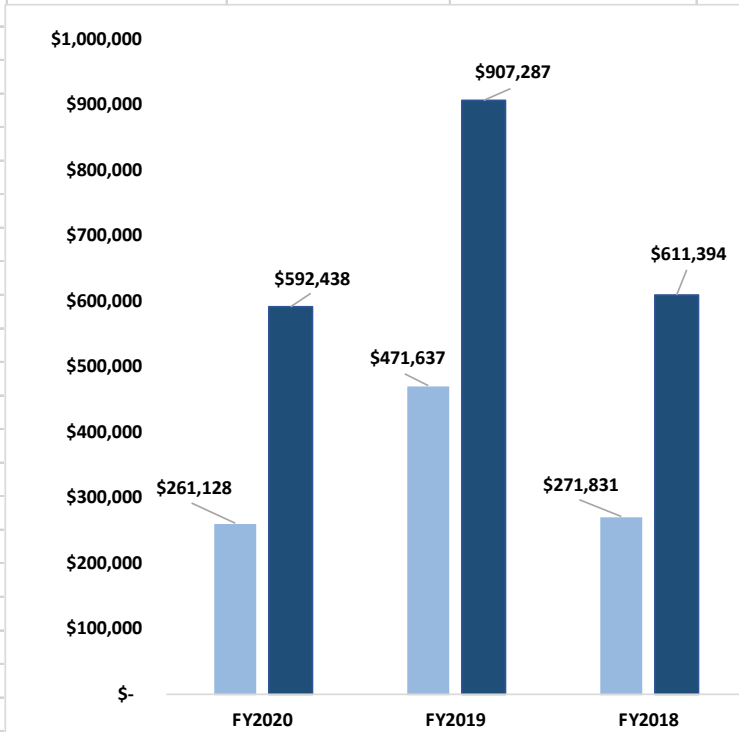
Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2020 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	3	257
Fines Issued	0	38
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	1	48
Violation Notices Issued	0	146
Warnings Issued	3	174
Total Services Provided:	7	663

Note:

1. *“FYTD” means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020.*
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.*

Finance

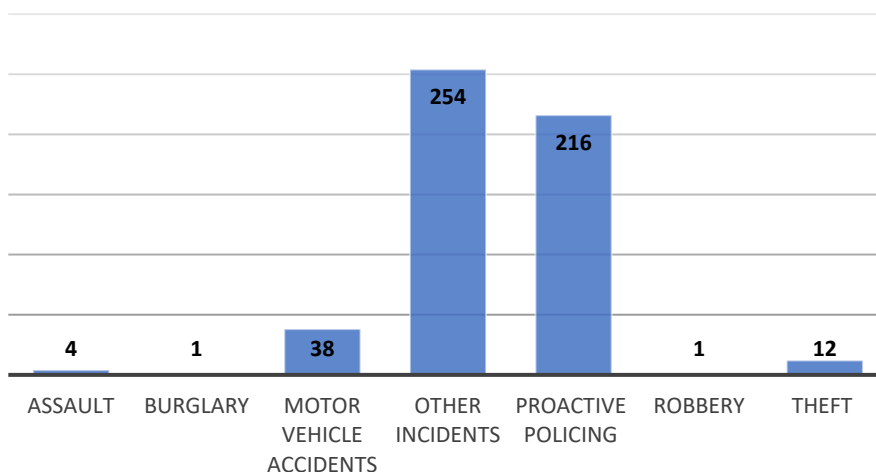
June			YTD Total		
FY2020	FY2019	FY2018	FY2020	FY2019	FY2018
\$ 261,128	\$ 471,637	\$ 271,831	\$ 7,756,872	\$ 7,178,574	\$ 6,158,176
\$ 592,438	\$ 907,287	\$ 611,394	\$ 6,179,462	\$ 6,323,122	\$ 5,741,637
\$ (331,310)	\$ (435,650)	\$ (339,563)	\$ 1,577,410	\$ 855,452	\$ 416,538



Revenue =	
Expense =	

Public Safety

526 Calls for Police Service 06/25/2020 to 07/07/2020



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, 216 or 41 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 Incidents includes disorderly complaints, fights, suspicious subjects/vehicles, parking complaints, traffic complaints, and assisting individuals.

Highlighted reports:

- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an assault. The investigation revealed an intoxicated patron struck an employee of the business with a bottle. The suspect who was still on the scene was placed under arrest for 1st degree assault. The victim was treated for serious but non-life-threatening injuries.
- Officers responded to the intersection of Baltimore Avenue and East West Highway for a motor vehicle collision involving a pedestrian. The investigation revealed the pedestrian was in the travel portion of the roadway and not using a crosswalk. The pedestrian was transported to the hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

- Officers responded to the 4900 block of Queensbury Road for a burglary. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) entered an unsecured detached garage and removed items. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 6300 block of 51st Avenue for a package theft. Through investigative means the suspect has been identified and charged with theft.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6100 block of Baltimore Avenue for a shoplifting complaint. Two individuals were identified and given trespassing notices. The manager declined to prosecute the individuals for theft.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for an armed robbery. The investigation revealed the victim was using a walk-up ATM when the suspect approached from behind and snatched the victim's money. When the victim attempted to recover the money, the suspect produced a handgun and threatened the victim. The suspect ran to an awaiting vehicle and made good his escape. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5800 block of Riverdale Road. 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 while intoxicated. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5400 block of Jefferson Street after observing a hit and run motor vehicle collision. The operator of the vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6600 block of Baltimore Avenue for a check fraud. The investigation revealed the suspect entered the business and attempted to cash a fraudulent check. The suspect fled prior to the officers arriving. Through investigative means the suspect has been identified and charged with uttering a false document.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 4500 block of East West Highway. A records check revealed the license plates on the vehicle were reported stolen and the driver to have an active arrest warrant for failure to appear. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager