

# TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

## Status and Information Report

## Report No. 24 for 2021

November 24, 2021

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 10, 2021.

### CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Town Hall and Public Works Operations Closed	Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26, 2021	In observance of Thanksgiving and day after Thanksgiving
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### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Legislative Meeting	Monday, December 6, 2021 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87675543964?pwd=djRjUXpJK3U0Z1RGTThxdWINS0lFdz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87675543964?pwd=djRjUXpJK3U0Z1RGTThxdWINS0lFdz09</a> Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 876 7554 3964 Passcode: 579554
Ethics Commission Meeting	Thursday, December 9, 2021 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85709816121?pwd=MTdDaUhEMVlKT204dnc4WFA2cFJFZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85709816121?pwd=MTdDaUhEMVlKT204dnc4WFA2cFJFZz09</a> Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 857 0981 6121 Passcode: 579554

Work Session	Monday, December 20, 2021 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86441301052?pwd=OFIPejU5WDlsTVBpRkdPeUZhc2VUZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86441301052?pwd=OFIPejU5WDlsTVBpRkdPeUZhc2VUZz09</a>  Or call: 301-715-8592  Meeting ID: 864 4130 1052 Passcode: 579554
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### Administration

- Town Hall open on Wednesdays: Staff will be available to answer questions and problem solve in-person on Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. starting on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The Town Hall building will be open on Wednesdays until active construction begins on the Municipal Center Renovation project and while community spread of COVID-19 remains low. Expanded walk-in hours will be implemented as the renovation project and community spread of COVID-19 permits.
- Meetings with Staff: Staff are available for virtual meetings when the Town buildings are closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Municipal Center Project. 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.
- Remote Notary Services available: Staff are available to perform Remote Notary Services for Town residents. Remote Notary Services will be performed through a virtual platform approved by the Maryland Secretary of State. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Keith Robinson at [krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:krobinson@riverdaleparkmd.gov), Denisa Caballero at [dcaballero@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:dcaballero@riverdaleparkmd.gov), or call 301-927-6381.

### Community Engagement

- District 3 Senior Meals: Prince George's County Council Member Dannielle Glaros will distribute 250, catered, pre-packaged meals to residents in District 3. Each resident will receive one meal. Click [here](#) to reserve a meal.
  - Individuals aged 60 and over may reserve a meal. You must complete the new request form even if you have received meals in the past.
  - If your spouse is younger than 60 and you want to request a meal for them, you must fill out a second form.
  - If you are caring for an adult with disabilities, no matter their age, and you want to request a meal for them, you must fill out a second form.
  - If you are younger 60 but have a disability.

Meals must be picked up on Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at United Baptist Church, 7701 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton, MD. You will drive up then a volunteer

with a mask will confirm your name and reservation and place a meal in your trunk. We ask that you do not arrive before 12:00 p.m. to pick up to ensure a smooth process.

To minimize the risk to our volunteers, only a very limited number of meals will be delivered to individuals who absolutely are unable to pick up or have someone pick up on your behalf. Meals will be delivered on Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup> between 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and residents must be home during the delivery window to receive the meal.

- Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Vaccination Clinics: The Prince George's County Health Department is hosting COVID-19 vaccine clinics at various schools throughout the County. COVID-19 vaccines are free and available for residents ages 5 and up at our school-based vaccination clinics. Schedule your child's appointment today at <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3730/COVID-19-Vaccine>.
- Maryland Homeowner Assistance Fund: The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development will be launching 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>

Complete an Expression of Interest Form and be added to the MD-DHCD's email list.

<https://dhcd.maryland.gov/Residents/Pages/HomeownerAssistanceFund/ExpressionofInterest.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](https://www.wsscwater.com/assistance?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery).

- Report Fire Hydrant Leaks: WSSC Water is seeking the community's help with reporting suspected fire hydrant leaks. Fire hydrant leaks can be reported by calling 301-206-4002. For more information, go to [wsscwater.com/hydrant](http://wsscwater.com/hydrant).
- 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](mailto: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](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 2,125. The new goal is to increase followers to 2,250 by the end of the calendar year. 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/>
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- 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](https://www.instagram.com/riverdaleparkmd_gov/?hl=en)
    - Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Riverdale\\_Park](https://twitter.com/Riverdale_Park)
    - YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeaNS8-6xwTyPJculj7vuCQ/videos?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeaNS8-6xwTyPJculj7vuCQ/videos?view_as=subscriber)

### Environment

- Climate Action Plan: The County recently released the Climate Action Plan ([mypgc.us/climateactionplan](http://mypgc.us/climateactionplan) - prepared by the Climate Action Commission- a group of residents, experts and gov. reps from across the county) for public comment. The comment period runs from November 1- December 1. Individuals can fill out an online survey for overall comments and support or detailed comments by section <https://bit.ly/3mWKiHB>

A virtual public session is scheduled for Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Register at [bit.ly/PGCvirtualCAPmtg](http://bit.ly/PGCvirtualCAPmtg).

- Rain Check Rebate Expanded: County legislation, CB-46-2021, that expands the Rain Check Rebate Program by increasing the lifetime cap per property from \$4,000 to \$6,000 will go into effect in December.

For more information about the Rain Check Rebate Program, visit <https://cbtrust.org/grants/prince-georges-county-rain-check-rebate/>

- 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.

- Leaf Collection: Residents are encouraged to bag their leaves and/or mulch them during lawn mowing instead of pushing them into the streets. It is extremely important to keep storm drains clear of leaves to allow the system optimal performance during a rain event.

To support leaf bagging, Public Works staff have distributed ten (10) leaf bags to each single-family residence in Town. FREE leaf bags will also be available for pick up on the third Saturday of the month (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) at the bulk trash drop off at the Public Works building until mid-January. Identification confirming residency is required.

Bagged leaves should be set out curbside by 6 a.m. on Mondays for collection by the Town’s hauler. If residents choose to mulch their leaves or will otherwise not use the leaf bags, they are encouraged to give them to a neighbor.

- 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](http://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

- Trolley Trail Lighting Project Update: Staff recently received an update from PEPCO regarding the construction timeline for the Trolley Trail Lighting Project. It was reported that construction is scheduled to start on December 6<sup>th</sup> with a completion date of December 15, 2021.
- 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](http://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:

**Historic Preservation Commission:** November 29, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting.  
[https://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/\\_11292021-601](https://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_11292021-601)

**Planning Board:** December 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.  
<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1619&Inline=True>

**Board of License Commissioners:** *No information available at time of report.*

- Development Activities from November 11, 2021, to November 22, 2021

**Permits: Building / Storage Containers**

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	0	20
Building Permits Issued	0	20
Stop Work Orders Issued	1	2

**Licenses:**

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	0	22
Multifamily Licenses Issued	4	19
Single-family Rental Inspection	16	50
Single-family Licenses Issued	16	28
Business License Inspections Conducted	1	89
Business Licenses Issued	2	89

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from November 11, 2021, to November 22, 2021

**Community Standards Violations by Type:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Bi-Weekly Totals</b>	<b>FYTD 2022 Totals</b>
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	4	51
Exterior Conditions	5	68
Interior Conditions	0	115
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	29
Safety	1	33
Sanitation	0	3
<b>Total Violations Found:</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>299</b>

**Services Provided by Type:**

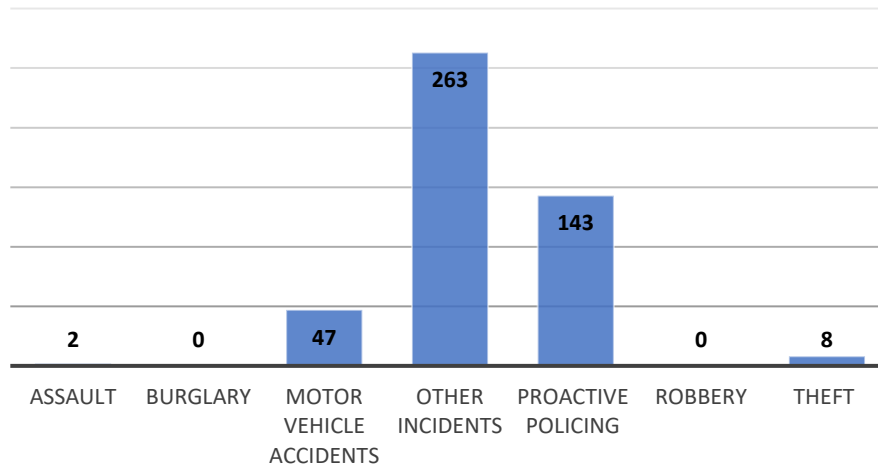
<b>Description</b>	<b>Bi-Weekly Totals</b>	<b>FYTD 2022 Totals</b>
Complaint Responses Performed	15	102
Fines Issued	8	15
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	5	67
Violation Notices Issued	4	44
Warnings Issued	5	83
<b>Total Services Provided:</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>311</b>

*Note:*

1. *“FYTD” means Fiscal Year to Date, starting from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022.*
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

### 463 Calls for Service 11/10/2021 to 11/22/2021



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, 143 or 31 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:

- A traffic stop was conducted in the 4900 block of Tuckerman Street. Officers observed the butt of a handgun between the driver's seat and the center console. The occupants were removed from the vehicle and a loaded Glock semi-automatic pistol was recovered. The driver was placed under arrest for having a handgun in a vehicle.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of 43<sup>rd</sup> Street for a theft from auto. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) removed the catalytic converter from the victim's vehicle while it was parked overnight. The investigation is ongoing.



- Officers responded to the Town's Police Station for a walk-in warrant service. An individual with an active arrest warrant through Prince George's County, turned herself in. The warrant was confirmed, and the individual was transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers responded to the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an assault. The investigation revealed the victim and suspect were involved a traffic dispute. The suspect exited his vehicle, displayed a handgun, and threatened the victim. The victim was not injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 5300 block of Riverdale Road for a suspicious person. Responding officers observed two individuals in the process of stealing equipment from a construction site. The individuals were contacted and placed under arrest for theft.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a motor vehicle collision. The operator of the striking vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Terrace for a family dispute. The complainant obtained a protective order from the District Court Commissioner. Officers served the protective order, and the respondent vacated the residence.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue for a fraud. The complainant reported unknown suspects deposited fraudulent checks totaling \$41,000. Through investigative means one suspect has been identified and charges are pending.
- Officers responded to the 5300 block of Kenilworth Avenue for theft from auto. The victim reported unknown suspect(s) removed her purse from her vehicle while she was paying for gas. The investigation is ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager