

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 26 for 2021

December 23, 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 January 7, 2022.

CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:

Town Hall and Public Works Operations Closed	Friday, December 24, 2021	In observance of Christmas
Town Hall and Public Works Operations Closed	Friday, December 31, 2021	In observance of New Year's Day

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Legislative Meeting	Monday, January 3, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81912428037?pwd=aml4K1NyRlh4Zm1IMW1Cazl1RkUzZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 819-1242-8037 Passcode: 579554
Work Session	Monday, January 31, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89647211093?pwd=c1BhL0laQ2l0ZXo4ZUJUVENLYnBGUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 896-4721-1093 Passcode: 579554

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.

- Children's Holiday Take-home Party Distribution: On December 15th, Town staff distributed Children's Holiday Take-home Party Bags to over 100 children in Town. The take-home party bags contained teddy bear making kits and various holiday crafts and activities for families to enjoy at home. The distribution of the bags was a huge success! Check out these two photo collages sent to Town staff by two local families.



- Notice of Road Improvement Project: The following notice has been issued regarding upcoming work in Town:

Notice of Road Improvement Project

This is notification that the Town of Riverdale Park has a Road Improvement Project on your street. The contractor performing the work is ECM Corporation. The project is scheduled to be completed within four months, weather permitting.

Please note: Due to the nature of the project and seasonal temperatures, there may be a partial shutdown of the project due to temperatures at or below freezing or when supply plants close for the season. The project will resume when temperatures reach acceptable levels, and the supply plants reopen.

Date Range of Project: December 2021 to April/May 2022

Impacted Locations: Please see map on reverse side of notice.

- 46th Avenue between Sheridan Street and Tuckerman Street
- Maryland Avenue between MD 410 Overpass and Tuckerman Street

- Sheridan Street at 49th Avenue
- 54th Place Cul-De-Sac
- Jefferson Street between Kenilworth Avenue and 54th Avenue
- Greenway Drive between Kenilworth Avenue and Spring Lane
- 47th Avenue at Madison Street
- Oglethorpe Street between 48th Avenue and Lafayette Avenue
- 48th Avenue between Nicholson Street and Oglethorpe Street
- Madison Street between 48th Avenue and Taylor Road
- Nicholson Street between 48th Avenue and Taylor Road
- Supra Place Cul-De-Sac
- Signet Lane Cul-De-Sac
- Rivertech Court (bike lane)

Scope of Work: Reconstruction and resurfacing sections of the roadway; replacement and/or installation of new curb ramps; and/or connection of new sidewalk panels to existing sidewalks.

Preparation for Work: Some work may require parking restrictions on your street. No parking signs will be erected at least 24 hours before parking restrictions take effect.

Contact for Questions:

Ivy Lewis
 240-375-6448
 ILewis@RiverdaleParkMD.Gov

- Notice of Tree Plantings: The following notice has been issued regarding upcoming tree planting in Town.

Notice of Tree Planting

The Town of Riverdale Park is participating in Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization Community Development Corporation’s (CKAR) Grow Green tree planting program. The program involves the purchase and planting of large shade and small understory trees, as appropriate, on public and private properties upon request, at no cost to the recipient. Staff in the Department of Public Works (DPW) has identified multiple locations in the Town’s right-of-way for CKAR to plant tree this season.

This is your notice that CKAR will plant a tree in the public right-of-way in front of or near your property within the next several weeks. You might have already noticed utility markings near your home. DPW will care for the trees, immediately following planting, to ensure their survival.

Contact for Questions:

Town Hall
 301-927-6381, extension 500 or 503

- 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 the 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.

- **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.
- **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 2,200. The new goal is to increase followers to 2,250 by the end of the calendar year. We can do this! 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

- 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.
- 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 Update: Phase One of the Trolley Trail is near completion. Lights installed to date are lit! Take a look at photos of the lighted Trolley Trail below:



- Metro Bus Service Changes: Metro is making bus service changes to improve reliability starting Sunday, December 26, 2021. Most changes are minor schedule adjustments of less than eight minutes to improve the customer experience. Visit the December 2021 Metrobus service changes page for a complete list of route changes: <https://wmata.com/service/status/details/december-2021-metrobus-service-changes.cfm>

In addition to schedule adjustments, there are some route changes, service suspensions and bus stop relocations to be aware of. Route 3Y will operate between McPherson Square and East Falls Church Metrorail Stations. Service will no longer begin/end at Virginia Hospital Center. A new route, Route 3F, will operate between Farragut Square and East Falls Church Metrorail Station during rush hours. Service on Route K9 will be suspended. Metro intends to reinstate this route in 2022. During the service suspension, alternate service is available on routes C8 and K6.

At Minnesota Avenue Metrorail Station, the bus stop for southbound Route U7 buses will be relocated to improve the customer experience. In Maryland, Route D14 will no longer serve the Wilson Bridge Drive stop due to an adjacent Maryland State Highway Administration construction project. Buses will serve a new stop near Wilson Towers Apartments, accessible via Kirby Hill Road.

- Purple Line Updates:

- Beginning on or about July 22, 2021, crews began performing underground utility relocations overnight on Riverdale Road (MD 410) between 58th Street and Veterans Parkway (MD 410) through the end of January. Work may take place Monday through Friday, 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. and on weekends, as needed. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- Beginning on November 11, 2021, crews began performing underground utility work along Riverdale Road at 67th Court through the end of January, weather permitting. Work may take place from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and as needed on weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur. The bus stop at Riverdale Road and 67th Court will be closed as signed, please use the bus stop at Riverdale Road and 67th Place during this time.
- Crews have begun water line relocation on 67th Place through the end of December, weather permitting. Work may take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and as needed on weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur. Flagging operations will be utilized.
- Crews continue performing underground utility relocations on Kenilworth Avenue (MD 201) northbound and southbound from Campus Drive to Riverdale Road (MD 410), weather permitting. Work may take place in two shifts, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., on weekdays and weekends as needed. Temporary lane will occur with flagging operations as needed.
- On or about November 15, 2021, the sidewalk adjacent to the College Park Bus Loop from River Road (identified in the graphic [here](#)) will be closed through the end of January. Signage will be in place to guide bicyclists and pedestrians to the open sidewalk. Work may take place 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and weekends as needed through completion of the work.
- Work Zone Safety: As work increases along the alignment, the Purple Line team remains committed to keeping everyone safe. Pedestrians and motorists are advised to follow construction signage and use the open sidewalk(s). For the safety of the public and our construction team, entry into construction work zones is not permitted.

- Purple Line Construction Photos:



Left: A Purple Line worker from Anchor Construction helps with utility work near the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. **Right:** A Purple Line worker applies finishing touches to a retaining wall on Campus Drive in College Park.



Left: A Purple Line worker prepares to flip a switch as workers establish permanent power at the Glenridge Operations and Maintenance Facility, which will be the hub of light rail operations. **Right:** A Purple Line worker is surveying at the Glenridge facility.

- 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 Town:
 - An application for a secondary amendment to the Cafritz Property at Riverdale Park Development Plan to allow a food hall as a new use permitted by-right in the Riverdale Park M-U-TC Zone will be submitted for review to the Development Review Division of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). The Subject

Property is located at 4501 Van Buren Street, Riverdale Park, MD 20737, which is located at the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Van Buren Street and 45th Street within Riverdale Park Station. For more information contact Nathaniel Forman at 301-572-3237.

- 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: December 28, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.
https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_12282021-2036

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

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

- Development Activities from December 9, 2021, to December 21, 2021

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	2	24
Building Permits Issued	0	22
Stop Work Orders Issued	0	2

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	0	22
Multifamily Licenses Issued	0	20
Single-family Rental Inspection	0	62
Single-family Licenses Issued	0	41
Business License Inspections Conducted	3	92
Business Licenses Issued	1	91

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from December 9, 2021, to December 21, 2021

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	5	60
Exterior Conditions	0	71

Interior Conditions	0	116
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	29
Safety	3	39
Sanitation	0	3
Total Violations Found:	8	318

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	4	117
Fines Issued	0	17
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	38	116
Violation Notices Issued	2	47
Warnings Issued	6	99
Total Services Provided:	50	396

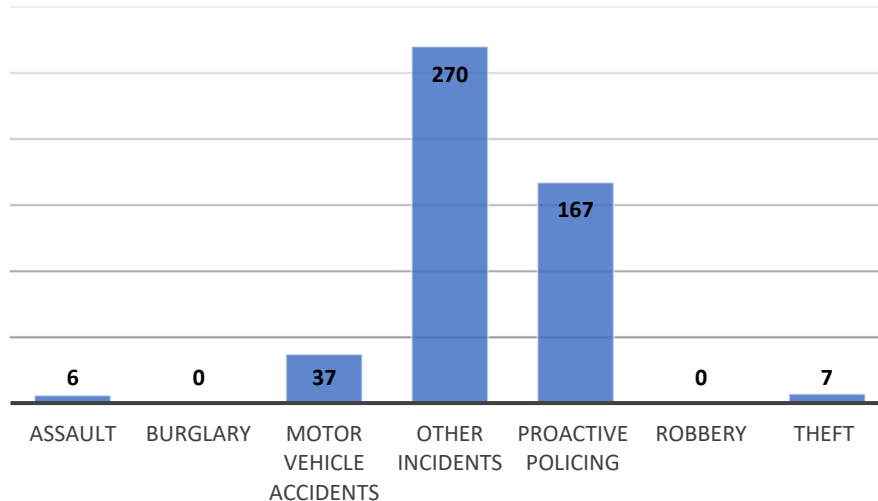
Note:

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.*

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Public Safety

487 Calls for Police Service 12/08/2021 to 12/21/2021



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, 167 or 34 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 4400 block of East West Highway for a single vehicle collision. The operator of the vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers responded for trespassing complaint in the 5300 block of Riverdale Road. We received several calls from residents reporting an intoxicated individual banging on apartment doors. Officers contacted the individual and attempted to escort him from building. The individual attempted to assault an officer and was placed under arrest.

- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5500 block of East West Highway. During a probable cause search officers located 63 grams of suspected Marijuana. The driver was placed under arrest for possession with intent to distribute.
- Officers responded to the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an individual threatening a passerby. Officers contacted the individual and due to their actions, they were transported to the hospital for an emergency psychological evaluation.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Terrace for a family dispute. The investigation revealed two cousins were involved in a verbal dispute which escalated and turned physical. The suspect produced a knife and stabbed his cousin in the leg. The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment. The suspect was arrested on the scene and charged with 1st degree assault.
- Officers responded to a theft from auto in the 6600 block of Rhode Island Avenue. The investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) removed the airbags from three different vehicles. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a trespassing complaint. An employee reported an intoxicated individual inside the business who was bothering customers and refusing to leave. The individual refused numerous requests from officers to leave the property and was placed under arrest for trespassing.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of West Beale Circle for an assault. Responding officers located a victim who was stabbed in the right abdomen. The victim was transported to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The investigation revealed the victim and witnesses were hanging out in the roadway when an altercation ensued; the victim was stabbed by an unknown suspect. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an assault. The investigation revealed two individuals were involved in a fight inside the business. During the altercation the suspect produced a knife and attempted to cut the victim. Responding officers detained the suspect and recovered the knife. The suspect was placed under arrest for 1st degree assault.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager