

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 5 for 2022

March 4, 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 March 18, 2022.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Special Legislative Meeting (Anticipated to be a Closed Meeting)	Monday, March 7, 2022 6:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89566136076?pwd=TXErdGtYeVZPOUpUWk5b0lwQTlscz09&from=addon Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 895-6613-6076 Passcode: 395705
Legislative Meeting	Monday, March 7, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85826416624?pwd=dFFQZUczOXg2bUhUZGlheWs1OW1Vdz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 858-2641-6624 Passcode: 579554
State of the Town	Monday, March 14, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89647045117?pwd=UVkyVHZybEUrbVhkdlB0c0h2WmRoQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 896-4704-5117 Passcode: 579554

Ethics Commission Meeting	Wednesday, March 16, 2022 7:30 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85429062927?pwd=VHNMaEdldmVKSEVtR0VuWkhvYUd5dz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 854-2906-2927 Passcode: 0332022
Work Session	Monday, March 28, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89010751685?pwd=T3JuNIRiM2h3bGRVcGd5d0VGcXpvZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 890-1075-1685 Passcode: 579554

Administration

- **Town Hall - limited in-person office hours:** As the 7-day rolling average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people has dropped below 15, Town Hall offices are open for walk-in business on Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The office hours will remain limited through the Municipal Center Renovation project and may be adjusted depending on the construction schedule and any change in COVID-19 locally. Masks are required.
- **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, Denisa Caballero at dcaballero@riverdaleparkmd.gov, or call 301-927-6381.

Community Engagement

- **Post Adoption Fair Summary of Charter Amendment:** The following legal advertisement will run in the *Enquirer-Gazette* on 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, and 3/31.

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF
CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION 2022-CR-01
ELECTIONS**

This is to give notice that on February 28, 2022, the Riverdale Park Town Council adopted Charter Amendment Resolution 2022-CR-01 (“the Resolution”). The title to the Resolution is as follows:

A RESOLUTION concerning

CHARTER AMENDMENT – ELECTIONS

FOR the purpose of amending the Charter of the Town of Riverdale Park to provide for the creation, composition, terms, duties and responsibilities of a Board of Elections for the Town of Riverdale Park; to specify the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Elections and alter certain duties and responsibilities of election judges for municipal elections; to provide for the designation, duties and responsibilities of a Chief Election Judge and Deputy Chief Election Judge; to make certain changes in style and terminology; and generally to relate to the conduct and management of municipal elections in the Town of Riverdale Park.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments

Charter of the Town of Riverdale Park (January 2008 Revision, as amended)

ARTICLE V, Nominations and Elections

§§ 502, 504, 506, 508, 511 and 514

Charter Amendment Resolution 2022-CR-01 is available for inspection by the public at Town Hall, by request to community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov, or by calling 301-927-6381.

The amendment to the Charter will become effective on April 19, 2022, subject to the provisions of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland regarding the right of the qualified voters of the Town to petition the proposed amendment to referendum.

- Notice regarding Longfellow Street Storm Drainage Project: The following notice was sent to residents regarding the upcoming Longfellow Street Storm Drainage Project.

The Longfellow Street Storm Drainage Project is starting soon. The Town of Riverdale Park has hired Clinton Sewer Expert (CSE), Inc. to construct the stormwater improvements on Longfellow Street.

The project includes the installation of two new storm drain lines across Longfellow Street, one close to Taylor Road; the other, to 48th Avenue. Additionally, it includes the construction of a new inlet at the storm drain line near 48th Avenue. The two center inlets on the south side of Longfellow Street will be retained but the grate will be removed and replaced with a steel plate. Existing sump pumps discharge pipes currently connected to the existing inlet boxes will remain. Storm drain improvements will also be constructed on the private property at 5705 and 5709 due to excessive ponding of stormwater during normal rain events.

Completion is expected by mid-May. During construction, parking will be restricted on one or both sides of the street for short periods of time, and one lane of traffic may be closed. No Parking signs will be posted at least 24 hours before they take effect. The contractor is required to provide traffic control at all times during construction.

A copy of the design specifications for the project can be viewed at the link below.

https://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov/news_detail_T6_R242.php

Please contact Ivy Lewis 240-375-6448, anytime Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm if you have questions or would like additional information about the project. You may also send an email to ILewis@RiverdaleParkMD.Gov.

- Call for Artists for Riverdale Park Public Art Initiative:

Deadline to Apply: Thursday, April 7, 2022, at noon

On behalf of the Town of Riverdale Park, the Hyattsville CDC is announcing a Call for Artists for the Riverdale Park Public Art Initiative. The Initiative seeks five (5) sculptures of various styles and sizes to display for a one year-long placement, at pre-determined, publicly-accessible sites within the Town of Riverdale Park. As part of The Town's plan to create an engaging, publicly accessible outdoor sculpture gallery across its many neighborhoods, we seek site-appropriate sculptural work fitting of each chosen location. All sites have an existing installed concrete footer/pad, specifically designed to accommodate a range of sizes of work and a variety of bases.

Submittals may be of any durable, easily-maintained, exposure-ready media, and, due to the planned temporary nature of the initiative's installations should be of existing or nearly completed work. Following a jurying process, the works will be installed by the selected artist for a year-long exhibition. At the end of the exhibition term, the works will also be made available for purchase through the Riverdale Park Public Art Initiative website at <https://hycdc.org/rppai>.

Eligibility: Artists across the greater metropolitan region are welcome to apply, especially those who live or have studios within Prince George's County.

Local established and emerging sculptors, woodworkers, metalworkers, and artists of any durable media are welcomed.

ARTIST HONORARIUM

At this issuance, the stipend for selection in this Call is \$2,000 per selected work, to include all artist fees, costs for installation, documentation of the installed work, transportation, and insurance.

- Legal Help for Immigration Court: Free legal advice is available for immigrants who must appear before Maryland's immigration court because they are at risk of deportation. Children,

families, and adults can call 443.703.3054 or go to www.probonomd.org/help-for-immigrants to request to speak to an attorney using WhatsApp.

- County Food Security Task Force: In 2020, the Prince George's County Food Security Task Force was established with a goal of identifying challenges and opportunities, and providing recommendations for creating a healthy, equitable, and sustainable food system in Prince George's County. The 21-member Task Force included stakeholders representing government, not-for-profit, faith-based, food providers, the university & health community, and the private sector.

The Task Force has provided eleven recommendations in its final report - four foundational and seven general - including the creation of a County Food Security office; maximizing participation in federal food programs; establishing communication strategies; and additional incentives to support healthy food options

Read the report and view the Council briefing [here](#).

- FREE COVID-19 Test Kits Mailed to Your Home: Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. For more information, visit <https://www.covidtests.gov/>.
- COVID Care Program: The Prince George's County Health Department's COVID Care Program is for residents who have been exposed to COVID-19 or who are COVID-19 positive. The program assists residents with social service needs, including connecting to health insurance, medical care, and mental health care at a Federally Qualified Health Center, Food, Living situations, Utilities, Transportation, and other needs.

The County will also assist with isolation and quarantine: deliver COVID Care Kits to the homes of people who consent. COVID Care Kits include PPE, cleaning supplies, tissues, toilet paper, and educational materials. Food insecure residents will also receive a 2-week supply of food, including fresh produce, canned goods, and kitchen staples like bread, tortillas, and rice.

If you are aware of Prince George's County residents who has tested positive for or who were exposed to COVID-19 and need services, please refer them to the COVID Care Program at <https://assess.pgchd-phin.app/index.php/181471/lang/en/newtest/Y> Questions can be sent to COVIDcare@co.pg.md.us Those who qualify will be contacted by a Community Health Worker from the Prince George's Healthcare Alliance.

- We Want to Hear from You: The Town of Riverdale Park needs your insight to improve the delivery of information from the Town. In our shared support of small in Town businesses, \$10 digital gift cards are being offered to residents of the Town of Riverdale Park who complete the Communications Survey (while supplies last and one gift card per household). The Communications Survey can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TRPSIRSurvey>



- COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Update: The County Health Department's COVID-19 vaccination clinic has moved to the Prince George's Community College. Residents are encouraged to make an appointment to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Walk-ins will now only

be accepted from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, visit: <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3730/COVID-19-Vaccine>.

- **Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Vaccination Clinics:** The Prince George's County Health Department is also 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>.
- **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.
- **Senior Call Check:** Senior Call Check is a FREE service available to adults 65+ in Maryland. Seniors can receive an automated daily call at a time they designate. After 3 attempts and no answer, the department will contact designated alternates to check on residents. Registration can be completed over the phone at 1-866-50-CHECK (1-866-502-0560) or online <https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/senior-call-check.aspx>
- **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.

- **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 2,292. 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 Updates
 - River Road Temporary Lane Closures- New: On or about March 7, 2022, River Road between Kenilworth Avenue and Rivertech Court will be reduced to one lane in each direction for utility relocations. Work may take place 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. weekdays and weekends, as needed for approximately 1 week, weather permitting.
 - Temporary Overnight Lane Closures on Riverdale Road- Update: Crews continue utility relocations overnight on Riverdale Road (MD 410) between 58th Street and Veterans Parkway (MD 410) through the end of March, weather permitting. Work may take place overnight, 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. weekdays and weekends, as needed. Temporary lane closures will occur.
 - Temporary Lane Closure on 67th Court- Update: Crews continue utility relocations along Riverdale Road at 67th Court through the end of March, weather permitting. Work may take place 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and weekends, as needed. 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 and 67th Place during this time.
 - Temporary Lane Closure on 67th Place- Update: Crews continue utility relocations at Riverdale Road (MD 410) and 67th Place through the end of March, weather permitting. Work may take place 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and weekends, as needed. Temporary lane closures will occur. Flagging operations will be utilized.
 - Work Zone Safety- Reminder: 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 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/>

- 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: March 10, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.

<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1640&Inline=True>

Historic Preservation Commission: March 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting.

https://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_03152022-635

Board of License Commissioners: March 22, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting.

https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_03222022-2158

- Development Activities from February 17, 2022, to March 2, 2022

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	0	27
Building Permits Issued	0	25
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	53
Business License Inspections Conducted	10	123
Business Licenses Issued	5	122

- Neighborhood Improvement Activities from February 17, 2022, to March 2, 2022

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	4	81
Exterior Conditions	7	87
Interior Conditions	0	117

Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	29
Safety	4	62
Sanitation	0	3
Total Violations Found:	15	379

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	19	183
Fines Issued	0	24
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	44	236
Violation Notices Issued	2	57
Warnings Issued	13	148
Total Services Provided:	78	648

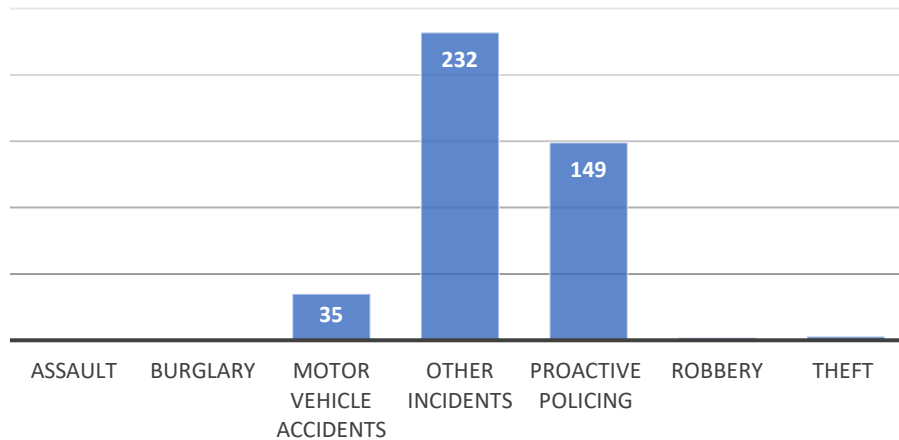
Note:

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

422 Calls for Police Service 02/17/2022 to 03/02/2022



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, 149 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 assisting individuals.

Highlighted reports:

- Officers responded to a business in the 4500 block of Woodberry Street for a theft. An employee reported unknown suspect(s) broke into several lockers in the locker room and removed customers personal property. The investigation is ongoing.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 4400 block of East-West Highway. Probable cause was developed to search the vehicle. A loaded semi-automatic pistol was found in the passenger compartment. The driver was placed under arrest for carrying a handgun.
- Officers responded to a business in the 6500 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a check on the welfare. An employee reported an individual inside the business was making suicidal threats.

Due to the individual's actions and for their safety they were transported to the hospital for an emergency psychological evaluation.

- Officers responded to the 4600 block of Queensbury Road for a robbery. The victim reported she was approached from behind by two unknown suspects who produced a knife and demanded her property. The victim relinquished her property and the suspects fled to an awaiting vehicle. The victim was not injured, and the investigation is ongoing.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Natoli Place 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 conducted a traffic stop in the 6200 block of Baltimore Avenue. The vehicle was found to be unregistered. During an impound inventory a loaded semi-automatic pistol was found in the passenger compartment. The driver was placed under arrest for carrying a handgun.
- Officers responded to a business in the 5700 block of Riverdale Road for a disorderly individual. The business manager reported an individual who was intoxicated and refusing to leave the establishment. Officers made numerous requests for the individual to leave the business. The individual refused and was placed under arrest for trespassing and resisting arrest.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Baltimore Avenue and East-West Highway. The driver of the vehicle failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest. During a search incident to arrest, officers discovered 27.5 grams of suspected cocaine on the individual's person.
- Officers responded to the 6400 block of Taylor Road for a robbery. The victim reported he was approached by two unknown suspects who demanded his property. The victim refused, was assaulted and knocked to the ground by the suspects. The suspects removed the victim's property and fled. The victim refused medical treatment and the investigation is ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian, Town Manager