TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

Status and Information Report

Report No. 9 for 2022

April 29, 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 May 13, 2022.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tax Rate Public Hearing and Legislative Meeting	Monday, May 2, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8526353 9545?pwd=QnNrc0R3Y0RWMXZ OOXFRWG0vTWtFZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 852-6353-9545 Passcode: 579554
Special Legislative Meeting and Work Session	Monday, May 23, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8951521 3052?pwd=N25JcWdlM3RGblVST kw1RjB3Si9mQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 895-1521-3052 Passcode: 579554
Legislative Meeting	Monday, June 6, 2022 7:00 p.m.	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89459678222?pwd=bFcreXBZZkxYc0ZLZkFIRzZDcnJHUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 894-5967-8222 Passcode: 579554

Administration

• Town Hall - limited in-person office hours: As the 7-day rolling average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people remains 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.

It is good to note that the 7-day rolling average in Prince George's County had fallen to 3.09 on March 22nd. However, this number has climbed and today the number is 13.98. Please continue to be safe.

- <u>Meetings with Staff:</u> 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.gov, or call 301-927-6381.

Community Engagement

• <u>Notice of Invitation to Bid:</u> The following legal advertisement was run in the *Washington Times* on April 25th and 26th:

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK Notice of Invitation to Bid

This is to give notice that the Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland is accepting bids for the Riverdale Park Trolley Trail Lighting Project (Installation of Street Lights & Electrical Wiring), Bid No. DPW 2022 – 002, until Monday, May 16, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. A public bid opening will occur later that day at 3:00 pm via Zoom. To join, visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82602041152?pwd=eURQOUdxZmpwRW02Sy85bUgza1Q0QT09 or call: 301-715-8592 (Meeting ID: 826-0204-1152 Passcode: 04202022)

A pre-bid Zoom meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. To join, visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84321262313?pwd=TGhubXRWQW44M0F5SytjZmNRb3BEdz09 or call: 301-715-8592 (Meeting ID: 843-2126-2313 Passcode: 04202022)

A copy of the Invitation to Bid, Bid No. DPW 2022 – 002, may be found at www.RiverdaleParkMD.gov and eMaryland Marketplace. Questions concerning the Invitation to Bid must be directed to RFP-BIDQuestions@RiverdaleParkMD.Gov.

• <u>Fair Summary of Ordinance 2022-OR-03:</u> The following legal advertisement will run in the *Enquirer-Gazette* on May 5, 2022.

FAIR SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE 2022-OR-03 FY2023 BUDGET AND TAX RATES

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2022-OR-03.

Ordinance 2022-OR-03 would adopt the operating and capital budgets for the Town of Riverdale Park for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023; sets rates of real and personal property and operating property taxation for such fiscal year and levying such taxes; and matters generally relating to the adoption of Town budgets and levying of taxes and setting of tax rates for the Town of Riverdale Park for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023.

Ordinance 2022-OR-03 is available for inspection by the public on the Town's website www.riverdaleparkmd.gov, by e-mail request to community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov, or by calling 301-927-6381.

• <u>FY2023 Tax Rate Public Hearing Notice:</u> The following legal advertisement ran in the *Enquirer-Gazette* on April 14, 2022.

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK Notice of Public Hearing

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Riverdale Park seek public comment on maintaining the Town's Real Property Tax Rate at 0.6540 per \$100 of assessed value. This Public Hearing is not required under State of Maryland Law because the Town's assessable base as reported by the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation contracted in the most recent assessment.

A virtual public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 2, 2022. To join, visit https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85263539545?pwd=QnNrc0R3Y0RWMXZ0OXFRWG0vTWtFZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 (Meeting ID: 852-6353-9545 Passcode: 579554) to participate. The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Testimony may also be mailed to: Town of Riverdale Park, Real Property Tax Rate Testimony, c/o Town Clerk Jessica Barnes, 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737 or e-mailed to community input@riverdaleparkmd.gov. Written comments will be accepted for seven (7) days following the virtual public hearing. The Fiscal Year 2023 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget is scheduled to be introduced on April 25, 2022.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 301-927-6381 for further information.

• <u>COVID-19 Test Kits Available:</u> The Town has received an allocation of COVID-19 test kits from Prince George's County. Town residents are eligible to receive tests through this

municipal allocation. Town residents can pick up two (2) test kit packs at Town Hall on Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Proof of Town residency will be required.

• <u>COVID Care Program</u>: 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.

- 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.
- <u>Senior Call Check</u>: 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 launched 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
- 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.

- Low-income Household Water Assistance Program: The Low-income Household Water
 Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is a new program providing benefits for water and wastewater
 costs for low-income households experiencing hardship with their water bills. LIHWAP will
 assist Maryland families who are behind on their drinking water and wastewater bills focusing
 on arrearage accounts that are 30 days or more past due. Apply online:
 https://dhs.maryland.gov/office-of-home-energy-programs/low-income-household-water-assistance-program/
- <u>Community Input:</u> 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 <u>community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov</u>. 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!
- <u>Trash Concerns App Streamlines Process:</u> 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 2,322. 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:
 - 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

https://www.facebook.com/RiverdaleParkMD/

■ 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.

- <u>WSSC Notification System:</u> 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.
- <u>JEDA Trucking Bulk Trash Pick-up Services:</u> 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"
 - o 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:

- O Temporary Lane Closure on 67th Court: Crews continue utility relocations along Riverdale Road at 67th Court through the end of May, weather permitting. Work may take place 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. 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 Road and 67th Place during this time.
- O Temporary Overnight Lane Closures on Riverdale Road: Crews continue overnight utility relocations on Riverdale Road (MD 410) between 58th Street and Veterans Parkway (MD 410) through the end of May, weather permitting. Work may take place overnight, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekends, as needed. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- Temporary Lane Closures on Route 1 Baltimore Avenue: Beginning on or about April 28, 2022, crews continue utility relocations at the intersection of Baltimore Avenue (US Route 1) and Rossborough Lane for approximately 3 weeks, weather permitting. Temporary lane closures on Baltimore Avenue (US Route 1) may occur between 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and weekends, as needed.
- O 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.

- O 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.
- <u>TRP-RPS Riverdale Park Station News:</u> For more information on store openings, events, and development news, check out the Riverdale Park Station transit and general websites and social media pages:
 - o General Website: https://thestationrp.com/
 - o Facebook: Riverdale Park Station: https://www.facebook.com/TheStationRP/
 - o Twitter: @thestationrp: https://twitter.com/thestationrp
 - o Instagram: the station rp: https://www.instagram.com/thestationrp/

• Notices Received by Town:

O Notice was received from the Prince George's County Government Office of the County Council informing that the Prince George's County Council will hold the following public meetings: Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. regarding CR-026-2022 for the purpose of amending the Prince George's County Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development by adding eligible Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") Program activities not originally funded or described in the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan, and the reprogramming and reallocating of three hundred sixty nine thousand, eight hundred and eighty six dollars (\$369,886) in Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") funds from the County FY 2015, FY 201; and CR-027-2022 for the purpose of amending the Prince George's County Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development by approving the restructuring of a Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") Program activity as a result of a change in the location and description of an activity originally described in the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan.

The proposed plan is available online on the Department of Housing and Community Development Website: https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1039/Plans-Reports To register to speak or submit comments or written testimony please use the Council's eComment portal at: https://pgccouncil.us/Speak. Comments/written correspondence may also be emailed to: clerkofthecouncil@co.pg.md.us or faxed to (301) 952-5178. To view the public hearing visit https://pgccouncil.us/LIVE.

• <u>Upcoming Meetings</u>: This feature in the Status and Information reports is provided to ensure awareness of upcoming meetings that <u>may</u> 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: May 4, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Virtual meeting. https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/ 05042022-2214

Planning Board: May 5, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting. http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1652&Inline=True

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

• Development Activities from April 15, 2022, to April 27, 2022

Permits: Building / Storage Containers

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Permit Inspections Conducted	3	30
Building Permits Issued	3	31
Stop Work Orders Issued	1	4

Permits Issued:

Permit #	Address	Work Description	Est. Investment
2022-B-29	4905 Queensbury Road	2 nd Story Addition & Deck	\$225,000
2022-B-30	5825 University Research Court	Interior Renovation	\$500,000
2022-B-31	5621 47 th Avenue	Interior Renovation	\$50,000
Est. Investment Bi- Weekly Total:			\$775,000
Est. Investment FYTD 2022 Total:			\$3,670,176

Licenses:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Multifamily Rental Inspection Conducted	0	21
Multifamily Licenses Issued	0	20
Single-family Rental Inspection	0	70
Single-family Licenses Issued	0	61
Business License Inspections Conducted	6	134
Business Licenses Issued	5	135

• Neighborhood Improvement Activities from April 15, 2022, to April 27, 2022

Community Standards Violations by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Accumulation of Garbage / Rubbish	2	94
Exterior Conditions	4	105

Interior Conditions	0	122
Overgrown Grass / Weeds	0	29
Safety	1	77
Sanitation	0	8
Total Violations Found:	7	435

Services Provided by Type:

Description	Bi-Weekly Totals	FYTD 2022 Totals
Complaint Responses Performed	7	230
Fines Issued	11	42
Outreach Events / Meetings Attended	3	292
Violation Notices Issued	1	68
Warnings Issued	5	184
Total Services Provided:	27	816

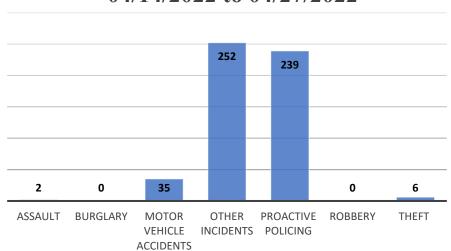
Note:

- 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

534 Calls for Service 04/14/2022 to 04/27/2022



<u>Calls for Service defined:</u> 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, 239 or 48 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.

<u>Highlighted reports:</u>

- Officers conducted a traffic stop on East-West Highway at Kenilworth Avenue for an equipment violation. The driver was found to be unlicensed, and the vehicle was unregistered. The vehicle was impounded, and during the vehicle inventory, a loaded 9mm handgun was located between the driver's seat and the center console. The driver was placed under arrest for having a handgun in a vehicle.
- Officers responded to the 4900 block of East-West for a single motor vehicle collision. The driver failed field sobriety testing and was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated.
- Officers observed an unoccupied vehicle in the 6200 block of Kenilworth Avenue. A
 registration check revealed the 2019 Ford was reported stolen through the Prince George's

County Police Department. The vehicle was impounded for safekeeping, pending notification to the owner.

- Officers conducting foot patrols in the 5400 block of 54th Avenue observed an occupied vehicle parked in a fire lane. Officers approached the vehicle and detected a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. A probable cause search of the vehicle revealed 76 grams of suspected marijuana, a scale, and baggies. The occupants were arrested and charged with possession with intent to distribute.
- Officers responded to the 6200 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a hit-and-run motor vehicle accident. Through an investigation, the operator of the striking vehicle was identified and charged with leaving the scene of a property damage accident.
- Officers responded to the 5700 block of St. Bernard's Drive after hearing gunshots. Responding
 officers canvased the area and located an individual lying in the grass. The individual appeared
 intoxicated, and a handgun was found adjacent to him. The investigation revealed the individual
 was intoxicated and fired two rounds into the ground. The suspect was placed under arrest for
 reckless endangerment.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 5600 block of 54th Avenue. A records check revealed the driver to have an active arrest warrant for failure to appear. The individual was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for an assault. The investigation revealed two individuals were involved in a dispute which turned into a physical altercation. The suspect struck the victim in the arm with a golf club. The victim received treatment from the Fire Department but refused transport to the hospital. The suspect was placed under arrest for 1st-degree assault.
- Officers conducted a traffic stop on Baltimore Avenue at East West Highway for a traffic violation. Upon contacting the driver and requesting the registration, officers observed what appeared to be a handgun in the glove box when the driver opened the glove compartment. The driver was removed from the vehicle, and a loaded Glock handgun was recovered from the glove box. The driver was placed under arrest for having a handgun in a vehicle.
- Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a stolen vehicle. The investigation revealed the victim was pumping gas and left the keys inside his 2002 Chevrolet. Two unknown suspects entered the vehicle and fled onto Kenilworth Avenue. Both suspects have been identified and charged with motor vehicle theft through an investigation.

Respectfully submitted,

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager