

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland Status and Information Report Report No. 1 for 2018



January 12, 2018

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 26, 2018.

Introduction to 2018

Recently, the Mayor and Council adopted vision and commitment statements for housing and neighborhoods, and sustainability. Draft vision and commitment statements are being developed for other core areas such as: business and economic development; arts, culture and recreation; infrastructure; and traffic and transportation. As previously discussed, these core area statements will assist in crafting a succinct vision statement for the Town. Additionally, these statements provide clear direction for the staff team as we develop annual goals, programs, initiatives, and workplans.

Aligned with the development of vision and commitment statements, the staff leadership team has developed an organization-wide initiative that fundamentally will change how the staff team approaches our responsibilities. This initiative focuses on four (4) aspects of the staff's daily operations:

1. Expectations
2. Efficiencies
3. Effectiveness
4. Execution

The initiative is being branded as E⁴. The initial rollout of this internal operations initiative will occur over the course of the next several weeks. This is a dynamic and ongoing initiative to advance the workplace culture and ultimately improve the delivery of service to the Town's residents, businesses, investors, and visitors. The staff team is committed to continually improving our service delivery.

Upcoming Meetings:

Regular Legislative Meeting	February 5, 2018, 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Council Work Session	January 29, 2018, 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall

Administration

- Offices closed: Town Hall and Department of Public Works will be closed on Monday, January 15, 2018.
- Town Crier Submission Deadline Approaching: Submissions for the February edition of the *Town Crier* are due on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Please send any items that you would like to have included to jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov or towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov. Advertising opportunities are also available!
- State of the Town: In accordance with the Town Charter, the Town Manager will report to the Mayor and Council and the public the condition of municipal affairs in a State of the Town presentation. The presentation will occur on a date to be determined in March. The presentation will review accomplishments in 2017 and efforts planned for 2018.

Community Engagement

- Riverside Neighborhood Park Clean-up: Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation has organized a clean-up of Riverside Neighborhood Park to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 15, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Volunteers will meet at the intersection of Taylor Road and Longfellow Street at 9 am and will need to complete a Department of Parks & Recreation volunteer release form before participation (available onsite). If you have questions about the project, please contact Antonia Bookbinder at Parks & Recreation at 301-446-3464 or antonia.bookbinder@pgparks.com.

Environment

- Trash Collection Reminder: Regularly scheduled trash pick-up will occur on Monday, January 15, 2018.
- Leaf Vacuuming Collection: As a reminder, leaf vacuuming service will be discontinued on Friday, January 12, 2018.
- Snow and Ice Removal: As we enter the snow season, please note that Department of Public Works (DPW) staff will be plowing and salting Town streets and parking lots to clear snow and ice. DPW will treat streets in the following order:
 - **Primary Streets** - i.e., Riverdale Road, Taylor Road, Lafayette Avenue, Queensbury Road, etc.
 - **Residential Streets** – i.e., Oliver Street, Madison Street, Rittenhouse Street, 47th Avenue, Somerset Road, Sora Lane, etc.

Major roadways, (Rt. 201, Rt. 1, Rt. 410, Good Luck Road), will be treated by the State and County.

- What Residents can do to assist with Snow and Ice Removal:
 - Be patient as DPW crews work around-the-clock to clear the streets.
 - Whenever possible, move parked cars from the street so that snowplows can remove snow from the street, curb-to-curb.
 - If off-street parking is **not** available, park on the **even side of the street**

- Clear sidewalks in front of your residence and refrain from depositing snow back on to the roadway as this can potentially cause an accident.
- **DPW Snow and Ice Removal Stats:** The Department of Public Works (DPW) team has done a great job with snow and ice removal this year! Here are a few statistics:

Snow Event #1	January 4, 2018	25 staff hours
Snow Event #2	January 6, 2018	24 staff hours
Snow Event #3	January 8, 2018	25 staff hours
Total Amount of Salt Used		12 tons

Development

- **Riverdale Park Station Updates:** For more information on store openings, events and development news, check out the Riverdale Park Station website and social media pages:
 Website: <http://www.riverdaleparkstation.com>
 Facebook: Riverdale Park Station
 Twitter: @RDPStation
 Instagram: rdpstation
- **Purple Line Construction Notices:** Purple Line construction is underway. The next twelve (12) months of construction will focus on utility relocation work. Residents are encouraged to subscribe for updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, visit purplelinemd.com, find “Construction” and click on “Subscribe for Updates”. The construction hotline is 240-424-5325.
- **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: January 16, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. (Upper Marlboro)
<http://www.pgparcs.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/01162018-170>

Planning Board: January 18, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. (Upper Marlboro)
<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1396&Inline=True>

Board of License Commissioners: January 23, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. (Largo)
<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/01232018-1008>

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- Permits Issued:

Permit Number	Address	Permit For	Estimated Project Value
2017-B-141	5006 Sheridan Street	Finish basement, drywall, kitchen cabinets, flooring, carpentry, raise roof and paint	\$15,000
2017-B-142	5610 Taylor Road	15'x76' and 4'x30' driveway	\$12,000
2017-B-143	4502 Van Buren Street	Commercial Interior Work	\$26,000
2017-B-144	6711 45th Street	Commercial Interior Work	\$26,000
2017-B-145	6761 45th Street	Commercial Interior Work	\$26,000
2017-B-146	4555 Woodberry Street	Commercial Interior Work	\$26,000
2017-B-147	4501 Woodberry Street	Commercial Interior Work	\$26,000
2017-B-148	4595 Woodberry Street	Commercial Interior Work	\$26,000
2017-B-149	4550 Woodberry Street	Commercial Interior Work	\$26,000
Total Investment			\$209,000

- Year-over-Year Investment Comparison: One measure of economic development activity is the value of permitted work. Historically, the Town did not capture this area of measure. However, in order to establish a point of comparison for future years, staff worked with Prince George’s County in determining approximate levels of investment for permitted work in 2016 and 2017.

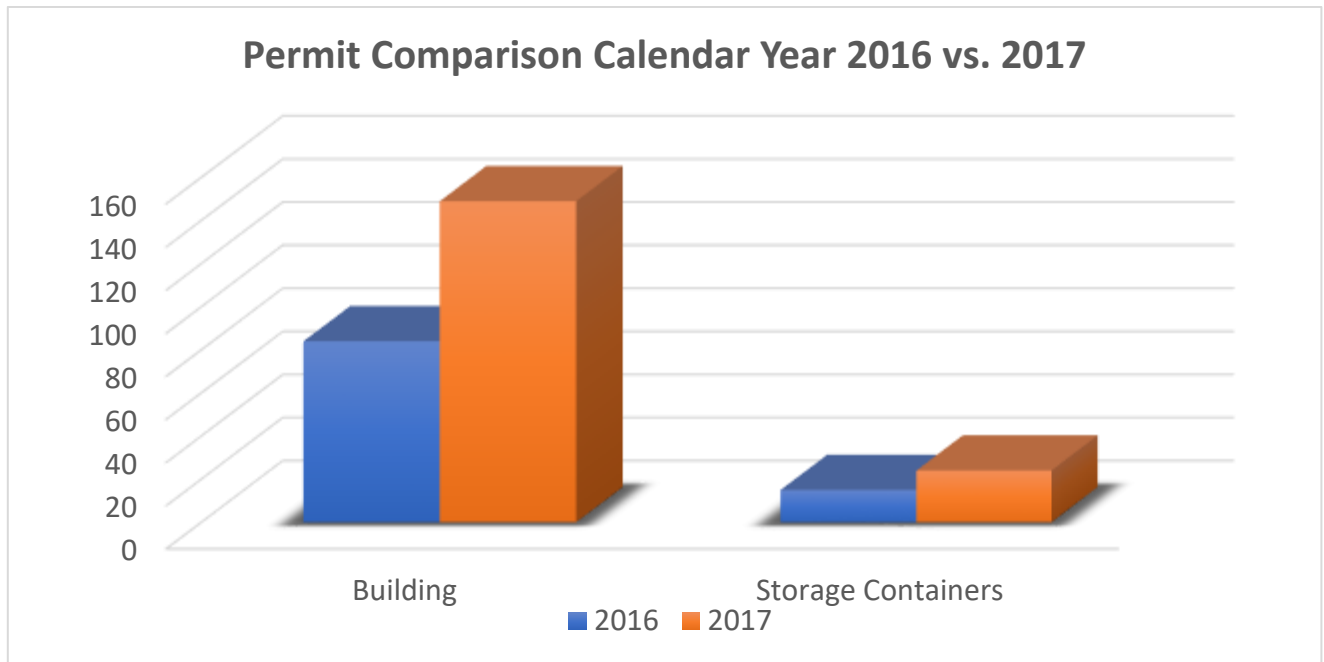
2016 – Value of permitted work invested within the Town - approximately \$30 million

2017 – Value of permitted work invested within the Town - approximately \$40 million

In moving forward, staff have adjusted processes to capture this economic development data.

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- Year-over-year Permit Volume:



- Neighborhood Improvement Activities December 28, 2017 to January 9, 2018

Violations of Community Standards by Type:

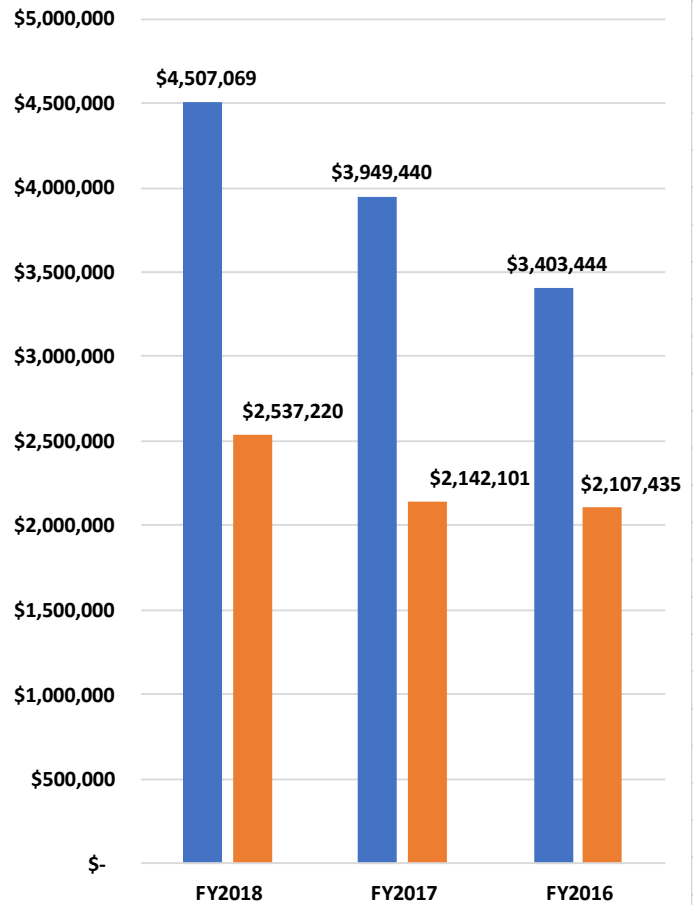
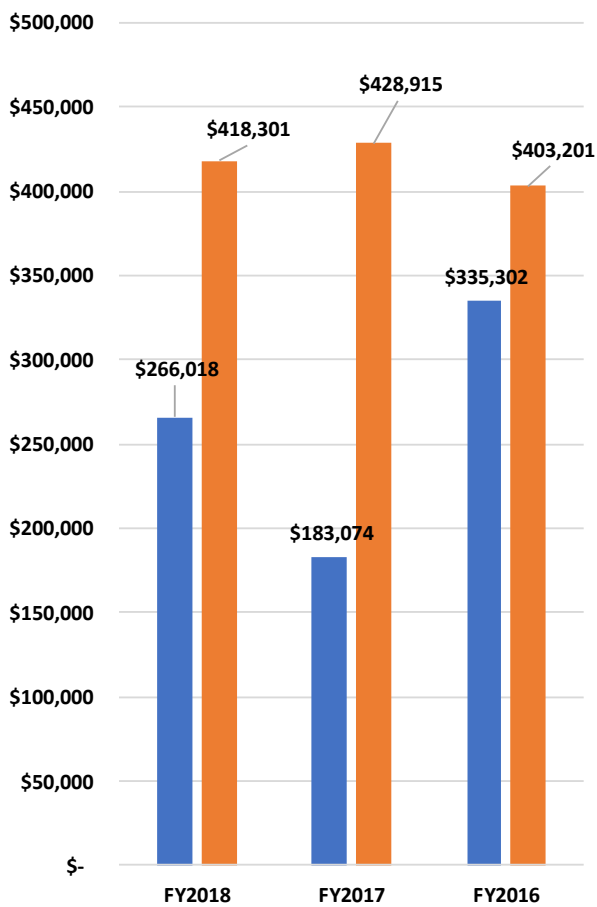
Open Storage of Garbage / Rubbish	9
Exterior / Structural Conditions	1
Overgrown Weeds	0
Public Nuisance	2
Safety	3
Sanitation	2



Actions Taken:

Complaint Response	3
Educational Materials	0
Fines Issued	6
Notices Issued	4
Outreach Meetings Conducted	5
Warnings Issued	2

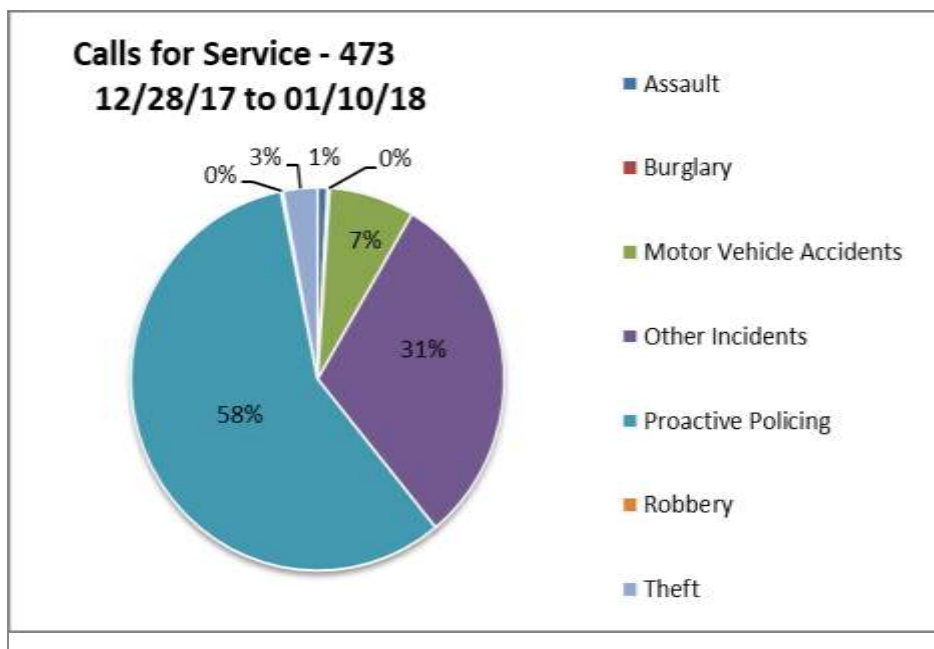
Finance

December			YTD Total		
FY2018	FY2017	FY2016	FY2018	FY2017	FY2016
\$ 266,018	\$ 183,074	\$ 335,302	\$ 4,507,069	\$ 3,949,440	\$ 3,403,444
\$ 418,153	\$ 428,915	\$ 403,201	\$ 2,537,072	\$ 2,142,101	\$ 2,107,435
\$ (152,135)	\$ (245,841)	\$ (67,899)	\$ 1,969,998	\$ 1,807,339	\$ 1,296,009



Revenue =	
Expense =	

Police



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, 274 or 58% 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 citizen assists.

Highlighted reports:

Officers responded to Washington Adventist Hospital for an assault. The investigation revealed the victim was injured during a domestic assault that occurred in the 4700 block of Nicholson Street. An arrest warrant for 2nd degree assault was obtained for the suspect. The victim was referred to the Family Crisis Center for assistance.

Officers responded to the 5600 block of Riverdale Road for a suicidal female. The investigation revealed that while traveling in a vehicle with her family, an individual assaulted a minor child who was also in the vehicle. The individual then jumped from the vehicle and ran into oncoming traffic. Officers located the individual and took her into custody without incident. She made several

suicidal threats in the presence of the officers and was transported to the hospital for an emergency psychological evaluation. Officers contacted Child Protective Services who released the child into the custody of the grandmother. The individual was also criminally charged with child abuse and 2nd degree assault.

Officers responded to the 5500 block of 54th Avenue for a cutting. The investigation revealed the victim was walking with a group of friends through the vacant lot to the rear of the BP gas station. The victim and his friends got into a verbal argument with a group of suspects. The altercation turned physical and a suspect cut the victim's lower leg with a knife. The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment of a non-life-threatening injury. The investigation is ongoing.

Officers conducted a traffic stop for speeding in the 5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue. The driver of the vehicle was unlicensed. A warrant checked revealed the driver to have open warrants for theft, CDS possession, and false statement to an officer. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to the Department of Corrections.

Officers responded to 5600 54th Avenue for an unknown trouble. Upon arrival, several witnesses approached officers reporting a male suspect on the 5th floor had assaulted several residents. Officers encountered the suspect armed with a knife on the 5th floor. The suspect was disarmed and apprehended without incident. During, the arrest the suspect made numerous threats to kill the officers and requested to be killed. Due to the suspects actions he was transported to the hospital for an emergency psychological evaluation. A warrant was obtained for the suspect charging him with 2nd degree assault and disorderly conduct.

Note from the Town Manager: It is important to highlight the actions of our officers in the above case and other like circumstances. Too often, our officers encounter armed subjects and either through de-escalation or other approved tactics officers manage to disarm suspects and place them in custody. These types of scenarios highlight the dangers of policework and excellent job performed by our officers. Well done!

Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Terrace for a vehicle tampering. Upon arrival officers observed a Dodge van with the rear driver's side window broken. The suspect was located inside the vehicle and quickly apprehended. The vehicle owner was contacted, and she advised that the suspect didn't have permission to enter her vehicle. The suspect was charged with malicious destruction of property and rogue and vagabond.

Traffic Safety:

According to the National Safety Council, 16,438 motor vehicle crashes occur daily in the United States. These daily crashes result in 8,219 personal injuries and more than 100 fatalities. Every one of these motor vehicle crashes is preventable. During 2017, RPPD responded to nearly 1000 motor vehicle collisions. Data indicates that the majority of in Town collisions occur on or around the three major arteries that traverse the Town.

On January 3, 2018, the Town entered an agreement with Opto-Traffic to provide automated red-light enforcement. Working with the service provider, the police department will oversee installation of automated systems. This initiative is designed to modify driver behavior, reduce motor vehicle collisions and injuries associated with these preventable crashes. Once placement locations are determined, the Town will post the locations of these cameras on the Town website.

Update:

On January 9, Chief Morris, along with other law enforcement executives from around the state, attended the National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day reception. Governor Hogan and Lt. Governor Rutherford hosted the event in the State House in Annapolis.

Fire

- New Law Regarding Smoke Detectors: A new law went into effect on January 1, 2018 that requires a 10-year smoke alarm to be present and working on every level of your home. For more information, please visit: <http://pgfdpio.blogspot.com/2018/01/pgfd-faqs-about-new-maryland-smoke.html>.

Respectfully submitted,



John N. Lestitian
Town Manager