

Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland Status and Information Report Report No. 3 for 2018



February 9, 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 February 23, 2018.

Upcoming Meetings:

Regular Legislative Meeting	March 5, 2018, 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Council Work Session	February 26, 2018, 8:00 p.m.	Town Hall

Administration

- Recent Meeting with IT Services Provider: Staff recently met with Peake, the Town's IT services provider, regarding the necessary upgrades to the server system. Staff are reviewing the options available which include the purchase of a new server or utilizing a cloud based system. Staff expects to have a recommendation for Council review and discussion at the February 26th Work Session.
- Human Resource Project: Staff is working to upgrade all position descriptions and evaluation tools for all Town employees. The project includes updating employee position descriptions, developing performance standards for each position and creating an evaluation tool. The project is expected to be completed by early April.

Community Engagement

- Volunteers Needed to Serve on Committees: The Town of Riverdale Park is seeking volunteers to serve on the Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review (M-UTC) Committee and the Ethics Commission. M-UTC meets on the first Wednesday of most months to review development applications. For more information regarding M-UTC, visit <http://www.mncppcapps.org/planning/Publications/PDFs/47/H-RiverdalePlan-Design%20Review%20Process.pdf>. The Ethics Commission meets several times throughout the year and meeting days/times are flexible. For more information about the Ethics Commission, visit <http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/EthicsCommission.cfm>. Please contact Town Clerk Jessica Barnes at jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov if you are interested in serving on these important committees.

- Please follow the Town on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RiverdaleParkMD/>
- Vision for Business and Economic Development: As Town staff continue working on codes, programs and initiatives related to Business and Economic Development, it is important to have an updated vision for Business and Economic Development throughout the Town. Residents and business owners are encouraged to comment and/or recommend input on what should be included in the Town's vision for Business and Economic Development. Please email community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov or call Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk, at 301-927-6381.
- County Budget Listening Sessions: County Executive Baker will be hosting a listening session for the FY2019 Budget on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Laurel High School (8000 Cherry Lane, Laurel, MD). Participants who wish to speak can sign in on-site or call 301-952-4547. Pre-registration is encouraged.

Environment

- Earth Day Volunteers Needed: The Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) is sponsoring its Annual Earth Day event on Saturday, April 21, 2018. The Town and AWS partner to clean up a designated area in the town. Last year, over 50 volunteers assisted in cleaning up Tanglewood Park. We would like to exceed that number this year! Please contact Janice Euell at jeuell@riverdaleparkmd.gov for more information.
- Save the Date! The Town of Riverdale Park's Arbor Day ceremony will be held on April 26, 2018 at 10:00 am behind Riverdale Elementary School. We hope to see you there!
- Sidewalk Work Continues: The Town has contracted with Precision Concrete Cutting to address a significant portion of the deficiencies in the Town's sidewalk system caused by raised or sunken sidewalk slabs. It is expected that this work to continue for the next two weeks, weather permitting.
- Leaf Collection Reminder: The leaf vacuuming service ended on January 15th. Residents should put leaves in brown paper bags for collection on Wednesdays (yard waste collection day).
- Snow and Ice Removal: As we continue in 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 of 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.
- **Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Collection During Inclement Weather Events:** Sometimes inclement weather will delay trash, recycling, or yard waste pick-up. In those cases, Town staff will post a notice on Facebook and Town Announce/Town Talk.

Development

- **Riverdale Park Station Updates:**

- **Retail Tenants:**

- Burton’s Grill celebrated their Grand Opening on Monday, January 22nd and are enjoying unqualified rave reviews.
- L.F. Jennings has commenced work on the tenant fit-out construction of Jersey Mike’s and Habit Burger. Both expect to open sometime during the spring of 2018.
- L.F. Jennings recently completed the fit-out construction work for the FedEx store in Building 1 and has turned that space over to FedEx to complete the fit-out work related to their furniture, fixtures and equipment.
- Gold’s Gym continues to work on their fit-out construction with target opening dates within the First quarter of 2018. Gold’s Gym has opened a membership sales office on the second floor of Building 2 above District Taco.

- **Townhomes:**

- The construction of the 119 townhomes is well underway. The first block of townhomes between Rhode Island Avenue and 47th Street are nearly complete. The remaining townhouse blocks between Rhode Island Avenue and 47th Street are expected to be completed by the end of 2018. Currently, 52 townhomes have been sold.
- **CSX Crossing:** The closure of the former ERCO plant parking lot between the Rivertech Court cul-de-sac and Lafayette Avenue will continue until the new bridge is open – estimated to be in spring 2018. The bridge builder, Shirley Contracting, has completed the sidewalks, landscaping, pavement markings, signage, asphalt paving and roadway approaches. Lighting installation, final grading and site cleanup will continue in the upcoming weeks. This work will continue into the first quarter of 2018. The construction will be monitored to assure compliance with County work hours and noise regulations.
- **CSX Sound Barrier Wall:** An Agreement was recently executed with CSX to allow the construction of a sound barrier wall along Maryland Avenue north of Wells Run Place. Shirley Contracting will begin construction of the wall next week. During construction the portion of Maryland Avenue directly in front of the wall will be closed to allow construction equipment ample room to work. It is anticipated that construction will be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2018.

- **Riverdale Park Station News:** 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.
- **Notice received by Town:**
 - A Site Development Concept Plan for NSR Petro Services (Case # 2296-2018), located at 3599 East-West Highway in Hyattsville, was filed on January 23, 2018 for review by Prince George’s County Department of Permitting, Inspection and Enforcement (DPIE). For more information, contact Nicholas Speech at 301-809-4500 or DPIE at 301-363-2060.
- **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: *No information available at time of report.*

Planning Board: February 15, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. (Upper Marlboro)
<http://mncppc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=14&ID=1399&Inline=True>

Board of License Commissioners: February 27, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. (Largo)
https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_02272018-1028

- **Permits Issued:**

Permit Number	Address	Permit For	Estimated Project Value
2017-B-153	4400 Woodberry Street	FedEx Tenant Fitout	Not Available
2017-B-154	5301 Quintana Street	Installation of 30 roof mounted solar panels	Not Available
2017-B-155	4595 Woodberry Street	Revised architectural, structural, and mechanical work	Not Available
2017-B-156	4501 Van Buren Street #3-A3	Interior buildout	\$100,000
Total Investment			\$100,000 +

- **Development Activities from January 24, 2018 to February 6, 2018**

Business Licenses:

Applications Received	1
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Licenses Issued	1
Notices Issued	0

Rental Licenses:

Applications Received	4
Inspections Conducted	4
Licenses Issued	1
Notices Issued	8
Educational Materials Issued	0
Fines Issued	0

Permits: Building / Storage Containers:

Applications Received	
Inspections Conducted	0
Permits Issued	
Stop Work Orders Issued	0
Violations Observed	0

• Neighborhood Improvement Activities from January 24, 2018 to February 6, 2018

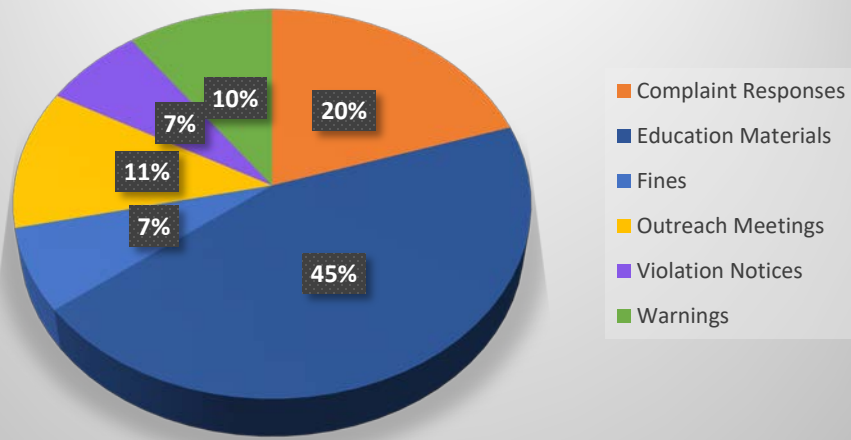
Community Standards Violations by Type:

Open Storage of Garbage / Rubbish	4
Exterior / Structural Conditions	3
Overgrown Weeds	0
Public Nuisance / Safety	0
Sanitation	2

Actions Taken:

Complaint Responses Performed	7
Educational Materials Distributed	56
Fines Issued	1
Outreach Meetings Conducted	4
Violation Notices Issued	0
Warnings Issued	3

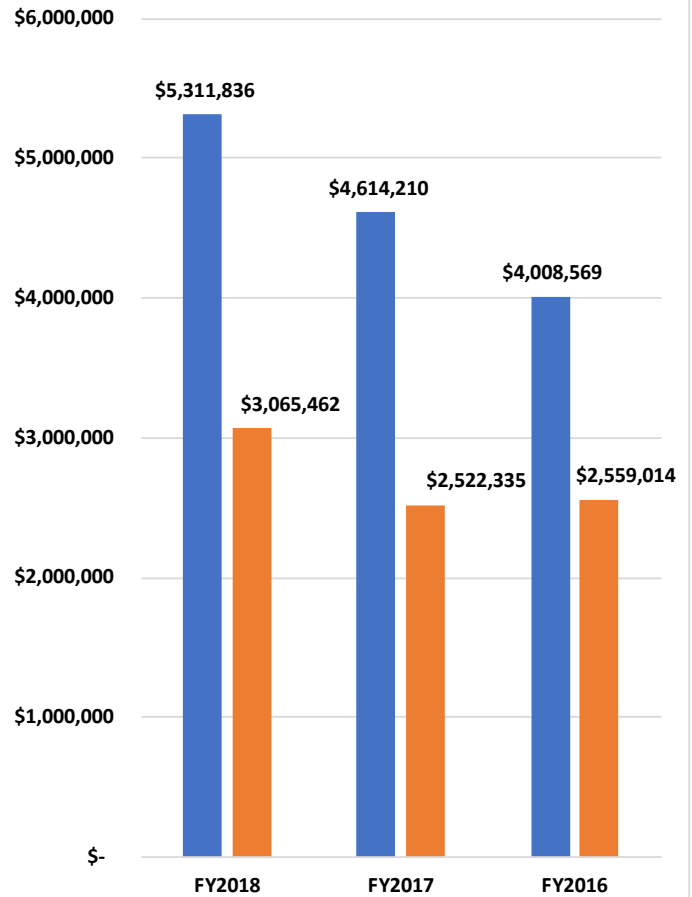
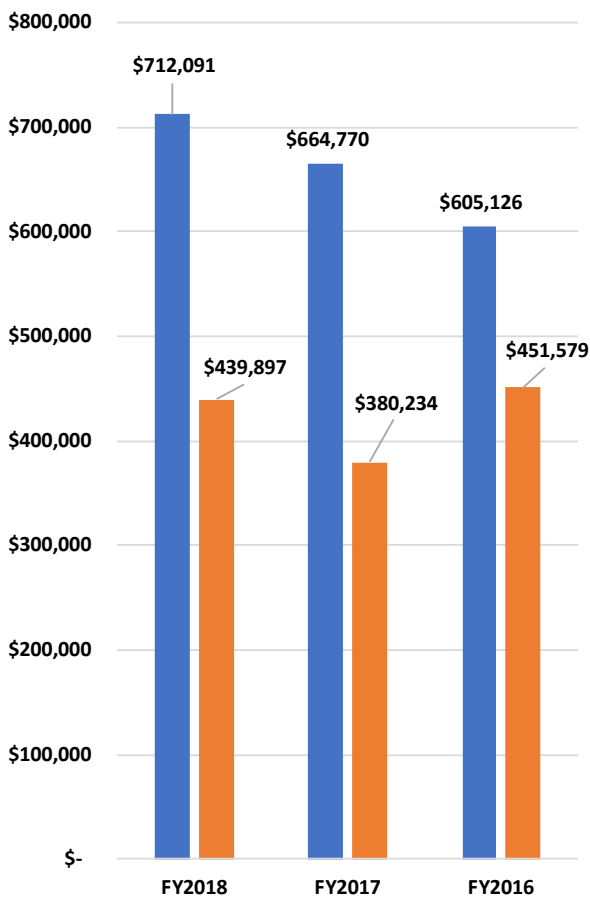
Actions Taken for Community Standards Violations: December 2017 to February 2018





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Finance

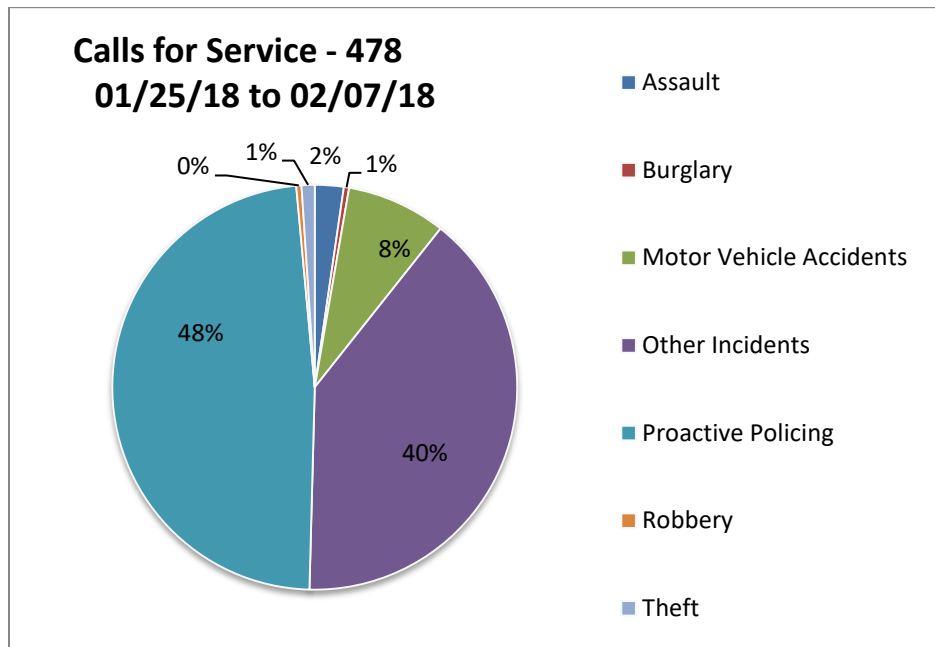
January			YTD Total		
FY2018	FY2017	FY2016	FY2018	FY2017	FY2016
\$ 712,091	\$ 664,770	\$ 605,126	\$ 5,311,836	\$ 4,614,210	\$ 4,008,569
\$ 439,897	\$ 380,234	\$ 451,579	\$ 3,065,462	\$ 2,522,335	\$ 2,559,014
\$ 272,194	\$ 284,536	\$ 153,546	\$ 2,246,374	\$ 2,091,875	\$ 1,449,556



Revenue =	
Expense =	

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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, 230 or 48% 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 Riverdale Plaza Shopping Center for an attempt citizen armed robbery. The victim was approached by two suspects in front of a store. The suspects produced a utility knife and demanded the victim's property. The victim began screaming which caused the suspects to flee from the scene. Responding officers detained two individuals matching the suspects' descriptions a short distance away. The victim and a witness positively identified both individuals as suspects in the robbery. A search incident to arrest revealed a utility knife in one of the suspect's pocket. The suspects were charged with Attempt Armed Robbery and 1st Degree Assault.

Officers responded to a convenience store located on the 6300 block of Baltimore Avenue for a destruction of property. The clerk reported an individual came into the store and started a physical altercation with another customer. During the incident several display stands were knocked over causing \$1500 in damaged. The individual fled in a vehicle of which the clerk was able to provide a description. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the suspect vehicle and placed the suspect under arrest. He was charged with malicious destruction of property and disorderly conduct. No one was injured during the incident.

Officers responded to a grocery store located on the 6600 block of Baltimore Avenue for a burglary in progress. The manager reported that an individual forced open the unlocked front doors and entered prior to the business being open. Officers located the individual in the rear of the business and attempted to take him into custody. The individual resisted arrest and a struggle ensued. Officers subdued the suspect and placed him under arrest. During the arrest process, the individual appeared to be under the influence of a controlled dangerous substance. The suspect was charged with 2nd Degree Burglary, Disorderly Conduct, and Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of a Police Officer.

Officers responded to the 5400 block of Kenilworth Terrace for a report of shots fired. Officers contacted the residents of a basement apartment who reported hearing gunshots coming from the upstairs apartment and noticed two bullet holes in their living room ceiling. The apartment was occupied by 3 adults and 2 children during the incident. Officers observed movement in the upstairs apartment and attempted to contact the residents. A perimeter was set up around the apartment and numerous loud speaker announcements were made requesting the occupants to exit. After approximately 15 minutes four suspects peacefully surrendered. Due to exigent circumstances, the apartment was immediately checked for additional suspects or victims with negative results, however officers discovered two holes, consistent with bullet holes in the bedroom floor. The scene was secured, and a court ordered search warrant was obtained. Two handguns (1 stolen from Pennsylvania), numerous rounds of ammunition, and drug paraphernalia was located inside the apartment. The 4 suspects were charged with Reckless Endangerment, Theft Under \$1000, and Malicious Destruction of Property. The investigation is still ongoing.

Officers responded to a store located on the 5600 block of Kenilworth Avenue for a theft. The employee advised an individual entered the store and inquired about purchasing an iPhone. The suspect grabbed the phone and ran from the store. The employee attempted to intervene and was assaulted. Officers located a suspect matching the description in the 5400 block of Riverdale Road. The employee positively identified the suspect as the person who assaulted her and stole the iPhone. Officers canvassed the immediate area and recovered the stolen iPhone. The individual was placed under arrest and charged with 2nd Degree Assault and Theft Under \$1,000.

Officers were flagged down in the 6300 block of Baltimore by a citizen who reported being assaulted and robbed. The victim explained she was invited into a home in the 4600 block of Tuckerman Street for drinks. There was an altercation inside the home and the victim was assaulted and her cell phone was stolen. The suspect was identified, and an arrest warrant was obtained for Robbery, Theft, and 2nd Degree Assault. The victim was not injured during the incident.

Update:

Josue Vasques was arrested by RPPD during the shooting investigation at Kenilworth Terrace. Investigation revealed that Vasques was a suspect in a 2016 homicide that occurred in Largo, MD. Working in concert with RPPD's investigators, PGPD executed a second search warrant regarding their ongoing homicide investigation. On January 30, 2018, Josue Vasques was indicted for the

October 19, 2016, shooting death of Allyssa Banks in the 10200 block of Prince Place in Largo, MD. *Well Done! JNL.*

On December 6, 2017, RPPD responded to 4700 block of Nicholson Street for a report of a shooting. On January 25, 2018, the suspect was indicted by the SAO Grand Jury Unit on the following charge: Reckless Endangerment, Firearm/Drug Trafficking Crime, Possess Regulated Firearm, CDS Possess with Intent to Distribute, CDS Possession Marijuana, Resist/Interfere with Arrest, Second Degree Assault, False Statement to Officer, Obstructing & Hindering a Police Officer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John N. Lestitian".

John N. Lestitian
Town Manager