



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of February 17, 2016

Information to Share

Constant Yield Tax Rate Certification – The City has received its annual Constant Yield Tax Rate Certification. The net assessable real property base is estimated to increase by about 6%. In order to gain the same amount of revenue from real property taxes in FY 17 as was estimated to be received in FY 16, the tax rate would need to drop from \$ 0.585 to \$ 0.5518 per \$100 assessment. If the tax rate were kept the same, the amount of additional property tax revenue the City would receive would be about \$700,000. At an upcoming Council meeting, an overview presentation will be made on assessments and tax rates. More detailed information will be discussed during the budget review process in April.

Recreation Center Energy Savings – In FY 14, the New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center used 127,360 kWh (kilowatt hours) of electricity for the year. Through a State energy grant, the City replaced the lights in the gym and around the building with LED lights. In FY 15, the energy use dropped to 45,680 kWh – a reduction of electricity use at the building by over 60%. The annual savings from the project is about \$11,000. Although this is an MNCPPC property, the City is responsible for paying the utility bills.

Police Community Relations RFP Result – The City received two proposals in response to our re-issued Request for Proposals related to Police/community relations. Unfortunately, we are not pleased with the proposals we received. We have had an initial meeting about how to move forward in a different way and will be refining that and sharing it with the Council in the next few weeks.

Dog Park – No significant news to report, but wanted to let you know that moving forward on the construction of the dog park remains part of our work load. The City is continuing to work with MNCPPC staff to get the permits needed to proceed with the dog park construction. We are hoping that we will have what we need when the weather allows us to do the work.

Upcoming Events

Stump the Chump: Neighborhood Energy Challenge Edition – Not sure which energy-efficiency improvements are worth the investment? Bring your energy audit reports, contractor proposals, and toughest energy efficiency questions for a second opinion without the sales pressure. Our “chump” is Sustainability Manager Gina Mathias, who will be at Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Avenue, Thursday, February 18, at 7:00 pm to answer your questions.

Neighbor to Neighbor Discussion about the MCPS Budget – Tuesday, February 23 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the Community Center Auditorium. Co-sponsored by the Takoma Foundation and the City of Takoma Park, there will be a discussion on the proposed FY 2017 Operating Budget for the Montgomery County Public Schools, facilitated by Denise Bracalilly Stultz from the MCPS Office of Community Engagement and Partnerships.

My Schedule

No time away is planned until late May.

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