



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of July 6, 2016

Information to Share

Takoma Junction Development Agreement Open House

The Takoma Junction agenda item, including the Development Agreement, Ground Lease, and a comprehensive “Q&A” list, will be posted and available on the City’s website tomorrow morning. A presentation is scheduled for the July 13 Council meeting, followed by an “Open House” on July 18 where residents can come with questions and comments about the various aspects of the development agreement and the process. The open house will be held from 7:00-9:00 pm in the meeting room of the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department building located near the Junction at 7201 Carroll Avenue.

Carroll Avenue Bridge Closing Update

The most recent information we have suggests that the Carroll Avenue Bridge will close on Monday, July 25. Traffic signals that have been installed to help manage detoured traffic may begin flashing as early as tonight, with actual operation beginning before the bridge closes. Montgomery County Traffic Engineering will be involved in monitoring detoured traffic and determining if traffic signal timing needs to be adjusted on Piney Branch Road. We have also asked them to help ensure that work on Park Valley Bridge not complicate the traffic situation.

One new twist to the bridge closure plans is that, on two occasions, Sligo Creek Parkway will need to be closed. The tentative dates for the closure are July 28 (and may continue into July 29) and then again August 17 and 18. On these dates, an alternate traffic route will be used. We will be getting information out in many different ways as we get closer to those dates.

Follow-Up from Last Council Meeting

Standing Water

Councilmember Qureshi reported standing water at Spring Park. Public Works crews have assessed the site and addressed the issues. There is a bog at the park close to Elm Avenue that may appear to have standing water at times depending on precipitation. However, the bog has a drainage basin that ensures that the water is

continuously flowing. We encourage residents to report any standing water using the “Standing Water or Other Mosquito Related Hazards” button.

Councilmember Courtesy Cards for Environmental Issues

Councilmembers asked staff to develop a “courtesy notice” that they could drop off in residents’ mailboxes or place on doors in the event that they notice a particular code enforcement issue. We are reviewing existing materials used by our code enforcement staff and will be putting something together that Councilmembers can use. Please stay tuned.

Kudos

Kudos and gratitude to all the volunteers, and particularly to Lucy Neher, who orchestrated and participated in this year’s iCan Shine Bike Camp which was held over five days from June 27-July 1. The camp is designed to teach individuals with disabilities how to ride a conventional bike and become lifelong independent riders.

Kudos to the many volunteers, residents, City staff, and other participants who made this year’s 4th of July events another great success! Despite the rainy weather, there was an excellent turnout for the day’s events.

My Schedule

I plan to be off the week of July 18, and from August 8-19.

Suzanne R. Ludlow, AICP CPM
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