



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – July 20, 2016 Agenda Item 3

Voting Session

Resolution Adopting the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual

Recommended Council Action

Adopt the resolution as part of the consent agenda.

Context with Key Issues

The Takoma Park Streetscape Manual provides a mapped inventory of all streetscape elements in the public right-of-way, with specifications on procurement and installation, to ensure consistency of replacement and future installations throughout the city. The Streetscape Manual is both a management tool for City staff and a communications tool for public and private stakeholders with an interest or responsibility in the betterment and maintenance of public rights-of-way.

The Streetscape Manual was discussed in City Council meetings on February 17, 2016 and June 8, 2016, and was the subject of a Public Hearing on April 20, 2016.

Council Priority

A Livable Community for All; Fiscally Sustainable Government; Environmentally Sustainable Community; Engaged, Responsive & Service-oriented Government; Advance Economic Development Efforts

Environmental Impact of Action

Ongoing use of the Streetscape Manual is intended to encourage the purchase of street furniture that is more durable and easier to maintain, while reducing “visual clutter” in the public realm. The Streetscape Manual identifies fixtures and methods that conform to the City’s environmental goals and green procurement policy.

Fiscal Impact of Action

Streetscape items to be purchased or installed in the future are subject to the City’s procurement policies. The costs for replacement and maintenance of items identified in the document are covered in existing areas of the adopted budget.

Attachments and Links

- Streetscape Manual Project Page: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/streetscape-manual
- Draft Resolution Adopting the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual

Introduced by:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

Resolution No. 2016-

Resolution Adopting the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park installs and maintains hundreds of pieces of furniture, lighting, wayfinding signs, bike racks, etc. on public rights-of-way in residential neighborhoods and commercial districts; and

WHEREAS, functional, accessible, and well maintained public spaces improve the quality of life in Takoma Park by fostering community, enhancing business vitality, and supporting environmental and economic sustainability, and

WHEREAS, the City has made efforts in recent years to design and improve residential and commercial streetscapes using high quality products and treatments that are both functional and communicate the City's unique identity; and

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2012, the Takoma Park City Council adopted by Resolution 2012-56 the New Ave Streetscape Standards, developed to guide streetscape improvements along New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard resulting from both private redevelopment and public infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2015 the City Council-appointed Residential Streetscape Task Force presented a final report to the City Council outlining recommendations to establish a policy statement on streetscapes in the community, greater inter-departmental coordination on streetscape improvements, the development of a streetscape style manual, and special consideration to distinct neighborhoods like the historic district; and

WHEREAS, City staff developed the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual that provides a mapped inventory of all streetscape elements installed by the City in public rights-of-way to ensure consistency of installation, maintenance, and replacement in specified locations of the city; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual incorporates public input from City Council, individuals, business associations, Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee, and Residential Streetscape Task Force but does not establish new policy; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual incorporates the New Ave Streetscape Standards and addresses many recommendations in the Residential Streetscape

Task Force final report; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual is a city-wide document applicable to both City and State maintained rights-of-way, with discrete guidance for Flower Avenue, New Hampshire Avenue, the Takoma Park Historic District, and residential neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual is intended to be used by all City staff and City-appointed boards, commissions, and committees, when proposing, reviewing, installing, and replacing streetscape elements in the public right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park City Council will refer to the policy-related comments of the Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee, the Residential Streetscape Task Force and others when considering policy changes affecting rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual will be published on the City's website and updated annually by City staff.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Takoma Park adopts the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2016.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter
City Clerk