



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – November 2, 2016 Agenda Item 1

### **Presentation**

Proposal to Establish a Scatter Garden in Takoma Park

### **Recommended Council Action**

Hear the proposal.

### **Context with Key Issues**

A group of residents is requesting that an area of City-owned park land be designated in perpetuity as a place for people to bring the cremated remains of their loved ones (Scatter Garden). Jennifer Berman will be at the City Council meeting on November 2 to present the proposal and answer questions from Council.

### **Council Priority**

Engaged, Responsive, Service-oriented Government

### **Environmental Impact of Action**

N/A – for information only at this time.

### **Fiscal Impact of Action**

N/A – for information only at this time.

### **Attachments and Links**

- Proposal to Establish a Scatter Garden in Takoma Park
- Legal Opinion from Damon A. Silvers, Esq.
- Analysis of Heavy Metals in Cremation Gardens
- Petition
- Recommendation from the Commemoration Commission

# **A Proposal**

**Imagine a special place in Takoma Park where people could bring the cremated remains of loved ones.**

**A sanctuary for remembering.**

**A place for the legacy of Takoma Park.**

As long-time residents of Takoma Park, we ask the City Council and Mayor to designate an area of city-owned park land to serve as a place for people to bring the cremated remains of their loved ones. Many residents have deep roots in the city, and a strong emotional connection, and would like to have their final resting place here as well. Without a doubt, many people have already consigned the ashes of loved ones to various places around Takoma Park, anonymously. A special place just for this purpose would keep the legacy of Takoma Park within the city. A wall of names would also be a permanent tribute to those whose ashes are spread here. It would be a place people could come to reflect and remember their loved one, and their connection to the town that meant so much to them.

Municipally-owned and -operated cemeteries are very common and many of them have scatter gardens in addition to traditional graveyard areas. However, we have not been able to find another city that has a municipally-owned and -operated scatter garden unconnected to a full-service cemetery. We've recently learned that the city of Chicago is considering designating an area for this purpose. If Takoma Park creates one, we would yet again be on the leading edge of a green alternative movement.

We are asking the City of Takoma Park to designate an area of city-owned land as a memorial scatter garden in perpetuity. We will ask the city to provide the land, routine maintenance, and hopefully soil, mulch, and plantings. While we would appreciate other financial help for construction, we envision much of the cost of memorial structures will be raised through grants, contributions, and individual fund-raising campaigns. The cost of plaques will be paid for by individuals using the garden.

## **Some frequently asked questions:**

### **IS IT LEGAL?**

(A detailed legal memo from our pro bono council is attached)

If Takoma Park wishes to establish a memorial garden for cremated remains, there is no legal reason to prevent or impede the city from doing so. Montgomery County Office of Zoning and Site Plan Enforcement told us that for Memorial Gardens

(Definitions: Sec. 59.1.4.2) "a publicly owned/or operated use is permitted in all zones in Montgomery County." Additionally they stated, "the Town of Takoma Park does not need a Conditional Use to use or develop their own property."

The Maryland Office of Cemetery Oversight states that a county or municipal corporation may appropriate money to fund the repair, preservation or maintenance of a burial site. The same Maryland DLLR website of FAQ states: "Maryland law does not prohibit the scattering of cremains on private property with the permission of the property owner." Additionally, Maryland regulations exempt "county, city or municipal corporations from permitting and registration requirements in the operation of a cemetery," which, by their definition, would include places for the disposition of ashes (Business Regulations Article, § 5-102.)

The Environmental Compliance Supervisor at the Maryland Department of Environmental Protection, Steve Martin, told us in a phone conversation that a memorial garden is an approved place for the deposition of cremated remains and would not be a concern for the Maryland DEP. Additionally, the Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors states that cremated remains do not have to be placed in a cemetery. They encourage people to get the permission of the property owner if they chose to scatter on private land.

#### **ARE THERE HEALTH CONCERNS?**

No. The body is burned in an oven at nearly 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, destroying all organic matter and disease-carrying pathogens. The cremains are not light enough to become airborne and inhaled, unlike the ashes that are routinely dumped from fireplaces or barbeque grills. The cremains are composed mostly of calcium phosphate with trace amounts of other elements. The ppm of heavy metals is lower than the ppm in both the average US agricultural soils and in 10 tested Baltimore city gardens.

Email correspondence with 3 noted soil scientists, including the world expert of heavy metals in soil, along with data charts and chemical analysis of cremated remains, are attached.

#### **WHERE WOULD IT BE LOCATED?**

With the help of the city, and input from citizens, an appropriate area of city-owned property would be decided upon -- preferably an area that is somewhat secluded and little-used, and already maintained as a garden by the city. Several sites have been noted as possibilities.

#### **HOW MUCH WOULD IT COST?**

Costs of design, construction and landscaping would depend on many factors (size, benches, wall, landscaping, hardscaping), and could be scaled to a wide range of

budgets. The largest cost would be the design and construction of a wall on which could be affixed or inscribed the names of the people being remembered, but this cost is highly variable based on size and materials. This money would be raised through a combination of grants, contributions, and a community fund-raising effort, along with city support, if possible.. We suggest the garden be built on land owned and already maintained by Takoma Park. Modest fees for placing ashes could help defray costs, and individuals would be responsible for paying for their plaque. We request that the city handle the processing and payment of plaques.

### **HOW MANY PEOPLE WOULD USE IT?**

An average of 60 residents of Takoma Park die every year. Assuming a 40% rate similar to the rest of Maryland, 24 of them are cremated. It's difficult to project how many of their relatives would choose to use the scatter garden. The two cemeteries close to us that we surveyed reported 3 to 5 per year. Takoma Park may experience a higher rate.

### **WHAT DO CREMAINS LOOK LIKE?**

The cremains are light brown to grey, about the consistency of coarse sand and small gravel. They average 4 to 6 pounds, with a mass about the size of a half-gallon of milk. After incineration, the ashes are crushed, so nothing recognizable is left.

### **WOULD CREMAINS BE BAD FOR THE SOIL?**

No. The ashes are composed mostly of calcium phosphates, with trace amounts of other minerals. Calcium, in the form of bone meal, is a common soil additive.

### **WOULD THE GARDEN REQUIRE SPECIAL MAINTENANCE?**

No, the garden would be maintained just like any garden on city property. We've talked to maintenance crews for other scatter gardens and they tell us they don't do anything special.

### **ARE THE CREMAINS ACTUALLY SCATTERED?**

Not necessarily. In some gardens, people dig a small hole in which to bury the cremains. In others, they clear away an area of mulch, lay the cremains down and cover them, or the cremains are sprinkled and raked into the ground cover. Some gardens have an underground container with a small opening through which all the cremains are poured. A small sign on site would advise people how to proceed.

### **WHAT DO PEOPLE USUALLY DO WITH ASHES?**

Many cemeteries have scatter gardens. It is also common for people to take the ashes to a place that holds some meaning for the deceased and bury them discreetly. Without a doubt, cremated remains have already been buried in Takoma Park, on

private property or in city parks. Sometimes people keep them in a memorial urn at home as a remembrance. There are also many services available for the disposition of ashes: they can be made into jewelry, put into fireworks, transported into the upper atmosphere, launched in a balloon, mixed with cement to build up an ocean reef, packed into shotgun shells for memorial hunting - even incorporated into ink for a memorial tattoo.

### **WHAT IF THE CITY DECIDES TO REPURPOSE THE LAND?**

The scatter garden would require a commitment by the city to set aside that land in perpetuity for this purpose. Once the garden was created, and had a memorial wall with many years worth of names inscribed upon it, it will have acquired a place in the hearts of the people of Takoma Park that would make it very difficult to convert the land into something else.

### **WHAT DO SCATTER GARDENS LOOK LIKE?**

A scatter garden can look like just a garden, or it can have memorial structures that make it something special. Benches are a common element. Below are some pictures of other scatter gardens.

A Scatter Garden can look something like this:

Washington State  
Scatter Garden for Veterans  
within a full-service  
cemetery



Helsinki  
Each rock has a  
plaque with a name



Courtenay, California  
A municipal cemetery  
with a scatter garden



Kansas City  
A scatter garden  
within a botanical  
garden



Woodlawn Cemetery  
Bronx, NY  
A scatter garden  
within a cemetery.  
Individual plaques  
on rocks



Or something like this:

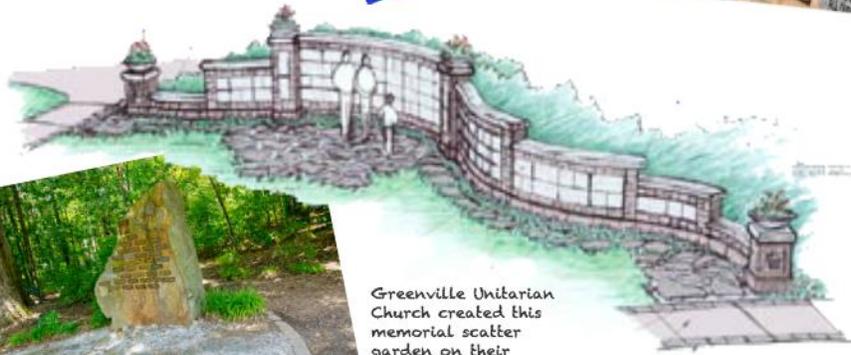
Glenwood Cemetery, DC  
A scatter garden within  
a cemetery. The names on  
the wall go back to 1820.  
Here, ashes are scattered  
on the ground and raked  
into ground cover.



Or something like this:



Scatter garden  
memorial wall plans  
by C/PRA Studio



Greenville Unitarian  
Church created this  
memorial scatter  
garden on their  
grounds



8400 Greenwood Avenue, Apt 4.  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

October 12, 2016

City of Takoma  
Attention: Commemoration Commission  
7500 Maple Ave,  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

Dear Members of the Commemoration Commission,

I am writing as pro bono counsel to the Committee for A Takoma Park Memorial Scatter Garden (“the Committee”). I am providing you with my opinion as an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Maryland on the question of whether it is permissible under Maryland law for the City of Takoma Park to establish a Scattering Garden for the purpose of permanently disposing of the ashes of cremated bodies.

#### Definition

A “Scattering Garden” is defined by the Maryland Office of Cemetery Oversight “as an area within a cemetery reserved for the scattering of cremains.” <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/license/cem/cemfaqs.shtml>

#### Legal Standards Applicable to Scattering Gardens

There are no regulations or laws that apply to Scattering Gardens per se. They are regulated, per their definition by the Office of Cemetery Oversight, as a type of cemetery.

Maryland law does not explicitly define “cremains.” To the extent by inference it treats “cremains” as a type of “body,” Title 5, Section 514 of the Health Article of the Maryland Code provides that an individual “may not bury or dispose of a body. . . except in a cemetery.”

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Maryland law provides that Maryland cities may establish cemeteries within their boundaries. Title 5 of the Business Regulations Article of the Maryland Code governs the operations of cemeteries. Section 102 (3) of Title 5 specifically exempts “a county, city, or municipal corporation that owns and operates a cemetery in the State” from the registration and permitting provisions of Title 5. Cemeteries established by municipal corporations are also exempt from the provisions of the Subtitle of Title 5 addressing the issue of maintaining cemeteries in perpetuity.

In addition to state law, Montgomery County regulates the disposal of “cremains.” Unlike the State of Maryland, Montgomery County distinguishes between a cemetery and a “Memorial Garden.” Section 59.3.5.4 of the Montgomery County Code defines a cemetery as “a place used for the permanent interment of deceased persons or animals or their cremated remains.” In addition, though, Sec. 59.1.4.2 of the Montgomery County Code defines a “Memorial Garden” as “any structure and land located on the premises of a Religious Assembly where ashes of deceased persons may be scattered or placed and where such areas may be set apart by formal plantings.” A cemetery is treated by the Montgomery County code as a “conditional use,” which may require the approval of a Hearing Examiner under the County’s Zoning Rules. However, a Memorial Garden is not subject to treatment as a “conditional use.” Attached to this letter is an email from the Montgomery County Division of Permitting Services stating that even though the City of Takoma Park is not a Religious Assembly, a Scattering Garden on City property would be treated by the County as a “Memorial Garden” and would be exempt from the “conditional use” requirement.

Shepardizing these statutes on Lexis-Nexis does not reveal any case law addressing these provisions of either the Maryland Code or the Montgomery County Code. The only interpretation of these provisions I was able to identify are the Maryland Office of Cemetery Oversight website and the attached email from Montgomery County.

This letter does not offer an opinion as to whether the Montgomery County code is a limitation on the uses the City of Takoma Park may make of the City’s property. Nonetheless for the purposes of the analysis that follows I

assume that the Montgomery County Code would apply to the establishment of a Scattering Garden by the City of Takoma Park.

### The Issue of Solid Waste Regulation

I have been informed by the Committee that the Maryland Department of Environmental Protection considers “cremains” to be a form of solid waste. Maryland law requires that solid waste be disposed of in an “approved place.” The Department of Environmental Protection has informed the Ad Hoc Committee orally that they consider a cemetery a per se “approved place” for the disposal of “cremains.” A survey of solid waste disposal sites formally approved by the Department of Environmental Protection shows they do not list cemeteries or “Scattering Gardens” individually as a permitted solid waste disposal site, confirming that the Department of Environmental Protection treats cemeteries as per se approved sites for the disposal of both bodies and “cremains.”

### Analysis

Maryland law allows for incorporated cities such as Takoma Park to establish cemeteries, which may be used to dispose of “cremains.” “Cremains” are the result of cremating human bodies at high temperatures. They are sterile, non-toxic and non-flammable. “Cremains” as a practical matter cannot be easily distinguished from soil and other forms of ash. They do not pose a threat to the public’s health, safety or welfare.

The City of Takoma Park could designate a portion of City-owned land as a “cemetery” as that term is defined in Maryland law wholly given over to a Scattering Garden. Municipal cemeteries are largely exempt from state regulation.

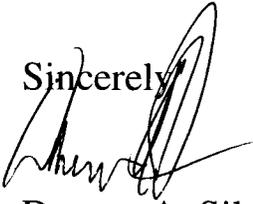
From the perspective of Montgomery County law, a Scattering Garden would be treated as a “Memorial Garden.” Consequently, the City would not need to obtain approval for a Scattering Garden as a conditional use from Montgomery County.

While it would be advisable to inform the Department of Environmental Protection of the establishment of the Scattering Garden, it does not appear that the permission of the Department is required.

Conclusion

It is my opinion that, with the qualifications expressed above, the City of Takoma Park may, as a matter of law, choose to create a Scattering Garden. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this opinion. I can be reached at 202-256-5344 or by email at [SilversDamon@gmail.com](mailto:SilversDamon@gmail.com).

Sincerely,



Damon A. Silvers, Esq.  
Pro Bono Counsel

From: **Niblock, David** <[David.Niblock@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:David.Niblock@montgomerycountymd.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Oct 5, 2016 at 8:39 AM  
Subject: RE: Takoma Park Scatter Garden  
To: Jennifer Beman <[bemanwhite@gmail.com](mailto:bemanwhite@gmail.com)>

Jennifer,

Sec. 59.1.4.2 Definitions Memorial Garden: Any structure and land located on the premises of a Religious Assembly where ashes of deceased persons may be scattered or placed and where such areas may be set apart by formal plantings. A memorial garden includes an individual marker used to identify the location where the ashes of the deceased person are interred but does not include individual monuments or headstones.

I know the question will arise that this park is not a place of Religious Assembly but it is owned by the Town of Takoma Park. In as such, a Publicly owned/ or operated use is permitted in all zones in Montgomery County.

Regardless if we are speaking of a scatter garden or a parking lot, the Town of Takoma Park does not need a Conditional Use to use or develop their own property.

*David K. Niblock*

Permitting Services Specialist

Zoning and Site Plan Enforcement

Department of Permitting Services

**Find your zone!** [www.mcatlas.org/zoning](http://www.mcatlas.org/zoning)

## **ADDRESSING CONCERNS ABOUT HEAVY METALS IN CREMATION GARDENS**

A few people have asked about whether the accumulation of toxic metals in humans will create a hazard in a cremation garden. All humans living in the industrialized world have some metals which can bioaccumulate and which are toxic in high concentrations. However, the level of toxic metals that a person can have in their body is below the level that is already present in the soil, thus added cremated remains will have either no effect, or a positive effect, on the levels of toxic metals in the soil.

Below is a chemical analysis of cremated remains. We shared this data with 3 soil scientists: Martin Rabenhorst and Ray Weil, Professors of Pedology, Dept of Environmental Science at the University of Maryland, and Rufus Chaney, Sr. Research Agronomist at the USDA and widely regarded as the world expert on heavy metals in soil.

Dr. Rabenhorst stated:

The Pb data (8 ppm) and Cu data (17 ppm) (ed: for cremated remains) are lower than even the agricultural soils. The Zn levels (342 ppm) are considerably higher than agricultural soils, but still below the mean and median values for the Baltimore soils.

Dr Chaney sent me the following response in an email (Oct 9, 2016)

You ask an unusual question, but the answer is simple. Bone is seldom contaminated by heavy metals or radionuclides today. For a few individuals who grew up on Pb paint homes or Pb-smelter towns, bone is enriched in Pb, but if you consider the concentration of Pb in the soil after spreading such solids, I can find no way to exceed even normal concentrations of metals in US soils. I'll attach two papers which report 1) the concentration of Pb and other elements in US cropland (USDA work), and the concentration of many elements in randomly sampled US soils (US Geol Surv).

In addition, in the case of Pb, the reason Pb collects in the bone is the high levels of phosphate present there. When soils are contaminated with Pb, we add phosphate fertilizers, or bone meal as P fertilizer, to the soil to force the formation of very unavailable Pb chemical pyromorphite in the soil. So bone meal would be a solution to urban soil Pb contamination. Don't think you can sell that in Montgomery Co, but that is the science. And Pb in your soil will likely be higher than in normal rural cropland because of automotive exhaust for decades.

Below is the chemical analysis of cremated remains, and soil analysis:

## THE CHEMICAL COMPONENTS OF CREMATED REMAINS

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The results provided, with the exception of Phosphate and Sulfate, are presented as the element. However, in the body these elements are present as apart of a variety of organic and inorganic compounds. Upon cremation, most of the organic compounds are converted to the metal oxide. Depending on the conditions of cremation, some may also be converted to carbonates. The inorganic compounds may remain as phosphates, sulfates, chlorides or carbonates, or may be partially converted to oxides. The carbon from the carbonates and the oxygen from the oxides and carbonates are not included in the data presented. Those elements are not determined by the testing procedures used for this report.

The precision of the testing procedure used is +/- 10% of the reported value, i.e. Phosphate reported as 47.5% may be 42.8 to 52.2%

Gayle E. O'Neill, Ph.d.  
TEI Analytical, Inc.  
Niles, Illinois

* PHOSPHATE	47.5%
* CALCIUM	25.3%
* SULFATE	11.00%
* POTASSIUM	3.69%
* SODIUM	1.12%
* CHLORIDE	1.00%
* SILICA	0.9%
* ALUMINUM OXIDE	0.72%
* MAGNESIUM	0.418%
* IRON OXIDE	0.118%
* ZINC	0.0342%
* TITANIUM Oxide	0.0260%
* BARIUM	0.0066%
* ANTIMONY	0.0035%
* CHROMIUM	0.0018%
* COPPER	0.0017%
* MANGANESE	0.0013%
* LEAD	0.0008%
* TIN	0.0005%
* VANADIUM	0.0002%
* BERYLLIUM	<0.0001%
* MERCURY	<0.00001%

**Percentiles of chemical analyses of soil samples collected from a depth of 0 to 5 centimeters, conterminous United States, N = 4,841 (Smith et al., 2013; USGS)**

Element	Units	Number of samples below		25 <sup>th</sup>	50 <sup>th</sup>	75 <sup>th</sup>	95 <sup>th</sup>	Max.
		LLD	Min.	%-ile	%-ile	%-ile	%-ile	
Al	wt. %	0	0.02	3.20	4.67	6.00	7.98	15.3
As	mg/kg	56	<0.6	3.1	5.2	7.6	13.1	830
Ba	mg/kg	0	5	329	510	683	956	4,770
Be	mg/kg	97	<0.1	0.9	1.3	1.7	2.5	17.3
Bi	mg/kg	121	<0.04	0.11	0.16	0.23	0.38	694
Cd	mg/kg	1,054	<0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.7	76.8
Co	mg/kg	24	<0.1	4.4	7.7	11.1	21.2	216
Cr	mg/kg	6	<1	18	30	41	73	4,120
Cu	mg/kg	2	<0.5	8.8	14.4	20.9	43.3	996
Fe	wt. %	8	<0.01	1.28	1.95	2.66	4.56	13.3
Hg	mg/kg	367	<0.01	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.1	56.4
Li	mg/kg	18	<1	13	20	27	43	300
Mn	mg/kg	16	<5	290	492	791	1,520	7,780
Mo	mg/kg	11	<0.05	0.51	0.78	1.14	2.27	75.7
Ni	mg/kg	23	<0.5	7.8	13.5	19.8	38.5	1,890
Pb	mg/kg	2	<0.5	13.5	18.1	23.9	44.5	12,400
Sb	mg/kg	34	<0.05	0.37	0.57	0.80	1.49	482
Se	mg/kg	2,154	<0.2	<0.2	0.2	0.4	0.8	6.9
Sn	mg/kg	9	<0.1	0.9	1.3	1.8	3.1	88.9
Th	mg/kg	6	<0.2	5.2	7.6	9.9	14.7	78.3
Tl	mg/kg	276	<0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.8	8.8
U	mg/kg	6	<0.1	1.4	2.0	2.6	3.9	102
V	mg/kg	12	<1	33	53	74	136	530
W	mg/kg	72	<0.1	0.5	0.8	1.1	2.1	1,150
Zn	mg/kg	5	<1	36	58	80	125	11,70

[LLD, lower limit of determination; **Min**, minimum; **Max**, maximum; **wt. %**, weight percent; **mg/kg**, milligrams per kilogram; <, less than]

Dear Kate Stewart, Mayor,

We are pleased to present you with this petition affirming this statement:

**"The undersigned citizens of Takoma Park encourage the city to establish a memorial scatter garden on existing city-owned land for the purpose of having a place for people to put the cremated remains of departed Takoma Park residents. This garden would include a memorial wall where people could have plaques installed with the name of their departed loved-one."**

Attached is a list of individuals who have added their names to this petition, as well as additional comments written by the petition signers themselves.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Beman

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what a beautiful idea

David Keely  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 23, 2016

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Carol Mermey  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 22, 2016

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I live in Takoma Park since I was a baby and left because of high taxes and other reasons. I have always loved Takoma Park and hope to return some day, even if they are just my ashes. My family lived there since 1947 through 2012

diane hedges  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
Oct 22, 2016

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Kathleen Roche  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 22, 2016

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yes, please

Scott Gilkeson  
TAKOMA PARK, MD 20912  
Oct 22, 2016

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Katie redford  
Takoma, MD 20912  
Oct 22, 2016

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David Williams  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 22, 2016

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Shereen Arent  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 21, 2016

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Rita Marth  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 19, 2016

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Cornelia M Sweezy  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 19, 2016

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This is a great idea.

Paul Marth  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 19, 2016

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My grown children and my grandchildren are Takoma Park residents so TP is my second home. With the scatter garden, it would be "my final home". Very satisfying.

Judy Beman  
Silver Spring, MD 20901  
Oct 19, 2016

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Hank Prensky  
Takoma Park, MD 20912-6303  
Oct 18, 2016

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Yes yes yes

Cristin Fair  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 18, 2016

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Susan Katz Miller  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Ashley Files Flory  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Jennifer Dreyfus  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Mary Wild  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Caryl Ashrey  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Katherine Mack  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Thank you Beth for taking this action so we can get it going .

Sunni Morgan  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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I think this is a lovely idea.

kathie hart  
takoma park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Patrizia Ricci  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Mary Arimond  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Christine Fitzgerald  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Nyle MacFarlane  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 17, 2016

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Jill Gay  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 16, 2016

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Priscilla Labovitz  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 16, 2016

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Linda Carlson  
Takoma Park, MD 20912-4329  
Oct 16, 2016

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Josh Kurtz  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 16, 2016

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Lorraine Pearsall  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 16, 2016

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Allison Belevire  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 16, 2016

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I love my mom

Stella White  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Susanna Kemp  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Margaret Ross  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Lionel Turner  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Mary Turner  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Donald Kohn  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Make this happen. We know that people find meaning and find it comforting to reflect at gardens and walls like this.

Gail Kohn  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Linda Keely  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Such a kind idea !

Karin Anderson  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Good idea!

Steve and Stephanie  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 15, 2016

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Peggy Goetz  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 14, 2016

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George Kohl  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 14, 2016

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Pam Williams  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 14, 2016

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Michele Morgan  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 14, 2016

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S gilbert  
Takoma park, MD 20912  
Oct 14, 2016

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Kelly  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 13, 2016

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Great idea!

Anna Keller  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 13, 2016

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Kenyon Crowley  
TAKOMA PARK, MD 20912  
Oct 13, 2016

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excellent idea.

Jay Keller  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 13, 2016

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Margaux O'Malley  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

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Oct 13, 2016

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Sat Jiwan Ikle-Khalsa  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 13, 2016

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Susanne Lowen  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 13, 2016

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Andrew Penn  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 12, 2016

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Chris Foreman  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 12, 2016

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Excellent idea..thanks for taking the initiative. fyi, I have a 501(c)(3) A Musical Heart, for hospice patients.

Nina Falk  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 12, 2016

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Laurie Welch  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 12, 2016

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This is an important way to serve a piece of the community and to encourage long-term relationships with Takoma Park.

Jeff Blum  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 12, 2016

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This idea was new to me until a few months ago. It is an appealing way to create a memorial space.

Kathie Baker  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 12, 2016

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Ellen Cassedy  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 11, 2016

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I support the idea

Wolfgang Mergner  
Takoma Park, MD 20912-4204

Oct 11, 2016

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Great idea!

Anne Williams  
Takoma pk, MD 20912  
Oct 11, 2016

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I was a long-time resident of TP and love this idea!

Grace Cangialosi  
Ruckersville, VA 22968  
Oct 11, 2016

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Denise Simmonds  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 10, 2016

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Kathy ANDERSON  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 10, 2016

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This is a wonderful idea.

Patti Mallin  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 10, 2016

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This is an excellent idea!

Margaret Bowman  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 10, 2016

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Steve Korn  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 10, 2016

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What a wonderful option to honor our loved ones, friends and community members who have passed.

Karen Krueger  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 10, 2016

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Paula Wolyniec  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 10, 2016

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David Corn  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 9, 2016

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Alison Kahn  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 9, 2016

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James Wang  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 8, 2016

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Vickey hoy  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 8, 2016

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Great Idea!

Deborah E Gay  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 7, 2016

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I am very much in support of creating this scatter garden and memorial wall

Judith Hagopian  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 7, 2016

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Jan Stovall  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 7, 2016

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This is an excellent proposal and would be of great value and comfort to myself, my wife and family to have our ashes remain together after death in this scatter garden with our family's names inscribed on the memorial wall in Takoma Park, the city which was so much a part of our lives in the community and friendships it provided and in the values it promoted which were in accord with our highest aspirations. This would be both an emotionally fitting as well as environmentally friendly way for Takoma Park to continue its commitment to its residents and values.

Richard M. Levine  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 7, 2016

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Reid Cramer  
Takoma park, MD 20912  
Oct 7, 2016

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Lisa Beaudet  
TAKOMA PARK, MD 20912  
Oct 7, 2016

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I will be glad to help you any way I can and do what ever it takes to make this happen.I grew up inTP this garden really means a lot to many people probably more than you will ever know especially for what this city has believed in and the people who have lived in the city basic human rights for everyone . Thank you for your idea of a TP SCATTER GARDEN

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BUDDY DANIELS  
silverspring, MD 20912  
Oct 7, 2016

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Fred Feinstein  
Takoma park, MD 20912  
Oct 7, 2016

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Richard Masterson  
Takoma Park, MD 20912-6285  
Oct 7, 2016

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Felicia Eberling  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-4010  
Oct 6, 2016

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Walter Mulbry  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Linda Norkin  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Tim Rahn  
Takoma Park, MD 20912-4321  
Oct 6, 2016

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Eric  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Christine Kaess  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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In deciding on site the city could also review existing memorial garden spaces perhaps repurposing.

Victor Thuronyi  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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I'm very pleased that the city of Takoma Park is exploring this project.

Donna Firer  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Elissa McBride  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Yes, I definitely support having a dedicated scatter garden in TP

Jennifer Wofford  
Takoma Park, MD 20912-4515  
Oct 6, 2016

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Jenny Apostol  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Janet Lee  
Takoma Park, MD 20912-4628  
Oct 6, 2016

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Larry Hodes  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Ray Hulser  
takoma park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Leslie Bumstead  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Kristin Staroba  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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This is so welcome!

Ross Wells  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Katie Bocoock  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 6, 2016

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Jacob Cohen  
Silver Spring,, MD 20901  
Oct 5, 2016

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Clair Garman  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 5, 2016

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LEE FELDSTEIN  
TAKOMA PARK, MD 20912-4538  
Oct 5, 2016

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Ellen M Zavian  
Takoma park, MD 20912  
Oct 5, 2016

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Excellent idea - and well worth the municipal effort to maintain.

Daphne Williams  
Takoma Park, MD 20912-5515  
Oct 5, 2016

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Wynette Yao  
TAKOMA PARK, MD 20912  
Oct 5, 2016

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Dennis Lucarelli  
Takoma park, MD 20912  
Oct 5, 2016

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Great idea!

Jay Danner-McDonald  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 5, 2016

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Miranda morris  
takoma park, MD 20912

Oct 5, 2016

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I hope all my friends in Takoma Park will join me in this endeavor

Beth Baker  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 5, 2016

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Teresa Marie Smith  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 5, 2016

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Lucinda A Leach  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 4, 2016

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Lori Hill  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 4, 2016

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Bill Hutchins  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 4, 2016

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Monica Garcia  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 4, 2016

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Great idea!!!

Melissa Burns  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 4, 2016

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Kathryn Desmond  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 4, 2016

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Great idea!

Tom White  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 4, 2016

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Temple Morris  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 4, 2016

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Wendy Berger  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 4, 2016

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Alison Baker  
Takoma Park, MD 20912-4249  
Oct 4, 2016

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Jennifer Beman  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Oct 2, 2016

**Takoma Park Commemoration Commission  
Recommendation to City Council  
Adopted October 18, 2016**

The Commemoration Commission has reviewed the proposed plans for a scatter garden in Takoma Park and recommends that the City Council endorse the concept of a scatter garden in Takoma Park which will be located on city owned property and direct City staff to assist the scatter garden advocates to identify sites to build the proposed scatter garden.