



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of March 22, 2017

Follow-up from Last Council Meeting

Takoma Junction Survey

Mayor Stewart requested information on the breakdown of respondents to the Takoma Junction survey by Ward. While the second survey is still active, the following is a breakdown of the distribution of respondents by Ward for the first survey:

- Ward 1: 43
- Ward 2: 60
- Ward 3: 72
- Ward 4: 28
- Ward 5: 13
- Ward 6: 16
- Other: 58

Letter to County Council

Per Mayor Stewart's request, staff sent a letter to the County Council earlier this week on behalf of the City Council urging them to include funding in the FY18 budget for an on-staff paramedic at the Takoma Park Fire Station. The related resolution passed by Council in October 2016 was included with the letter. The long term plan of the Fire and Rescue Services unit has been to ensure that each fire station within the County is equipped with a paramedic on staff, along with other improvements to be rolled out in phases over several years. Funding for a paramedic at the Takoma Park Fire Station is currently slated for the third and final phase, but that is not expected to occur for several more years. With the imminent relocation of Washington Adventist Hospital to a location six miles outside of the City, however, the need for a paramedic in Takoma Park has become even more urgent.

Information to Share

Dog Park Opening Event Announced – April 2nd @ 1:30pm

While details are still being worked out, I am happy to announce that there will be an opening event for the City's brand new Dog Park on April 2nd at 1:30pm. Corporal Cyndy Conrad of the Takoma Park Police Department will be planning the event in collaboration with Joe Edgell, President of Takoma Dogs.

Montgomery College Takoma Park Community Conversation: Takoma Park Silver Spring Campus

The first in a series of three planned community meetings designed to provide a framework for the future vision of the Takoma Park Silver Spring Campus was held last night, Tuesday, March

21. The objectives of the meetings, as defined by the College and the Takoma Park City Council and reinforced during the discussion, are to 1) renew relations with the college and the community; 2) ensure all voices and stakeholders are heard; 3) provide a full sharing of information; 4) inform and facilitate future college planning; 5) inform and provide a foundation for the building design plan process; and 6) balance the needs of the community, neighbors, students and fiscal prudence.

An estimated 130 people representing a variety of stakeholders including the Takoma Park and Silver Spring communities, the surrounding neighborhood, the College, and current and past students were in attendance. The feedback heard during the discussion will be consolidated and used to aid in the structuring of future conversations.

If you were unable to attend but are interested in hearing the discussion, the meeting can be viewed on Youtube at <https://youtu.be/DpA8VYETpPM> . Councilmembers and residents are encouraged to provide feedback online at <https://seam.ly/f5phDGVl> .

The discussion will continue on Tuesday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m.

Hiring Update

We have made an offer to a new Urban Forest Manager and he has accepted. We should be able to announce information about our new employee very soon.

We have not yet been able to prepare the Request for Proposals for a County lobbyist.

We have many open positions, but most are part-time Recreation positions for the summer. Other positions include a Public Works Right of Way Crew Leader, several internships, and the always-advertised position of Police Officer. An announcement for a new Police Chief is not expected for several weeks.