



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of July 19, 2017

Follow Up to Last Council Meeting

Update on Takoma Junction Redevelopment

On Monday, we received a request from NDC for an extension on completing one of the main tasks of the Takoma Junction development agreement - submittal of the site plan - which I have signed off on. The reason for the request was two-fold: 1) with the termination of letter of intent negotiations with the Co-op, NDC is revisiting space configurations for the first floor space, and 2) NDC has entered into a purchase agreement with the owner of the Takoma Auto Clinic property, which will provide them with some new possibilities to consider in terms of space and layout. The extension will add approximately six months to the originally accepted completion date, meaning the project should wrap up in late 2020. An update on what this means for the project and the presentation of a final concept site plan will be scheduled for late September following the Council's August recess. A history of the project to date can be found on the City's [Takoma Junction Redevelopment](#) project page.

Information to Share

Unmaintained Vacant Property – Legislative Update

On May 2, the Montgomery County Council adopted new legislation requiring the County Department of Housing and Community Affairs to identify and inspect unmaintained residential dwellings and condominium units. The new law, which goes into effect August 11, 2017, provides for the assessment of graduated inspection fees by the County following the initial inspection. The City's current Vacant Property Registration Law requires the registration of all vacant and vacant distressed properties. A \$200 registration fee is required. There are no additional fees charged for repeat or ongoing inspections by City Staff. As of August 11, both laws will apply to properties located within the boundaries of Takoma Park.

The City Attorney, when asked to compare the two laws and provide advice, indicated that the Council has three options: 1) to amend the City's current law requiring the registration of certain vacant properties, 2) to opt out of the County law, or 3) repeal the City law and opt into the County law.

City staff is reviewing the impact of each option and will be before the City Council later this fall to present its recommendations on which of these options to pursue.

Montgomery College Math and Science Building Project – Opportunity to Comment through Montgomery College Survey

Residents and other stakeholders have until Friday, July 21 to [provide comment](#) on options for the modernization of the math and science facilities at Montgomery College's Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. These comments, as well as all comments previously submitted during the Community Conversations process, will be considered by the College as it evaluates the concepts for math and science facilities portrayed in either the current (2013-2023) or previous (2006-2016) Facilities Master Plan.

Montgomery College President Dr. DeRionne Pollard anticipates announcing on or about August 4, 2017 which concept to proceed with for modernization of the College's math and science facilities. Comment may be provided on Montgomery College's [TP/SS Campus Community Engagement](#) page. Additional information on the [Community Conversation](#) process and Mayor Stewart and City Councilmember Peter Kovar's preference for returning to the 2006-2016 Facilities Master Plan can be viewed on the City's [Montgomery College Facilities Master Plan](#) project page.

Committee Vacancies

The City Clerk has prepared a current list of all City board, commission and committee members and vacancies on committees to assist Council in recruitment. The information is attached.

Solar Lighting Pilot Project

We have been given a new opportunity for a pilot project showcasing solar lighting technology. The pilot project came through Montgomery County Council member Tom Hucker's office, and is in partnership with two civil engineering and building technology firms based in South Korea, [UNO and KCIT](#). The pilot will involve, at no cost to us, two solar streetlights and several crosswalk lights. The lights have a new driver technology that improves upon the traditional solar streetlight system. The lights will not need to tie into any electricity source and will be powered entirely by the built-in solar panels on the light poles. The location for the streetlight fixture would be in front of the Community Center at the beginning of the footbridge, providing needed light in that location (not to mention a good spot to feature the technology). The crosswalk lights will be on Maple and Grant illuminating the crosswalks.

The firms would like for us to have a ceremony with City officials and others for an unveiling and short reception/presentation about the lights. The ceremony is scheduled for August 17th at 10 am in front of the Community Center. We hope you can join us!

Pepco – Takoma to Linden Underground Subtransmission Line Project

Pepco is gearing up for the second phase of a major upgrade project that will involve work on subtransmission lines from the Takoma to Sligo Substations. The work will last about two years and will affect traffic along several roads including New Hampshire Avenue, Eastern Avenue, Fenton Street and Georgia Avenue. Pepco will be holding a community meeting to discuss the project on Monday, July 24 at 7:00 pm at the Silver Spring Civic Building. Additional information is available in the [Pepco Fact Sheet](#) developed for the project. If any Councilmembers or residents have questions about the project, they can be directed to Tami Watkins, Pepco Public Affairs Manager, at twatkins@pepco.com.

Hiring Update

The new IT Manager is scheduled to start work next week.

We are currently advertising for the following open positions: Code Enforcement Officer, Parking Enforcement Officer, Police Dispatcher, Arts Coordinator, Crossing Guard, Right-of-Way Maintenance Technician, and various Recreation Program positions.

Takoma Park Board, Commission and Committee Members as of July 19, 2017 1 of 4

Committee	First Name	Last Name	Ward	Term Expires
Arts & Humanities	Kevin	Adler	2	6/30/2019
Arts & Humanities	Emily	Dufton	3	6/30/2019
Arts & Humanities	Eric	Gordon	2	6/30/2020
Arts & Humanities	Nandi	Henderson	6	6/30/2018
Arts & Humanities	Abraham	Joyner-Meyers	1	6/30/2018
Arts & Humanities	Thomas	Parlon	4	6/30/2018
Arts & Humanities	John W.	Warren	5	6/30/2020
Arts & Humanities	Joelle	Rabion	1	6/30/2019
Arts & Humanities	Alexandra	Reyes-Pinkston	5	6/30/2019
Arts & Humanities	Courtney	Tompkins	2	6/30/2019
Arts & Humanities	Susan	Strasser	1	6/30/2018
Arts & Humanities	Gloria	Tseng-Fischer	3	6/30/2020
Arts & Humanities	Madona	Tyler LeBlanc	N/A	6/30/2020
Arts & Humanities	Ebonee	Harllee	N/A	6/30/2019
Arts & Humanities	VACANT	Appointment Pending		6/30/2018
Board of Elections	Brian	Ernst	3	6/30/2019
Board of Elections	Gregory	Lebel	1	6/30/2018
Board of Elections	Arthur David	Olson	4	6/30/2019
Board of Elections	Beatriz	York	5	6/30/2018
Board of Elections	Lori	Grazio	2	6/30/2019
Board of Elections	VACANT			6/30/2020
Board of Elections	VACANT			6/30/2020
COLTA	Juan Jose	Canales	NA	6/30/19
COLTA	Dorothy	Clennon	2	6/30/18
COLTA	H. D. (Ed)	Edwards	5	6/30/19
COLTA	Irvin P.	Foster	1	6/30/17
COLTA	Mark	Humbert	2	6/30/18
COLTA	Gehmelle L.	Johnson	NA	6/30/19
COLTA	Michael H.	Mullings	2	6/30/17
COLTA	Peter	Munger	1	6/30/19
COLTA	Lauren	Price	4	6/30/17
COLTA	Victoria	Sutton	4	6/30/17
COLTA	Millicent McClure	Owasu	4	6/30/18
COLTA	VACANT			6/30/2018
Commemoration	Jessica	Kessler	2	3/31/2020
Commemoration	Richard	O'Connor	1	3/31/2018
Commemoration	Jane	Yamaykin	6	3/31/2020
Commemoration	Bruce	Williams	3	3/31/2018
Commemoration	VACANT			3/31/2019
Commemoration	VACANT			3/31/2019
Commemoration	VACANT			3/31/2020
Commemoration	VACANT			3/31/2019
Commemoration	VACANT			3/31/2018
Commemoration	Diana	Kohn	3	3/31/2020
Commemoration	Howard	Kohn	3	3/31/2018
Commemoration	Jessie	Carpenter		N/A

Takoma Park Board, Commission and Committee Members as of July 19, 2017 2 of 4

Committee	First Name	Last Name	Ward	Term Expires
Env. Committee	Shannon	Baker-Branstetter	2	6/30/2017
Env. Committee	Denis	Borum	6	6/30/2018
Env. Committee	Paul	Chrostowski	1	6/30/2018
Env. Committee	Cindy	Dyballa	2	6/30/2017
Env. Committee	Hellen	Gelband	3	6/30/2018
Env. Committee	Geoffrey	Short	4	6/30/2018
Env. Committee	Sat Jiwan	Ikle-Khalsa	2	6/30/2017
Env. Committee	Marty	Ittner	5	6/30/2018
Env. Committee	Lauren	Marshall	1	6/30/2017
Env. Committee	Sarah	Mazur	1	6/30/2018
Env. Committee	Riaz	Mohammed	6	6/30/2017
Env. Committee	VACANT	Appointment Pending		6/30/2019
Env. Committee	VACANT			6/30/2019
Env. Committee	VACANT			6/30/2019
Env. Committee	VACANT			6/30/2019
Emergency Preparedness	Rebecca	Chestnutt	3	3/31/2020
Emergency Preparedness	Andy	Kelemen	1	3/31/2018
Emergency Preparedness	Jennifer	Kurtinitis	1	3/31/2018
Emergency Preparedness	Fred	Levinson	2	3/31/2018
Emergency Preparedness	Donald	Pinkston	5	3/31/2019
Emergency Preparedness	Kathleen	Quinn	2	3/31/2019
Emergency Preparedness	Claudine	Schweber	3	3/31/2019
Emergency Preparedness	Ron	Hardy		N/A
Emergency Preparedness	Thomas	Horne		N/A
Emergency Preparedness	Meg	Usher		N/A
Emergency Preparedness	Corona	Joe		N/A
Emergency Preparedness	Herma	Percy		N/A
Ethics	Arthur	Gary	6	9/30/2018
Ethics	Ellen	Maidman-Tanner	2	9/30/2017
Ethics	Patricia Anne	Murphy	2	9/30/2018
Ethics	Michael	Richards	1	9/30/2018
Ethics	VACANT			9/30/2017
Ethics	VACANT			9/30/2017
Ethics	VACANT			9/30/2018
Façade Advisory Board	Lorraine	Pearsall	1	3/31/2018
Façade Advisory Board	James	DiLuigi	6	3/31/2018
Façade Advisory Board	Malcolm	Williams	6	3/31/2020
Façade Advisory Board	William	Fischer	2	3/31/2019
Façade Advisory Board	Lucy E.	Moore	3	3/31/2018
Façade Advisory Board	Eric	Sepler	3	3/31/2018
Façade Advisory Board	Anne	Fothergill	3	3/31/2019
Façade Advisory Board	VACANT			3/31/2020

Takoma Park Board, Commission and Committee Members as of July 19, 2017 3 of 4

Committee	First Name	Last Name	Ward	Term Expires
Grants Review	Nadine	Bloch	3	4/30/2020
Grants Review	Elizabeth	Boyd	6	4/30/2019
Grants Review	Gary	Cardillo	2	4/30/2018
Grants Review	Jay	Keller	3	4/30/2020
Grants Review	Rachel	Branaman	1	4/30/2020
Grants Review	Lesley	Perry	2	4/30/2019
Grants Review	Norka D.	Ruiz Bravo	2	4/30/2018
Grants Review	VACANT			4/30/2018
Grants Review	VACANT			4/30/2019
Noise Control Board	Beau	Archer	6	3/31/2018
Noise Control Board	Nicholas	Kowalski	3	3/31/2018
Noise Control Board	Adriana	Kuehnel	6	3/31/2018
Noise Control Board	Anne	Perrault	3	3/31/2019
Noise Control Board	Josh	Rudder	3	3/31/2019
Noise Control Board	Lacy	Alison	4	3/31/2020
Noise Control Board	Ashley	Files Flory	1	3/31/2020
Nuclear Free Zone	Reid	Baron	3	3/31/2018
Nuclear Free Zone	Julie	Boddy	1	3/31/2019
Nuclear Free Zone	Paul	Gunter	1	3/31/2019
Nuclear Free Zone	Jay	Levy	1	3/31/2018
Nuclear Free Zone	Kevin	Martin	5	3/31/2019
Nuclear Free Zone	Katherine	Tucker	5	3/31/2019
Nuclear Free Zone	VACANT			3/31/2018
Recreation	Carolyn	Leary Bobb	6	4/30/2018
Recreation	Jay	Keller	3	4/30/2018
Recreation	Howard	Kohn	3	4/30/2018
Recreation	Priscilla	Labovitz	1	4/30/2019
Recreation	Cherwanda	Oliver	5	4/30/2019
Recreation	Rachna	Rikhye	1	4/30/2019
Recreation	Pat	Rumbaugh	1	4/30/2019
Recreation	Ray	Scannell	1	4/30/2019
Recreation	Ryan	Scully	6	4/30/2018
Recreation	Jen	Wofford	3	4/30/2018
Recreation	Jon	Worley	2	4/30/2018
Recreation	VACANT			4/30/2018
Recreation	VACANT			4/30/2018
Recreation	VACANT			4/30/2019
Recreation	VACANT			4/30/2019

Takoma Park Board, Commission and Committee Members as of July 19, 2017 4 of 4

Committee	First Name	Last Name	Ward	Term Expires
Safe Roadways	Frank	Demaris	5	6/30/2019
Safe Roadways	John	Gorman	1	6/30/2018
Safe Roadways	Katherine (Kacy)	Kostiuk	3	6/30/2018
Safe Roadways	Michael	Moore	6	6/30/2019
Safe Roadways	Katheryn	Phillips	4	6/30/2018
Safe Roadways	Mark	Sherman	3	6/30/2018
Safe Roadways	VACANT			6/30/2019
Safe Roadways	VACANT			6/30/2019
Safe Roadways	VACANT			6/30/2020
Safe Roadways	VACANT			6/30/2020
Safe Roadways	VACANT			6/30/2019
Tree Commission	Colleen	Cordes	1	9/30/2017
Tree Commission	Carol	Hotton	3	9/30/2018
Tree Commission	Gresham	Lowe	3	9/30/2017
Tree Commission	Denny	May	1	9/30/2018
Tree Commission	Tina	Murray	4	9/30/2019

Vacancies on Council Appointed Boards, Commissions and Committees
July 19, 2017

Board of Elections (2 vacancies)

Purpose: A) Plan and conduct regular and special City elections in coordination with the City Clerk; B) Encourage voter registration in the City; C) Conduct voter education programs and prepare and distribute voter outreach materials; D) Recommend to the Council amendments to the City's elections law and regulations when it deems such amendments are necessary and will provide for the improved conduct of elections; E) Periodically review City elections procedures; F) Serve as election judges in City elections; G) Recommend additional qualified individuals to the Council for appointment as election judges during a regular or special City election; H) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to the Board of Elections by Charter, ordinances and resolutions, and by the direction of the Council.

Commemoration Commission (5 vacancies)

Purpose: Document, maintain, and preserve past, present, and future memorials, commemoratives, and recognitions in the City; recommend to the City Council procedures and programs to honor and commemorate individuals, organizations and businesses that have made significant contributions to the social, cultural, historical, political, economic, or civic life of the City as a whole or to a neighborhood/local area as well as programs for individuals to honor others; implement such programs within its scope and budget; and decide on recognitions after opportunity for public review and comment.

Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (1 vacancy)

Purpose: Adjudicate complaints for violations of Chapter 6.16, Landlord-Tenant Relations, to rule on petitions for rent increases above the rent stabilization allowance in accordance with Chapter 6.20, Rent Stabilization, and to decide appeals from the City Manager's decision to deny, suspend or revoke a license under Chapter 6.08, Rental Housing Licenses.

Committee on the Environment (4 vacancies)

Purpose: A) Advise the City Council on all environmental issues, including, but not limited to, stormwater management, greenhouse gas reduction, air quality, tree protection, open space conservation, biodiversity, watershed functioning and restoration, energy use, transportation, energy conservation, and recycling; and B) Serve in partnership with the City Council and Takoma Park City staff to work together to achieve sustainability and other environmental certifications that may help the City meet and be recognized for its environmental goals.

Ethics Commission (3 vacancies)

Purpose: 1) Devise, receive, and maintain all forms generated by the Ethics Ordinance; 2) Provide, at the request of any person concerning the application of the Ordinance to an actual situation or one seriously contemplated, written advisory opinions; 3) Investigate, hear, and decide any inquiry or complaint filed by any person regarding an alleged or potential violation of the Ordinance; 4) Conduct a public information program regarding the purposes and application of the Ordinance; 5) Recommend legislative changes and improvements to this chapter, including such changes as are necessary to maintain compliance with the requirements of State Government Article, Title 15, Subtitle 8, of the Annotated Code of Maryland; 6) Promulgate regulations to accompany the Ordinance; and 7) Certify to the State Ethics Commission on or before October 1st of each year that the City is in compliance with the requirements for elected local officials of State Government Article, Title 15, Subtitle 8, of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Facade Advisory Board (1 vacancy)

Purpose: A) Help ensure that facade designs and their maintenance are harmonious and consistent with the intended quality and character of the commercial areas of Takoma Park; B) Provide guidance and assistance to commercial building and business owners seeking permits for facade alterations, signs, and new construction work; C) Coordinate with and advise the City of Takoma Park Code Enforcement Department; and D) Inform citizens and business owners of the historic district benefits and requirements and to continue coordinating with the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission and the Montgomery County Department of Fire and Rescue Services—Code Enforcement (MCFD) regarding necessary approvals.

Grants Review Committee (2 vacancies)

Purpose: Evaluate applications for City-administered grants based on established funding priorities, program guidelines and available funding and make recommendations for grant awards to the City Council for consideration.

Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee (1 vacancy)

Purpose: Oversee implementation of and adherence to the Nuclear-Free Zone Act.

Recreation Committee (4 vacancies)

Purpose: Advise the City Council on matters pertaining to recreation programming and facilities.

Safe Roadways Committee (5 vacancies)

Purpose: A) Advise the City Council on transportation-related issues including, but not limited to, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and safety, traffic issues, and transit services; and B) To encourage Takoma Park residents to use alternatives to driving, including walking, bicycling, and transit.