



# CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

## City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of October 4, 2017

### *Follow Up to Last Council Meeting*

#### **Loitering at East-West and New Hampshire**

Councilmember Schultz expressed concern about an increase in loiterers at the shopping center located at the intersection of East-West Highway and New Hampshire Avenue. The concern was based both on complaints from the owner of the shopping center property and on personal experience. Patrol Officers are aware of the issue based on some recent crimes that have occurred near the intersection in question and will be monitoring the area closely. Residents and business owners are reminded to call the Police Department at 301-270-1100 if they see any suspicious activity.

#### **Rats**

Councilmember Qureshi shared a concern passed along by resident who said they had noticed rats near the corner of Beech and Sycamore Avenues, which they believe may be related to a standing mulch or compost pile. Neighborhood Services Team staff visited the site on Friday. They did not see any rats or note any code violations, although they did acknowledge that vegetable gardens and compost piles in the yards of homes near the intersection may be attractive to rats.

### *Information to Share*

#### **Takoma Radio Community Forum on Takoma Junction**

Takoma Radio will hold a special radio roundtable and community call-in about the Future of Takoma Junction. Listen to WOWN-LP, 94.3 FM (and streaming on [takomaradio.org](http://takomaradio.org)) on Sunday, October 8 at 4:00 pm. Host Eric Bond will moderate and Mayor Kate Stewart, Councilmember Rizzy Qureshi, Ward 3 Candidate Kacy Kostiuik and City Manager Suzanne Ludlow will be on the air. Questions can be sent to [talk@takoma.com](mailto:talk@takoma.com) or tweet #takomajunction @takomavoice.

#### **Reports of Muddy Water in Sligo Creek at Maple**

We received reports yesterday of muddy water coming out of the stormdrain system into Sligo Creek near the Maple Avenue crossing. Upon further investigation, it appears to be related to a water main break that occurred earlier in the morning at Hodges Lane and Chestnut Avenue. WSSC was on site quickly making repairs. We put out community alerts through various channels.

We appreciate residents' vigilance in reporting the issue. Reports of potential water pollution can be made by calling the Public Works at [301-891-7633](tel:301-891-7633) or by notifying Montgomery County Department of Environmental programs at [240-777-7746](tel:240-777-7746).

## ***Hiring Update***

We are currently advertising for a number of positions, including Police Chief, Licensing Specialist, Economic Development Specialist (limited-term position), Dispatcher, Parking Enforcement Officer, Crossing Guard, Sanitation Driver, Sanitation Tech, Right-of-Way Tech, and various Recreation Specialists, Program Leaders, and Program Assistants.

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