



# CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

## City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of February 21, 2018

### ***Information to Share***

#### **Update on Takoma Junction traffic Signal Upgrade and Transfer to Montgomery County**

The long awaited electrical connection to the new signal boxes has been completed. Remaining work includes installation of a communication cable from the Fire House to the signal box to allow over-ride of the signal during emergency response. The current schedule anticipates that the signals will be completed and transferred to Montgomery County by mid-March. We anticipate this will include all 15 signals that were upgraded by SHA and their contractor TSI over the past two years (along Philadelphia Avenue from Takoma Avenue to Carroll Avenue, and on Carroll Avenue from Tulip Avenue to Ethan Allen Avenue.

#### **Standing Water Issues at the Kennewick Avenue/Kirklynn Avenue Traffic Circle**

Work will begin next week on a project to address standing water issues at the Kennewick Avenue/Kirklynn Avenue traffic circle. The work will include installation of additional underground drainage and connection of the bio-retention in the traffic circle to the next closest stormwater inlet near New Hampshire Avenue. Traffic will be impacted during the project, but the road is expected to stay open and be controlled by flagging operations. Delays traveling through that area are likely. The project should be completed in three weeks.

#### **Housing in Takoma Park – Providing Diverse Housing Opportunities**

Please join us this coming Monday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium as we continue the conversation on ways Takoma Park can continue to work to provide diverse housing opportunities to residents throughout our community.

Representatives from Mullin & Lonergan, one of the firms working on the City's draft strategic plan, will provide background information on current conditions in Takoma Park and the region, give an overview of the feedback gathered from local housing representatives, and discuss the housing recommendations included in the draft Strategic Plan.

Audience members will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide comment to the City Council. Residents unable to attend the meeting can participate in the discussion on Facebook Live or provide feedback online at

<https://takomapark.seamlessdocs.com/f/StrategicPlanningComments>

#### **Welcome New Staff Member**

The Housing and Community Development Department welcomed Takoma Park resident and former Computer Class Instructor in the Library, Patti Mallin to its staff earlier this month. In her new position, Ms. Mallin will be responsible for the licensing of rental housing facilities and the registration of owner occupied group houses in addition to a range of other programming.

#### ***Kudos***

#### ***Hiring Update***

We are currently advertising for a number of positions, including Police Dispatcher, Police Officer, Sanitation Driver, Housing and Community Services Intern, and Contract CDL Driver.

#### ***City Management Schedules***

As a reminder, Deputy City Manager Jason Damweber is on vacation through February 23.

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