



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – November 13, 2019 Agenda Item 6

Work Session

Request to Close Laurel Avenue on May 2, 2020 for the Takoma Park Children's Business Fair

Recommended Council Action

Street Closure Approval for the Takoma Park Children's Business Fair

Context with Key Issues

Takoma Park Children's Business Fair is requesting the closure of Laurel Avenue on Saturday, May 2, 2020 (rain date May 9, 2020) between 6 AM – 3 PM. The organizers of the event have come to an agreement with the Takoma Park Seventh Day Adventist Church located on Laurel Avenue which will be holding services during that time. Per the signed agreement with the church, the event will have no sound systems for the entire duration of the fair and the noise will be kept to a minimum between 9 AM – 1 PM. The Takoma Park Children's Business Fair is returning for a 2nd year. The first year's fair was held on the Takoma Park SDA church lawn, but now requires additional space. Takoma Park SDA will also not provide restroom services during the fair.

Takoma Park Children's Business Fair inspires children to discover their inner entrepreneur. Children ages 6 to 14 are invited to create a product or service and sell to customers at a one day market. Prizes will be given for the best businesses by age and category. To participate, young entrepreneurs submit an application and then begin to build a product or service. They plan their business at every level: product/service, marketing, accounting, cost of goods, pricing, and more.

Council Priority

This event supports the Housing and Economic Development Strategic Plan strategy of "creating places to start" for entrepreneurs to encourage future business development and economic opportunities.

Environmental Considerations

The event will adhere to all Council approved environmental and sustainability requirements. In addition, the street closure may result in automobiles taking a different route to destinations in the area. Change in carbon emissions is minor.

Fiscal Considerations

The event is funded and supported by Acton Academy, the Acton School of Business and resident volunteers. The City will pay for staff time to close and re-open the street.

Racial Equity Considerations

Entrepreneurship has a low barrier of entry and provides a pathway to economic independence for communities of color. By supporting the Takoma Park Children's Business Fair event, the City encourages entrepreneurship at an early age which can lead to increased confidence and knowledge for future small business endeavors.

Attachments and Links

[Takoma Park Children's Business Fair webpage](#)

[Takoma Park Children's Business Fair Facebook page](#)

Introduced by:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION 2019-

**APPROVING THE CLOSURE OF
LAUREL AVENUE FOR THE TAKOMA
PARK CHILDREN'S BUSINESS FAIR**

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Children's Business Fair is returning for a 2nd year; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Children's Business Fair inspires children to discover their inner entrepreneur; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Plan for Housing and Economic Development calls for the City to enhance the Takoma Park entrepreneur ecosystem by creating and supporting places for entrepreneurs to start and safely test their business ideas; and

WHEREAS, children ages 6 to 14 are invited to create a product or service and sell to customers at a one day market; and

WHEREAS, the children plan their business at every level: product/service, marketing, accounting, cost of goods, pricing, and more; and

WHEREAS, prizes will be given for best businesses by age and category; and

WHEREAS, the organizers of the Takoma Park Children's Business Fair are requesting additional space for the fair by closing Laurel Avenue on May 2, 2020 (rain date May 9, 2020) from 6:00 AM to 3:00 PM;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Takoma Park approves the closure of Laurel Avenue on Saturday, May 2, 2020 (rain date May 9, 2020) from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the Takoma Park Children's Business Fair event.

Adopted by the Council of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland this ____ day of November, 2019.

Attest: