



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – October 21, 2020 Agenda Item 2

### **Voting Session**

Two Reading Ordinance Approving the Request of the Committee on the Environment to Suspend Its Operations

### **Recommended Council Action**

Approve Ordinance at Second Reading

### **Context with Key Issues**

The City Council has received a request from the Committee on the Environment to suspend its operations. The request also seeks to permit the members of the Committee on the Environment to continue their individual work with a racial justice facilitator. The City Attorney has prepared a draft Ordinance to approve the request. The Ordinance will expire on June 30, 2021.

Several changes were made to the draft Ordinance text at First Reading, as shown on the attached draft.

### **Council Priority**

Environmentally Sustainable Community; Engaged, Responsive, Service-oriented Government

### **Environmental Considerations**

Suspension of the Committee eliminates the assistance of the group as a whole to offer recommendations on environmental matters to the City Council.

### **Fiscal Considerations**

There is no fiscal impact of this action.

### **Racial Equity Considerations**

A main purpose of the suspension is to allow for Committee members to work with a racial justice facilitator and to allow time for the City Council to appoint a more racially diverse membership.

### **Attachments and Links**

Second Reading Ordinance (as amended at first reading)

1 Introduced by: Councilmember Dyballa

First Reading: October 14, 2020

2 Second Reading:

3 Effective Date:

4  
5 **CITY OF TAKOMA PARK**  
6 **MARYLAND**

7  
8 **UNCODIFIED ORDINANCE 2020-30**  
9

10 **An uncodified Ordinance whereby the City of Takoma Park approves**  
11 **the request of the Committee on the Environment to suspend its**  
12 **operations.**  
13

14 **WHEREAS,** the City of Takoma Park Code, Section 2.16.180 establishes the Committee on  
15 the Environment to “serve in an official advisory and coordination role to the City  
16 Council on all matters related to environmental sustainability, protection and  
17 restoration[;]” and  
18

19 **WHEREAS,** the City Council received an email from the Committee on the Environment  
20 seeking to temporarily suspend its operations; and  
21

22 **WHEREAS,** as part of this temporary suspension, members of the Committee on the  
23 Environment seek to continue their individual work with a racial justice  
24 facilitator; and  
25

26 **WHEREAS,** various aspects of the City’s Boards, Commissions, and Committees are presently  
27 undergoing a general review, including the Committee on the Environment, and  
28 it is anticipated that revisions to portions of the Code governing the Committee  
29 on the Environment shall be made.  
30

31 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF**  
32 **TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, THAT** the City Council hereby approves the request of the  
33 Committee on the Environment to suspend its operations and enacts this uncodified Ordinance as  
34 follows:  
35

36 **Section 1.** The Committee on the Environment shall suspend its operations effective upon  
37 the passage of this Ordinance.  
38

39 **Section 2.** The current members of the Committee on the Environment, John Ackerly,  
40 Jeffrey Brokaw, Kirsten Stade, and Elizabeth Thompson, may continue their  
41 individual work with a racial justice facilitator.  
42

43 **Section 3.** The Committee on the Environment may resume operations as directed by the  
44 City Council, as set forth in Section 4.  
45

1 **Section 4.** The City Council may rescind, modify, or extend this uncodified emergency  
2 Ordinance.  
3

4 **Section 5.** This Ordinance shall expire on June 30, 2021.  
5

6 THIS ORDINANCE, WHICH IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, IS ADOPTED BY THE  
7 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, THIS 21ST DAY OF  
8 OCTOBER 2020, BY ROLL-CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:  
9

10 AYE:

11 NAY:

12 ABSTAIN:

13 ABSENT: