

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND (FINAL 11/12/97)

SPECIAL MEETING — CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS
OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Sharp
Councilmember Elrich
Councilmember Porter
Councilmember Rubin
Councilmember Williams

City Clerk Sartoph

OFFICIALS ABSENT:

Councilmember Chavez
Councilmember Davenport

The City Council convened at 7:40 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

These remarks were made:

Mayor Sharp explained that the purpose of this meeting is to receive the certification of the election results, and invited City Clerk Sartoph to comment.

Ms. Sartoph noted that the City Charter requires that the Election Judges certify the election results to the City Council within 24 hours after the close of the polls. The polls were open between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 1997, the City's election day. She explained that one reason for the certification period is to allow for receipt of any absentee ballots which may have been returned by mail, but stated that only those absentee ballots bearing a postmark no later than the day prior to the election (November 3, 1997) are considered valid for counting. Ms. Sartoph pointed out that one absentee ballot was received in today's mail, but that it was postmarked the day of the election and consequently, will not be counted. She noted the presence of the Election Judges in the audience, and asked for the Chief Election Judge, Valerie Dant, to present the results of the election to the City Council.

Valerie Dant, 7406 Carroll Avenue, restated that one absentee ballot was received by the Clerk's Office in today's mail, but that it was not considered timely as indicated by the postmark. She said that the results of the election have not changed from those which were announced last night



after the preliminary tabulation of the returns. Ms. Dant read from the General Return and Recapitulation Sheets which had been completed by the Election Judges after the close of the polls.

**CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS
AND
GENERAL RETURN AND RECAPITULATION SHEET
(Attached)**

Mayor Sharp extended his appreciation to the Election Judges, commenting on the long hours and diligent work which is required of them. He said that he is pleased that the Election Judges do such a fine job of preserving the community's trust in fair election practices. The Council offered a round of applause.

Councilmember Rubin echoed the sentiments expressed by the Mayor, observing that there is a large number of judges who reside at Takoma Towers. He thanked the judges for their service.

There being no more business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

Takoma Park, Maryland
City Election
November 4, 1997

TAKOMA PARK
BOARD OF ELECTION JUDGES
NOVEMBER 4, 1997

Ruth Abbott
June A. Aloï
Harold Alston
Pearl Blacksin
Willie R. Blalock
Steven A. Breckbill
Alan R. Centa
Carol Clayton
C.P. Cook
Thirkiel Cravens
Valerie Dant
Billie M. Dyhouse
Estella B. Hendrickson
Claire B. Kozel
April LeGrand
Howard F. Miller
Rein S. Parris
Patricia Shaw
Joan N. Sidell
Valerie Tonat
Phil Vogel
Verne Wilson
Martin Morse Wooster

ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR
Catherine E. W. Sartoph, CMC/AE
City Clerk

WARD 1

Election Judges:

June Aloï
April LeGrand
Harold Alston

Registered Voters: U.S. Citizens - 1,907 Non-U.S. Citizens - 26
Total: 1,933

Voters Casting Votes: U.S. Citizens - 678 Non-U.S. Citizens - 9
Total: 687

% Registered Voters Casting Votes

U.S. Citizens - 36% Non-U.S. Citizens - 35%
Total: 36%

BREAKDOWN OF VOTES CAST

Mayoral Candidates:

	Machine #158251	Machine #158250	Total	% Votes Cast
Rudy Arredondo -	184	40	224	33%
Kathy Porter -	402	49	451	66%

Councilmember Candidate:

Larry Rubin -	480	74	554	81%
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Write-ins:

Mayor

Andre Yanischeff - 1
Lin E. Moyer - 1
TH JWM - 1

Councilmember

Doug Adler - 2
Mike Alemar - 1
None of the Above - 1
Andre Yanischeff - 1
Andrew Busby - 3
David Stein - 1

Absentee Ballots - 3 Total

Adjusted Total # Votes Cast (Machine + Absentee) - 690

<u>Absentee Votes</u>		<u>Adjusted Total Votes</u>	<u>Adjusted % Votes Cast</u>
Rudy Arredondo - 1		225	33%
Kathy Porter - 2		453	66%
Larry Rubin - 2		556	81%

WARD 2

Election Judges:

Steve Breckbill
Thirkield Cravens
Valerie Tonat

Registered Voters: U.S. Citizens - 1,767 Non-U.S. Citizens - 22

Total: 1,789

Voters Casting Votes: U.S. Citizens - 501 Non-U.S. Citizens - 5

Total: 506

% Registered Voters Casting Votes

 U.S. Citizens - 28% Non-U.S. Citizens - 23%

Total: 28%

BREAKDOWN OF VOTES CAST

Mayoral Candidates:

		Machine #158252	Machine #158253	Total	% Votes Cast
Rudy Arredondo	-	71	58	129	25%
Kathy Porter	-	133	238	371	73%

Councilmember Candidate:

Carol Stewart	-	172	254	426	84%
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Write-ins:

Mayor

Andre Yanischeff - 1

Councilmember

Basho - 2
Gene Glanzer - 1
Sandy/Sandra Palmer - 2

Absentee Ballots - 6 Total

Adjusted Total # Votes Cast (Machine +Absentee) - 512

<u>Absentee Votes</u>		<u>Adjusted Total Votes</u>	<u>Adjusted % Votes Cast</u>
Rudy Arredondo	- 2	131	26%
Kathy Porter	- 4	375	73%
Carol Stewart	- 5	431	84%

WARD 3

Election Judges:

Ruth Abbott
Pearl Blacksin
Estella Hendrickson
Verne Wilson

Registered Voters: U.S. Citizens - 1,823 Non-U.S. Citizens - 16
Total: 1,839

Voters Casting Votes: U.S. Citizens - 519 Non-U.S. Citizens - 5
Total: 524

% Registered Voters Casting Votes
U.S. Citizens - 28% Non-U.S. Citizens - 31%
Total: 28%

BREAKDOWN OF VOTES CAST

Mayoral Candidates:

		Machine #158254	Machine #158255	Total	% Votes Cast
Rudy Arredondo	-	111	101	212	40%
Kathy Porter	-	168	143	311	59%

Councilmember Candidate:

Bruce Williams	-	215	200	415	79%
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Write-ins:

Mayor

Councilmember

Charles A. Martin - 1
Dan Robinson - 1
None of the Above - 1

Absentee Ballots - **5 Total**

Adjusted Total # Votes Cast (Machine + Absentee) - **529**

<u>Absentee Votes</u>		<u>Adjusted Total Votes</u>	<u>Adjusted % Votes Cast</u>
Rudy Arredondo	- 0	212	40%
Kathy Porter	- 5	316	60%
Bruce Williams	- 5	420	79%

WARD 4

Election Judges:

Alan Centa
Claire Kozell
Howard Miller

Registered Voters: U.S. Citizens - 787 Non-U.S. Citizens - 77

Total: 864

Voters Casting Votes: U.S. Citizens - 119 Non-U.S. Citizens - 4

Total: 123

% Registered Voters Casting Votes

 U.S. Citizens - 15% Non-U.S. Citizens - 5%

Total: 14%

BREAKDOWN OF VOTES CAST

Mayoral Candidates:

		Machine #158256	Machine #158257	Total	% Votes Cast
Rudy Arredondo	-	19	44	63	51%
Kathy Porter	-	13	40	53	43%

Councilmember Candidate:

Lisa Hawkins	-	25	54	79	64%
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Write-ins:

Mayor

Andre Yanischeff - 1
Raul S. Avile's - 1

Councilmember

Jorge Aviles - 1

Absentee Ballots - **NONE**

WARD 5

Election Judges:

Willie Blalock
Billie Dyhouse
Martin Wooster

Registered Voters: U.S. Citizens - 1,061 Non-U.S. Citizens - 47

Total: 1,108

Voters Casting Votes: U.S. Citizens - 185 Non-U.S. Citizens - 10

Total: 195

% Registered Voters Casting Votes

U.S. Citizens - 17% Non-U.S. Citizens - 21%

Total: 18%

BREAKDOWN OF VOTES CAST

Mayoral Candidates:

		Machine #158258	Machine #165758	Total	% Votes Cast
Rudy Arredondo	-	63	18	81	42%
Kathy Porter	-	96	14	110	56%

Councilmember Candidate:

Andrew Busby	-	31	9	40	21%
Marc Elrich	-	129	24	153	78%

Write-ins:

NONE

Absentee Ballots - 5 Total

Adjusted Total # Votes Cast (Machine + Absentee) - 200

<u>Absentee Votes</u>		<u>Adjusted Total Votes</u>	<u>Adjusted % Votes Cast</u>
Rudy Arredondo	- 0	81	41%
Kathy Porter	- 5	115	58%
Andrew Busby	- 0	40	20%
Marc Elrich	- 5	158	79%

WARD 6

Election Judges:

Carol Clayton
Patricia Shaw
Joan Sidell

Registered Voters: U.S. Citizens - 969 Non-U.S. Citizens - 99
Total: 1,068

Voters Casting Votes: U.S. Citizens - 212 Non-U.S. Citizens - 38
Total: 250

% Registered Voters Casting Votes
 U.S. Citizens - 22% Non-U.S. Citizens - 38%
Total: 23%

BREAKDOWN OF VOTES CAST

Mayoral Candidates:

		Machine #165759	Machine #165761	Total	% Votes Cast
Rudy Arredondo	-	13	50	63	25%
Kathy Porter	-	36	145	181	72%

Councilmember Candidate:

Reggie Chavez	-	40	139	179	72%
Michael McCarthy	-	4	54	58	23%

Write-ins:

Mayor

Ukpong Udo - 1
N.O.O.'B. - 2

Councilmember

Ukpong Udo - 3
Peter J. Johnson - 1

Absentee Ballots - 3 Total

Adjusted Total # Votes Cast (Machine + Absentee) - 253

<u>Absentee Votes</u>		<u>Adjusted Total Votes</u>	<u>Adjusted % Votes Cast</u>
Rudy Arredondo	- 2	65	26%
Kathy Porter	- 1	182	72%
Reggie Chavez	- 2	181	72%
Michael McCarthy	- 1	59	23%

TAKOMA PARK 1997 CITY ELECTION

NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS

	U.S. Citizens	Non-U.S. Citizens		Total by Ward
Ward 1	<u>1,907</u>	<u>26</u>	1.	<u>1,933</u>
Ward 2	<u>1,767</u>	<u>22</u>	2.	<u>1,789</u>
Ward 3	<u>1,823</u>	<u>16</u>	3.	<u>1,839</u>
Ward 4	<u>787</u>	<u>77</u>	4.	<u>864</u>
Ward 5	<u>1,061</u>	<u>47</u>	5.	<u>1,108</u>
Ward 6	<u>969</u>	<u>99</u>	6.	<u>1,068</u>
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TOTAL:	<u>8,314</u>	<u>287</u>		<u>8,601</u>

TAKOMA PARK 1997 CITY ELECTION

NUMBER OF VOTES CAST

	U.S. Citizens	Non-U.S. Citizens	Total by Ward
Ward 1	<u>681 (36%)</u>	<u>9 (35%)</u>	<u>690 (36%)</u>
Ward 2	<u>507 (29%)</u>	<u>5 (23%)</u>	<u>512 (29%)</u>
Ward 3	<u>524 (29%)</u>	<u>5 (31%)</u>	<u>529 (29%)</u>
Ward 4	<u>119 (15%)</u>	<u>4 (5%)</u>	<u>123 (14%)</u>
Ward 5	<u>190 (18%)</u>	<u>10 (21%)</u>	<u>200 (18%)</u>
Ward 6	<u>215 (22%)</u>	<u>38 (38%)</u>	<u>253 (24%)</u>
TOTAL:	<u>2,236 (27%)</u>	<u>71 (25%)</u>	<u>2,307 (27%)</u>

TAKOMA PARK 1995 CITY ELECTION

NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS

		Mont. Co.	P.G. Co.	Non-U.S. Citizens		Total by Ward
Ward 1	(all Mont. Co.)	<u>1,975</u>		<u>22</u>	1.	<u>1,997</u>
Ward 2	Montgomery Co. Prince George's Co.	<u>237</u>	<u>1,380</u>	<u>2</u> <u>15</u>	2.	<u>1,634</u>
Ward 3	Montgomery Co. Prince George's Co.	<u>1,380</u>	<u>565</u>	<u>12</u> <u>1</u>	3.	<u>1,958</u>
Ward 4	(all Mont. Co.)	<u>903</u>		<u>69</u>	4.	<u>972</u>
Ward 5	(all Mont. Co.)	<u>1,082</u>		<u>26</u>	5.	<u>1,108</u>
Ward 6	Montgomery Co. Prince George's Co.	<u>51</u>	<u>806</u>	<u>0</u> <u>48</u>	6.	<u>905</u>
TOTAL:		<u>5,628</u>	<u>2,751</u>	<u>195</u>		<u>8,574</u>

TAKOMA PARK 1995 CITY ELECTION

NUMBER OF VOTES CAST

		Mont. Co.	P.G. Co.	Non-U.S. Citizens		Total by Ward
Ward 1	(all Mont. Co.)	<u>599 (30%)</u>		<u>2 (9%)</u>	1.	<u>601 (30%)</u>
Ward 2	Montgomery Co. Prince George's Co.	<u>71 (30%)</u>	<u>703 (51%)</u>	<u>1 (50%)</u> <u>1 (6%)</u>	2.	<u>776 (47%)</u>
Ward 3	Montgomery Co. Prince George's Co.	<u>383 (28%)</u>	<u>263 (47%)</u>	<u>1 (8%)</u> <u>0 (0%)</u>	3.	<u>647 (33%)</u>
Ward 4	(all Mont. Co.)	<u>121 (13%)</u>		<u>1 (1%)</u>	4.	<u>122 (13%)</u>
Ward 5	(all Mont. Co.)	<u>205 (19%)</u>		<u>1 (4%)</u>	5.	<u>206 (19%)</u>
Ward 6	Montgomery Co. Prince George's Co.	<u>11 (22%)</u>	<u>355 (44%)</u>	<u>0 (none registered)</u> <u>13 (27%)</u>	6.	<u>379 (42%)</u>
TOTAL:		<u>1,390 (25%)</u>	<u>1,321 (48%)</u>	<u>20 (10%)</u>		<u>2,731 (32%)</u>

**REGULAR MEETING, WORKSESSION & EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Monday, November 10, 1997

Executive Session 10/27/97 - Moved by Rubin; seconded by Williams. Council convened in Executive Session by unanimous vote at 10:00 p.m., in the Conference Room. OFFICIALS PRESENT: Sharp, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams. OFFICIAL ABSENT: Chavez, Davenport. The Council discussed the City Administrator's evaluation; work on the evaluation was not concluded. (Authority: Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a)(1)(ii)).

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Sharp

Councilmember Chavez

Councilmember Elrich

Councilmember Porter

Councilmember Rubin

Councilmember Williams

City Administrator Habada

Assistant City Administrator Hobbs

City Clerk Sartoph

Police Chief Anderson

Deputy Chief Wortman

Volunteer Coordinator Moffet

Community Development Coordinator Sickle

OFFICIAL ABSENT:

Councilmember Davenport

Corporation Counsel Silber

Library Director Arnold-Robbins

The City Council convened at 7:37 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, these remarks were made:

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Sharp expressed his appreciation for the work of the 1997 Election Judges, noting that the Council will later consider a resolution to this effect.

Councilmember Rubin remarked that last Wednesday evening, he and Councilmembers Elrich and Porter took part in a Town Meeting which was hosted by Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan and County Councilmember Derrick Berlage. The meeting was held next door at the

Piney Branch Elementary School. Mr. Rubin commented that he was very proud of Mayor-Elect Porter who got up at the meeting and said to Mr. Duncan, who publically advocates for state funding, that she will be coming to him for funding in the context of the City's rebate for double-taxation. She impressed upon him that the City needs a more equitable rebate. Mr. Rubin reported that Mr. Duncan recalled his former position as Mayor of Rockville and stated his understanding of the City's concern and his willingness to discuss the matter.

Councilmember Elrich announced that the Silver Spring Redevelopment Office would like to set a date for a presentation to the City Council and residents regarding development in Silver Spring. A date needs to be decided upon, as soon as possible, so that any response the City might have can be forwarded to County Executive Duncan for his consideration in the near future.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Sharp requested that two discussion items be added to the Worksession agenda: (1) the upcoming MML Montgomery Chapter meeting (November 20), and (2) the letter received from Jim DiLuigi, Chair of the Sligo Creek Citizens Advisory Committee, regarding repair of the Elson Place bridge.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Benjamin Onyeneke, Maple Avenue (Generation X), congratulated the newly elected Mayor and Councilmembers, and wished Mayor Sharp continued success in his career. He urged County Executive Duncan and the City to provide adequate public recreation facilities for youth. Mr. Onyeneke remarked about drug abuse, and spoke in favor of greater respect and protections for women and children.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Sharp noted that Aspen Employment Services (President, Mike Cruise) was recognized as the "Supplier of the Year" by the National Minority Supplier Development Council.

REGULAR MEETING

1. Resolution re: Columbia Union College Volunteers. Mr. Sharp read the resolution for the record. Moved by Sharp; seconded by Chavez.

Resolution #1997-64 was adopted unanimously, commending Columbia Union College volunteers who participated in Community Service Day 1997 (VOTING FOR: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams; ABSENT: Davenport).

RESOLUTION #1997-64
(Attached)

Volunteer Coordinator Lonni Moffet introduced Sharon Conway, representative from the Office of Alumni and Development, and Mayor Sharp presented Ms. Conway with the resolution.

Ms. Conway thanked the Council on behalf of the college for the resolution, and said that she hopes that the college can continue this tradition for years to come.

Councilmember Chavez expressed appreciation to the college for their service to the City, noting that the college is his alma mater and that four of his five children have also attended the college.

2. Resolution re: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Volunteers. Mr. Sharp read the resolution for the record. Moved by Sharp; seconded by Williams.

Resolution #1997-65 was adopted unanimously, commending members of the Silver Spring Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for their volunteer service on Pioneer Heritage Service Day 1997 (VOTING FOR: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams; ABSENT: Davenport).

RESOLUTION #1997-65
(Attached)

Ms. Moffet introduced Whetten Reed, President of the Silver Spring Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and Mayor Sharp presented Mr. Reed with the resolution.

Mr. Reed expressed appreciation for the resolution, noting that the congregation has recently completed construction of their church, and looks forward to opportunities where they might be able to contribute something to the community.

3. Resolution re: 1997 Election Judges. Mr. Sharp read the resolution for the record. Moved by Sharp; seconded by Porter.

Resolution #1997-66 was adopted unanimously, expressing appreciation to the 1997 Election Judges (VOTING FOR: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams; ABSENT: Davenport).

RESOLUTION #1997-66
(Attached)

Mr. Sharp noted that he has been discussing with the City Clerk the need for the City Council to convene the night after the election for the purpose of receiving certification of the election

results. He suggested that this might be a matter which the new Council might want to explore more fully.

4. Resolution re: Federal Police Technology Funds. Moved by Williams; seconded by Porter.

Mr. Williams recalled that he brought up this matter a couple of weeks ago with Congressman Wynn, who said that he would like a formal statement from the City in support of the federal bill. This resolution is in response to that request.

Ms. Porter further explained that this funding could be used to fund an upgraded police radio system which is something that the City needs.

Resolution #1997-67 was adopted unanimously, expressing support for federal public safety technology funds (VOTING FOR: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams; ABSENT: Davenport).

**RESOLUTION #1997-67
(Attached)**

WORKSESSION / EXECUTIVE SESSION / ADJOURNMENT

The Council moved into Worksession at 8:03 p.m. Following the Worksession, the Council convened in Executive Session at 9:13 p.m., and later adjourned for the evening.

Executive Session 11/10/97 - Moved by Williams; seconded by Chavez. Council convened in Executive Session by unanimous vote at 9:13 p.m., in the Conference Room. OFFICIALS PRESENT: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams. OFFICIAL ABSENT: Davenport. STAFF PRESENT: Habada, Sartoph, Silber. (1) The Council received a briefing regarding possible land acquisition (open space properties); staff was given direction on next steps. (2) The Council received an update on negotiations regarding the Food Co-op's lease of the loading dock and parking spaces; no action taken. NOTE: Staff left the room. (3) The Council discussed the City Administrator's evaluation; work on the evaluation was not concluded. (Authority: Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a)(3), (7), and (1)(ii)).

RESOLUTION NO. 1997-64

**COLUMBIA UNION COLLEGE
COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY 1997**

WHEREAS, a request was received by the City from student and faculty members of Columbia Union college; **AND**

WHEREAS, this request expressed a desire to perform volunteer services in the City in order for them to give something back to their community; **AND**

WHEREAS, on October 8, 1997 approximately sixty-six enthusiastic students, staff, and faculty members of Columbia Union College volunteered approximately 265 hours of their time and effort; **AND**

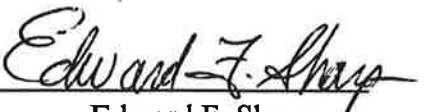
WHEREAS, these volunteers performed duties including spreading mulch at Jequie Park and weeding and planting at Upper Portal Park; **AND**

WHEREAS, in 1996, the CUC community also volunteered for the City; **AND**


WHEREAS, the City desires to extend sincere appreciation for a job well done and to thank the Columbia Union College community for its annual efforts to beautify the City of Takoma Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Takoma Park, on behalf of citizens and staff, hereby commends the students, staff, and faculty members of Columbia Union College who participated in this volunteer effort on the exemplary contributions and service they have given to the City of Takoma Park, Maryland.

DATED this 10th day of November, 1997.


Edward F. Sharp
Mayor

ATTEST:


Catherine E. W. Sartoph, CMC/AAE
City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 1997-65

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
PIONEER HERITAGE SERVICE DAY 1997**

WHEREAS, a new Takoma Park chapel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been constructed on Carroll Avenue; **AND**

WHEREAS, Pioneer Heritage Service Day was observed by members of the church worldwide on July 19, 1997 in observance of the sesquicentennial of the Mormon pioneer trek from Illinois to Utah in 1847; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Congregation was encouraged to contribute community service in observance of this sesquicentennial; **AND**

WHEREAS, a request was received by the City from members of the Silver Spring Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; **AND**

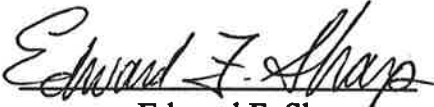
WHEREAS, on July 19, 1997 approximately thirty-five church members volunteered approximately 100 hours of their time and effort; **AND**

WHEREAS, these volunteers performed duties including sweeping curbs in the Wildwood neighborhood, weeding Hodges Field and painting the exterior of buildings at the City's Public Works facility; **AND**


WHEREAS, the City desires to extend sincere appreciation for a job well done and to thank the Silver Spring Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for its efforts to beautify the City of Takoma Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Takoma Park, on behalf of citizens and staff, hereby commends the Congregation members who participated in this volunteer effort on the exemplary contributions and service they have given to the City of Takoma Park, Maryland.

DATED this 10th day of November, 1997.


Edward F. Sharp
Mayor

ATTEST:


Catherine E.W. Sartoph, EMC/AAE
City Clerk

RESOLUTION #1997-66

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO ELECTION JUDGES FOR 1997 CITY ELECTION

WHEREAS, the City Council appointed 23 persons, all registered voters of the City of Takoma Park, to serve as a Board of Election for the November 4, 1997, City Election;
AND

WHEREAS, of the persons appointed, 20 participated in a training session a week prior to the election, acted as the City's Board of Election on November 4th, and certified the final results to the Council, the following evening; **AND**

WHEREAS, due to the limited number of judges, every judge was given a specific assignment which precluded any from acting as "floaters" to relieve other judges for breaks during the course of the day; **AND**

WHEREAS, managing a steady flow of voters, the election judges maintained a courteous and helpful atmosphere; **AND**

WHEREAS, professionalism, commitment, and attention to detail are essential characteristics of an election judge, proudly displayed by every member of the City's 1997 Board of Election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland, on behalf of the residents, voters, City Clerk's Office, and City staff, hereby expresses sincere appreciation to the following persons who diligently served on the 1997 Board of Election:

Ruth Abbott
June A. Aloï
Harold Alston
Pearl Blacksin
Willie R. Blalock
Steven A. Breckbill
Alan R. Centa
Carol Clayton
Thirkiel Cravens
Valerie Dant

Billie M. Dyhouse
Estella B. Hendrickson
Claire B. Kozel
April LeGrand
Howard F. Miller
Patricia Shaw
Joan N. Sidell
Valerie Tonat
Verne Wilson
Martin Morse Wooster

Adopted this 10 day of November, 1997.

ATTEST:


Catherine E.W. Sartoph, CMC/AAE, City Clerk

Introduced by: Councilmember Williams

Resolution no. 1997-67

Resolution Concerning Federal Public Safety Technology Fund

WHEREAS, U.S. Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Charles Robb (D-VA) have co-sponsored the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Telecommunications Empowerment Act of 1997 (Senate bill 255) to provide funding for local jurisdictions to upgrade public safety radio communications technology; AND

WHEREAS, "Many of the State and local agencies responsible for law enforcement and public safety have inadequate [radio] spectrum and inadequate funding to maintain the existing level of, or to effect improvements in, the radio communications on which they depend to perform their missions"; AND

WHEREAS, the legislation would set up a pool of federal funds, from the sale of radio frequency spectrums to commercial users, for distribution to each State and the State would be responsible for funding distribution to local jurisdictions like Takoma Park; AND

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park police radio communications system is scheduled to be replaced in the next two years and capital funding in the amount of \$200,000 has been accrued in the Equipment Replacement Reserve and set aside towards this replacement.

WHEREAS, the radio communications system will tie into the Montgomery County Public Safety radio system and can be purchased through a cooperative purchasing arrangement with Montgomery County;

WHEREAS, the costs of the radio communications system will exceed the amount allocated in the Equipment Replacement Reserve.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT:

1. The City Council views the availability of police technology to be critical to implementation of community orienting policing by reducing the amount of time police officers spend on administrative aspects of their work and increasing the time available for crime prevention and crime interdiction through police patrols.

2. The City Council supports the passage of federal legislation that would make funds available to local jurisdictions like Takoma Park for the purpose of upgrading police communication technology.
3. The City Council urges Congressman Albert Wynn, our congressional representative, to pursue passage of legislation in the House Commerce Committee that would make federal funding available for improving public safety technology at the local government level of Cities and Counties in Maryland.
4. The City Council urges the Maryland Congressional delegation to support such legislation in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Administrator is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Congressman Albert Wynn, the Maryland Congressional Delegation, the Maryland Municipal League, the Maryland Association of Counties, Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan, Montgomery County Council President Marilyn Praisner and all municipalities in Montgomery County that provide police services.

Adopted this 10th day of November, 1997.

ATTEST:



Catherine E. W. Sartoph, CMC/AAE

City Clerk

r-s255/bkh



REGULAR MEETING, WORKSESSION & EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Monday, November 10, 1997

PROPERTY OF
TAKOMA PARK MD. LIBRARY

Executive Session 10/27/97 - Moved by Rubin; seconded by Williams. Council convened in Executive Session by unanimous vote at 10:00 p.m., in the Conference Room. OFFICIALS PRESENT: Sharp, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams. OFFICIAL ABSENT: Chavez, Davenport. The Council discussed the City Administrator's evaluation; work on the evaluation was not concluded. (Authority: Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a)(1)(ii)).

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Sharp	City Administrator Habada
Councilmember Chavez	Assistant City Administrator Hobbs
Councilmember Elrich	City Clerk Sartoph
Councilmember Porter	Police Chief Anderson
Councilmember Rubin	Deputy Chief Wortman
Councilmember Williams	Volunteer Coordinator Moffet
	Community Development Coordinator Sickie

OFFICIAL ABSENT:

Councilmember Davenport	Corporation Counsel Silber
	Library Director Arnold-Robbins

The City Council convened at 7:37 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, these remarks were made:

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Sharp expressed his appreciation for the work of the 1997 Election Judges, noting that the Council will later consider a resolution to this effect.

Councilmember Rubin remarked that last Wednesday evening, he and Councilmembers Elrich and Porter took part in a Town Meeting which was hosted by Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan and County Councilmember Derrick Berlage. The meeting was held next door at the

Piney Branch Elementary School. Mr. Rubin commented that he was very proud of Mayor-Elect Porter who got up at the meeting and said to Mr. Duncan, who publically advocates for state funding, that she will be coming to him for funding in the context of the City's rebate for double-taxation. She impressed upon him that the City needs a more equitable rebate. Mr. Rubin reported that Mr. Duncan recalled his former position as Mayor of Rockville and stated his understanding of the City's concern and his willingness to discuss the matter.

Councilmember Elrich announced that the Silver Spring Redevelopment Office would like to set a date for a presentation to the City Council and residents regarding development in Silver Spring. A date needs to be decided upon, as soon as possible, so that any response the City might have can be forwarded to County Executive Duncan for his consideration in the near future.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Sharp requested that two discussion items be added to the Worksession agenda: (1) the upcoming MML Montgomery Chapter meeting (November 20), and (2) the letter received from Jim DiLuigi, Chair of the Sligo Creek Citizens Advisory Committee, regarding repair of the Elson Place bridge.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Benjamin Onyeneke, Maple Avenue (Generation X), congratulated the newly elected Mayor and Councilmembers, and wished Mayor Sharp continued success in his career. He urged County Executive Duncan and the City to provide adequate public recreation facilities for youth. Mr. Onyeneke remarked about drug abuse, and spoke in favor of greater respect and protections for women and children.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Sharp noted that Aspen Employment Services (President, Mike Cruise) was recognized as the "Supplier of the Year" by the National Minority Supplier Development Council.

REGULAR MEETING

1. Resolution re: Columbia Union College Volunteers. Mr. Sharp read the resolution for the record. Moved by Sharp; seconded by Chavez.

Resolution #1997-64 was adopted unanimously, commending Columbia Union College volunteers who participated in Community Service Day 1997 (VOTING FOR: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams; ABSENT: Davenport).

RESOLUTION #1997-64
(Attached)

Volunteer Coordinator Lonni Moffet introduced Sharon Conway, representative from the Office of Alumni and Development, and Mayor Sharp presented Ms. Conway with the resolution.

Ms. Conway thanked the Council on behalf of the college for the resolution, and said that she hopes that the college can continue this tradition for years to come.

Councilmember Chavez expressed appreciation to the college for their service to the City, noting that the college is his alma mater and that four of his five children have also attended the college.

2. Resolution re: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Volunteers. Mr. Sharp read the resolution for the record. Moved by Sharp; seconded by Williams.

Resolution #1997-65 was adopted unanimously, commending members of the Silver Spring Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for their volunteer service on Pioneer Heritage Service Day 1997 (VOTING FOR: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams; ABSENT: Davenport).

RESOLUTION #1997-65
(Attached)

Ms. Moffet introduced Whetten Reed, President of the Silver Spring Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and Mayor Sharp presented Mr. Reed with the resolution.

Mr. Reed expressed appreciation for the resolution, noting that the congregation has recently completed construction of their church, and looks forward to opportunities where they might be able to contribute something to the community.

3. Resolution re: 1997 Election Judges. Mr. Sharp read the resolution for the record. Moved by Sharp; seconded by Porter.

Resolution #1997-66 was adopted unanimously, expressing appreciation to the 1997 Election Judges (VOTING FOR: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams; ABSENT: Davenport).

RESOLUTION #1997-66
(Attached)

Mr. Sharp noted that he has been discussing with the City Clerk the need for the City Council to convene the night after the election for the purpose of receiving certification of the election

results. He suggested that this might be a matter which the new Council might want to explore more fully.

4. Resolution re: Federal Police Technology Funds. Moved by Williams; seconded by Porter.

Mr. Williams recalled that he brought up this matter a couple of weeks ago with Congressman Wynn, who said that he would like a formal statement from the City in support of the federal bill. This resolution is in response to that request.

Ms. Porter further explained that this funding could be used to fund an upgraded police radio system which is something that the City needs.

Resolution #1997-67 was adopted unanimously, expressing support for federal public safety technology funds (VOTING FOR: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams; ABSENT: Davenport).

**RESOLUTION #1997-67
(Attached)**

WORKSESSION / EXECUTIVE SESSION / ADJOURNMENT

The Council moved into Worksession at 8:03 p.m. Following the Worksession, the Council convened in Executive Session at 9:13 p.m., and later adjourned for the evening.

Executive Session 11/10/97 - Moved by Williams; seconded by Chavez. Council convened in Executive Session by unanimous vote at 9:13 p.m., in the Conference Room. OFFICIALS PRESENT: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams. OFFICIAL ABSENT: Davenport. STAFF PRESENT: Habada, Sartoph, Silber. (1) The Council received a briefing regarding possible land acquisition (open space properties); staff was given direction on next steps. (2) The Council received an update on negotiations regarding the Food Co-op's lease of the loading dock and parking spaces; no action taken. NOTE: Staff left the room. (3) The Council discussed the City Administrator's evaluation; work on the evaluation was not concluded. (Authority: Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a)(3), (7), and (1)(ii)).

RESOLUTION NO. 1997-64

**COLUMBIA UNION COLLEGE
COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY 1997**

WHEREAS, a request was received by the City from student and faculty members of Columbia Union college; **AND**

WHEREAS, this request expressed a desire to perform volunteer services in the City in order for them to give something back to their community; **AND**

WHEREAS, on October 8, 1997 approximately sixty-six enthusiastic students, staff, and faculty members of Columbia Union College volunteered approximately 265 hours of their time and effort; **AND**

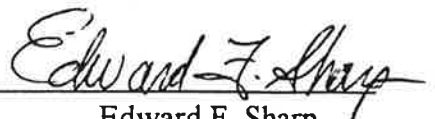
WHEREAS, these volunteers performed duties including spreading mulch at Jequie Park and weeding and planting at Upper Portal Park; **AND**

WHEREAS, in 1996, the CUC community also volunteered for the City; **AND**


WHEREAS, the City desires to extend sincere appreciation for a job well done and to thank the Columbia Union College community for its annual efforts to beautify the City of Takoma Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Takoma Park, on behalf of citizens and staff, hereby commends the students, staff, and faculty members of Columbia Union College who participated in this volunteer effort on the exemplary contributions and service they have given to the City of Takoma Park, Maryland.

DATED this 10th day of November, 1997.


Edward F. Sharp
Mayor

ATTEST:


Catherine E. W. Sartoph, CMC/AAE
City Clerk


RESOLUTION NO. 1997-65

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
PIONEER HERITAGE SERVICE DAY 1997


- WHEREAS,** a new Takoma Park chapel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been constructed on Carroll Avenue; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Pioneer Heritage Service Day was observed by members of the church worldwide on July 19, 1997 in observance of the sesquicentennial of the Mormon pioneer trek from Illinois to Utah in 1847; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** the Congregation was encouraged to contribute community service in observance of this sesquicentennial; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** a request was received by the City from members of the Silver Spring Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** on July 19, 1997 approximately thirty-five church members volunteered approximately 100 hours of their time and effort; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** these volunteers performed duties including sweeping curbs in the Wildwood neighborhood, weeding Hodges Field and painting the exterior of buildings at the City's Public Works facility; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** the City desires to extend sincere appreciation for a job well done and to thank the Silver Spring Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for its efforts to beautify the City of Takoma Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Takoma Park, on behalf of citizens and staff, hereby commends the Congregation members who participated in this volunteer effort on the exemplary contributions and service they have given to the City of Takoma Park, Maryland.

DATED this 10th day of November, 1997.


Edward F. Sharp
Mayor

ATTEST:


Catherine E. W. Sartoph, CMC/AAE
City Clerk

RESOLUTION #1997-66

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO ELECTION JUDGES FOR 1997 CITY ELECTION

WHEREAS, the City Council appointed 23 persons, all registered voters of the City of Takoma Park, to serve as a Board of Election for the November 4, 1997, City Election;
AND

WHEREAS, of the persons appointed, 20 participated in a training session a week prior to the election, acted as the City's Board of Election on November 4th, and certified the final results to the Council, the following evening; **AND**

WHEREAS, due to the limited number of judges, every judge was given a specific assignment which precluded any from acting as "floaters" to relieve other judges for breaks during the course of the day; **AND**

WHEREAS, managing a steady flow of voters, the election judges maintained a courteous and helpful atmosphere; **AND**

WHEREAS, professionalism, commitment, and attention to detail are essential characteristics of an election judge, proudly displayed by every member of the City's 1997 Board of Election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland, on behalf of the residents, voters, City Clerk's Office, and City staff, hereby expresses sincere appreciation to the following persons who diligently served on the 1997 Board of Election:

Ruth Abbott
June A. Aloï
Harold Alston
Pearl Blacksin
Willie R. Blalock
Steven A. Breckbill
Alan R. Centa
Carol Clayton
Thirkield Cravens
Valerie Dant

Billie M. Dyhouse
Estella B. Hendrickson
Claire B. Kozel
April LeGrand
Howard F. Miller
Patricia Shaw
Joan N. Sidell
Valerie Tonat
Verne Wilson
Martin Morse Wooster

Adopted this 10 day of November, 1997.

ATTEST:


Catherine E. W. Sartoph, CMC/AAE, City Clerk

Introduced by: Councilmember Williams

Resolution no. 1997-67

Resolution Concerning Federal Public Safety Technology Fund

WHEREAS, U.S. Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Charles Robb (D-VA) have co-sponsored the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Telecommunications Empowerment Act of 1997 (Senate bill 255) to provide funding for local jurisdictions to upgrade public safety radio communications technology; AND

WHEREAS, "Many of the State and local agencies responsible for law enforcement and public safety have inadequate [radio] spectrum and inadequate funding to maintain the existing level of, or to effect improvements in, the radio communications on which they depend to perform their missions"; AND

WHEREAS, the legislation would set up a pool of federal funds, from the sale of radio frequency spectrums to commercial users, for distribution to each State and the State would be responsible for funding distribution to local jurisdictions like Takoma Park; AND

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park police radio communications system is scheduled to be replaced in the next two years and capital funding in the amount of \$200,000 has been accrued in the Equipment Replacement Reserve and set aside towards this replacement.

WHEREAS, the radio communications system will tie into the Montgomery County Public Safety radio system and can be purchased through a cooperative purchasing arrangement with Montgomery County;

WHEREAS, the costs of the radio communications system will exceed the amount allocated in the Equipment Replacement Reserve.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT:

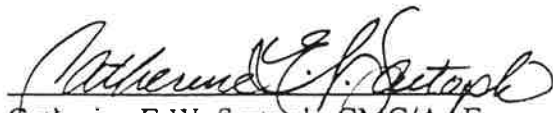
1. The City Council views the availability of police technology to be critical to implementation of community orienting policing by reducing the amount of time police officers spend on administrative aspects of their work and increasing the time available for crime prevention and crime interdiction through police patrols.

2. The City Council supports the passage of federal legislation that would make funds available to local jurisdictions like Takoma Park for the purpose of upgrading police communication technology.
3. The City Council urges Congressman Albert Wynn, our congressional representative, to pursue passage of legislation in the House Commerce Committee that would make federal funding available for improving public safety technology at the local government level of Cities and Counties in Maryland.
4. The City Council urges the Maryland Congressional delegation to support such legislation in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Administrator is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Congressman Albert Wynn, the Maryland Congressional Delegation, the Maryland Municipal League, the Maryland Association of Counties, Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan, Montgomery County Council President Marilyn Praisner and all municipalities in Montgomery County that provide police services.

Adopted this 10th day of November, 1997.

ATTEST:



Catherine E. W. Sartoph, CMC/AAE
City Clerk

r-s255/bkh

(FINAL 12/02/97)

**SPECIAL SESSION (OUT-GOING COUNCIL) &
INSTALLATION AND SPECIAL SESSION OF THE NEW COUNCIL**

Monday, November 17, 1997

Executive Session 11/10/97 - Moved by Williams; seconded by Chavez. Council convened in Executive Session by unanimous vote at 9:13 p.m., in the Conference Room. OFFICIALS PRESENT: Sharp, Chavez, Elrich, Porter, Rubin, Williams. OFFICIAL ABSENT: Davenport. STAFF PRESENT: Habada, Sartoph, Silber. (1) The Council received a briefing regarding possible land acquisition (open space properties); staff was given direction on next steps. (2) The Council received an update on negotiations regarding the Food Co-op's lease of the loading dock and parking spaces; no action taken. NOTE: Staff left the room. (3) The Council discussed the City Administrator's evaluation; work on the evaluation was not concluded. (Authority: Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a)(3), (7), and (1)(ii)).

OFFICIAL PRESENT:

Mayor Sharp
Councilmember Chavez
Councilmember Elrich
Councilmember Porter
Councilmember Rubin
Councilmember Williams

City Administrator Habada
City Clerk Sartoph

OFFICIAL ABSENT:

Councilmember Davenport

The City Council convened at 7:35 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

The following remarks were made:

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Porter; seconded by Williams. Ms. Sartoph noted two amendments to the draft minutes from 11/10. The Council Meeting Minutes from 10/27, 11/05 and 11/10 (as amended) were adopted unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Sharp remarked that this evening marks the end of 12 years for him on the Council--seven of those years as Mayor. He thanked the constituencies (once Ward 7 and City at-large) he has served in Takoma Park for their support, adding that it has been an honor to represent the city for so many years. Mr. Sharp expressed appreciation to the City Administrator Habada, City Clerk Sartoph, and other city staff members who have assisted the Council. The Council could not do their jobs without a good City staff. He expressed his gratitude to the Council, as well as previous Councils he has served with, noting that this Council has been in office for four years--longer than the time some countries spend waging wars. Mr. Sharp commented that one cannot look at the results of the last election and conclude anything other than the Council has represented the City in a responsible way. He said that he hopes this tradition will continue. Mr. Sharp concluded by noting that this evening is a historic occasion, as it will be the first time that the Mayor will be sworn in by only one County Circuit Court Clerk, now that the City is entirely in one county.

Councilmember Porter expressed appreciation to the out-going Council, adding her belief that Mayor Sharp has, in large, been responsible for the good works of the Council over the past years. She credited Mr. Sharp with the effectiveness of the Council, and wished him well in future endeavors. Ms. Porter commended Mr. Sharp for his approach that everyone should work together in resolving issues.

Councilmember Elrich remarked that he has found Mr. Sharp to be a most effective ally, especially in discussions regarding affordable housing and landlord-tenant affairs. Mr. Elrich commented on Mr. Sharp's compassion and role in changing the tenor of the Council from one that was conflict oriented to one that is based on consensus. Mr. Sharp has led the Council in a much more constructive way, and has proven himself to be a very productive and effective mayor. Mr. Elrich noted that he will be leaving right after the swearing-in ceremonies, because he is due to testify this evening on a bill regarding the Inter-County Connector (ICC).

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, the Council adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

INSTALLATION OF IN-COMING COUNCIL

SWEARING-IN OF MAYOR

Molly Ruhl, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Maryland for Montgomery County, administered the oath of office to Mayor-elect Kathryn H. Porter. Ms. Ruhl introduced Mayor Porter as Takoma Park's new mayor.

SWEARING-IN OF COUNCILMEMBERS

Mayor Porter then administered the oath of office to the Councilmembers-elect. Following their recitation of the oath, the new Council took their seats.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE IN-COMING COUNCIL

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Porter	City Administrator Habada
Councilmember Chavez	City Clerk Sartoph
Councilmember Elrich	
Councilmember Hawkins	
Councilmember Rubin	
Councilmember Stewart	
Councilmember Williams	

The new Council convened at 7:58 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

The following remarks were made:

Mayoral Proclamation re: Appointment of Mayor Pro Tempore. Mayor Porter noted the only item of business, and read the proclamation for the record.

Ms. Porter then introduced a couple of guests--her mother Lib Porter who is here from Hampton, Virginia, and her niece Dorie Blaisdell, a student at American University. She thanked the many people who helped and supported her in her campaign, adding that she was overwhelmed by the number of people who came forward to support her in the campaign. It was a very gratifying experience, and one that made her feel her race would be successful.

Ms. Porter remarked that this is a historic election. She is the first female mayor of the City; but, additionally, with the election of Councilmembers Hawkins and Stewart, this Council has the greatest number of women serving on a Takoma Park City Council. She stated that while mayor, she would like to stress the theme of making services more accessible to all residents, and announced that she will hold regular office hours in the new Mayor's office on Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and on Thursdays, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. She invited residents to call her at home, and extended an invitation to the audience to join the Council for a reception in the new Mayor's office immediately following tonight's meeting.

Ms. Porter commented that her opponent, Mr. Arredondo made a number of good points during the campaign. One being the need for minority constituent groups to have greater access to city services. She stated that one of her main focuses will be on public safety issues, explaining that she would like to improve the implementation of community oriented policing (COP), find ways to keep officers out on the streets, and examine the police pay system. She briefly remarked about the compensation study which is underway, and invited the audience to attend the upcoming presentation on the study. She commented on the importance of citizen participation in the process related to development of Takoma Junction. Ms. Porter expressed her strong desire to see that the county treats the city fairly when it comes to tax rebates (i.e., police and library rebates). She said that she appreciates the trust that residents have placed in her by having elected her as Mayor, and that she looks forward to continued citizen support, participation, and even criticisms over the next two years as she leads the Council in working with residents to address issues.

Councilmember Chavez thanked constituents and friends for their support during his campaign, and for their confidence and trust in him to serve the community. He pledged to work hard for Ward 6 and the City as a whole. He expressed confidence in the new mayor, adding that she has good plans and will spend considerable time with citizens. He looked forward to Mayor Porter putting a focus on providing better services to some of the ethnic groups in the City. Mr. Chavez stated that he will support Ms. Porter in her efforts, and pledged to support the Mayor by working on resolutions at times when disagreements arise. He expressed his confidence in Ms. Porter as the first female Mayor of the City.

Councilmember Stewart extended thanks to people in the audience. She remarked that she called on many people to help her during the campaign, and expressed her desire that people feel free to call on her now, when they need her help.

Councilmember Rubin said that the hallmark of Takoma Park is community involvement. The City Council is only one part in a successful community. He remarked about the active community associations, explaining that the real work of formulating policies in the City gets done on the community level. He stated his belief that the city is not faced with fulfilling the challenges of major victories that have been won--i.e., Unification, fire station analysis. The main purpose of the City Council is to take issues from the community and debate them, and come up with solutions from which the entire community can benefit. The City government, if playing the proper role, will take ideas from the community and synthesize them. Mr. Rubin said that he looks forward to doing this over the next two years.

Councilmember Williams commented that one of the important things that Mayor Sharp emphasized over the years was ensuring that citizens are involved in going to the county for issues that the city needs to address at that level. The best way to ensure that we get what we need, is to continue along the same lines--keeping residents involved.

Councilmember Hawkins acknowledged her responsibility to the City and residents (Ward 4 and city as a whole). She commented that enhancements to Ward 4 will benefit the entire City. Ms. Hawkins remarked that she would also like to serve as a “blood-hound” in finding some federal funding for city interests. She noted that she recently had lunch with Senator Barbara Mikulski who expressed a desire to listen to the City’s concerns and needs, and who promised to work with the Council and administration. Ms. Hawkins concluded that she is very honored to be a member of the Council, and thanked the audience for their support.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

WHEREAS, on November 4, 1997 the certified voters of the City of Takoma Park elected their "City Council", a governing body of seven members--six Councilmembers (elected by Ward) and one member (elected at large) to be called the Mayor; **AND**

WHEREAS, the regular term of the Councilmembers is two years or until their successors have been elected and duly sworn; **AND**


WHEREAS, the newly elected Councilmembers take office on the second Monday in November following their election; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Mayor shall be a member of the Council and shall set an agenda and preside at all meetings of the Council; **AND**

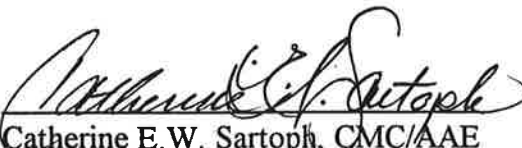
WHEREAS, in accordance with the City Charter, the Mayor has the power to appoint a member of the Council as "Mayor Pro Tempore" who shall serve as Mayor in his absence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KATHY PORTER, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, do hereby appoint Bruce R. Williams, Councilmember Ward 3, as Mayor Pro Tempore.

DATED this 17th day of November 1997.


Kathryn H. Porter
Mayor

ATTEST:


Catherine E.W. Sartoph, CMC/AAE
City Clerk

**PUBLIC HEARING, BRIEFING, REGULAR MEETING,
WORKSESSION & EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Monday, November 24, 1997

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Porter

Councilmember Chavez

Councilmember Elrich

Councilmember Hawkins

Councilmember Rubin

Councilmember Stewart

Councilmember Williams

City Administrator Habada

Assistant City Administrator Hobbs

City Clerk Sartoph

Police Chief Anderson

Senior Planner Schwartz

Arborist Busciano

Planning Center Coordinator Ludlow

The City Council convened at 7:37 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Williams noted that he attended the recent meeting of International Network of Gay and Lesbian Officials, and remarked about some of the issues which were discussed. He said that it was a good conference, and that he is always happy to represent the City.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Williams requested that a discussion of Council packets and the mailbox configuration in the Administration Office be added to the Worksession agenda.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Jan Schwartz, representing Takoma Old Town businesses, explained that there had recently been a Takoma Park Open House, for which the business owners had called the City to ensure that the parking meters would be covered with the "Free Parking" bags. Instead, the meters were bagged with "No Parking". This caused some undesired confusion. She also remarked about the owner of the rental property located next to Mark's Kitchen, who piles leaves on the sidewalk. Ms. Schwartz described how the City responded when contacted about the leaves. She stated that she hopes the City could take a role in making sure that the sidewalks stay clear, noting that again, today, the leaves were knee-deep on the sidewalk in front of the rental property.

Mayor Porter questioned what happened with the parking meters.

City Administrator Habada responded that the bags which are normally used for the market area were mistakenly placed on the other meters. In regards to the complaint about the leaves, staff needs to work with the landlord to try and get him to cooperate.

Mr. Williams suggested that a courtesy notice be provided to the landlord, explaining that leaves should not be put on the sidewalk until collection day.

Benjamin Onyeneke, Maple Avenue (Generation X), remarked about world affairs, and expressed concerns about unemployment statistics. He urged the establishment of churches and businesses for the black community.

Mark Robinowitz, referred to a map which was prepared by the Maryland State Highway Administration (MD SHA) illustrating the shift in location of businesses if the 301 Interchange is built. He noted Ms. Porter's service on the COG Transportation Committee, and urged the Council to adopt a resolution in opposition to the outer beltway and 301 Interchange. Mr. Robinowitz encouraged the City to unite with other municipalities in this fight, and concluded with comments in opposition to the Inter-County Connector and some of the potential dangers of creating a beltway "donut" around D.C.

Catherine Tunis, Committee on the Environment, commented on the disposition of the WSSC-owned lot at Sligo Creek Parkway and New Hampshire Avenue. She recommended that the appropriate officials send a letter to WSSC requesting that they convey the land to the City. It would make an excellent open space lot.

Ms. Porter said that this is something that the Council needs to discuss.

David Saber, remarked that he just moved to the City in July, and added that he loves Takoma Park. He reiterated the remarks about the difficulty that leaves on the sidewalk cause for pedestrians, especially persons pushing baby carriages. One reason he chose to live in the City was the open space. He supported the City getting the WSSC-owned lot on New Hampshire Avenue. It would make a great spot for a couple of cars to park so that people can access the adjacent Sligo Creek parks.

Ken Tockey, 507 Lincoln Avenue, said that he and his family have lived in the City for 10 years, and that they have the utmost respect for Police and Fire Departments. They are doing a good job. However, he described his frustration and dismay as related to an incident which occurred between him and the Police on Saturday, November 22. In the end, it appeared that he had ignored an unidentified (not in uniform) City official who was assigned to direct traffic, and had to withstand questioning from the Police. He explained why he had not obeyed the signals of the staff person who he described as looking like any other person in the community. He questioned whether it is City policy to have un-uniformed staff directing traffic, and referred to the Maryland

Traffic Manual regarding rules of obeying police officers.

Ms. Porter directed Ms. Habada to take steps to ensure that City officials are properly identified when directing traffic.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Jackson/Garland Right-of-Way. Senior Planner Schwartz provided a brief summary of the background on the matter and the proposal. The purpose of the waiver is to allow construction of a private road in the public right-of-way to provide access to a house on Lot 10. She explained the reasons for the proposed waiver. The applicant is not currently actively pursuing development of Lot 3, but the recommendation would be that access to Lot 3 also be provided from Lot 10 should the developer proceed with building on Lot 3. Staff finds that the applicant's plan meets the waiver criteria, and recommends approval with several conditions as noted in the staff report. She referred to #11A (page 5) pointing out that it should read "...Tree Preservation Specification..." She noted that Forester Busciano and Developer John Casey are here tonight.

Ms. Porter noted that tonight's discussion is a public hearing, and that the Council will be discussing this matter next week in Worksession.

The public hearing was called to order at 8:03 p.m.

Laura Lester, President of Longbranch-Sligo Neighborhood Association, stated that the majority of the neighborhood is strongly opposed to Mr. Casey developing the land. There is one person, who is not here tonight, who feels that Mr. Casey should have the right to build on the land. The neighborhood would like to see the land preserved as open space, and at the least, would like for Lot 3 to be retained as open space. If Lot 10 is going to be developed, the neighborhood would urge City staff to be vigilant in monitoring Mr. Casey's activities. He has been very disrespectful of City and County regulations by pushing the limits.

Rolf Hubbe, 7235 Garland Avenue, stated that he resides four houses from the property in question, and that he has a 35-year record of concern for the Longbranch stream and park. The Longbranch sewer and a swimming pool in the vicinity have been causes for concern in the past. He urged (1) for the highest possible standards in both the approval process and its execution, and (2) against flexibility--standards should apply to all concerns. There is reason to fear that the standards may have already been compromised. A look at the site (things that have already been done to the site) would lead one to believe that the authorities/staff would be inclined to give-in to some standards. He remarked about the run-off during storms which lead to erosion and stream pollution. Mr. Hube urged the Council to approve neither road nor house without adherence to the highest standards. He spoke in favor of adding the land to the City's open space, and urged the Council to walk the path from the Glenside to Garland side of the property, imagining all along, a big house developed on the lot.

Paula Nersesian, welcomed the new Councilmembers, and commented on the importance of the issue to the neighborhood. She said that she and many neighbors oppose the construction of the driveway (or any additional impervious surface) on the land. It appears in the documentation that there is a good likelihood that damage to the tree will result. She remarked about how the roots will be put at risk. A Stormwater Management Plan has not been approved. She pointed out concerns about water run-off problems, and encouraged the Council to tour the site. The safety of the land and stream should be protected. The City should try to obtain the land. She emphasized the need to watch Mr. Casey very, very carefully, noting that he has already taken heavy machinery onto the property, over the tree roots, knowing that he did not have the proper permits to do so.

Ms. Porter explained the reason for deciding on the road and Stormwater Management Plan at the same time--the type of road surface will have an impact on the plan.

Jane Harmon, recalled some history of Takoma Park and how the "line" was drawn for the public right-of-way. Things have changed since 1890; for the City to lock itself into allowing a road is foolish. She said that she has some friends in the development business in Montgomery County, who have advised that there is not space for a "turn-around" on the site. She asked what this would mean in this case. The lot would have to be re-subdivided to provide ample space for a turn-around, and then subject to the environmental guidelines, none of the lot would be developable. Lot 3 is subject to all of the environmental guidelines. It looks like the bulldozing that already has happened may have encroached on Lot 3. She commented on the impact of heavy rainfall. Ms. Harmon remarked that she has been watching work on the site, noting that loads of materials have been brought onto the site. Mr. Casey's business practices in the past do not fill her with faith of working with him in the future. Ms. Harmon explained that Mr. Casey dissolved a company only days before creating a new company for development of this lot. She questioned whether this is the type of developer we want in the City, and concluded with comments in opposition to the development.

Todd Baldwin, 910 Jackson Avenue, welcomed the new Council. He explained that he has talked to over 150 people in the neighborhood about this project, and noted that the overwhelming majority are against the development. There are only a few people who think Mr. Casey should be allowed to develop the land. He urged the City to keep a close eye on Mr. Casey throughout the process.

Robert Goo, expressed concerns about the proposed waiver and any building on the site. Any road perpendicular to the stream will result in run-off. It seems that the bio-filtration system is inadequately designed to protect the stream. The Council may want to consider that often developers get approval for a bio-filtration system and then walk away from the site. The State of Maryland has had a lot of problems with infiltration devices, and does not recommend the use of these devices because of clogging issues. He explained his concern about the use of a PVC pipe--could erode into stream. If the Council decides to allow the driveway after these objections, there are many management practices that need to be considered. He asked the Council to consider

other solutions if they go ahead with the ill-advised plan.

Ms. Porter requested copy of Mr. Goo's suggestions, and he agreed to provide his suggestions in writing for the Council's consideration.

Catherine Tunis, Larch Avenue, Co-Chair of Committee on the Environment, supported protection of the lots, especially Lot 3. She said that it would behoove the City to consider Mr. Goo's suggestions. If the driveway could be closer to the wall, it would not have to be as long. Ms. Tunis stated that she would like to see the land preserved.

Mark Robinowitz, pointed out that clean water was one of the reasons that Takoma Park was founded. Longbranch Creek is almost biologically dead because of development. If the Council allows this development to proceed, it should require that workers laying the asphalt wear gas masks so as to not be exposed to carcinogens. He remarked that he would like to see a declaration that the road system in the City is complete--no more roads to be built in the City. The entire neighborhood is in the watershed of Longbranch Creek. Stormwater ponds in many cases make water quality worse. Mr. Robinowitz remarked about studies of these ponds that have been done in conjunction with study of ICC. He pointed out that the creek waters are subject to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and questioned what related permit might be needed. He commented on protections for specimen trees. The map does not show the 100 year flood plane. It shows that construction would be within the 50 buffer of the stream (against P.G. County and Montgomery County laws). Mr. Robinowitz remarked about the turn-around requirements for fire trucks--not on the site according to the plan, and stated his belief that the County will not monitor development on the site. The County does not have the staff to enforce laws. The Maryland Department of the Environment is also understaffed and will not enforce regulations. Regarding the term "improvements", construction of a road is a more accurate description. He commented on preservation of streams, and said that it would be nice to know if the fine levied against the clear-cut on Lee Avenue was ever collected.

David Rothman, congratulated Mayor Porter and the rest of the Council on their election. He explained that he owns Lots 8 and 9, adjacent to Lot 10, part of the original Coffin estate (which this is all part of). The proposal is much better than many things he has heard proposed. Mr. Rothman expressed concern about the bio-retention pond, and the idea of building a perpendicular road to the creek. There was a retaining wall on Lot 10 that has fallen over--an example of how much water can be generated and the problems that can arise. He commented that the proposal is fairly decent, and that the idea raised by Mr. Goo regarding open-pavement, to create a less impervious surface, is a great idea and should be explored. He described his involvement in discussions between Mr. Casey and the City Council, and concluded that he does not wish to grant an easement across his property or want to help the City engage in acquiring the property from Mr. Casey. Mr. Rothman said he hopes the environmental concerns are taken into consideration, and that while he does see some validity to Mr. Casey being able to build on a recorded lot, this is not a typical case of development.

David Saber, described his educational and professional background. He said that he feels bad that the developer is in this position, but that when a person makes a bad move, he has to pay the costs. Allowing this bad development to go forward without knowing the site's specific situation would be wrong. He commented that he toured the site with the County Sediment Control Officer. Mr. Saber remarked about the "work" that has already been done on the site. There are open and obvious dangers to children. There was a 10x8x2 foot retaining wall that has collapsed. The County official noted that the erosion control activities that had been put in place so far were inadequate and in violation of M.C. Guidelines. He concluded by stating that Longbranch Creek is in better condition than it has a right to be, but that he does not want to see development take place on this site.

Jan Schwartz, 7309 Garland Avenue, congratulated the Council and stated opposition to any kind of paved path or roadway. She remarked about storm water and erosion concerns, and expressed her belief that there are other ways to construct a road without curbs and pavement. She pointed out that there is a huge erosion problem on the right side of the bridge.

Ron Albaugh, 7202 Central Avenue, expressed appreciation to Mr. Hube and his wife for facilitating the placement of the path and bridge currently at Longbranch Creek. He said that he would like to bury a "Coffin" tonight (the original land owner who deviously split the properties). Mr. Albaugh said that Mr. Casey is a part in the plan, and stated that Mr. Casey has indicated that he might live in the home he plans to build. It would be a terrible shame to desecrate the right-of-way, path, and tree. He observed that it has been indicated very clearly this evening, that Mr. Casey has already been "messing up" the site. It is hard to predict what is in store for the City if this plan is approved. He said that he would still like to see Lot 8 investigated as an access to the property.

Benjamin Onyeneke, Maple Avenue, expressed concerns about traffic, and urged support for the plan. He said that the engineering issues should be left to the engineers.

The public hearing was brought to a close at 8:55 p.m.

Councilmember Elrich asked whether the roadway plan has been reviewed by the City Engineer.

Ms. Habada responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Elrich commented on soil erosion.

Ms. Porter noted that the Council has not been briefed on the Stormwater Management Plan.

Ms. Schwartz stated that the general concept of a bio-retention pond has been reviewed by the City Engineer. The specifications of the pond and a Stormwater Permit application have yet to be submitted.

Mr. Elrich remarked that the whole point of a waiver is to not allow the applicant to build a road. The Council's intent is to have the absolute least amount of damage to the site. He requested information about alternative surfacing materials, and questioned any problems with shortening the length of the roadway. He also asked about the feasibility of moving the retention pond off of Lot 3 and onto Lot 10. He recognized that there are legitimate questions about how much further we can go to minimize the impact on the land. Mr. Elrich questioned whether the City can require a construction bond.

Councilmember Rubin requested a description of the situation on the land, right now.

Ms. Schwartz responded that there is an outline for the house on Lot 10--shallow trenches have been dug and concrete has been poured. The retaining wall has crumbled, and there are building materials and a dumpster on the site.

Mr. Saber concurred that it looks like a construction site, and it is obvious that work is being done.

Mr. Rubin questioned the degree of water erosion over the past few of rainy weekends.

Ms. Porter stated that she understands there has been a large amount of erosion.

Mr. Williams requested information about any concurrent permits that are required for development, in time for the Worksession discussion.

Ms. Porter suggested that the City Engineer contact Mr. Goo and discuss his suggestions as part of the process of considering the Stormwater Management Plan.

BRIEFING

2. Unification-related Sectional Map Amendment and Text Amendments. Planning Center Coordinator Ludlow noted the presence of Marsha Kadesh from Park & Planning. Ms. Ludlow provided a brief history of the process which went through, zone-by-zone and lot-by-lot, and determined the M.C. zone that is most comparable according to use and density. No zone is identical from county-to-county. A decision was made not to make any substantive changes at this time. In order to get comparable zones, however, there need to be four text amendments. She described each text amendment: (1) Zoning Text Amendment 97020 -- Grandfathering of Existing Structures and Uses, (2) Zoning Text Amendment 97023 -- Residential/Commercial Conversions in the O-M Zone, (3) Zoning Text Amendment 97024 -- Pre-1972 Motels as a Conforming Use in the C-2 Zone, and (4) Subdivision Regulation Amendment 97-4 -- Exemption from Platting Requirements for Pre-1982 Lots Recorded by Deed. Since there has been some recent confusion about 97-4, we have asked that action on the SMA and related amendments be postponed until January.

The committee hearing was on Thursday afternoon, and the committee supports everything except the provision on non-conforming structures being able to reconstruct in case of fire. The committee accepted the request from the City and Park & Planning to delay action until January so we can make sure the subdivision recommendations are written correctly.

Ms. Ludlow noted that she received a call this afternoon explaining that Councilmember Hanna would like to move the SMA and three related amendments ahead for action in December. The question was posed as to why the City wants to delay the whole package--some reason other than we just want it to be adopted all at once. Ms. Ludlow described her concern about how the amendment might be reworded. If it is worded in an incorrect manner, it could have impact on hundreds of properties in the unification area. She said that she would like to be sure that the language being proposed does not create other harms, and that she thinks this is very serious, to the degree that if the amendments are going to be damaging, then she would suggest keeping the P.G. County zoning until after the upcoming Master Plan process.

Ms. Porter remarked that we should respond to the county that given the magnitude of changes this could trigger, staff needs to bring information back to the City Council before it goes forward for adoption.

Ms. Ludlow invited new Councilmembers Stewart and Hawkins to call on staff for more information on this topic as needed.

REGULAR MEETING

3. Resolution re: Rock Creek Park. Moved by Rubin; seconded by Williams.

Mr. Rubin explained that the City recently took part in very extended discussions about Silver Spring. Through those discussions, the City became closer and better neighbors to the Silver Spring community. It is now relevant for the City to take part in discussions about proposals to our other side--the District of Columbia and specifically, Rock Creek Park. A group of residents in the City have studied the question and have come up with an alternative recommendation to the management of the park. The plan that is being proposed preserves and protects parks and wildlife, seven days a week, with a negligible impact on traffic. He noted that Victor Thuryoni is present for the discussion.

Victor Thuryoni, provided a brief background. For a long time (10-20 years), various groups have been pressing Rock Creek Park to come up with a long range plan for managing the park. The most controversial point is how to address the commuters who use the drive. The proposal is to close portions of the drive, which are closed on weekends, permanently. For many years, people have been trying to get the National Park Service to close portions of the road. It has been an incremental approach; but now, people want the Park Service to take the next step. The resolution would be an appropriate way for the Council to have input in the process. It comes at the right time since the Park Service is thinking about the issue and probably concerned about

political implications. Most of the traffic flow onto Beech Drive probably comes from the south. He described the route of traffic, noting that the traffic on the north part of Beech Drive would be impacted. He remarked about how the proposal might encourage bicycle commuting. There is a large imbalance here in terms of vehicular traffic and alternative modes (i.e., bicycling). He acknowledged that many people would be annoyed by closure of sections of the drive, but concluded that it will be beneficial in the long run.

Councilmember Hawkins requested clarification regarding the proposed resolution and the alternative recommendation.

Mr. Thuryoni responded, explaining that not all of Beech Drive would be closed, only the parts that are currently closed on the weekend (north end).

Ms. Hawkins asked who conducted the study of the impact on 16th Street traffic when the Zoo tunnel was closed.

Mr. Thuryoni stated that the studies were done for the Park Service. He recalled that when the zoo tunnel was closed, it had little impact on motorists.

Ms. Hawkins asked if the recommendation described in the resolution is in line with any of the four scenarios outlined by the Park Service.

Mr. Thuryoni responded that the recommendation has been dubbed "alternative 2 1/2" (a combination of scenarios 2 and 3).

Councilmember Stewart questioned whether there is currently a bike path along the section that is proposed for closure.

Mr. Thuryoni commented that there is a path in sections, but not along the entire length. To construct a full length path would require a lot of bulldozing.

Mr. Williams asked for clarification about the volume of traffic proposed to be impacted by this proposal versus the impact that was felt with the closure of the zoo tunnel. He said that his first reaction to the articles on the zoo tunnel closure were that they do not speak much to the quantity of vehicles that will be impacted by this closure.

Mr. Thuryoni stated that at least three times more traffic had been effected by closing the zoo tunnel, than would be impacted by closure of Beech Drive.

Mark Robinowitz spoke in favor of the resolution. Rock Creek Park is the second oldest park in the national system. It was founded as an ecological reserve. The closures would stop people from commuting through the northern section of the park--the most beautiful section of the park. He suggested that the resolution include a couple of Whereas clauses about the park's wildlife and

ecological protection. He said that the City should be doing everything possible to encourage less single-occupancy vehicles traveling through the park, and to encourage more use of public transportation.

Paula Nessessine stated that she is a bicycle commuter, and described a section of the drive--"best part of the ride". Motorists are insensitive to cyclists. She said that she is thrilled to see this resolution, and thanked the residents who helped to prepare the resolution and Councilmember Rubin for introducing it. She supported Mr. Robinowitz's suggestion about "ecological protection" language in the resolution.

Katherine Tunis (speaking on her own behalf), remarked that cutting-off this part of the road would primarily effect people commuting from Silver Spring and Bethesda. It would cut-off approximately 4500 cars a day, which could be as many as 9000 passengers. She commented that she does not know how many cyclists would benefit. Ms. Tunis agreed that the City does need to encourage people to use alternative modes of transportation, but that measures of encouragement should not pose a problem to motorists. There are nice benefits to being able to drive through the park. The folks who drive through the park are polite commuters. She remarked that the drive through the park may be the only civilized influence of nature that commuters get on a daily basis, and encouraged the Council to recognize that the resource is there for all facets of the community--including those who cannot ride bicycles. She loosely compared this proposal to the gas-powered mower ban which was proposed, noting that this proposal would impact more people outside of the City. Ms. Tunis stated that it would be responsible to get input from more citizens and possibly other people who would be impacted.

Linda Keenan, Eastern Avenue, commented that she is pleased that the Council has introduced this resolution, adding that we need to protect the park more than we have in the past. The volume of traffic is having a terrible effect on the park. She urged the Council to support the resolution and work with colleagues in other area governments to address this issue.

Ann Hoffman stated that she would like to see the city support every alternative to vehicular traffic, and expressed her support for the resolution.

Benjamin Onyeneke, Maple Avenue, said that if the park closes to vehicular traffic it would bring more cars to the City. He remarked about the wildlife in the park, and commented on pollutants from vehicles (carbon monoxide). The park is a wonderful place for children to go in the summer. He urged the Council to support the resolution.

Ms. Hawkins stated that she supports protection of environment, but that she feels a need for more information about the impact on traffic and traffic patterns.

Mr. Robinowitz responded that the other tributary roads do feed more cars. There are other major roads in close proximity, and the parkway is not the fastest route into town. Beech Drive was designed as a scenic road. Bicycles are not the only issue. He recommended that

Councilmembers go and walk along the rapids in the park during rush hours and on then, on the weekend.

Ms. Hawkins admitted that she is one of the motorists who likes to drive through the park to enjoy the scenery.

Mr. Robinowitz agreed that it is better than driving down 16th Street.

Mr. Rubin stated that the resolution would not effect a final ruling on anything. It would only be sending a message to the National Capital Park Service who will be responsible for getting input from community. This proposal will facilitate bicycle riding and encourage metro commuting, both of which are principles within the City's efforts to encourage alternative modes of transportation. Regarding the traffic that will be inconvenienced, from all that we know, that traffic will be absorbed along existing major routes.

Councilmember Chavez asked when the next public hearing will be held on this issue.

Mr. Thuryoni responded that the Park Service is going to address this issue in the Spring.

Mr. Robinowitz described the approval process.

Resolution #1997-68 was adopted unanimously, calling upon the United States Department of Interior, National Park Service, to include in the general management plan for Rock Creek Park the permanent closure to motorized vehicles of those portions of Beach Drive that are currently closed on the weekend, and the improvement of paved trails paralleling those sections of Beach Drive that would remain open to motorized vehicles (VOTING FOR: Porter, Chavez, Elrich, Hawkins, Rubin, Stewart, Williams).

**RESOLUTION #1997-68
(ATTACHED)**

Ms. Porter recognized the lateness of the hour (10:08 p.m.) and the remaining items on the agenda. She stated that she would like to address Item #4.

Mr. Elrich stated that he would like to see of the options outlined in the staff memorandum related to Item #4 illustrated with a set of numbers. This item was postponed until the next Worksession.

Ms. Porter removed Items #6 and #7 from the agenda.

4. Resolution re: Dedication of Park. Moved by Stewart; seconded by Rubin.

Councilmember Stewart commented that she thinks this is one of the things that the Council can

do that is easy and not controversial, yet is supportive of the neighborhood--friends, families and neighbors. She thanked the Council for its consideration of the resolution.

Ms. Porter agreed that adoption of the resolution and conveyance of its recommendation is an important thing the Council can do for the neighborhood. She briefly commented on the valiant fight of Becca Lilly in her battle against cancer, concluding that the dedication of the park is an appropriate public way of remembering her and her courage. This is something that has come forward from the neighborhood--a proposal that a park along Longbranch Creek be named in memory of Becca Lilly. The resolution will be forwarded to Park & Planning with the recommendation that the park be named for Becca Lilly.

Mr. Rubin remarked that there is nothing that anyone can do to fill the void when a young person is lost. Becca Lilly showed courage and fun in life. If the park could be named after her, it would be a way to remember her.

Benjamin Onyeneke, Maple Avenue, supported the resolution, and suggested erecting a monument to Becca in the park. He commented about the devastating effects of cancer.

Resolution #1997-69 was adopted unanimously, recommending that the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission consider and grant the request to name the park along Sligo Creek at the end of Central Avenue in memory of Becca Lilly (VOTING FOR: Porter, Chavez, Elrich, Hawkins, Rubin, Stewart, Williams).

**RESOLUTION #1997-69
(ATTACHED)**

5. Resolution re: Cable Franchise Fees. Ms. Porter explained the resolution. Moved by Williams; seconded by Elrich.

Resolution #1997-70 was adopted unanimously, urging the Montgomery County Council to enact Bill 32-97, *Cable Communications - Franchise Fee* (VOTING FOR: Porter, Chavez, Elrich, Hawkins, Rubin, Stewart, Williams).

**RESOLUTION #1997-70
(ATTACHED)**

Ms. Porter explained the need for Councilmembers to contact County Councilmembers about support for this increase.

Assistant City Administrator Hobbs stated that the County Council will be considering this issue on December 8, 1997.

WORKSESSION / ADJOURNMENT / EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council moved into Worksession at 10:18 p.m., and later convened in Executive Session at 10:30 p.m. Following the Executive Session, the Council adjourned for the evening.

Executive Session 11/24/97 - Moved by Porter; seconded by Williams. Council convened in Executive Session by unanimous vote at 10:35 p.m., in the Conference Room. OFFICIALS PRESENT: Porter, Chavez, Elrich, Hawkins, Rubin, Stewart, Williams. STAFF PRESENT: Habada, Hobbs, Sartoph, Silber, Ludlow, Schwartz. (1) The Council received a briefing regarding possible land acquisition (open space properties); staff was given direction on how to proceed with negotiations related to acquisition. (NOTE: Staff left the room.) (2) The Council discussed the City Administrator's evaluation; work on the evaluation was not concluded. (Authority: Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a)(3) and (1)(ii)).

**RESOLUTION #1997-68
REGARDING ROCK CREEK PARK**

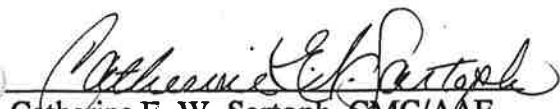
- WHEREAS, the National Park Service is in the process of formulating a general management plan for Rock Creek Park and has asked for public input on what the plan should contain; AND
- WHEREAS, there exists no dedicated bicycle route between Takoma Park and Downtown Washington, D.C., where number of citizens of Takoma Park work; AND
- WHEREAS, the existence of a route on which bicyclists could ride free of automobiles would encourage bicycle commuting; AND
- WHEREAS, Beach Drive offers a scenic route for bicycle commuting by Takoma Park citizens; AND
- WHEREAS, Takoma Park suffers from air pollution caused in large part by automobile commuting in the Metropolitan Area and, therefore, the City supports measures that would encourage means of transportation that do not cause such pollution; AND
- WHEREAS, persons who use Beach Drive for commuting by automobile could use alternate routes as well as alternative means of transportation if the roadway were closed to automobiles; AND
- WHEREAS, many citizens of Takoma Park recreate in the park on weekends when Beach Drive is closed and would enjoy being able to recreate there on weekdays, by walking, running, skating, skiing, and other means that would be facilitated by closure of portions of the road to automobiles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND that the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, is hereby called upon to include in the general management plan for Rock Creek Park the permanent closure to motorized vehicles of those portions of Beach Drive that are currently closed on the weekend, and the improvement of paved trails paralleling those sections of Beach Drive that would remain open to motorized vehicles; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, the Director of the National Park Service, and Takoma Park's representatives in the United States Congress, the Maryland General Assembly, and the Montgomery County Council.

ADOPTED this 24th day of November, 1997.

ATTEST:


Catherine E. W. Sartoph, EMC/AAE
City Clerk

Introduced by: Councilmember Stewart

RESOLUTION #1997-69

Recommending Naming of Park in Memory of Becca Lilly

WHEREAS, Becca Lilly was an energetic youth, committed to young children, and an active participant in her school, church, and Longbranch-Sligo neighborhood programs;
AND

WHEREAS, at the young age of 11, she was diagnosed with brain cancer, which marked the beginning of a long and courageous battle that came to an end just months before her 17th birthday; **AND**

WHEREAS, Becca Lilly's plight touched the hearts of friends, family, residents of the City, and those persons in the greater Washington area who followed extensive stories in *The Washington Post*; **AND**

WHEREAS, residents of the Longbranch-Sligo neighborhood would like to create a meaningful and significant memorial to Becca by naming a park on Central Avenue in her memory, a park located in the neighborhood where she lived, played, and inspired so many people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland, hereby supports the Longbranch-Sligo neighborhood's request to name the park along Sligo Creek at the end of Central Avenue in memory of Becca Lilly; **AND**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Council recommends that the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission consider and grant the request, as a memorial to Becca Lilly in her hometown neighborhood, symbolizing her love of play, children, and sports;
AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission.

ADOPTED this 24 day of November, 1997.

ATTEST:


Catherine E. W. Sartoph, CMC/AAE
City Clerk

Introduced by: Councilmember Williams

RESOLUTION 1997 - 70

A Resolution urging the Montgomery County Council to enact Bill 32-97, *Cable Communications - Franchise Fee.*

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park, Maryland is a co-franchisor with Montgomery County of the Cable Television Franchise for Montgomery County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park operates Channel 54/19, a government access channel; and

WHEREAS, the County Council upon the request of the County Executive is considering Bill 32-97, *Cable Communications - Franchise Fee*; and

WHEREAS, Bill 32-97 would change the County's division of cable television franchise fees with participating municipalities from 60:40 (County:municipality) to 25:75; and

WHEREAS, the City allocates its share of franchise fees to the operations of its channel; and

WHEREAS, the increase of fees to the City would be used to improve the programming and technical capabilities of Channel 54/19.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND that the County Council is hereby encouraged to promptly enact Bill 32-97 to change the division of cable television franchise fees to 25:75 (County:municipality) and that the change be made retroactive to July 1, 1997.

Adopted this 24th Day of November, 1997

Attest:


Catherine E. W. Sartoph, CMC/AE
City Clerk

