

Introduced by: Councilmember Kovar

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

Resolution No. 2016-24

Resolution Adopting the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park installs and maintains hundreds of pieces of furniture, lighting, wayfinding signs, bike racks, etc. on public rights-of-way in residential neighborhoods and commercial districts; and

WHEREAS, functional, accessible, and well maintained public spaces improve the quality of life in Takoma Park by fostering community, enhancing business vitality, and supporting environmental and economic sustainability, and

WHEREAS, the City has made efforts in recent years to design and improve residential and commercial streetscapes using high quality products and treatments that are both functional and communicate the City's unique identity; and

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2012, the Takoma Park City Council adopted by Resolution 2012-56 the New Ave Streetscape Standards, developed to guide streetscape improvements along New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard resulting from both private redevelopment and public infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2015 the City Council-appointed Residential Streetscape Task Force presented a final report to the City Council outlining recommendations to establish a policy statement on streetscapes in the community, greater inter-departmental coordination on streetscape improvements, the development of a streetscape style manual, and special consideration to distinct neighborhoods like the historic district; and

WHEREAS, City staff developed the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual that provides a mapped inventory of all streetscape elements installed by the City in public rights-of-way to ensure consistency of installation, maintenance, and replacement in specified locations of the city; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual incorporates public input from City Council, individuals, business associations, Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee, and Residential Streetscape Task Force but does not establish new policy; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual incorporates the New Ave Streetscape Standards and addresses many recommendations in the Residential Streetscape Task Force final report; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual is a city-wide document applicable to both City and State maintained rights-of-way, with discrete guidance for Flower Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue, and to be expanded in the future to include specific guidance for the Takoma Park Historic District and residential neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual is intended to be used as guidance by all City staff and City-appointed boards, commissions, and committees, when proposing, reviewing, installing, and replacing streetscape elements in the public right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park City Council will refer to the policy-related comments of the Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee, the Residential Streetscape Task Force and others when considering policy changes affecting rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual will be published on the City's website and updated and modified where necessary annually by City staff.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Takoma Park adopts the Takoma Park Streetscape Manual.

Adopted this 20th day of July, 2016.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk