



# CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

## City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of January 23, 2019

### *Information to Share*

#### **Emergency Assistance Funds**

The City of Takoma Park's Emergency Assistance Fund provides financial support to income-eligible residents in crisis. To qualify for financial assistance under this program, individuals must be a resident of Takoma Park and their annual household income cannot exceed 60% of the area median income. Upon verification of their eligibility and documentation of their need, financial assistance may be provided for a range of basic human needs including housing, utilities, prescription drugs and food. Assistance securing food and prescription drugs can be provided once a month. Individuals seeking assistance to avoid eviction, foreclosure or the disconnection of utilities may access the fund once in a 12-month period. Referrals to other agencies are provided.

The program is administered by Ministries United Silver Spring Takoma Park (MUSST). To apply for funding, please contact MUSST directly at (301) 495-4699. MUSST offices are located in the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services – Silver Spring Center, 8818 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring. The office is open from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Mondays, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, and from Noon to 4:00 p.m. on Fridays.

#### **Community Grants Program**

We are pleased to announce the launch of the City's FY20 Community Grants Program and ask for your assistance in getting the word out about this unique funding opportunity.

Since its development in 2016, the Community Grants Program has provided up to \$10,000 in matching grant funds to area non-profits and business associations for over 25 projects and events designed to provide Takoma Park residents with greater access and opportunities for participation in the arts and sciences. Past grants have included science and math clubs, robotics clubs, computer programming classes, concert and film series, public art, maker spaces, technology-based internship and apprenticeship programs. To learn more about the details of the program, upcoming workshops and the new online application process, please check out the [Community Grants Program](#) page on the City website.

Letters of Interest must be submitted online and are due no later than 5 pm on Thursday, February 28, 2019. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend one of two scheduled workshops to learn more about the program and the application process. The first workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 5 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The second is scheduled for the following day on Wednesday, February 6 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Both workshops will be held in the Hydrangea Room on the main level of the Community Center.

#### **Cell Antenna – Next Steps**

Now that the Council has amended the City's Code pertaining to permits in the City rights-of-ways, we are shifting to the task of drafting administrative regulations that will specify the components of the application process, requirements, and fees. Once drafted, the regulations will be made available to the public for comment. We plan to enlist the assistance of an outside subject matter expert to complete this work.

## ***Hiring Update***

We are currently advertising and/or interviewing for a number of positions including Recreation Program Leaders, Recreation Program Assistant, Sanitation Driver, Contract CDL Driver, Police Officer, Police Intern, and Sustainability Intern.