



City of Takoma Park

City Manager Comments

Report of March 3, 2021

COVID-19 Related Information

Vaccine distribution is the hot topic right now. We are excited that the Johnson and Johnson single-dose vaccine is now available! It was tested at a later date than the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines and is very effective on the more contagious variants that have developed. All three vaccines will keep a person from being very sick with COVID-19. If you haven't been vaccinated yet, take the first one you can get. It's the way to help our community get back to normal, have schools and businesses open safely, and free up hospital space for those with other diseases and injuries. The vaccines are safe and have very few side effects.

I received my first vaccine shot last Saturday at the M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore. Afterwards, my relieved son commented, "Now you literally won't die from COVID."

Refer to both the [Maryland Vaccine Website](#) and the [Montgomery County Vaccine Information](#) page to learn more and to pre-register if you are in a category that can do so. You can also call 240-777-2982 to pre-register with the County. There are also phone numbers on the State site that can be easier to use than the online registration sites.

COVID-19 testing in Takoma Park

Even though all of the attention is on vaccinations right now, it is still important to have regular COVID-19 testing. Without regular testing, we won't know if there are increases in COVID-19 cases until people need to come to a doctor's office or hospital. Free, no appointment COVID-19 testing is being held on Saturdays at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue from 10 am to 5 pm. For this and other testing options, please see the information here: [Montgomery County Testing Sites](#).

Update on COVID-19 Response

Each week, the City's COVID-19 Dashboard is updated. The most recent one is here: [COVID 19 Dashboard](#)

March is Budget Preparation Month!

All members of the City of Takoma Park Senior Leadership Team and the Finance Department are spending long hours preparing the Proposed FY22 Budget. We are taking the comments of Councilmembers and residents to heart in trying to have budget proposals and a budget document that is easy to understand and meets the Priorities of the City Council. Other work doesn't stop, though, so we are extremely busy.