



City of Takoma Park

Acting Deputy City Manager David Eubanks

ARPA:

This past Monday, July 10th, Montgomery County forwarded a fully executed Memorandum of Agreement for the Mental Health Counselor pilot program. Staff will now begin working with the County to finalize a job description for posting and recruitment of the two counselor positions as soon as possible. Based on the County's general hiring timeline, we suspect it will take around 4-6 months from job posting to hiring, onboarding, and implementation. In the meantime, City and County staff will be finalizing program details and communication materials to include in a program guidebook. Last month, the county program lead and ARPA Manager Bolduc also met with the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church - police reform group to answer a few program questions and to keep them updated on the project. We will continue to update you during City Manager comments as this progresses but wanted to reflect on the job well done to be at this phase after months of delays.

City Manager Updates:

On Monday, July 31st from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm, the New Hampshire Garden Community Association is hosting a discussion regarding possible traffic calming efforts on Wildwood and Glenside Drives. This meeting will be hybrid, with the in-person gathering at the New Hampshire Rec Center, 7315 New Hampshire Ave., Takoma Park. Representatives from the Police Department, Public Works, and City Planning will give a presentation and answer any questions. The link to register to attend via Zoom will be posted next week.

As a semi-regular reminder:

On June 8, 2023, the Montgomery County Planning Board voted to schedule a Public Hearing for Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 6 p.m. for community input on the Takoma Park Minor Master Plan Amendment. The Public Hearing will take place at M-NCPPC's Wheaton Headquarters 2nd floor Auditorium as well as virtually through the Planning Board's website. The Public Hearing will also be livestreamed at the City of Takoma Park's Community Center for the public to watch and provide testimony. A link to sign-up to testify at the Public Hearing will be included tomorrow in the posted City Manager's Comments as well as a list of other methods to formally submit testimony.

Links:

- Sign-up to testify at the Public Hearing: <https://montgomeryplanningboard.org/meetings/signup-to-testify/>
- For more information about the proposed plan, please go to: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development/planning-and-community-development/minor-master-plan/>

Other Methods to submit testimony:

- testifying in person or via Microsoft Teams as mentioned above
- residents may also email testimony to mcp-chair@mncppc-mc.org
- fax testimony to the Planning Board Chair at 301-495-1320
- or mail written testimony to: Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board, 2425 Reddie Drive, 14th Floor, Wheaton, MD 20902.

*** **PLEASE NOTE***** To be reviewed by the Planning Board and included in the official record of the hearing, your testimony **MUST** include your mailing address and the date of the Public Hearing (in this case Sept. 14, 2023).