



City of Takoma Park

Acting Deputy City Manager Andrew Bolduc

HCD:

RESCHEDULED--Montgomery College Facilities Master Plan Public Meeting

New Date 10/5/2023 6:30PM

Virtual - Details Below

The Facilities Master Plan reviews the conditions of existing facilities and defines the College's future needs outlined in the College's strategic plan. The Maryland Higher Education Commission uses the plan to ensure the College is prepared to meet the needs of residents for postsecondary education and subsequently assess the College's requests for new and modernized facilities. Further information about the current Facilities Master Plan will be posted with the City Manager's Comments tomorrow:

Link: <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/offices/facilities/capital-planning-design-and-engineering/facilities-master-plan/index.html>

Mentioned last week: Film Screening: Dancing Joy

9/29/2023 7:30PM

Community Center Auditorium

In a celebration of music and dance, a film crew traveled 56,000 miles to four continents to film local dance troupes performing traditional dances to *Ode to Joy* from Beethoven's Symphony No. 9.

Takoma Park Street Festival

10/1/2023 10:00AM-5:00PM

Carroll Avenue

The popular Takoma Park Street Festival returns for its 42nd year of music, vendors, food and fun in Takoma Park. This year's festival takes place on Sunday, October 1, 2023 from 10:00 am-5:00 pm on Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park, MD to Carroll Street, NW in Takoma, DC. Festival goers will enjoy the day exploring over 150 vendor booths, live music from 18 local bands, food trucks and more.

Takoma's unique shops, restaurants and cafes are all open and welcoming visitors.

Green Way Reading Series Poetry Reading

10/1/2023 5:00PM

People's Books

Takoma Park Poet Laureate Taylor Johnson will host a free poetry reading in the [Green Way Reading Series](#) at People's Book in downtown Takoma Park this Sunday. The series, which features prominent local poets in free readings on the first Sunday of the month, is co-sponsored by People's Book and the City's Arts and Humanities Division.

Historic Preservation Tax Credit Workshop

10/3/2023 7:00PM

Virtual - <https://bit.ly/taxcreditwebinarRKV>

The City of Rockville and Montgomery County Planning will be hosting a free webinar on the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Tax Credit. A link will be posted with the City Manager's Comments tomorrow.



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Code Enforcement Presents: Zero Waste Talk by Stephanie Miller

10/5/2023 7:00PM

Takoma Park Community Center

What actions could you take today that would help solve the climate and waste crises? In this talk, former World Bank Group Climate Director Stephanie Miller will cover the easy steps that busy people can take to reduce their carbon and waste footprint and live more sustainably. Drawing on the messages in her book, *Zero Waste Living, the 80/20 Way*, she will discuss actions that fall within what she calls the “magic three”: focus on food, purge plastics and recycle right. You will leave the conversation feeling empowered to take action today and help others around you do the same.

Curving Lines Art Opening

10/5/2023 7:30PM

Takoma Park Community Center

A new art exhibition called *Curving Lines* that features abstract artwork by four D.C.-area artists. The opening reception will be held in the Community Center, and there's more info posted on the city website and Facebook page. Links will be posted with the Comments tomorrow.

Link: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/news-alert/curving-lines-art-opening-reception-on-oct-5-at-the-takoma-park-community-center/>

HCD Staff Updates:

Grant Award - Metropolitan Branch Trail: The City was awarded a new grant from the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program. The grant, worth \$465,000, will allow the City to conduct design work to widen the existing trail and to feature an improved trail surface, pedestrian-scale lighting, and pedestrian connections to the adjacent neighborhood, park, and community college. This essential segment of the National Capital Trail Network is critically in need of safety upgrades to align with similar design and implementation efforts occurring in DC and Silver Spring.

Renovation of Jessup Blair Park: Montgomery Parks is conducting an online survey, seeking community input on the renovation of Jessup Blair Park. At 15 acres, Jessup Blair Park is the largest park in downtown Silver Spring. It is located near the DC line and bordered by Georgia Avenue, CSX/transit railroad tracks, Blair Road, and Jessup Blair Drive.

The park currently has a playground, soccer field, lighted tennis and basketball courts, picnic areas, and the historic Jessup Blair House. Planners are hoping to increase use of the space by developing a “park for all” that appeals to a diverse group of park users with varying interests, abilities, and ages. Check the Jessup Blair project page on Montgomery Parks website. A link will also be posted in the Comments tomorrow.

Link: <https://montgomeryparks.org/projects/directory/jesup-blair-park-facility-plan/>

Reminders:

Rent Reporting: City of Takoma Park Rent Reporting for 2023 is now open. All owners of rental licensed properties should have received a mail notification with rent reporting instructions. The deadline for submission of rent reports is September 30th.



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Takoma Park Minor Master Plan: The Montgomery County Planning Board is still accepting written testimony until September 30th. To be included in the official record of the hearing, your testimony MUST include your mailing address and the date of the Public Hearing (Sept. 14, 2023). For more information, check the City webpage on the Minor Master Plan. Methods to submit testimony will be included in the posted City Manager's Comments tomorrow.

Methods: 1) Email testimony to mcp-chair@mncppc-mc.org, 2) Fax testimony to the Planning Board Chair at 301-495-1320.

Link to MMP: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development/planning-and-community-development/minor-master-plan/>

Tenant Opportunity to Purchase (TOPL) Requests for Qualification (RFQs): The HCD Housing Division have released two RFQs to support the City's TOPL policies. The first RFQ (#HCD-2023-08-21) seeks responses from qualified non-profit and mission-oriented for-profit developers with strong affordable housing track records and demonstrated experience in acquiring, owning, operating, rehabilitating, and developing quality rental and/or homeownership housing with affordability covenants who are interested in serving in a pool of qualified parties to serve as assignees or designees as part of the City's right of first refusal through the City's Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Law. The second RFQ (#HCD-2023-08-23) will seek qualified non-profit technical assistance providers to assist local tenant associations with organizing and identifying the feasibility of purchasing their properties through the TOPL process. Both RFQs will remain open until January 2024.

There are also two Area Planning Project Participation Opportunities- more information will be included in the City Manager's Comments which will be posted tomorrow.

1. Montgomery College Facilities Master Plan: Montgomery College will hold a final virtual public meeting on October 5, 2023 at 6:30 PM to review the draft Facilities Master Plan and items specific to the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. Please register at https://montgomerycollege.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcpcuiuqTguG9LP9vKHFTFXMWueTmdrx7qec?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=here&utm_campaign=tpss_leggett#/registration.
2. Ride on Reimagined: Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) is hosting a virtual open house on Thursday, September 28 at 6:30 PM to share an overview of recommended proposed changes to the bus route network in Montgomery County, answer questions, and receive feedback. More information on the project can be found here: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Transit/reimagined/>.



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MCDOT- Press Release concerning Bus Stop Closures:

Bus stop closures impacting Ride On Routes 17 & 18 will begin Friday, September 29th. Please access the following link for more information.



Link: https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=44063&Dept=50

Recreation:

On Friday, December 1st at 6pm, the Takoma Park Recreation Department Teen Program will be hosting an Old School vs. New School Basketball Tournament at Piney Branch Elementary School. Teen and adult teams of 3 are invited to participate in the tournament, winners will receive an exciting prize! This event is an opportunity to bring the community together in support of teens while they enjoy one of their favorite sports in a safe, fun environment. Please spread the word to your Wards, we are still recruiting teams. It is free to both participate and to attend the game. Contact Teen Manager Haven Rhodd with any questions or to sign up, you can also leave your name if you don't have a team and they will try to help connect you with a group.



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Public Works:

The Takoma Branch Stream Restoration project has been completed. The final tree planting is expected to be done in mid-October. The project was finished within the time frame and on budget and has already held up quite well in the recent storms. The project is estimated to provide restoration credit for the City through our NPDES MS4 stormwater permit.

City Manager Updates:

Library mailer correction- should be arriving in homes within the week.

Link for Homeowners and Renters property tax credit application forms:

<https://takomaparkmd.gov/public-notices/property-tax-credits-are-you-eligible/>