



City of Takoma Park

Acting City Manager David Eubanks

Finance:

- I am happy to announce that the City received the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for our Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the year ended June 30, 2022. Kudos to the hard-working staff in the finance department and the collaborative effort of the auditors.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. We have been getting these each year, in spite of the new GASB regulation updates and GFOA requirements. We are in the final weeks of preparing the FY23 ACFR and are glad we can include our 2022 award certificate in it to show our commitment to financial excellence.

Housing & Community Development Updates:

There are two events for tomorrow, November 2nd.

- The first is the Planning Board Work Session #2- Minor-Master Plan Amendment, this virtual meeting is from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. The MMPA item will be the last item on their agenda. The Planning Board will be holding multiple work sessions on the MMPA during the Fall. Staff reports for each work session are available on the Planning Board agenda webpage and a livestream or video of the Planning Board session can be viewed online. The link will be posted with the City Manager's Comments tomorrow.

Link: <https://montgomeryplanningboard.org/agenda-item/november-02-2023/>

- The second item is for the Takoma Arts Film Screening of the movie "Nomad Meets the City". This event will take place in the Community Center at 7:30 p.m. The film tells the story of a Mongolian family whose lives reveal larger cultural and societal shifts. Filmmaker Anji Sauvé Clubb will lead a Q&A with the audience following the screening.
- HCD also wants to share that the Montgomery County Board of Education will hold public hearings on November 6 and November 7, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., to hear testimony regarding the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2025 Capital Budget and the FY 2025–2030 Capital Improvements Program. The hearings will be open to the public and held in-person. The Board also will continue to accept pre-recorded audio and video submissions for individuals who wish to remain virtual.
 - All testimonies will be made available to the public on BoardDocs. Individuals who wish to provide public comments will register using the online registration form.
 - The public may begin signing up to provide testimony for both hearings on October 31, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
 - The link to register will be included in the City Manager's Comments when they are posted tomorrow.
 - Individuals registering may reserve only one space.
 - Sign-up registration will close on the following dates:
 - Hearing on November 6, 2023 – Sign-ups close on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.
 - Hearing on November 7, 2023 – Sign-ups close on Thursday, November 2, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

Link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfkdoyyL97amv4vnAiBZ8InY09jrEGz4jK03axRG-dd6X0xw/viewform>



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Public Works:

- The State Highway Administration's Carroll Avenue project is in the final phase which will be the milling and resurfacing of portions of Carroll Avenue between the DC line and University Blvd. The resurfacing work is expected to start November 8th and be completed in early December. The initial resurfacing work will be done at night - between 8 pm and 5 am. This will affect the sections of Carroll Avenue between the DC line and Westmoreland Avenue and from Philadelphia Avenue to Lee Avenue. Once those sections are complete, the work will shift to daytime paving which is expected to start Nov 20 from 7 am to 7 pm. This will affect sections of Carroll Avenue between Lee Avenue and Jefferson Avenue, the former Hospital entrance to Flower Avenue and Long Branch Parkway to University Blvd.

During the work, one lane will remain open to travel and there will be a flagging operation directing traffic through the work zone. Work days are Monday through Friday, but will not include the Thanksgiving holiday. During the paving operation, travel through Carroll Avenue is expected to be impacted. Side streets near the work areas may also experience temporary closures.

The Project Manager for State Highway is Usman Khan, 443-510-9530.
The Foreman for F.O. Day is Joel Brauman, 240-888-7378.

- The State Highway Administration has notified the City that crosswalk markings and stop bars are being replaced over the next several weeks along MD410.
 - The locations on Philadelphia Avenue include: at Chicago Ave, Takoma Ave, Piney Branch Rd, Chestnut Ave, Holly Ave, Cedar Ave, Maple Ave, Holt Place and Carroll Avenue.
 - The locations on Carroll Avenue include: at Grant Ave.
 - The locations on Ethan Allen Avenue include: at Sycamore Ave, Manor Circle, Jackson Ave, Prince Georges Ave, Elm Ave and New Hampshire Ave.
- The Public Works Department recently received several grant awards. This includes \$10,000 from the Pepco Sustainable Maryland program and \$5,000 from Maryland DOT Urban Tree Program Grant for the establishment of a pollinator arboretum in Stuart Armstrong Gardens (Hodges Lane and Philadelphia Avenue). The Department also received a \$4,875 grant from the MDOT Tree Grant Program for our Takoma Tree initiative. The Department acknowledges the efforts of Anna Mische John, our Vegetation Maintenance Supervisor, and Marty Frye, our Urban Forest Manager in receiving this funding.

City Manager:

- City Manager search update- The position was posted in early October and closes November 15, 2023. The recruiter will vet and request background checks before arranging for meetings with Council and the City. The timeline for this project includes a goal to make an offer by early December. The search firm has provided an email address specific to our search so that anyone who has ideas or concerns can submit them. This email address is: takomaparkcitymanager@govhrusa.com
- Finally- Thank You to the Recreation Department, Public Works, and Police Department for another successful Monster Bash on October 28th. Between one thousand and twelve hundred people participated and everyone had fun! Also, thank you to our Council Members who served as judges!