



City of Takoma Park

Acting City Manager David Eubanks

Housing & Community Development Updates:

- Tomorrow, November 9th between 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. the Planning Board is hosting its Historic Preservation Work Session for the Minor Master Plan Amendment. The special work session from the Montgomery County Planning Board on the Takoma Park Minor-Master Plan Amendment (MMPA) will focus on the historic preservation recommendations within the MMPA and is one of multiple work sessions planned through the Fall of 2023. 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. A link will be included in the City Manager's Comments posted tomorrow.
Link: <https://montgomeryplanningboard.org/agenda-item/november-02-2023/>.
- The Montgomery County Planning Board continues to hold these bi-weekly work sessions on the Minor-Master Plan Amendment. Information on the work sessions, including upcoming schedules and past videos, can be found on the City's website.
Link: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development/planning-and-community-development/minor-master-plan/>.
- On Friday, November 10th beginning at 3:00 p.m. the Mayor and members of Council will celebrate the recent opening of several new businesses in Ward 5 with ribbon cutting ceremonies. Ribbon cuttings along the 8000 block of Flower Avenue will include Koma Coffee and Dynamic Choices Hair Salon. After the Flower Avenue ribbon cuttings, Healing Practice Counseling at 7030 Carroll will also be celebrating an Open House beginning at 5:00 p.m.
- On Thursday, November 16th at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center, Takoma Park Arts will host a free screening of the documentary film "First Step". The award-winning documentary reveals an intimate portrait of an activist's isolation and internal struggle, and the commitment of people in both political parties who are drawn into an historic fight for freedom and justice. The film, which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival, has been shown at more than 40 other film festivals across the country. Film director Brandon Kramer will lead a Q&A with the audience after the film screening. The City's most recent screening, Nomad in the City on November 2nd, drew an audience of over 75 attendees.
- Ride on Reimagined: Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) continues to solicit feedback on the draft Ride on Reimagined review of the Montgomery County bus network. Information on the proposed plan, including an opportunity to provide public feedback prior to the 11/15 deadline, can be found on the County's website, a link will be posted in the City Manager's Comments tomorrow.
Link: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Transit/reimagined/>.
HCD has been monitoring the process, including attending the September Open House, as well as staff level engagement. HCD continues to review potential Takoma Park route changes and their impacts on coverage and frequency within the city. Staff anticipates submitting public comment on the draft prior to the deadline on November 15th.
- On Monday, November 6th Mayor Searcy provided testimony for the City of Takoma Park concerning the Montgomery County Public Schools Capital Improvement Budget. Public hearings were held on November 6th and 7th to hear testimony regarding the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2025 Capital Budget and the FY 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Program. Mayor Searcy's testimony outlined City concerns about funding for Piney Branch Elementary School.



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Public Works:

- Just a reminder- 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 today, 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.

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
- A reminder that City Office's are closed this Friday, November 10th, in observance of Veterans Day.