



City of Takoma Park

City Manager Robert DiSpirito

City Clerk's Office:

- The deadline to apply for appointment to City Boards and Committees has been extended to Monday, June 10th. Please check the website for complete information about vacancies and how to apply.
Link: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees/>

HCD Department:

- **Takoma Park Arts Call for Performances:**

The Arts and Humanities Division is seeking submissions for future performances in the *Takoma Park Arts* series, which provides a performance venue in the Community Center auditorium, honorariums, extensive promotion, and a professional recording of the performance by the City TV crew.

There is no submission fee, and applicants don't need to be Takoma Park residents. Performances may include music, theater, dance, multi-media performances, etc. The submission deadline is June 30, and there's more info and an online application form.

Link: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/3a1e8f81fcdc4abc8c838a743f20ffcc>

- **Grant Applications:**

In addition to the FY25 National Capital Strategic Economic Development Fund Applications, our Grants Coordinator Patti Mallin submitted two additional applications last week:

- 1) a submission to the Maryland Department of Transportation's Kim Lamphier Bikeway Network to fund the design of Section D, also known as the DC Connector of the New Ave Bikeway, and
- 2) a partner submission with the Village of Takoma Park to the Maryland Department of Aging to support a small home repair program for senior residents.

Police:

- The Police Department is hosting our first annual diaper drive! The primary objective of the diaper drive is to alleviate the financial burden on our residents, thus enabling them to use their resources towards other essential needs. By providing access to diapers through community support, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who require assistance in our community.

This collection drive will run from June 1 – 30, 2024. We will be asking various businesses to partner with us and will also challenge our city employees and fire department partners to drop off packs or boxes of diapers, if they are able to do so.

To ensure fair distribution and accommodate as many families as possible, we will limit each family to two packs of diapers per child. We can only accept NEW unopened packs of diapers. Of course, boxes of diapers are also welcome. Your support matters. Your donation, no matter how big or small, is a step towards brighter futures and stronger families. Thank you for being a part of this vital cause. Let's make every little one feel loved and cared for.



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○ **Distribution Information is as follows:**

For Takoma Park Families who need diapers, these will be **distributed by appointment only at the Takoma Park Police Department in July**. Your point of contact is Cathy Plevy at cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7142.

Be on the lookout for a form to fill out that will be in English, Spanish and Amharic! An announcement will be made when the signup sheet is posted.

Link: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/police/services-and-programs/diaper-drive-changing-lives-one-diaper-at-a-time/>

- We would like to welcome the newest member of the Takoma Park Police department, Jill Larson, who is a Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical. Ms. Larson is coming to us from the Montgomery County Crisis Center to provide mental health mobile outreach, petition evaluations, on-scene support, Domestic Violence lethality screens and referrals, on-scene grief support and other resources as needed for front-line officers. In addition to supportive mental health resources, Ms. Larson is a current Crisis Intervention Team instructor for thought disorders, and will provide in-service training and consultation.

Prior to becoming a social worker, Ms. Larson is a 17- year retired Police Officer hailing from St. Paul, Minnesota. Her experience includes working in the human and sex trafficking units, negotiations, investigations liaison and as a Field Training Officer.

Ms. Larson is looking forward to providing resources and cultivating a supportive collaboration for our front-line staff responding to calls for service. Please welcome Ms. Larson to the Takoma Park Police Department.

Public Works:

- Wednesday, June 19th, is “Juneteenth,” an observed holiday. The regular Wednesday collection will move to Thursday, June 20th for trash, recycling and food waste. This will affect all of Ward 4 and Ward 5 and a portion of Ward 1.

City Manager’s Office:

- Staff Shout-out –

Public Works would like to give a "shout out" for Blanca Flores-Ramirez

Blanca rejoined the City of Takoma Park as the Facility Maintenance Supervisor in the Fall of 2022. She had previously worked for the City several years earlier as the Building Maintenance Specialist. The Facility Maintenance Division is intended to be a 2-person operation, with a supervisor and a specialist handling facility needs and overseeing the work of contractors. However, the City has not been able to fill the Specialist role yet and Blanca has been managing facility maintenance operations entirely solo. Recently, Blanca completed some very significant repairs in the Community Center including addressing a long-standing leak in the atrium ceiling, which she did personally, and replacing the HVAC system for the Human Resources and Housing and Community Development offices for which she developed the scope



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of work, managed the bid process, selected the vendor, and oversaw the installation. In addition to these projects, Blanca continues to handle facility maintenance and repair needs, and interacts with all Department staff in a friendly, helpful and collaborative manner. For that, we want to recognize Blanca and thank her for her outstanding work.

That concludes my report this evening, I am happy to answer any questions. Thank You.