



City of Takoma Park

## City Manager Robert DiSpirito

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### Police Department:

- On Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, Montgomery Parks suspended a portion of the Sligo Creek Open Parkway on Fridays moving forward. This is to alleviate traffic impacts at the intersection of Sligo Creek Parkway and Piney Branch Road, resulting from the Purple Line Construction. This is a temporary change.
- Together with the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, we are plunging into the Chesapeake Bay with other law enforcement agencies on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup> for the Polar Bear Plunge. Please support our Takoma Park Police Department and Fire Department team, benefitting the Maryland Special Olympics by visiting the Maryland Special Olympics web page: <https://somed.org>, going to the bottom of the page where it says 2025 Polar Bear Plunge, and donate. Our Takoma Park Police Department's team name is Handcuffs and Halligans.
- Takoma Park Police are still collecting new/gently used bath towels, beach towels, bathroom rugs, hand towels, washcloths, blankets, beds, toys & unopened food to help the Montgomery County Animal Shelters. We will be collecting through Friday, February 7. Please bring your donations to the Takoma Park Police Department lobby, 7500 Maple Ave, Takoma Park, MD and we will get them to the animal shelters. **\*\*NOTE: For the safety of the animals, NO fitted sheets, items with zippers or snaps, and/or other fabrics with rips or frayed edges. \*\***
- There is still space available in the 2025 Community Police Academy, which begins March 4<sup>th</sup>.

This free, 12-week program consists of one class a week on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM, covering patrol, traffic enforcement, use of force, criminal investigations, firearms, community policing, and more. The presentations are slide show/lecture style and will be presented by officers, detectives, and civilians of the Takoma Park Police Department. There will also be multiple opportunities for hands-on learning through equipment demonstrations, practical scenarios, field trips, and ride-a-longs with patrol officers.

If you are interested in learning about the Takoma Park Police Department and local government, if you are 16 years old or older and live or work in Takoma Park; then you may apply. The applicants will be accessing sensitive areas of the Police Department during the class. The applicants will be required to fill out a background check waiver to attend the class. The applicants may not have any serious misdemeanor or felony offenses.

Applications for the Community Police Academy are available at the Takoma Park Police Department or can be found on our web page. Please complete both the application and the background waiver form. The deadline is Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Application link: <https://takomapark.seamlessdocs.com/f/yjaf0g1k4ki5>  
Background check waiver: <https://takomapark.seamlessdocs.com/f/zh0j3ihtqrej>



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### **Public Works Department:**

- Earlier today, the Vegetation team at Public Works held a volunteer event at the Stuart Armstrong Pollinator Arboretum. A number of teens volunteered on their “no-school” day to help lay wood chips on the path. This meant a lot of shoveling, wheelbarrowing, and raking. Thank you to all for the hard work!

### **City Manager’s Office:**

- A Shout-Out from all of us:

On behalf of the Mayor and Council and my staff and me, I would like to express our deep appreciation to the City of College Park for allowing us to meet in their City Hall, a wonderful facility, for our Mayor and Council working retreat all day last Saturday...and free of charge! Specifically, I want to thank City Clerk Yvette Allen and City manager Kenny Young for accommodating us. It was a very productive work day for Takoma Park. One day, we would be happy to return the favor!

This concludes the City Manager’s Report. Thank you.