



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of April 11, 2018

Information to Share

Responses to Adventist HealthCare's Requests for Project Change and CON Exemption

Both the City and representatives of Holy Cross Hospital recently sent letters to the Maryland Healthcare Commission in response to Adventist HealthCare's request to change their previously approved project and request an exemption from the Certificate of Need process. The request from Adventist HealthCare came as a great surprise in light of the previous (2015) Certificate of Need decision by the Commission. Copies of the letters are available at the links below. I also urge people to look at the information on the City's website at: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/washington-adventist-hospital/>

[Takoma Park Letter to Maryland Health Care Commission regarding AHC's Request for Project Change After Certification \(April 10, 2018\)](#)

[Holy Cross Letter to Maryland Health Care Commission regarding AHC's Request for Project Change After Certification \(March 29, 2018\)](#)

Dockless Bikeshares

Last fall, the City signed onto the County's dockless bikeshare pilot agreement with the bikeshare companies operating in Washington D.C. and Montgomery County. The pilot was designed to last six months with an automatic six month extension unless one or both parties agreed not to extend it. Beginning in February, knowing that the first six months was coming to an end in late March, City staff began inquiring with County DOT staff about their plans to evaluate the pilot and what the next steps would be. County staff indicated that we could anticipate that the pilot would be extended, but provided no information about next steps. Just this week, we heard back that the County is checking now to ensure that the bikeshare companies are in compliance. If it is confirmed that they are (which is expected), the pilot will continue with a more formal evaluation to occur over the spring and summer. We hope to receive more detailed data and information at a meeting later this month.

For now, staff recommends that we continue to be a part of the County's agreements/pilot and schedule a work session to discuss the subject in advance of the conclusion of the pilot, assuming it is extended. The purpose of the work session would be for the Council to discuss the subject, their interests in next steps, and provide staff with direction on whether and how we work with the County and/or bikeshare companies moving forward.

Administrative Correction to Sidewalk Construction Resolution

It was brought to staff's attention that contradictory language is in City Resolution 2015-32, Sidewalk Process. After extensive research by City Clerk Jessie Carpenter, it was discovered that a clerical error had been made in 2012 in Resolution 2012-16 regarding the sidewalk approval process. Apparently there were two options included in a draft resolution under consideration by Council. The Council chose one, but both options remained in the text of the resolution. That same confusing language carried through into Resolution 2015-32 when the policies were modified. City Public Works staff has always followed the procedures that were set by Council, so the confusing language has not affected the actual sidewalk approval process. Because this was a clerical error, the extra words have been removed from Resolution 2015-32.

Kudos

Kudos to all the department heads, Roz Grigsby, and Recreation staff for their work in preparing for and participating in the Budget and Takoma Junction open houses this past Saturday. There was a

great turnout and lots of good discussion! Thanks also to Recreation staff for providing childcare during the events.

Kudos to Recreation and City TV staff for facilitating and broadcasting the Fitness Expo at the New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center this past Saturday (yes, it was an eventful Saturday for staff). The Expo was well put together and attended. I also appreciated the help of the Police Department in this event!

Hiring Update

We are currently advertising for a number of positions, including Police Dispatcher, Police Officer, Sanitation Driver, Recreation Program Leader, and Contract CDL Driver.