



# CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

## City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of May 16, 2018

### *Information to Share*

#### **Updates on Traffic Signal Timing**

County and SHA staff are continuing to adjust timings of traffic signals and pedestrian crossing signals in the Takoma Junction area. Changes will be made that should address recent concerns of back-ups on Carroll Avenue approaching the Junction.

A recommendation has been made concerning the pedestrian signals at the Fire Station. At this time, pushing the pedestrian signal stops traffic and allows pedestrians to cross Philadelphia as well as cross Carroll. The proposal is to disconnect the pedestrian signals and have separate buttons for each crosswalk. Traffic will not stop unless the button is pushed. When crossing Philadelphia, all cars will stop. When crossing Carroll, cars will stop for the first 7 seconds; after that, cars on Philadelphia could turn right onto Carroll. Because this is a less-used crosswalk and cars do not make the turn onto Carroll at the rate of speed as cars turning right onto Philadelphia, I think this is a workable option. Unless there is great concern with this approach, I would like the County and SHA to make the change as soon as possible, probably early next week, so the timings can be finalized.

#### **Updates on Sidewalk Project**

Larch Avenue: The construction vote on the sidewalk in the 900 block of Larch Avenue concluded on May 4. A majority of respondents supported construction (29 in support, 16 opposed). The City's contractor and inspector are available and work is expected to start soon. Notices will be delivered to the homes adjacent to the proposed sidewalk with information on expected start date and contact information.

Lincoln Avenue: The City is working through the review and approval process with SHA for the Lincoln Avenue sidewalk. A contractor has been selected. Once SHA approval is complete, the City will schedule construction. Information will be provided to residents prior to the start of the project. We anticipate that work will begin later this summer.

Glenside Drive: The construction vote for the Glenside Drive sidewalk concluded May 11. A majority of respondents supported construction (29 in support, 9 opposed). Development of the stormwater management plan is underway. Construction is expected to be done in FY19.

#### ***Kudos***

Kudos to the following Police Department staff who were recognized last Friday at the Police awards banquet for various accomplishments during the course of last year:

**Pfc. Michal Godlewski** was awarded **Officer of the Year 2017** because of his dedication to duty and his significant accomplishments and contributions throughout the year. He demonstrated outstanding performance by showing initiative, perseverance and dedication to duty.

**Mr. Ron Hardy, Emergency Preparedness Manager**, was awarded **Civilian of the Year 2017** because his work duties and actions contributed significantly to the Department's visions and goals. Mr. Hardy goes above and beyond in everything he does for the department.

**Sgt. Charles Hoetzel** was awarded **Supervisor of the Year 2017**. He consistently demonstrated outstanding performance by personifying leadership, acting as a positive role model, and demonstrating sensitivity, fairness and integrity.

**Pfc. Victor Glouchkov** was awarded the **Life Saving Medal**. In the performance of his duties, Pfc. Glouchkov rendered medical first aid to a two month old baby whose life was in immediate jeopardy, and he did so in a manner that most certainly sustained the baby and enabled her to be delivered alive to a medical facility.

**Unit Citation Awards** were given to two units:

- The **Junior Police Explorer Advisors** showed exceptional professionalism, dedication to duty and strict attention to detail in their advisory duties, which reflects great credit on the agency. The Advisors are **Capt. Tyrone Collington, Sgt. Michelle Holmes, Sgt. Richard Poole, Cpl. Roberto Rodriguez, Pvt. Henok Atakilt, Ms. Diana Dean and Ms. Crystla Flores**.
- The **Special Assignment Team (SAT)** showed exceptional professionalism, dedication to duty and strict attention to detail in their unit, which reflects great credit on the agency. The SAT unit officers are **Sgt. Charles Hoetzel, Cpl. Matthew Barber, Pfc. Michal Godlewski, Pfc. Maxsim Glushkov and Pfc. Mark Efladl**.

**Capt. Tyrone Collington, Sgt. Kurt Gilbert, Cpl. Joseph Butler and Pfc. Jon Goldin** received **Community Service Awards** for their dedication to the community that rose well above their duties and responsibilities as police officers. Their community work exemplified them as humanitarians and a willingness to go above the call of duty to care for the community. Their competency, dedication and motivation reflected greatly upon themselves, as well as the department as a whole.

An **Honorable Service Medal** was awarded to **Pfc. Eric Mueller**, for creditable service in the line of duty that demonstrated initiative and competence. Pfc. Mueller was able to talk to a suicidal female contemplating jumping off a bridge and was able to safely get her to the hospital for mental health assistance.

An **Education Award** was given to **Dispatcher Daniel Bushman** for completing his Bachelor's Degree.

A myriad of **Command Recognition Awards** were given out for various events throughout 2017 to:

- Sgt. Kristian Pedersen
- Cpl. Thomas Black
- Cpl. Joseph Butler
- Cpl. Jeffrey Demuth
- Cpl. David Quante
- Cpl. Roberto Rodriguez
- Cpl. Cynthia Williams
- Cpl. Gregory Wolff
- Pfc. Ernest Atwell
- Pfc. Mark Efladl
- Pfc. Jessica Garrison
- Pfc. Maxsim Glushkov
- Pfc. Jon Goldin
- Pfc. Kyle Hanlin
- Pfc. Byron Jimenez
- Pfc. Sada Merriman
- Pfc. Eric Mueller
- Pvt. Steven Kibbey
- Pvt. Robert Antis

### ***Hiring Update***

We are currently advertising for a number of positions, including Community Development Manager for Housing and Community Services, IT Intern, Police Dispatcher, Police Officer, Sanitation Tech, Recreation Program Leader, and Contract CDL Driver.