



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of October 3, 2018

Information to Share

USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program Grant Awarded to Crossroads Community Food Network

Thanks in part to the City's support and partnership, we recently learned that the Crossroads Network has been awarded a [USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program](#) grant for \$250,000 over the next 3 years!

The project, "Building a Sustainable Farmers Market: Planning for Long-Term Food Access for Low-Income Crossroads Community Members," will help the Crossroad Network increase access to and consumption of local, fresh fruits and vegetables by expanding their nutrition education program at the market and by boosting market attendance and CSA participation; increasing market and CSA sales by diversifying their customer base; and helping more than 20 vendors, 75% of whom are socially disadvantaged themselves, build the capacity to expand their businesses into new markets.

2018 Safe Grow Photo Contest

We received over 30 submissions for this year's Safe Grow Photo Contest. Now it's time for folks to vote for their top three favorites. Voting is open through October 19. One vote per person per day: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6R8D67L>

Energy Action Month Bulb Exchange

During the month of October, which is [Energy Action Month](#), the Public Works Department will be conducting a bulb exchange where residents can drop by Public Works and exchange two incandescent or CFL bulbs and receive two new LEDs. We hope residents will take advantage of this excellent energy and money-saving opportunity. The Public Works building is located at 31 Oswego Avenue.

LED Bus Tour – Monday, October 8th at 7:30pm

This Monday, Public Works is hosting an LED tour to demonstrate the LED streetlights that the City is piloting. During the tour, staff will share information about the lights and respond to resident's questions. If you are interested in attending, meet at the back lot of the Community Center shortly before 7:30pm. The tour, which will require some short distance walking, is expected to last about 90 minutes. In the event that residents would like to only participate in a portion of the tour, below is a tentative schedule:

- 7:35 pm: Buses leave Community Center, proceed down Flower Avenue from Piney Branch Rd to Erie Avenue, park on Erie Ave
- 7:45 - 8:05 pm: Brief walk around Erie and Flower Avenue to observe the two types of LED lights
- 8:05 to 8:10 pm: Drive to Elm Avenue near Hickory, park on Elm
- 8:15 - 8:45 pm: Walk up Hickory, to Columbia, turn on Columbia to Pine, turn down Pine to Montgomery, arrive back at Hickory and walk to buses on Elm
- 8:50 to 9 pm: Return to Community Center

Lights On After School Event

The Recreation Department will be participating in this year's National "Lights on After School" program. This program highlights all the great things area organizations do throughout the year for their afterschool participants. Attendees in the Community Center's Afternoon Addition program will participate in a cooking program and art projects. The After the Bell program will participate in sports

and art projects at the Recreation Center. Lights on After School will take place on Thursday, October 25 from 4:30 pm-6:30 pm.

Hiring Update

We are currently advertising and/or interviewing for a number of positions, including Deputy Police Chief, Communications Specialist (formerly Media Specialist), Economic Development Manager, Grants Coordinator, Contract CDL Driver, Police Officer, Senior Accounting Assistant (Part-time), Sanitation Technician, Police Intern, and HR Intern.

We conducted interviews earlier this week with six finalists for the Deputy Police Chief position. We hope to schedule interviews for the Communications Specialist position within the next few weeks.