



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of October 24, 2018

Information to Share

Monster Bash Rain Plan

The Monster Bash is this Saturday, October 27 from 1-5 pm. Because rain is expected, the [Monster Bash](#) will be held in Takoma Park Elementary School at 7511 Holly Avenue. There will still be a lot of fun, an indoor parade, costume judging, inflatable corn maze, music and treats. Parking will be limited, so if you come by car, feel free to park in the Community Center parking lot. I have my costume ready!

Dockless Bikeshare Update

Earlier today we learned from Montgomery County that they are considering expanding the current dockless bikeshare pilot to allow for electronic bikes and scooters. As you may have noticed, most of the dockless bike companies have pulled out of the area, but Lime Bike, which is still around, has deployed e-scooters in DC. They are interested in introducing an e-bike and e-scooters in Montgomery County, which currently would include Takoma Park as part of the pilot area.

Montgomery County will be hosting a series of community town halls on the subject to receive input from residents on the possible expansion of the pilot. Below are the dates and locations. Questions about the expansion can be directed to MC311 or 240-773-2989, or commuter.services@montgomerycountymd.gov.

- 10/29: 7-8:30pm, MNCPPC Auditorium, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring
- 10/30: 7-8:30pm, Bethesda Chevy Chase High School Cafeteria, 4301 East-West Hwy, Bethesda
- 11/1: 7-8:30pm, Walter Johnson High School Cafeteria, 6400 Rock Spring Drive, Bethesda

Takoma Junction Vision Study Planning Meeting Held

On Thursday, October 18 several Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration staff held a kick-off planning meeting with staff of the City of Takoma Park and of the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission on the Takoma Junction Vision Study.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss study goals, stakeholders, issues/needs, study boundaries, timeline and ways to involve the community. The core geographic focus of the study is Carroll Avenue from Philadelphia to Ethan Allen/Sycamore Avenues, but impacts on a larger area will also be considered.

Goals identified for the study are to define an overall vision that works for all users, define the challenges of the intersections, and produce a report with an analysis of potential solutions. MDOT SHA has already contracted with firms to help facilitate community outreach and involvement and is looking to use innovative approaches to hear from residents and other stakeholders. There was acknowledgment that much study has already been done in the area and that many residents and others have weighed in on those studies. While all want a fresh and holistic approach to the Takoma Junction Vision Study, it was noted that previous work and community input to date is valuable and can be used as appropriate. MDOT SHA staff will be

refining their strategy and assembling resources for the study over the next several months and then will reconnect with the planning group on next steps.

Meeting with Utility Representatives Held

Today, a meeting was held with representatives from Pepco and WSSC concerning ways to improve sharing of information on major projects underway in the North Takoma neighborhood. Several ways of keeping staff and the community updated on the changing nature of the projects will be used and we will get information out on them as they are established. In addition to these efforts, WSSC officials urge all residents to go onto the WSSCWater website and sign up with their Customer Notification System. This system will send notifications of water main breaks, etc. in your local area.

News from the Takoma Park Police Department

Community Police Academy

The Community Police Academy will begin on Tuesday, January 8, 2019! The Community Police Academy is a 12-week long program consisting of one class a week on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:30 pm. The classes cover topics such as patrol, traffic enforcement, use of force, criminal investigations, canine, firearms, etc. The presentations are given 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-alongs with patrol officers.

The Takoma Park Police Department believes that educating the community will result in gaining their understanding and support. Through implementation of the Community Police Academy, the community will gain new insight into how law enforcement officers perform their duties. The success of any law enforcement agency depends largely upon the amount of cooperation and support it receives from the community it serves.

The Community Police Academy is free to the public. Seats are limited to the first 25 students and will be filled based on a first come/first serve basis. The Takoma Park Police Department encourages all applicants to be able to commit to the full 12 weeks to get the most out of the program.

If you are interested in learning about the Takoma Park Police Department and local government, you are 18 years of age or older, and live or work in Takoma Park, you may apply. The applicants may not have any serious misdemeanor or any felony offenses.

Applications for the Community Police Academy are available at the Takoma Park Police Department located at 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland 20912. There is also a link to apply electronically on the Takoma Park PD web page under "[Community Policing](#)." The deadline to turn in a completed application is Friday, December 14, 2018.

Any questions about the Community Police Academy can be directed to the Public Information Officer, Cathy Plevy, at 301-891-7142 or cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov.

Takoma Park Police Explorers

Are you between the ages of 14-20 and interested in learning more about the work of Police Officers while also giving back to the community? If so, you should consider joining the Takoma Park Police Explorer Post 7500. For information about the Post and to download the application, visit the Takoma Park PD web page under "[Community Policing](#)." Meetings are held every Thursday evening during the school year from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Takoma Park Police Department. The program gives youth an opportunity to gain exposure to various criminal justice careers and have positive interactions with law enforcement professionals. It also gives

them an opportunity to obtain hands-on experience and awareness of the criminal justice system, which can help Explorers make an informed decision on a career in law enforcement or a related field.

Winter Coat Drive

The Takoma Park Police Department, in partnership with the Takoma Park Adventist Church, is collecting clean, gently used warm coats in any size from infant to adult. The coats will be donated to people in need. By simply donating coats and jackets that are no longer needed this coat drive can make a difference in the lives of others. We will also accept clean, gently used gloves/mittens and scarves.

A large box will be in the lobby of the Takoma Park Police Department, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, beginning Monday, November 5, and will remain in the lobby until Friday, December 14, at 4:00 pm. The Takoma Park Police Department will ensure that they are given to the church immediately after the drive.

Hiring Update

We are currently advertising and/or interviewing for a number of positions Communications Specialist (formerly Media Specialist), Economic Development Manager, Grants Coordinator, Contract CDL Driver, Police Officer, and Police Intern.