



# CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

## City Manager Comments

**Report for City Council Meeting of November 14, 2018**

### ***Information to Share***

#### **Takoma Junction Pre-submission Meeting November 27**

The pre-submission meeting for Neighborhood Development Company's plans for the Takoma Junction project has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 27 at 7:00 pm in the Takoma Park Middle School Cafeteria (7611 Piney Branch Road). This public meeting is a requirement of the Montgomery County Development Review process and NDC will facilitate the meeting. For more information: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/takoma-junction-redevelopment/>

#### **Be Prepared for Winter Weather**

While tomorrow morning's weather may be a little sloppy, Takoma Park may just wake up to wet conditions with the potential for some snow on the grass. However, there are predictions for more snow storms than usual this winter. Please check your emergency supplies and make sure you are signed up to [Takoma Park Alert!](#) to get emergency messages about road and facility closings, etc. in the Takoma Park area. Also, go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for information on how to prepare for all sorts of emergencies.

#### **Leaf Collection Begins Friday!**

Fall leaf collection for certain streets starts Friday, November 16, 2018 and general collection continues through Friday, December 21, 2018. Leaves raked to the curb by residents are collected via vacuum trucks operated by Public Works. Notification of specific dates for arterial roads will be mailed to residents on those roads and also posted along the routes, in the Takoma Park Newsletter and on the website. Leaf collection is dependent on the weather; rain or freezing conditions can slow collection.

Some tips:

- Rake leaves into a pile inside the curb (not into the street)
- Do not place leaves near a storm drain inlet
- Do not park your car in front of a leaf pile
- No branches, brush, vines, rocks or debris with the leaves! These items can damage equipment & delay collection

For general leaf collection, leaf piles are to be collected within two weeks of their appearance at the curb. The first three weeks of collection will focus on picking up leaf piles; the final two weeks will pick up the piles as well as clear the gutter and grass strip of all leaf debris. You can also bag leaves in paper bags or place in stiff-sided containers for the weekly Monday yard waste collection.

Residents can notify the City when leaves are raked to the curb by leaving a message on the Leaf Collection Hotline at (301) 891-7626. For additional information, please see the City's website: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/public-works/curbside-collection-services/yard-waste-and-fall-leaf-collection/>

### **Safe Grow Photo Contest Winners**

Congratulations to the 2018 Safe Grow Photo Contest Winners Alan Henney (first place), Cynthia Terrell (second place) and Joe Edgell (third place)! In addition to the recognition earlier this evening, the winners and their photos will be included in the upcoming City Newsletter.

The photo contest, first launched last summer, challenges Takoma Park residents to submit pictures which best represent what it means to live in a Safe Grow city. More than 30 photos were submitted, 15 moved on to the public voting, and these three ultimately captured the beauty of having a Safe Grow community. Stay tuned for more information about the 2019 Safe Grow Photo Contest, which will be available on the City's website and social media channels @TakomaParkMD.



First Place



Second Place



Third Place

### **First Time Home Buyer Workshop – November 10**

This past Saturday, the Housing and Community Development Department sponsored a free First-Time Homebuyer workshop led by the Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC), a HUD-certified housing organization serving families in the DC metropolitan area. Twenty-three prospective homeowners, 14 of whom were residents of Takoma Park, received comprehensive information from experts about mortgage lending, credit and budgeting, real estate, home inspections, closing costs, and available sources for down payment assistance. The workshop highlighted the City's Home Stretch Program and included the testimony of a resident who purchased a home using that down payment assistance program. The next workshop is scheduled for Spring 2019.



**Parkview Tower Resident Meeting**

The Montgomery Housing Partnership (MHP), in cooperation with the Parkview Towers Apartment Tenants' Association, held a meeting to inform its residents about a façade repair project scheduled to begin in early November. MHP has engaged a structural engineer to examine bulging in the exterior brick walls on the west and east sides of the building. Fencing has been installed on the west side of the building and additional fencing will be installed on the east side of the building to address concerns with the façade. A limited number of residents affected will be temporarily moved during the repair project.

***Hiring Update***

We are currently advertising and/or interviewing for a number of positions including Economic Development Manager, Grants Coordinator, Contract CDL Driver, Police Officer, and Police Intern.

***My Schedule***

I will be out of the office and out of town for most of the day on Friday, November 16, as will Deputy City Manager Jason Damweber. I am taking a personal trip and Jason will be traveling to Nashville for the weekend to an ICMA event as a representative of the state association. While I should be accessible by email and phone for most of the day, please contact Police Chief Tony DeVaul if you have an immediate need and are not able to reach me.