

Weekly Status & Information Report: July 5 - July 9, 2010

1. **Public Hearing:** Do you think the City should request the State Legislature to revise alcoholic beverage laws for Takoma Park to allow sales for off-site consumption? The City Council will be considering whether to ask the Maryland General Assembly to change alcoholic beverage laws affecting Takoma Park so that stores and restaurants may be allowed to sell beer and wine to go. There will be a public hearing on this issue on Monday, July 12, at 7:30 p.m., at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. The public is invited to attend the hearing and sign up to speak, or send comments to Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 or clerk@takomagov.org. Background information on this issue may be reviewed at: <http://takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/notices/index.html>. *(City Clerk)*

2. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of July 12:

- City Council meeting, Monday, July 12, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- Recreation Committee meeting, Monday, July 12, 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Tree Commission meeting, Tuesday, July 13, 6:30 p.m. in the Atrium Room
- Facade Advisory Board meeting, Tuesday, July 13, 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee meeting, Tuesday, July 13, 7:30 p.m. in the Rose Room

All meetings are in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. Contact JessieC@takomagov.org to check for cancellations or for additional information. *(City Clerk)*

3. **New Fees For Tree Permits:** As of July 1, 2010, permit fees for tree removal and tree protection have increased. The new charges are \$25 for a tree removal waiver, \$50 for a tree removal permit, \$50 for a tree impact assessment, and \$100 for a tree protection permit. Applications are available on the City's website or from the Public Works office. A permit is required for removal of any tree that is greater than 7-5/8" in diameter (24- inch circumference). A tree impact assessment is required prior to any site work within 50 feet of an urban forest tree. That work includes raising or lowering existing grade by 3 inches, excavation, construction activity, paving in excess of 25 square feet, or removing over 5% of the live tree canopy. *(Public Works)*

4. **City TV Wins Award:** John Pitt, Inmar Cedillos and Alvaro Calabia of Takoma Park City TV are in Pittsburgh today at the Alliance for Community Media conference. John and Inmar will be receiving a "Hometown Award" for the program titled, "The Takoma Mosaic Project." John was the producer/editor and Inmar was the main videographer. The segment follows the creation of the mosaic on the Library's exterior wall, in which over 300 people participated in the project organized by "Art for the People." We are very proud of our City TV staff and their excellent work! *(Deputy City Manager)*

5. **Passport Fees Increasing on Monday, July 12:** The United States Passport Agency has steeply increased prices for passport processing. The City of Takoma Park only received word of the increase this week. As a result, we accepted passports today to try to help residents beat the rate increase. Passport services are normally offered at the main desk of the Takoma Park Community Center Monday through Thursday, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. *(Deputy City Manager)*

6. **Meals On Wheels:** Teens provided service to their community by participating in the Meals On Wheels program in Takoma Park. On Tuesday, July 6, staff and teens delivered hot meals, sandwiches and snacks to seniors in the Takoma Park and Silver Spring area. This activity was not only a service to seniors in need, but informative for the teens as well, as they had the honor to meet a historian and a well known accordion player who taught President Nixon's daughter how to play the accordion (and was willing to play for them as well). Meals On Wheels is just one of the community service projects the teens are participating in during the summer months. *(Recreation)*

7. **Humane Society:** On Wednesday, July 7, several teens requested to go to the Washington Humane Society. At the Humane Society, the teens received an educational tour of the facility and the animals. Following the tour, the teens were allowed to feed, groom and personally interact with the animals. *(Recreation)*

8. **Service to Seniors:** Upon contacting the Activity Director of Victory Tower in Takoma Park to provide community service to the residents there, the Activity Director requested assistance at their sister site, Victory Tower II, in Silver Spring. The teens of the Takoma Park Recreation Department obliged by providing much needed assistance during a family and friends cook-out at Victory Tower II. The residents and staff of the Victory Tower II commended the teens and requested that they return on another occasion. *(Recreation)*

9. **Hains Point CookOut:** Thirteen teens are signed up to attend a cook-out at Hains Point in Washington, D.C. this Friday, July 9. Fishing poles are being provided to use off the pier along with games, cards, football and volleyball. Teens will be encouraged to participate in any and all activities or relax and watch the planes arrive and depart from the Reagan Airport across the water. *(Recreation)*

10. **Camp Recess has Another Successful Week!:** On Tuesday, July 6, Camp Recess began its second session. The session was sold out and the campers had another enjoyable week. Numerous activities took place that centered on the theme "Health & Nutrition." Some of the activities included a discussion on proper eating/nutrition, a demonstration on hip-hop dance, arts and crafts, floor hockey, and a health and fitness relay race, to name a few. *(Recreation)*

11. **Celebrating the 4th of July!:** On Sunday, July 4, our Double-Dutch and FutSal programs were participants in the Independence Day parade. Both of these groups braved the hot weather to walk the 1-¼ mile parade route to showcase their programs to City residents. All enjoyed the occasion to participate in this program. (*Recreation*)

12. **Whiffle Ball:** The Recreation Department and Recreation Committee held the first annual whiffle ball tournament as part of the 4th of July festivities. Over 80 participants joined in to kick off this new summer tradition. The summer whiffle ball league begins on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. at Lee Jordan Field. Six teams are registered, but it is not too late to enter a team. (*Recreation*)

13. **Funding for the Police:** The City is seeking funding from the U.S. Dept. of Justice under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) program, as allocated in the Federal FY2010 cycle. Proposed use of the funds will be:

Continuation for 26 weeks of the part time Research and Policy development position within the Takoma Park Police Department. The position researches new procedures, equipment, tactics and cutting edge issues. The employee reviews existing policy and revises them as needed, as well as develops new policy and procedures for emerging issues affecting the agency.

Funding amount sought in this grant program is **\$14,132**. A public comment period of 30 days is being provided prior to any obligations of payment under this program. Comments should be forwarded to: Capt. Edward E. Coursey, Takoma Park Police Department, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912, edwardc@takomagov.org, 301-891-7105. (*Police*)

14. **Officers in Meetings:**

- On July 8, Chief Ricucci, Cpl. Malarkey and Ms. Cannatella met with Dan Seid of ACS to discuss the expansion of the Speed Camera program; also, Chief Ricucci attended the monthly meeting of the Crossroads Development Authority (CDA). (*Police*)

15. **Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 107 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, five vehicle impounds and three arrests from traffic.

During June 29 - July 7, 2010, the following details were completed:

June 29, 2010

- Takoma Avenue at Fenton Street (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two warnings.

June 30, 2010

- 1000 University Boulevard (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three citations.

July 2, 2010

- 1000 East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued 13 citations.
- 7600 New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued three citations and two Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs).

July 4, 2010

- 7600 Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two citations.
- Maple Avenue at Tulip Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two warnings.

July 6, 2010

- 900 East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three citations.
- 1000 University Boulevard (speeding) - conducted a 2-hour detail and issued 11 citations.
- Philadelphia Avenue at Holly Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 45-minute detail and issued one warning and one Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO).

July 7, 2010

- 1000 University Boulevard (speeding) - conducted a 3½-hour detail and issued 20 citations.
- 1000 East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two citations.

(*Police*)

16. **Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes):**

Week ending 7/2/10

Hours worked: 41

Calls for service: 6

State Citations issued: 76

Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs) issued: 4

Warnings: 5

City tickets: 2

Reports: 16
Warrant arrests: 1
(*Police*)