

Weekly Status & Information Report: August 9 - 13, 2010

1. Public Works Renovation to Start: In preparation for the Public Works Facility renovation, the Administrative staff, the arborist, and the engineer will be relocating to the Community Center at 7500 Maple Avenue beginning August 16. The Public Works office, at 31 Oswego Avenue, will be closed to the public until the office renovation is complete. Public Works staff phone numbers and email addresses will not change.

After August 17, please go to the Community Center for the following:

- payment of heavy trash pick up fee
- submit permit applications or payment of permit fees
- payment for mulch delivery
- purchase of large wheeled trash carts

The electronics and compact fluorescent light bulbs drop-off will be suspended until the facility re-opens next year. Self hauling of mulch and drop-off of motor oil and antifreeze will continue to be available. Please call 301-891-7633 if you have any questions. (Public Works)

2. Email Upgrades: The City of Takoma Park is in the process of upgrading mail services. Some interruption of service may have occurred since the conversion took place last Friday, August 6. If you have had difficulties connecting with a City staff person via email, please call the person directly. All staff can be reached through the main City number, 301-891-7100. Thank you for your patience. (The City of Takoma Park)

3. Community Center Sidewalk Project: The installation of sidewalk from Philadelphia Avenue through the back parking lot of the community center and along one block of Grant Avenue to Maple is underway. Next week the work will primarily include the installation of new sidewalk on Grant Avenue along the Community Center and the completion of the sidewalk replacement along Piney Branch Elementary School.

Depending on the weather's cooperation, the work on the Grant Avenue parking lot may also start next week. The Grant Avenue parking lot will be closed to the public during the sidewalk construction. (Public Works)

4. Takoma Junction Task Force: The deadline to apply for appointment to serve on the Takoma Junction Task Force is Wednesday, September 1. The City Council will make appointments in September. To learn more about the Task Force and to complete an application form, see: <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/tjtf/index.htm>. (City Clerk)

5. CDBG Grant Applications Now Available: The City is accepting proposals for the use of its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. CDBG grants are awarded on a competitive basis to community organizations for a wide range of activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and the provision of improved community facilities and services. Approximately \$25,000 is available for programming which primarily benefits individuals or households of low and moderate incomes. An estimated \$100,000 is available for capital projects benefitting low and moderate income neighborhoods. The project could be something that the organization

does on its own or in partnership with the City of Takoma Park. Funds would be available in mid to late 2011. Applications are available online at www.takomaparkmd.gov. Deadline for submissions is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 13. For more information, please contact the Housing and Community Development Department at 301.891.7224 or by email at SaraD@takomagov.org. (Housing and Community Development)

6. Rent Stabilization Reporting Requirements: Local landlords were introduced this week to the City's new online system for the completion and submission of the annual Rent Stabilization Report, required of all rental facilities subject to rent stabilization. Training is available to those landlords seeking additional assistance on the new system, with the first classes to be held the week of August 16. (Housing and Community Development)

7. Cultural Events Coordinator Applications: The Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking a Cultural Events Coordinator to assist in its efforts to provide a variety of free cultural events to the community (music, dance, film, spoken word, etc.). The selected individual would serve as the key point of contact for programming, solicit and review proposals, and assist in marketing and coordinating selected events. This is not a paid position; an honorarium will be awarded. Deadline for application is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 30. Please go to www.takomaparkmd.gov/auditorium/CEC%20Notice%20with%20Description%202010.pdf. (Housing and Community Development)

8. New Ave Community Gardening and Greening Grant Open (Wards 2, 3, 6): The City's New Ave Community Gardening, Greening and Beautification Grant program is accepting applications for the FY10 year. The deadline for receipt of applications for new grants is January 31, 2011. Submissions will be considered on a rolling basis before the deadline. For additional information, please contact Paul Grenier at 301-891-7220 or go online to <http://www.thenewave.com/explore/parks-and-nature/gardening-greening-grant>. (Housing and Community Development)

9. Third Thursday Poetry Series - Deadline for Submissions: Takoma Park's Third Thursday Poetry Series begins its fifth season this fall. As in the past, the series will feature some of the finest poets in our region. To be considered as a featured poet during the 2010-2011 series, please submit 3 to 5 of your poems to the Arts and Humanities Commission at ahc@takomagov.org. The deadline for submissions is this coming Monday, August 16. (Housing and Community Development)

10. Exhibits Opportunity - Call for Proposals: The Arts and Humanities Commission is currently seeking proposals from visual artists and craftsmen interested in exhibiting their work. If selected, the work would be exhibited in one of three galleries - the Atrium Gallery, the Richard Dempsey Memorial Gallery, or Gallery Three - for a period of two months. Exhibits may feature the work of a group of artists or craftsmen or the work of an individual. To learn more about the exhibit space and the proposal process, please visit www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/arhum/exhibition.html.

(Housing and Community Development)

11. Sustainable Communities Rehabilitation Tax Credit Applications are Now Available: The Maryland Historical Trust is accepting applications for Sustainable Communities Tax Credits for commercial (income-producing) properties including office, retail, rental housing, etc. Tax credit range from 10% to 25% based on property type. Deadline for commercial project applications is September 15, 2010. Detailed program information and required application materials can be found online at <http://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits.html>.

(Housing and Community Development Department)

12. A Beautiful Ending: Camp Recess ends as it starts - on a high note!: The seventh session of Camp Recess at the Takoma Park Recreation Center was an enjoyable, exciting and fun-filled week for all of the campers. With the theme being "Wet & Wild" week, campers had a terrific time! There were water battles, water balloon games, arts and crafts (personalized surfboards), and swimming that our campers truly enjoyed. Ms. Boone and her staff did an outstanding job. Good luck to all campers as they prepare to go back to school. (Recreation)

13. Teens Take On The Fair: During a teen rap session on August 9, teens expressed interest in attending the 2010 Montgomery County Fair. This evening, we will honor their request and escort 13 teens to the Montgomery County Fair that is being held in Gaithersburg, Maryland. Once at the fair, participants will receive a "mega-pass wristband," which will enable them to enjoy an unlimited amount of carnival activities to include a pig, duck or goat race, judge a numerous amount of items on display, and even participate in a seed spitting contest amongst other things. (Recreation)

14. Camp Takoma: Camp Takoma ended with a splash! This week thirty-five campers went swimming at Cameron Run Water Park in Alexandria and MLK Outdoor Pool on Jackson Road. The campers also participated in water relays, games and crafts. Mad Science came to teach the campers about the effects of oil in water with "Black and Blue Oceans." (Recreation)

15. Officers in Meetings:

- On August 9, Capt. Coursey attended a kick off briefing by the MC Department of Corrections for their CRIMS records management system currently under development. The system will begin collection of data before the officer brings an arrestee into the Central Processing Facility. All law enforcement agencies operating in Montgomery County will be required to participate in the project.
- On August 11, Chief Ricucci and Capt. Coursey attended a meeting with Chief Manger of Montgomery County, and his staff, on the new Gang Task Force. We were briefed on how it would work and how we would be reimbursed. We are now waiting for B.J.A. to release the funds so that the task force can get started.
- On August 12, Chief Ricucci attended a joint meeting of the Maryland Police Chiefs and Maryland Sheriff's on tasers. The meeting was to discuss policy and use. Takoma

Park's policy is ahead of other departments and in line with the Attorney General's Report.

- On August 12, Capt. Coursey attended the regular monthly meeting of the Emergency Preparedness Committee. Committee efforts continue in preparation of the upcoming Emergency Preparedness Month in September, supporting a CERT training course to be held in the TP-Silver Spring area this fall, and re-invigorating the committee's outreach, recruiting, and public awareness efforts. The committee is also exploring new partnerships with other area organizations to foster improved volunteer management capacity to support City Emergency Management capabilities. (Police)

16. Officers in Training:

- On August 10 through 13, Sgt. Frishkorn, Cpl. Conrad, Cpl. Malarkey and Pfc. Hoetzel attended Basic Patrol Rifle training at MSP Liberty Dam Range.

- On August 12, Sgt. Smith attended training entitled "Silence of the Lambs - Sexual Abuse of Children" at the Maryland-National Capital Park Police/Prince George's County Division Headquarters, Riverdale, Maryland. (Police)

17. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 55 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, two vehicle impounds and two arrests from traffic. (Police)

18. Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes):

Week ending 7/31/10

Hours worked: 30

Calls for service: 4

State Citations issued: 85

Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs) issued: 10

Warnings: 4

City tickets: 2

Reports: 10

Court: 1 hour

Training: 4 hours

(Police)