

# Council Reporter

## Of August 6, 2008

### **Public Comments**

- Stephanie Flack, 7111 Oakridge Avenue, expressed concerns about mosquitoes and asked what could be done about them.

### **Variance Hearing**

- Council voted unanimously to grant a driveway width variance for 7111 Oakridge Avenue with the condition that the owners comply with excavation procedures recommended by the Town Arborist.

### **Public Hearings**

- Council held a public hearing on a resolution to impose traffic controls in the vicinity of Chevy Chase Elementary School. The traffic plan, which is posted on the Town's website, consists of several elements: 1) signage changes, including parking, standing and stopping restrictions, around the school, 2) a school speed zone designation, and 3) new car and bus routing. Councilmembers voted to adopt the resolution with two amendments. One amendment changed the hours of the prohibition against cars entering onto southbound Hillcrest Place adjacent to the school. The original resolution established the 'Do Not Enter' hours at this location from 8 to 9 a.m. and from 2 to 4 p.m. The amendment reduced the length of the afternoon entry restriction by one hour, such that cars will now be prohibited from entering southbound Hillcrest adjacent to the school from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Councilmembers Strom, Barnes, Lublin and Lang were in favor. Councilmember Enelow was opposed. The other amendment was to post a "No stopping, standing, or parking" sign at the intersection of Meadow Lane and Rosemary Street to allow for unobstructed access to the crosswalk. This amendment passed unanimously.
- Council held a public hearing on an ordinance to establish special school zone speed limits in the vicinity of CCES. Councilmembers voted to adopt the ordinance as emergency legislation so that it could be in effect by the time school starts. The Council adopted an amendment to the ordinance to expand the school zone to include the 7000 block of Beechwood Drive, the 7000 block of Hillcrest place and Valley Place. The amendment was adopted unanimously.
- Council held a public hearing on a resolution to require vehicles to stop at the intersection of Oakridge Avenue and Curtis Road. The resolution was adopted unanimously.
- Council held a public hearing on a resolution to prohibit parking on all of the west side of the 7100 block of Oakridge Avenue and two portions of the 7200 block of the same street. The resolution was amended to remove the new prohibitions on parking on the 7200 block of Oakridge Avenue, except for within 50 feet of the intersection with Curtis. The Council intends to hold another resolution and hold a public hearing on parking prohibitions for that block. Councilmembers Strom, Enelow, Barnes, and Lang voted in support of the amendment. Councilmember Lublin opposed. The amended motion passed with Councilmembers Strom, Barnes, Lublin and Lang in favor, and Councilmember Enelow opposed.

### **Council Actions:**

- October Council meeting scheduled for October 14, 2008.
- Meeting with Councilmembers and committee chairs scheduled for September 11, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

- Mid-year meeting scheduled for November 18, 2008. The theme will be public safety. Council accepted Councilmembers Lublin and Barnes' suggestion to invite the Commander and Community Liaison from the Bethesda Police District.
- Staff will coordinate with CCES to inform parents about the new traffic plan around the school.
- Staff will send a letter to Town residents about the new CCES traffic plan.
- Staff will post a summary of the Chevy Chase Elementary School traffic plan on the Town website.
- The Public Services Committee will look into widening a portion of the west side of the 7100 block of Oakridge Avenue to allow for two-sided parking in that block.
- The Town Council decided to seek resident input on the request for a street light on Connecticut Avenue at Thornapple Street. The Public Services Committee will manage this public outreach effort.
- A public hearing on prohibiting parking on portions of the 7200 block of Oakridge Avenue will be scheduled for the September Council meeting.

#### **Discussions**

- Council agreed to send a letter to PEPCO about becoming an active partner with the Town in various energy conservation efforts.
- The Town Manager will edit his public safety memo and post it on the Town's website.
- Council agreed to schedule a presentation on the Climate Protection Committee's Climate Action Plan for the September Council meeting.
- Council agreed to organize a community survey.