



Forecast

SEPTEMBER 2020

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

Organizing Our Work for the Fall

Every September, we reorganize the Town's committees, welcoming new and returning volunteers to work on many important issues and events. We begin this fall with our five standing committees, plus a special committee to address racial and social justice issues and a special subcommittee to address regional growth. I would like to thank all the volunteers who have offered their services for this upcoming year. And I am excited about and hopeful for a productive year despite the challenges from the ongoing pandemic.

The Council starts off with a full plate, including several longer-term projects under consideration. These include:

Zimmerman Park Redevelopment: Working with our landscape architect over the summer, the Council is making progress toward developing a detailed plan for improvements in Zimmerman Park that we will share with the community. The Town's Land Use Committee will assist the Council with organizing public presentations and discussions of the redevelopment plan, which will ultimately be put forward at a public hearing.

Town-Wide Traffic Study: The Public Services Committee has reviewed preliminary recommendations to mitigate speeding and cut-through traffic in Town, and the Council expects to take up these recommendations at a work session this fall. No mitigation strategies will be adopted before community presentations and a public hearing.

Gas-Powered Blowers: Following recommendations from the Climate and Environment Committee, the Council heard public comments at the July Council meeting related to possible restrictions on the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. The Council will continue to consider options for restricting and/or banning use of gas-powered blowers at an upcoming work session.

Regional Planning and Growth: As the County Council prepares to tackle the quadrennial County Growth Policy and revisions to the County's General Plan, the Town Council will work with the Long-Range Planning Committee to advocate for smart growth and sustainable development.

I look forward to working with my fellow Councilmembers, the Committees, and the community on these and other initiatives this year.

-- Mayor Cecily Baskir

Please visit the Town website for a complete calendar of meetings and events.



Bulk Trash Collection -- September 14

Recycling & Donation Opportunities Available

See page 3 for details

Fall Canopy Tree Planting Program

Request a New Private or Public Tree

See page 2 for details



TOWN NEWS

Subdivision Staging Policy -- Updates & Impacts

By County law, Montgomery County's Subdivision Staging Policy (SSP) must be updated every four years, and an update is currently underway. In conjunction with County Master Plans, the SSP is used to determine whether public facilities, such as public schools and transportation systems, are sufficient to support new development. If public facilities are found to be insufficient, the SSP outlines remedial actions and imposes taxes to fund new infrastructure.

Notable proposed updates to the SSP, which can be found at www.montgomeryplanning.org/planning/countywide/subdivision-staging-policy/, include:

- Eliminating housing moratoria even where schools are overcrowded (except around Clarksburg) and, instead, charging developers a "utilization premium payment" when a school is 120% above capacity. This effectively eliminates caps on school enrollments.
- Substantially reducing school impact taxes that developers are charged for new multi-family housing.
- Progressively increasing recordation taxes on properties sold for more than \$500,000 in order to generate more funding for school construction and affordable housing initiatives.
- Eliminating the motor vehicle system adequacy standards near Metrorail and future Purple Line stations.
- Increasing the allowable levels of congestion along transit corridors.
- Incorporating 'Vision Zero' principles in transportation policies in an effort to end vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle deaths.
- Changing the name of the SSP to 'County Growth Policy.'

This past June, the Town submitted comments (<https://bit.ly/2Q497jP>) on the first draft of the SSP. The Town's Subcommittee on Regional Growth and Development is studying the latest draft and formulating recommendations for the Town Council's action. The County Council will hold a public hearing on the SSP on September 15 and will finalize a new policy by November 15. Residents are encouraged to review the SSP documents and submit comments to the County Council either before (county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov) or at its September 15 public hearing.

Parking Permits Extended for One Year

Due to the ongoing pandemic, **the Town is extending all parking permits and guest passes until September 31, 2021.** All vehicles within a permit parking area must display a purple permit parking decal or guest pass with an expiration date of September 30, 2020. Any resident who lives in a permit parking area and acquires a new vehicle during the next year should contact the Town office to request a permit parking sticker and guest pass. Vehicles that do not display the most recent decals or guest passes will continue to be ticketed. Call 301-654-7144 for more information.

Request a Native Canopy or Street Tree

The Town is preparing its fall tree planting list. If you have a spot in your yard suitable for a canopy tree, you might want to take advantage of the Town's Native Canopy Tree Planting program. Under this program, the Town will purchase and install a canopy tree on your property at no cost to you. Residents are responsible for the long-term care of the tree once installed.

You also may request to have a tree planted along the street in front of your home. The Town prefers to plant canopy trees when possible. Once the trees are planted, the Town will care for the trees for the first year by ensuring that they are watered. If you would like to request a tree, please contact the Town office at 301-654-7144 or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

TOWN EVENTS

Bulk Trash Collection Scheduled for September 14

In lieu of a regular Trash & Treasures event in September, the Town will offer curbside bulk trash collection on September 14. We ask that residents discard only items that are not able to be recycled or repurposed. Please do not place items on the curb before Sunday, September 13 to avoid “treasure seeking.” The following items will not be collected with bulk trash:

NO construction debris; parts of junked automobiles (engines, transmissions); boats or trailers; loose glass of any kind; firewood or fencing of any kind; paint cans; flammable or hazardous liquids or solids; recyclable items (newspapers, mixed paper, cardboard, old books, magazines, landscape pots, large plastic bins); shrubbery cuttings, yard clippings, leaves or grass.

If you have items that are recyclable or re-usable, we encourage you to take advantage of the following options.

Paper

Clean Cut Shredding in Rockville offers free paper shredding/recycling. There is no maximum number of boxes or bags. Drop-off hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit www.cleancutshredding.com or call (301) 424-5677.

Electronics

The County’s Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station accepts electronics in the recycling drop-off section of the Public Unloading Area. The electronics drop-off is open daily. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/dropoff/ or call 311.

Clothing, Furniture & Home Goods

Interfaith Works is accepting all regular donations at its Rockville location. Bins are available for no-touch drop-off. Donation hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit www.iworksmc.org or call (301) 424-3796.

A Wider Circle is accepting donations through an appointment system at its Rockville location. You can schedule an appointment online. Donation hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 12 to 5 p.m. Visit www.awidercircle.org or call (301) 608-3504.

Sports Equipment

Leveling the Playing Field is accepting donations at its Rockville location. A trailer for equipment donations is accessible 24/7. Visit www.levelingtheplayingfield.org or call (301) 844-5620.

Building Supplies

Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland (www.habitatmm.org; (301) 990-0014) and *Community Forklift* (www.communityforklift.org; (301) 985-5180) are accepting donations of building materials.

Bikes

Bikes for the World is accepting donations at its warehouse on scheduled days. You can also schedule a pickup with a volunteer. Visit www.bikesfortheworld.org or call (703) 740-7856.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

The Household Hazardous Waste receiving area at the County’s Shady Grove Transfer Station is located in the recycling drop-off section of the Public Unloading Area. For a complete list of accepted items or for more information, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/hw/.

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

Cecily Baskir, Mayor

Joel Rubin, Vice Mayor

Barney Rush, Treasurer

Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Secretary

Irene N. Lane, Community Liaison

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2020 ELECTION & CENSUS

Vote by Mail – November 3, 2020 Election

Ballots will **not** be mailed automatically to voters for the November 3, 2020 election, although applications for mail-in ballots will be mailed to the addresses on record for all registered Maryland voters. To request a ballot before the applications are mailed, visit the *Voter Registration and Mail-in Ballot* page on the Maryland State Board of Elections website (www.elections.maryland.gov). You must provide your complete information to verify your voter registration before a ballot can be mailed to you.

When applying for a ballot, choose to receive your ballot by mail. The other types (internet or fax) are only recommended for overseas voters and voters with disabilities. They require a bipartisan team of poll workers, or Election Judges, to review your ballot and hand copy your choices before your votes can be counted.

If you request a ballot, please vote as soon as possible using that ballot. Postage is prepaid, so you can return it by mail or at a Board of Elections drop box. Voted ballots will also be accepted in the polling room at Early Voting Centers and Election Day Vote Centers.

Montgomery County's 11 Early Voting Centers will be open Monday, October 26 through Election Day, November 3. Additional Vote Centers will open at the 25 MCPS High Schools on Election Day. Voting hours will be 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at all locations.

Census 2020 – Response Deadline Moved Up to September 30

The US Census Bureau has moved up the self-response deadline for the 2020 Census to September 30. Please take 10 minutes and complete your 2020 Census today! To respond online, visit www.2020census.gov, or call 844-330-2020 to respond by phone.