

RIVERDALE PARK



Action Plan 2020-2023

This plan contains the actions the Sustainability Committee will champion to both engage residents and support the Town government in achieving the [vision and commitment to sustainability](#). Since the Town's Sustainable Maryland recertification in 2017, the Town government has implemented many new sustainability initiatives. The Town has benefitted from a valued partnership with the University of Maryland (UMD) College of Information Studies, Community Outreach and Engagement Program and has committed to nurture and expand the partnership. And the Sustainability Committee has acquired new members who are providing inertia to engage with more Town residents to accomplish actions that will maintain Sustainable Maryland certification and continued growth in the vision of Riverdale Park as a sustainable community.

Actions in **shaded rows** are included in the Town of Riverdale Park [2021 Proposed Operating & Capital Improvement Budget](#), Capital Improvement Programs and Appendix C 2020 Calendar Year Staff Goals.

COMMUNITY ACTION				
Action Area	Action	Description	Point of Contact	Year to Complete
COMMUNITY ACTION - IDP	Sustainability Tour of Riverdale Park Station	Co-host with UMD Environmental Finance Center a tour of Riverdale Park Station sustainability features for the purpose of promoting the viability of sustainable development to Green Team representatives, elected officials, and municipal government staff from Maryland municipalities. See proposed agenda .	John Lestitian and Mike Hunninghake	2021
COMMUNITY ACTION - IDP	Support Sustainability Committee Activities and Sustainable Community Designation	Town staff have stated a goal to partner with the Sustainability Committee on community clean-ups and other outreach activities. Additionally, staff will assist the committee in the review of an annual action plan that furthers the Town's vision and commitment to sustainability. The plan will also establish building blocks to complete	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021 (ongoing)

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		actions towards maintaining certification as a Sustainable Maryland Community. The Town will also assist MNCPPC in renewing the area-wide Sustainable Community designation to improve the Town's efforts in pursuing grant money from the State of Maryland.		
COMMUNITY ACTION	Outreach on Sustainability	Give presentations on sustainability topics (planting native pollinators, composting, building rain gardens, etc.)		2021
COMMUNITY ACTION	Communication Link	Establish a communication link between Town residents and the Green Team to propose ideas and actions that enhance the Town's Vision for Sustainability and sustainable community certification.		2021
COMMUNITY ACTION	Find Funding Sources	Make a list of potential sources of grant funding		2021
COMMUNITY ACTION	Increase participation in Green Team activities	Engage membership from representatives of local organizations. (such as, Riverdale Park Business Assoc., Boy Scouts, homeowners' associations, arts council, historical society)		2021
COMMUNITY BASED FOOD SYSTEM				
COMMUNITY BASED FOOD SYSTEM	Community Garden	The goal of the Riverdale Park Community Garden is to address food security concerns, in part, related to COVID-19, and to create an outdoor space where residents will take part in organic growing, learn about environmental sustainability, and create a stronger connection to Town. The Town will seek to implement the findings from the 2019 community garden feasibility study and assessment Capstone Project conducted by students from the UMD School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Environmental Science and Policy.	Ryan Chelton, Director Development Services	2021
ENERGY				
ENERGY	Municipal Energy Audits	The Green Team will support analysis of municipal energy use data to inform decisions that increase energy efficiency. Will build on the UMD Capstone Project (Fall 2019) to use		2020

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		Energy Star Portfolio Manager to analyze energy usage in consideration of energy audit recommendations.		
ENERGY	Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	The Town staff will work with the Maryland Energy Administration, Pepco and other partners to bring additional EV charging stations to Town, especially on public property.	Ryan Chelton, Director Development Services	2020
ENERGY	Street Light LED Retrofit	This ongoing project is to replace the Town's existing halogen street lights with more efficient LED. The project is near completion.	Ivy Lewis, Director Public Works	2021
GREENHOUSE GAS				
GREENHOUSE GAS	Municipal Center Renovations	Upgrades and renovations to 5004, 5008 and 5012 Queensbury Road to incorporate energy efficiency elements to include a white roof.	Ivy Lewis and Ryan Chelton	2021
GREENHOUSE GAS	Vehicle Replacements	Replace vehicles driven by the Town's Neighborhood Services Office. This change from SUVs and a larger vehicle to more fuel-efficient vehicles is consistent with the Town's efforts of environmental stewardship. The move will also cost the Town less in fuel and maintenance than the existing fleet vehicles.		2022
GREENHOUSE GAS	Community/Municipal Carbon Footprint Assessment	Pursue use of ICLEI ClearPath Greenhouse Gas tracker https://icleiusa.org/clearpath/		2022
HEALTH AND WELLNESS				
HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Walk, Bike, Drive Safety Initiative	Continue working the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Campaign which was established in 2019. For State or County owned roadways the initiative focuses on Influence (of policy decision makers) and Education and Enforcement. Maintain and manage current MHSO grants for Impaired Driving, Speeding, Pedestrian Safety and Occupant Protection. The police dept will reapply for the Maryland Center for School Safety, which was awarded in 2019 and is	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021

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		dedicated to improving driver/pedestrian safety within school zones.		
HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Install Transportation Safety Enhancements	Pilot a retroreflective pavement marking program to improve visibility, durability and reflectivity in wet conditions as part of the Walk, Bike, Drive Safety Initiative, using the latest technology for road markings, including crosswalks, stop bars, lane markings, bike lanes and the railroad crossing.	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021
HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Health, Safety, and Wellness Committee	Enhance and expand the Safety Committee that the town established in 2019. Expand the groups goals to include health and wellness topics. Continue to build upon the objectives which includes worker's compensation, disability insurance, the pension plan, and associated costs. Implement safety surveys and inspections throughout the Town's operations.	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021
HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Blood Pressure Screenings	Offer free blood pressure screenings once a month at the Riverdale Park Farmer's Market.	Sheila Smith, Resident – RN (retired)	2021
LOCAL ECONOMIES				
LOCAL ECONOMIES	Business Improvement Grants	Apply to the State of Maryland for Community Legacy funds to expand this grant program. Fifty thousand dollars will be sought for this purpose and eligible uses will likely be restricted to exterior work.	Ryan Chelton, Director Development Services	2021
LOCAL ECONOMIES	Come Grow With Us! 2.0	Implement the Come Grow with Us! 2.0 initiative. The grant programs and related initiatives are in place to support local businesses and promotional outreach efforts will be expanded. In promoting the Town as the place to invest, staff will further efforts to attract quality investors and launch an outreach program to the owners of underutilized properties and site selectors. Develop and publish a quarterly online commercial bulletin to promote the growth occurring within our Town.	Jessica Barnes, Director Administrative Services	2021

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LOCAL ECONOMIES	Marketing Initiative	Create video shorts that promote the Town. The videos will be made available through TRP News cable television channels, the Town's YouTube Channel, the website, and various social media platforms. Rack cards for hotels, brochures for site selectors, program and initiative information for potential investors along with current residents and businesses will also be created.	Jessica Barnes, Director Administrative Services	
LOCAL ECONOMIES	Business Information Sessions	Organize and host two business information sessions in conjunction with our partners on the Federal, State and County levels.	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021
LOCAL ECONOMIES	Promote Small, Minority and Women-Owned, and Veteran-owned Businesses	Develop a partnership with the State Department of Commerce to encourage and support small, minority and women-owned, and veteran-owned business. Launch efforts to promote the Maryland Department of Commerce programs. Additionally, staff will liaise with organizations that further promote the attraction, retention, and expansion of such businesses.	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021
LOCAL ECONOMIES	Partnership with Latino Economic Development Commission	Explore further opportunities to partner with the Latino Economic Development Commission. Staff will engage with Latino business owners, ensure all Town materials are translated into Spanish, and host at least one economic development meeting focusing on Latino business owners.	Jessica Barnes, Director Administration Services	2021
NATURAL RESOURCES				
NATURAL RESOURCES – Watershed Stewardship	Landscape Design Advisory Committee	Establish a resident committee tasked with developing recommendations for landscape design and planting selections for the Town's public landscape areas. The members of the Landscape Design Advisory Committee (LDAC) will also develop recommendations for changes to existing landscape areas and the development of new landscape areas. The committee's recommendations will be	Ivy Lewis, Director Public Works	2021

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		shared with the Town's landscape contractor and/or neighborhood volunteers to coordinate the plantings.		
NATURAL RESOURCES – Watershed Stewardship	Micro-clean-ups 2.0	Continue to coordinate and promote micro-cleanups throughout the Town. Examples include the removal sign-litter along the Town's roads (primarily attached to utility poles and street signs) and implementing focused clean-ups on walk-routes from retail locations that tend to sell items with disposable packaging. Additionally, activities will be implemented for larger events such as Earth Day.	Jessica Barnes, Director Administrative Services	2020 (ongoing)
NATURAL RESOURCES – Watershed Stewardship	Litter Control Initiative	Continue the Litter Control Initiative with a greater emphasis on public information, education and partnership. Pilot an Adopt-A- Road/Place program to promote direct resident involvement in litter cleanup and litter prevention. Expand the number of trash receptacles and introduce recycling receptacles in key locations and expand the number of locations overtime. Continue consideration of a local litter control law allowed by the State. Any revenue generated from the enforcement of the local Page law will be designated for the Town's Litter Control Initiative. Eligible expenses will include the acquisition of public trash receptacles, supplies to support community clean-ups, promotional materials to combat littering, and related purposes.	Jessica Barnes, Director Administrative Services	2021
NATURAL RESOURCES - Trees	Tree Program Guidebook	Develop a Tree Program Guidebook. Proper planning for the maintenance, care, and replacement of Town-owned trees is necessary to protect and grow the Town's tree canopy, and to budget accordingly. A detailed guidebook outlining the processes for continual assessment and care will be developed.	Ivy Lewis, Director Public Works	2021
NATURAL RESOURCES - Trees	Grow the Tree Canopy	Increase tree canopy in multifamily areas and other areas of Town where tree canopies have been diminished as a result of utility related tree trimming and tree removal due to	Ivy Lewis, Director Public Works	2020

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		disease and storm damage. Use native species and locate new trees away from utility lines and in tree boxes that accommodate their size at full growth. Prioritize areas based on low tree inventories, suitability and opportunities to compliment activities currently planned or underway in areas.		
NATURAL RESOURCES – Stormwater Management	Leaf Strategy	Promote leaf bagging and mulching in residential areas and discourage blowing leaves into the street for leaf vacuuming. Educate residents about leaf management options, specifically bagging and mulching. Offer incentives to residents including free leaf bags, block recognitions and awards for fall leaf-free streets, and promoting neighbor helping neighbor.	Ivy Lewis, Director Public Works	2020 (ongoing)
NATURAL RESOURCES – Stormwater Management	Longfellow Street Project	There is a longstanding drainage issue in the public right-of-way and separately on private property to the rear of the residential structures on the southside of Longfellow Street. The scope of the project involves the installation of new inlets and piping where needed.	Ivy Lewis, Director Public Works	2021
NATURAL RESOURCES – Watershed Stewardship	Create a <u>Pollinator Pathway</u>	Establish a corridor thru Town connecting private and public lands with pollinator friendly, native plants joining at the North Branch of the Anacostia River.		2021
NATURAL RESOURCES – Stormwater Management	Rain Gardens	Promote rain gardens to residents and to Town staff when designing land use projects and pocket parks to manage stormwater and support pollinators.		2021
NATURAL RESOURCES – Stormwater Management	Establish a Stormwater Management Program	See Sustainable Maryland Actions for program and plan description and resources. sustainablemaryland.com/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/558 See storm drain inventory (Jennifer Hare)		2023
NATURAL RESOURCES –	Composting for Residents	See UMD Capstone Feasibility Study. Join other Route 1 communities in curbside or drop-off composting program.		2021

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Watershed Stewardship				
NATURAL RESOURCES	Pet waste education program	Promote Prince George's County, Scoop the Poop, pet waste outreach initiative		2020 (ongoing)
NATURAL RESOURCES	Map (GIS) locations of waste stations	This project involves mapping all pet waste stations and all trash/recycling receptacles within the Town. Post on Town website and/or create mobile app for the community to use in planning their walks to encourage proper waste disposal.		2021
PLANNING AND LAND USE				
PLANNING & LAND USE	Maryland Main Street Affiliate Program	Improve the Town Center thru this DHCD affiliate program. The program will be the first step in a multiple-year effort to become a full-fledged Main Street Maryland community. Enhancing the perception of a neighborhood through the principles of Smart Growth and sustainability.	Ryan Chelton, Director Development Services	2021
PLANNING & LAND USE	Field of Dreams and Pocket Parks	Complete the design work with the Neighborhood Development Center (NDC) and identify locations for pocket-parks throughout the Town and work to establish concept plans. Construction around Riverdale Park Station has created an opportunity for the Town to design a new public space in the remaining area of the Field of Dreams. The sidewalk will be designed so as to not add run-off on to the street and will improve connectivity in the neighborhood. Planning for stormwater management and other site improvements and County funding for trees.	Ivy Lewis, Director Public Works	2021
PLANNING & LAND USE	Beale Circle	In FY2020, the Beale Circle Capital Improvements Project will focus on design. Improvements associated with the creation of a new public space at Beale Circle is planned for		2023

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		FY2021, FY2022 and FY2023. Community design charrettes and other opportunities for community input are envisioned. The initial concept is a passive park and amenities to serve as a transition from the commercial development to an entry point of the residential area.		
PLANNING & LAND USE	5000 and 5002 Queensbury Road	Demolition of existing structures. Land use pending resolution from Town Council.	Ivy Lews, Director Public Works	2021
HISTORIC PRESERVATION				
HISTORIC PRESERVATION	Historic Sites Promotion	Coordinate and partner with the Riversdale Historical Society, Park and Planning, and related organizations to explore ways to support the rich history of Riverdale Park. In addition to Riversdale and the Calvert Cemetery, staff will seek opportunities to highlight sites such as the probable location of slave quarters and slave cemetery. The historic homes and the Town Center will also be included. An ongoing effort will be made to support the installation of historic markers/plaques.	John Lestitian, Town Manager	
TRANSPORTATION				
TRANSPORTATION	Riverdale Road Pedestrian Bridge	Explore the possibilities of creating a separate pedestrian bridge along this heavily pedestrian traveled area. The State is planning to replace the existing bridge but not expand the rather narrow pedestrian-way.	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021
TRANSPORTATION	Construct New Sidewalks	Design and construct sidewalks in the following locations: 48th Avenue (CDBG grant funded), Tuckerman Street, 49th Avenue (missing sections), 44th Avenue (missing sections), Oglethorpe Street (awaiting grant decision)	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021
TRANSPORTATION	VeoRide Agreement	Draft an agreement with VeoRide to extend their existing service in College Park and University Park to the Town.	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021
TRANSPORTATION	Bike Paths	Extend the Rivertech Court bike path along the entire length of the roadway after transfer of the street from the County to the Town.	John Lestitian, Town Manager	2021

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TRANSPORTATION	Bus Stop Improvements	Bus shelters are essential for quality transit experience for bus riders in Town. Riverdale Road is a highly concentrated section in Town that has a significant amount of residents relying on bus services. Approximately 6 shelters will help mitigate riders' exposure to the weather while waiting for the bus.	Ryan Chelton, Director Development Services	2021
WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING				
RESILIENCE				
WILDLIFE				
SOCIAL EQUITY				



SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING & PRESERVATION

ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE CENTER

AGENDA

Location: Riverdale Park Station

Date: 2020

- Mixed-use: office, retail, hotel, residential (apartments/townhouses)
- Green infrastructure: bio-retention facilities, green roof, pervious asphalt, rainwater harvesting (cisterns), native plants, new parkland
- Transit-oriented development (proximity to MARC, Metro, and Purple Line stations)
- Bicycle/pedestrian connectivity (Trolley Trail, pedestrian overpass)
- Electric vehicle infrastructure (charging stations)
- LED streetlights/solar-powered lighting
- Construction waste reduction
- Public art (several example; part of the Gateway Arts District)
- Job creation (463 retail and food service jobs)

Bonus: Tour of green roof (only aspect of this tour that requires special access via Cushman & Wakefield property management)

Location: Riverdale Park Station, 6621 Baltimore Avenue, Riverdale Park, MD

Directions to RPS: From UMD - south on Baltimore Avenue; left on Van Buren Street (entrance to Riverdale Park Station); at dead end (due to construction site), right on 46th Street; quick left to parking along fenceline. Entrance to C&W office is #4595 (door at rear of Whole Foods building). C&W office is on 2nd floor. Staff will carpool.

Cushman & Wakefield Contact/Tour Guide: Lydia Chandlee (phone: cell 301-256-1777, office: 301-479-1151)