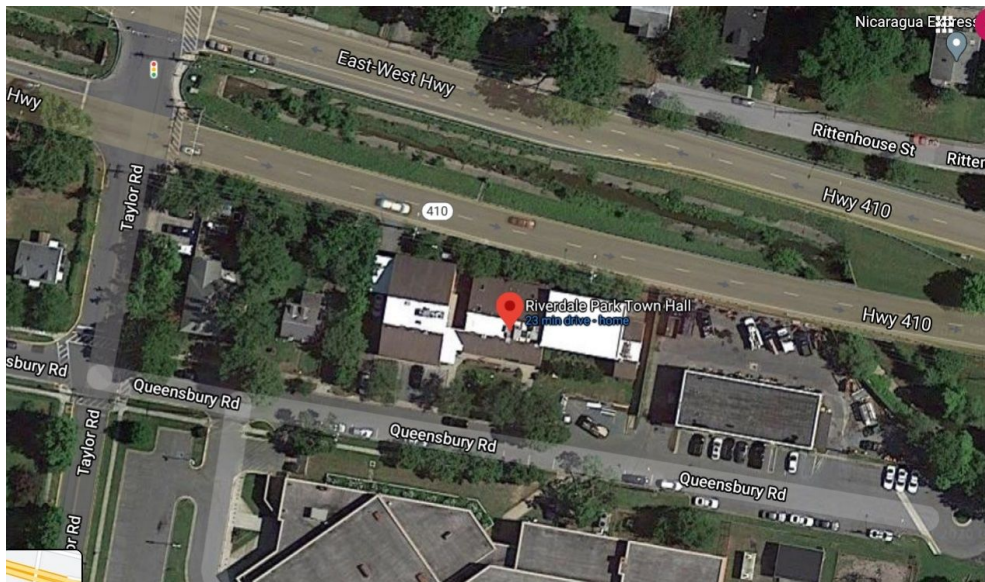


RIVERDALE PARK

Municipal Carbon Footprint

In 2017, the Town of Riverdale Park compiled a Municipal Carbon Footprint that encompassed vehicle fuel consumption and electricity and natural gas consumption in municipal buildings. The report determined that the Town of Riverdale Park (TRP or the Town) produces a total of 931,015 lbCO₂ per year from electricity (69,391 lbCO₂), transportation fuel (792,045 lbCO₂), and natural gas for heating and hot water (69,579 lbCO₂). Furthermore, the report determined that full electrification of the municipal vehicle fleet would save 533,419 lbCO₂ (67% reduction). The Municipal Carbon Footprint Report noted that if the Town installed a white roof, as included in the 2017 request for proposals for the Town Hall renovation, the Town would reduce energy consumption overall due to significantly lower air conditioning requirement during hot months.

To report full circle, in June 2020 the Town just installed the 5400 sq ft. [EPDM white roof](#) on the flat part of the Town Hall's and the Municipal Police Building's roofs. The Town funded the roof project from a state loan and grant (Bond Bill). Very little maintenance is required on flat roofs. The roofing company that installed the white roof recommends annual inspection and removal of debris accumulations from adjacent trees or windblown from other sources that could restrict the movement of stormwater from the roof. Additionally, the Town's Department of Public Works plans to inspect the white roof more frequently than recommended over several months during 2020 to make sure water moves appropriately and that there are no defects in the roofing material or installation. The town has a manufacturers warranty so that any problems due to defects will be addressed. The Town is likely to have the roofing company conduct the annual inspection for the first several years. That inspection fee is not expected to exceed \$250.



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In response to the Municipal Carbon Footprint Report recommendations, the Town had planned to replace its lease for conventional gas-powered SUVs used for Neighborhood Services with a lease for hybrid SUVs in an effort to reduce gasoline usage. Due to the covid-19 pandemic, funds for this lease have been postponed until fiscal year 2022. Instead, the TRP Police Department has allocated approximately \$54,500 each year starting in fiscal year 2019 in order to lease-to-own four new [hybrid police cruisers](#) to replace “deadlined, high mileage fleet vehicles.” TRP plans to lease the hybrid vehicles through the next 5 years of the lease-to-own agreement in anticipation that the cruisers will remain in service for two more additional years after the agreement period. Ford now produces only the Explorer model in the police package which can accommodate the electrical power draw needed for the police equipment onboard. These Ford Explorer hybrid cruisers have an EPA-estimated combined rating of 24 mpg. The new vehicles will be acquired in the first quarter of the 2021 fiscal year.



In addition to pursuing vehicles that can potentially reduce gasoline usage, TRP is pursuing increased opportunities for police officers to further engage with the community during the spring and summer months by conducting periodic police bicycle patrols. Bicycle-certified police officers will patrol the community creating opportunities to be more fully engaged with the community during these patrol activities. Police bicycle patrols have the added benefit of reducing carbon emissions by not using police cruisers. This program was introduced in fiscal year [2020](#) (2019) and continued in [2021](#).

Additionally, starting in 2019, TRP began an employee residency initiative which can cut down the carbon emissions from employees driving from far away residences. The initiative will incentivize all employees to live in Town. The initiative will provide \$1,560 annually (\$60 per pay period) for non-police officer employees whose primary residence is located in Town. Employees who reside in Town are able to respond more quickly to emergencies and will also be more likely to be involved in the community. Police Officers who reside in Town will receive an

RIVERDALE PARK



incentive of \$4,160 per year (\$160 per pay). In the 2021 fiscal year budget, TRP added that the goal of the program is to secure Federal, State, and/or County funding to serve as a down payment assistance program to assist employees in becoming homeowners within the Town.

Due to the anticipated reduction in gasoline usage in the future and to TRP's Town Hall location next to the Wells Run water channel, TRP has removed a fuel tank from the Town's property. For many years TRP maintained an above ground fuel tank, next to the Public Works building and very near the Wells Run channel, that contained 4,000 gallons of gasoline and 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel and was a concern to TRP due to its proximity to the Wells Run tributary to the Anacostia River. TRP decommissioned the tank in early 2020 and sold the tank to an Oil Company in South Carolina. The tank will be removed in July 2020. TRP expects to continue further electrification of the Town fleet, which is demonstrated by the removal of this fuel tank.

Additionally, during the summer 2020, the Town will look at their Pepco budget and consider using cleaner energy sources through Pepco. The Town is in the process of finalizing this with Pepco and the annual electric cost to the Town is currently blank in the proposed fiscal year 2021 budget. The TRP Sustainability Committee will continue to work with TRP to encourage lower emissions energy choices to meet the Town's energy needs. TRP has considerable potential to lower its carbon footprint after recording future energy bill usage using the [Energy Star Portfolio Manager](#).