



## VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2020

### SEPTEMBER VILLAGE MEETING

September 15, 2020 – 7:30 PM – Zoom platform (instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) \*Approval of July Mtg Min \*Treasurer’s Report \*Permits \*Chicken Coops \*Pet waste receptacles \*Capital Improvement Projects update – Village streets, tree plantings

### IMPORTANT NOTICES

#### COVID-19

The Village hopes all residents are staying safe and well. Per Village emails, below are recommended websites to receive up-to-date information on COVID-19.

For the latest updates from the County on COVID-19, including a data dashboard to highlight progress on criteria for reopening the County, please go to:  
<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/Coronavirus.html>

For the latest updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, please go to:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

While schools and public facilities are closed, Montgomery County government services are continuing.

Check the county's website for updated information on public services:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OEMHS/COVID19-Closures.html>

**2020 Census:** This is a reminder to PLEASE complete the 2020 census at <https://2020census.gov/> or by calling 844-330-2020 (by September 30). The Village’s response rate currently totals **77.6%** (as of August 28). Please note that census responses will impact numerous critical services to the citizens of Maryland, including resource allocation by the federal, State and County governments to our Village in the event of disasters. It is estimated that every Marylander not counted costs the State \$18,000 per person over the next decade.

#### VILLAGE COUNCIL

Chair: Adrian Andreassi  
[chair@northchevychase.org](mailto:chair@northchevychase.org)  
Vice Chair: Brian Hoffner  
[vicechair@northchevychase.org](mailto:vicechair@northchevychase.org)  
Secretary: Maury Mechanick  
[secretary@northchevychase.org](mailto:secretary@northchevychase.org)  
Treasurer: Chas Stuart  
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Member: Ronald Jones  
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Manager: Dana Peterson  
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Fire Board Representatives:  
Dave Albinson, Abby Morris, Guim Barbour  
**Village of North Chevy Chase**  
PO Box 15887, Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
**Mobile: 301-654-7084**  
TDD (MD Relay Service): 1-800-735-2258  
Website: [www.northchevychase.org](http://www.northchevychase.org)

**November Elections:** Election Day is Nov. 3. For anyone who is not registered, the deadline for voter registration is Oct. 13 (<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1>).

A ballot will not be mailed to voters like was done during for the 2020 primary. An application to request a vote by mail ballot (formerly called absentee ballots) will be mailed to voters starting the week of August 24. A mail-in ballot can also be requested by visiting the Board of Elections website at [777vote.org](http://777vote.org).

Voters are strongly encouraged to select the ballot delivery method “In the mail” when they receive a ballot application and to mail a completed ballot no later than October 28 to ensure the U.S. Postal Service has sufficient time to deliver it. The paper ballot received will be the actual ballot that will go through the vote counting scanner.

For those who don't mail in their ballots during early voting, voters can go to any of the 39 voting centers approved by the Maryland State Board of Elections. Eleven of the voting centers also will be early voting sites. Early voting will run from October 26 to November 2, 7 am-8 pm.

Maryland's local boards of elections say they think they have enough election judges to staff the approximately 370 election day voting centers. There has been a surge of state workers who signed up to be election judges. However, state officials are still searching for extra judges in case a second COVID-19 wave hits this fall and some judges can't serve on election day. In Montgomery County, there is a need for more Republican and Spanish-

speaking judges. If you're interested, go to [https://elections.maryland.gov/get\\_involved/election\\_judges.html](https://elections.maryland.gov/get_involved/election_judges.html) for more information on how to become an election judge.

**Update on Chevy Chase Lake Development:**

The Village Council – and a number of residents – provided letters to the Montgomery County Planning Board (copying the County Executive, County Councilmembers and State delegates) requesting that they require (and reverse the waiver they gave in 2017) the developer of Chevy Chase Lake to bury the utility lines and plant tall overstory trees where possible, per the approved Sector Plan from 2013. The Planning Board at its July 23 meeting rejected the Village's request to have the waiver rescinded. State Delegate Al Carr has filed a Maryland Public Information Act request for public records related to how the waiver was requested and the developer's arguments for the waiver. He will inform the Village of his findings.

**I-495/I-270 Toll Lane Project:** The public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for I-495/I-270 toll lanes has been extended by 30 days, to November 9. The Village Council is preparing a statement on behalf of our municipality, which will be posted to the Village website and shared with residents via the Village email distribution list. The DEIS can be accessed at <https://495-270-p3.com/deis/>. A Village resident who recently submitted comments on the DEIS was informed to note directly whether you support or not the I-495 & I-270 Managed Lanes Public-Private Partnership (P3) Program and ideally, which of the alternatives listed in the DEIS you support. Those not testifying at the public

hearings can testify online at 495-270-p3.com/DEIS, email their comments to MLS-NEPA-P3@mdot.maryland.gov, or mail them to Lisa B. Choplin, Director, I-495 & I-270 P3 Office, Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration, 707 N. Calvert St., Mail Stop P-601, Baltimore, MD 21202.

**Purple Line:** Following the filing of a lawsuit by the Maryland Transit Authority against Purple Line Transit Partners, who were initiating efforts to leave the project after failed negotiations over approximately \$520 million in cost overruns and delays, a judge ordered the companies to stay on the job until September 14 at 5 pm. "All four of the Purple Line contractors' complaints of project delays and cost overruns are currently being processed through the dispute resolution" according to MDOT. (Bethesda Magazine, August 11, "Updated: Judge Orders Purple Line Contractors to Stay on Job Until Mid-September")

The closure that was scheduled to begin on August 10 along Connecticut Ave for the bridge girder installation has been rescheduled to September 14, 2020. A nightly closure of Connecticut Avenue between Newdale Road and Chevy Chase Lake Drive will occur from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. for approximately five nights. The detour can be viewed here: <https://plmdnews.com/x01>

### **Chevy Chase Library**

The Village was included as one key stakeholder in outreach by the Committee on the Future of the Chevy Chase Library advocating to the County's Department of General Services (DGS) to ensure full

community input to any redevelopment of Chevy Chase Library, as well as requesting copies of developers' expressions of interest for renovation of the library and overall use of the land. DGS responded to the letter stating that it had planned to host a community forum to discuss the solicitation this summer; however, in light of the pandemic, they are modifying the Chevy Chase Library Project Page to include a summary of the responses and facilitate public comment and feedback. All input received to date will be posted for review as well. DGS noted that it will not make any recommendations until the community has had ample opportunity to provide input and that "there are no decisions pending or imminent." The DGS website is being monitored for updates.

**NCC Christian Church Parking:** Residents are reminded that the NCC Christian Church (8814 Kensington Parkway) parking lot is private property according to County zoning laws. Parking on the lot overnight or during the day is restricted to only those that have specific business with the church.

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM JULY COUNCIL**

**MEETING** (*Please note that the official minutes will be approved at the next Village meeting and will be posted on the website after*)

**Secretary's Reports for June 2020 Council Meeting** - (Mechanick) – Approved.

**Treasurer's Reports for June 2020** (Stuart) – Results for June 2020 included income of \$57,048 and operating expenses of \$16,998. Capital expenditures for the Fiscal Year 2020 came to \$61,497, incurred for tree removals and replacements, road maintenance and sidewalk replacement on Inverness. Total current assets as of the end of Fiscal Year 2020, consisting of

operating balance plus reserves, come to \$1,737,636.

### **Permits**

- **9001 Montgomery Avenue** – Application for major renovation project (more than 250 sq feet) approved. Requirements include a signed Site Management Conditions Agreement and payment of \$5000 security deposit.

**Tree Plantings** – The Council approved the purchase of up to 37 trees for FY 2021, as requested by Village residents, for the Native Tree Planting Program established by the Village.

**Backyard Chicken Coops** – Discussion continued as to whether the Village should adopt its own permitting process with respect to chicken coops. The Council will further consider this matter again at its September meeting, including whether to require confirmation that County setback requirements are met and imposition of a consent requirement from adjoining neighbors.

**Pet Waste Receptacles** – Information about commercial pet waste receptacles was presented, with discussion about possible location and features (bag dispensing versus collection receptacles) at specific locations.

**Capital Improvement Projects for FY 2021 and Beyond** – Preliminary discussion of the study conducted by Clark/Azar and Associates of Village road and sidewalk maintenance indicated considerable satisfaction with the work performed and the 10-year plan contained in the study. The Village Manager will follow up with Clark/Azar to clarify whether their management fees are already included in the cost estimate and to develop a specific process for moving forward with necessary measures for FYs 2021 and 2022.

**1-495/I-270 Managed Lane Update** – Release of the required Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on June 24, 2020, was noted by the Village Council and that the time frame for comments had been set as 90 days from release date (note: that has subsequently been extended to 120 days); the Village intends to submit written comments in response to the DEIS, reflecting

Village concerns regarding potential environmental impacts affecting Village residents and will encourage Village residents to submit their own comments regarding the DEIS document.

**Plans Regarding Chevy Chase Library** – Note was taken of efforts to marshal community support within the broader Chevy Chase area for greater transparency and input into any plans under consideration by Montgomery County regarding the Chevy Chase library, including possible plans to tear down and replace the current library with a multi-use building financed via a private-public partnership. The Council decided to support and participate in those community efforts, given the importance of the library to Village residents.

### **SUSTAINABLE LIVING**

(Courtesy of the Environment Committee)

Montgomery County Government and community partners launched the **Montgomery Energy Connection** network

(<https://montgomeryenergyconnection.org/>) as a one-stop website for all things energy-related in the county. Its goal is to provide customized education to county residents on the benefits of energy efficiency, programs, and opportunities for assistance.

If you need help paying your energy bill, want to lower your energy bill, learn about renewables or understand your energy usage, Montgomery Energy Connection can help. Visit its regularly updated website and/or subscribe to its monthly newsletter, *Energy News*, via the website.

### **CALENDAR (2020)**

Sept 15:	Village Council Meeting 7:30 PM Virtual
Sept 19:	Bulk Trash Pick-Up
Sept 30:	2020 Census Deadline
Oct 13:	Elections Registration Deadline
Oct 20:	Village Council Meeting 7:30 PM Virtual
Nov 3:	Election Day

