



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2020

NOVEMBER VILLAGE MEETING

November 17, 2020 – 7:30 PM – Zoom platform
(instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Approval of Oct Min *Treasurer’s Report
*Permits *Fast-Track Permits *Village Tree Maintenance *Fines *Sidewalk on Husted

IMPORTANT NOTICES

COVID-19

The Village hopes all residents are staying safe and well. 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>

Leaf Pick Up: Street leaf pick up started the week of October 5 and will end in early January. Bethke Landscaping is the Village contractor. Mondays are the scheduled day each week – if there is rain, it will be Tuesday. The contractor may come more than once per week if their schedule permits. Leaves are to be placed curbside and made accessible for pick up by truck (please note that given the traffic flow on Kensington Parkway, residents can place leaves on the grassy area but ensure they are right next to the street to facilitate reach of the vacuums). Sticks, trash, rocks and other debris will not be collected and will be left curbside. Leaves are not to be shredded. The

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Chair: Adrian Andreassi
chair@northchevyCHASE.org
Vice Chair: Brian Hoffner
vicechair@northchevyCHASE.org
Secretary: Maury Mechanick
secretary@northchevyCHASE.org
Treasurer: Chas Stuart
treasurer@northchevyCHASE.org
Member: Ronald Jones
member@northchevyCHASE.org
Manager: Dana Peterson
nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org
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

contractor will also be removing leaves from the 2 diverters along Montgomery Ave at Stewart and Kenilworth, over the storm drains, and at the 3 bus stops along Kensington Parkway.

Donation Prior to Bulk Trash Pick Up: As a pilot effort to help residents donate reusable/donatable items prior to bulk trash pickup, the Village has arranged with Donation Nation to come through the Village in advance of the December 12 bulk trash pickup. Donation Nation is a 501©3 whose mission is to reduce landfill waste and supply a variety of tangible and economic resources to benefit the growth of the nonprofit sector. Donation Nation accepts furniture and appliances, household items such as dishes and glassware (they ask that those items be boxed up and not mildewy or significantly stained) and office furniture and furnishings such as chairs, computers, copy machines, filing cabinets, desks and more. They also accept clothing but request that it be placed in a bag. They will bring the items to their storage facility and work with their partners to determine if it can be salvaged for textile materials or simply reused. Pick up of bagged clothing curbside will be on **Thursday, December 10** and non-clothing and furniture will be picked up on **Friday, December 11**. Additional information on the organization can be found at:

<https://www.donationnationusa.org/>

I-495/I-270 Toll Lane Project:

According to Maryland Matters, October 21, 2020, "Planning Agency Rejects Hogan Highway Widening Plan", "On October 21, the planning agency that serves Montgomery and Prince George's counties unanimously rejected the State's proposal within the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for adding lanes to the Capital Beltway and I- 270." The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) is a "cooperating agency" in the formal process for obtaining needed land and environmental permits for the

highway expansion. Their rejection of the State's highway expansion proposal also goes to the Maryland Department of the Environment and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, both of which must approve key permits for the highway expansion to move forward. The commission's objections will likely form the basis of a legal challenge to the State's decision, lawyers familiar with the National Environmental Policy Act said. In addition, the State is likely to need parkland controlled by the MNCPPC. The agency could use its objections to the project as a basis for refusing to transfer that acreage to the State, experts have said. The public comment period for the DEIS, which has more than 19,000 pages, ends on Nov. 9.

Another Maryland Matters article "Labyrinth of Pipelines and Cables Could Face Major Disruption by Highway Plan – and Who Would Foot the Bill?" (October 28, 2020), highlights that State officials have been meeting with 21 utilities and private companies since 2018 related to beltway expansion. The companies provide services ranging from water and sewer to electricity, gas, internet and cable television. "Because the state is still in the process of considering which of several potential options it will choose for the highway project, there are no blueprints that companies can consult to determine whether they have buried assets that need moving. Nor can they can calculate a cost or negotiate with SHA or its private-sector road-builders to determine who picks up the tab....And the sheer number of entities with crucial infrastructure buried under the roads, disclosed here for the first time, has alarmed local leaders and members of the General Assembly, many of whom are already skeptical of the highway widening project."

Purple Line: The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) has taken over hundreds of subcontracts to continue the Purple Line's construction after the contractor quit over a reported \$800 million in unpaid cost overruns.

Under state management, work will continue on erosion and sediment control, relocating overhead electrical wires and underground utilities. MTA will decide over the next four to six months whether they will continue to manage the project, seek a new construction contractor or procure another public-private partnership.

MCPS School Boundary Study: Per Bethesda Beat, October 20 “Consultant Unveil ‘Interactive Tool’ for MCPS Boundary Analysis”, Consultants for MCPS released an interactive online database that can help residents look at a specific school or cluster’s data (from the current school year) and compare that to other schools and create charts to analyze the data. Data includes demographics, enrollment, percentage of students who are eligible for free and reduced-priced meals and average distance families live from their home school. The tool can be accessed here.

<http://interactiveboundaryexplorer.com/combined.html>

This is part of phase II of a county-wide boundary analysis which started in January 2019. A final report is expected in January or February of 2021.

Chevy Chase Library: Friends of the Library Chevy Chase will be having its annual meeting by Zoom on Nov. 17 at 7 PM. The meeting will be devoted to questions and comments about the library renovation/replacement.

Join Online

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89504763846?pwd=WThWOS9CelFsNzYrMINnWmNyZHhsZz09>

Join by Phone

1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 895 0476 3846

Passcode: 796576

3700 block of Kenilworth – The area at the intersection of the 3700 block of Kenilworth Drwy and Kensington Parkway has suffered from extensive floods during heavy rains for a

number of years. Montgomery County has committed to replacing the storm drain inlets and storm drain pipe this winter (crew availability and construction delays could affect this target date). Village management will remain in close contact with the engineers and notify Village residents when construction is about to commence.

NEW RESIDENTS:

3711 Kenilworth: Andrew and Alla Seiffert moved to 3711 Kenilworth Drwy in July, coming from Adams Morgan, DC, where they lived for many years. Andrew is originally from Bethesda and they’re happy to be so close to family. They have one son (2 years) and a daughter on the way.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OCTOBER 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 Report Sept 2020 Mtg - Approved.

Treasurer’s Reports for September 2020 – Results for September 2020 included income of \$32,454, and operating expenses of \$16,552. Capital expenditures for September 2020 came to \$425, incurred for tree removals, and capital expenditures for fiscal year to date total \$9,915. Total current assets as of September 2020, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, came to \$1,731,554.

Permits

- **8802 Montgomery Avenue** – new fence; approved with waiver of 4-foot height restriction applicable to side fences (height of up to 5 feet authorized); length of fence will be aligned with beginning of driveway apron.
- **8912 Montgomery Avenue** – permit should be for driveway apron - no curb cut required - consistent with County requirements.
- **3804 Inverness Driveway** – retaining wall and deck; action deferred pending further review of retaining wall location and potential impact on adjoining properties.

Action Items:

Fast-Track Permits – The Council expressed strong support for a review of Village permit requirements to identify permits that should not necessitate full review by the Council and could be approved by the Village Manager on a more expedited basis. The Council requested the Village Manager to review current permits – and cross reference the County’s expedited “walk through” permits – to identify options.

Sidewalk Installation for the 3600 and 3700 blocks of Husted Driveway

– In response to interest from a number of residents of the 3600 and 3700 blocks of Husted Drwy in the installation of sidewalks on those blocks, based upon concerns about pedestrian safety given traffic volumes and speed along those blocks, the Village received a preliminary estimate from Clark/Azar civil engineer firm regarding the estimated cost for installation, which totaled at least \$160,000. Given current budget uncertainties and the structure of the 10-year capital budget – estimated at \$1.164 million - which does not include the installation of additional sidewalks anywhere in the Village, the Council raised concerns that incurring such expenditures would have a significant adverse effect on the Village’s ability to cover other planned capital activities. Concerns regarding installation feasibility and environmental design considerations were also raised, including impact on mature canopy trees. To better understand the potential impact that installation of such sidewalks would have on individual residences, the Council intends to put markings (likely spray chalk) on the north side of properties on Husted to highlight the actual footprint for a sidewalk. There was also discussion about the proposed sidewalk on Stewart Drwy 3-4 years ago. One Councilmember indicated that if any new sidewalks were to be installed in the Village, the priority should be streets that are closest to NCC Elementary School – which would be Stewart Drwy - and then streets further north could be examined. Any decision on

sidewalk installation would need to consider residents’ perspectives. Discussion about funding options included paying for a new sidewalk(s) upfront, incorporating sections of sidewalks in the 10-year capital improvement plan to limit annual expenditures, and exploring possible federal/State/County grant opportunities to offset costs. One resident also raised an option of a stop sign at the intersection of Husted and Montgomery to address the issue of vehicular speeds.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING

(Courtesy of the Environment Committee)
The County Council is considering legislation to expand composting in Montgomery County. Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 20-04 would create a greener local economy by increasing the amount of materials farmers can use on their property to produce and manufacture compost and mulch. Councilmembers Andrew Friedson and Nancy Navarro are co-leading this effort, and Councilmembers Hans Riemer, Gabe Albornoz and Will Jawando are co-sponsors. Montgomery County currently produces 147,000 tons of food waste per year, the largest contributing factor to the county’s waste stream. The ZTA would increase the amount of off-site material that farmers can use in the manufacturing of compost and mulch from 20 percent to 50 percent.

CALENDAR (2020)

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| November 17: | Village Council Meeting
7:30 PM Virtual |
| December 10: | Pilot Curbside Donation –
bagged clothing |
| December 11: | Pilot Curbside Donation –
Non-clothing, furniture |
| December 12: | Bulk Trash Pick Up |
| December 15: | Village Council Meeting |