



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2020

OCTOBER VILLAGE MEETING

October 20, 2020 – 7:30 PM – Zoom platform
(instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Approval of Sept Mtg Min *Treasurer’s Report *Permits *Sidewalk on Husted

IMPORTANT NOTICES

COVID-19

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

November Elections:

Election Day is Nov. 3

Registering to vote

Voter registration is available until Tuesday, October 13

(<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1>), as well as at early voting centers and on election day. The following link shows the early voting centers:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/EarlyVoting/index.html>

Early voting

For those of you who ordered a mail-in ballot, some have started arriving. When you fill out your mail-in ballot, **please be sure to sign the return envelope**. Do NOT sign the ballot itself – it will not be counted if you do that.

You can vote by mail any time after you complete your ballot, but **be sure to sign the affidavit on the back of the envelope** before you do. Alternatively, you can place your ballot (in the signed envelope) in any of the drop boxes around the county – the link for those locations is:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/dropbox.html>, including at the 11 early voting

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

centers. Drop boxes will be in place between October 2 and November 3. You can vote in person at an early voting center between October 26 and November 2 from 7 AM – 8 PM.

Please note that there are 4 questions on the ballot specific to Montgomery County related to taxation and the County Council structure. Information on the 4 questions and perspectives by various Council members and groups can be found at:

<https://bethesdamagazine.com/bethesda-beat/politics/what-to-know-about-montgomery-countys-ballot-questions/>

2020 Census: Based on a court ruling last week, the U.S. Census Bureau has extended its self-response and field operations for the 2020 Census through Saturday, October 31. All households that have not yet responded are urged to do so online immediately at my2020census.gov/, by phone at 844-330-2020 or text at 77788.

Leaf Pick Up: Street leaf pick up started the week of October 5. Leaf pick up will occur weekly for 3 months. Bethke Landscaping, the Village contractor, will not provide a specific day each week given continual schedule adjustments due to weather. Leaves are to be placed curbside and made accessible for leaf 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 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.

I-495/I-270 Toll Lane Project:

Per a Maryland Matters Weekend Memo (Sept 26, 2020), “Nearly 70 members of the Maryland

General Assembly...in a sharply-worded letter to the director of the project...accuse the SHA...of failing to follow federal law in determining how new lanes would impact communities where low-income residents and people of color are in the majority... The letter was signed by...nearly one-third of the General Assembly. All are Democrats and most represent Montgomery, Prince George’s and Frederick counties.”

The Village Council submitted a statement on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement to relevant stakeholders on September 22 (also uploaded to the Village website), highlighting concerns over environmental protections within a public-private partnership structure, the significant downsides to using Connecticut Ave as an on/off-ramp to toll lanes, and the importance of analyzing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on future transportation infrastructure. Public comments will be accepted through November 9, 2020. Additional information can be found at: <https://495-270-p3.com/your-participation/provide-feedback/>

Purple Line: According to Maryland Matters article “Financial Agreement Gives State, Purple Line Partners Last Chance at Negotiation”, October 7, 2020, “The state of Maryland, the consortium building the Purple Line, and the investors funding the rail project have agreed not to take any steps to collapse or otherwise unwind their massive financing arrangement until the end of October. The decision to retain the status quo — contained in a ‘forbearance agreement’ — creates a last-gasp opportunity for the Maryland Department of Transportation and Purple Line Transit Partners to reach agreement on nearly \$800 million in cost overruns...such a settlement, if it occurs, would allow the consortium to resume work on the Montgomery-Prince George’s rail line.” According to a Purple Line update on October 9, Maryland’s Department of

Transportation is resuming work now: “MDOT MTA gets the first assumed Purple Line contracts underway. Distribution of construction notifications will occur in advance of work resuming in your area(s). If you have any questions, please contact our outreach hotline at (443) 451-3706 or email outreach@purplelinemd.com”

Chevy Chase Lake Development: “Ritz-Carlton Residences is partnering with Greenbelt developer Bozzuto on a 65-unit condominium building in the Chevy Chase Lake development scheduled to be completed in a year. The building, at 8507 Connecticut Ave., will be seven stories and will sit on top of 100,000 square feet of retail space,” according to Bozzuto Vice President of Homebuilding Operations Kerri Paulino. (“Ritz-Carlton Working with Bozzuto on 65 Condominiums at Chevy Chase Lake” October 9, 2020, Bethesda Beat). In addition to the condominium, two apartment buildings are planned and a grocer has been secured for the retail space, which will be announced at a later date.

Audubon’s Woodend Sanctuary: The Audubon submitted on September 11, 2020 a petition before the Montgomery County Board of Appeals to upgrade its campus and its programs. They are proposing a “Nature Play Space”, intended to offer a greater variety of outdoor educational experiences for more children, including those with disabilities, such as a play deck, twig tepees, nest swing, parkour boulder balance, and water play pump table. The petition proposes increasing the number of field trip programs from 2-3 times per week up to 5 days per week when the Nature Play Space is completed. The number of field trip students visiting Woodend on any given day would not increase.

Halloween -Please note the following guidance from Montgomery County: “Due to the challenge of maintaining proper physical

distancing on porches and at front doors on Halloween, traditional, door-to-door trick-or-treating is not recommended. In addition, the sharing of food through activities such as “trunk-or-treating,” where children go from car to car instead of door to door is also not recommended. The County’s current Executive Order does not allow for events or activities of more than 50 people so large Halloween gatherings, even if held outdoors, are not permitted. The following link has more information on safety protocols and recommended activities, including online parties/contests and home/yard decorations, among others:

https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgp/ortalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=26894

NEW RESIDENTS: The Village warmly welcomes the following new residents:

3606 Dundee: Matt Gelfand and Pamela Toutant. They have been residents of Montgomery County for more than 30 years. They have enjoyed meeting several of their newest neighbors already - as well as many dog walkers, of which they are one.

3704 Inverness: Jeff and Megan Susskind. Welcome to the neighborhood!

3812 Inverness: Ryan and Ashley Schoen moved from 3704 Inverness to 3812 Inverness. We are glad they stayed in the community!!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING (*Official minutes will be approved at next Council meeting and posted to website*)

Secretary’s Report for July 2020 Council Meeting - (Mechanick) – Approved.

Treasurer’s Reports for July and August 2020 (Stuart) –Results for July and August 2020 included income of \$31,666, and operating expenses of \$42,191. Capital expenditures came to \$9,490, incurred for tree

removals and support for the 10-year capital road maintenance plan. Total current assets as of August 2020, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, came to \$1,721,137.

Permits

- **3818 Montrose Driveway** – greenhouse/shed; approved

Montgomery County Sanitation and Recycling – The Council approved a three-year contract covering Village waste management requirements (with renewal options for an additional two years), at \$5800/month. The Village Manager will follow up with the contractor to receive the tipping fee and tonnage data for the Village on a monthly basis.

Backyard Chicken Coops – The Council decided to require a permit for backyard chicken coops, including a permitting fee of \$50 (equivalent to fee for sheds) and requiring demonstrable confirmation that Montgomery County setback requirements are met. By a vote of 3-2, the Council declined to impose an additional requirement that the consent of all adjoining property owners be obtained as a condition for approval of the permit.

Tree Plantings/Tree Maintenance – Confirmation provided for plans to plant a total of 51 trees in the Village, as requested by Village residents under the terms of the Canopy Tree Planting Program, for which residents would assume future maintenance responsibility, and to plant an additional 8 trees as replacement Village trees in the Village right-of-way, at a total cost of approximately \$26,500. (Secretary's note: Subsequent to the meeting, in light of the impact of the major cicada outbreak expected in spring 2021, the Council decided to defer tree plantings until fall 2021). The Council also approved a proposal for tree maintenance work on the 3800 block of Kenilworth Driveway and at Hutch and Husted, at a cost of \$7300. The Village Manager also noted that she is looking into different options for assessing Village tree maintenance requirements on a quarterly,

semi-annual, or annual basis and will discuss those options with the Council at an upcoming meeting.

Capital Improvement Projects for FY 2021–The Village Manger confirmed with Clark/Azar (civil engineering firm) that their management fees are included in the cost estimate provided. The Council decided to combine the proposed capital plans for FY21 and FY22 into a single program that would most likely result in most capital expenditures occurring in FY22.

1-495/I-270 Managed Lane Update – The Council approved submission of a Village response to the draft environmental impact statement prepared by Maryland DOT regarding Beltway expansion (posted on Village website).

Thrive Montgomery 2050 Initiative – The Council approved submission of a letter to the Montgomery County Council requesting a delay in consideration of the Thrive Montgomery 2050 initiative in light of the COVID-19 pandemic (posted on Village website). Thrive Montgomery 2050 is an effort to develop a shared vision for the County and articulate the actions needed to reach that vision over the next 30+ years.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Please see the attached Champion Tree Walk and information on some of the most magnificent trees in the Village, prepared by Jane Houlihan.

CALENDAR (2020)

Oct 20:	Village Council Meeting (7:30 PM Virtual)
Nov 3:	Election Day
November 17:	Village Council Meeting (7:30 PM Virtual)
December 12:	Bulk Trash Pick Up
December 15:	Village Council Meeting