

Special Session

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Agenda Item | 1 |
| Meeting Date | March 4, 2013 |
| Prepared By | Rosalind Grigsby Community Development Coordinator |
| Approved By | Suzanne R. Ludlow Acting City Manager |

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Discussion Item | Resolution Authorizing a Temporary Partial Closure of the Unit Block of Grant Avenue for Several Takoma Junction Events |
| Background | <p>The Council, acting upon the recommendations of the Takoma Junction Task Force, entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Old Takoma Business Association for the specific purpose of organizing community events at the Junction. A total of \$15,000 was budgeted in FY13 to offset anticipated programming costs.</p> <p>As stipulated in the Agreement, OTBA was asked to propose a series of new community events that would be held in the Takoma Junction. The organization was encouraged to consider locations beyond the City-owned parking lot, the site of the successful and ongoing Food Truck Fridays, to highlight Takoma Junction businesses along Carroll Avenue and to maintain parking in the lot for customers and event visitors. Additional programming planned by OTBA for the area includes Takoma Park Earth Day Festival on April 21 (http://www.tkpkearthday.org) and the Grant Avenue Market on May 12, June 9 and July 14 (http://grantavenuemarket.com). To facilitate these events, the Council has been asked to approve the closure of a one block section of Grant Avenue from the Carroll Avenue intersection, proceeding northwest to the property of 12 Grant Avenue. Grant Avenue is limited to one-way traffic from Hancock to Carroll Avenues, so partial closure of the block would necessitate the temporary establishment of two-way traffic on the remaining stretch of that block to the intersection of Hancock Avenue. The occupants of properties directly affected by the closure have been contacted and the majority expressed support for the planned events.</p> <p>Generally residential street closures for neighborhood block parties or similar neighborhood activities require a petition signed by 60 percent of the residents indicating support for the closure. That process is suspended for City events such as the Independence Day Parade and the Street and Jazz Festivals. Event organizers are required to notify all residents of the street closure in writing and arrange for signs or hoods on affected parking meters.</p> |
| Policy | <p>Council prioritized three goals: a sustainable community, a livable community and an engaged, responsive and service-oriented government.</p> <p><i>Strategic Plan, FY 2010 – FY 2015</i></p> |
| Fiscal Impact | Council allocated \$15,000 in FY 2013 for the support of events at the Takoma Junction. No further fiscal impact is expected. |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Attachments | Resolution Authorizing a Temporary Partial Closure of the Unit Block of Grant Avenue for Several Takoma Junction Events |
| Recommendation | Review and vote on Resolution |
| Special Consideration | |

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2013-**

**AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY PARTIAL CLOSURE OF THE UNIT BLOCK OF
GRANT AVENUE FOR SEVERAL TAKOMA JUNCTION EVENTS**

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park City Council authorized, by Resolution 2012-39 enacted on June 12, 2012, provision of City funding to the Old Takoma Business Association (OTBA) for FY13 programming designed to increase the economic vitality of the Takoma Junction; and

WHEREAS, OTBA proposed to the City a 2013 Green Fair and a three-time Grant Avenue Market, to be located on the unit block of Grant Avenue, and the City accepted this proposal on October 17, 2012, incorporating the workplan in the City's FY13 Agreement with the Old Town Business Association; and

WHEREAS, a portion of Grant Avenue must be closed on the days of these events for the events to take place as planned; and

WHEREAS, the unit block of Grant Avenue is one way with no entry permitted from Hancock Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the one-way traffic restriction must be lifted to allow access to properties on the block during the partial closure of Grant Avenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND authorizes the Acting City Manager to close a portion of the unit block of Grant Avenue for the 2013 Green Fair on April 21, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the Grant Avenue Market on May 12, June 9 and July 14, 2013 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED during these days and times local traffic will be permitted to enter Grant Avenue from Hancock Avenue to allow access to properties on the block.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Old Takoma Business Association shall assume full responsibility for notifying residents of the unit block of Grant of the approved closures, arranging for the placement of "No Parking" signs and "Local Traffic Only" signs as necessary, restoration of the area following the planned events, and ensuring that roadway is re-opened for traffic at the designated time.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2013.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk

Grant Ave Market Street Closure

Hancock Ave

Lee Ave

Grant Ave

Carroll Ave

Manor Cir

Philadelphia Ave

Carroll Ave

Ethan Allen Ave

Columbia Ave

Sycamore Ave

Street Closure

050100200Feet

N

Co-Ordinate: NAD_1983_StatePlane_Maryland_FIPS_1900_Feet
Date: 2/28/2013
Prepared By: City of Takoma Park Housing and Community Development
Data Source: Montgomery County GIS Department,DC GIS & Census 2010