Section 5 Council
Greg Chernack, Chairman
Scott Livingston, Vice-Chairman
Patricia Xeller, Secretary
Nancy Pines, Building Inspector
Maryann Luongo, Member

Important Section Dates
- Saturday, March 9
  Spring Bulk Trash Collection
- Tuesday, March 12
  Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, April 5
  Deadline for nominations to be received for Town Council
- Tuesday, April 9
  Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 7
  Annual Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
  (Note: The Annual Meeting is always held on the FIRST Tuesday of May.)
- Tuesday, June 11
  Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 22
  Summer Bulk Trash Collection

Town Council - Annual Election Notice
Three of the five seats on the Town Council are up for election this spring. Any person wishing to place his/her name on the ballot as a candidate must be a resident of Section 5, and a registered voter in the State of Maryland. All candidate nominations must be received in writing by the Town Manager on or before April 5.

Current Council members whose terms expire in May include: Greg Chernack, Nancy Pines, and Pat Xeller. Greg and Pat are running for re-election. Nancy Pines has decided not to run again.

Should the number of qualified candidates equal the number of available seats, the candidates will be declared elected at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 7. Please email the Town Manager with any questions.

Important Tax Return Information
(MD Form 502)
Each year the most significant source of Section 5 revenue is received through our residents’ paid income taxes. This money goes directly to services benefitting you and our community. To ensure that the state allocates the money correctly, it is critical when you complete the MD income tax return you list:

Section 5 as the Maryland Political Subdivision
1616 as the Digit Political Subdivision Code

Please make sure to share this information with anyone who might help you prepare your taxes.
Welcome to New Residents

We are pleased to welcome the following new neighbors who have recently moved to Section 5:

✦ Ines and Matthew Schlegel - 3505 Thornapple Street
✦ Anne and Michael Clark - 3801 Thornapple Street
✦ Rachel and Chase DeLong - 3717 Underwood Street

Did we miss someone? Email the Town Manager.

Section 5 Paper Directory

Each resident should have received one paper copy of the new Section 5 paper directory. If you did not receive a copy, or if you would like to request an additional copy, please contact the Town Manager.

Please Lock Your Vehicles

A number of residents have reported their cars have been broken into recently. While not always, the vast majority of the thefts are from unlocked cars. Montgomery County Police urge you to lock your car doors every time you park, and remove or hide all valuables. When you lock your car, you reduce opportunities for thieves and discourage them from returning to Section 5.

Council Adopts Ordinance to Regulate Small Cell Technology

As previously noted in the December Quarterly, Section 5 has been monitoring local and national developments related to small cell deployment. Small cells are wireless transmitters and receivers that are required technology for upcoming 5G service. Currently, these types of transmitters do not exist in Section 5, but due to a recent FCC ruling that restricts cities’ ability to regulate 5G infrastructure, small cell deployment in Section 5 is inevitable.

While municipalities do not have the ability to restrict small cell deployment outright or exercise zoning authority, we can regulate right-of-way access, as well as address safety, aesthetic, and other related concerns. Accordingly, the Council adopted an ordinance at the February 12 meeting that sets guidelines for the installation, maintenance, and removal of wireless telecommunication facilities, or “small cell” wireless facilities. This regulation will go into effect March 4.

Replacement Recycling Bins

Replacement recycling bins are available in both green (plastic/glass) and blue (paper). The Section provides small bins only. Email the Town Manager.

Sidewalk and Rights-of-Way Hazards

The Council is in the process of reviewing Section sidewalks and rights-of-ways for possible hazards and problem areas. This includes sections of sidewalk that have settled and tend to pool with water or areas that repeatedly clog with mud and debris after rain or snow. Please notify the Town Manager if you are aware of an area that should be considered.
Building Permits

- 3611 Thornapple Street - New Fence / Permit Approved
- 3612 Thornapple Street - New Fence / Permit Approved
- 3613 Thornapple Street - New Fence / Permit Approved
- 3615 Thornapple Street - Pepco utility installation that requires street work / Permit Approved

Tree Permit Removals

- 7505 Glendale - Private Tree Removal
- 7205 Thornapple Place - Private Tree Removal
- 3612 Thornapple Street - Town Tree Removal

Watering Instructions for Fall Free Tree Program

In mid-April the Section arborist, Dr. Tolbert Feather, will contact residents who received trees this past fall through the Section’s Free Tree Program. He will distribute gator bags to assist with watering, as well as detailed watering instructions.

Maintaining Rights-of-Ways

As a reminder, residents are responsible for the regular care and maintenance of the grass or plantings (this includes liriope) in the Town right-of-way.

Please take a minute to walk around your property and ensure that all public sidewalks surrounding your property are clear of low-hanging branches, overgrown bushes, and vines.

Additionally, please make certain any shrubbery does not block sight lines for vehicles.

Clearing these obstacles will continue to make Section 5 pedestrian, stroller, and bike friendly (and safe!) for all.

For concerns regarding the Town trees in the right-of-way, please contact the Town Manager.

When Do I Need a Permit?

**Most renovations, accessory buildings, fences, driveway projects, and patio projects REQUIRE a permit.**

Looking to take out a tree? **Most public and private tree removal also REQUIRES a permit.**

Please contact the Town office before you begin. We will work with you to make sure you have the necessary information and avoid a costly mishap.
Fox Facts

Several residents have reported seeing a fox on Section streets. The Humane Society offers these facts to put the presence of foxes in your yard in perspective:

Foxes are not dangerous to humans, except when they are rabid (which is very rare) or when they are captured and handled. Even then, a fox’s natural tendency is to flee rather than fight.

Foxes may prey on small pets or livestock (such as kittens, rabbits, guinea pigs, or chickens), so these pets should be kept indoors or housed in sturdy structures.

Foxes will eat various fruits, but they usually do not bother garden vegetables.

Don’t miss Section 5 resident Emily Strulson’s art exhibit at The Den Coffeehouse underneath Politics and Prose located at 5015 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Strulson’s abstract expressionist paintings will be on exhibit through March 9.

New spring shows will be announced on her website emilystrulson.com and Instagram emilystrulson