

SAFE TAKOMA
Report, April 2008

**Prepared by Safe Takoma, Incorporated on behalf of the
Takoma DC Neighborhood Association**

7106 Piney Branch Road

Washington, DC 20012

Contact: Sara Green, Secretary, Safe Takoma Incorporated, 202-829-8802

Funds expended

Funds expended during the report period: none

Prior District funds expended: \$5,884.87

Prior funds expended, Takoma Park, MD allocation: \$1,633.62

Funding balances (April 31, 2008)

District of Columbia:

Revenues: \$75,000.00

Funds expended: none

Balance: \$70,250.26

Takoma Park, MD:

Revenues: \$876.86

Funds expended: none

Balance: **(\$772.76)**

Status

The Safe Takoma program undertook the following organizational and programming steps in April 2008.

- STI's Board of Directors met on April 10 to discuss the pending work plan and future activities.
- Prepared and transmitted Safe Takoma March 2008 report and account balances to MPD-4D Commander Linda Brown, MPD administrator Robin Brabham, and Takoma Park Police Chief Ron Ricucci.
- Seth Grimes coordinated continued drafting of a detailed work plan for consideration by the Takoma Park City Council.
- Provided a break-down of Washington DC grant funds expended to Robin Brabham of the MPD.
- Provided material to support a District of Columbia police-budget hearing to Leeann Turner, Executive Director for the MPD Office of Resource Accountability.
- The board elected Wolfgang Mergner and Peter Meleney to the Advisory Committee.

- Seth represented Safe Takoma is working with Takoma Park City Manager Barb Matthews to craft a Safe Takoma Memorandum of Understanding acceptable to both the organization and the city.
- Obtained a letter from MPD-4D Commander Linda Brown extending the Safe Takoma grant period to September 30, 2009 and authorizing expenditures put forward for the balance of FY08.
- Discussed further funding proposed by the District of Columbia with Victor Bonnet and Council Member Phil Mendelson. Safe Takoma is respectfully declining further funding for FY08 and FY09.
- Seth discussed the Carpenters Union pre-apprenticeship program with Larry Rubin.
- Sara Green spearheaded efforts to develop conflict-resolution training that would be incorporated into summer-camp programming at the Takoma DC Recreation Center.
 - Sara worked with Ward 4 recreation coordinator Evelyn Lightfoot and Peter Meleney of the Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County.
 - Sara discussed participation as trainers with Jacob Stone of the CRCMC, and Monika Megyesi, formerly of the CRCMC.
 - Sara contacted DC representatives Melissa McKnight and Tamara Jenkins regarding a training-partnership proposal.
 - Sara conducted meetings with Al-Mustafa Cook of the Takoma DC Recreation Center and Jacob Stone regarding the mechanics of including CR in summer-camp programming.
- Faith Wheeler pursued graffiti removal at the Elevation 314 building with the owners and Washington DC authorities.
- Seth opened up initial discussions about ways to recruit for the citizens' and orange-hat patrols.
- Board members took part in an e-mail exchange on safety whistles that was overall favorable toward the program.
- Seth represented Safe Takoma at Columbia Union College's Taste of Takoma festival, where the college presented the organization the first annual Gateway to Service Award, which was established "to express recognition and appreciation to individuals and an organization that exemplifies exceptional volunteer contributions to their community."
- Prepared for a Takoma Park City Council session on a Safe Takoma Memorandum of Understanding scheduled for May 5, postponed from an April date.

Safe Takoma has no equipment, leases, employees or financial obligations.