



*City of Mount Rainier*  
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**CITY MANAGER REPORT**  
**SEPTEMBER 2, 2014**

**New Employees**

Several new employees have been added to the Mount Rainier family and they include: a laborer for the Department of Public Works, Douglas Postell, a driver for the Call-a-Bus Ernest Brown, an Economic Development Director, Samantha Olatunji, and an Assistant City Manager, Veronica Owens.

**Meetings/Orientation**

Following a week-long orientation for Ms. Olatunji and Ms. Owens, several meetings were held with city business owners, and agencies and representatives around the County and District of Columbia regarding recent developments and plan to implement an Economic Development Strategic Plan and Marketing Strategy for the City. Ms. Olatunji met with the person in charge of capital improvements for libraries in the District of Columbia to discuss strategies for funding and other aspects for the City of Mount Rainier Civic Center/Library project. Future meetings are scheduled for every business and commercial property owner in the city, as well as the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to discuss the three projects submitted for funding through the Community Legacy and Smart Growth Impact Fund (SGIF). This meeting is scheduled to take place September 3, 2014.

Other meetings were held with MRTV Director Gerome Williams regarding the re-wiring of the studio and city hall for the wireless microphones. Mayor Miles and City Manager Wallace met with Washington Gas, Pepco, and WSSC concerning the on-going problems and outstanding issues with the utility work on Bunker Hill Road and other areas in the city.

The City manager met with Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission regarding the proposed Architectural Conservation Overlay Zone and Architectural Plan. This goal of the plan and zoning will be to preserve the architectural integrity and historical character of residential properties and to prevent the creation of McMansions. A tour of the city with significant players including the architectural consultant of Cunningham and Quill will take place on September 11, 2014 at 4:00pm. The tour will begin with a briefing at city hall and is slated to end at 7:00pm. This is the first ACOZ and ACP to be developed by M-NCPPC and Mount Rainier will be considered a model for the project. A link to the M-NCPPC website is on the city's website [www.mountrainiermd.org](http://www.mountrainiermd.org).

### **Property Damage/Restoration**

The city experienced several leaks due to deterioration to both the Police Station and City. Claims were submitted to the city's insurance provider to recoup some of these losses. A light pole was also damaged due to a vehicular accident which was also reported to LGIT. This claim has been processed and approved. There has also been restoration in the city hall basement due to water infiltration and accumulation of mold in the MRTV control room due to the original construction consisting of hollow brick instead of solid brick material which should have been used. The hollow brick holds moisture in addition to the water pipes in the ceiling. A de-humidifier was also purchased due to moisture accumulation in the basement which must be cleared every day, and the dry wall originally covering the brick was removed. These steps were taken following the recommendation of the mold remediation.

### **Grants Management**

The city manager submitted several grants during the summer including three projects to the Department of Housing and Community Development. The city was also awarded a Chesapeake Bay Trust grant for the Buchanan Green Street Project. Implementation for this grant will commence during the month of September which will include solicitation for an RFP.