

July 21, 2021

## **THE MAYOR'S UPDATE**

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### **CATHEDRAL AVENUE TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY RESULTS**

At the July 15 Board of Trustees meeting, Frank Filiciotto, P.E., from Creighton Manning Engineering, LLP, presented the results of a road diet traffic calming study for Cathedral Avenue. The Cathedral Avenue corridor has experienced speeding and a significant number of motor vehicle crashes in recent years. Between 2017-2019, 163 accidents were reported, 56 percent of which caused injury. Community requests for traffic calming interventions prompted the opportunity to evaluate Cathedral Avenue. Creighton Manning Engineering, LLP began a study in January 2021 to evaluate the feasibility of implementing a road diet along Cathedral Avenue from 7th Street to St. Paul's Place.

The proposed road diet would transform Cathedral Avenue, which is Nassau County-owned, from a four-lane road without shoulders into a three-lane road with shoulders – one travel lane in each direction from St. Paul's Place to 6<sup>th</sup> Street with a two-way left-turn lane. Shoulders could be paved, turned into dedicated bike lanes or created with curb extensions. Following feedback provided by residents, Board members and Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson, Creighton Manning will finalize the report and conceptual plan so that it can be adopted by the Board of Trustees, if desired, and then submitted to Nassau County for review and approval. To view the PowerPoint presentation and read the draft report, please visit the Village website, [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net).

### **COVID FUNDING**

Village Treasurer Irene Woo has announced that the Village will receive a total of \$2.293 million in COVID relief funding through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, a \$1.9 trillion relief bill signed into law in March. The stimulus package provides billions of dollars in direct financial relief for state and local governments, including \$65 billion for America's cities, villages and towns, as well as \$65 billion for counties.

The Village is receiving an estimated \$110 per capita. The funding will be delivered in tranches; the first half is expected to be received within the next month, and the second half 12 months after the first payment is received. Unlike FEMA funding, the relief will arrive before the Village reports how the funding is being used. Use of funds has recently been expanded to now include any COVID-related revenue losses as well as water, sewer and broadband infrastructure improvements. Ms. Woo said Finance Department staff is reviewing the voluminous guidelines distributed by the United States Department of the Treasury. Once funding is received, the Board of Trustees will direct those funds as they see fit within the guidelines.

### **FRANKLIN AVENUE GRADE CROSSING RENEWAL**

The MTA/LIRR will be performing an emergency crossing rehabilitation on the Franklin Avenue grade crossing for approximately 24 hours starting on Saturday July 31 at 1:00

a.m. to Sunday August 1 at 1:00 a.m. due to a defect discovered within the crossing. The MTA must close the crossing the prior weekend, from 11:00 p.m. on Friday, July 23 to approximately 8:00 a.m. Saturday, July 24 to allow for its Signal Department to do preparatory work for the following weekend. Signage will be placed at the crossing prior to its closure so it will be advertised to the community/business owners/pedestrians/drivers. The MTA is coordinating and communicating with the Garden City Fire and Police Departments, which will notify the Ambulance crews in advance. The MTAPD will also be on both sides of the crossing to support the closure.

### **AED REPLACEMENT**

After a review of Village facilities, it was determined that there was a need for the immediate purchase and installation of additional Automated External Defibrillator (AED) devices within the Village. The capital project, slated for Fiscal Year 2022-23, has now been moved up to Fiscal Year 2021-22.

Currently the Village owns 46 AEDs, which are located in every police car and fire apparatus, and at Village facilities. The Village will purchase 43 additional devices, including replacement of discontinued models and additional devices to be installed at identified necessary locations throughout the Village. Additionally, Community Park, as one of the largest Village facilities, needed additional AEDs to properly service such a large area. The amount of AEDs at Community Park increased from two to five. At St. Paul's there are AEDs located in each of the facilities there - Cluett Hall, the Field House and the comfort station. AEDs are also located at each neighborhood park. This life-saving equipment affects the Village as a whole and impacts the life and safety of Village residents and staff. Therefore, it is imperative that this deficiency be immediately addressed.

### **OUTDOOR DINING TENTS**

After discussion amongst the Village Board of Trustees and the public during the July 15 Board meeting, including several restaurant owners on Franklin Avenue and Seventh Street and representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, the Trustees have agreed to obtain additional feedback from the Building and Fire Departments with regard to the dining tents and partitions that the restaurants erected behind their restaurants in the Village during COVID capacity restrictions.

By way of background, in January 2021 the Garden City Chamber of Commerce requested authorization to extend the enhanced Outdoor Dining Program for Waterzooi, Novita, Calogero's and Revel for all of 2021 or until such time as capacity restrictions on restaurants are lifted. The aforementioned restaurants installed partitions and erected tents to accommodate additional outdoor dining. Authorization was approved for the establishments to continue offering additional outdoor dining for a one-year period (December 31, 2021) or until such time as capacity restrictions on restaurants were lifted (or whichever came earlier). The Fire and Building Departments voiced several concerns regarding the tent structures and access to these establishments. The Mayor has contacted the Nassau County Fire Marshal's office to review the outdoor dining structures.

## **FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Mayor's Village Fire Safety Committee continues to meet weekly with preliminary draft reports from each sub-committee due shortly. The resident volunteers have worked diligently to address the fire safety issues confronting our Village.

## **WATER UPDATE**

**Water Tower:** At the water tower off Old Country Road, the contractor continues with application of exterior tank finish coating and scaffolding removals. All scaffolding has been dismantled.

**Discolored Water:** H2M had phone conversations with residents with recent discolored water issues. H2M also reached out to the Village to obtain record of consumer complaints. Waiting for discolored water presence history to evaluate locations, etc. H2M investigated additional discolored water complaints.

**Well 7 (Waterworks site):** Well No. 7 is in operation. The contractor is working on ordering parts for punch list items. Permanent construction to be incorporated with permanent construction of Well Nos. 8 and 12.

**Wells 8 and 12 (Rockaway Avenue site):** Both AOP enclosures are powered. Received clean BACs from Well No. 12. Ready to begin flowing water on-site. Begin chlorinating/disinfecting mains, flushing and pressure testing. Expecting Trojan on-site within the next few weeks to begin work on AOP enclosures followed by performance testing.

**Well No 9 (Wilson Street site):** The Engineering Report was submitted the week of May 3, 2021. H2M will provide the Village with a proposal for design of an AOP treatment system.

**Wells 10 and 11 (Clinton Road site):** Village to put Well No. 10 into system with treatment.

**Wells 13 and 14 (Garden City Country Club site):** Received approval from the New York State Department of Health to operate wells with treatment to system. Well No. 13 is able to run to system. Well No. 14 requires consecutive satisfactory bacteriological samples. We are waiting for result for the Nassau County Health Department permission to operate Well No. 14.

**Wells 15 and 16 Hilton Park site):** Crews are continuing brick and roof work and installed RFP stairs and railing. The drainage system will be installed.

## **POLICE PROMOTIONS**

Lieutenant Thomas Federlein and Sergeant Stephen Touhy received promotions during the July 15, 2021 Board meeting. Trustee John Delany administered their oaths of office during a brief ceremony. "I congratulate you both on your promotions as I know you are both dedicated and have earned this great recognition," Mayor Cosmo Veneziale said.

Lt. Federlein is a 27-year veteran of the Garden City Police Department. During those years, he has served in patrol and traffic enforcement divisions. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2017 and was assigned as patrol supervisor, as well as supervisor of the traffic enforcement and motor carrier divisions. Throughout his career, Sgt. Federlein has been the recipient of numerous departmental awards, as well as the Nassau County Municipal Police Chiefs Distinguished Service Award, the American Legion Law and Order Award and the Town of Hempstead Police Service Award. Lt. Federlein resides in Suffolk County with his wife, Lisa, and daughter, Abigail.

Sgt. Touhy is a 22-year veteran of the Garden City Police Department and a three-year veteran of the New York City Police Department. During his tenure at Garden City, he has served in the Patrol Division. He has been the recipient of numerous departmental awards, as well as the American Legion award and Police Officer of the Year award. Sgt. Touhy resides in Suffolk County with his wife, Nancy, sons Ryan and Cole, and daughter, Keira.

#### **BOARD MEETINGS WILL CONTINUE VIA ZOOM**

The Board of Trustees has announced it will continue offering a remote Zoom option for Board meetings. The July 15, 2021 Board meeting was going to be the last meeting offered via Zoom but many residents spoke in favor of continuing the remote option. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 19, 2021. The Zoom link will be posted to the Village website and on social media.