

August 3, 2022

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

cveneziale@gardencityny.net

FINANCE DEPARTMENT TEMPORARILY RELOCATING

The Village's Finance Department, currently located on the first floor of Village Hall, will be temporarily relocated due to pending construction beginning on Monday, August 8th and continuing for a few months. The mail slot at the entrance of Village Hall will not be accessible during this time. Any documents for the Finance Department, such as applications or payments, (e.g., water payments, tax payments, parking permit applications, etc.), can be placed in a lock box located in the Building Department on the second floor of Village Hall during business hours, Monday – Friday 9:00AM – 4:00PM. During off hours, documents may be placed in a lock box located at the Police Department. Any questions or requests for an in-person meeting with a member of the Finance Department, please call 516-465-4166 to schedule an appointment.

DENTON AVENUE BRIDGE REOPENS

I welcomed special guests at a ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, August 1, 2022 to mark the re-opening of the newly replaced Denton Avenue Bridge. Seven bridges have been upgraded or replaced along the Main Line between Floral Park and Hicksville, as part of the MTA/LIRR Third Track Expansion Project. Tanners Pond Road and Denton Avenue were closed to vehicular traffic since January. The new bridge, which remains a one-lane thoroughfare with bi-directional traffic, was put into place in late April. The bridge has been raised from 12 feet 9 inches to 14 feet, the national standard. The day marked an historic day with the re-opening of the Denton Avenue underpass, as was the day the Denton Avenue bridge was constructed more than 100 years ago. Cooperation between the Village of Garden City and the LIRR made this reconstruction possible. Thanks to Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi, Garden City Building Superintendent Giuseppe Giovanniello and Garden City Senior Civil Engineer John Borroni, P.E. for working with me on the redesign of the Denton Avenue underpass and Bridge details, as well as 3TC Project Executive Alan Paskoff. This is the first phase of the restoration of our Village impacted by the LIRR Third Track Expansion Project. To see photos from the ribbon cutting ceremony, visit our Village website, www.gardencityny.net.

MEADOW STREET WATER MAIN INSTALLATION

The Meadow Street water main installation is expected to take approximately another month to complete. The pipe installation will be completed this week, however the water main trench repair will take an additional three to four weeks. Following the project, the road will be paved. In addition, drainage structures on Meadow Street will be upgraded, prior to paving, to offset flooding conditions that have plagued this area.

ST. PAUL'S WEBSITE IS LIVE

The Mayor's Committee on St. Paul's website, <https://stpaulsreports.org/> is now live. The site

includes a breakdown of the various subcommittees and its members, historical key findings, budget and finance objectives, design and engineering key findings, potential uses and a program analysis, legal and zoning objectives, and videos, including my message about St. Paul's. Residents can also follow the Committee on Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/stpaulsreports/>), Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/people/St-Pauls-Reports/100083988188220/>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/GCStPauls>).

REMOVAL OF ASH TREES

Recreation and Parks Commissioner Paul Blake has advised the Board that all Ash trees in the Village need to be removed after an infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer Beetle, which is drilling into the trees' feed stream and killing them. This is a problem across the country and unfortunately there is no pesticide that can kill the beetle. Parks crews have already removed 35 dead or dying trees in the last month. "There's no cure. We anticipate every Ash tree in the Village will eventually fall to this bug. It's a serious problem and we're going to have to address it in the next six to 18 months," Mr. Blake said. There are currently 19 trees on Washington Avenue; 11 on Nassau Boulevard; 12 on Franklin Avenue; another 12 on Clinton Road; several more on Main Avenue and Meadow Street in the East.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2022

On August 2, 2022 the Garden City Police Department participated in a country-wide community crime/drug prevention awareness program titled, "National Night Out" at Garden City Community Park.

"National Night Out" is a program conducted in communities throughout the country where local police departments and residents form a partnership to make their communities a safer place to live by encouraging residents to:

- Report crime or suspicious activity as soon as it happens.
- Take necessary precautions to discourage and prevent crimes.
- Be prepared for emergencies.
- Join and/or support local community organizations that address crime and quality of life issues.
- Help make children aware of the dangers of drugs and alcohol.
- Dispose all unused, expired, or unwanted medications at Police Department Headquarters.
- Ensure that children know what to do when approached by strangers either in person or online.
- Participate in the Department's new Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Program.

During this event, Commissioner Kenneth Jackson, Detective Sergeant Grimes, Detective Roumeliotis and Detective Hennessy met with numerous residents, including seniors, adults and

children, to discuss current issues that impact the safety and welfare of the community. Commissioner Jackson stated that events such as National Night Out provide an opportunity for the Department and community to meet and discuss how they can work together in addressing issues that impact their everyday lives.

AUGUST LIBRARY BOARD MEETING CANCELLED

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees on Monday, August 8, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. is cancelled. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, September 12, 2022.

LIRR THIRD TRACK UPDATE

During August, you will see crews performing the following construction activities in Garden City:

UTILITIES: Crews from EJ Electric will continue the process of removing temporary utility poles across the entire project alignment. In some areas, workers may have to access private property in which case the project will coordinate in advance with individual business/property owners.

WALL CONSTRUCTION: Crews are currently installing security fencing along the top of the newly installed wall from Nassau Boulevard to approximately Cornelia Avenue.

MERRILLON AVENUE STATION ENHANCEMENT: Throughout August, crews will be installing the snow melt system under the south side platform. There will be ongoing punch list work, including the installation of misc. handrails, infill panels, and platform barriers, at the station throughout the month. From August 1st – 5th between 5 am and 11 pm, you must be in the first six cars to exit eastbound trains at Merillon Avenue Station. Some trains will run on adjusted schedules. From Aug 8th – 12th between 5 am and 3:30 pm, there will be no eastbound trains at Merillon Avenue Station. Bus service will be available to Mineola. To plan your trip, please visit the MTA Planned Services page (mta.info).

TRACK INSTALLATION: During the first week of August, J-Track will place ballast and weld rail on the south side of ROW. Starting this weekend (7/30) there will be work around the clock between Merillon Avenue and New Hyde Park. Weekend work will take place to support track surfacing from New Hyde Park Station to Merillon Avenue Station. During the first two weeks of August, overnight track work will take place between Merillon Avenue and New Hyde Park Stations.

LANDSCAPING: With planting season underway, the project has remained committed to landscaping and other design elements – such as the planting of trees, shrubs and other greenery – that will enhance a completed project and contribute to the beautification of the corridor. Landscaping has begun and will continue throughout August.