

September 8, 2021

**THE MAYOR'S UPDATE**

[cveneziale@gardencityny.net](mailto:cveneziale@gardencityny.net)

**TROPICAL STORM IDA**

Just weeks after Tropical Storm Henri blew through, Tropical Storm Ida slammed the area with heavy rains, triggering flash flood warnings and tornado warnings in Garden City and beyond. Police Officers responded to 16 Ida-related calls, including flood conditions, disabled autos, alarms, fire calls, medical aided cases, a property damage report, damaged utility poles and a water main break on Westminster Road. Firefighters were on stand-by at Garden City's fire stations while the storm approached. The department responded to six automatic fire alarms. All alarms were unintentional alarm activations. At approximately 23:54 the Department was alerted for L144 to standby at the Nassau County Public Safety Center in Westbury, as many North Shore Departments were operating at multiple alarms due to the storm. Nassau County Fire Communications - Firecom dispatched L144 to respond to the Port Washington Fire Department Headquarters to provide standby coverage. After arriving, the Department was alerted to respond to a detached garage fire. Along with members of the Port Washington FD, the crew of L144 assisted in extinguishment and overhaul at the fire. As the units were finishing up, members were dispatched to a report of an electrical fire in the basement of a residence. Again, members assisted the Port Washington FD in securing utilities and mitigating the hazard. L144 was released and returned to Garden City around 3:15 a.m.

**LEANDRA'S LAW**

While participating in the Statewide *STOP DWI* and National *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* enforcement initiatives targeting Intoxicated and Drugged Drivers over the holiday weekend, Garden City Police Officers arrested two subjects for DWI, with one subject also being charged for violation of Leandra's Law (driver DWI with child under 16 in vehicle). On September 5, a 27-year-old male was arrested on Clinton Road for DWI, driving without headlamps activated, and unsafe lane usage. The next day, on September 6, an officer was conducting a traffic stop investigation on Clinton Road when another vehicle passed him at a high rate of speed almost striking him and his police vehicle. Another Officer who was responding to the scene stopped the vehicle. Upon investigation, the driver, a 31-year-old male, was arrested for DWI, speeding, and failure to yield right of way to an emergency vehicle. He was also charged with Leandra's Law (Aggravated DWI) and endangering the welfare of a child when it was determined a passenger in the vehicle was under 16 years of age.

**PARKING FIELD 7N**

Road Work Ahead (RWA) began sidewalk and curb repairs this week in Parking Field 7N, behind the UPS store. The parking stalls along the curb on the eastern side of the lot will be blocked to allow work to be completed. This schedule is subject to change and is weather permitting.

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY**

Chief Devyn Moody and the Officers and Members of the Garden City Volunteer Fire Department would like to invite all Village residents to join the Department for its annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Village 9/11 Memorial located at the Village Green and Gazebo at the corner of Hilton and Stewart Avenues. The remembrance service will be held Saturday, September 11, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. The service pays tribute to the 23 Garden City residents that perished during the attack on the World Trade Center, the 343 members of the FDNY, 23 members of the NYPD and 37 members of the PAPD killed, as well as those who have died of 9/11-related illnesses.

#### **CONSTITUTION WEEK - SEPTEMBER 17 - 23**

The Colonel Aaron Ogden Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution has asked me to proclaim the week of September 17-23, 2021 as “Constitution Week” in Garden City. This year marks the 234<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the drafting of the U.S. Constitution. Our nation’s Constitution, adopted September 17, 1787, provided a fundamental document for freedom and independence. We all have cause to pause and reflect on this great heritage given to us by our forefathers. Residents are urged to fly the flag all week in observance.

#### **NASSAU BOULEVARD RAILROAD PARKING LOT**

Road Work Ahead (RWA) has completed reconstruction of the Nassau Boulevard Railroad parking lot, located south of the tracks. After remaining closed due to high temperatures to allow asphalt to cool down properly and avoid rutting from traffic, the lot re-opened late last week.

#### **WATER UPDATE**

**Water Tower:** The painting subcontractor returned to the site this week. Foundation/grout repairs have been completed. Miscellaneous exterior finish coat was also applied to the lower sections of the riser. The painter expects to remobilize next week to complete the exterior coatings.

**Discolored Water:** H2M continues its investigation into discolored “rusty” water. H2M is waiting for historical data from the Village. H2M has submitted a letter report to the Village regarding “blue water.”

**Well 7 (Waterworks site):** Three minor items remain on the punch list. The contractor provided change orders that were requested during construction. H2M is reviewing the same.

**Wells 8 and 12 (Rockaway Avenue site):** H2M completed performance testing of the Well 12 AOP system and sent samples to Pace Analytical. Sample results are expected within two and a half weeks. The NC Department of Health will conduct its own sampling and walkthrough of the site.

**Well No 9 (Wilson Street site):** Soil investigation will take place this week. H2M is progressing with the design.

**Wells 10 and 11 (Clinton Road site):** The site has been cleaned and paving completed. Well 11 has been taken out of service due to AST blower issues. H2M is evaluating the blower and enclosure replacement. Electrical work will continue next week and topsoil added.

**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. Wells 13 and 14 are able to run to system through treatment. Well 13 is currently running to system without treatment. Design has started on the GAC Building and associated site work. The Village will introduce Well 14 through the treatment system. Once Well 14 is stable, Well 13 will be sent through treatment to system.

**Wells 15 and 16 Hilton Park site):** Crews installed underground conduits and fiber optic cable, interior conduits and wires in the building and excavated for iron media change out. Crews also removed iron media and mounted analyzers. Next week, small and large interior piping will continue; crews will also disinfect and test the new iron media and continue electrical work.

### **LIRR THIRD TRACK UPDATE**

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

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Track Installation**

- Ballast will be installed along the south side of the right of way, from New Hyde Park Road to Denton Avenue, during the day to support the future installation of the third track
  - Once the ballast has been installed, crews will prepare to build third track
- Third track has been installed from Nassau Blvd. to Herricks Rd. Crews will continue to install the remaining layer of ballast that will support the third track this month

#### **Wall Construction**

- On the south side of the tracks, support of excavation (SOE) will be installed from Tanners Pond Road to the existing wall along Main Avenue
  - Following the installation of SOE, crews will begin to excavate in advance of sound and retaining wall installation

#### **Merillon Avenue Station Enhancement**

- In late September, the 12-car westbound permanent platform will open
  - Ingress and egress to the station will remain in its current condition
  - For additional station information, please visit [MTA.info/LIRR](http://MTA.info/LIRR)

- Crews are continuing the process of commissioning and testing the new elevators at Merillon Avenue Station to ensure complete functionality and safety requirements are met
  - Elevators will be ADA-compliant and will provide easier access to the platforms on both sides of the station
- Guardrails and railings are being installed on the stairs and ramps on both the north and south sides of the tracks
- On the north side of the tracks from 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue to G15, crews will continue installing foundations for the permanent platform footings
- EJ Electric is continuing to install signage bands along the platforms
- Commuters will notice EJ Electric working overnight to install conduit along the right of way on the north side of the tracks

### **Double Track Outages**

- Double track outages have been scheduled for the Main Line for September 11-12 and September 18-19
  - To reduce the overall project schedule, the project team will use these double-track outages to complete other activities in proximity to the tracks
  - During these weekends, residents will likely notice increased activity along the right-of-way
  - To ensure restoration of rail service by Monday mornings, crews will be working through the overnight hours
- For more information on service changes from Floral Park Station to Hicksville Station, click [here](#).

### **LIRR Work Along The Right-of-Way**

- In addition to 3TC's activities, you may see or hear LIRR forces working along the railroad right-of-way
- To avoid LIRR service interruptions during peak commuting hours, LIRR work along the railroad right-of-way may take place overnight and on weekends
- For more information, visit the [post](#) in the Community News section of LIRRExpansion.com

For up-to-date LIRR service changes and/or changes to station access, please visit [www.MTA.info/LIRR](http://www.MTA.info/LIRR)

### **BACK TO SCHOOL BUS SAFETY**

This is part two of the four-part series of articles by the Garden City Police Department addressing Back to School Safety Issues. In last week's paper, we addressed Safe Driving Practices. If you missed last week's article, a copy will be placed on the Village Website. This week's article will cover School Bus Safety. Parents, Grandparents, Guardians and Teachers are encouraged to use this article to help teach children about School Bus Safety.

### **Bus Stops:**

- Hold your child's hand and walk together to the bus stop in the morning. Research has shown that until your child is at least 8 years old, you should hold their hand on the sidewalk and in parking lots. Furthermore, until they are 10 years old you should hold their hand while crossing the street.
- Ensure your child follows all current COVID-19 protocols.
- Stay with your child at the bus stop. If you cannot stay with your child, arrange for another trusted adult to accompany them.
- When waiting for the school bus, have the children wait in an orderly manner and standing well back from the curb.
- Meet your child at the bus stop after school. NEVER wait on the opposite side of the street. Talk to your child about what they should do if you are delayed and cannot meet them as usual.
- Discuss with your children what they should do if they accidentally get on the wrong bus or miss their regular bus stop.
- When children get off the bus they should use the handrail and look out the door to the rear of the bus before stepping off the bottom step. Research by the Pupil Transportation Safety Institute tells us that more and more vehicles are passing stopped school buses on the right shoulder - where the door is located.
- Remember clothing can get caught. Jackets and sweatshirt drawstrings, backpack straps, scarves and loose clothing may get caught on bus handrails or doors. This could be dangerous while getting on or off the bus.
- Children should take five giant steps straight out from the school bus door and out of the danger zone.
- Teach your child to make eye contact with the bus driver, and wait for the driver to signal them before they cross in front of the bus.
- Remind your children to look both ways for traffic before crossing the street. Never assume cars will stop for the bus.
- NEVER go back for anything you left on the bus and NEVER bend down near or under the bus.

### **School Bus Behavior:**

- Enter and exit school buses in an orderly manner, using handrails where provided.
- After getting on the bus, go directly to your seat and remain seated, facing forward.
- It is important for students to listen to the bus driver for special instructions or information.
- Ensure your child follows all current COVID-19 protocols.
- Speak quietly and politely to the other children near you.
- Do not jump up and down, fight or tease other passengers, or be unruly. These activities can distract the bus driver and he or she may not be able to give proper attention to driving.
- Keep aisles clear.

- Keep heads, hands, arms, feet, and other objects inside the bus at all times.
- Never run or throw items inside the bus.
- Help keep the bus clean and in good condition. Report any unsafe or unsanitary conditions to the bus driver.

### **Motorist Reminders:**

Remember if you are approaching a school bus either from the front or behind and its yellow lights are flashing, the bus is preparing to stop. It is illegal - and very dangerous - to pass or overtake a stopped school bus when the large red lights located on the top of the bus are flashing. These flashing lights mean the bus is either picking up or discharging students. If the bus's red lights are flashing, YOU MUST STOP, and remain stopped until red warning lights are off. This includes school buses that are on the opposite sides of divided highways, on multiple lane roadways, in parking lots and on school grounds. The first time fine for illegally passing a school bus ranges from \$250 to \$400, 5 points on your license and/or 30 days in jail; subsequent violations carry fines ranging from \$600 to \$1,000, 5 points on your license and/or up to 180 days in jail.

The Garden City Police Department encourages residents to incorporate these safe practices into their lives to make this school year a safe one. Please remember to read Part Three of the Back-to-School Series "Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety" in next week's paper.