

December 7, 2022

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE
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MERILLON AVENUE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Merillon Avenue Road Improvement Project involves the redesign of the area immediately south of the Merillon Avenue Train Station eastbound platform, including portions of Main Avenue between Meadbrook Road and Nassau Boulevard in both directions.

This project includes bumping out the north curb line on the west side of Main Avenue (closest to Meadbrook Road) to create an extended planting bed, as well as the repositioning of the western most Main Avenue island to maintain the westbound driving lane to accommodate the new planting bed.

It also involves marrying the two large islands east and west of the Euston Road cut-through thereby creating one continuous island and planting bed that will receive large specimen trees to help alleviate light and noise emanating from the train station.

The scope of the project, as defined in the Community Benefits Fund (CBF) Application to the LIRR, also includes additional landscaping along the platform, as well as in the islands between east- and westbound Main Avenue, new sidewalks, curbs, the addition of new drainage infrastructure, light baffles to shield the north platform lights, a new and improved parking area north of the new islands, an extended drop-off area, two new handicapped spaces and other incidentals for pedestrian access such as ramps, signage and crosswalks.

The design drawings, existing estimates (as of December 7, 2022) and CBF Application are available on the Village website, www.gardencityny.net, for additional information and specific details.

The project is being funded via the transfer of funds from Village Surplus in the amount of \$1,636,000 which is the amount currently available in the CBF as of December 7, 2022. The CBF Application is a pre-approval process established by the LIRR as part of the Third Track Project. Actual expenses incurred are later submitted by the Village Treasurer to the LIRR for reimbursement against the approved project.

The LIRR has indicated verbally that the CBF Application scope of the project is being approved while the Village is still awaiting a decision on the amount of the existing CBF funding that will be available. Any updates will be provided as available.

CHRONOLOGY FOR THE HISTORIC MAIN BUILDING AND ASSOCIATED TEN ACRES

Residents interested in the vast history of the St. Paul's Main building and associated ten acres can visit the Village website, www.gardencityny.net, to read a chronology beginning in 1883 when St. Paul's School was constructed to the November 30, 2022 Board work session regarding the tasks that the recently engaged cost estimator, Westerman Construction, Co., will follow.

COUNTRY LIFE PRESS TRAIN STATION

As part of their Capital Program, the MTA/LIRR is poised to abate and demolish the existing Country Life Press Train Station building. This work is part of a larger project that the MTA has bundled together, which includes replacement and repairs of components at five other stations besides Country Life Press. In its place will be a new shelter shed (or not) along with a plaza that will include plantings that the LIRR would install, and that the Village would maintain. The scope for the work at Country Life Press also includes but is not limited to items such as evaluating and addressing ADA code compliance, repairing other structural features such as platform joints, ramps, railings, lighting, benches and bike racks. The MTA/LIRR is planning to move ahead with this project shortly but has given the Village until December 15 to consider entering into an agreement with them for the Village to take on the abatement and maintenance cost of preserving this historic structure, which was built in 1913. Members of the Board of Trustees stated that they wanted to seek input from area neighbors before any decision is made.

GAZEBO WALKWAY REPAIR

Replacement of the brick walkway leading to the Gazebo from the Village Hall employee parking lot (Fire Station)

began this week. Please do not park on the western end of the employee parking lot to allow the contractor enough space to perform the necessary work. If there are vehicles being stored on the western end of the employee lot, please have them moved. This schedule is subject to change and is weather permitting.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

Building Department Superintendent Giuseppe Giovanniello provided the Board with an update on several ongoing construction projects in the Village:

- 555 Stewart Avenue - Florent - expected completion Summer 2023
- 901 Franklin Avenue - expected completion March 2023
- 1111 Franklin Avenue - expected completion June 2023

LIRR THIRD TRACK UPDATE

During the month of December, you will see crews performing the following construction activities in Garden City:

Merillon Avenue Station Enhancement

- Crews will install under platform barriers on the north side of the station.
- Throughout December, crews will install snow melt under the north and south side platforms.
- Ongoing punch list work will continue in and around the station.
- Crews are painting around the station area.
- Crews continue to work on maintenance to curbs and sidewalks on the north side of the station.

G15 Substation

- Beginning December 8th, the process to set the substation will commence.
- As a result, there will be no parking along Atlantic Avenue from Nassau Blvd. to Fifth Avenue as trucks will be staged along Atlantic Avenue and will leave sequentially beginning Saturday morning.
- In addition, there will be no through traffic to Atlantic Avenue off of Fifth Avenue, Norton Avenue, Hilton Avenue and Corbin Avenue.

Row Construction

- New third rail heaters will be installed east and west of Merillon Avenue station.

LEAVES COLLECTION

Crews began their fourth pass in the West Section and will come back around with less equipment until the end of December. As of January 1, 2023 residents can bag their leaves and put them out on Rubbish Day or bring them to the Villages Dump area.

NOVEMBER GCFD ACTIVITY

Chief Matthew Pearn reported that during November the Department responded to 93 total calls:

- 84 "Signal 8" calls or non-emergency automatic alarms
- 6 general alarms, including a house fire
- 1 extrication calls where volunteers used extrication tools at motor vehicle accidents
- 2 mutual aid calls to assist neighboring Fire Departments

VILLAGE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE LIAISONS

I appointed Trustees Mary Carter Flanagan and Bruce Torino to serve as liaisons to the Village Governance Committee to better inform the Trustees and residents of the Committee's work and findings. The Committee sponsors a monthly Meet and Greet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Village Senior Center from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. It's a chance for residents to engage directly with Board members without going through any third parties or having to wait until the end of a Village Board meeting. These meetings do not have an agenda; Trustees will be available to discuss multiple issues and concerns.

FRIENDS BOOK DONATIONS

The Friends of the Garden City Public Library will be accepting donations of gently used books at the Library on Saturday, December 10, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. in the Library lobby and the small meeting room on the lower level of the Library. A limit of two boxes per family is requested. The Friends appreciate patrons following these guidelines regarding donations. Items should be in very good, saleable condition. Magazines, textbooks, encyclopedias or DVDs should not be included. Donated items become the property of the Friends of the Garden City Library. Funding raised by the Friends help to support Library programs. The Friends are grateful for all the patrons who support the Library.

OPERATION SANTA

The Garden City Volunteer Fire Department will once again be bringing the Operation Santa Program to our Village the week of December 12. Santa will attempt to pass every block in town, however due to some space restrictions (dead ends, cul-de-sacs) we may not be able to visit every block. Santa will leave GCFD HQ each evening at approximately 6:30 p.m. and will be out in the neighborhood until approximately 8:30 p.m. The schedule will be as follows, however it is subject to change due to weather or emergency response:

Monday, December 12th

Zone 1 (North Estates / Western Section)

Tuesday, December 13th

Zone 2 & 5 (Central / Estates Section)

Wednesday, December 14th

Zone 3 (North Eastern Section)

Thursday, December 15th

Zone 4 (South Western / Estates Section)

Friday, December 16th

Zone 6 (South Eastern Section)

Everyone is able to track Santa's route by visiting the Fire Department's Santa Tracking page (which will be posted each day on the Department's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/gcfdnny>. We thank the Chiefs, Officers and Members of the Garden City Volunteer Fire Department for spreading holiday joy throughout our Village.