

June 12, 2024

The beautiful tree-lined streets of our Village and well maintained and landscaped homes are part of what residents love about our community, and they make Garden City one of the most desirable communities on Long Island. As the Village moves forward with repaving roadways, the topic of what can be costly sidewalk repairs has been raised by residents at the last Board meeting, as it was last year. I would like to take this opportunity to give an overview of our long-standing policy on sidewalk repairs.

I hope sharing some of these general points regarding sidewalk repairs will help residents in understanding that getting a notice to repair your sidewalk is not something that is done arbitrarily or unfairly. Our present sidewalk policy allows residents the alternative of negotiating a price with a private contractor or, in certain instances, joining forces with their neighbors in order to obtain a group rate.

**How do we determine which sidewalks need to be repaired?**

- A Civil Engineer determines which sidewalks are in need of repair.
- The Village policy for determining a tripping hazard for a defective sidewalk flag follows the standard set by the 2010 Department of Justice ADA Guidelines, which is 1/4" vertical rise maximum. If a sidewalk is raised greater than 1/4" it is in violation.
- Other reasons a sidewalk flag can be cited as defective are: it is broken, cracked, deteriorating, flaking/peeling, high, low, an unapproved repair was made, settlement, spalling, tree roots lifting sidewalk, joint openings are greater than 1/2", flag is not to line and grade, etc.

**When do residents receive notices to repair sidewalks?**

- When we are paving a road, we will cite any sidewalk that needs to be repaired based on the above standards. We do not automatically repair all sidewalks just because we are paving the road.
- If your street address is not on the road we are paving, but your property abuts the road we are paving (such as a corner property), you can still be cited for repairs.
- When we receive written notice from a resident or business alerting us to a sidewalk that might be in need of repair, we will inspect it, and if deemed necessary, we will put the owner on notice that it needs to be repaired.
- When the Police Department notifies us of a sidewalk that is possibly in need of repair; if they encounter it in the course of doing their job, e.g., taking a report for a trip and fall.

**What is the policy for Village maintained sidewalks?**

- Sidewalks maintained by the Village are handled in the same way as any sidewalk in the Village is handled. If we are paving a road that contains Village-maintained sidewalks, we will evaluate our sidewalks and repair as necessary.

**Timing of Repairs and Option to use Private Contractor**

It is necessary to repair or replace a defective sidewalk and/or driveway apron and/or drop curb for safety reasons and to reduce the likelihood of lawsuits against you, as a property owner, and against the Village, at large. It is for these reasons the Board of Trustees adopted a resolution which provides that property owners are required to build, replace or repair a defective or damaged sidewalk abutting their property within 30 days from the date of the Notice. (Village Code Chapter 178, Article IX, §178-17 through §178-21.1)

If you choose to hire a private contractor to make the improvements, it will be necessary for the contractor to provide insurance and secure a permit from the Village's Department of Public Works within 30 days of the Notice. The permit fee will be waived, however, a deposit will be collected. After all work has been completed and the acceptable restoration performed, the Village will return the deposit to the contractor listed on the permit.

If you choose to use the Village Contractor, all work performed by the Village Contractor will be billed as soon as the work is done and carries a one-year warranty, starting from the installation date.

In order to maintain the one-year warranty and to ensure the quality of work, the Village only offers replacement of the entire defective flag. If you choose to utilize an alternative repair method, the repairs must be made by a private contractor who will include the repair materials and methods that will be used in their permit application. If work is done by a private contractor without obtaining a permit, the Village reserves the right to replace the entire defective flag and bill the property owner accordingly.

The Village has waived all permit fees and administrative fees for sidewalk repairs done by private contractors, though a deposit is collected from the contractor and returned upon completion of work.

### **BRANDSTETTER CARROLL BACK IN TOWN**

Brandstetter Carroll will be back in town this weekend to provide residents an opportunity to share their thoughts, opinions and suggestions with the team. Let us know your ideas for our Recreation Master Plan and share suggestions for St. Paul's uses.

- Friday, June 14, the BCI group will attend the Flag Day Luncheon at the Senior Center beginning at 12 p.m. BCI will be in attendance for part of the Luncheon and will then be available to meet with our Seniors after the Luncheon concludes.
- Friday, June 14, the BCI group will attend the Patriotic Kick-Off to Summer Festival on Seventh Street between 5-9 p.m. Look for their table at the event.
- Saturday, June 15, the BCI group will visit the Garden City Pool, which will be open from 12 noon to 8 p.m. Pool members will have the opportunity to speak to the team.

### **GROUNDWATER SAMPLING**

ERM Consulting & Engineering, Inc. will continue groundwater sampling activities within Garden City for one week, beginning Monday, June 17. Two ERM employees will be gauging and sampling existing groundwater monitoring wells within residential areas of Garden City. They will be using personal vehicles. They will be wearing fluorescent yellow safety vests for traffic visibility. ERM has been conducting an extensive groundwater investigation within the Village as part of a Remedial Design/Monitoring related to the 150 Fulton Avenue Superfund Site in Garden City Park. This investigation has included the installation and maintenance of numerous groundwater monitoring wells within residential areas of Garden City. This work has also included ERM's authorized access to other groundwater monitoring wells within the area that are under the jurisdiction of the Nassau County Department of Public Works.

### **DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT WILLIAM GRIMES**

I administered the oath of office to newly promoted Detective Lieutenant William Grimes during a brief ceremony at Village Hall Thursday, June 7, 2024. Det. Lt. Grimes began his career with the Garden City Police Department in 1989. He was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in 2005 and Detective Sergeant in 2017. In addition to his normal supervisory functions overseeing the Department's Detective Unit, Det. Lt. Grimes now oversees the Department and the Village's Security Infrastructure Programs and manages the new License Plate Reader Project. He serves as the liaison to the School District and assisted them in developing their Security Operational Plans, which included gaining access to their camera and keyless entry systems. Further, he serves as the Department's intelligence officer and attends weekly countywide intel, counter-terrorism, and school threat analysis meetings.

### **GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS**

I had the honor of attending a Gold Award ceremony June 7 hosted by the Garden City Association of Girl Scouts at Garden City Middle School to acknowledge Girl Scouts who have achieved Girl Scouts' highest

honor. Congratulations to the following Gold Award recipients:

- Kiera O'Leary
- Carrie Schneider
- Aileen Sullivan
- Eva Vitale
- Grace Dennis
- Abigail Jesberger
- Madeline O'Brien
- Simone Oustatcher
- Natalia Gargiulo
- Juliana Rom
- Clara O'Reilly
- Aaralyn Poligadu

The ceremony also acknowledged younger Girl Scouts who received their Silver and Bronze Awards, and Adult Volunteers who received Adult Recognition Awards.

### **WATER GRANTS**

Treasurer Irene Woo advised the Board that the Village has applied for and has been approved for \$25.7 million in grant monies for the various water well AOP treatment projects taking place around the Village. The Village has 10 wells and six different well sites. The ongoing AOP treatment projects are estimated to cost around \$55 million. The Village has received \$12.2 million in grant funding to date, or approximately 50 percent of what we've applied for and is expected to receive additional grant monies in a month or so.

### **MAY GCFD ACTIVITY**

Chief James Taunton reported that during the month of May the Fire Department responded to the following service calls:

- 93 fire alarms
- 11 general alarms
- 1 extrication
- 2 mutual aids

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT GRANT**

The Garden City Police Department has received a \$465,000 grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). The grant will fund software and equipment, such as license plate readers, unmanned aerial vehicles, software applications and public safety equipment, to further advance the safety infrastructure of the Village of Garden City.

### **HAPPENING IN GARDEN CITY**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 14** 5:00-9:00 p.m. Patriotic Kick-off to Summer Festival on 7th Street

**SATURDAY, JUNE 15** 12:00 p.m. Garden City Pool Open House. Guest fees apply.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 16** 12:00 p.m. Garden City Pool Open House. Guest fees apply.

**MONDAY, JUNE 17** 1:30 p.m. Movie Matinee: *Father of the Bride* at the Library

**TUESDAY, JUNE 18** 4:00 p.m. Final Exam Study Hall at the Library. Must register.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 18** 6:30 p.m. Zoning Board of Appeals meeting at Village Hall

**THURSDAY, JUNE 20** 7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees meeting at Village Hall and via Zoom

**MONDAY, JUNE 24** 1:00-7:00 p.m. Blood Drive at the Library. Call 1-800-933-BLOOD to make an appointment.

**MONDAY, JUNE 24** 4:00 p.m. Intro To Safe Babysitting at the Library. Must register.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 25** 1:00 p.m. Movie: *The Out of Towners* at the Senior Center. Register by calling

516-385-8006.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 25** 6:30 p.m. Architectural Design Review Board meeting at Village Hall