

July 9, 2025

This past Monday, along with Deputy Mayor Courtney and Trustee Torino and senior Village officials, we met with representatives from New York Transco and the New York Power Authority, the principals behind the Propel NY Energy project. It was our second meeting in the past two months. Propel NY is building a new electric transmission system to move energy more efficiently on Long Island, New York City and Westchester. The underground 345kV cables will run from the south shore into both the Bronx and Sprain Brook (Westchester) through two separate pathways/routes.

Garden City and its roadways, always at the cross roads of projects throughout the County, is a necessary part of the routing of the distribution system. Importantly, Propel's project needs to traverse the Village because it must utilize the Uniondale Hub transfer station on Stewart Avenue to effectively transmit the power both northward and southward. The Uniondale Hub is located across from the southern entrance to Roosevelt Field mall. In addition to Stewart Avenue, Clinton Road and Franklin Avenue are the other Village roadways slated to be the pathway for the underground cable to both Propel NY end points in the Bronx and Westchester County.

When we first learned of the Village's key involvement I asked a good friend, resident and senior energy industry veteran to assist us in setting up a meeting with the Propel team. It was very apparent that we needed to engage them to discuss how we could minimize disruption to our Village and roadways during the construction of the underground cables. After a fruitful first meeting, which led the Propel route team to redirect half of one of the two transmission routes on the "southern half" of Clinton Road, we asked for an update this past week.

There we sought to review the project's current status and made additional requests for the Propel team to consider other alternatives to utilizing Franklin Avenue and the "northern" half of Clinton Road for routing of the cable system. We will be following up on our requests in the next week or two. If interested in learning more about the project, visit the Propel NY website for an overview of the project: www.propelnyenergy.com.

LEAD LEVELS IN OUR WATER

The Village recently undertook its NYS mandated bi-annual lead service line water testing and found elevated levels of lead in the drinking water of at least one home. These results are specific to one particular home and tests taken in neighboring homes may result in different findings. If your home has been tested and it was non-detect for lead or you recently replaced your service line, this information does not pertain to you. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. **As determined by routine sampling from the Village's 10 water supply wells, the source water has not been found to contain lead.** The most consistent source of lead in the Village's water is from lead service lines serving homes. Consistent with our previous notices, the Village continues to advise all of its residents that if you are either unsure about the material composition of your service line or lead levels, please refrain from drinking water directly from the tap and either use a filter certified to remove lead (NSF-53) or drink bottled water, until the water has been tested. The Village will provide, free of charge, one testing kit per home, please stop by the Water Dept at Village Hall for a kit. We recently completed a lead service line inventory based on the Village's historical records, sampling, and self-identification surveys for all residents within the Village. Please visit the Water and Sewer Services page on the Village website, www.gardencityny.net and click the Lead Service Line Inventory tab to check the service line status of your home. If your home is serviced by a lead service line, the Village will waive all road opening permit fees for replacement of a lead service line. Read the full notice here. [<https://www.gardencityny.net/DocumentCenter/View/3653/July-2-2025---Lead-Action-Level-Exceedance-Notice>].

WATER WORKS BUILDING RENOVATIONS

The Village is applying for a consolidated Funding Application (CFA) grant to support the phased restoration of the historic Water Works Building, a 4,500 sq. ft. Victorian Gothic structure built in 1876. This grant requires a 50/50 match and provides funding up to \$675,000 per application. The Village meets the eligibility requirements, including ownership of the property. The Water Works Building is a historically significant structure that has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1978 and the State Register since 1980. The main building is now used for sample storage and electrical controls for nearby water wells, and the wing is used for meetings by the Special Police.

We hope to renovate the nearly 150-year-old building in the near future, keeping its exterior historic features. The proposed project is divided into three phases: Phase I will include roof replacement, drainage repairs, and hazardous material abatement; Phase II will address masonry façade restoration, step and railing repairs; and Phase III involves the replacement or repair of windows and exterior doors, including interior ceiling access and further abatement. All exterior restoration work is subject to review and approval by the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

FORFEITURE OF ASSETS

Under the New York State Civil Practice Law, certain funds received from the forfeiture of assets are restricted to fund “unbudgeted” police expenditures. At the close of the 2024/25 fiscal year, the Village had \$33,636.88 held in Reserve. Further, funds in the amount of \$92,905.27 were received from the forfeited property of crime proceeds from past investigations. According to Commissioner Kenneth Jackson, the Department is looking to purchase products that will enhance criminal investigations and evidence management. In the past, these funds have been used to purchase fingerprinting stations, video surveillance equipment, communication devices, drug recognition software, cell phone investigative equipment and software, detective vehicle accessory enhancements, ballistic vests and helmets, tactical weapons, evidence barcode printers, and breaching tools.

SUMMER PROMENADES

Summer promenades return this Friday, July 11. Seventh Street will close between Franklin and Hilton avenues from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m.