

September 3, 2025

We are bringing back representatives from BCI this coming Tuesday (Sept. 9) to discuss the results of the recent St. Paul's Survey a second time and to also provide an overview of the Recreation Master Plan. The session will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at Village Hall and via Zoom. [BCI will return this fall to make a full presentation on the Rec. Master Plan.] If you didn't have a chance to attend in August, we'd love to see you there. Please note: there will be time for Q&A after both presentations have been completed.

P.S. You can also check out BCI's St. Paul's Survey presentation, the raw numbers from the survey and the "random" written comments contained in resident survey responses online, on the Village website [<https://www.gardencityny.net/291/A-New-Approach-for-2025>].

HUMAN RESOURCES EXECUTIVE SOUGHT

The Village of Garden City is currently seeking an experienced and motivated professional to serve full-time as the Human Resources Executive. The successful candidate must have a thorough knowledge of government human resources principles and practices. The Human Resources Department is tasked with ensuring all Civil Service and Employment Laws are followed and that policies are properly administered. The Village employs approximately 240 full-time employees and on average 100 part-time employees. Human Resources is responsible for all benefit administration, including paid time off, health, dental, New York State Retirement System and the Deferred Compensation Plan. Human Resources works closely with the Village's Workers' Compensation Administrator to ensure that all cases are handled justly and with expediency. Through cooperation with all the Departments Human Resources aids in ensuring that the workforce is properly trained and the worksites are safe. Send resumés to Ralph Suozzi, Village Administrator, at rsuozzi@gardencityny.net.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

It is crucial to remind drivers to be extra mindful of back-to-school safety measures. Please be advised that the Garden City Police Department will be conducting increased traffic enforcement details to help promote safe driving practices. During this initiative, Officers will be concentrating on the vicinity of school zones, bus stop locations, and routes often utilized by student walkers. Overtime for this initiative is subsidized by STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program) grants. We urge parents and guardians to engage in discussions with their children about traffic safety, emphasizing the importance of observing traffic rules, using designated crosswalks, being aware of vehicle traffic around them, and being cautious around school buses. It is our collective responsibility to create a safe environment for our students as they commute to and from school.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO SERVE ON WATER AUTHORITY

The Board is seeking a volunteer to represent the Village on the Water Authority of Western Nassau County. This is a two-year volunteer commitment. The WAWNC serves more than 120,000 people across Bellerose, Floral Park, New Hyde Park, Stewart Manor, South Floral Park, Elmont, and portions of Garden City, Valley Stream, Franklin Square and North Valley Stream. The volunteer will be responsible for attending monthly meetings, which are typically held once a month on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in New Hyde Park...it's a terrific opportunity to get involved in an issue of import to the Village. If interested, please email a brief cover letter and/or resumé to Village Clerk Kelly Galanek at kgalanek@gardencityny.net.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY SERIES PART III: PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

This is part three of the four-part series of articles by the Garden City Police Department addressing back-to-school safety issues. This week's article will cover pedestrian/bicycle safety. Parents, grandparents, guardians, and teachers are encouraged to use this article to help teach their children about pedestrian/bicycle safety.

Pedestrian Safety:

- Children should not walk while talking on a cell phone or texting.
- Students walking to or from school should always use sidewalks when available and walk on the inside edge of the sidewalk farthest away from traffic. If a sidewalk is unavailable, pedestrians are encouraged to walk in a single file as close to the edge of the roadway as practical. You should also walk against the traffic flow so that oncoming cars are visible.
- Research has shown that until your child is at least eight years old, you should hold their hand on the sidewalk and in parking lots. Furthermore, you should hold their hand until they are ten years old while crossing the street.
- Teach your children to be defensive and NEVER assume that a driver sees them.
- Always LOOK in all directions before crossing the street, LEFT, then RIGHT, then LEFT again. NEVER run into the street. When crossing at an intersection, check for vehicles turning the corner.
- Avoid crossing the streets at mid-blocks, especially when parked cars may obstruct vision. Cross at Stop signs, traffic signals, crosswalks, or where crossing guards are present.
- When crossing a street, NEVER assume a green light or WALK signal means it is safe to cross the street. Remember; LOOK LEFT, then RIGHT, then LEFT again before crossing.
- Remove earphones when preparing to cross the street. You may not be able to hear approaching traffic.
- Only follow others across the street once you have checked for yourself that it is safe to cross.
- Walk the route to school with your child and discuss safe practices. Teach your children about traffic laws and encourage them to ask questions when unsure what to do.
- Stay visible when it is dark or in bad weather by wearing light-colored or reflective clothing.
- Crossing Guards are posted near schools to assist children and others in crossing the street safely. Disregarding the signals and directions of crossing guards is dangerous and a violation of New York State law.

Bicycle Safety:

- Persons riding bicycles are subject to the same laws as motorists.
- All bicyclists and passengers under the age of fourteen are required to wear approved bicycle helmets when riding a bicycle.
- Regardless of what the law requires, the Garden City Police recommends that ALL operators and passengers wear bicycle helmets. According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, "In the majority of bicycle deaths, the most serious injuries are to the head, highlighting the importance of wearing a bicycle helmet."
- Teach your children how to ride a bicycle and practice riding in a safe location without cars. It is essential for children to learn how to signal, turn, slow down, and stop without falling. Hand signals for bicyclists are the same as for motorists.
- Teach your children to be defensive when riding and NEVER assume a driver sees them.
- Bicyclists should carefully look in all directions for vehicles, other bicyclists, and pedestrians. They should also take extra care when nearing intersections or driveways where vehicles may be turning.
- Children should walk their bicycles across intersections.
- Bicycles should be ridden in bicycle lanes when available or as close to the right edge of the roadway as practical in the same direction as traffic.
- Ride your bicycle in a single file only.
- Never use a bicycle to carry more people than it was designed to carry, and never ride anyone on the handlebars. Wear bright-colored clothing when riding a bicycle and ensure the bike has proper reflectors. DO NOT ride a bicycle while wearing earphones, talking, or texting on a phone. It is illegal to wear more than one earphone while riding a bike.

A bicycle must be equipped with the following:

- a) Brakes that are capable of making the tires skid on dry-level pavement.
- b) A bell, horn, or other device that can be heard at least a hundred feet away; sirens and whistles are NOT permitted.
- c) Bicycles driven between a half-hour after sunset and a half-hour before sunrise must be equipped with a white front headlight visible in darkness for at least 500 feet and a red taillight visible for at least 300 feet.

d) When purchased new and/or driven at night, a bicycle must have reflective tires or wide-angle spoke-mounted reflectors. The reflectors must be colorless or amber for the front wheels and colorless or red for the rear wheels.