

July 28, 2021

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

cveneziale@gardencityny.net

NON-COMPLIANCE OF VILLAGE SANITATION REGULATIONS

Non-compliance of Village sanitation regulations continues to be a quality of life issue. Warning letters have been mailed and fines will be issued to residents and commercial owners who do not comply with Village regulations. Please refer to the 2021-22 Sanitation/Recycling collection schedule available on the Village website, www.gardencityny.net. Click on the "Departments" tab, then the "Public Works" tab to open the schedule. The sanitation guidelines have also been mailed to all Village residents. Collections are from curbside on your assigned pick-up day, except as noted on the holiday schedule. The recycling container should be used for commingled recyclables only and placed at the curb on the night prior to your scheduled collection, but not before 7:00 p.m. Paper should not be placed in the green recycling container.

SPEED AWARENESS WEEK

Officers continue to crack down on speeding in the Village. Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson, who is a strong proponent of speed cameras in the Village, said traffic enforcement on Garden City's 96 miles of roads is always a top priority for the Department. Between July 31 and August 8, 2021, Garden City Police will participate in the Statewide Speed Awareness Week Enforcement Mobilization. In 2018 there were 1,440 reported accidents in the Village. In 2019 accidents were down 8.5 percent. In 2020, accidents were down 46 percent, but the numbers were skewed since traffic remained minimal for three months because of COVID restrictions. This year is trending to be at least 20 percent lower in accidents, Commissioner Jackson said. According to the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, speed continues to be a predominant factor in traffic crashes in New York State. Further, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) says three out of every 10 drivers are self-professed "speeders."

FRANKLIN AVENUE GRADE CROSSING RENEWAL

As a reminder, the MTA/LIRR will be performing an emergency crossing rehabilitation on the Franklin Avenue grade crossing for approximately 24 hours starting on Saturday July 31 at 1:00 a.m. to Sunday August 1 at 1:00 a.m. due to a defect discovered within the crossing. Signage will be placed at the crossing prior to its closure so it will be advertised to the community/business owners/pedestrians/drivers. The MTA is coordinating and communicating with the Garden City Fire and Police Departments, which will notify the Ambulance crews in advance. The MTA PD will also be on both sides of the crossing to support the closure.

PART-TIME CROSSING GUARDS

The Police Department is currently seeking candidates for part-time Crossing Guard positions. Interested persons can contact the Commissioner's Office at 516-465-4110.

MERILLON AVENUE TRAIN STATION

Crews this month began the process of commissioning and testing the new elevators at the Merillon Avenue train 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 also being installed on the stairs and ramps on both the north and south sides of the tracks this month.

STREET LIGHT POLE PAINTING

Anker's Electric Service, Inc. will paint approximately 126 "bishop crook style light poles" in the Village. The Board authorized a \$30,000 fund transfer to pay for this unbudgeted item. The unit pricing is per the Street Lighting Maintenance Bid, which was awarded on June 18, 2020.

HANDS-FREE SOLAR POWERED GARBAGE PAILS

Residents are reminded that the solar powered garbage pails installed throughout the business district and Village parks can be operated using foot pedals only. You do not need to touch the pails with your hands in order to operate them. Foot pedals were an optional feature of the pails that the Village decided to include when we purchased the pails. There are a total of 17 pails strategically placed throughout the Village.