

August 31, 2022

## **THE MAYOR'S UPDATE**

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### **COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF ST. PAUL'S: ADAPTIVE REUSE VS. DEMOLITION**

The Village put out a Request For Proposals (RFP) for a comparative analysis for building alteration and adaptive reuse versus demolition of the St. Paul's Complex. The RFPs were posted by the Village August 1-5, 2022. An extension was given until August 10, 2022. A second extension was given until August 22, 2022. Four companies responded to the RFPs: Acheson Doyle Partners Architects, P.C.; 5D Architecture & Engineering; Marx/Okubo Associates, Inc.; and Westerman Construction Co. Inc.

Westerman Construction Co. Inc. was the lowest qualified proposal and was submitted to the Board of Trustees with all the other proposals received per the Request for Proposals ( RFP ). The engagement of Westerman Construction Co. Inc., an independent cost estimator, will provide estimated project costs for adaptive reuse, demolition and facadism, as well as help establish a date for a resident poll by the Mayor's St. Paul's Committee. Their proposals are available for review on the Village website, [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net).

### **COMPLIANCE SAMPLING**

The Incorporated Village of Garden City found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes/buildings. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children 6 years and younger. H2M, the Village's water consultant, continues to perform biweekly sampling at entry points for lead and other corrosion parameters. Compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule action levels is based on the 90th percentile; the concentration of lead and copper must be less than or equal to the action level in at least 90 percent of the samples collected. Recent sampling of 65 homes in the Village exceeded the action level, which is 15 parts per billion (ppb).

Plans and specifications were sent to the Nassau County Department of Health for interim corrosion control treatment on August 16, 2022, using 55-gallon drums to be utilized for orthophosphate at each site. Orthophosphate forms a protective coating inside water lines and household plumbing. It is a proven water treatment method to prevent corrosion and reduce the amount of lead leaching into drinking water. "We are trying to get the orthophosphate system in place before pumping season ends," Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi said.

This week, residents will receive a letter from the Village of Garden City urging them to test their water, take necessary precautions, such as using water filters, and replace their lead service lines. If a resident wants to find out if they have a lead service line, the Village will send out a self-evaluation form to determine the material of the service entering their house. Residents may also request that the Village sample their water. We will drop off and pick up sample bottles for your use.

### **LABOR DAY POLICE PATROLS: DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER**

The Garden City Police Department will be watching for impaired driving through Labor Day

Weekend as part of the National Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over mobilization. This initiative will be enhanced by funds provided by the Nassau County Traffic Safety STOP DWI Program and the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. "We understand everyone wants to enjoy the holiday weekend," said Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson, "but we want them to do it responsibly. Beyond risking personal freedom and safety, driving impaired puts lives in danger. Our commitment to every resident and visitor of this Village means we are increasing patrols during the holiday period to help ensure the summer does not end with death or injury."

Statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration show that one person is killed about every 45 seconds in a drunk driving crash, totaling 11,000 lives lost each year. During this initiative, the Department will be deploying additional enforcement patrols on Village roadways, strictly enforcing all DWI laws. On August 12, 2022, Commissioner Jackson, representing the Garden City Police Department and the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, attended a NY DMV Press Conference at the LIE Welcome Center with other Police leaders to inform the public of the dangers and consequences of driving while Drunk or Drugged and the Labor Day Weekend initiative.

**If you are attending a Labor Day gathering:**

- Designate your sober driver in advance and give that person your car keys.
- If you are planning on driving, avoid drinking.
- Consider using public transportation, call a taxi or use a ride-share service if you do not have a sober driver.
- Do not let a friend drive if you think they are impaired.
- If you see someone who you believe is driving impaired, call police.
- Always buckle up.
- Do not text, use a cellphone that is not hands-free, or drive distracted.

**If you are hosting a Labor Day gathering:**

- Remember, you can be held liable if someone you served alcohol to ends up in an impaired-driving crash.
- Ensure sober drivers or alternative modes of transportation are set up in advance for guests who are planning to drink alcoholic beverages.
- Have contact information for local taxi companies readily available.
- Take away the keys from anyone who is thinking of driving impaired.

**ASH TREE REMOVAL**

The project to remove all ash trees in the Village is going out for public bid within the next two months. Harder Tree and Landscape Service has been beneficial in guiding Recreation and Parks Commissioner Paul Blake and his crews. In the meantime, if Parks crews see any trees in imminent danger of falling, they will remove the trees. All these trees need removal after an infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer Beetle, which is drilling into the trees' feed stream and killing them. This is a problem across the country and unfortunately there is no pesticide that can kill the beetle. There are currently Ash trees on Washington Avenue, Nassau Boulevard, Franklin Avenue, Clinton Road, Main Avenue and Meadow Street.

**FIRE SAFETY TIPS WHILE LIVING ON COLLEGE CAMPUS**

As many of our friends, family and residents are heading off to college, Chief Pearn and

members of the Garden City Fire Department would like to remind you of some important safety tips to be safe while on campus. There are several specific causes for fires in on- and off-campus college housing, including cooking, candles, smoking and overloaded power strips. For most students, the last fire safety training they received was in grade school, but with new independence comes new responsibilities. It is important that both off-campus and on-campus students know their fire risks and prevention actions that could save their lives.

### **Cooking**

- Cook only where it is allowed.
- Keep your cooking area clean and free of anything that can burn.
- Keep an eye on what you are cooking, especially if you are cooking at high temperatures.
- If a fire starts in a microwave, keep the door closed and unplug the unit.

### **Candles**

- Place candles in sturdy holders.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended.
- Keep candles away from anything that can burn.
- Use safe flameless candles.
- Please check with your local College/University if candles are allowed.

### **Smoking**

- Make sure cigarettes and ashes are out. Never toss hot cigarette butts or ashes in the trash can.
- Use deep, wide ashtrays. Place ashtrays on something sturdy and hard to burn.
- After a party, check for cigarette butts, especially under cushions. Chairs and sofas catch on fire fast and burn fast.
- Don't smoke when you have been drinking or are drowsy.

### **Electrical safety**

- Keep lamps, light fixtures, and light bulbs away from anything that can burn.
- Never use an extension cord with large appliances, like a refrigerator.
- Do not overload outlets.
- Use only surge protectors or power strips that have internal overload protection.

### **ST. PAUL'S COMFORT STATION RENOVATIONS**

The Board has engaged L.K. McLean Associates, P.C. to design the bathroom renovations for the Stewart Avenue Park Comfort Station for \$7,600. The project includes plumbing fixture replacement, toilet partition and accessory replacement, a new drinking foundation with bottle filling station and light fixture replacement.

### **BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY SERIES: SAFE DRIVING PRACTICES**

Schools are reopening this week. With that in mind the Garden City Police Department has put together a four-part series of articles to address back-to-school safety issues. Part One addresses "Safe Driving Practices," Part Two "School Bus Safety," Part Three "Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety" and Part Four "Stranger Danger." When schools are opening in the morning and closing in the afternoon, areas around schools are very busy and crowded. Parents and other adults can do much to improve traffic safety around our schools by driving cautiously, teaching their children safe practices and limiting vehicle trips. In some cases, parents and other adults may be

the cause of safety concerns. Drivers should obey all traffic laws and apply the following safety practices.

### **Safe Driving Practices**

- When dropping off or picking up children at school, avoid parking on the opposite side of the street from the school. If you must park on the opposite side of the street, NEVER call your children to your car. Always meet them on the school side of the road and walk them to your car. Also talk with them about what to do if you are not there on time.
- Make sure children are careful opening car doors. Children should always get in and out of your vehicle through the rear curbside door.
- Drivers should not double park or block traffic. Parking or waiting in red zones such as disabled parking areas and no stopping zones is prohibited.
- Do not block school buses or use areas designated for buses only.
- Never stop or park in a crosswalk or within the posted crosswalk “No Parking” area. Students and other pedestrians rely on the crosswalk and need the visibility that the posted no parking buffer provides to cross the street safely.
- Do not violate the law by using the excuse “I’ll just be here for a minute” when picking up or dropping off students.
- U-turns are illegal within school zones. Avoid turning around in neighboring driveways. It is hard enough to see children and even harder when you are backing up or making U-turns.
- When backing up from a driveway or garage, be aware that children may be walking or bicycling to or from a school or school bus.
- Never leave a child of any age in a vehicle without adult supervision. A small child may rapidly suffer dehydration, heat exhaustion and consequent organ failure. Older children could play games that may lead to tragedy.
- Learn the traffic patterns at the schools to avoid being a disruption.
- Please use the vehicle directional signal before making a turn. Using your directional signal is not optional.
- SLOW DOWN! You are free to drive even slower than the posted school zone speed limit and should always be considered when conditions warrant it, such as heavy rain, snow, fog, icy roads, darkness, or heavy traffic conditions.
- NEVER pass a stopped school bus when its red flashing lights are on. Whether you are behind the bus or approaching from the opposite direction, you must come to a full stop and remain stopped until warning lights are off.

Motorists should keep in mind that young children usually see and hear differently than adults. Children only have two-thirds the peripheral vision adults have and they have difficulty determining the source of a sound. They are still learning to judge distance and speed. When a car is coming toward them, they cannot accurately judge how fast it is traveling or how long it will take to cover the distance. Children generally focus on one thing at a time. If they are playing with friends or riding bikes it is unlikely they will be aware of your vehicle. Children are spontaneous and have trouble stopping an action once started. Children also tend to overestimate their abilities, thinking they can run across a street before the light changes or a car approaches.

### **GARBAGE IN REAR OF HOUSE, TRASH AT THE CURB**

Except for a few places along major thoroughfares, garbage is not to be left at the curb but will

be picked up in the rear of the house by Sanitation crews. According to Local Law 5-1978, “Containers with garbage should be placed at the rear of the premises and shall not be kept or placed upon the street, sidewalk, other public place nor upon the front yard of the premises. Containers with rubbish shall be placed at the curb or near the front property line of the premises, preferably near the driveway entrance, or at such other location as may specifically be approved by the Department of Public Works, before 7:30 a.m. on the designated collection day but not earlier than 12 hours prior thereto, and shall not be placed upon the street or sidewalk. After collection, empty rubbish containers shall be promptly removed from the collection point.” With regard to recycling, residents should place their green recycling bucket at the curb before 7:00 a.m. Further, curbside placement of rubbish/trash is not permitted prior to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. The Village consistently receives complaints concerning garbage and recycling being left at the curb days before its scheduled pickup. Before a summons is issued, a warning letter will be mailed to you. Police will enforce this Village Code and issue summonses, if necessary. For further information on garbage collection schedules, visit the Sanitation and Recycling page on the Village’s website, [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net).

### **LABOR DAY CLOSINGS**

Village offices will be closed on Monday, September 5, 2022 in observance of Labor Day. Offices will re-open on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

The Garden City Public Library will be closed for the Labor Day holiday beginning Saturday, September 3, 2022 through Monday, September 5, 2022. The Library will re-open on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

### **SANITATION COLLECTION – LABOR DAY**

Residents are reminded that there will be NO garbage collection on Monday, September 5, 2022. The Holiday Week Collection Schedule is as follows:

#### **Garbage:**

Western Half of Village: Tuesday/Friday  
(West of Rockaway Avenue)

Eastern Half of Village: Wednesday/Saturday  
(East of Rockaway Avenue)

#### **Rubbish:**

Entire Village: Thursday, September 8, 2022

#### **Recycling:**

Normal Weekly Collection – No Changes