

August 24, 2022

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

cveneziale@gardencityny.net

CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN FOR MAIN AVE/MERILLON AVE STATION

The Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 15, 2022 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room and via Zoom regarding the closing of a portion of Euston Road to connect the islands on Main Avenue. The proposed conceptual site plan for Main Avenue/Merillon Avenue station that was presented at the August 18, 2022 Board meeting is a schematic requiring further study. Trustees have directed the Village Engineering Department to prepare construction drawings consistent with plans for traffic flow, emergency access and station lighting mitigation, including estimated construction costs to implement the plan.

Traffic flow is important and after careful review Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson suggested removing two parking spaces from the conceptual plan to create a larger hatch (or “no parking”) area in order to eliminate the possibility of double parking. Building Superintendent Giuseppe Giovanniello advised the Board the Village engineers will need approximately five to six weeks to complete the drawings.

ST. PAUL'S ROOF REPLACEMENT REIMBURSEMENT

The Village's Finance Department is working closely with FEMA to receive reimbursement for the recent St. Paul's roof replacement project. The total amount earmarked for the repairs was \$471,040. The Village potentially stands to receive 90 percent reimbursement of the total repair costs, or \$423,000. The project was completed in mid-July. As a result, all roofs are now weather tight.

FULTON AVENUE SUPERFUND SITE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is conducting its first five-year review of the Fulton Avenue Superfund site, located in GAREN CITY PARK. This review seeks to confirm that the cleanup plan selected by the EPA in the 2007 Record of Decision (ROD) and 2015 Interim ROD Amendment for Operable Unit One (OU1), which is 150 Fulton Avenue, remains protective of human health and the environment. The interim selected cleanup for OU1 includes the following components:

- Ongoing well-head treatment of Village of Garden City's public water supply wells.
- Vapor intrusion investigation.
- Groundwater monitoring program.
- Institutional controls.

A summary of the cleanup activities and an evaluation of the protectiveness of the implemented cleanup plans will be included in the five-year review report scheduled to be released in September 2022. These regular reviews, required by federal law when contaminants remain at a site, include:

- Inspecting the site and cleanup technologies;

- Reviewing monitoring data, operating data, and maintenance records; and,
- Determining if any new relevant regulatory requirements have been established since EPA's original cleanup decision was finalized.

Visit www.epa.gov/superfund/fulton-avenue for more information. You can also visit the Garden City Public Library to review the Administrative Record, which includes EPA decision documents used for selecting the cleanup remedy.

2022 SPEED AWARENESS WEEK RESULTS

Results of speed awareness week, held August 14-21, are as follows:

274 total traffic tickets were issued including:

- 94 unsafe speed violations
- 10 suspended license violations
- 8 suspended registration violations
- 16 red light/stop sign violations
- 6 cell phone/electronic device violations
- 140 miscellaneous violations

The New York State Speed Awareness Week Initiative is a high visibility mobilization aimed at reducing speed related crashes. During this campaign, Officers intensified enforcement of excessive speed violations in an effort to reduce vehicle crashes. Speeding, red light and Stop sign violations continue to be the majority of the traffic violations impacting the Village. The GCPD have done great work to address speeding and will increase their efforts as our schools open in September.

YARD CLEANUP - BE GOOD TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

The Board reminds residents that ordinances are in place in our Village code that require homeowners to maintain their homes, including the structure itself, appearance, lawn, hedges and shrubs. For example, homeowners are prohibited from allowing hedges to overflow onto sidewalks. We receive numerous complaints about this condition as it impacts fellow residents from walking on sidewalks or riding bicycles. Please take a hard look at your landscaping. We are all neighbors. The condition and appearance of your home and yard reflect not just on you but also on the value of your neighbors' homes. We will be actively issuing tickets for any violations. Lawn cutting or any power gardening equipment is only permitted to be done during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The gas powered leaf blower ban ends the day after Labor Day.

EDGEMERE FIREHOUSE UPDATE

Phase 1A of the Edgemere Firehouse renovation project was completed last week. All contaminated materials have been safely removed from the site and all garage doors are operable. A recommendation of the Mayor's Fire Safety Committee is to update and modernize Firehouses 2 and 3 to accommodate, if needed, an Engine and Truck company. The benefit of having three firehouses with equipment distributed to each location is lower response times. Old Structure Engineering, P.C. is providing engineering investigation and analysis services to determine and then design the feasible alteration of the existing firehouse building and potential additions. The study reviewed design criteria - including keeping the building's historic

architectural features, vehicle criteria and numerous options that would accommodate fire apparatus at the west end site. The Mayor's Fire Safety Committee is preparing a program of space needs with the Garden City Fire Department. The next step will be to engage an architectural firm to work with the Fire Department and Building Department to prepare detailed plans on which construction costs can be obtained. To view the full study, please visit www.gardencityny.net. Please direct any questions to the Mayor's Fire Safety Committee via Village Clerk Karen Altman, kaltman@gardencityny.net.

NASSAU BOULEVARD RAILROAD STATION WALL REHAB

Cornerstone Reconstruction Group Corp. will reconstruct and restore the historical brick wall at the Nassau Boulevard Train Station parking lot for a cost of \$141,000. Funds are available in the Capital budget. Original cost estimates for full replacement of the wall were approximately \$900,000. At my redirection, the project was re-bid as a restoration project, which resulted in significant savings. Refurbishment of the urns (\$12,600) that sit atop the wall will be addressed at a later date, as will period light fixtures. The Board directed Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson to investigate possible safety concerns at the entrance site due to the close proximity of the wall to the entrance off of Nassau Boulevard. Looking back 12 years, Commissioner Jackson noted two recorded accidents in other sections of the lot that did not involve the entrance. After further surveying, and turning into the lot himself, Commissioner Jackson does not believe the wall causes any safety issues for drivers. He did, however, note that the overgrown shrubs and ivy growing on the wall could be an issue. That shrubbery will be removed prior to wall reconstruction.

GCFD JULY ACTIVITY

Chief Matthew Pearn reported that during July the Department responded to 106 total calls:

- 97 "Signal 8" calls or non-emergency automatic alarms
- 5 general alarms, including two working house fires
- 2 extrication calls
- 2 mutual aid calls to assist neighboring Fire Departments

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

The Board approved three volunteer firefighters to join the Department: Chris Weber, Charles Rosenberg and Ryan Zhang.

Firefighter Weber is a graduate of the University of Scranton, and the University of Connecticut where he received his Bachelors and MBA respectively. He currently works as a Senior Analyst in Manhattan. Chris comes with a wealth of experience after serving the Port Washington Fire Department for over 10 years before he relocated to Garden City. He is excited to have the opportunity to contribute to his new community, and build upon the rewarding experiences from his previous department.

Firefighter Rosenberg is a graduate of Garden City High School and is currently attending the University of Arizona. He is eager to join the Fire Department and wishes to give back to the community in which he lives.

Firefighter Zhang emigrated to the U.S. after graduating from high school in Japan. While attending Stony Brook University, he worked several jobs throughout his time at university. He

went on to work as an auditor in an accounting firm, a job he currently holds today. He joined the Fire Department because he wants to learn more about this society, meet new friends, learn more skills and contribute to his new community.

We thank you for your service and volunteerism. Interested in joining Garden City's ranks? Visit www.gcfldny.com.

LIBRARY HVAC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT

The HVAC system replacement project at the Garden City Public Library must be re-bid as it was over budget allowance. The project is expected to be re-bid this week, according to Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi. This delay will not affect the start of the Children's Room renovation project, which is expected to begin within the coming months.

SENIOR CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

The Board has approved several capital improvement projects at the Senior Center on Golf Club Lane. Preferred Construction, Inc. will replace the floors for \$125,000 and Energy Mechanical, Inc. will replace the HVAC system for \$117,500. These projects will be paid with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. In late July, the Village received its second payment (\$1,151,484) of relief funding through ARPA, a \$1.9 trillion relief bill signed into law in March of 2021. The stimulus package provides billions of dollars in direct financial relief for state and local governments, including \$65 billion for America's cities, villages and towns, as well as \$65 billion for counties. Garden City has received a total of \$2.303 million in COVID relief funding (an estimated \$110 per capita).

The funding was delivered in tranches; the first half was received in July 2021. Unlike FEMA funding, the relief will arrive before the Village reports how the funding is being used. Use of funds has recently been expanded to now include any COVID-related revenue losses as well as water, sewer and broadband infrastructure improvements. Treasurer Irene Woo said Finance Department staff is reviewing the voluminous guidelines distributed by the United States Department of the Treasury. The Board will continue to review projects and direct those funds as they see fit within the guidelines. To date, the Board of Trustees has allocated \$815,000 of the ARPA funds on three capital improvement projects, including the Pool Vinyl Liner replacement project.