



# **VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK**

## **OFFICIAL REPORT - SUMMER 2016**

**Village Hall: 354-0022 [www.vnhp.org](http://www.vnhp.org) DPW: 354-0064**



### ***LIRR Task Force***

There has been little mention about the Governor's Third Track Project since the public hearings concluded in May. But, in fact, the Governor's team has been working diligently throughout the summer to collate, categorize and blend all of the comments they received during the short public comment period. State officials expressed surprise at the intelligent objections, logical concerns and cogent arguments they received from local residents to the Mega Project they proposed; as well as important details they neglected to mention in the scoping document. A revised scoping document that includes citizens' comments along with the State's response is due out shortly.

Meanwhile, the Governor's team has been preparing the project plan so work can commence some time in 2017. Soil borings were done at the three crossings to measure the depth of the water table. The water table was found to be lower than expected, making drainage less of an issue – good news for the MTA. The State is also in ongoing discussions with specific property owners whose properties are slated to be taken or substantially changed.

In the coming weeks, noise and vibration monitors will be installed along the LIRR's right of way to create a baseline. Engineers will then estimate what the impact will be to local homes and businesses of approximately 25 more trains per day (a 10% increase) running on a third track out to 2020 and 2040. The reduction in horn noise from grade crossing eliminations may be perceived as a positive consequence of the LIRR Expansion Project. This backs the case for supporting three at grade crossing eliminations if they are done in a contextually sensitive manner that maintains the suburban character of our community. It is important to note, however, that the latter positive outcome may be offset by the rumble of more train traffic through our Village forever – both passenger and freight. It is unclear whether the noise projection studies will include the intrusive sounds of the lengthy construction process which is planned to commence in 2017 and continue through 2020.

The Project's engineers have indicated that the predicted increase in noise as a result of the LIRR Expansion Project may potentially be mitigated by enlarging the proposed retaining wall through New Hyde Park to enhance sound suppression. The retaining wall is needed to support raising the tracks at Covert Avenue by five feet. The process of raising the tracks is slow and laborious; thousands of tons of stone and gravel must be transported and dumped at the site via work trains. Thereafter, they will be deposited underneath the track bed and packed down with heavy machines that will significantly contribute to noise and vibration throughout construction. Project engineers have not determined the length of the tracks (in both directions) that must be elevated to lift the Covert Avenue crossing. Construction crews will likely access the LIRR's right of way at the dead end of Sixth Avenue, possibly at Premier Boulevard, Covert Avenue, South 12<sup>th</sup> Street and New Hyde Park Road. Further, the planned hours of construction have yet to be worked out; including the number of days per week and hours per day and night. Obviously, the LIRR's main concern is maintaining the operation of the railroad during their peak hours throughout the construction period; suggesting nights and weekends as preferred time slots for construction. The LIRR Task Force will continue to liaise with the MTA to mitigate the impact.

Based on recent discussions, it appears likely that the first at-grade crossing elimination will take place at New Hyde Park Road. This main crossing will have one lane open in each direction during most of the construction period. The other two at-grade crossings and the residential streets that flow into them will absorb the brunt of the traffic. South 12th Street will likely experience a 20% increase in traffic. The traffic at the Covert Avenue crossing is expected to increase by 45% to 55% during peak hours.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), due out in September, is purported to contain a projected operational plan for the LIRR's commuter service. This will describe the number of trains that will actually stop at the New Hyde Park station. The unbelievable fact that an operational plan does not yet exist underscores the growing speculation that the Third Track is not being installed to solve a transportation imperative. In fact, the LIRR is hard pressed to explain the benefits of the project as it relates to the overall improvement of service to its customers along the mainline.

Residents are urged to communicate their thoughts on the Mega Project and its impact on New Hyde Park to our New York State elected officials.



### *Mayor's Letter to the Residents*

Dear Neighbors,

For the past 18 years, improving the infrastructure of our Village roadways has been a primary objective of the Village Board. So naturally, we are excited to see the progress of the current road improvement project that will accomplish the reconstructing of over 1.5 miles of roads throughout the Village. From North 1<sup>st</sup>, North 3<sup>rd</sup>, and North 6<sup>th</sup> Streets to the north, South 11<sup>th</sup> Street to the south, Hoffman Road to the east, and South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to the west, we are focusing on the roads that had been in the worst condition. But, we also know more work needs to be done and we will be budgeting and planning to complete the four or so miles that remain out of the 20 plus miles of roads in the Village. Ultimately, roadwork projects are never done because as we complete the repairs to the last roads some time in 2020, it will be time to start all over again from the very first road completed in 1997.

Excitement is building around our Village in anticipation of our 21st Annual Street Fair to be held on Saturday September 17th. It's amazing how the years have passed by so quickly since our first fair in 1995. This street fair remains one of the most enjoyable community days of the year and has been described as the "premier" street fair by many. This year's event will again be even more special with the recommitment of our community sponsor and neighbors from Northwell Health (formerly North Shore-LIJ Health System). On the day of the fair, they are again planning to assemble a large tent to house a Health and Wellness Pavilion on Lakeville Road at Jericho Turnpike. So come enjoy the day with Northwell Health, Village merchants, community organizations from schools and churches, member businesses from the Greater New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce, and over two hundred vendors, artisans, and crafters. Unfortunately, there is some sadness this year as we remember our dear friend and key fair organizer Dr. Anthony (Tony) Ciuffo from our partners at Craft-A-Fair who passed away in early July. Tony had been helping the Village run the street fair since its inception. We'll miss his smile and cheerfulness all along the Turnpike but will remain proud of the legacy he established.

And finally, a word about the Long Island Railroad's Third Track Project. We are expecting they will issue the Draft Environmental Impact Statement Study in late August and strongly urge all residents to carefully review the LIRR's conclusions in great detail. Unfortunately, the Lead Agency (LIRR) who has contracted engineers and controls the study is the same agency (LIRR) that reviews and approves the final document. Public Hearings will again be conducted, but if done in a similar fashion as the Scoping Hearings, will be rushed to the public with little time for in-depth analysis and comment by the public.

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Best regards,

*Bob Lofaro*

**21st Annual Village of New Hyde Park Street Fair**

**Saturday, September 17 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM**

**Rain Date: Saturday, September 24**

**Jericho Turnpike from New Hyde Park Road to Covert Avenue, and Lakeville Road**

**Sponsored by Northwell Health**

**Featuring the Northwell Health and Wellness Pavilion, on Lakeville Road**

## ***2016 Road Improvement Project***

The largest and most comprehensive road project is underway in the Village. Depending upon your address, (or when you read this article), construction on your street may be underway or may have already been completed. On July 11th, construction began on North 6th Street, and by late August, most roads included in this project will be under some form of reconstruction.

Road construction involves removing existing asphalt and then re-grading the street to level. Installing driveway aprons, sidewalks, and curb replacements may be included if needed to meet the new street grade. Laying new asphalt and painting line stripping will complete the road project.



**A center lane median is being constructed on Hillside Blvd. Plantings will be done in the Fall.**

Costs are estimated at \$2.2 million, which includes the design and construction. To finance the project, the Village Board authorized the issuance of bonds in the principal amount of \$1.5 million. Supt. Tom Gannon is closely managing the progress being made by Pratt Brothers, the general contractor and their concrete subcontractor Valente Contracting Corp. to ensure work standards, project timeframes, and budget guidelines are met. Weather always plays a big role in road construction and conditions to date have helped keep the project on track. We appreciate everyone's continued support and cooperation during the road project. Local travel and parking disruptions are temporary and we hope you feel the end results of this project will be worthwhile.

If you have any questions or need further information, please call the Department of Public Works at 354-0064 or refer to the Village website: [vnhp.org](http://vnhp.org).

## ***Building Department***

Activity in the Building Department has been at an all time high this year. Building permit applications, new businesses inquiries, and questions regarding Village code are all on an upward trend. Last year, the Village Board authorized the hiring of a part-time Building Code Enforcement Officer. This has resulted in many Village properties coming into compliance. Identifying unlicensed landscapers, work being done without benefit of a permit, and residential and commercial property maintenance violations are just a few of the issues that the Code Enforcement Officer and the Building Inspector deal with on a daily basis. Complaints received about alleged illegal apartments, use of single family homes as multi-family dwellings, and vacant "zombie" homes are being addressed and pursued vigorously and within the full extent of our legal authority. In some cases involving "zombie" homes, the Village attorney has been involved.

In mid July, Harley Davidson reactivated its Special Use Application to open and operate a dealership at 1324 Jericho Tpke, the current site of Miller Brothers Plumbing. The applicant submitted a required \$10,000 payment, which will be used by the Village to hire traffic and sound experts to render an opinion in this matter. No date has been set to resume the public hearings. Once a hearing date is determined, surrounding properties in the immediate area will be notified, by the applicant, via certified letter. The Village will advertise a legal notice of hearing in local newspapers, on the Village website, and on the e-board.

On June 9th, the Village Board passed a resolution to change local law to classify Hookah Bars and Vape Shops as adult usage, which will require the issuance of a Special Use Permit to operate in the Village and which limits possible locations.



## ***Children's Summer Recreation Program***

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Rich Pallisco is pleased with the success of this year's Program. Each year, the program grows in popularity. "There were close to 100 children participating in each of the two sessions, said Commissioner Pallisco.

This year, Michael DeMaria took the reigns as Program Director. The talented and spirited Program Counselors created a fun and engaging environment for the kids to play, to exercise, and to socialize. This year the weather cooperated and only two sessions were moved indoors.

Trustee Donna Squicciarino, Parks and Recreation Liaison, expressed her thanks to the Counselors for their hard work. Tr. Squicciarino remarked that "children need a safe place to play and socialize, especially in the summer. The counselors provide the right mix of structure without hampering creativity or expression. Organized sports, arts and crafts, and board games keep the children busy and engaged."

The Children's Summer Program is offered free to Village residents. Non-residents in the immediate area are eligible to participate based on availability, although a program fee is charged. If your child is interested in participating next year, refer to the 2017 Spring Newsletter for program and registration information.

Congratulations and thanks to Parks Commissioner Rich Pallisco, Program Director Mike DeMaria, and all the talented Program Counselors.



Some of the children who attend the morning session take a much needed break from a game of dodge ball.



The summer recreation program is a "big hit" with the children who attend the afternoon session. Daily baseball games are very popular with this group.



Parks Commissioner Richard Pallisco (l) congratulates Program Director Mike DeMaria (c) and all the Program Counselors for their outstanding efforts to make the 2016 Summer Program an overwhelming success.

## ***Parks and Recreation***

### ***Long and Lean Exercise Class***

Get ready for the return of ***Long and Lean*** adult exercise class. This one hour exercise class includes gentle stretching, Pilates exercise, and light weights. Participants are advised to bring an exercise mat, a towel, 3-pound weights, and a water bottle.

The Fall session runs from September 12 thru October 13, every Monday and Thursday. Classes will be held in the basement of Village Hall from 10:30 am to 11:30 am. The program is offered free to Village residents. Non-residents are welcome with a \$20 program fee. Registration takes place on Monday, September 12th, prior to class beginning. If you need additional information, please call the Village Clerk's Office at 354-0022 or refer to the Village website: [www.vnhp.org](http://www.vnhp.org).

## *Summer Concerts at Memorial Park*

The 2016 Summer Concerts was a lively mix of music, theatre, and musical theatre. Lisa Miranda, Village Cultural Commissioner did another outstanding job bringing great family entertainment to our community. Maspeth Federal Savings Bank sponsored the first show on June 22nd. "Captain Jack", a Billy Joel Tribute band attracted one of the largest crowds we have ever seen. In July, inclement weather brought two of the shows, which happened to be theatrical performances, into the William Gill Theatre. The Theatre provided a perfect venue for these two shows. Local performer, Sal Manzo, delighted the audience with a mix of songs from the 50's through the 80's. The Summer Concerts provide a great variety of family entertainment, under the stars, all for free. Admission is never charged. A special thank you to the DPW Parks Crew who maintain the grounds and help keep the Parks *clean and green*.



Memorial Park, the place to be this summer. Warm nights under a blanket of stars provide the perfect setting to enjoy an outdoor show. And, admission is always free to the public.



For over the past 10 years, Maspeth Federal Savings Bank has generously sponsored a summer show. This year they sponsored the band, Captain Jack. What a great show!

## *New Hyde Park Museum*

The Museum from its inception has always asked community-minded people to volunteer their time and to donate artifacts, photos, newspaper articles, etc. relative to the history of New Hyde Park. Many people have answered our call and have presented us with various articles of interest and artifacts. Also, many residents have shared their stories and memories of New Hyde Park. We thank those people for their kind generosity. You can view some of the video stories on the homepage of our website. Please visit us at two upcoming and enjoyable events:

### ♦ New Hyde Park Village Street Fair

Pay us a visit on Saturday, September 17th at our Street Fair booth located by North 11th Street. Bring any photos or clippings you have and tell us your story. Remember, we can always use some help from you. Please volunteer some time to the Museum. It is a very worthwhile effort.

### ♦ Hillside Public Library

The Hillside Public Library is hosting the New Hyde Park Museum on Sunday, October 16th, from 1 pm to 3 pm. At this time, we will be presented with the original Charter of the New Hyde Park Library. We will have available for viewing some of the books we have put together of photos and newspaper articles and we are expecting several special guests who will share their interesting stories. Light refreshments will be served.

Carol Nowakowski, President | Mildred M. Tassone, Vice President

516.515.1837 | [nhpmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:nhpmuseum@gmail.com) | [nhpmuseum.org](http://nhpmuseum.org)



**SANITATION SCHEDULE CHANGE****Labor Day****Monday, September 5**

Garbage for north side POSTPONED and  
rescheduled to Tuesday, September 6

**Tuesday, September 6**

Garbage collection for entire Village.

Newspapers for the north side.

**Columbus Day****Monday, October 10**

Garbage for north side POSTPONED and  
rescheduled to Tuesday, October 11

**Tuesday, October 11**

Garbage collection for entire Village.

Newspapers for the north side.

**Election Day****Tuesday, November 8**

Garbage for south side POSTPONED and  
rescheduled to Wednesday, November 9.

**Wednesday, November 9**

Garbage collection for entire Village.

Newspapers, yard waste, and recyclables for the  
entire Village.

- Garbage, newspapers, and recyclables cannot be put out before 7 PM on the day prior to pick up.
- The DPW provides two bulk pick up operations each week, excluding holidays, on appointment basis. Call DPW at 354-0064 to arrange for a special bulk or e-waste pick up.
- Electronic waste must be collected separately.
- Please ensure all trash items are secure before placing curbside for pick up. This will help eliminate trash such as papers, boxes, and recyclables from blowing onto your neighbor's property.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Wed. 8/24 Architectural Review Board  
7:30 PM Village Hall

**Mon. 9/5 Labor Day Holiday**  
**Village Offices Closed**  
**No Sanitation Pick Up**

Mon. 9/12 Long and Lean Adult Exercise  
10:30 am Basement Village Hall

Wed. 9/14 Zoning Board of Appeals  
7:30 PM Village Hall

**Sat. 9/17 21st Annual Village Street Fair**  
**Sponsored by Northwell Health**  
**10 am - 4:30 pm**

**On Jericho Turnpike from**  
**Covert Avenue to New Hyde**  
**Park Road, and Lakeville Road**

Tues. 9/20 Village Board Meeting  
8:00 PM Village Hall

**Sat. 9/24 Rain Date for the**  
**21st Annual Village Street Fair**  
**Sponsored by Northwell Health**  
**10 am - 4:30 pm**

**On Jericho Turnpike from**  
**Covert Avenue to New Hyde**  
**Park Road, and Lakeville Road**

Wed. 9/28 Architectural Review Board  
7:30 PM Village Hall

Tues. 10/4 Village Board Meeting  
8:00 PM Village Hall

**Mon. 10/10 Columbus Day Holiday**  
**Village Offices Closed**  
**No Sanitation Pick Up**



***PLEASE RETAIN AND POST FOR FUTURE REFERENCE***



***Zoning Board, Architectural Review Board, and Village Board Public Hearings******Zoning Board of Appeals:******June 8, 2016***

- 566 6th Avenue - The applicant is seeking approval to construct a full 2nd floor directly over the existing 1st floor with insufficient side yard setbacks. This application was granted on July 13, 2016.
- 1001 Covert Avenue - The applicant is seeking approval to close out an old open permit for a 22' x 15' detached garage. At the time the original permit was issued, the Village required a 3' setback from the rear and side property lines. The garage is 2.2' from the west and 2.6' from the south property lines. This application was granted on July 13, 2016.

***July 13, 2016***

- 1342 5th Avenue - Approval was granted for the homeowner to install a 12' x 12' pre-fab sunroom in the rear yard with insufficient rear yard setbacks. The Village Code requires a 25' rear yard setback.
- 1631 Jericho Tpke - The applicant seeks to open and operate a physical fitness training center but the site has insufficient off street parking. A decision was reserved pending the outcome of a Special Use Public Hearing to be held on August 16, 2016.

***August 10, 2016***

- 1818 Jericho Tpke - Applicant seeks to open and operate a medical office with insufficient off street parking. Residents in the area raised concerns about parking. This case remains open to give the applicant time to provide additional information.
- 547 11th Avenue - Approval was granted for the homeowner to construct a full 2nd floor directly over the existing 1st floor with insufficient side yard setbacks.
- 125 North 2nd Street - Approval was granted to construct a full 2nd floor directly over the existing first floor, maintain a front terrace, and construct a new roof over the terrace.

***Architectural Review Board:******June 22, 2016***

- 1014 Jericho Tpke - Chiarelli's Religious Goods. The applicant submitted design renderings for two new signs on the front and side of the building. The Board had issues with each of the signs presented. This application was tabled until new renderings can be presented for both signs.
- 125 North 2nd Street - Plans and materials were approved for a 2nd floor addition over the existing 1st floor, the extension of the covered front terrace to the full width of the home, and the addition of a front portico and canopy.
- 566 6th Avenue - Plans and materials were approved to build a full 2nd story directly over the existing 1st floor.

***July 27, 2016***

- 547 11th Avenue - Plans and materials were approved to build a full 2nd story directly over the existing first floor with the provision that window shutters be included on the front of the house.
- 214 Jericho Tpke. - Inn at New Hyde Park/TABLE7. Color and design renderings for two new signs were approved.

***Village Board: Special Use Hearings******July 19, 2016***

- 149 Covert Avenue - The applicant seeks to open and operate a personal training facility and perform interior alterations. There was discussion regarding the current operational status of the business and complaints by residents involving noise and parking. The Board reserved decision pending review by Nassau County Planning Commission.
- 1800 Jericho Tpke. - This applicant seeks to convert an auto body business into auto sales with 30 spaces for vehicle display and 10 spaces for visitor parking in the lot, along with facade changes and interior alterations. The Board reserved decision pending review by Nassau County Planning Commission.

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK  
OFFICIAL REPORT  
SUMMER 2016  
1420 JERICHO TPKE.  
NEW HYDE PARK, NY 11040**

**Presort Standard  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
HICKSVILLE, NY  
Permit No. 487**

**Village of New Hyde Park**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.VNHP.ORG](http://WWW.VNHP.ORG)**

**Mayor: Robert A. Lofaro**

**Deputy Mayor: Lawrence Montreuil**

**Trustees: Richard Coppola**

**Donald Barbieri**

**Donna Squicciarino**

**Village Clerk's Office: 354-0022  
(M-F) 8:45AM– 4:15PM**

**Dept of Public Works: 354-0064  
(M-F) 9:00AM– 3:00PM**

**Village Court: 354-6330**

**Building Department: 354-0022**

**Fire Department & Ambulance: 742-3300**

***Curb Side Trees Available for Planting***

The DPW will resume planting curbside trees in the fall. Residents are asked to contact Public Works at 516 354-0064 to request a tree. First, an inspection will be done to establish that the site can support a new tree. Once the tree is planted, instructions will be provided on how to care for your new tree. Trees play a vital role in keeping our environment healthy. Trees clean the air, filter out harmful UVA/UVB sun rays, minimize sound pollution, and provide shelter and food for birds and other wildlife. Help us enhance our suburban landscape and help the Village take another step to obtain the designation.....

***Tree City USA***

