



VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK

OFFICIAL REPORT - WINTER 2017

Village Hall: 354-0022 www.vnhp.org DPW: 354-0064



Village Board and LIRR Task Force Hosts a Public Information Session at the New Hyde Park Road School on the Proposed LIRR Mainline Expansion Project

On Thursday evening, January 12th, the Village Board and LIRR Task Force provided an overview of the LIRR's proposed plans to add a third track from Floral Park to Hicksville and to eliminate the three at-grade crossings in New Hyde Park. This meeting was held to share information and help residents understand the information provided by the LIRR in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and the impact that this massive project will have on residents, merchants, and emergency services. The meeting was designed to help residents prepare and provide meaningful input at the LIRR public hearings held in late January or in written form before the public comment period ends on February 15, 2017.



The auditorium was filled with over 200 concerned residents, merchants, and local elected officials who listened as Task Force members shared detailed information on this proposed massive capital works project. Many of those in attendance raised excellent concerns and questions.

In his remarks, Mayor Robert A. Lofaro cautioned that the LIRR Expansion Project, as proposed by the LIRR, will adversely impact our community more so than any other capital works project in the history of this Village. While the Village Board supports the elimination of the at-grade crossings, as long as it is done in a way that does not adversely affect the community character, the Board sees no positives for New Hyde Park from a third track. Conversely, the Village Board remains concerned about significant impacts during and after construction including road closures, traffic pattern changes, noise and air pollution, property acquisition, and loss of resident, business, and commuter parking spaces. The Board is also concerned with a decrease to the property tax roll from the loss of businesses, and increased capacity for freight and cargo transport including hazardous materials. These conditions will forever change our quality of life and the suburban character of our community.

The LIRR held public hearings on January 17th, 18th and 19th. Public input provided at these hearings will have to be addressed by the LIRR in its Final Environmental Impact Statement, which is expected to be completed and released in the Spring. Construction at the New Hyde Park Road grade crossing is expected to begin in November of this year, followed by Covert Avenue and then South 12th Street. Track work will continue throughout the planned two-year period in New Hyde Park. Residents have until February 15, 2017 to submit written comments to the LIRR about the proposed plans contained in the DEIS. Please go to: www.amodernli.com to submit written comments. Residents and merchants are urged to *stay informed and stay involved*.



Mayor's Letter to the Residents

Dear Neighbors,
 "Speak now, or forever hold your peace." This might be something you'll hear at a wedding, but it's also something I've been saying about the LIRR's Third Track Project for the past year. The Public Comment Period regarding their Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) ends on Wednesday February 15th and after that, the LIRR is not required to address any of your concerns. So if you are worried about the impact this project will have on your property value and your taxes, or how construction will affect your home or your business, or will this project enable additional freight to be transported through New Hyde Park, it's time that you stand up for yourself and your neighbors and demand that mitigation to these issues be part of any final plan.

And for the people who are convinced that this is already a "done deal", your lack of comments will enable the LIRR to do whatever they please, and because you didn't tell them that contaminated dust from the construction site may affect your health now or in the future, or that aspects of the project may not be addressed in the way you believe that it should be, the LIRR is going to move forward and will not need to provide any solutions.

Without question, this project will have the most radical impact to our Village than any project we've seen here in decades. So access the website at www.amodernli.com, read your way through the extensive marketing spin they have layered above the hyperlinks, read the DEIS document and develop your comments for input to the Public Record. The DEIS document can also be found at the Hillside Public Library or at Village Hall during regular business hours. So, "Speak now, or forever hold your peace."

In other news, the Village has again received the impressively high AA+ Rating from Standard and Poor's Financial Services which reflects the excellent financial condition of the Village. This has enabled us to borrow at extremely competitive rates to fund our large capital projects.

Best regards,

Bob Lofaro

Village Election

Village Elections will be held on Tuesday, March 21st. Polling takes place from 12 noon through 9 pm at the Marcus Christ Community Center, located next to Village Hall. There are four positions on the ballot this year: Mayor, Trustee (2 positions) and Village Justice. Village residents are urged to participate and cast your votes. If you have any questions or need further information, please call Village Clerk Cathryn Hillmann at (516) 354-0022.

Beautification Committee Community Clean Up Day

On April 22nd, over one billion people world wide are expected to participate in Earth Day projects and initiatives, making this the largest civil observance in the world. The Village will take part in this global initiative by holding Community Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 22nd from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. We will clean the area around the LIRR platforms and possibly plant a tree. We hope you can be part of this community effort. Volunteers should meet at the South 12th Street Parking Lot. Supplies, equipment, and even light refreshments will be provided.

Cultural Commission Tree Lighting Ceremony



Lisa Miranda, Cultural Commissioner, center front, Deputy Mayor Lawrence Montreuil, Mayor Robert Lofaro, and Tr. Donna Squicciarino with some of the guests and supporters at the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 3rd.

Zoning Board, Architectural Review Board, and Village Board Public Hearings

Zoning Board of Appeals

November 9, 2016

- 102 South 6th Street - Approval was granted to construct a 2nd floor addition in line with the north side of the existing 1st floor, with insufficient side yard setbacks.

December 14, 2016 - No applications submitted. No meeting held.

January 11, 2017 - No applications submitted. No meeting held.

February 8, 2017 - No applications submitted. No meeting held.

Architectural Review Board

November 22, 2016

- 1333 2nd Avenue - A new business owner, Togas House of Textiles, presented color samples for the exterior façade of this warehouse. The applicant was asked to submit additional photographs of the building before a decision could be rendered.
- 1300 Jericho Tpke. - Approval was granted on the design and the materials for a new façade and entrance way for Sherwin -Williams Paints.

December 28, 2016 - No applications submitted. No meeting held.

January 4, 2017

- 552 Lakeville Road - Plans were presented to build a new 2-story, one family residence. Additional information was requested and the case was tabled until the February 4th hearing.
- 1333 2nd Avenue - The business owner presented additional photographs of the building from all street frontages. Exterior paint colors; black, grey, and white were approved.

Village Board Special Use Hearing

January 3, 2017

- 1500 Jericho Tpke. - The business owner submitted plans to perform interior and exterior alterations to open a mini-mart convenience store. A decision was reserved pending the outcome of review by the Nassau County Planning Commission.

Village Receives AA+ Rating From Standard & Poor's

Standard & Poor's Financial Services recently confirmed the Village's General Obligation Rating of AA+ and affirmed our stable outlook. An AA+ rating is defined by Standard & Poor's as having a very strong capacity to meet financial commitments. The Credit Profile and Summary on New Hyde Park prepared by Standard & Poor's in December 2016 recognized our strong budgetary performance, supported by very strong liquidity and very strong flexibility. Additionally, Standard & Poor's indicated that it does not expect to raise or lower this rating within the next two-year outlook period. The Village Board and Treasury staff work hard to ensure that the Village finances are well managed and they are dedicated to providing residents with a high level of confidence that the administrators of their taxes are managing their funds effectively.

Veterans Affairs

New Hyde Park Honors Our Veterans

On Friday, November 11th, members of the Village Board, local elected officials, Gold Star Family, members of Boy Scout Troop 298, and residents came to Village Hall to honor and to celebrate New Hyde Park Veterans. Members of the American Legion Ernie Pyle Post and of the Veterans of Foreign War G & E Linder Post stood proud as New Hyde Park Veterans were honored for their service.



Long time Village resident John Sardis, who served in the Vietnam War, was Grand Marshal this year.

Park and Recreation

Long and Lean - Adult Exercise

We are pleased to announce the return of Long and Lean classes in early Spring. This one hour exercise class includes gentle stretching, Pilates exercise, and light weights. Participants should bring an exercise mat, a towel, 3-pound weights, and a water bottle. The Spring semester begins on March 6 and runs through April 6. Classes will be held on Monday and Thursday morning, from 10:30 - 11:30 am, in the lower level of Village Hall. Registration will take place on March 6th before class begins, so please come early.

These classes are free for Village residents. A \$20 program fee will be charged to non-residents. These exercise classes have become very popular and has developed a strong following. We hope you are able to take part in *the fun and the fitness*.

Snow Removal

Now that winter is upon us, we want to remind residents and business owners of the Village Code requiring that sidewalks be cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours of the snow fall ending. The Department of Public Works plows streets, curb to curb, and they need everyone's help and cooperation to conduct a safe and efficient operation. Here's how you can help:

- **Do not park on the street during snow events**
- **Minimize your travel during snow events**
- **Do not throw snow from your walkway or driveway onto the road**
- **Remove snow from your vehicle while it is still parked in your driveway and certainly before you travel**

If you have any questions, please call the Department of Public Works at (516) 354-0064.



Car Wash Fundraisers

Beginning on March 1st and continuing through April 3rd, the Village Clerk's Office will accept car wash fundraiser applications. A current insurance liability certificate must be included with the submission, along with three date selections. All requests are subject to Village Board approval.

Car wash fundraisers are held in the Lakeville Road Municipal Parking Lot on Saturdays from May 6th through September 2nd. An application form can be obtained on the Village website www.vnhp.org or at the Village Clerk's Office. Please call the Village Clerk's Office if you need further information.

Village Parks

Memorial Park and Nuzzi Field will officially open on Saturday, April 1st and full services will be restored including Park Attendants and public restrooms. Until then, residents are welcome to visit the Parks and enjoy the seasonal beauty that winter can often bring. However, since public facilities are closed and park attendants are not on duty through March, please plan accordingly.

SANITATION SCHEDULE CHANGES

President’s Day

Monday, February 20

Garbage for north side POSTPONED and rescheduled to Tuesday, February 21

Tuesday, February 21

Garbage collection for entire Village
Newspapers for north side

- ⇒ **Garbage, newspapers, and recyclables can not be put out before 7 PM on the day prior to pick up.**
- ⇒ **DPW provides 2 bulk pick-up operations per week, excluding holidays, and only on an appointment basis. Call the DPW at 354-0064 to schedule a special bulk or e-waste pick up.**
- ⇒ **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.**
- ⇒ **Yard waste pick up begins Wednesday, April 5th.**



The Tree Planting Program Resumes in the Spring

Curb side tree plantings will resume in the Spring. If you want to be put on the list for a new tree, please call the Department of Public Works at 354-0064. A site inspection will be conducted prior to any planting to ensure that the ground is able to support and sustain a new tree. Instructions on the care of your new tree will be provided at time of planting. And additional information can be found on the Arbor Day Foundation website at www.arborday.org. Trees are essential to maintain our environment and the suburban landscape of our community. We hope you take advantage of the tree planting program.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Wed. 2/15** Last day to submit written comments on the LIRR Draft Environmental Impact Statement
- Mon. 2/20** President’s Day Holiday
Village Offices Closed
No Sanitation Pick Up
- Tues. 2/21** Tax Grievance Day
8:45 am - 4:15 pm
6 pm - 9 pm (by appointment only)
- Tues. 2/21** Village Board Meeting
8:00 pm Village Hall
- Wed. 3/1** Architectural Review Board
7:30 pm Village Hall / 2nd Floor
- Mon. 3/6** Long & Lean Exercise Class Begins
- Tues. 3/7** Village Board Meeting
8:00 pm Village Hall
- Wed. 3/8** Zoning Board of Appeals
7:30 pm Village Hall
- Tues. 3/21** Village Election Day
12 noon - 9:00 pm
Marcus Christ Community Center
- Thur. 3/23** Village Board Meeting
8:00 pm Village Hall
- Tues. 3/28** St. Baldrick’s Fundraiser / 4:00 -7:00 pm
Marcus Christ Community Center
- Mon. 4/3** Installation of Officers
7:30 pm Village Hall / 2nd Floor
- Mon. 4/3** Annual Organization Meeting
8:00 pm Village Hall / 2nd Floor
- Tues. 4/4** 2017/2018 Budget Hearing
7:30 pm Village Hall
- Tues. 4/4** Village Board Meeting
8:00 pm Village Hall
- Wed. 4/5** Architectural Review Board
7:30 pm Village Hall / 2nd Floor
- Thur. 4/6** Long & Lean Exercise Class Ends
- Sat. 4/8** NHP Little League Parade
11 am / Jericho Tpke to Nuzzi Field
- Fri. 4/14** Village Offices Close at Noon
- Sat. 4/22** Community Clean Up Day
10 am - 2 pm / S. 12 Street Parking Lot

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1420 JERICHO TPKE.
NEW HYDE PARK, NY 11040

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Village of New Hyde Park

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT 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



Village Election



Tuesday, March 21, 2017
Polling Hours 12 Noon - 9 PM
Marcus Christ Community Center
1420 Jericho Turnpike, Next to Village Hall

Tax Grievance Day

Tax Grievance Day is Tuesday, February 21, 2017. This represents the last day you can submit a tax grievance for the 2017/2018 fiscal tax period. The Tax Assessor is available every Wednesday from 9 am to 12 Noon. Appointments are not required, although it is always advisable to call ahead. The Assessor's Office is located in the Village Clerk's Office, 1st floor, Village Hall.

On Tax Grievance Day, the Assessor will have an extended work schedule. He will be available during the day (no appointment necessary) and also available for evening appointments from 6 pm - 9 pm. Please call ahead to schedule an evening appointment.