

Village of New Hyde Park
Harley Davidson Application

The Village Board has recently received a Draft Scoping Document in support of the Environmental Impact Review for application to establish a Harley Davidson sales and service dealership at 1324 Jericho Turnpike in New Hyde Park. The Village Board will hold a **public hearing at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at Village Hall** to hear public comment on the proposed scope of the environmental impact review. The draft scoping document is available for review on the village web site www.vnhp.org. Alternatively, a copy of the document may be obtained at Village Hall.

Background

An application was submitted to the Village Board in August of 2015 to build a Harley Davidson dealership and service center at 1324 Jericho Turnpike, the site currently used by Miller Brothers Plumbing Company. The applicant, Life Long Cycles currently operates a Harley Davidson dealership at 215 Northern Boulevard in Great Neck doing business as Miracle Mile Harley Davidson. The applicant proposes to move the dealership from Great Neck to New Hyde Park by purchasing the land at 1324 Jericho Turnpike, demolishing the existing buildings and constructing a two story, 16,012 square foot building on the site.

Operating a motorcycle dealership at this site in the village commercial zone is a special permitted use. The proposed business requires a special use permit. The applicant applied for the permit and the village held a special use hearing on October 6, 2015.

Upon hearing testimony from the applicant, and concerns from the public, the Village Board determined that the application presents several environmental impacts and concerns that must be closely reviewed. The Village Board engaged an environmental planning and consulting firm, Nelson, Pope and Voorhis, LLC (NP&V) to review the application and the accompanying Environmental Assessment. NP&V recommended a more comprehensive environmental review was appropriate. The Village Board accepted this recommendation. On June 13, 2017 the Village Board made a positive declaration under New York's State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). This set in motion a prescribed process for assessing the environmental impacts of a project under SEQRA.

SEQRA Process

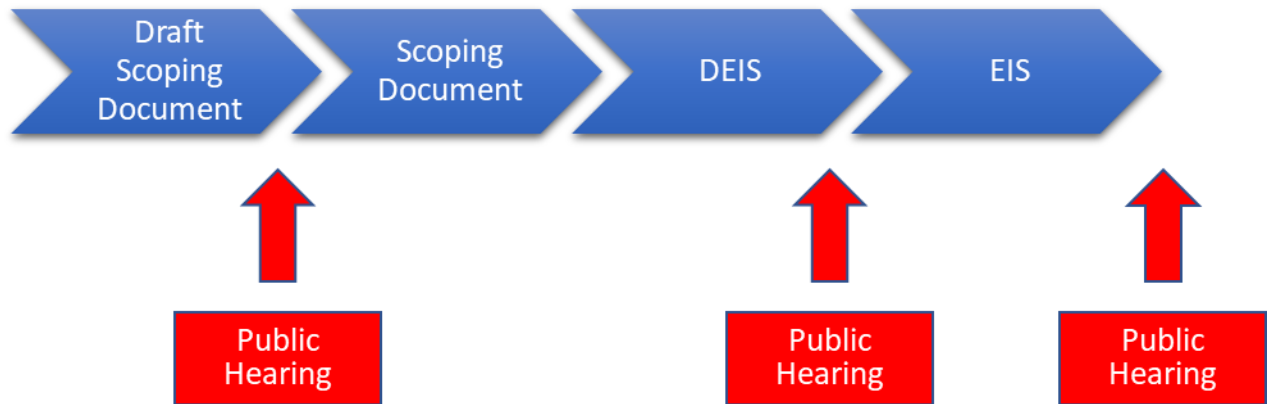
In accordance with the requirements of an application with a positive declaration, the Village Board declared itself the lead agency in the environmental review process. The applicant was then required to provide a draft scoping document which outlines those conditions which might result in potentially adverse impacts from the proposed project.

The draft scoping document was received by the Village Board on November 14, 2017. Under SEQRA, the Village Board has 60 days to provide comments on the draft scoping document. A public hearing is generally held to provide the public with the ability to comment on the draft document. Concerns raised at the public hearing would be considered in the final scoping document and in the following environmental impact statement.

The timing of the submittal and the required feedback from the Village in 60 days would mean a public hearing would have to be scheduled in December, right before the holidays. The Village Board was concerned that holding a public hearing at this time of year would diminish the intended purpose of such a hearing; that is to get valuable input from the public who are most affected. The applicant has agreed to extending the comment period until February 16, 2018; enable the public hearing to be scheduled for January 16, 2018.

Upon receiving comment on the Draft Scoping Document, the applicant will provide a Final Scoping Document to the Village Board. This document will also be made available for review by the public. Once the scope of the project and the concerns are identified, the applicant will submit a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS must address the concerns that are included within the scope of the project and provide explanations as to how those concerns will be addressed or mitigated. The DEIS will be reviewed by the Village Board and another public hearing will be held.

The comments from the DEIS will then be used to produce a final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Village Board will hold another public hearing to review the EIS and make a determination on the application.



Communication and Outreach

The Board of Trustees of the Village of New Hyde Park will continue to keep all interested stakeholders in this project up to date on the developments. We will do so by providing updates at Village Board of Trustee meetings, by posting updates on the village web site, through press releases and advertisements of meetings on the village electronic message board.

The Board of Trustees is committed to promoting the suburban quality of life that is the hallmark of our village, which includes a vibrant commercial district that offers businesses that are harmonious with the character of our community.