

The South Nyack News

A Message from the Mayor...

Dear Neighbors,

Recently the Tappan Zee Bridge Corridor Team has expressed interest in a special project that we in South Nyack have developed for our area of the TZ Bridge/I287 corridor. It involves creating an elevated park over the Thruway and in an important way presents a unique opportunity to not only mitigate the highway's impact but also to mitigate pre-existing environmental problems.

We were asked to "think creatively" and we did just that, with a lot of spirited discussions. Our proposal of covering the highway as it passes through South Nyack and building an elevated public park on top would provide many benefits:

- It would provide a generous amount of needed open space in a currently developed area.
- An elevated esplanade would be a unique attraction for the region, commanding spectacular views of the Hudson River.

- It is an ideal spot for a "hub" recreational destination. Located midway between Tallman Mountain State Park to the south and Rockland Lake and Nyack Beach State Parks to the north, it could tie into the Esposito hiking trail and the Long Path, both of which pass through South Nyack.
- Dozens of bicyclists pass through South Nyack every weekend. The proposed new bridge includes bicycle and pedestrian lanes, but there has been no consideration of how these elements will interface to the landing in South Nyack. A park at the western landing would tie the existing north-south bicycle route with the new bridge pathways.
- Enclosing the highway would greatly reduce noise and vibration. Exhaust fumes from the traffic could be captured and scrubbed of contaminants.

- Elevated parks are proven feasible, with examples such as the High Line Park in Manhattan and Paris' Promenade Plantee.

We recognize that South Nyack, as the Western "host" of the bridge, is a gateway to our neighboring municipalities. What we do in South Nyack in concert with the Corridor Project team will affect our neighbors, particularly the Villages of Nyack, Upper Nyack, Grandview and Piermont. We would like to develop a vision that builds benefits upon the project plans and extends them outward to the surrounding river communities. The Village of South Nyack was severely impacted by the first bridge. We now have a unique opportunity to take actions that will build a lasting foundation for our future.

I will keep you informed as more information becomes available. Until then, I welcome your comments

Tish



South Nyack Adopts Orangetown Assessment Roll

In August, the South Nyack Board of Trustees enacted a local law that terminated the Village's status as an assessing unit and adopted the assessment of the Town of Orangetown. This action came after due deliberation and was taken for a number of reasons, including:

Thank you Kelsey Graham for your 22 years as Village Assessor. With the decision to adopt the Orangetown Assessment roll, South Nyack will no longer have its own assessor, a position Kelsey has ably held since 1987. He is a licensed real estate appraiser, long-time village resident and current member of the South Nyack Zoning Board of Appeals. The Village Board thanks him for skills, talents and dedicated service to the village.

- the Village's assessing function has become a duplication of that conducted by the Town of Orangetown;
- as far as is known, assessing villages in New York are the only instances in the country where individual properties are assessed twice;
- with the new law, property owners who may want to challenge their assessment will now need only to appear before one Board of Assessment Review the Town of Orangetown; and
- the opportunity to reduce costs in the village including all expenses associated with preparing, maintaining and defending a separate roll.

The administration of Village taxes will not change. Village tax bills will still be sent from the Village Hall office for payment in June and the Village will continue to collect taxes and enforce the collection of any that are delinquent.

With the new law, the Village will no longer have its own assessor.

Should there be questions regarding the assessment of your property, please call the Assessor's office at the Town of Orangetown, 359-5100, ext. #2265.

**The Village of
South Nyack**

Mayor

Patricia M. (Tish) DuBow

Trustees

Alain Leinbach
Dana L. McKee
Donald J. McMahon
Thomas E. Neff

**282 South Broadway
South Nyack, NY 10960**

Village Hall.....358-0287
Fax.....358-0630

Police..... 358-0206
Fax.....358-2714

Building Dep't..... 358-0244
Fax.....358-0630

Dep't Public Works... 358-0227
Fax.....358-5563

Justice Court.....358-5078
Fax.....358-2714

The Village Hall is open
Mon-Fri -9am to 5pm

Village of South Nyack Comprehensive Plan

The Village recently started a process to draft a new Comprehensive Plan. At the August 11th Board of Trustee meeting the following residents were appointed to serve on the South Nyack Comprehensive Planning Board: Chairperson Jerry Ilowite, members Bruce Forrest, Richard Kolhausen, Thomas Lyons, and Lee Prisament. Regular meetings are being held as they begin a process to draft a new Village Comprehensive Plan.

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan (also known as a "Master Plan") encompasses the Village's "vision" for its future. It provides the basis for many of the policies, regulations, and budget decisions that the Village will make in the future. Comprehensive plans identify where and how growth needs will be met and provides the framework and policy direction for land use decisions.

While the Comprehensive Plan deals primarily with land use it can also address issues such as transportation, housing, economic development, parks and recreation, utilities, environmental conservation, etc.

How is a Comprehensive Plan different from the Zoning Code?

The Village's Zoning Code is a set of laws that specifically regulate how land in the Village may be developed and used. The Comprehensive Plan articulates the principles on which the zoning laws are based. If the Comprehensive Plan identifies certain goals, then the Village Trustees will pass zoning and other laws that further the achievement of those goals, either by restricting certain activities or encouraging and perhaps incentivizing other activities.

Why do we need a new Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan is a "living" document that needs to grow along with our community. It should be updated periodically to remain current and reflective of the desires of the community. Our last plan dates from 1969. We are well overdue for a revision.

New York State law encourages municipalities to have a Comprehensive Plan which helps

continued on pg. 3

VILLAGE TREE COMMITTEE

The previously announced and much anticipated survey of South Nyack's public trees was completed over a three-day period in late July by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County, as part of its Community Forestry Outreach program. Cornell-trained arborists counted, typed and assessed all public trees with the objective of creating a database from which a public forestry management plan can be developed. The Board of Trustees approved the expenditure of funds for the survey and chartered a new South Nyack Tree Committee. Committee members, Anna Hammond, Elliot Berkowitz and Jeffrey Hall meet the first Sunday of each month at 9:30 am at the Village Hall (NOTE: no meeting Jan. 3). They are currently drafting a planning statement for Village tree and landscape maintenance and development that will be incorporated into the larger Village Comprehensive Plan, also in the drafting stage. The Cornell Cooperative Extension report of the tree survey is expected in December and will be the foundation of the landscape plan. For more information, email Trees@SouthNyack.info, or call the Village Clerk, Sally Seiler, at the Village Hall, 358-0287.

**South Nyack
Monthly Meeting
Schedule**

*Held at the Village Hall
unless noted otherwise*

Board of Trustees

2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 8 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals

1st Tuesday at 7:30 pm

Planning Board

3rd Wednesday at 7:30 pm

South Nyack-Grand View

Joint Police Board

*Held at either the South Nyack
or Grand View Village Hall*

*Monthly meetings at 7:30 pm
See the Monthly Calendar for Dates*

Justice Court

*Held at the Firehouse
90 Depot Place*

*Twice monthly at 6:00 pm
See the Monthly Calendar for Dates*

Visit the South Nyack
Website at:

www.SouthNyack.info

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Please support the Orangetown Fire Co. No.1
with their annual Christmas Tree sale
starting November 30
Mon-Fri, 3-9 pm, Sat-Sun, 9-9

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Please join the Ladies Auxiliary
on Sunday, December 6, from 8 am -12 noon
for a Pancake Breakfast at

**Orangetown Fire Co. No. 1
90 Depot Place, South Nyack**



CENSUS 2010

On April 1, 2010 the 23rd National Census will be taken. A questionnaire with 10 questions will be sent to about 130,000,000 households. All answers to the questionnaire are confidential.

The United States Constitution requires by law that a count of the population must be conducted every 10 years on the year that ends in "0". The first census or count of the population was conducted in 1790 when George Washington was president. There have been 22 censuses conducted between 1790 and 2000. The results of the 2010 Census will be sent to the president on December 31, 2010. The population counts determine how many seats or representatives each state will have in the House of Representatives. It is important that everyone receiving this questionnaire participate in the survey and return their forms. For more information please go to www.census.gov/2010census.

Village Election, 3.16.10

Although the November elections are behind us, an election of Village officials is just ahead. On March 16, 2010, registered voters in South Nyack will cast their votes for Village Justice and 2 Trustees.

Village government is as local as it gets. Come and be a part of it. The Board of Trustees (the legislative body of a village) meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 8pm. The meeting times of other boards are listed on page 2 and are on the monthly calendar at our website: www.SouthNyack.info. All meetings are open to the public. You are welcome and encouraged to attend.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW VILLAGE TRUCK?

A multi-purpose swap loader has replaced the village's 1982 dump truck and a 16 year old leaf vacuum machine. The versatile new unit has the ability to change functions using the one truck chassis. Currently, the vehicle can operate a leaf vacuum or dumpsters.

The truck has dual controls and can be driven from either side of the cab. During leaf collection the driver sits on the right side to more easily see the curb. This operation requires only one person, thus freeing other DPW workers for different duties.

Dog Walkers, please note...

Doggie bags in dispensers around the village are expensive and intended to *supplement* the use of your own bags. Please continue to clean up after your dogs but use these bags from the dispensers sparingly, so that the village can continue to provide this service.

Thank you!



Illustration by Martha Gradisher

Village of South Nyack Comprehensive Plan *(continued from pg. 2)*

Planning and Zoning Boards interpret land use laws when making judgments on development applications presented to the Village.

What are some of the issues that might be addressed in the Comprehensive Plan?

A lot has been going on around us in recent years. A new Comprehensive Plan can help us determine how we want to deal with these issues and coordinate with our neighbors. Some of the important issues that will affect South Nyack include:

- A new Tappan Zee Bridge will have a tremendous impact on South Nyack. How can we plan to incorporate our needs with the new bridge plan? For example, the new bridge is proposed to have pedestrian and bike paths. These will start at our end of the bridge. How would we like the paths to interface into our community?
- The Village of Nyack (which has recently adopted its own Comprehensive Plan) is considering several projects, such as the redevelopment of both the Riverspace property, and the former Pavion factory, and improvements to Memorial Park. How do these projects affect South Nyack? What plans should we have to anticipate and coordinate with our neighbor's projects?
- How does the recent downturn in the housing market affect South Nyack? In recent years the trend has been development of large luxury housing. This may change significantly as the economy changes. What do we want to see in the future? Should we encourage the development of more affordable housing?

How can I help?

Public participation is critical to the creation of a successful Comprehensive Plan. To truly encompass the collective vision of our Village, it needs the benefit of our ideas, opinions and vision. There will be several public meetings to gather ideas and views from residents. The Comprehensive Planning Board will also be seeking volunteers to assist them. We encourage you to become engaged in the process. If you are interested in participating, please contact Village Hall at 358-0287.

How can I get more information?

Village officials would be pleased to answer any of your questions. Please contact Village Hall at 358-0287.

South Nyack Recycle Schedule

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	27	28	30	31		

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						



Reminders from the Department of Public Works

Fall curbside leaf collection will continue until December 18th.

Winter Snow Removal:

- Homeowners are required to have all sidewalks abutting their property cleared within 24 hours of the end of the snowfall.
- So that roadways may be plowed, all vehicles, by law, must be off the street within 2 hours after a snowstorm has started. (If snow is predicted, the police will not grant permission for over-night street parking.)
- Snow is not to be plowed, shoveled or blown into the street.
- If possible, wait to clear snow until after the storm has ended. It is the policy of the Village DPW to plow curb to curb. This clean-up takes a few hours after the snow has stopped.
- When clearing your driveway, stack the snow to the right of the direction of traffic flow so that the mound does not get pushed back into the driveway by the Village plow.
- Parking cars over the public sidewalk is illegal and dangerous for the pedestrians who have to walk the street to pass. Cars parked over the sidewalk are in jeopardy of being towed at the owner's expense.



Got Junk? Want to empty your basement? ...your garage?

A village dumpster is available for your use. For a fee of \$225, one of the village's dumpsters will be delivered to your home for you to fill with general debris. The \$225 charge pays for the delivery, use, pick-up and disposal of up to 2 tons.

The fee for segregated items of one type, such as brush, asphalt, bricks is even less. Contact the village Hall office for details.

This is a service for village property owners only. Compare the price to a commercial rental of a dumpster. You'll see a bargain.

**WISHING YOU A
VERY MERRY HOLIDAY SEASON
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



The South Nyack News

Village of South Nyack
282 South Broadway
South Nyack, New York 10960

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
MONSEY NY
PERMIT NO. 6061