



# FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

GEORGE J. GRAF, Mayor

March, 2008

## A Message From Village Mayor GEORGE J. GRAF

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of our great village for the privilege of serving you during the last four years. I would also like to thank all the Trustees that I have worked with who have been so instrumental in moving the Village of Farmingdale forward to a brighter future. Special thanks go out to the members of the various boards and forward with various redevelopment projects and infrastructure upgrades, the future is looking brighter. We are moving forward with additional road resurfacing. We are continuing with the upgrade of all the water accounts with new state-of-the-art radio read water meters. Myself and the Trustees are moving forward with the next phases of the Visioning Process, committees; Zoning, Planning, Beautification, Main Street Revitalization and the Board of Fire Commissioners who have given of themselves so selflessly to help make the Village of Farmingdale a better place to live and raise our families. Much has been accomplished through the hard work and dedication of so many people. The dedication of the village employees, who are responsible for the day to day operation of the various village departments such as the Village Clerks Office, the Department of Public Works, the Water



Department, the Village Justice Court, the Building Department and Code Enforcement, and the Fire Department Dispatchers, is second to none. Everyone has pitched in to help move the Village of Farmingdale forward through the various infrastructure upgrade projects that have been undertaken.

As the Village of Farmingdale continues to move which will encompass "Main Street Revitalization" and "Transit Oriented Development". These are exciting times for the Village of Farmingdale and its residents.

I would like to give special thanks to the dedicated men and women who proudly and bravely serve our community as both firefighters and emergency responders. Thanks to them the Village of Farmingdale has one of the lowest response times in Nassau County. These local heroes reflect the true meaning of dedication to the community. They risk their lives to protect the lives and property of their fellow residents and not enough can be said to praise them for the job that they do.

*In keeping with my administrations past practice, the following is an update of what has been accomplished during the last year.*

## PROJECT UPDATES AND OTHER GOINGS-ON

### Master (Visioning) Plan Update / New Local Laws

- **Initiated new Master (Visioning) Plan** – Includes residents recommendations gathered during public meetings held in February 2006. **Building moratorium** extended to June '08
- **Created "Main Street Revitalization" Committee**, which will hold public meetings, meet with other villages who have gone through the process, and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees as to how to best move forward with restoring vitality to our Main Street Shopping District.
- **Initial meetings with the MTA** to discuss "Transit Oriented Development" of our train station area.
- **New local laws passed:**
  - **Illegal Occupancy** – Increased fines to \$3,500, aggressively prosecuting illegal housing.
  - **Parkland fund** – Developers now pay a fee per new building lot to be used for park and village green maintenance and improvements currently paid for by our taxes.
  - **Approved law enabling affordable next generation owner occupied townhouses.**

# Administrative / Department

## Finances

- **Moody's Investors Services upgrades Village's credit rating to historic high** after review of roadway bond to fund 2007 road resurfacing project, citing vastly improved position (i.e. increased equity reserve, eliminated water revenue transfer & improved cost controls).
- Increases in fiscal 2006-07 & 07-08 budgets were below Consumer Price Index (CPI)
- New Insurance agency and accounting firm hire at substantial savings to taxpayers.

## Dept of Public Works (DPW) / Water Meter Automation

- **Wireless meter replacement** on schedule. Eliminates estimated billing & labor-intensive manual reading tasks.
- **Semi-annual billing** – Starts in November 2008.
- **Extensive rehabilitation & clean-up** of Ridge Road & Eastern Pkwy buildings & grounds continues.
- **Purchased new street sweeper vehicle.**



## Fire Department



Plascal fire, Eastern Parkway

- **Purchased new state-of-the-art rescue ambulance**, kept old ambulance to further facilitate emergency response.
- New Red Alert computer system implemented to help improve response time, which is among lowest in Nassau County thanks to **hard work and dedication of our volunteers.**
- The Board is continuing to develop and improve an equipment replacement plan.

## Village Hall Renovations and Technology Initiatives

- On-going technology upgrade to streamline and improve productivity and communication.
- GIS Utility Mapping System paid for through grant.

## Quality of Life

- For calendar year 2007 approximately 50 illegal dwelling units eliminated (Since April 2004, more than 150 illegal dwellings eliminated).
- Continuing on-going enforcement of No Stopping Laws on Conklin Street.
- In an effort to better protect our children – coordinated with school district and concerned citizens to create new crosswalks, drop off areas and fencing to better control flow of traffic and children safety.
- New Nassau County crossing guard at corner of Grant Ave and Van Cott Ave (requested by Legislature Dave Mejias).
- New trailer mounted radar unit purchased through traffic calming grant to better control vehicle speeds on our village roadways.



## Parkland Beautification and Acquisition

### Village Green Renovation

- Completed construction, under the direction of Trustee Starkie, for the walkway brickwork, estate fencing and landscaping.
- New fountain purchased with donations from Farmingdale Women's Club and Fire Department.

### Acquisition of new "Northside Pocket Park"

- Secured with the assistance of Nassau County Legislator Dave Mejias the purchase of County property for \$1,000 for the purpose of preserving the land as a pocket park.
- Secured \$40,000 grant from Legislator Mejias for materials and equipment.
- Fall 2007 - Brickwork and waterfall wall completed.



Newly refurbished Village Green Fountain

### Gerngras (Staples/Hudson Street)

- Secured \$35,000 in grants from Nassau County Legislator Dave Mejias for new playground equipment and replacement of fencing.
- Refurbished old playground equipment through volunteer assistance from two Eagle Scout projects.

## Redevelopment / Renovation

### Proposed Main Street Revitalization Projects

- **Potential models for future redevelopment** include converting a single story six storefront property into mixed use (residential above retail) and a similar proposal at the vacant lot north of the railroad tracks.

### 130 and 150 Secatogue Avenue apartment complexes (private projects)

- December 2007 – 130 Secatogue Ave begins renovations to be occupied Summer 2008
- April 1, 2008 – Fairfield Courtyard at Farmingdale Village scheduled to open.



### Farmingdale Plaza Shopping Center (private project)

- In 2007 – Total renovation of largest shopping center in the Village completed.

### Roadway Construction (Phase IV) (public project)

- Phase IV of roadway project completed with resurfacing of an additional 12% of village roadways
- Traffic calming technology funded by an \$180,000 grant from State Senator Kemp Hannon.
- Resurfacing of Quaker and Puritan Lanes scheduled for spring 2008 funded by an additional \$300,000 grant from Senator Hannon and savings from existing road bond.

*When the Pedestrian Crossing Isn't Clearly Visible....*



*The LightGuard System Is.*



# FARMINGDALE VILLAGE REPORT

Mayor: George J. Graf

Deputy Mayor: Joseph F. Rachiele

Trustees: Thomas A. Langon, Patricia A. Christiansen, George Starkie

Clerk/Administrator: David Smollett

March, 2008

[www.farmingdalevillage.com](http://www.farmingdalevillage.com)

## Fairfield Courtyard at Farmingdale Scheduled to open April 1, 2008

The Village of Farmingdale is proud to announce that the renovations of the 54-unit apartment complex at 150 Secatogue Avenue will soon be completed. The model apartment is open for viewing and leases are already being signed for April 1, 2008 occupancy. During the month of March, Fairfield will be completing the final items, such as landscaping, a courtyard gazebo, and the creation of new parking on Franklin Pl. and Eastern Pkwy., which will make Fairfield Courtyard at Farmingdale a showcase in our community. This is the first of many projects, which will totally transform the Secatogue Avenue area, which had previously been the center of gang activity in the Village of Farmingdale. Through zero tolerance code enforcement and by working with developers such as Fairfield Properties we have been able to return this rundown area of the village to its former glory. The next step in the renovation of the Secatogue Avenue area is currently underway with the complete renovation of the boarded up building at 130 Secatogue Avenue having begun in December 2007. This tenement type building will be



Interior of model apartment

renovated in the style of the Fairfield building next door. Further redevelopment of this area has been proposed through partnering with the MTA and local developers for Transit Oriented Development around our train station as highlighted in the February Newsletter.



**VILLAGE ELECTION DAY:**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Polls Open Noon to 9PM  
Vote at Village Hall

Village of Farmingdale  
361 Main Street  
Farmingdale, NY 11735  
516-249-0093

PRSRT. STD.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 167  
Farmingdale  
New York 11735