

Village of Woodsburgh

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LEE A. ISRAEL, MAYOR

July 10, 2020

Dear Residents,

We are pleased to share and confirm the recent news of a very historic development which creates a "coastal conservation district" on the property which includes the Woodmere Club. This re-zoning decision was a collaborative effort between Woodsburgh, Town of Hempstead, and Lawrence via an inter-municipal agreement. This agreement facilitated all three municipalities to work together and look at the big picture in a manner that protects the safety, health and welfare of our community while preserving the natural and historical resources. We also listened to the community and the input we received was invaluable in our collective decision making process.

The effort involved commissioning two separate independent engineering and environmental firms to perform a comprehensive study of the property and the surrounding areas and assess the potential impact of development. These extensive studies, performed over a year, by foremost experts in the field, Cameron Engineering & Associates and Nelson Pope and Voorhis, involved analysis of existing and future environmental, zoning and land use impacts, including traffic patterns, flooding and climate assessments, resource impacts and neighborhood impacts. Ultimately, both firms independently came to a similar conclusion and their mutual recommendations were for the creation this costal conservation district. Numerous public hearings were held over many months and we are pleased to report that each of the municipalities voted unanimously to adopt the plan as law.

In summary, the re-zoning creates 3 sub-districts and recognizes the unique environmental condition that affects the Woodmere Club property and the surrounding area, and provides measures to reduce and mitigate significant potential adverse impacts of development on the property. These districts include a clustered residential area, where residences may be developed, a clubhouse/hospitality district where the clubhouse, tennis courts and swimming pool are located currently, and an open space/recreation district that preserves as natural, 70% or 83.3 acres of the Woodmere Club Property. This district surrounds the entire property and provides expansive and continuous open space that is responsive to the potential adverse environmental impact and protects the beauty and character of our community.

Be assured that our main objective as a Board is to preserve the quality of life of the wonderful Village of Woodsburgh. It's the place each of us on the Board is proud to call home and we will vehemently protect our community to maintain its integrity, charm and resiliency.

Respectfully,

Lee A. Israel, Mayor
on behalf of The Board of Trustees

VILLAGE OF WOODSBURGH



Dear Village Residents,

As we kick off another beautiful summer in the Village of Woodsburch we have all noticed a huge increase in the number of bicycle riders and pedestrians in our Village.

Therefore, we thought it was an appropriate time to share with you some very important facts and safety tips. Additionally, we ask all drivers in the Village to be extra vigilant for pedestrians, dog walkers and bicycle riders when driving in the Village, especially when coming out of driveways, turning corners etc. We also ask that you trim back bushes so that drivers and bicycle riders vision are not obscured and traffic signs are clearly visible. Together, we can all help to ensure that our Village is a safe place for everyone.

SAFETY TIPS AND FACTS

(The following is provided by the New York State Police)

- ❖ Head injuries cause 43% of deaths in children between the ages of 5 and 9.
- ❖ 70%-80% of all bicycle fatalities involve head injury.
- ❖ Last year, almost one-third of bicyclists killed in traffic accidents were between the ages of 5 and 15. The fatality rate for this age group is nearly double that for all bicyclists and the injury rate is nearly three times higher.
- ❖ The majorities of children's bicycle injuries do NOT involve cars, but occur from falls on driveways, sidewalks and bike paths.
- ❖ 85% of head injuries sustained in bicycle crashes could be prevented if cyclists wore helmets. Most bicycle helmets are made of extended polystyrene which is lightweight but very effective at dissipating crash forces.
- ❖ Good quality bike helmets can cost as little as \$15.
- ❖ A properly fitted bike helmet fits snug on the head and is level from front to back, resting just above the eyebrows.
- ❖ A bike helmet provides little or no protection if the chin strap is not properly adjusted and securely fastened.
- ❖ Approved bike helmets will display a sticker indicating conformance with safety standards established by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the Snell Memorial Foundation.

THE LAW

- ❖ The law in New York State says that ALL children under the age of 14 who are either operators or passengers on bicycles must wear helmets. This includes two wheeled bicycles equipped with training wheels.
- ❖ All child passengers over 1 year but under 5 years must be carried in a specially designed child safety seat. The seat must be securely attached to the bike, equipped with restraints to secure the child in the seat and designed to protect the child from bike moving parts.
- ❖ It is illegal to carry a child under 1 year old as a passenger on a bicycle, even if the child is in a pack fastened to the operator.

PENALTIES

- ❖ An adult operator of a bicycle may be fined up to \$50 for each child bicycle passenger violation.
- ❖ Parents or guardians are responsible for all bicycle helmet violation by children under the age of 14. The parent or guardian may be fined up to \$50 for each such violation.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING BICYCLE SAFETY FOR CHILDREN AGES 10 TO 14 YEARS

- ❖ Make sure you and your child always wear properly fitted, approved bicycle helmets. This will reduce the risk of head and traumatic brain injuries.
- ❖ Follow the rules of the road.

RULES OF THE ROAD

- ❖ Ride on the right side of the road with traffic.
- ❖ Obey traffic signs and signals.
- ❖ Use correct hand signals when turning or stopping.
- ❖ Stop at intersections and crosswalks.
- ❖ Stop and look both ways before entering a street.
- ❖ Yield the right of way to pedestrians, in-line skater or those riding skateboards and non-motorized scooter when appropriate.

TIPS TO HELP KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE ON THEIR BICYCLE

Make sure your child has a bicycle that is in good working order; that the tires have adequate air; that the brakes are in good working order; that the chain is well oiled and secure and the bicycle has a headlight and a rear reflector. Your child should wear bright clothing while riding during the day and reflective clothing when riding at dusk or at night. Your child should not wear loose fitting or baggy clothing that can get caught in the bicycle chain and cause a fall.



Council Members

DOROTHY L. GOOSBY · BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN · ANTHONY P. D'ESPOSITO · DENNIS DUNNE, SR. · THOMAS E. MUSCARELLA · CHRISTOPHER CARINI

KATE MURRAY, *Town Clerk*

JEANINE C. DRISCOLL, *Receiver of Taxes*

Clavin, Blakeman and D'Esposito Announce Establishment of Coastal Conservation District for Development of Woodmere Club Property – Hempstead Town, Villages of Lawrence & Woodsburgh Adopt New Zoning to Preserve Character of Surrounding Communities

Hempstead Town Supervisor Don Clavin, Councilman Bruce Blakeman and Councilman Anthony D'Esposito have announced the Hempstead Town Board's adoption of the Coastal Conservation District, an intermunicipal cooperative plan with the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh that allows for sensible development of the Woodmere Club property. The new zoning regulations embrace sound land-use and environmental principles, with all due regard for protection of surrounding area character, property values, key arterial roadways and the preservation of open space.

Spanning over 118.4 acres of property shared within the jurisdictions of the Town of Hempstead and the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh, the Woodmere Club is home to a storied and prestigious private golf course that existed for over a century. In an effort to protect the environment and infrastructure of the property and to avoid overburdening of surrounding communities, the Town of Hempstead worked in tandem with the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh to establish this one-of-a-kind Coastal Conservation District. Last week, after numerous community meetings, careful consideration of public comments, and resort to comprehensive expert land-use studies, the Town and the Villages adopted the new, innovative zoning district.

"The Coastal Conservation District represents teamwork between the Town of Hempstead, the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh and community members," Clavin said. "These stakeholders all played a vital role and are dedicated to the environmentally smart and sustainable future of the Woodmere Club property, surrounding neighborhoods and the entire Five Towns."

The Hempstead Town Board's unanimous adoption of the Coastal Conservation district was made within eight days of the live-streamed public hearing that was conducted on June 23rd. During that meeting, members of the public were able to publicly comment on the new zoning plan for the Woodmere Club. The new zone includes three sub-districts that provide for the protection of 70 percent of the property as open space; the development of up to an estimated 59 new luxury homes, and the preservation of the venerable clubhouse building of the former Woodmere Club for associated hospitality services.

"I thank Supervisor Clavin and my Town Board colleagues for their support in this important matter concerning an area that affects both my district and Councilman D'Esposito's district," Blakeman said. "The Coastal Conservation District addresses key issues related to the environment, traffic, conservation and flooding, and I thank the partnership with Councilman D'Esposito and the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh for their role in making this a reality."

"The Coastal Conservation District symbolizes the dedication and teamwork of the Hempstead Town Board, the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh and the valuable feedback from the community," D'Esposito said. "We designed the zoning district in a way that allows for reasonable and environmentally sound development at the Woodmere Club, and addresses a host of factors that are pivotal for a positive future for both the property and the surrounding communities."

DATE: July 6, 2020

Key elements of the Coastal Conservation District include:

- Better alignment of the Town of Hempstead's zoning with existing state and federal environmental regulations and principles.
- Recognition of the unique environmental conditions that affect the Woodmere Club.
- Reduction and mitigation of potentially significant traffic and environmental impacts, and the preservation of open space.
- Coordination with the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh.
- Sustainable development that is far more responsive to environmental, ecological, cultural and physical conditions.

"I am happy that we are able to work out the coastal conservation district with our other two partners, the Village of Woodsburgh and the Town of Hempstead," Lawrence Village Mayor Alex Edelman said. "This will preserve our communities as a safe haven for the future of our residence within these communities. It will also reduce traffic burden, water drainage, overburdening of our sewer system and on and on. At last, open spaces, fresh air and trees for our communities."

"The conservation district is located in an environmentally sensitive and vulnerable, low lying congested coastal area," Woodsburgh Village Mayor Lee Israel said. "We have all seen firsthand the damage to our communities caused by flooding, storm impacts and on-going sea level rise. It is clearly evident that we can no longer ignore these realities and have taken long range action that will significantly mitigate these effects along with the list of many other concerns involved in this decision. I am very proud that our three municipalities have looked at the big picture and have unanimously cooperated as partners for the greater societal good. The creation of the Coastal Conservation District – Woodmere Club; regulates development in a manner that protects the safety, health and welfare of our community and preserves the valuable natural and historic resources which we hold so dear."

The 5 Towns Civic Association released the following statement: "We appreciate the steps taken by our forward thinking elected officials who created a comprehensive, substantive, fact based plan that protects and supports long term sustainability of our community."

Highlights of the sustainability aspects of the Coastal Conservation District include permeable pavement structures, green infrastructure (such as rain gardens) and irrigation-smart controller technology. The new district addresses the tidal wetlands, storm surge and flooding, climate change/sea level rise, ecology, cultural resources, and traffic.

"Thank you to Councilman Bruce Blakeman and Councilman Anthony D'Esposito for their leadership in crafting this bold and innovative zoning district for the communities that they serve," Clavin said. "I congratulate them, along with the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh, for establishing the Coastal Conservation District."

For more information on the Coastal Conservation District, visit hempsteadny.gov.