

MAYOR'S COLUMN

At the January Board meeting the Trustees focused on goals for 2008. At the top of the list is resolution of the use of the Village owned Kensington Road property. The Trustees and I had sincerely hoped the WCI (Wellington Square) project would be well underway at this point. We believe it is a quality project that would enhance the Village as a whole and most particularly the surrounding neighborhood. Due to the developer's recent financial setbacks the project is currently on hold. The Village has not transferred the property. We continue to weigh our options. Just last week, we consulted with the Village Finance Committee to get their opinions and insights on the project.

Another major priority for 2008 is dealing with flooding throughout the Village. The Village and School recently signed an agreement to be partners in the study of a detention/pumping system proposed in the recent Phase I Study by Folchetti and Associates.

Separate from the School, the Village is looking at the flooding problems in specific neighborhoods to see if we can implement short term solutions.

Our third goal comes under the heading of quality of life that encompasses many projects throughout the Village. For example, we are currently soliciting bids to hire a vibration engineer to study the effects of Metro North's third track, both in terms of noise levels and the effect on nearby structures. The study will collect data in the corridor from the Kensington Road townhouses to the end of Parkway Road.

Also, the temporary traffic changes in front of the School and at the intersection of Midland and Pondfield Roads will become permanent, based on the positive trial period we have experienced. Our next step will be to implement, on a trial basis, a right turn on red at the intersection of Pondfield Road and Gramatan Avenue. We have also increased signage on Sagamore Road and Kensington Road especially near the play park and the Eliza Corwin Frost Nursery School. Village wide, we are also reviewing the safety and visibility of our crosswalks and will spend time in the spring repainting many.

We continue to look at the level and quality of lighting throughout the Village concentrating on the business districts, the train station and Meadow Avenue where many children exit from lessons and sporting events.

We will also be hiring three additional police officers in the coming months to reach full complement. At full staffing, we will be able to increase our traffic patrols, foot patrols and increase police presence in the business district.

We are also acutely aware of our aging infrastructure in particular storm water and sewage systems and our street trees and will continue to direct monies to update our physical plant.

As a Board, we are open to suggestions and new ideas and are willing to implement changes on a trial basis and evaluate their success. Please contact us at bronxvillemayor@optonline.net as we depend on our residents as the eyes and ears of the Village.

We also hope that in 2008 even more residents will want to be involved in Village government. We currently have a wonderful mixture of skill sets, political affiliations and neighborhood representation but welcome all residents to participate on our various boards and committees. Just e-mail us at Village Hall and communicate your interest. The more residents we have involved, the more successful we can be in 2008.