

**Office of The Mayor  
Village of Wesley Hills**

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Being second isn't usually something to brag about, but I consider it a privilege to be the second Mayor in Wesley Hills' 25 year history. Needless to say, I realize I am filling some pretty impressive shoes. During his quarter century tenure, Bob has done an amazing job that we have all benefited from. This makes keeping things running smoothly my top priority.

To ensure a "smooth succession", we are currently finalizing a number of projects started during Bob's tenure, as well as launching a few new ones. All these projects are being done to create an even better and safer community for all Wesley Hills residents.

As our most important concern is the safety of our residents, we are continuing to work towards the installation of sidewalks on virtually all of our major roads. Just a few examples:

- Plans are progressing for the installation of sidewalks on Route 306. We have a commitment from the New York State Department of Transportation, and our engineers are planning the most beneficial route. To ensure this all comes together in as timely a manner as possible, I will be meeting shortly with several of our state and local representatives.
- Our County Highway Department is planning a major rework of Forshay/College Road. This rework will span from Viola Road to Willow Tree Road and will include new sidewalks for the *entire* length.
- In response to numerous requests, our village will begin researching and planning how to best connect the existing sidewalks on East Willow Tree Road from Route 306 to McNamara Road.
- Another item that promotes safety and convenience, is the construction of walking paths. Based on their success, several additional paths are already in the planning stages.

It was recently suggested to me that a committee would be helpful in the planning and execution of these issues, and I think that is a great idea. Please contact the Village if you would be interested in serving on this committee.

We are also in the process of reviewing several of our laws, so they better reflect the needs of the community and address quality of life issues. Some examples include:

- A group is currently reviewing the laws regarding neighborhood gatherings (including houses of worship). They will present recommendations at one of our upcoming Village Board meetings.
- We are reviewing the laws regarding the storage of unregistered vehicles, as well as those regarding excessive noise from animals and other sources.

Of course, no law can actually be changed without public hearings, where we listen to comments and views of everyone in the community.

Speaking of change, those of you who visit the Village Hall have undoubtedly noticed the personnel changes. Virtually every position is now held by someone new—though every bit as qualified, as their predecessor. The reason for these changes was the fact that our court and village clerks accepted positions in other communities. Those positions have been filled by current employees, Jane Homyak and Barbara Cartaya, and new hire, Yael Ash, our deputy treasurer. We will also be hiring a new deputy clerk soon. Our goal? To have a 100% user friendly and efficient office.

As you can see, there are many projects and ideas in the works—and hopefully, more to come. As the Village "belongs" to us all, I hope that you will give the Village staff, our Boards, and myself your support, as this is the best way to make sure that Wesley Hills will always be the kind of community that inspired us to move here in the first place.

Thank you,

David Goldsmith