# Town of North Hempstead Presentation to Greater Council (GC) 11/10/2021 Manhasset - Park Avenue at Nassau Ave Intersection Proposed Redesign and Traffic Safety Study 

## GC notes:

This furthers the long proposed safety concerns at Park/Nassau Aves where we have a major pedestrian crossing of LIRR commuters to \& from the platform entrance. Currently, the "V" shape intersection requires two pedestrian roadway crossings; The proposed redesign reduces it to a safer 'one roadway pedestrian crossing' intersection.

While focus is the Park/Nassau intersection redesign, the study and proposed changes include the adjacent intersections of Park/Onderdonk and Park/Munsey Place as these intersections do not meet current vehicular/ pedestrian safety standards.

Feedback from immediate affected area residents and commercial properties is encouraged on these proposed changes/ alternatives .

Victor Thomas<br>Commissioner of Public Works<br>Town of North Hempstead<br>285 Denton Avenue<br>New Hyde Park, NY 11040

Re: Park Avenue, Manhasset
Traffic Safety Study from Plandome Road to Munsey Place
Addendum No. 2
de Bruin No. 6269

Dear Victor,
In accordance with your e-mail of May 5, 2021 we offer this assessment of fire truck maneuverability through the project area. Firehouses are all located west of the project area so analysis has been performed for the fire truck heading east on Park Avenue.

Vehicle sweep path analysis software (Autoturn) was used to determine whether the Manhasset-Lakeville Tower Ladder truck can safely navigate the proposed alternate geometries at Nassau Avenue and at Onderdonk Avenue. This is the Department's largest vehicle and would present the greatest challenge to any changes in roadway geometry.

A summary of impacts is shown in the table below and drawings depicting the truck turning movements are shown on the following pages.

| Issue | Impacts |
| :--- | :--- |
| Access to \#57 | The eastbound firetruck can make the turns from Park Avenue onto <br> Nassau Ave |
| Nassau Avenue under both Alternate 1 and Alternate 2 designs. To <br> get to the front of \#57 Nassau, the truck would pull east on Nassau <br> and then back up to the property. |  |
| Turning at Park <br> Avenue and <br> Onderdonk | Under Existing Conditions, Alternate 1 (with bump out), and Alternate <br> 2, the fire truck can make the turn from Park onto southbound <br> Onderdonk. In all cases the truck will encroach into the northbound <br> lane on Onderdonk. In the Existing Condition and Alternate 1 with the <br> bump out, the truck encroaches slightly on the westbound lane on <br> Park. |


| Issue | Impacts |
| :--- | :--- |
| Turning at Munsey | Under Existing Conditions, Alternate 1 (with bump out), and Alternate |
| Place | 2, the fire truck can make the turn from Park onto southbound Munsey. |
| In all cases the truck will encroach into the northbound lane on |  |
| Munsey. With the bump out the truck comes very close to the east |  |
| curb line of Munsey. In all cases the truck encroaches slightly on the |  |
| westbound lane on Park. |  |

In summary, the addition of bump-outs and other proposed changes to street geometry have very little impact on the maneuverability of the fire trucks and other emergency vehicles through Park Ave and its adjoining streets.

## Summary of Project Status / Recommendations

Our original report, dated July 17, 2020,assessed traffic safety issues for Park Avenue from Plandome Road to Munsey Place and made recommendations for improvements. An addendum report, issued November 5, 2020 assessed the differences between Design Alternate No. 1 and No. 2 at Nassau Avenue for - Parking, Vehicle Movement, Pedestrian Movement, and access to adjacent properties. Copies of these reports are attached for your convenience.

This second addendum has addressed fire truck movement at the three (3) intersections in the project.

In our opinion the Alternative 2 Design at all intersections is the preferred improvement for enhancing vehicle and pedestrian safety on Park Avenue. It has the one drawback of the loss of four (4) on street parking spaces in the vicinity of Nassau Avenue. Our recommendation is that the Town move forward with the implementation of Alternative 2 as depicted on the attached drawings.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this work. We are available at your convenience to discuss it.

Sincerely yours,


Robert W. de Bruin, P.E.









## ATTACHMENTS

## Original Report - July 17th, 2020

Addenda No. 1 - November $5^{\text {th }} 2020$

Victor Thomas
Acting Commissioner of Public Works
Town of North Hempstead
285 Denton Avenue
New Hyde Park, NY 11040

Re: Park Avenue, Manhasset
Traffic Safety Study from Plandome Road to Munsey Place
de Bruin No. 6260

Dear Victor,
In accordance with our proposal of February 4, 2020 we are pleased to submit this report of our findings concerning the traffic safety of Park Avenue from Plandome Road to Munsey Place. The attached drawings provide graphic descriptions of the work presented here.

Traffic and Safety Findings
The area of the study covers a distance of 0.31 miles and includes three (3) intersections - Park and Nassau, Park and Onderdonk, and Park and Munsey.

The AADT of this corridor is $+/-11,500$ between Plandome and Nassau, $+/-8,000$ for the rest of Park, and $+/-5,500$ on Nassau. AADTs were determined using StreetLight Data. StreetLight Data is a "big data" company that tracks vehicle movement throughout the US by extracting data from mobile phones and vehicle GPS devices.

The average speed of vehicles in the corridor were also determined by StreetLight Data. A review of this data indicates that approximately $5 \%$ to $10 \%$ of the traffic has an average speed in excess of 30 mph .

A review of morning and evening turning movements (also done with StreetLight Data) shows the following:

- The morning rush hour (6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.) at Park and Nassau has about 400 vehicles heading eastbound and about 3,000 vehicles westbound. The westbound vehicles are a $50 / 50$ split coming from Park and Nassau.
- The evening rush hour (3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.) at Park and Nassau has about 2,800 vehicles heading eastbound splitting $57 \%$ to Park and $43 \%$ to Nassau. Westbound evening rush hour totals about 1,200 vehicles with $2 / 3^{\text {rd }}$ from Park and $1 / 3^{\text {rd }}$ from Nassau.
- The morning rush hour at Onderdonk sees a total of approximately 2,500 vehicles from all four directions. About 69\% of these vehicles go straight through the intersection, $24 \%$ make left turns and the remaining $7 \%$ make right turns. The predominant straight movement is west on Park ( $45 \%$ of all vehicles) and the predominant left turn movement is westbound on Park to southbound on Onderdonk ( $15 \%$ of all vehicles).
- The evening rush hour at Onderdonk sees a total of approximately 3,900 vehicles from all four directions. About $67 \%$ of these vehicles go straight through the intersection, 14\% make left turns and the remaining 19\% make right turns. The predominant straight movement is east on Park ( $35 \%$ of all vehicles). The predominant left turn movements are evenly split between turning westbound on Park and southbound on Onderdonk, a total of $13 \%$ of all traffic. There are major right turn movements from northbound Onderdonk onto eastbound Park (500 vehicles) and from eastbound Park on to southbound Onderdonk ( 200 vehicles).

We reviewed 4 years of NYSDOT accident data for the corridor (2015 to 2018) and found that the total accident rate was 6.50 accidents per Million Vehicle Mile (Acc/MVM). This is more than double the New York State average of 2.72 Acc/MVM for comparable roads. The high accident numbers are generated in the area just west of Nassau Avenue where traffic from Park and Nassau merge, and at the intersection with Onderdonk Avenue. Of these accidents, $85 \%$ involved collisions between motor vehicles and the other $15 \%$ involved collisions with pedestrians and fixed objects such as trees, curbing and signage.

The high rate of accidents makes it clear that the Town's concern about this section of Park Avenue is warranted.

## Underlying Causes

By definition, accidents will happen. Factors that contribute to high accident rates include:

- Poor physical condition of the road - slippery or failing pavements.
- Roadway geometry or obstructions that impede sight distance.
- Roadway geometry that does not effectively channelize traffic, making it clear to the vehicle operators where they, and others, belong.
- Roadway geometry that encourages excessive speed.

This section of Park measures up as follows:

- Physical condition of the road is not a problem.
- Site distance at the westbound leg of Nassau at Park is not good, but the presence of stop signs on both approaches mitigates this issue.
- Channelization is a problem throughout.
o Between Nassau and Onderdonk the curb to curb width is $40^{\prime}$ and east of Onderdonk it is 35'. The parking lanes are not delineated, effectively providing 17.5 ' and 20 ' driving lanes when there are no cars parked, which is most of the
day. Excessively wide lanes provide opportunities for dangerous maneuvers, such as passing around slow or turning vehicles, and inattentive driving.
o At Onderdonk there is a significant amount of turning movement all occurring from the same lane as through traffic. This arrangement leads to unexpected stops and a high number of rear end collisions as well as poor visibility around turning cars.
o At Nassau, the eastbound traffic can bear left onto Nassau or head straight on Park from the same lane. The movement bearing left is not controlled and requires negotiating with the westbound traffic from Park.
o Traffic from Nassau and Park heading westbound must merge into the same lane and be aware of cars parked on the north side of the street as well as vehicles entering the north side of the roadway from two (2) driveways.
o The sidewalk for pedestrian traffic on the north side of Park is interrupted at Nassau forcing pedestrians to cross Nassau at an effectively mid-block, unprotected location to continue their journey.
- Geometry and Speed
o As noted above, the excessively wide driving lanes permit high speeds.
o The absence of traffic control at Munsey Place allows for high speeds at this intersection, where accident data indicates that vehicles coming out of Munsey misjudge the speed of cars on Park.


## Solutions

The solutions depicted in the attached drawings are aimed at the following goals:

- Improve channelization and reduce throughout the corridor using pavement markings to properly delineate driving, parking and turning lanes.
- Provide greater separation between Plandome Road and Nassau Boulevard and changing the angle of the intersection with Nassau to reduce confusion in this section for both vehicles and pedestrians.
- Improve turning movements at Onderdonk Avenue with the addition of turning lanes on Park and enlarged curb return radii on the south side of Park.
- Reduce speed in the corridor by the addition of stop signs as traffic control at Munsey.

All of these improvements are based on guidance from the NYSDOT PIES (Post Implementation Evaluation System) Reduction Report which assesses the impact of improvements on accident rates. Based on these reports, channelization, highly visible pavement markings, geometry improvements and the addition of traffic control should drive significant improvements in safety.

## Costs

A Conceptual Cost Estimate for the work depicted on the attached drawings follows. The estimated cost is on the order of $\$ 250,000$.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this work. We are available at your convenience to discuss it.

Sincerely yours,


Robert W. de Bruin, P.E.

PARK AVENUE, MANHASSET TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

| LOCATION | WBS | ITEM DESCRIPTION | UNITS | QUANTITY | UNIT COST |  | TOTAL COST |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nassau | Removals | Remove trees on traffic island | EA | 2 | \$ | 300.00 | \$ | 600.00 |
| Nassau | Removals | Sawcut existing pavement | LF | 313 | \$ | 5.00 | \$ | 1,565.00 |
| Nassau | Removals | Remove curbs around island and on N side, excavate within sawcut lines and up to N curbline | CY | 197 | \$ | 30.00 | \$ | 5,910.00 |
| Nassau | Drainage | Construct new catch basin on Nassau and move existing basin on Park to align with new curb | EA | 2 | \$ | 6,500.00 | \$ | 13,000.00 |
| Nassau | Drainage | Construct new manhole for drainage connection | EA | 1 | \$ | 7,200.00 | \$ | 7,200.00 |
| Nassau | Drainage | New Drainage Pipe | LF | 115 | \$ | 60.00 | \$ | 6,900.00 |
| Nassau | Concrete | Curb in new geometry | LF | 346 | \$ | 30.00 | \$ | 10,380.00 |
| Nassau | Concrete | New sidewalks and corner quadrants behind curbs | SF | 2,170 | \$ | 15.00 | \$ | 32,550.00 |
| Nassau | Pavement | Pave intersection up to sawcut lines | TON | 250 | \$ | 125.00 | \$ | 31,250.00 |
| Nassau | Lawn | Sod lawn areas | SY | 2,287 | \$ | 15.00 | \$ | 34,305.00 |
| Nassau Total |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | 143,660.00 |
| Onderdonk | Removals | Sawcut existing pavement | LF | 200 | \$ | 5.00 | \$ | 1,000.00 |
| Onderdonk | Removals | Excavate and remove existing corner quadrants | CY | 58 | \$ | 30.00 | \$ | 1,740.00 |
| Onderdonk | Removals | Relocate/reconstruct existing CBs along new curbline | EA | 2 | \$ | 6,500.00 | \$ | 13,000.00 |
| Onderdonk | Concrete | Curb in new geometry | LF | 159 | \$ | 25.00 | \$ | 3,975.00 |
| Onderdonk | Concrete | New corner quadrants behind curbs | SF | 1,258 | \$ | 10.00 | \$ | 12,580.00 |
| Onderdonk | Pavement | Repave asphalt near new curbs | TON | 41 | \$ | 125.00 | \$ | 5,125.00 |
| Onderdonk | Signs | Lane Use Signs | EA | 2 | \$ | 500.00 | \$ | 1,000.00 |
| Onderdonk Total |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | 38,420.00 |
| Munsey | Removals | Sawcut existing pavement | LF | 67 | \$ | 5.00 | \$ | 335.00 |
| Munsey | Concrete | Excavate and remove existing corner quadrants | CY | 17 | \$ | 30.00 | \$ | 510.00 |
| Munsey | Concrete | Curb in new geometry | LF | 53 | \$ | 25.00 | \$ | 1,325.00 |
| Munsey | Concrete | New corner quadrants behind curbs | SF | 425 | \$ | 10.00 | \$ | 4,250.00 |
| Munsey | Pavement | Repave asphalt near new curbs | TON | 8 | \$ | 125.00 | \$ | 1,000.00 |
| Munsey | Signs | Add new stop signs | EA | 2 | \$ | 500.00 | \$ | 1,000.00 |
| Munsey Total |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | 8,420.00 |
| All | Pavement Marking | Double Yellow (in 4" lengths) | LF | 3,240 | \$ | 2.00 | \$ | 6,480.00 |
| All | Pavement Marking | Parking Lane (in 4" lengths) | LF | 2,156 | \$ | 2.00 | \$ | 4,312.00 |
| All | Pavement Marking | Stop Bars (in 4" lengths) | LF | 1,089 | \$ | 2.00 | \$ | 2,178.00 |
| All | Pavement Marking | Crosswalks (in 4" lengths) | LF | 1,563 | \$ | 2.00 | \$ | 3,126.00 |
| All | Pavement Marking | Dashed Lines (in 4" lengths) | LF | 101 | \$ | 2.00 | \$ | 201.00 |
| All Total |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | 16,297.00 |
| Grand Total |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | 206,797.00 |
|  |  |  |  | Contingency |  | 20\% | \$ | 41,359.40 |
|  |  |  |  | Budget |  |  | \$ | 249,000.00 |


















November 5, 2020

Victor Thomas
Acting Commissioner of Public Works
Town of North Hempstead
285 Denton Avenue
New Hyde Park, NY 11040

Re: Park Avenue, Manhasset
Traffic Safety Study from Plandome Road to Munsey Place de Bruin No. 6260

Dear Victor,
In accordance with your e-mail of October 29, 2020 we offer this assessment of the differences between the two alternatives presented for the intersection of Park Avenue and Nassau Avenue. Please see the attached drawings for reference. These drawing are presented at a smaller scale than the originals to help visualize impacts to adjacent properties.

| Issue | Impacts |
| :--- | :--- |
| Parking | There are currently 22 parking spaces within the project limits. <br> Alternative 1 reduces parking to 21 spaces; Alternative 2 reduces <br> parking to 18 spaces. |
| Vehicle Movement | Both Alternatives eliminate the diagonally crossing traffic pattern that <br> produces confusion. <br> They will both slow traffic on Nassau Avenue in both directions, which <br> will be an improvement for cars coming out of house nos. 57, 63 and <br> 69 on Nassau Avenue. |
| Alternative 2 will provide better traffic flow than Alternative 1 because <br> of the dedicated left turn lane from eastbound Park to eastbound <br> Nassau. The dedicated turn lane will reduce the likelihood of rear end <br> collisions with left turning vehicles. |  |
| Pedestrian <br> Movement | Alternative 2 provides better pedestrian safety than Alternative 1. The <br> dedicated turn lane provides better visibility of pedestrians crossing |


| Issue | Impacts |
| :--- | :--- |
| Nassau. On the east side of Nassau there is a 6' wide refuge space in <br> the middle of Park that makes crossing Park safer. |  |
| Impacts on individual properties are described below. Impacts that we believe will be <br> received positively by the property owner are in GREEN and those that we believe will be <br> received negatively are in RED |  |
| \#19 Park Ave. | No impacts |
| \#29 Park Ave. | In both Alternatives, the east entrance to the parking field is crossing <br> two sidewalks - the one on Nassau and the one on Park. <br> Both Alternatives move the east entrance from Nassau to Park <br> and eliminate the temptation of making a dangerous turn from <br> Park into this driveway. <br> Alternative 2 eliminates two (2) on-street parking spaces. |
| \#57 Nassau Ave. | Both Alternatives create additional green space south of the <br> sidewalk. <br> \#63 Nassau Ave. |
| Alternative 1 provides a better refuge for a car backing out of the |  |
| driveway. | Alternative 2 adds one (1) on street parking space. |
| \#30 Park Ave. | Exiting the driveway to go eastbound will function similarly to existing <br> conditions for both Alternatives. In the existing condition you cross <br> one (1) lane of traffic when heading westbound from the driveway. |
| \#his condition remains in Alternative 1. |  |


| Issue | Impacts |
| :---: | :--- |
|  | Two (2) on-street parking spaces are lost in Alternative 2. |

In summary, Alternative 2 has the most negative impact for on street parking but the greater positive impact on safety for both vehicles and pedestrians.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this work. We are available at your convenience to discuss it.

Sincerely yours,


Robert W. de Bruin, P.E.




