

Zoom meeting February 8 (see details in box)



Creedmoor Civic News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Founded 1927, Incorporated 1938

February, 2021 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org ★ VOL. 90, NO. 2

COJO PROPOSES ELIMINATION OF ONE-FAMILY HOME ZONING

You can't make this up. The City Council Speaker Corey Johnson (who has been nick-named CoJo) has prepared legislation that would abolish zoning that restricts development to only single-family housing.

Civic leaders in low density neighborhoods are outraged. This idea of eliminating one-family homes is a new concept being pushed by a fringe element of city planners and social justice advocates. It has already come to pass in Minneapolis, a city where 70% of the land area is zoned for one-family homes. In New York City, only 15% of the land area is devoted to zones that are referred to as R1-1 (80-foot wide lots), R1-2 (60 foot lots) and R2 (40 foot lots) Creedmoor Civic has worked hard over the years to protect the integrity of our neighborhood as a suburban style neighborhood characterized by detached houses, and front and back lawns and shaded by street trees. Years ago, we were zoned for row houses. We fought to get that down to one- and two-family detached housing, and more recently got the eastern part of Creedmoor Civic zoned R2. (Essentially, both sides of 239th Street east to Cross Island Parkway, and north side of 88th Avenue starting at Gettysburg Street east to Cross Island Parkway) On these blocks no more conversions to two-family homes are permitted. Two-family homes lead to more cars looking for parking spots. One-family homes may have the same number of occupants, but tend to have fewer cars.

The proposed law also requires all community boards to upzone every ten years. This assumes that New York City's population will always be growing. Actually, since about 2018, New York City's population has been shrinking. It reached 8.4 million in 2018, a peak, but then began shrinking slightly, and picked up speed in 2020 with rising crime, closed schools and COVID lockdowns.

The Queens Civic Congress, of which Creedmoor Civic is a member, is mobilizing a battle to derail this plan. Since only a small portion of NYC's land area is given over to single-family zoning, the goal of creating more affordable housing will not see its goal met. The threat is real: this bill (Intro 2186-2020) already has at least 13 sponsors.

LIVE CIVIC MEETINGS CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

JOIN US IN A ZOOM MEETING

We have invited speaker Anthony Iuliano, Deputy Director, Office of Community Engagement, NYC Department of Buildings. Time: February 8, 2021, 7 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484465113?pwd=dUx5YXRUK0U3VXdUZTFZb2s1YIRudz09>

Meeting ID: 834 8446 5113. Passcode: 184609

Dial in: +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

But anything that will encourage the demolition of homes to be replaced by outsized or out of character development will destabilize these neighborhoods.

NEW CON ED METERS ON THE WAY

Con Ed is planning to install Smart Meters. A smart meter is a digital meter that communicates with Con Ed over a secure wireless network. Data is transmitted from the meter to a utility pole, and then to Con Ed. You would be able to obtain detailed information about your energy usage. The meter would immediately notify Con Ed of a power outage or other problem. If you use solar energy, a smart meter could help you manage it more effectively. There is a procedure to opt out, but you may be charged for meter readings. We should expect to receive a letter from Con Ed about a month before installation. For more information, visit conEd.com/smartmeters or call 1-800-576-2005.

Creedmoor Civic News

Published Since 1931

Published 10 times per year by the Creedmoor Civic Assn., Inc.

PO Box 260143, Bellerose Manor, NY 11426

Tel. 718- 464-3369

Member: Queens Civic Congress, Inc.

Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org

E-mail: creedmoorcivic@gmail.com

Creedmoor Civic is on Facebook! Check it out at

<http://www.facebook.com/creedmoor.civic>

-OFFICERS-

President.....Michael O'Keeffe
1st Vice President/Chairman of the Board.....Rosemary Parker
2nd Vice President.....Paul Bellisario
Treasurer.....James A. Trent
Recording Secretary.....(Vacant)
Financial Secretary.....Cathy Chri sty
Sergeant-at-Arms.....John Chri sty
President Emeritus.....Richard Duskwicz

- BOARD OF GOVERNORS -

Brendan Barrett, Elizabeth Baumann, Katherine Fariad,
Christine Larkins, Devika Singh, Ann Terry

- NEWSLETTER -

Editor.....James A. Trent
Newsletter Distribution.....Block Captains

- WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA -

Webmaster.....Richard Duskwicz
Instagram.....Katherine Fariad

President's Message

We have heard from some local restaurants that they have had an increase in take-out orders recently. We can't say for sure if that is directly related to our emails on the subject, but we thank everyone who has ordered out from a local restaurant recently. Even if indoor dining resumes at 25 percent capacity on February 14, they will still need take-out business.

We all know that eligible persons have been having difficulty obtaining appointments for COVID-19 vaccinations. Let's hope that the vaccine supply increases and the kinks in the system are ironed out soon. We will pass along any information we learn between newsletters by email and social media.

Your neighbor,

Michael O'Keeffe

NCO BUILD THE BLOCK MEETING FEB 10

Our Neighborhood Coordinating Officers, PO Christopher Spotts and PO Cooper Kulich, will hold their next Build The Block meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, Feb 10 at 7 pm. Find out what's going on in the neighborhood and bring up any issues you are concerned about. Dial in at 1-646-828-7666, phone passcode: 4425611372 Computer, tablet, or smartphone Meeting ID: 161 221 9906 Passcode: NCOEddie!

RANK CHOICE VOTING

As you may be aware, Rank Choice Voting (RCV) will be used going forward for citywide elections (mayor, comptroller, and public advocate) and for City Council elections. You will have the opportunity to vote for up to 5 candidates in the order of your preference. We in Creedmoor Civic will use RCV in the June primaries. There will be a RCV Zoom information session on Thursday, March 4 at 5 pm. We will email the log in information to members on our list. Please direct any questions to Council Member Grodenchik's office at 718-468-0137.

RESOLVE TO BE READY

The NYC Office of Emergency Management encourages New Yorkers to be ready for emergencies with the "Resolve to Be Ready Calendar." Every month, the calendar has simple steps to take to be better prepared for an emergency. For example, the January suggestion is to create an emergency support network with at least two people, such as family members, friends, neighbors, etc. Have at least one contact who lives within the city, and one who lives outside NYC. The February page offers suggestions to create a Go Bag and a Home Emergency Kit. There is also a phone app, Notify NYC, for information during emergencies. For more information, visit www.nyc.gov. In search box, type "resolve to be ready."



And the winner is...

When the civic was meeting in person, we had a monthly raffle of a gift certificate to a local business, donated by a generous but anonymous member. We are bringing this back. We drew a name from our list of members who paid dues in 2020. The winner is the Jackson family of Gettysburg St., who won a \$20 gift certificate to Supreme Pizza! Check next month's newsletter for the next winner.

QUEENS VILLAGE COVID VACCINE LOCATION

New York State has added a COVID-19 vaccination location at the Queens Baptist Church, at 93-23 217 St in Queens Village. It will be run by SOMOS Community Care. We will notify you by email and social media when more details become available.

COVID TESTING AT BELLEROSE RESCUE

Bellerose Rescue Chief Ed Gorman has told us that Covid-19 testing will continue at their headquarters, located at 235-01 Braddock Ave. Testing will take place Monday through Thursday. Arrive between 9:30 am and 3:30 pm. Testing staff will take a 45-minute lunch break around 12:30 pm. In addition, they will try to arrange home testing for individuals who are unable to come to their headquarters. To find out more about home testing, or to discuss any issue, call 347-410-0066, or email E.gorman@belleroserescue.org