

Andrew Goodwillie candidate profile – South Nyack Trustee

I want to do my part to promote a strong, vibrant, fiscally-sound community. The village faces many complex issues, outlined below, and a Trustee must collaborate with other board members to act in the best interests of its residents. With my proven track record of working with the village, I can hit the ground running. I am committed to working for South Nyack residents on the many complex issues facing our village.

As a member of the South Nyack Planning Board, I'm certified by the Rockland County Municipal Planning Federation. I contribute to the village newsletter, have attended village land development and TZ bridge stakeholder meetings and work closely with the Board of Trustees for the benefit of our community. I work part-time at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory as a scientist with a doctorate in geophysics and have a long history of carefully synthesizing data and information to arrive at objective, well-informed decisions.

Village communication

We must improve village communication to better engage residents in village affairs. As a Trustee, I'll work to initiate annual townhall community meetings open to all village residents. Meeting agendas and minutes for board meetings will be posted on-line. Village web pages and social media will be updated with relevant content. With better communication, residents will become more aware of the issues we face as a community.

Tappan Zee Bridge, Shared-Use Path

With a projected service life of 100 years for the new bridge, we must work hard to maximize the bridge benefits to residents whilst minimizing the construction disruption - decisions we make now will have an impact for generations to come. I will work closely with the South Nyack Village TZ Bridge Task Force and with other trustees to ensure that our voice is heard. I fully support the comprehensive Feasibility Study that will objectively consider long-term issues such as reclaiming valuable village real estate with the redevelopment of Exit 10. The Feasibility Study will help our community fight to align bridge construction with the village's long-range goals. I also support the public meeting to discuss possible options for the terminus of the proposed Shared Use path. The path is likely to cause a parking burden for our community and it is important for all residents to provide input on the best solution for our village. Already, I have attended bridge and land use meetings and, as Trustee, will help the village benefit from the bridge construction.

Mass transit: Buses

Many village residents work over in Westchester or down in the city and rely upon public transport to get them there. The Tappan Zee Express bus is reliable but the 9A bus to NYC is problematic. Mass transit buses need to be better. As Trustee, I will work to add extra buses at peak hours and provide

real-time bus information to commuters. I also aim to survey commuters for additional ways to optimize these services.

South Nyack Environmental Issues

I'm a keen supporter of actions that promote a clean and healthy environment. Currently, the village spends around a quarter of a million dollars each year on trash collection and landfill fees. However, studies show that 75% of the waste from a typical household can be recycled or composted. As Trustee, I will act on our environment:

- Reduce taxes by moving from expensive trash collection to more economical recycling.
- Increase the number of recycling pickups, paid for via a reduction in trash collections.
- Establish village electronics waste collection (this is already coming for April 2014 – watch for news!)
- Explore re-starting the home-composting program with free composting bins.
- Re-energize the village tree committee.
- Re-vitalize the Gesner Street riverside park.
- Keep sidewalks open and safe year-round by ensuring snow is shoveled and bushes trimmed.
- Continue working on community block grant development to improve village green space facilities.

Property Tax

We all know that property taxes are high. I will help the village explore ways to meaningfully reduce the tax burden. Examples include using careful, limited commercial development that would generate long-term rental revenue, and increasing the recycling rebates received by the village.

With a proven track record of working with the village and my Planning Board experience, I am keen to work collaboratively and transparently as Trustee on behalf of all South Nyack village residents.