



## VILLAGE OF PLANDOME MANOR

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### **Plandome Manor Board Supports April 6 Village Hall Proposition**

**PLANDOME MANOR, NY, March 22, 2022**—The Plandome Manor Village Board unanimously supports a ‘Yes’ vote on the proposition being placed before the village’s voters on Wednesday, April 6, according to a statement issued today by its five elected officials.

The proposition asks voters either to authorize or to deny the Village of Plandome Manor’s board of trustees to take the steps needed to acquire an empty residential building known as The Richardson House, situated at 149 Circle Drive, and relocate it to a vacant village-owned parcel on Circle Drive, just north of Stonytown Road. The project would result in the conversion of The Richardson House into Plandome Manor’s Village Hall.

“This is an extraordinary opportunity for the village to own its Village Hall,” said Mayor Barbara Donno, who noted the village currently pays \$55,000 annually to rent office space at 55 Manhasset Avenue, Manhasset, NY, for its governmental operations. The vote on the proposition is being held at 55 Manhasset Avenue from noon to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6.

If the proposition is approved, the village will purchase the Richardson House for one dollar and issue a bond totaling no more than \$600,000 to finance the estimated \$660,000 project. The remaining costs will be secured through a combination of grants and monies allocated from the village’s existing capital reserve fund. The village estimates the typical residential property taxpayer will pay an additional \$40 a year in taxes, for the next 10 years, to finance the project, after which there will be an estimated tax savings of more than \$200 per year for the typical residential household.

“Plandome Manor would pay slightly more than \$60,000 a year for a decade to pay the debt service on the bond, a sum equal to what the village currently pays each year to rent office space,” stated Deputy Mayor Matthew Clinton. “From a financial perspective, approving the proposition makes sense. Plandome Manor would own outright the building and the land on which its Village Hall sits in 10 years while no longer paying rent for office space.”

“Preservation Long Island has recognized the historic significance of the Richardson House and publicly asked Plandome Manor to save the building from demolition when it was sold to a developer last year,” said Trustee Patricia O’Neill. “The village then consulted with land use and architectural experts before bringing this proposal to the voters.” The Richardson House was originally built in the 1770s and transported to Plandome Manor from Massachusetts in the 1920s.

“A professional traffic engineer conducted a study for Plandome Manor and estimated the creation of a new Village Hall on Circle Drive will generate no more than 11 vehicle trips each weekday,” said Trustee James Baydar. “A typical single-family home has about 9.5 vehicle trips daily, this same traffic engineer reported.”

“The Village has outgrown its present office space, which is located outside of the Village,” stated Trustee Tony DeSousa. “The proposition’s approval will allow Plandome Manor to conduct its business in a building which can accommodate our staff and records while also being situated within the Village’s boundaries.”

The Village of Plandome Manor has posted information about the proposition on its website at <https://plandomemanor.com/richardson-house/>

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