Town of North Castle Supervisor Michael J. Schiliro

E-News Update

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

For the most part, all anyone wants to know is when their power is coming on. We are working actively, hour by hour, with Con Ed line crews, outside tree contractors, out-of-state line crews, our Highway Department, and our Police Department. I personally attended the staging this morning behind Town Hall with about 30+ trucks from all disciplines.

Here is our real time update:

• **Outages:** Our outages reduced from 2,886 to 2,596. So another 290 restored since late yesterday, so almost 600 restored in about 24 hours. For those who still don't have power, which is 51% of us, this info probably gets you angrier as to why them and not you. Con Ed can't restore every outage simultaneously, thus everyone comes on in phases with no preferential treatment, just by priority of safety areas, clustered restorations, primary feeders, etc.

• **Restoration:** As I've advised before based on past experience, whatever restoration Con Ed advises you of, it likely won't happen. Town-wide, they are advising most restoration by 3pm on Monday. But as example, they advised me (i.e.; my house) to expect restoration by last night at 11pm, to Sunday at 11pm, to Tuesday night at 11pm. Today on our daily Con Ed call I once again demanded that Con Ed simply tell us all the truth about restoration time, so you can all plan accordingly. None of this is remotely acceptable, but we cannot control the lack of restoration teams, we just fight hourly for teams in our Town, and our efforts are proving successful, knowing that many still without power don't believe that statement. It's true.

Town's Response: As mentioned prior, we provide real-time updates to Con Ed, we escort crews from location to location, we communicate and pressure our Con Ed reps throughout each day, and our own employees (Police, Highway, Parks, Water/Sewer, Volunteer Fire Departments, etc.) are committed to helping Con Ed restore everyone

STATUS ON ROAD OPENINGS: The number one priority of the Town remains to clear roads to allow for emergency vehicle access ("Cut and Clear").

Today North Castle has 3 Con-Edison "Cut and Clear" crews in including an overnight crew. I accompanied last night's overnight crew between 11pm and 1am, which was about 15 trucks (Con Ed, private tree service, Highway personnel, Police

personnel). We want more, but one large crew is better than none, as many municipalities had none. And I will say that they were excellent. And as an example of how chaotic this recovery is, we had two "wire fires" yesterday that take these crews away from normal work. One was on Palmer Ave in North White, and the other was on Hissarlik at 1am, which was where this overnight crew was going when I left them. Our Volunteer Banksville FD (thanks B'ville!!) sat watch on that fire until the crew arrived.

NOTE: The Town cannot independently clear a tree that involves wires – the wires must be removed by Con-Edison personnel. Also, you will see tree debris on the roadsides. Our highway department will get to this over time, so it will not disappear quickly.

As of 11 AM Saturday, August 8th:

Total Roads impacted: 73

Total Roads that are now passable in North Castle: 56 (up from 33)

Roads that are closed in North Castle with wires down: 17 (down from 40)

IMPORTANT REQUEST REGARDING CON ED COMMUNICATIONS IN THE FIELD – NEED YOUR HELP: If

Con Ed field staff communicates to you that they are waiting for the Town for repairs or to call us to report an outage, you are being misinformed. Please send me whatever info you can on whoever told you that, a picture of their license plate, etc. Thanks to the residents that are keeping me informed. A resident called me earlier advising that a Con Ed operator advised her that until the Town cleared a road, their power wouldn't be restored. Sorry, but simply a lie, as that outage just needs a Con Ed restoration crew. Absolutely frustrating.

TEMPORARY OUTAGES: Just a reminder, that it's common during restoration that if you have power, you may temporary lose power; it's called a "deliberate shutdown" or being "Deenergized". In the process of restoring certain properties, sometimes they must cut power to a broader area in order to complete, and then restore everyone in that area. If this happens to you, you can call Con Ed and they may be able to confirm, but odds are your power loss is short term.

CHARGING STATION / WATER:

Armonk: We have a 24/7 charging station outside of the Hergenhan Rec Center on Maple Ave and on the Whippoorwill Road East side of the Library. There are a finite number of outlets, bring your own cords and plugs, wear masks, bring disinfectant, etc. Also, we connected a hose in the rear of the building for those with well water who need water to flush, etc. Fortunately, this is a popular item for residents.

North White Plains Community Center: We also have a 24/7 charging station outside of the Center on the beautiful outdoor deck. There are a finite number of outlets, bring your own cords

and plugs, wear masks, bring disinfectant, etc. We have also set up a hose as well if needed.

Community Park Drive: The Town has provided a filling station for potable drinking water in Community Park (aka IBM Park) situated on the left side of the access road entrance.

DRY ICE: Con-Edison has information vans located at the following locations. Dry Ice distribution will begin today, Saturday, August 8th, between 1:00 PM and 9 PM. Beware that they sometimes run out of supplies so you may need to wait for replenishments.

Yorktown Heights– Food Emporium, 345 Downing Drive New Rochelle City Hall – 515 Hamilton Avenue

(Our Police Chief Peter Simonsen has repeatedly requested that Con Ed use our IBM park as a 3rd staging area for dry ice, but no positive response yet.)

REPORTING TELECOM ISSUES – FIOS / ALTICE, ETC.:

If you have issues, call your provider directly and get a ticket number. Then email my Executive Assistant Mindy Berard (mberard@northcastleny.com) with that ticket number and she will pass to the County. County Executive George Latimer has dedicated staff to perform the follow up for you on this. It's a huge help!

NO SHELTER / WORKING ON WIFI: As you know, our own NC4 (North Castle Citizen Corps Council) always establishes an emergency shelter at a moment's notice. Unfortunately due to Covid, we cannot at this time. However, we are working on various WIFI opportunities; as soon as we have a positive update I will advise.

REPORTING POWER OUTAGES:

Call Con Edison directly: (800) 752-6633 or visit their website at <u>www.coned.com</u>. Every residence should report their own outage directly to Con Edison in order for them to create a ticket.

You can also sign up for Con Edison Text Alerts by **Clicking** <u>Here</u>. And while on their website, you can find a <u>"map of</u> <u>outages"</u> and customize right down to North Castle.

EMERGENCIES and HAZARDS:

In case of Emergency call the North Castle Police Department (NCPD): 273-9500.

Please register for NIXLE to receive Police and Highway Alerts **www.nixle.com**.

If you use life-support Equipment – register with Con-Edison by filling out the life support equipment form on the <u>Con-Edison</u> website.

Dangerous conditions still exist like weak limbs, etc. Please be

careful!!

CAUTION: Do not drive around Police barriers or yellow Caution Tape once a road is closed. The NCPD closes a road because a hazard exists, and NEVER ATTEMPT TO TOUCH WIRES.

COVID: Don't forget – MASK UP!!! Keep distancing!!! Model Good Behavior and get used to it as it will be around for a while. A quick date update: We remain well below the county average of incident rates per population. We currently have 10 positive cases in Town, and our total since Covid began is 217. We can report these numbers, but that is all that we can and will report, thus please understand and appreciate that due to confidentiality laws, emails to us asking for any further info regarding details will not be responded to. It's easy to lose focus on Covid with this aggravating storm and power

outage, but we can't let our guard down. Also, if you have questions regarding your child's school attendance, you should direct those to your school district.

SOCIAL MEDIA FOR TOWN INFO: As always, follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Stay safe!

Mike Michael Schiliro - Supervisor Town of North Castle

