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TO THE EDITOR:

There have been numerous rumors that our Village has made it hard for Waldbaums supermarket to remodel its store. For your information our Planning Board, Architectural Board of Review (ARB) and Building Inspector agree on the following notes:

- Feb. 10, 2005      Applicant's (Waldbaums') Representative requests holdover.
- Mar. 10, 2005      Holdover – no one appeared.
- Apr 14, 2005      Trying to obtain Suffolk Co. Board of Health approval. Planning Board asked why hasn't applicant shown up at prior meetings and work session to present other elements of site plan. Applicant's response was "that is my client's call". Heldover.
- May 12, 2005      Engineering firm appeared for applicant. Claimed Dept. of Health holding up application. Discussed several site items, but did not bring any documentation for review. Board Chairman noted nothing has happened on this application, and encouraged applicant to show up at work session to finalize items so application would be ready to be approved once the Board of Health issues are resolved. Heldover.
- June 9, 2005      Applicant discusses site plan. Drainage, parking spaces, ingress and exiting of trucks etc. Board issued "negative declaration" under SEQRA review to assist applicant in obtaining Suffolk Co. Board of Health approval. Heldover.
- July 14, 2005      Discussed details of site plan with Waldbaums. Board of Health approval still has not been received. Board notes the fact that Waldbaums has not presented the application in a timely manner resulting in delays. Heldover.
- Aug. 11, 2005      Applicant spoke briefly about some finalizing details, but still waiting for Suffolk Co. Board of Health approval. Heldover.
- Sept. 8, 2005      Applicant advises Suffolk Co. Board of Health approval received this date. Board acknowledged that the application was now complete, and would prepare an approval resolution for the next meeting.
- Oct. 13, 2005      Planning Board read and approved the approval resolution for Waldbaums supermarket remodeling application, which included agreed upon covenants and restrictions and a property exchange which must be filed.
- Dec. 8, 2005      Applicant's attorney appeared before the Board. Applicant did not have certain documents because the owner of the property did not sign them yet.
- Mar. 9, 2006      Applicant's attorney appeared and stated the applicant had changed the agreed upon covenant without Board approval. Heldover.

Apr. 13, 2006 Applicant's attorney advises landlord has now agreed to sign cross access covenant, and also would need a time extension to file for a building permit. Board approved applicant's request.

May 11, 2006 All outstanding covenants recorded and performance bond paid. Applicant MAY FILE FOR THEIR BUILDING PERMIT WHENEVER THEY ARE READY.

June-Oct. 2006 No exemption request from Village Moratorium is filed. No plans or building permit is filed by applicant.

Nov. 28, 2006 Waldbaums files for building permit.

Nov. 29, 2006 Building Department notifies applicant that they must file for an exemption from the Moratorium that they are eligible for.

Dec. 5, 2006 Planning Board notifies Village Trustees that they support Waldbaums application for exemption which still has not been filed.

Jan. 4, 2007 Trustees grant Waldbaums project an exemption from the Moratorium.

Jan. 5, 2007 Demolition permit was filed, and project to go before ARB at their Jan. 16, 2007 meeting.

Jan. 16, 2007 Architectural Review Board (ARB) approves Waldbaums' design.

Jan. 31, 2007 BUILDING PERMIT ISSUED (#P070018) and in effect today.

For an eight (8) month period, Feb 2005 through October 2005 the Waldbaums application was delayed by the applicant's lack of action and lack of progress with Suffolk Co. Board of Health, both of which are totally outside the authority of the Village Planning Board.

Once the Suffolk Co. Board of Health approval was submitted the Planning Board issued an approval within 30 days. From Oct. 13, 2005 to May 11, 2006 a seven (7) month period this applicant did nothing except to try to eliminate a standard cross access agreement.

For another six (6) months, May 11, 2006 until Nov. 28, 2006 the applicant (Waldbaums) did nothing.

I ascribe this work project delay not to the Village or to the Suffolk Co. Board of Health approval, but to Waldbaums total lack of ability to move their own bureaucracy.

Sincerely,

Conrad Teller, Mayor