

MEMORANDUM

Croton **IDEA** Advisory Committee

DATE: August 28, 2025

TO: Croton Board of Trustees
Manager Healy
Mayor Pugh
Superintendent Balbi
Superintendent Duncan
Croton Recreation Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: Signage Recommendation for Silver Lake Accessibility

Introduction

The Croton-on-Hudson IDEA Advisory Committee respectfully submits this memo to the Croton-on-Hudson Board of Trustees, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and the Recreation Advisory Committee, recommending the installation of clear and informative signage at Silver Lake. This signage should notify residents of the available lower-level drop-off and pick-up option and the corresponding office phone number to help ensure that Silver Lake beach is accessible and enjoyable to all members of our community.

Background

Silver Lake is a valued destination for Croton-on-Hudson residents, offering scenic beauty, a community meeting space, and a place to find relief from the summer heat. However, access to the beach currently requires navigating a steep slope, which can be a significant obstacle for seniors and individuals with limited mobility. Although driving to the lower level for drop-off and pick-up is permitted, many residents remain unaware of this important option.

Rationale for Signage

- **Increase Accessibility:** Informing residents about the drop-off/pick-up option empowers those with mobility issues to visit and enjoy the beach, fostering greater inclusivity and community participation.
- **Support for Seniors:** Enhanced awareness will help seniors and others with physical limitations actively enjoy village amenities.
- **Promote Equity:** Ensuring all residents can enjoy public spaces aligns with Croton-on-Hudson's commitment to fairness and equal opportunity.
- **Reflect Responsive Leadership:** Proactively meeting residents' needs demonstrates thoughtful governance and strengthens public trust.

Recommended Signage Content

Signage should be installed at strategic locations, such as entry points and parking areas, using clear language and accessible design. Suggested content includes:

- **Headline:** Need easier access to Silver Lake beach?
- **Body:** With prior notice, residents may be dropped off and picked up at the lower level.
- **Instructions:** Call the Silver Lake office at (914) 271-4766 for confirmation.
- **Accessibility Iconography:** Utilize internationally recognized accessibility symbols to ensure clarity for all visitors.

Implementation Considerations

- Install signage at all relevant entry points and parking areas.
- Ensure signs are visible, readable, and weather-resistant.
- Provide information in English and Spanish.
- Update summer newsletters to publicize the drop-off service.

Conclusion

The Croton-on-Hudson IDEA Advisory Committee strongly recommends installing signage to promote the lower-level drop-off and pick-up option at Silver Lake. This practical step will make the beach area more accessible for all residents, especially seniors and those with mobility concerns. Clear communication of this service will allow more community members to enjoy this cherished local resource. We encourage village leadership to act promptly to foster a more inclusive and welcoming environment for everyone.