

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Mayor Jim Reardon announced today that the Village of Rhinebeck will be undertaking an aggressive campaign targeting individuals that are illegally parking vehicles. Last year the village took steps to provide for motorist and pedestrian safety by installing signs that restricted parking adjacent to intersections and also installed two handicapped accessible crosswalks in the downtown business district. Reardon states “due to the fact that people are ignoring the signs and pavement markings we are now going to be targeting those individuals that are breaking the law. These signs are there for a reason, to provide adequate sight lines so that motorists have a clear view at intersections and can see pedestrians when they enter the crosswalks”.

Vehicle and Traffic law section 1202 pertaining to crosswalks provides for no stopping, standing or parking in a crosswalk and is cited below.

1202(a)2b within twenty feet of a cross walk at an intersection, unless a different distance is indicated by official signs, markings or parking meters.

1202(a)1d Stopping, standing, or parking prohibited in specified places. Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or when in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or official traffic control device, no person shall: (1) stop stand or park a vehicle: (d) on a cross walk.

“There has been a rash of occurrences over the last several weeks and several near misses at the crosswalk locations states Reardon and we will not tolerate this type of behavior. I personally have witnessed it and when I asked one individual to please move their car out of the designated crosswalk zone they asked me if I was a cop. When I responded I was the Mayor I was arrogantly told by the individual that I am a long time resident and I vote and I will remember this, even though they are not a village resident. There seems to be a pervasive entitlement mentality on some individuals’ part that the law does not apply to them”. “The law is the law adds Reardon and I do not care who you are, either abide by it or pay the price. I find it offensive that because an individual is too lazy to walk that they think they have the right to break the law and put other people at risk of injury or possibly death. We will not stand idly by and let that happen”.

In closing Reardon states “we are prepared to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the safety of the public”.