

# Receive a VCP door knocker filled with propaganda, gaslighting, and misinformation?

**We did too.**

***Here are the actual facts:***



**TIRED OF THE LIES  
KNOCKING AT  
YOUR DOOR?**

## **Not a Party Town: Role of SCNPP in Scarsdale's Electoral Process is to Support, not Dictate**

- “Scarsdale Citizens’ Non-Partisan Party” is a mouthful – **but it’s not really a “political party” in the traditional sense.** It exists solely to help elect nominees of the Citizens Nominating Committee (CNC).
- The nomination of Mayor, Village Trustees and Village Justice is not tied to individuals’ affiliation with any party, hence the name “Non-Partisan System.” Elected village leaders do not belong to any party or pledge to any platform. **They serve the entire community.**

***Don’t be misled.*** Unfortunately, there is a concerted effort by individuals affiliated with the Voters Choice Party (VCP) to frame this election as one “party” vs another, or “the establishment” vs “the underdogs.” There is no “Establishment.”

## **No Donkeys or Elephants Allowed: Scarsdale’s Dynamic Non-Partisan System**

- Decades ago, a resolution established the CNC’s detailed nominating system without Democrats or Republicans. The documented process has been amended over 40 times; voter approved.
- The CNC is an elected committee of 30 Scarsdale residents -- six from each of the five school districts -- that fully turns over every three years.
- The CNC is empowered to solicit candidates, review their attributes, and nominate candidates.
- Hundreds of diverse residents have participated in this nominating process in just the past twenty years. Again, there is no "establishment." Leadership and membership change annually.

***Don’t be misled:*** Claims by the Voters Choice Party of corruption and bias are categorically false and seek to discredit the integrity of the hundreds who have given their time and energy in good faith.

## 4 PINOCCHIO CLAIMS

**Claim:** The “Voters Choice Party” offers transparency, options and diversity.

**Fact:** The “Voters Choice Party” is opaque, static and not diverse.

Created a few years ago, the VCP discloses no nominating process, no board members, no by-laws, no distinguishing platform, and no voting or vetting procedures. The “Voters Choice Party” has repeatedly promoted the same candidate, seemingly a party founder, multiple times without a successful election. This year, their slate is all white men over 50.

**Claim:** The Voters Choice Party “Halted Freightway”

**Fact:** The Village seeks to explore the complex issues and unique development opportunities in a methodical and inclusive process. No outcomes are pre-determined.

- An inclusive Steering Committee composed of residents, merchants and Village staff publicly conducted a visioning study of the site in 2017-2018. Vision guidelines were established.
- The BOE appointed a liaison to the committee; a critical partnership from inception.
- The Village Government involved the Scarsdale school district administration and Board of Education from the beginning and held the first joint meeting to discuss impact in March 2019.
- Preliminary plans were presented to the community in December 2019.
- The developers’ proposals did not meet the vision of the Trustees or the greater community. After listening to community feedback during the meeting in December 2019, the Village Board decided to pause the Freightway redevelopment process.

**Allocated Funds:** The overwhelming majority of Scarsdale citizens have expressed their support for redeveloping the Freightway site in some way. The 2020-21 budget includes some funds for the possibility of further study, supporting long-term planning and stewardship. No funds have been spent.

*“The Voters Choice Party” did not “halt” the project -- if anything, they unnecessarily inflamed the situation by widely spreading misleading and inaccurate information about the project and baselessly insinuating corruption.*

**Claim:** “The Voters Choice Party successfully lobbied the School District for split-tax payments.”

**Fact:** The Village has always shown a willingness to bend over backwards to help residents with their taxes.

For example, over Christmas break 2017, the Village worked tirelessly to allow residents to pay a full year’s worth of taxes to avoid being affected by the elimination of the SALT deduction.

Once the School Board requested the Village move forward with split tax payments (something that had been considered in the past but rejected), the Village Board moved quickly to implement.

Implementing ideas from residents happens regularly; one of the biggest resident-driven initiatives in recent years was the introduction of composting and curbside compost pickup.

**Claim:** “The Voters Choice Party fought for reduced taxes without impacting services”  
**Fact:** Many believe that “Voters Choice Party” budget cut suggestions were impractical, ill-conceived and misguided, and that some may have put the health and safety of residents in jeopardy.

For example, the VCP recommended we defund the budget by \$1 million in overtime expenses for our professional fire department and have our volunteer firefighters (residents) pick up the overtime shifts instead. Query whether it would have been advisable, let alone feasible, to completely overhaul the operating model of our fire department at the height of a pandemic.

**Claim:** “Scarsdale Village fines residents for removing trees to protect their families”  
**Fact:** This is false.

Removing a hazardous tree does not require a permit fee nor a replacement tree. If an actual public safety emergency is occurring, the Village Code also allows residents to notify Village staff and take action without a permit.

**Claim:** “The CNC has never selected a person of color for Trustee”  
**Fact:** ANY United States citizen (a legal requirement) that is interested in running for Mayor, Trustee or Village Justice is fairly considered by CNC and supported by the Scarsdale Citizens Non-Partisan Party.

Many residents, including numerous people of color, have been asked to submit their resumes. The insinuation that the CNC has based any of its decisions on the race of the applicant is extremely insulting to the hundreds of residents who have served on the CNC over just the past twenty years.

Scarsdalians should be proud that we were one of the first communities in Westchester to elect a female mayor. (Jean Stone was nominated by the CNC and elected to serve as Scarsdale's Mayor back in 1981.)

Any of the VCP slate are always welcome to submit their candidacy to the CNC.

***BOTTOM LINE -- Don't be misled:***

The Village is well-run, transparent and offers data-driven governance, as is evident by the quality services and relative comfort of our daily lives in Scarsdale. Claims of secretive mismanagement are categorically false.  
**Don't believe the door-knob hype!**

**Vote Row B, Justin Arest, Lena Crandall, and Randall Whitestone  
Candidates nominated by proven process for their character and judgment**