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PRESS RELEASE

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First Selectman Richard Bergstresser Appoints New Parking and Traffic Committee Chairs

August 13, 2003 ... First Selectman Richard Bergstresser today named Jo Ann Messina as chair of the Selectman's Parking & Traffic Committee and Mary DeSilva as Vice Chair. Ms. Messina succeeds Betsy Jordan Hand, who recently stepped down in anticipation of a move to Boulder, Colorado.

"During Betsy's tenure as chair of the committee, she was a fierce advocate of transportation planning in Greenwich," said Mr. Bergstresser. "She led a strong, broad-based ad hoc committee that proposed creative alternatives to the recent attempt to pass a parking fund charter change. Betsy also was instrumental in completing two recent reports that will be used to improve parking and traffic in the years ahead: the Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB) Central Business District Traffic Report and the Desman Parking Report.

"Jo Ann's appointment comes at an auspicious time for the Town of Greenwich," said Mr. Bergstresser. "Her professional and business experience will be key as we implement the traffic and parking reports."

Ms. Messina currently is the managing director of her family's business, Sound Shore Indoor Tennis in Port Chester and for over a decade she was an administrator in the New Jersey court system. From 1983 to 1990, Ms. Messina was Court Administrator, responsible for all non-legal aspects of the judiciary. She moved the judiciary to a new \$15 million courthouse and managed more than 400 employees in New Jersey.

Ms. Messina has also participated actively in the non-partisan League of Women Voters (LWV) of Greenwich, serving as its president from 1999 to 2002. During her tenure as president, the League completed a two-year study of the Executive Branch of Town government, which culminated in the recent Charter Review Committee. Several Committee charter recommendations will be brought to the voters in the fall election.

As Parking and Traffic chair, Ms. Messina also will serve ex officio on the Selectman's Transportation Committee. She remains active in the LWV, serving currently as vice president of the LWV of Connecticut. She and her husband Serle Mosoff, a lawyer, have lived in Greenwich for 11 years; their daughter Jonna will be a second grader at Julian Curtiss School.

Vice Chair of the committee is Riverside resident Mary DeSilva, who is president of Smart Kids, a specialty toy store on East Elm Street in Greenwich. "Mary brings a vital retail perspective to the committee," said Mr. Bergstresser. "She understands the urgency of addressing the parking issues in town and she also brings advertising and marketing skills to the table."

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In addition to Smart Kids, Ms. DeSilva founded several e-tail stores and is past president and board member of the National Specialty Retail Association. Previously she was marketing and advertising manager for hospital and engineering companies in Fairfield County. She serves on the board of the Greenwich Arts Council and recently served on the Beach Task Force and on the boards of the Perrot Memorial Library, Friends of Greenwich Point and Junior Achievement of Fairfield County.

Ms. DeSilva and her husband Roland, an investment banker, have lived in Old Greenwich and then Riverside for 27 years. They have three grown children who attended Greenwich schools and two grandchildren.

The Parking and Traffic Committee is an advisory committee to the First Selectman. Other members of the committee are R. Michael Dunne, Vincent DiMarco, Carol Ducret, Mary Ann Morrison and Tim Schipper. Liaisons to the committee are Board of Estimate & Taxation member Robert Stone and Planning & Zoning commissioner Charles Weiss. Regular resources to the committee are Department of Public Works Commissioner Marcos Madrid, Lieutenant Mark Kordick, Traffic Engineer Garo Garabedian, Traffic Operations Supervisor William Brown and Melissa Evans.

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