

# COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING  
DIVISION OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT  
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Gloria Russo  
Chairperson  
CEQ

## **SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MINUTES**

DATE: September 21, 2016  
TIME: 9:40 am – 12:15 am  
LOCATION: Arthur Kunz Library  
H. Lee Dennison Bldg. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, New York

### PRESENT:

Gloria Russo, Chair  
Michael Kaufman, Vice Chair  
Robert Carpenter Jr.  
Frank De Rubeis  
Michael Doall  
Eva Growney  
Hon. Kara Hahn  
Mary Ann Spencer

### ABSENT:

Thomas Gulbransen  
Constance Kepert  
Larry Swanson

### CAC REPRESENTATIVES:

None

### STAFF:

Andrew Freleng, Chief Planner  
John Corral, Senior Planner  
Christine DeSalvo, Senior Clerk Typist

**GUESTS:**

Hon. Al Krupski, Suffolk County Legislator, District #1  
Catherine Stark, Suffolk County Legislative Aide for Legislator Krupski, District #1  
Alyssa Turano, Suffolk County Legislative Aide for Legislator Hahn, District #5  
Michael Pitcher, Director of Communications, Suffolk County Presiding Officer's Office  
Lauretta Fischer, Chief Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment  
Frank Castelli, Environmental Projects Coordinator, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Water Quality  
Gil Anderson, Commissioner, Suffolk County Department of Public Works  
John Donovan, Chief Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Public Works  
Nick Gibbons, Principal Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation  
Kenneth Zegel, Associate Public Health Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Health Services  
Christopher Lubicich, Associate Public Health Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Health Services  
Eric Hofmeister, District Director, Senator Croci  
Joseph Dean, Superintendent Public Works, Village of Patchogue  
Joseph Keyes, Trustee, Village of Patchogue  
Steven Uccellini, Project Engineer, Village of Patchogue  
Dan Murphy, Gold Star Father of Lt. Michael Murphy  
Paul Dobiecki, Architect, Lt. Murphy Navy Seal Museum  
Vince Calrosa, Builder, Lt. Murphy Navy Seal Museum  
John M. Wagner, Attorney  
Joseph Prokop, Esq. Village Attorney, Village of Islandia  
Michael Zaleski, Village of Islandia  
Lara Urvat, Nelson Pope & Voorhis  
Robert Loscalze, C.O.O TriTec  
Mark Wagner, Principal, Cameron Engineering  
John Cameron, Managing Partner, Cameron Engineering

**Minutes:**

Minutes for the August 17, 2016, CEQ minutes were reviewed and discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to approve the August 17, 2016 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

A letter was received from Edward Romaine, Supervisor of the Town of Brookhaven, regarding the Ronkonkoma Hub Development Sanitary Pumping Station and Force Main Piping Systems, Town of Brookhaven, Town of Islip and Village of Islandia. This letter was discussed during the project review of the Ronkonkoma Hub Sanitary Pumping Station and Force Main Piping System.

**Public Portion:**

None

**Historic Trust Docket:**

Director's Report:

Mr. Martin updated the Council on the following:

- **Housing Program:**  
Mr. Martin noted that there is nothing new to report on the housing program. Suffolk County Parks is continuing to work on the interior renovations at Blydenburgh Cottage in Blydenburgh County Park.
- **Custodial Agreements:**  
Mr. Martin noted that there are no new updates on the custodial agreements. It was discussed that the Parks Department continues to work on the pending custodial agreements and they are moving forward.

Mr. Martin also noted that Meadow Croft County Park, is available for the October 19, 2016 CEQ meeting. Chairwoman Russo confirmed that the CEQ will hold the October 19, 2016 meeting at the Meadow Croft Estate in Sayville.

**Project Review:**

**Recommended Unlisted Actions: (Taken Out of Order)**

- B. Proposed Ronkonkoma Hub Development Sanitary Pumping Station and Force Main Piping Systems, Town of Brookhaven, Town of Islip and Village of Islandia

John Donovan, Chief Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Public Works, and Gil Anderson, Commissioner, Suffolk County Department of Public Works gave a presentation on the project. The proposed project involves the construction of a sanitary pumping station and a seven mile long force main and gravity line piping system to convey the generated wastewater from the Ronkonkoma Hub Transit Oriented Development project to the Southwest Sewer District No. 3 and ultimately to the existing Bergen Point Sewage Treatment System. The project is also being designed to allow for possible future connections to the proposed pumping station and force main piping system.

Mr. Donovan noted that this project was previously before the CEQ in January, 2015 when the project was stopped due to issues the Village of Islandia had with the project. Mr. Donovan noted that the issues the Village of Islandia had with the project have been resolved and that Suffolk County is going to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Village to satisfy the Village's concerns and insure that the Village will not oppose the project. Mr. Donovan also noted that the project information submitted by the Suffolk County Department of Public Works includes information to address the questions raised by the CEQ at the January, 2015 meeting.

As part of its project review the CEQ discussed the following topics:

- Mr. Kaufman asked for clarification regarding how the force main will be constructed through the Connetquot River Headwaters area. It was discussed that to minimize impacts either a pipe jacking process or direction drilling process will be used where the force main crosses the Connetquot River headwaters. It was also discussed that all work will be done in the existing road right-of-way.
- Chairwoman Russo summarized a letter received by the CEQ dated September 20, 2016 from the Town of Brookhaven Supervisor Edward Romaine regarding the project. The letter stated that the Town of Brookhaven is concerned about pumping the wastewater for the Ronkonkoma Hub development to the Southwest Sewer District instead of the original plan to construct a Sewage Treatment Plant adjacent to the Ronkonkoma Hub Project. The letter also notes the Supervisor's concern of groundwater being pumped out of the Magothy Aquifer and then being discharged as treated effluent to the ocean. Commissioner Anderson noted that the Suffolk County Department of Public Works has looked at the issue of replenishing groundwater and the issue of sending wastewater to the Bergen Point Sewage Treatment Plant. It was noted by Commissioner Anderson that there is a clay lens between the Upper Glacial Aquifer and the Magothy Aquifer. It was also noted that even at full buildout the 1.5 million gallons per day that will be pumped to the Bergen Point Sewage Treatment Plant still represents a very small percentage of water not being recharged back into the aquifer. Legislator Krupski also asked an additional question on the issue of groundwater recharge and overdrafting and whether the issue has been considered for this project. It was noted that the Suffolk County Department of Public Works spoke with Joe Pokorny the chief engineer for Suffolk County Water Authority which services the project area. Mr. Pokorny informed the Suffolk County Department of Public Works that he did not believe the amount of water being removed from the aquifer would have an impact on the Suffolk County Water Authority water supply wells. This was based on the magnitude of the wastewater flow being pumped to the Bergen Point Sewage Treatment Plant in comparison to the magnitude of a

Suffolk County Water Authority pumping well.

- The possibility of additional connections to the line was also discussed. It was noted that it will be possible for connections to occur along the line including in the Village of Islandia but there are no specific identified connections at this time. It was also noted that Suffolk County is working on the planning stages to consider connecting the McArthur Airport Industrial Park to the sewer line. Legislator Hahn noted that the possibility of other communities connecting to the proposed sewer line would result in the project having added environmental benefit.
- The CEQ also noted that there should be a few edits made to the EAF and that Mr. Kaufman would work with the staff to make these edits prior to the Legislature reviewing the EAF and making its SEQRA determination for this project.
- The Village Attorney, Mr. Prokop said that he would like to thank the County in their efforts in developing the IMA between the County and the Village but noted that the IMA has not yet been finalized. Mr. Prokof also asked that the Village's original comments be taken into account when edits are made to the project EAF.
- The CEQ noted that while at this time the CEQ is reviewing this sewer connection project it is important that as Suffolk County considers future projects that the County have an overall long term strategy for sewerage and wastewater treatment.

After the extended discussion a motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

**Project Review:**

**Recommended Type 1 Actions:**

- A. Proposed LT Michael P. Murphy Navy Seal Museum at Suffolk County's West Sayville Golf Course Property, Town of Islip

Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services, Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, Dan Murphy, Father of LT Michael Murphy and Paul Dobiecki, Architect for the Navy Seal Museum gave a presentation on the project. The project involves construction of a new one story 10,500 square feet structure and a connected 70 foot tall tower to be located in a cleared area of the pinetum (pine tree area) at Suffolk County's West Sayville Golf Course Property. The proposed structure will be used for a Navy Seal Museum as well as for a Navy Sea Cadet Corps Training Facility. The project also includes a new egress driveway to West Avenue, a new walkway with display areas and new vegetative plantings.

After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend classification of the proposed project as a Type 1 Action with a Negative Declaration. The

motion included that no ancillary equipment will be placed on the proposed museum tower. The motion was seconded by Legislator Hahn. Motion carried.

It was discussed that the CEQ as the Historic Trust also needed to do a separate resolution for the Suffolk County Historic Trust approval of the proposed LT Michael Murphy Navy Seal Museum at Suffolk County's West Sayville Golf Course Property.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to approve the proposed LT Michael Murphy Navy Seal Museum at Suffolk County's West Sayville Golf Course with the provision that the applicant will continue to work with the Suffolk County Parks Department and the Suffolk County Historic Trust Committee on new landscaping and on the final design of the museum building. The motion was seconded by Hon. Hahn. Motion carried. Ms. Spencer abstained.

**B. Suffolk County Wastewater Management Program for the Mitigation of Nitrogen Impacts from Wastewater Sources**

Kenneth Zegel, Associate Public Health Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Health Services gave a presentation on the proposed project. The proposed project is for the approval and implementation of a County-wide wastewater program to mitigate nitrogen impacts emanating from wastewater sources. Mr. Zegel noted that the Suffolk County Department of Health Services plans to work with the CEQ and Legislature to complete a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for this project. It was also noted that the GEIS will include a public scoping session.

After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend classification of the proposed project as a Type 1 Action with a Positive Declaration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

**Project Review:**

**Recommended Unlisted Actions:**

**C. Proposed Little Creek Stormwater Mitigation Project, Village of Patchogue**

Frank Castelli, Environmental Projects Coordinator, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning and Joseph Dean, Superintendent of Public Works, Village of Patchogue gave a presentation of the proposed project. The proposed project involves the reconstruction of the drainage system at the south end of Little Creek to improve drainage capacity. This reconstruction involves the removal and replacement of a check valve vault and three 30" inch pipes with three new pipes to be anchored to the bay bottom. To facilitate collection and removal of debris a new headwall is also proposed to be constructed approximately 50 feet to the north of the bulkhead.

After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

D. Proposed Clean Lakes Patchogue Project - Patchogue Lake Aerator Installation, Village of Patchogue

Frank Castelli, Environmental Projects Coordinator, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning gave a presentation regarding the project. The proposed project involves the installation of four aerators in Patchogue Lake for the purpose of increasing the water current to oxygenate, aerate and improve the overall water quality of the Lake.

After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

E. Proposed Lake Agawam Stormwater Remediation Phase IV Project, Village of Southampton

Frank Castelli, Environmental Projects Coordinator, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, and Lara Urvat with Nelson Pope & Voorhis gave a presentation on the proposed project. The proposed project involves the installation of a series of leaching pools along Culver Street and Ox Pasture Road in the Village of Southampton to reduce stormwater runoff to Lake Agawam. The drainage systems are proposed to be installed within the road right-of-ways and would not result in a change to impervious cover.

After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

F. Proposed Meadow Road Stormwater Management Project, Town of Smithtown

Frank Castelli, Environmental Projects Coordinator, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning and Allyson Murray, Environmental Planner, Town of Smithtown gave a presentation on the proposed project. The proposed project involves the construction of a bio-swale along Meadow Road to facilitate stormwater management of inputs to Mill Pond, the Nissequoque River and the Long Island Sound.

After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

- A. Proposed Acquisition of Land Under the New Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program – Open Space Component – North Fork Preserve Addition – for the Alan S. Gorman DDS, PC 401K Plan Property, Town of Riverhead

Lauretta Fischer, Chief Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning gave a presentation on the proposed project. The project involves the acquisition of 5.591+ acres of land by Suffolk County under the New Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program and its dedication to the Suffolk County Parks Department in order to assure it remain in open space for passive recreational use.

After discussion a motion was made by Ms. Growney to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Russo. Motion carried.

**Project Review:**

**Recommendations for LADS Report:**

Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table September 7, 2016.

Mr. Corral noted that the staff's SEQRA recommendations are listed on the September 7, 2016 LADS reports.

Mr. Kaufman made a motion to accept staff recommendations for the September 7, 2016 Legislative Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

**Other Business:**

Ms. Russo, Chair of the CEQ, welcomed and introduced the two newest CEQ Members Frank De Rubeis and Michael Doall.

**CAC Concerns:**

None

Meeting Adjourned