

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR KARA HAHN



FIFTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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**LEGISLATOR HAHN REAPPOINTED
AS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Selected to also serve on Economic Development, Public Safety and Parks committees

PORT JEFFERSON, NY – Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn (D-Setauket) has been reappointed by Presiding Officer William Lindsay to serve as Chairwoman of the Legislature’s Environment, Planning and Agricultural [EPA] committee for 2013. Overseeing the County’s land acquisition programs, water quality improvements initiatives, farmland protection efforts, smart growth planning and numerous other projects, the EPA committee is central to many of the functions of County Government. As Chairwoman, Legislator Hahn has direct oversight of the Suffolk County’s planning division, County Planning Commission and matters that deal with our local environment.

In addition to chairing the environmental committee, Legislator Hahn has been appointed to serve as a member of Economic Development & Energy and will remain a member of the Parks & Recreation and Public Safety Committees.

“There is much work still ahead of us environmentally and I am grateful for the opportunity and confidence that the Presiding Officer and my colleagues have given me,” said Legislator Hahn.

“We have many important policy decisions ahead of us, and I look forward to working with my

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fellow legislators in setting a course to be stronger protectors of our drinking water and our bays and waterways.”

Inspired by her service as Chairwoman of the Environment, Planning and Agriculture Committee, Legislator Hahn authored several bills during 2012 that are intended to green our county and protect its fragile ecosystem. The initiatives include requiring the consideration of green methodologies for certain county construction projects ([Resolution 149](#)); prohibiting the acceptance of toxic hydrofacking wastewater in Suffolk County ([Resolution 244](#)); creating a memorial arbor program in our county parks ([Resolution 310](#)); recycling surplus catch basin inserts by donating them to towns and villages working to filter roadway runoff before entering area waterways ([Resolution 313](#)); planning for a possible acquisition of the southern portion of Detmer Farm in Setauket ([Resolution 877](#)) and strengthening the requirements for safely disposing of expired or unused medications ([Introductory Resolution 1929](#)).

One of the most important initiatives that Legislator Hahn spearheaded last year that remains before the Committee in 2013 is the policy to have all parcels being considered by Suffolk County for potential acquisition evaluated using a uniform rating system ([Resolution 298](#)). This will allow policy makers to prioritize land purchases at a time when revenue for such acquisitions has been on the decline. The Suffolk County Division of Planning completed its evaluation in December and will present findings to the Committee at its first meeting on Monday, January 28, 2013.

“This is an important time and I look forward to my service on all of these committees, and particularly on Environment, Planning and Agriculture and Economic Development & Energy where we will be challenged to make decisions that will help us achieve a cleaner, stronger and more prosperous tomorrow,” Legislator Hahn concluded.

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