



TOM CILMI
Suffolk County Legislator
10th District

For Immediate Release

Date: January 27, 2016

Contact: Maria Barbara
(631) 854-0940 (office)
(516) 457-2573 (cell)
maria.barbara@suffolkcountyny.gov

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ISSUED TO REDEVELOP ISLIP PROPERTIES

The Suffolk County Land Bank Corporation (SCLBC), created in 2013 by the Suffolk County Legislature to address brownfield properties in Suffolk County, has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the redevelopment of five properties located in the Town of Islip, including a 1.5 acre parcel on Grant Avenue formerly known as the Lawrence Junkyard.

The RFP, which can be found at SuffolkCountyLandBank.org, contains detailed information about each parcel. The deadline for submittal is March 18 and there is a proposers webinar on February 16.

Brownfield properties are typically tax delinquent and are suspected to have varying levels of environmental contamination as a result of their prior use. Taxes on the Grant Avenue property were last paid in 1991; back taxes exceed half a million dollars. According to the RFP, environmental studies in 2014 and 2015 found "multiple environmental conditions" which need to be addressed before development can occur.

Legislator Tom Cilmi, who was a sponsor of the land bank legislation and sits on the board of the SCLBC, is hopeful that the junkyard, which peaked his interest in brownfields shortly after he was elected, as well as the other properties will soon be cleaned up and placed back on the tax rolls.

"This has been a long time coming and creating policies and procedures for the Land Bank has been an arduous task," said Cilmi, "but I'm beginning to see a light at the end of the tunnel. Hopefully soon we'll see the remediation of this and other properties, which benefits our environment. We'll put the properties back on the tax rolls, which means millions of dollars of savings for taxpayers. And we'll restore these properties to productive uses relieving neighborhoods of existing blight. This is a win all around and the finish line is in sight. It's very exciting."

Cilmi is encouraging all interested parties to respond.

RFP can be found here: <http://suffolkcountylandbank.org/Portals/35/RFP/SCLBC%20RFP%20-%20Acquisition%20and%20Development%2001-22-2016.pdf>

###