

NEWS FROM LEGISLATOR

ROB CALARCO



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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-MEDIA RELEASE-

SOUTH SHORE COASTAL PROTECTION TASK FORCE CONVENES INAUGURAL MEETING

Yaphank, LI – Thursday, July 11, 2013: Legislator Rob Calarco yesterday attended the first meeting of the South Shore Coastal Protection Task Force. Legislator Calarco passed a resolution in May creating the committee.

“Yesterday’s meeting was focused on setting goals and devising a comprehensive approach to review existing data so the Task Force can present their findings in six months to the Legislature. All up and down the Eastern seaboard communities are dealing with stormwater issues, sea level rise and aging infrastructure; the south coast of Suffolk County is no different. This Task Force will conduct careful and scientific review that will help us develop strategies and set priorities for protecting the infrastructure and environment of Suffolk County’s South Shore. I’m energized by this first meeting and excited to see what comes out of this talented group of individuals,” said Legislator Calarco.

In the upcoming months the members will review various plans, such as the Fire Island to Montauk Point Reformulation Study (FIMP), currently being finalized by the US Army Corps of Engineers; various US Geological Services groundwater data reports; and existing Suffolk

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County infrastructure, shoreline and groundwater studies. In addition to evaluating the existing documentation, the committee is charged with identifying deficiencies and is expected to make recommendations where further work is needed.

The Task Force consists of eleven members, all of whom have experience in the fields of engineering, hydrogeology and environmental protection. Chaired by Gil Anderson, Suffolk County's Commissioner of Public Works, the committee also includes staff from Suffolk County's Departments of Public Works, Economic Development and Planning and the Department of Health Services; the US Geological Service; NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; Fire Island National Seashore; US Army Corps of Engineers; The Nature Conservancy; SUNY Stony Brook; and two members with significant municipal environmental experience.

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Suffolk County Legislator Rob Calarco represents the 7th Legislative District which includes Patchogue, East Patchogue, North Patchogue, and Medford. Smaller portions of Blue Point, Bellport, Coram, Farmingville, Holtsville, Ronkonkoma, and Fire Island are also included in the District. He is Chairman of the Government Operations, Personnel, Housing & Consumer Protection committee, Vice Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, as well as a member of the Health Committee and the Ways & Means Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature.