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BARRAGA: NEWS FROM THE 11TH DISTRICT

BARRAGA OPPOSES MAPLE AVENUE PROPOSAL

by Suffolk County Legislator Tom Barraga

Approximately 8 years ago I along with about 100 Bay Shore residents stood in a parking lot next to what, at one time, was the former Dr. King Hospital on Maple Avenue and Gibson and watched a wrecking ball demolish the old and unsightly building.

The people were told by the new owner of the property that a beautiful replacement building would be constructed consisting of high end luxury units that would be in keeping with the efforts of the Bay Shore Chamber of Commerce and the Summit Council in the continuing rebirth of the Hamlet of Bay Shore.

In the next 8 years the vacant lot that remained was a testament to what turned out to be a hollow promise and a constant eye sore. The residents were sold a bill of goods then, and under the current proposal are being deceived once again.

Bay Shore, over the years, has been a leader in establishing affordable housing for those in need and is justifiably proud of its commitment in this important area. However, in order to continue balanced residential growth, Bay Shore and the residents living in close proximity to the proposed facility need a building constructed that will offer units at Market Value. Units that will have residents, who by the very nature of what they are paying, to live in the building, will be making every effort to keep the facility in such a condition that it will be an attractive asset to Bay Shore and its surrounding neighbors on Maple Avenue.

The current proposal being offered could give a damn about the Hamlet of Bay Shore and surrounding residents and should be resoundly rejected.