

# COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



**STEVE LEVY**  
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING  
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Theresa Elkowitz  
CHAIRPERSON

James Bagg  
CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYST

## **SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING CONFERENCE ROOM MINUTES**

DATE: Wednesday, March 17, 2004

TIME: 9:35 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Voting Members - Theresa Elkowitz, Chairperson, Presiding; Larry Swanson, Vice Chairman; Jack Finkenberg, Adrienne Esposito, Lance Mallamo, Nancy Manfredonia and Michael Kaufman

**ABSENT:** Tom Cramer, Jay Schneiderman

### **STAFF:**

James Bagg, Chief Environmental Analyst  
Penny Kohler, Secretary

#### Departmental Staff:

Suffolk County Department of Planning  
Lauretta Fischer, Principal Planner

Suffolk County Legislature  
Charles Bender, Legislator Aide  
Kim Kennedy, Legislator Aide

Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation  
Ron Foley, Chief Deputy Commissioner  
Nick Gibbons, Environmental Analyst

Suffolk County Department of Public Works  
Ralph Borkowski, Landscape Architect  
Ben Wright, Chief Engineer  
Victor Keneiby, Senior Civil Engineer  
Chad Ahmad, Junior Civil Engineer  
Ed Cohen, Director of Highway Design

Suffolk County Department of Economic Development  
Carolyn E. Fahey, Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator  
Neil Toomb, Intergovernmental Analyst

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCILS:

Joy Squires, Town of Huntington

GUESTS:

Emerson Hasbrouck, Environmental Specialist, Cornell Marine Program  
Walter Bunny, Town of Southampton, DPW  
Serhad Given, R.F. Engineer, AWS  
Jacqueline Caputi, Atty. For AT & T, Munley Mende, Nielsen & Re  
Lorre Braussen, Biologist, Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Matt Scalfani, Biologist, Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Paul Testagrossa, RF Consultant, R. C. Petersen Assoc.  
Arif Malick, Engineer, PE, Malick & Scherer, PC

Chairperson Elkowitz opened the meeting at approximately 9:35 a.m.

MINUTES:

The February 18, 2004 CEQ meeting transcript from the Clerk of the Legislature's Office were not available for review and comment. Because it is a Legislative Committee week, the Legislature's court stenographer was not available to take a verbatim transcript of the CEQ meeting. It was noted that Suffolk County Planning Department would be taking the CEQ minutes pursuant to Roberts Rules of Order as set forth in the Council's by-laws. The meeting was tape-recorded which will be kept in the Council's files for future reference, if necessary. Ms. Elkowitz asked that all members and attendees identify themselves before speaking. Ms. Elkowitz read correspondence from Henry Barton, Clerk of the Legislature, regarding when his office will be taking verbatim transcripts of CEQ meetings. That service will only be available in the legislative auditorium when there is no legislative business scheduled.

PROJECT REVIEW:

1. *Ratification of Staff Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions laid on the Table – February 24, 2004.*

The members reviewed the recommendations of the CEQ staff regarding the February 24, 2004 Legislative introductory resolutions.

A motion was made to accept staff recommendations by Mr. Mallamo, seconded by Mr. Kaufman, with Mr. Kaufman abstaining from IR #1323. Motion passed unanimously.

2. *Proposed Planning Funds for Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services, County Building CO110, CP #3230, Yaphank County Complex, Yaphank Avenue, Yaphank, N.Y., Town of Brookhaven.*

Chairman Elkowitz read into the record the information submitted by Mr. Ralph

Borkowski, R.L.A. with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works. The action includes the planning only of the Interim Backup Fire-Rescue Communications Facility. The Council considered the project to be a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c) (20) and (21) as the action involves agency administration concerning conducting concurrent environmental, engineering, economic, feasibility and other studies and preliminary planning and budgetary processes necessary to the formulation of a proposal for action, provided those activities do not commit the agency to commence, engage in or approve such action.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend that the project is a Type II action, seconded by Mr. Mallamo. Unanimously approved.

3. *Proposed Installation of a Fueling Facility at Indian Island Golf Course, Town of Riverhead.*

A presentation on the proposal was given by Mr. Nick Gibbons, Environmental Analyst with the Suffolk County Department of Parks. This project includes the removal of an existing fueling facility near the Peconic River and construction of a new fueling facility at a better location within the Indian Island Golf Course County Park. The location of the existing facility impacts viewsheds and has the potential, due to its proximity to the river, to cause significant environmental impact should a spill happen. The new site is already cleared and is closer to the park maintenance facilities. It was noted that the project is an Unlisted action and not a Type II action. Mr. Gibbons then submitted a short EAF for the council's consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman, seconded by Mr. Swanson to classify this project as an unlisted action with a Negative Declaration. Unanimously approved.

4. *Proposed Modifications/Installations of Fire Alarm and Intrusion Alarm Systems @ Several Health Centers, Methadone Clinics and the Medical Examiners Building, CP #4064, Suffolk County.*

Chairman Elkowitz read into the record the information submitted by Mr. Ralph Borkowski, R.L.A. with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works. This project includes the installation of security systems at several Health Centers, Methadone Clinics and the Medical Examiners building. The Council considers the project to be a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c) (25) as this action concerns the purchase and installation of equipment involving no substantial changes to an existing structure.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia to recommend this project is a Type II action. Unanimously approved.

5. *Proposed Forensic Sciences Medical and Legal Consolidated Laboratory Equipment & Cleanup, CP #1109, Suffolk County.*

An overview regarding this proposal was given by Mr. Ralph Borkowski, R.L.A. with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works. The project includes the installation of

hoods and a cooling system for Toxicology, basement modification for the tissue storage area and soil contamination cleanup. The Council considers the proposal to be a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c), (2) and (25) as this action concerns the replacement and rehabilitation involving no substantial changes to an existing structure, or reconstruction of a structure or facility in kind as well as equipment purchase and installation.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend that the project is a Type II action, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia. Unanimously approved.

6. *Proposed Restoration of Historic Structures of the Long Island Maritime Museum at Charles R. Dominy County Park, West Sayville, Town of Islip.*

Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services did an overview regarding the project. The project includes a complete roof, gutter and leader replacement at the museum building, and the Penny Boat House needs to be painted. The Council considers this a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c) (2) since it involves replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds an of the thresholds in section 617.4 of Part 617 of Title 6 NYCRR. The Council as members of the Suffolk County Historic Trust also approves the maintenance and restoration of these historic structures.

A motion was made by Mr. Mallamo, seconded by Mr. Kaufman to recommend that this project is a Type II. Unanimously approved.

7. *Proposed Historic Restoration, Preservation, and Stabilization of Historic Buildings and Structures, Project No. 7510, within Suffolk County Parks.*

Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services did an overview regarding this project. The action concerns the need to stabilize the many existing and newly purchased historic sites prior to a complete restoration of the historic structures. The CEQ as members of the Suffolk County Historic Trust approves the maintenance and restoration of historic structures. The Council considers the project to be a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c), (1) and (2) since it involves maintenance of, and replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings or meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds an of the thresholds in section 617.4 of Part 617 of Title 6 NYCRR.

A motion was made by Mr. Mallamo to recommend that the project is a Type II action, seconded by Mr. Kaufman. Unanimously approved.

8. *Proposed Planning for Aviation Utility Infrastructure at Gabreski Airport, CP #5734, Town of Southampton.*

An overview of the proposal was given by Mrs. Carolyn Fahey, Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator of the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development.

This project includes the funding for planning and design for Project #5734, Aviation Utility (water and electric) Infrastructure at Gabreski Airport.

The Council considers this a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c), (20) and (21) as this action involves agency administration in connection with conducting environmental, engineering, economic, feasibility and other studies and preliminary planning and budgetary processes necessary to the formulation of a proposal which does not commit the agency to commence, engage in or approve such action.

A motion was made by Mr. Mallamo and seconded by Ms. Esposito recommending that this be a Type II action. Unanimously approved.

9. *Proposed Planning of the Maintenance Facility at Gabreski Airport, CP #5733, Town of Southampton.*

An overview of the proposal was given by Mrs. Carolyn Fahey, Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator of the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development. This project includes the funding for planning and design for Project #5733, New Maintenance Facility for Gabreski Airport. The Council considers this a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c), (20) and (21) as this action involves agency administration in connection with conducting environmental, engineering, economic, feasibility and other studies and preliminary planning and budgetary processes necessary to the formulation of a proposal which does not commit the agency to commence, engage in or approve such action.

Motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend that this project be a Type II action, seconded by Mr. Mallamo. Unanimously approved.

10. *Proposed Sewer District #18 – CP #8126, Hauppauge Industrial, Town of Smithtown.*

An overview of the proposal was given by Mr. Benjamin Wright, Chief Engineer with the Department of Public Works. The project involves abandonment of one of the Sewer District's two treatment plants in the area and reconstruction of the second plant with the capabilities of treating 1.65 million gpd to NYSDEC standards. The sewer service area will be expanded to include the entire industrial park, which would total approximately 400 parcels. Three remote pumping stations would be constructed, one which replaces the abandoned sewage treatment plant. Additional recharge area would be necessary from an adjacent Town of Smithtown water recharge basin. Over 250 parcels (770 acres) are currently utilizing on-site sewage systems and they will be hooked up to the expanded facilities. Traffic maintenance during the approximately two-year construction period will be important.

It was pointed out that the project is a Type I action requiring a coordinated SEQRA review. A lead agency from all involved agencies is required and therefore the county cannot proceed with the final SEQRA review until a lead agency is set in place.

A motion by Mr. Swanson, seconded by Mr. Kaufman was made to table the project pending the Department of Public Works seeking lead agency on behalf of Suffolk

County. Motion passed unanimously. Once the County is designated the SEQRA lead agency, the project should be resubmitted to the CEQ.

*11. Proposed Drainage Improvements on CR 67, Motor Parkway at DeForest Road, CP #5072, Town of Huntington.*

A presentation on the proposed action was given by Mr. Chad Ahmad, Junior Civil Engineer in the Department of Public Works. The project involves the expansion of an existing recharge basin within the existing fenced area adjacent to and south of CR 67 and west of De Forest Road. The recharge basin as currently configured is at capacity and during storm periods causes a back up and flooding problems south of Motor Parkway. The Town of Huntington owns the recharge basin, which is on town parkland. The project has been coordinated with the Town, which supports the project. The Council had concerns regarding the watershed area contributing to the recharge basin, the current capacity and proposed capacity of the basin, the depth to groundwater, clay lenses and perched water tables in the area, vista clearing of trees, NYSDEC's wetland classification, if any, and the possible alienation of parkland.

A motion was made by Mr. Mallamo, seconded by Mr. Swanson to table the project pending receipt of additional information addressing the concerns raised. The motion pass unanimously.

*12. Proposed Donation of Land for Open Space Preservation Purposes in the Mastic/Shirley Conservation Area (0.04 Acres), Town of Brookhaven.*

An overview was given by Lauretta Fischer, Principal Planner with the Suffolk County Department of Planning. The project involves the donation of .04 acres of property by Deborah T. Rogers and Prudence G. Westin for passive park purposes. The site is within the Mastic/Shirley Conservation Area.

A motion was made by Ms. Esposito, seconded by Mr. Mallamo to classify this project as an unlisted action with a Negative Declaration. Unanimously approved.

*Chairperson Elkowitz excused herself from the meeting for the next project as her company does work for various telecommunication companies. The meeting was then turned over to Vice Chair Lawrence Swanson for this project.*

*13. Proposed Wireless AT & T on Rooftop of H. Lee Dennison Building, Town of Islip.*

Ms. Jacqueline Caputi, Attorney for AT & T Wireless gave an overview of the project. It involves the construction of a 12' x 28' Equipment Shelter and 12 Panel Antennas at the H. Lee Dennison Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, New York.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia to classify this project as an unlisted action with a Negative Declaration. Opposed Mr. Finkenberg. Abstained Mr. Mallamo. Motion carried.

## OTHER BUSINESS:

### 1. *Revision to proposed improvements and expansion of Indian Island Campground, Town of Riverhead.*

Mr. Gibbons updated the Council on the revisions to the landscaping plan for the Indian Island campground project. The revised plan is being worked on by Parks and will be available in the near future. It will include the original plantings and new plantings. Mr. Gibbons will work with Council members Adrienne Esposito, Nancy Manfredonia and Tom Cramer and get their input prior to coming back to the CEQ.

### 2. *Draft EPA Stormwater Phase II Annual Report*

Mr. Emerson Hasbrouch, Environmental Specialist in the Cornell Marine Program gave an overview of the EPA Stormwater Phase II Program which is designed to reduce stormwater pollution loads that currently flow into the surface waters and estuaries of Suffolk County and at the same time not appreciably affect the inflow rates. The NYDEC SPDES program requires that a program annual report be submitted annually. The distribution of the report to the CEQ and interested parties fulfills part of the public information requirements of the USEPA.

### 3. *CEQ Meeting Change-*

Michael Deering of the County Executive's Office requested that the April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2004 CEQ meeting be held earlier in April so that temporary parking for the U.S. Open at Gabreski Airport be reviewed by the CEQ prior to Legislature's meeting on April 20, 2004. The members decided to hold the next CEQ meeting on April 13, 2004 provided a quorum will be present. Staff will poll the members to see if it is possible.

## HISTORIC SERVICES – Director's Report

Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services in the Suffolk County Parks Department advised the CEQ that the March show scheduled at Deepwells County Park was cancelled because the Hotel, Motel Tax grant money was issued late. The Blydenburgh Mill stabilization project is almost complete and the restoration phase will begin in the upcoming months. The heating system installation in the Miller's House at Blydenburgh Park has also been appropriated in the capital program.

## CAC Concerns

Mrs. Squires of the Huntington Conservation Board pointed out that the Town of Southampton CAC is the only one in the state that has a decision-making role.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.