Intro. Res. No. 1866-2009 Laid on Table 10/13/2009
Introduced by Legislators Browning, Stern and Cooper

RESOLUTION NO. 1058 -2009, APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN CONNECTION WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF A DOG PARK AT SOUTHAVEN COUNTY PARK (CP 7065)

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 566-1998 authorized the Commissioner of the County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation to construct dog runs for the use of families with pet dogs within West Hills County Park and dog runs for the use of families in such other separate County facilities as deemed appropriate; and

WHEREAS, dog runs and/or dog parks have since been established at West Hills County Park in Huntington, Blydenburgh County Park in Smithtown, and on the grounds of Coindre Hall in the Town of Huntington; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 461-2007 directed the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation to identify locations at five (5) County properties that could be used as dog parks; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 143-2009 authorized the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation to plan and design a dog park at Southaven County Park; and

WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds within the 2009 Capital Budget and Program to cover the cost of said request under Capital Program Number 7065; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 471-1994, as revised by Resolution No. 571-1998, Resolution No. 209-2000 and Resolution No. 461-2006 established the use of a priority ranking system, implemented in the Adopted 2008 Capital Budget, as the basis for funding capital projects such as this project; now, therefore be it

1st **RESOLVED**, that it is hereby determined that this project, with a priority ranking of 30 is eligible for approval in accordance with the provisions of Resolution No. 471-1994 as revised by Resolution No. 571-1998, Resolution No. 209-2000 and Resolution No. 461-2006; and be it further

2nd **RESOLVED**, that prior to the adoption of a bond authorization by this Legislature and any expenditure or commitment of said funds for this project, an environmental review shall be completed in accordance with SEQRA by the County of Suffolk; and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that the proceeds of $50,000 in Suffolk County Serial Bonds be and they hereby are appropriated as follows:

Project Number	JC	Project Title	Amount
525-CAP-7065.310	26	Establishment of Dog Runs at County Facilities – Southaven Park	$50,000

and be it further

4th **RESOLVED**, this Legislature, being the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), Environmental Conservation Law Article 8,

hereby finds and determines that this law constitutes a Type II action, pursuant to Volume 6 of New York Code of Rules and Regulations ("NYCRR"), the Legislature has no further responsibilities under SEQRA.

DATED: December 1, 2009

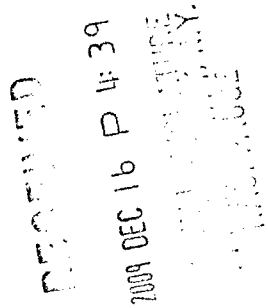
APPROVED BY:

VETOED

County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: 12-16-09

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Steve Levy
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

2009 DEC 16 P 4:39

December 16, 2009

Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay and
Members of the Suffolk County Legislature
William H. Rogers Legislative Building
725 Veterans Memorial Highway
Smithtown, New York 11787

RE: RESOLUTION 1058-2009; APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN CONNECTION WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF A DOG PARK AT SOUTHAVEN COUNTY PARK (CP 7065)

Dear Presiding Officer Lindsay and Members of the Legislature:

I am returning herein **RESOLUTION 1058-2009; APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN CONNECTION WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF A DOG PARK AT SOUTHAVEN COUNTY PARK (CP 7065)** vetoed in its entirety.

I have been an ardent, vocal and strong supporter of dog parks in Suffolk County. In fact, I have led the charge to their establishment in several county parks. Under my direction, the Parks Department has been aggressively identifying additional sites suitable for this purpose. However, we must ensure that the needs of all park users are respected and balanced and that the safety of non dog owners is also ensured. In addition, we must evaluate the extraordinary costs associated with this particular dog park in the face of one of the toughest budgetary years we have experienced in recent memory. The Parks' Department estimate that this dog park will cost upwards of $90,000 is an expense that Suffolk County taxpayers simply cannot afford. By contrast, the natural borders dog park we opened just two miles away at the Robinson Duck Farm cost a mere $6,000.

In March 2009, the Parks Trustees advised against this resolution and noted that "there is a need by [Parks] Operations to utilize Southaven County Park for other park uses and cannot afford to lose the location for a dog park." I agree that this location is unsuitable.

Additionally, establishing a dog park at Southaven County Park at this time is premature because the necessary environmental reviews, including a SEQRA determination, have yet to be completed. These important steps have been created to ensure that a full vetting of locations would be completed and should continue to be followed.

LOCATION:
H. LEE DENNISON BUILDING, 12th FLOOR
100 VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 6100
HAUPPAUGE, NY 11788-0099

OFFICE (631) 853-4000
FAX (631) 853-4818

In order to be responsive to the needs of dog owners in Suffolk County, it is expected that the new natural borders dog park at the Robinson Duck Farm in southeastern Brookhaven created this year will serve as a model for a cheaper alternative to the other dog parks that have been discussed while also satisfying the desires of the constituency it is intended to serve.

When I first envisioned the concept of dog runs in our county, it was for very simple fenced off areas. Since then, the parks have included water hook-ups, paved parking areas and synthetic flooring. These extras are both expensive and unnecessary, especially in these difficult financial times.

For the reasons enumerated above, I strongly urge the legislature to heed the advice of the Suffolk County Parks Trustees and sustain my veto of this resolution.

Sincerely,

Steve Levy
County Executive of Suffolk County

SL:srt

cc: All Suffolk County Legislators
Tim Laube, Clerk of the Legislature
Christine Malafi, Esq., Suffolk County Attorney
Lynne A. Bizzarro, Esq., Chief Deputy County Attorney
Christopher Kent, Chief Deputy County Executive
Ed Dumas, Chief Deputy County Executive for Policy and Communications
Connie Corso, Deputy County Executive for Finance
Eric Naughton, Budget Director
Dan Aug, Director of Communications
Mark Smith, Deputy Director of Communications

Intro. Res. 1866 Res. No. 1058 December 1, 2009

Motion:
Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Beedenbender, Losquadro
Eddington, Montano, Alden, Lindsay, Viloria-Fisher, Barraga,
Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, Stern, D'Amaro, Cooper

Co-Sponsors:
Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Beedenbender, Losquadro
Eddington, Montano, Alden, Lindsay, Viloria-Fisher, Barraga,
Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, Stern, D'Amaro, Cooper

Second:
Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Beedenbender, Losquadro
Eddington, Montano, Alden, Lindsay, Viloria-Fisher, Barraga,
Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, Stern, D'Amaro, Cooper

LD	Legislator	Yes	No	Abs	NP	R
1	Edward P. ROMAINE	✓				
2	Jay H. SCHNEIDERMAN	✓				
3	Kate M. BROWNING	✓				
4	Brian BEEDENBENDER	✓				
6	Daniel P. LOSQUADRO	✓				
7	Jack EDDINGTON	✓				
9	Ricardo MONTANO	✓				
10	Cameron ALDEN	✓				
11	Thomas F. BARRAGA	✓				
12	John M. KENNEDY, JR.	✓				
13	Lynne C. NOWICK	✓				
14	Wayne R. HORSLEY	✓				
15	DuWayne GREGORY				✓	
16	Steven H. STERN	✓				
17	Lou D'AMARO	✓				
18	Jon COOPER	✓				
5	Vivian VILORIA-FISHER, D.P.O.	✓				
8	William J. LINDSAY, P.O.	✓				
	Totals	17	—	—	1	—

MOTION

X Approve
___ Table: _____
___ Send To Committee
___ Table Subject To Call
___ Lay On The Table
___ Discharge
___ Take Out of Order
___ Reconsider
___ Waive Rule ___
___ Override Veto
___ Close
___ Recess

APPROVED X FAILED ___
No Motion ___ No Second ___

RESOLUTION DECLARED

X ADOPTED
___ NOT ADOPTED

Roll Call ___ Voice Vote X

Tim Laube
Tim Laube, Clerk of the Legislature