

STRICKEN AS OF 3/13/2013
AMENDED COPY AS OF 11/9/2012

Intro. Res. No. 1927-2012
Introduced by Legislator Gregory

Laid on Table 9/13/2012

**RESOLUTION NO. -2013, ADOPTING LOCAL LAW
NO. -2013, A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH COLLABORATIVE
LONG-TERM VISIONING PLANS AMONG COUNTY
DEPARTMENTS ("THE SUFFOLK COUNTY VISIONING ACT")**

WHEREAS, there was duly presented and introduced to this County Legislature at a meeting held on September 13, 2012, a proposed local law entitled, "**A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH COLLABORATIVE LONG-TERM VISIONING PLANS AMONG COUNTY DEPARTMENTS ("THE SUFFOLK COUNTY VISIONING ACT")**;" now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that said local law be enacted in form as follows:

LOCAL LAW NO. -2013, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

**A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH COLLABORATIVE LONG-TERM
VISIONING PLANS AMONG COUNTY DEPARTMENTS ("THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY VISIONING ACT")**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent.

This Legislature hereby finds and determines that the departments of the County of Suffolk Government perform a variety of functions to ensure that County residents receive essential government services.

This Legislature also finds and determines that the responsibility of many County departments overlap and that stronger cooperation among departments would lead to better and more efficient delivery of services.

This Legislature further finds and determines that departments that are working in similar areas should develop a collaborative, long-term strategy to address the County's needs in the most efficient and effective manner possible.

This Legislature finds that, in order for long-term collaborative planning among departments to be effective, each participating department must conduct an assessment of their resources to identify their individual strengths and weaknesses.

This Legislature determines that, to effectuate such planning, long-term master plans should be developed by the County every ten years for the following areas: public safety; public health; human services; public and government infrastructure; parks, recreation and historic preservation; environment; and economic development and consumer affairs.

This Legislature also finds that after ten years, each master plan should be evaluated and updated every decade to guide County policy making.

This Legislature also determines that many government departments and agencies at the Federal, State and local level use long-term master plans to improve operations with great success.

This Legislature further finds that ten year collaborative master plans in key service areas will help improve government efficiency and maximize the use of taxpayer funds for the greatest possible benefit.

Therefore, the purpose of this law is to establish a system for the creation and maintenance of 10 year master plans across County departments to ensure the effective and efficient provision of services in the areas of: public safety; public health; human services; public and governmental infrastructure; parks, recreation and historic preservation; environment; and economic development and consumer affairs.

Section 2. Service Area Master Plan Requirement Established.

- A. Commencing in 2013, the County of Suffolk shall develop and establish ten year master plans in the following service areas of concern: public safety; public health; human services; public and governmental infrastructure; parks, recreation and historic preservation; environment; and economic development and consumer affairs.
- B. The master plan for each service area shall be developed collaboratively by a committee comprised of the heads of the departments, divisions or offices indicated, or their designees, with the membership of each master plan committee selecting their own chairperson:
 1. Public Safety: the Suffolk County Police Department; the Office of the Sheriff; the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services; the Department of Probation; and the District Attorney's Office.
 2. Public Health: the Department of Health Services; the Department of Public Works; and the Office of Planning and the Environment in the Department of Economic Development and Planning.
 3. Human Services: the Department of Social Services; the Youth Bureau; the Office of Minority Affairs; the Office for the Aging; the Office of Veterans Affairs; and the Department of Labor.
 4. Public and Governmental Infrastructure: the Department of Public Works; the Division of Real Property Acquisition and Management in the Department of Economic Development and Planning; the Division of Planning in the Department of Economic Development and Planning; and the Department of Information Technology.
 5. Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation: the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation and the Department of Public Works.
 6. Environment: the Office of Energy in the Department of Economic Development and Planning; the Department of Health Services; the Division of Real Property Acquisition and Management in the Department of Economic Development and Planning; the Department of Public Works; and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation.

7. Economic Development and Consumer Affairs: The Department of Economic Development and Planning; the Department of Consumer Affairs; the Division of Planning and Environment in the Department of Economic Development and Planning; and the Department of Labor.
- C. Throughout the development of a service area's master plan, the master plan committees shall include the chairperson and members of any committee of the County Legislature which maintains oversight over the functions being addressed in the master plan.
 - D. The master plan for each service area shall be developed over the course of one year. A public hearing on the proposed master plans shall be held by each committee six months into development. After the public hearing, the finalized master plans for each service area must be completed by and presented to the County Executive and each member of the County Legislature no later than the first general, non-organizational meeting of the County Legislature in the following year.

Section 3. Development of Service Area Master Plan.

- A. Prior to commencing development of any service area master plan, each department in the County shall prepare an assessment of their existing resources, including both physical and personnel assets. In preparation for developing a master plan, each service area committee shall solicit input from County employees working in the applicable service area on assessments, plans and areas of concern. Employee input will be collected via a web page on the County employee web portal. Data collected will be distributed to all members of the applicable service area committee for consideration.
- B. The master plan for each service area should set forth the following:
 1. A comprehensive mission statement for providing services in the specified area.
 2. Identification of long-term objectives for all major County functions and operations in the specified area to be achieved in the coming ten years.
 3. Establishment of a time table upon which the long-term objectives will be achieved.
 4. Annual performance goals in the provision of services for each of the coming ten-years, with consideration for anticipated changes in workload and demand during that time.
 5. An explanation of the relationship between the annual performance goals and the long-term objectives identified therein, as well as a description of how evaluations of existing County programs were used to establish or change these goals.
 6. An analysis of the existing system by which these services are provided, identifying the County's capabilities in this area and the system's current strengths and weaknesses, as well as opportunities to improve performance and threats which may hamper the effective functioning of the system.

7. An assessment of external factors which either now or in the future may significantly affect the functioning of the County in the specified area.
 8. An examination of different strategies for achieving the long-term objectives established therein, analyzing opportunities for collaboration among the involved departments, divisions and offices to achieve these goals, culminating with a determination as to which strategy presently is most viable.
- C. Throughout the development of a service area's master plan, each committee may solicit input from industry representatives associated with the service area, contract agencies working with the County to provide the services of concern, and local experts in fields related to the service area.

Section 4. Plan Reports.

- A. The members of the master plan committee shall annually prepare a report on the major events that impacted their service area during the preceding calendar year, which shall be provided to the County Executive, each member of the County Legislature, and the Clerk of the Legislature.
- B. Five-years after the establishment of a service area master plan, the master plan committee shall evaluate the plan in comparison to the service area's actions during that period to determine the plan's efficacy. The master plan committee shall prepare a report on the progress of the master plan, which shall be provided to the County Executive, each member of the County Legislature, and the Clerk of the Legislature.
- C. During the five-year plan evaluation, the master plan committee may request permission of the members of the County Legislature assigned to that master plan committee to amend the master plan if the needs of the service area have changed significantly since the initial development of the plan. Amendments may be made with the approval of the majority of same. A copy of any amended master plan must be provided to the County Executive, each member of the County Legislature and the Clerk of the Legislature.

Section 5. Applicability.

This law shall apply to all actions occurring on or after the effective date of this law.

Section 6. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law, or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall be rendered.

Section 7. SEQRA Determination.

This Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this law constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21), and/or (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection. The Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this law.

Section 8. Effective Date.

This law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the Office of the Secretary of State.

DATED:

APPROVED BY:

County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: