

**RESOLUTION NO. 363 -2014, TO ENHANCE THE  
TRANSPARENCY OF THE "TRIPLE A PROGRAM"**

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 265-2013 established a new process to govern the County's land acquisition programs; and

**WHEREAS**, this new "Triple A Program" was enacted in response to the reduced level of funding available for land acquisitions; and

**WHEREAS**, the overriding goal of Resolution No. 265-2013 was to ensure that the County's limited resources would be used efficiently to protect and preserve farmland, open spaces and water resources; and

**WHEREAS**, to achieve this goal, Resolution No. 265-2013 added a new intermediate step in the acquisition process whereby the Legislature's Environment, Planning and Agricultural Committee is empowered to periodically consider groups of parcels for which acquisition values have been set by the Environmental Trust Review Board ("ETRB") and to prioritize acquisitions; and

**WHEREAS**, these priority acquisitions come to the full Legislature for consideration in the form of a procedural resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, during the implementation of the Triple A Program, the need for a greater transparency during this intermediate acquisition step was identified; and

**WHEREAS**, this Legislature wishes to amend the Triple A Program to achieve greater transparency while protecting the confidentiality of land appraisals during the negotiating process; now, therefore be it

**1st RESOLVED**, that Article II of Chapter 1070 of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE is hereby amended as follows:

**Article II: Land Acquisitions.**

**§ 1070-17 Approval of resolution; Triple A Program; quarterly reports;**

\* \* \* \*

C. Acquisitions shall be conducted according to the following "Triple A Program"

\* \* \* \*

(2) Acquisition resolution.

(a) Upon establishing highest offer prices, a report containing all sites reviewed and the highest offer price set for each shall be forwarded to [the Environment, Planning and Agriculture Committee] each member of the Legislature together with scoring and recommendations from the Division of Planning and Environment, as well as an account of the funds expected to be available for acquisitions. Such report shall be delivered to [such Committee at its next meeting] the members of the Legislature, by a

method other than electronic mail, within 30 days after the review by the Environmental Trust Review Board[, but in no event later than 30 days after such review] and no less than seven days prior to the meeting of the Environment, Planning and Agricultural Committee at which such report is scheduled to be acted upon.

- (b) The Environment, Planning and Agriculture Committee will [select among] review the sites submitted to [it] the Legislature at a regularly scheduled committee meeting. The agendas circulated for these meetings shall provide notice that the Committee will be reviewing a report submitted by the Division of Planning and Environment and considering sites that may be prioritized for acquisition by the County. All members of the Legislature may attend these committee meetings and shall be entitled to attend any executive sessions that are convened by the Committee for the purpose of discussing the values set by the Environmental Trust Review Board. The Committee shall, subject to available funds, [and shall] prepare a procedural motion setting forth [such] priorities for acquisition, and authorizing the funds appropriated in Subsection C(1) above to be expended for title reports, surveys and environmental site assessments for each site. Such procedural motion shall be considered by the full Legislature. The Clerk of the Suffolk County Legislature shall provide all Legislators with a copy of this procedural resolution by e-mail at least two business days prior to the general meeting at which such resolution will be considered. Sites that are tabled by the Committee for further review and consideration may be discussed and acted upon at any subsequent meeting of the Environment, Planning and Agricultural Committee subject to the notification requirements set forth in this Subsection.

\* \* \* \*

**2nd RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (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, and 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 resolution.

[ ] Brackets denote deletion of language.

\_\_\_ Underlining denotes addition of new language

DATED: May 13, 2014

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone  
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: May 29, 2014