

Intro. Res. No. 1007-2016
Introduced by Legislator Muratore

Laid on Table 1/4/2016

**RESOLUTION NO. 604 -2016, ADOPTING LOCAL LAW
NO. 21 -2016, A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE DESIGNATED
PARKING FOR VETERANS AT COUNTY FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, there was duly presented and introduced to this County Legislature at a meeting held on January 4, 2016, a proposed local law entitled, "**A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE DESIGNATED PARKING FOR VETERANS AT COUNTY FACILITIES**"; now, therefore be it

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

LOCAL LAW NO. 21 -2016, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

**A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE DESIGNATED PARKING FOR
VETERANS AT COUNTY FACILITIES**

**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 County of Suffolk is home to the largest population of military veterans in New York State.

This Legislature further finds and determines that the County strives to assist veterans in meeting their needs, through services provided by the County's Veterans Service Agency and other departments, as well as providing veteran-specific benefits.

This Legislature finds that many veterans visit County facilities to obtain necessary services and interact with government officials.

This Legislature also finds that it would be appropriate to designate two (2) spots at each County facility as dedicated parking for veterans in recognition of their sacrifices to protect our nation's freedom.

This Legislature further finds that Resolution No. 488-2007 established a program in the Veterans Service Agency where veterans may obtain a resident veteran identification card to expedite access to County services and benefits.

This Legislature also determines that the Suffolk County Veteran Resident Identification Card Program should be expanded to provide veterans with markers that will allow them to park their vehicles in designated parking.

Therefore, the purpose of this local law is to establish reserved parking at County facilities for veterans.

Section 2. Definitions.

As used in this law, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

“Commissioner” – the Commissioner of the Suffolk County Department of Public Works.

“County Facility” – any building or facility owned by the County of Suffolk or under the jurisdiction of the County of Suffolk, including buildings and facilities that are owned, leased or otherwise under the control of the County.

“Director” – the Director of the Suffolk County Veterans Service Agency.

“Parks Commissioner” – the Commissioner of the Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation.

Section 3. Parking for Veterans.

- A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to designate two (2) parking spaces at each County facility with a total of at least 30 parking spaces in a single parking lot under his or her jurisdiction for the exclusive use of parking by veterans.
- B. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Parks Commissioner is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to designate two (2) parking spaces at each County park with a total of at least 30 parking spaces in a single parking lot under his or her jurisdiction for the exclusive use of parking by veterans.
- C. Such spaces shall be clearly marked for use by veterans. The Commissioner and Parks Commissioner shall cause appropriate signs to be erected and pavement markings to be made to clearly mark these parking spaces and allow for the enforcement of this law.
- D. To the extent practicable, spaces designated for parking by veterans shall be located in the immediate vicinity of an entrance to each County facility. In no event, however, shall veteran parking spaces be located closer to a facility entrance than those spaces designated for use by the handicapped.
- E. Veterans who elect to park in veteran exclusive parking spaces must have their veteran status clearly marked on their vehicle either by an official designation on a New York State custom license plate or on a hanging tag issued by the Suffolk County Veterans Service Agency as part of the Suffolk County Veteran Resident Identification Card Program.

Section 4. Parking in Designated Parking Spaces Prohibited.

Any person who parks a vehicle in a parking space reserved for veterans without the proper identification established in Section 3(D) of this law shall be deemed to be in violation of this local law. The owner of such vehicle shall be responsible for the penalty imposed hereunder.

Section 5. Enforcement.

Provisions of this local law shall be enforced by the Suffolk County Police Department, the Suffolk County Sheriff and the Suffolk County Park Rangers.

Section 6. Penalties for Offenses.

Any person violating the provisions of this law shall be guilty of an offense and be punished by a fine not to exceed \$100.

Section 7. Expansion of the Suffolk County Veteran Residence Identification Card Program.

The Director is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to expand the Suffolk County Veteran Resident Identification Card Program to include the issuance of a hanging tag for vehicles being operated by persons who receive an identification card pursuant to such program.

Section 8. Applicability.

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

Section 9. 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 10. 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 11. Effective Date.

This law shall take effect one hundred twenty (120) days immediately subsequent to filing in the Office of the Secretary of State.

DATED: June 21, 2016

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: July 14, 2016

After a public hearing duly held on July 5, 2016
Filed with the Secretary of State on August 3, 2016