

RESOLUTION NO. 1017 -2016, ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO MAXIMIZE THE LEVEL OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES PROVIDED BY SUFFOLK COUNTY

WHEREAS, Suffolk County's budget for bus transportation is under extreme pressure and it must be adjusted, either with increased revenue or reduced expenditures; and

WHEREAS, in this era of diminishing resources the County of Suffolk must take a hard look at its existing bus system and begin to explore new ideas and approaches that will deliver transportation services most efficiently and effectively; and

WHEREAS, it is prudent to create a transportation network comprised of bus, rail, and other transit services which, working cooperatively, can meet the needs of current users, attract non-transit users to increase ridership, and most efficiently utilize the County's limited funding sources as well as leverage additional transportation funding; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet these goals, it is necessary to establish a Working Group which will include transportation professionals, transit operators, representatives of stakeholder municipalities, and advocates for bus riders; and

WHEREAS, the Working Group will collect data on current and anticipated uses, ridership trends, travel origins and destinations, and ridership at major points of interest and make recommendations that can serve as a basis for a new bus service plan that will reconfigure bus service where feasible to serve key ridership segments and key assets; and

WHEREAS, the Working Group will explore the feasibility of improving other public transportation systems in Suffolk County, including railroad service; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, the Suffolk County Public Transportation Working Group ("Working Group") is hereby established to evaluate the current County bus system in order to rework ineffective routes, increase ridership, and otherwise improve and enhance the region-wide provision of public transportation to meet the needs of the public, the commercial sector and the environment, within budgetary constraints; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the Working Group shall be comprised of the following eleven (11) members:

- 1) The Presiding Officer, or his or her designee;
- 2) The Chairperson of the Public Works, Transportation and Energy Committee, or his or her designee;
- 3) The Chairperson of the Ways and Means Committee, or his or her designee;
- 4) The County Executive, or his or her designee;

- 5) The Commissioner of the Suffolk County Department of Public Works, or his or her designee;
- 6) A representative of Suffolk County Transit;
- 7) A representative of the Suffolk County Village Officers Association;
- 8) A representative of the County Supervisors' Association;
- 9) A representative of the East End Mayors and Supervisors Association;
- 10) A representative of Twin Forks Transit; and
- 11) A representative of the Long Island Bus Riders' Union;

and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall hold its first meeting no later than thirty (30) days after the oaths of office of all members have been filed, which meeting shall be convened by the chairperson of the Committee for the purpose of organization and the appointment of a vice chairperson and a secretary; and be it further

4th **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall meet three to four times per year, keep a record of all of its proceedings, and determine the rules of its own proceedings with special meetings to be called by the Chairperson upon his or her own initiative or upon receipt of a written request signed by at least (6) members of the Committee; and be it further

5th **RESOLVED**, that the members of said Committee shall serve without compensation and shall serve at the pleasure of their respective appointing authorities; and be it further

6th **RESOLVED**, that six (6) members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business of the Board at both regular and special meetings; and be it further

7th **RESOLVED**, that clerical services involving the month-to-month operation of this Advisory Committee, as well as supplies and postage as necessary, will be provided by the staff of the Suffolk County Legislature, and be it further

8th **RESOLVED**, that the Working Group will issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the County Executive and each member of the County Legislature within one year of the effective date of this resolution; and be it further

9th **RESOLVED**, that the Working Group will terminate upon the release of its report unless it is reauthorized by a new resolution of the County of Suffolk; and be it further

10th **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.

DATED: November 22, 2016

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: November 29, 2016