

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Steve Levy
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

July 7, 2008

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 No. 498-2008 [B.A. 6 2008]; Amending the Proposed 2009-2011 Capital Program and the Proposed 2009 Capital Budget (CP 2120)

Project No. 2120 – Project Name: Gymnasium Health Fitness Center, Eastern Campus

Dear Presiding Officer Lindsay and Members of the Suffolk County Legislature:

I am returning Resolution No. 498-2008 vetoed because we must have the courage to say "No" to the projects we want in order to have the capacity to say "Yes" to those the residents of Suffolk County truly need.

We should plan for what we need and can afford. We should not place everything and the kitchen sink into our Capital Budget simply in the hope that it might become eligible for some State funding because County taxpayers still have to match any funding that comes from the State.

No other College in New York State has three (3) gyms, three (3) libraries, and three (3) specialized areas of teaching.

We must once again think of the College as a single institution with three (3) campuses and not as three (3) separate colleges, each requiring the exact same configuration of staff, buildings, and facilities. In 1996, the College Board of Trustees confirmed the philosophy of one (1) College with three (3) campuses after receiving an independent consulting firm's report on its operations.

We must return to the original goal of the college to provide an affordable two (2) year education as a springboard for future advancement up the economic ladder of success.

As I have consistently stated, the County finds itself with an extraordinarily high level of authorization to borrow that has resulted in a large backlog of capital projects, now totaling \$542 million as of March 2008. Suffolk County is in need of fiscal discipline.

In one fell swoop on June 24, the County Legislature added over \$28 million in county spending and over \$42 million in debt to the County's finances on three college projects. Is there ever a project presented by the college to which the Legislature says "No?"

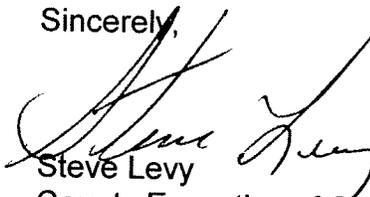
Ironically, many legislators have been engaged in grandiose speeches complaining of what they termed an intolerably high level of "pipeline" debt. Yet, these same legislators continue with an insatiable appetite to spend and show an inability to say "No." The only way to control this pipeline debt that so many have complained about is to actually say no and sustain these vetoes.

Of all the amenities at a campus, a recreational gymnasium is perhaps the lowest priority—especially when one considers there are academic venues needed and two other gyms in the college system. Considering the fiscal uncertainty of our County and the economy, this is a disturbingly irresponsible example of unconditional spending by the Legislature

As a result, I have consistently reminded everyone that **"we simply cannot have it all"**. We have to exercise fiscal discipline in order to protect the taxpayers of this County from unacceptably high tax increases.

For these reasons, I am compelled to veto Resolution 498-2008 - Project No. 2120, in the amount of \$17.75 million, as the cost of which exceeds Suffolk County taxpayers' ability to pay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Levy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "L".

Steve Levy
County Executive of Suffolk County

COST ELEMENTS	Adopted Capital Program and Budget		Adopted Capital Program		Subsequent Years
	TOTAL	2009	2010	2011	
Planning Design & Supervision	\$1,000,000		\$0	\$0	\$500,000B \$500,000S
Land Acquisition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$14,750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,375,000B \$7,375,000S
Site Improvements	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Furniture & Equip.	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000B \$1,000,000S
TOTAL EST. COST	\$17,750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,750,000

VETOED

PRIORITY RANK: 38

NOTE: This resolution restores this project to the Capital Program by including a total of \$17,750,000 in SY to provide a gymnasium for the Eastern Campus; \$1,000,000 for planning, \$14,750,000 for construction and \$2,000,000 for furniture. This project is eligible for 50% state aid (\$8,875,000). The property tax impact associated with the increase in serial bonds in SY is not calculated since (1) it is not clear how far into the future this borrowing will be needed and (2) the intent of funding in SY is included mainly as a representation of the county's long-term planning needs. See Budget Review Office report p. 153.

DATED: June 24, 2008

APPROVED BY:

VETOED

County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: 7-7-08

**FINANCIAL IMPACT
PROPERTY TAX LEVY
COST TO THE AVERAGE TAXPAYER**

CAPITAL PROJECT 2120- GYMNASIUM HEALTH FITNESS CENTER, EASTERN CAMPUS

2009

	2009 PROPERTY TAX LEVY	2009 COST TO AVG TAXPAYER	2009 AV TAX RATE PER \$100	2009 FEV TAX RATE PER \$1000
TOTAL	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.000	\$0.000

2009-2011 INCLUDING SUBSEQUENT YEARS

	ANNUAL PROPERTY TAX LEVY	ANNUAL COST TO AVG TAXPAYER	ANNUAL AV TAX RATE PER \$100	ANNUAL FEV TAX RATE PER \$1000
TOTAL	-\$657,382	-\$1.23	-\$0.001	-\$0.002

NOTES:

- 1) SOURCE FOR NUMBER OF FAMILY PARCELS AND CORRESPONDING ASSESSED VALUATION: SUFFOLK COUNTY REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICE, SEPTEMBER 2007.
- 2) SOURCE FOR TOTAL TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUATION FOR COUNTY PURPOSES: RESOLUTION NO. 1061-2007
- 3) SOURCE FOR EQUALIZATION RATES: 2007 COUNTY EQUALIZATION RATES AS ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT AND ADOPTED BY THE SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE ON 11/20/07.

Suffolk County
Project Name
 General Obligation Serial Bonds
 Level Debt

Term of Bonds 20
 Amount to Bond: -\$8,875,000

Date	Coupon	Principal	Interest	Total Debt Service	Fiscal Debt Service
11/1/2008					
5/1/2009					
11/1/2009	4.000%	(\$295,726.09)	(\$361,656.25)	(\$657,382.34)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$174,802.71)	(\$174,802.71)	
11/1/2010	4.000%	(\$307,776.93)	(\$174,802.71)	(\$482,579.63)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$168,531.75)	(\$168,531.75)	
11/1/2011	4.000%	(\$320,318.84)	(\$168,531.75)	(\$488,850.59)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$162,005.25)	(\$162,005.25)	
10/31/2012	4.000%	(\$333,371.83)	(\$162,005.25)	(\$495,377.09)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$155,212.80)	(\$155,212.80)	
11/1/2013	4.000%	(\$346,956.73)	(\$155,212.80)	(\$502,169.54)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$148,143.56)	(\$148,143.56)	
11/1/2014	4.000%	(\$361,095.22)	(\$148,143.56)	(\$509,238.78)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$140,786.25)	(\$140,786.25)	
11/1/2015	4.000%	(\$375,809.85)	(\$140,786.25)	(\$516,596.10)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$133,129.12)	(\$133,129.12)	
10/31/2016	4.000%	(\$391,124.10)	(\$133,129.12)	(\$524,253.22)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$125,159.97)	(\$125,159.97)	
11/1/2017	4.000%	(\$407,062.41)	(\$125,159.97)	(\$532,222.37)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$116,866.07)	(\$116,866.07)	
11/1/2018	4.000%	(\$423,650.20)	(\$116,866.07)	(\$540,516.27)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$108,234.20)	(\$108,234.20)	
11/1/2019	4.000%	(\$440,913.95)	(\$108,234.20)	(\$549,148.14)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$99,250.57)	(\$99,250.57)	
10/31/2020	4.000%	(\$458,881.19)	(\$99,250.57)	(\$558,131.77)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$89,900.87)	(\$89,900.87)	
11/1/2021	4.000%	(\$477,580.60)	(\$89,900.87)	(\$567,481.47)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$80,170.17)	(\$80,170.17)	
11/1/2022	4.000%	(\$497,042.01)	(\$80,170.17)	(\$577,212.18)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$70,042.93)	(\$70,042.93)	
11/1/2023	4.250%	(\$517,296.47)	(\$70,042.93)	(\$587,339.41)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$59,503.02)	(\$59,503.02)	
10/31/2024	4.250%	(\$538,376.30)	(\$59,503.02)	(\$597,879.32)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$48,533.60)	(\$48,533.60)	
11/1/2025	4.250%	(\$560,315.14)	(\$48,533.60)	(\$608,848.74)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$37,117.18)	(\$37,117.18)	
11/1/2026	4.250%	(\$583,147.98)	(\$37,117.18)	(\$620,265.16)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$25,235.54)	(\$25,235.54)	
11/1/2027	4.250%	(\$606,911.26)	(\$25,235.54)	(\$632,146.80)	(\$657,382.34)
			(\$12,869.72)	(\$12,869.72)	
10/31/2028	4.250%	(\$631,642.89)	(\$12,869.72)	(\$644,512.62)	(\$657,382.34)
		(\$8,875,000.00)	(\$4,272,646.81)	(\$13,147,646.81)	(\$13,147,646.81)

Intro. Res. BAL Res. No. 498

June 24, 2008

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

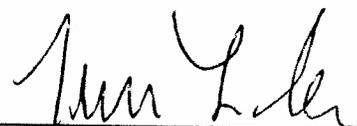
Co-Sponsors:
 Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Beedenbender, Losquadro
 Eddington, Montano, Alden, Lindsay, Viloría-Fisher, Barraga,
 Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Stern, D'Amaro, Cooper

Second:
 Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Beedenbender, Losquadro
 Eddington, Montano, Alden, Lindsay, Viloría-Fisher, Barraga,
 Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, 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	/				
16	Steven H. STERN	/				
17	Lou D'AMARO	/				
18	Jon COOPER (2)	/				
15						
5	Vivian VILORIA-FISHER, D.P.O.	/				
8	William J. LINDSAY, P.O. (1)	/				
	Totals	14	2	1		

MOTION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAILED _____
No Motion _____ No Second _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADOPTED
NOT ADOPTED


 Tim Laube, Clerk of the Legislature

Roll Call Voice Vote _____