

# COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING  
DIVISION OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT  
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

GLORIA RUSSO  
CHAIRPERSON  
CEQ

MICHAEL MULÉ  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS  
COORDINATOR

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MINUTES

DATE: May 16, 2012

TIME: 9:30 am to 11:45 pm

LOCATION: Arthur Kunz Library  
H. Lee Dennison Bldg. – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, New York

### PRESENT:

James Bagg, Vice-Chair  
Tom Gulbransen  
Hon. Kara Hahn  
Michael Kaufman  
Richard Machtay  
Dan Pichney  
Gloria Russo, Chair  
MaryAnn Spencer  
Larry Swanson

### ABSENT:

Eva Growney

### CAC REPRESENTATIVES:

Joy Squires, Town of Huntington

### STAFF:

Christine DeSalvo, Senior Clerk Typist

### GUESTS:

Lauretta Fischer, Principal Environmental Analyst, Division of Planning and Environment  
Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services, Suffolk County Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Conservation  
Thomas Ryan, Legislative Aide, 5<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Ben Wright, Principal Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Public Works  
Jeff Dawson, Sr. Civil Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Public Works  
Kyle Swaringen, Associate Civil Engineering, Suffolk County Department of Public Works  
Wayne Culver, Project Manager, LKB Engineering

Maureen Raichel, Project Engineer, LKB Engineering  
Kevin Walsh, VHB Engineering  
Bill Faulk, Legislative Aide, 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative District

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Mr. Machtay to approve the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gulbransen. Mr. Bagg abstained. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter to Suffolk County Executive Bellone inviting him to attend the May CEQ meeting was sent on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 from Chairperson Gloria Russo. No response was received.

Suffolk County Sewer District Capital Project Summary

PUBLIC PORTION:

None

HISTORIC TRUST DOCKET:

Mr. Martin updated the Council on the following:

Housing Program:

- The housing program is status quo. All houses that are able to be rented are in fact rented at this time.

Custodial Agreements:

- Negotiations are still on going with the L.I. Maritime Museum. Commissioner Dawson met with Executive Director, Steve Jones regarding some insurance questions.
- The Parks Department is currently working on an RFP for concessionaires at Timber Point and West Sayville County Parks. The Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation has requested that CEQ member Maryann Spencer be appointed as a representative of the RFP Evaluation Committee. Ms. Spencer graciously accepted the offer.

Mr. Martin suggested the Council hold an upcoming meeting at the Van Bourgondien House. The Council agreed to hold either the June or July meeting at the home depending on the size of the agenda.

PROJECT REVIEW:

*Recommended Type II Actions:*

Ratification of Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table April 24, 2012 and May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Mr. Kaufman made a motion to accept staff recommendations for both the April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 and the May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Legislative Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Machtay. Motion carried.

Proposed Improvements to County Sewer Districts

Mr. Wright discussed the four sewer projects explaining that due to the aging sewer infrastructure routine and proactive maintenance and replacement is necessary to preempt failure and emergency response. Proposed replacements include force and gravity mains, pumping stations and various appurtenances.

- Proposed Improvements to SD#5-Strathmore Huntington, CP 8115, Town of Huntington  
Ms. Squires made a motion to recommend classification of the proposed project as a Type II Action. The motion was seconded by Mr. Machtay. Motion carried.
- Proposed Improvements to SD#7-Medford, CP 8150, Town of Brookhaven  
Mr. Kaufman made a motion to recommend classification of the proposed project as a Type II Action. The motion was seconded by Mr. Machtay. Motion carried.
- Proposed Improvements to SD#10-Stony Brook, CP 8175, Town of Brookhaven  
Mr. Kaufman made a motion to recommend classification of the proposed project as a Type II Action. The motion was seconded by Mr. Machtay. Mr. Swanson recused. Motion carried.
- Proposed Improvements to SD#11-Selden, CP 8117, Town of Brookhaven  
Mr. Kaufman made a motion to recommend classification of the proposed project as a Type II Action. The motion was seconded by Mr. Machtay. Motion carried.

*Recommended Unlisted Actions:*

Proposed Rehabilitation of Browns Creek Bridge (Bryan's Bridge) (CP 5850), Town of Islip

Mr. Swaringen and Mr. Culver made a presentation regarding the replacement of a deteriorated bridge that carries Middle Road (CR 65) over Browns Creek. Mr. Culver explained that the bridge was originally built in 1936 and that previous repairs have failed and are deteriorating. At this point, the only recourse is to rebuild the structure. As per the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the proposed structure will be slightly longer than the existing bridge to allow for the easing of tidal restriction to the creek. It was noted that all DEC permits will be obtained prior to construction. Mr. Swanson asked about the projects accounting for sea level rise. Mr. Culver stated that they will be widening the span and that this isn't a navigable waterway so sea level rise should not affect the project. In addition, a larger span would have a greater impact on the adjacent areas and increase project costs.

Mr. Kaufman made a motion to classify the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. Mr. Machtay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Proposed Median Improvements to CR46 William Floyd Parkway CP 5116, Town of Brookhaven

Mr. Dawson and Mr. Walsh presented the project to the Council. They explained that the project involves safety improvements and flood mitigation to CR 46, William Floyd Parkway. The project includes installation of stormwater storage chambers, regrading of the center median and landscaping. Mr. Walsh explained that there is currently almost no stormwater storage capacity in this area and that this project will allow for increased recharge and transport. Mr. Gulbransen suggested raising the structure to allow for additional storage capacity and prevent excessive discharge to the bay. Mr. Swanson voiced concerns about the projects compliance with the State's MS4 program. Mr. Walsh explained that this would improve the current situation by increasing stormwater retention and infiltration. It was noted that all DEC permits will be obtained and the project will continue to be in compliance with the MS4 and SPEDES program. Prior to his motion, Mr. Kaufman recommended that the hardpan soil be removed before the structure is installed, that DPW consult with Cornell Cooperative Extension regarding MS4 compliance at the outfall and that sustainable landscaping be employed.

Mr. Kaufman made a motion to classify the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. Legislator Hahn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Proposed Authorization of Drilling of Wells on County Parkland for Firefighting Purposes at Various County Parks

Mr. Faulk presented the proposed project which involves authorizing the Department of Fire Rescue and Emergency Services and the Department of Health Services to identify locations and drill wells in County parks for future firefighting purposes. The wells would be put along roads and in cleared areas which have existing access.

Mr. Kaufman made a motion to classify the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. Legislator Hahn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

*Update County Environmental Assessment Forms:*

Mr. Bagg requested that the discussion on the updated County Environmental Assessment Forms be tabled until the June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting so that Michael Mulé can be present for the discussion.

*State Eyeing Takeover of SEQRA Oks, Long Island Business News:*

Ms. Squires informed the Council of the upcoming June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 DEC yearly meeting to be held for Conservation Advisory Councils and Environmental Management Councils. She stated that she will bring up the issue of the State taking over the SEQRA process to see if she can get additional information and welcomes the Council to submit any questions they would like the state to answer. Mr. Swanson mentioned that he would like the state to address the issue of hydraulic fracturing in addition to how the plan to address sea level rise. Legislator Hahn would like aquifer protection included in the water quality portion of the agenda. Mr. Gulbransen requested information on air quality and traffic volumes and abatement.

Mr. Kaufman informed the Council that the chemicals addressed in the Vector Control EIS are not well suited for the Asian tiger mosquito, a vector for West Nile Virus. He went on to explain that the developing chemicals are yet to be approved by the EPA and DEC. There may be emergency authorizations depending on need but the Wetlands Management Committee is already looking into a supplemental environmental impact statement should these new pesticides come online.

CAC CONCERNS:

None