

**LABOR, WORKFORCE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**OF THE**  
**SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE**  
**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT**

A regular meeting of the Labor, Workforce and Affordable Housing Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on August 12, 2010.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Legislator John M. Kennedy, Jr., Chairman  
Legislator Kate M. Browning, Vice Chair  
Legislator Thomas Cilmi  
Legislator DuWayne Gregory  
Legislator Vivian Vilorio-Fisher

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

George Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature  
Sarah Simpson, Assistant Counsel  
Renee Ortiz, Chief Deputy Clerk  
John Muncey, Budget Review Office  
Jill Moss, Budget Review Office  
Paul Perillie, Aide to Majority Caucus  
Linda Bay, Aide to Minority Caucus  
Bill Shilling, Aide to Presiding Officer Lindsay  
Seth Squicciarino, Aide to Legislator Vilorio-Fisher  
Ali Nazir, Aide to Legislator Kennedy  
Christopher DeLuca, Aide to Legislator Cilmi  
Ed Hennessey, County Executive's Office  
Yves Michel, Commissioner of Economic Development  
Jill Rosen-Nikoloff, Director of Affordable Housing  
Dot Kerrigan, AME

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT TAKEN BY:**

Lucia Braaten, Court Reporter

***[THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:17 P.M.]***

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Okay. Let's have everybody for Labor, Workforce Housing, please. And if we could have the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Legislator Cilmi, please.

**(\*Salutation\*)**

Okay. Thank you. And we do not have any cards, none being presented to the Clerk. Do we have anybody in the audience who chooses to speak before the Committee? Okay. Seeing none, I'll turn to the agenda.

Under Tabled Resolutions, I see 1718 is withdrawn, so we have no tabled resolutions.

**INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS**

And let me then turn to the Introductory Resolutions. Our first is ***I.R. 1797 - Authorizing funding of infrastructure improvements and oversight of real property under Suffolk County Affordable Housing Opportunities Program, Cabrini Gardens in Coram (Co. Exec)***. And I know that we have, I believe, the developer here, as well as Commissioner Michel from Economic Development. Would either of you like to say anything regarding the project, or do we have any questions from the Committee on it?

**MR. MICHEL:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

And, I mean, if Jill has some material to add, sure, please. Just anything that you can give us on this project would help us. And you are, sir?

**MR. KORTH:**

Good afternoon. My name is Jay Korth, I'm with Catholic Charities, and I thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the resolution.

Catholic Charities has a long history of working with government and communities to develop affordable housing. We have 800 units in Suffolk County now that we've sponsored. The Cabrini Gardens project on Middle Country Road in Coram is going to be for low income senior citizens. As you know, the housing crisis in Suffolk County is at such a proportion, but the projects designed to be part of the solution can't go forward without properly funded infrastructure. This resolution will allow an economic stimulus to the community, it will allow housing for seniors, and it will safeguard our environment and our sole source aquifer by providing the funding for a green and efficient Cromaglass waste water management system. Construction is proceeding well, we are on our construction timeline, and we thank you for the opportunity to work with the County and bring this housing to Coram.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Okay. Thank you, Mr. Korth. As a matter of fact, I know there's a number of resolutions we've seen recently from the department, and I'm pleased to see that this project has been assembled, is moving along, and has kind of met many of the things that we look for. Who is the general contractor, sir?

**MR. KORTH:**

The general contractor is Jarro Building Industries.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Jarro, okay. And as I understand it, Jarro, is there a PLA on this, Project Labor Agreement, or is there some involvement, I guess, with some of the trades, the organized trade?

**MR. KORTH:**

Very much so. I bring to your attention the contributions of Labor to the project. It's a HUD prevailing wage job, but we're utilizing both for the excavation, the plumbing, the electrical, including the entire generator and Cromaglass sewage treatment, as well as the cranes of the local operating union, so we have contribution from our friends in Labor.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Outstanding. Good, I'm glad to hear that. And does anybody else on the Committee have any questions? Seeing none, I'll make a motion to approve. Oh, I'm sorry.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Well, it's not quite in my District, but I'll second it.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Okay. So, we have a motion and a second. Legislator Viloría-Fisher, do you have a question?

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

I'm sorry. You probably said it and I missed it, and I didn't see it in the schedule. How many units is this going to be?

**MR. KORTH:**

It would be 66 units.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Sixty-six units. And what size are the units?

**MR. KORTH:**

They are 540 square feet.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Okay. So, basically, one bedroom units?

**MR. KORTH:**

One bedroom with kitchen, bath and a sitting area.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Okay. All right. So, it's not the type of unit that there would be a complaint about adding great impact to the school district, because that -- that size, generally -- oh, it's senior. It's all senior?

**MR. KORTH:**

All seniors.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Oh, I thought it was part -- okay. Okay, thank you.

**MR. KORTH:**

Thank you very much.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Okay. Thank you for being here, sir, I appreciate that.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

I just have a question for Budget Review.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Sure.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

I was just wondering about the funding stream for this, because years ago we had passed, I think I'm the only one who was at the -- on the Legislature at that time. It was a resolution that was sponsored by Dave Bishop regarding infrastructure improvements for affordable housing or green improvements. Is this as a result of that legislation or affordable housing initiatives?

**MR. MUNCEY:**

The funding would be coming from 64-11, and that's for infrastructure improvements. Basically, there's a little more than 11.8 million dollars. That's the balance in there right now, so this would, if approved, would bring that balance down to 10.5.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Thank you.

**LEG. CILMI:**

If I could, John.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Legislator Cilmi, sure, certainly.

**LEGISLATOR CILMI:**

So, just to clarify, this is not a bonding situation, we're taking this out of money that's already accumulated?

**MR. MUNCEY:**

It is bonded. And the way that Economic Development, Workforce Housing has done it in the past is the Legislature has approved the funding for the program, and then by resolution, they bring the resolution in front of the Legislature, and each program's approved on its own merits, so there is bonding involved.

**LEGISLATOR CILMI:**

Has there been any movement or any talk about doing these sorts of stuff on a pay-as-you-go basis?

**MR. MUNCEY:**

Not that I'm aware of, because the nature of the project, since it probably has more than a 30-year life span.

**LEGISLATOR CILMI:**

Okay. Thanks.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Okay. Thank you. Moving along, next, we have I.R. 1822.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

We didn't vote.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Oh, we didn't vote? Okay. Let's vote. We've got a motion to approve, a second. All those in favor? Opposed? Resolution stands approved.

**(VOTE: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

Next, ***I.R. 1822 - Approving the appointment of a relative of a County Legislator in the Fifth Legislative District (Presiding Officer)***. I'll make a motion to approve.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Second.

**LEG. CILMI:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Second by Legislator Gregory.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

As I spoke with you earlier, Mr. Chair, I need to recuse myself on this.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Okay. Please note Legislator Viloría-Fisher's recusal on this matter. All those in favor? Opposed? Resolution stands approved. **(VOTE: Approved 4-0-0-0-1 Recusal: Legislator Viloría-Fisher)**

***I.R. 1840 - Authorizing the disbursement of funds from the Suffolk County Living Wage Contingency Fund for Rainbow Chimes, Inc. Day Care Provider under contract with the Department of Social Services (Co. Exec.).***

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Motion.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Motion by Legislator Viloría-Fisher.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

Second by Legislator Browning. Any questions? All those in favor? Opposed? Resolution stands approved. **(VOTE: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

There being no other business before the Committee, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Motion.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Wait, I thought we had a presentation; no?

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

That's it.

**D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Oh, okay.

**MR. NOLAN:**

That's part of the Committee rules.

**CHAIRMAN KENNEDY:**

What's that, presentations? Yeah. As a matter of fact, that -- we passed -- no, no, I didn't pass something against that. No.

**(\*Laughter\*)**

All right. So we have a motion to adjourn. All those in favor? Opposed? We're adjourned.

***[THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 1:25 P.M.]***