

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A meeting of the Public Works 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 May 28, 2013.

Members Present:

Legislator Schneiderman - Chairman
Legislator Stern - Vice-Chair
Legislator Horsley - Deputy Presiding Officer
Legislator Muratore
Legislator Krupski

Also In Attendance:

George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature
Sarah Simpson - Assistant Counsel to the Legislature
Renee Ortiz - Deputy Clerk
Michael Pitcher - Aide to Presiding Officer Lindsay
Catherine Stark - Aide to Legislator Krupski
Kevin LaValle - Aide to Legislator Muratore
Sharen Wagner - Budget Review Office
Gil Anderson - Commissioner of Public Works
Bill Hillman - Chief Engineer/Public Works
Rick Brand - Newsday
All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken and Transcribed By:

Gabrielle Skolom - Court Stenographer

*(*Meeting was called to order at 2:12 p.m. *)*

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Good afternoon. I'd like to call the meeting of the Public Works and Transportation Committee to order on this 28 day of May 2013. I ask that you rise and join us for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Horsley.

*(*Salutation*)*

Please remain standing for a moment of silence. Since yesterday was Memorial Day, let's all have a moment of silence together in memory of all the brave men and women who have valiantly given their lives in defense of our nation.

*(*Moment of silence observed*)*

Thank you.

We're going to start today with public portion. We have some yellow cards heading my way. If you haven't already filled one out, please do so. We afford each speaker three minutes to make their comments known. I have roughly six cards in front of us, and we'll take them in order. Our first speaker is Gary Stiriz, deputy mayor of Mastic Beach, speaking on IR 1314. Good afternoon.

MR. STIRIZ:

Good afternoon, everyone. Very simply, short and sweet, as a public official myself, I'd just like to say my most important job for all of the residents of the area are to ensure their safety, and that is the number one thing that everybody is concerned with is the safety of the people on the shoreline. It's very important we look at this rebuilding of the dunes on Smith Point as our number one priority, as right now our residents do not feel safe. And, again, like I said, it was short and sweet, I just really wish you want to -- hope you consider rebuilding those dunes as our number one priority so the people there can feel safe again along the shoreline. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Mayor.

Our next speaker is Bill Biondi of the Village of Mastic Beach.

MR. BIONDI:

Mayor.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

You left that out, Mr. Mayor. Details, you know? Mayor Biondi.

MR. BIONDI:

Thank you for allowing me to speak.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

How long have you guys been a village now?

MR. BIONDI:

Three years.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Three years. All right. Congratulations.

MR. BIONDI:

Just to refresh everybody's memory, we were hit with a major snowstorm and two hurricanes. Basically, we're here tonight to support that resolution. I'd like to submit, if I possibly can, a bunch of pictures taken the day after the storm, a nor'easter that followed that, and another set of pictures that were taken in April of this year. Pictures speak for themselves. The barrier beach is gone. There's no more sand dunes there. We've been in discussion with Mr. Anderson from DPW, Kate Browning, the Army Corps of Engineers to try to get this back to protect our residents in Mastic Beach.

One of the easy parts about it -- I know you guys are coming up with something for the whole length of the Island -- one of the good parts about from Smith Point to Moriches Inlet is there's no residents or there's no houses that we have to worry about. It's just a stretch of sand that needs to be replaced to protect the Village of Mastic Beach. Some of those pictures you'll see there the day after the storm. Quite a bit of sand was removed, and then a short time after, we had that nor'easter, a lot of sand was also removed.

Suffolk County had put up the snow fence to try to preserve it. In a couple of the shots there, you'll see that the snow fence was actually taken down by your normal waves when you have a storm or a nor'easter on the ocean. Again, I can't stress enough the 5600 residents of Mastic Beach definitely need that barrier beach to be put back. That is our protection.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Stay there. We've got questions, Mr. Biondi -- Mayor Biondi. Are you the first mayor?

MR. BIONDI:

I'm the second mayor.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

How long have you been there as mayor?

MR. BIONDI:

I guess it's just about a little about over a year.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Does that make you the longest serving or the second longest serving?

MR. BIONDI:

Makes me the longest.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. We've got a question from Legislator Horsley.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Congratulations, Mr. Mayor, on your longevity.

MR. BIONDI:

Thank you.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

You're welcome. I do have a quick question. Where are we at, because I haven't heard anything recently, on the inlet issue? Is --

MR. BIONDI:

Are we talking about the Moriches Inlet, or are we talking about the breach?

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

The breach. Do you know if -- and 'cause when we were -- you know, we did a public conversation out in Patchogue about -- 'cause us on the west end had problems with the breach, and I had heard that it had effects on Moriches as well even though I don't know how that happens. You guys, is that still an issue for...

MR. BIONDI:

I am not an expert on that, but many of the people that I spoke to, that breach just west of us has no effect on the flooding that went on in Mastic Beach. If it did, that's a pretty powerful breach there because I'm pretty much sure it effected from Long Beach all the way out to almost Montauk Point. We went through --

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Right. I'm over in Lindenhurst and Babylon, and there's a lot of folks that blamed it on the breach, and I had just heard that, you know, this is an issue that crosses over as far out as the Mastics, and I didn't know if that was something that you guys had looked at or if that was something you actually believed or not.

MR. BIONDI:

We've actually monitored it and, again, speaking with some of the experts out in the field, it has no effect on the flooding that we went through in Mastic Beach. On the other hand, if you're a fisherman, fisherman (sic) is great in Mastic Beach. The water is crystal clear. I mean, it does have a good effect on it, but it's not effecting us as far as flooding the area.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Okay. Yeah, that's -- we were told by the experts the same thing, though I don't know if that's true, but we also are seeing that the bay is cleaner.

MR. BIONDI:

Yes.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

So I don't even know. Have you seen -- have you heard lately where that -- the breach is as far as, is it closing? I understand it --

MR. BIONDI:

Last I was told in speaking to officials that they are still watching it, they are monitoring it. If it gets worse, they will do what they have to do, but to me it doesn't look like it's getting worse. It just seems to be moving east or west.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Okay. All right. Thank you.

MR. BIONDI:

Okay. Also on them pictures, I'm sorry for the contrast of the pictures. Due to flight conditions, we couldn't get our helicopter up -- not that the Village owns a helicopter -- but we couldn't get the photographer up until, pretty much, late at night, and I hope those pictures -- they do serve their purpose. They show you a lot. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Oh, wait. You might have one more question. I'm sorry. Legislator Krupski. The new legislator, the new mayor.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Congratulations. The pictures do show a lot. Do you have any recent ones, and has there been any rebuilding recently of the beach?

MR. BIONDI:

Basically what's coming back by itself. We were on the barrier beach, I guess it was about a couple of weeks ago, for a rally down here. As quick as it comes back, it goes. Seems to be there's a ledge that comes up every once in a while, three- to four-foot ledge, and then as the wave action comes in, that sand is then taken away. My suggestion was -- again, I don't know if it's possible -- when you have that three- or four-foot ledge on it, maybe we can push that sand back to give us some kind of a cushion until we get the situation rectified.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Right. That's something that they do, the DEC will allow.

MR. BIONDI:

Well, in talking with the DEC, they said they will do whatever they have to do to correct the problem, so I mean, if we have a problem with DEC, I'll definitely make sure that -- you know, I stay in touch with Mr. Scully real well. He's been very cooperative with us. If it's an issue on his part, I'm not afraid to beat him up, so.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

I know, but that's -- well, you're right, that's the way you should capture that sand and keep moving it up.

MR. BIONDI:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

You good, Legislator Krupski? All right. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

MR. BIONDI:

Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

You may be seated. Number three, Jonathan Cohen, also on IR 1314 Smith Point Dune.

MR. COHEN:

Good afternoon, everyone. As Legislator Schneiderman said, I'm here to support the resolution to rebuild the dunes at Smith Point Park. I don't want to repeat what's already been said, so let me begin by saying I echo the remarks of Mayor Biondi and Deputy Mayor Stiriz.

But I do want to offer you a different perspective on this important issue. As some of you know, I have worked for the last 17 years as a paramedic, 13 of those years have been in the Village of Mastic Beach, even before it was a village. And a few month ago I was called to respond to an innocuous-sounding woman with a foot injury down in the southern part of the Village, and as I was responding on what was a pretty sunny day, I came upon a great amount of standing water, and as I drove, the water got deeper and deeper. And I was pretty confused because there was a tropical storm offshore, but it wasn't predicted to impact Long Island at all, but it did. And as I -- I drove

about as far as I could until the woman came up to the doors of the SUV I was driving and then I stopped, and there was a woman a little further a ways down the road flagging me down, wading in floodwaters that came up to her hips.

I was able to get a little closer to her, and she was able to make it into my truck, and she told me that her daughter was trapped on the second floor of their home; that she had seen the flood water starting to pull in the road in front of her house and she recognized the pattern from when Sandy struck, and she told her young daughter that she was going to move her daughter to higher ground. And by the time she did so, the floodwaters had risen so high that she couldn't get home. So I requested the Mastic Beach Fire Department to respond and they did with a high water vehicle, which is basically like a military transport with a snorkel, and they were able to navigate those floodwaters and rescue that young girl from her home.

The reason that I am telling you this story is that that process took about 20 minutes to accomplish, and had we been called for a more time-critical emergency, those 20 minutes could have meant the difference between life and death for someone, and no vehicle that my agency owns could have gotten through those floodwaters. So I would argue that the loss of these dunes represents probably the most consequential quality of life issue facing the Mastic Beach community today, and so I'm here to ask you to send this resolution to the floor with your full support for passage because that barrier beach is the only thing standing between the ocean and Mastic Beach, and so it is the only thing standing between the next storm from reducing the Mastic Beach community to a post-Katrina New Orleans. And it sounds dramatic, but I have seen that impact of the disasters that have struck this community and it's true.

So if we restore these dunes, you will allow literally hundreds of families to continue to live in the neighborhoods that they call home, as the mayor stated, safely. But if we fail to do so, then it's only a matter of time before these communities are going to be underwater again, and I'm concerned that the next time that happens, the cost is going to be measured in more than dollars; it will be measured in lives. And my colleagues and myself and all of us will be powerless to do anything about it, so I hope that you can support this resolution and I thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. Thank you, Jonathan.

All right. Looks like we're switching subjects on the next card. I guess we've been talking about land and water, and we're going to switch to air. Michael Sielback, American Lung Association, on 1260, which is the air curtain destructor bill.

MR. SIELBACK:

Thank you. Good afternoon. My name is Michael Sielback, and I'm the vice president for public policy and communications for the American Lung Association of the northeast. Today I'm here to speak about the very real health dangers caused by the use of air curtain destructors. The use of these destructors following major storms add insult to injury. Many parts of our region were still cleaning up from Sandy, dealing with major indoor air quality issues because of flooding, water damage, and the resulting mold growth. These burns increase air pollution, which can make people sick and send them to the hospital. We received calls from Suffolk County residents finding literally layers of ash on their cars parked in front of their own houses. Suffolk County should begin the process immediately of looking for non-incineration options for wood waste. One such use is that wood could be chipped and used for mulch and other purposes without emitting harmful pollutants. Just last month, the Lung Association released our annual state of the air report. It found that Suffolk County received a failing grade for ozone pollution, and in fact had the worst ozone pollution in all of New York State. We need to be minimizing air pollution, not resorting to mass burning of wood debris.

Much like Suffolk County, the City of New York planned on burning its debris from Sandy in air curtain destructors; however, after several weeks of burning, they realized that air quality was much worse than they had projected, including several days when air quality exceeded Federal standards. They subsequently scrapped the burning altogether. Here in Suffolk, the data also shows that air quality reach excessive levels on multiple occasions. As you know, this legislation would allow for the use of one air curtain destructor at a time at any given location. We think this is an improvement from the status quo, but let me be clear that we strongly oppose the use of these units at all. If they are to be used, the County must also make sure that they are performing extensive local air pollution monitoring, ensuring that local residents aren't being exposed to high levels of air pollution, and if they are reaching exceedances that they stop the burns immediately. We'd also strongly urge that the County refrain from the use of these devices on ozone alert days, which happen during those long, hot summer days when air pollution levels are already elevated and these destructors just make it worse.

So, again, we -- you know, we think this is better than that status quo, but we don't believe that Suffolk County needs to resort to old, dirty pollution to get rid of wood debris. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Any questions? Hearing none, thank you, Michael.

I guess it's all Hurricane Sandy-related, whether it's the dune washing out or the burning -- you know, the air quality issues related to the burning of the brush.

Next, Maura Spery is, I guess, from Mastic Beach Property Owners Association talking about the dune rebuilding.

MS. SPERY:

Hi, gentleman. Thank you for having us here today. I am going to pretty much echo what the others have said before me. I'd really like to say what our esteemed colleague from the ambulance company had to say about the safety issue. I live down quite close to the bay. I, after 10 years of being there, I could never see the ocean, and now I see the ocean every day overlooking exactly where this washout is. I spent most of the winter with a pair of waders in the back of my vehicle because on numerous occasions, probably over 10 occasions, I had to park three to four blocks from my home and walk through floodwater to get home at night, where I had to put on waders because it's pretty cold in the wintertime, and this is an unacceptable situation.

One of the things that I found out at the rally we had two weeks ago, by talking to people who lived here a lot longer than me, is that those dunes were far bigger, that there were two sets of dunes, that they were 20-plus feet high with scrub pines, and if you look there now, there is nothing. So this is not a problem that just happened with Irene; it's not a problem that just happened with Sandy; this is a problem that has happened over decades with basically nothing being done as these dunes have been worn and eaten away. And for me, from somebody who's only lived there 10 years, I feel like those of us in the peninsula and Mastic Beach, we don't get the representation or do we get the dollars that are needed to protect us. We are the lowest-lying floodplains in Suffolk County, I believe, and yet our dunes have just been eaten away year after year after year. When that water comes in on a washover, what happens, it comes in at high tide, the tide goes down, the water stays there. The nor'easter brings more water in at the next tide; that water stays there, and the water keeps coming in. It has nowhere to go because it's washing over. It's not a breach where it can go in and out; it's a washover. It washes in, the tide goes down, that same water is stuck in there.

So these dunes are absolutely the only protection we have in Mastic Beach at this time, and they

have just, year after year after year, been decimated and at this point, as everyone will tell you when we went out there, you couldn't rebuild the dunes because it was piping plover season, and that continues to be the case, and we just want to make sure that when the piping plovers are finished that you guys are there right away, putting the sand back protecting us because this year, we are supposed to have more storms, more powerful storms than we did last year or the year before. So I really would like to just reiterate what everybody says, please get some sand on those dunes, and I'd also like to see a long-term plan to build up the dunes the way that they used to be 20 or 30 years ago.

Also, while I have your attention, because you're the -- I believe this is your department, is vector control; is that right?

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Vector control does fall under Public Works and Health both.

MS. SPERY:

Yup. Vector control has been, over the past few years, really stepping up their channelling of the mosquito ditches in Mastic Beach, and although some of this has been good and has been great in trying to keep the mosquito population down, in my opinion and others, they have been over-aggressive, and what's happening now is they're really flooding out people's private property by being so aggressive and letting the water come in. What they're doing is they're turning people's properties into bogs and they are also turning -- I'm not sure if it's the right word -- the topography by doing this. They're taking -- I mean, I'll bring pictures next time, around where these mosquito ditches are, the trees are all starting to fall down, all of the distichous trees, all of this type of stuff, because they are letting in so much of this water and they're doing it further and further up into neighborhoods where they are going into people's backyards and they are literally turning people's yards into bogs, and I think there's a problem with this, and I think there has to be some kind of balance to keeping the mosquito population down while not basically destroying people's private properties, and I thank you for your time.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Thank you, Maura.

All right. Back to air quality, though not a stranger to water quality or land quality, Adrienne Esposito.

MS. ESPOSITO:

Good afternoon, Legislators. Adrienne Esposito, executive director of Citizens Campaign for the Environment. I was here last month, you might remember, to support this bill. I made the misstep of thinking this was a no-brainer. I was wrong. You once again have surprised me.

Let me say a couple of things differently. Just the way the great people here are here from Mastic Beach and the Village, and they have all come up here to say to you, We need you to protect the health and the safety of the Village. That's your role as government. The difference is they want you, correctly so, to protect the health and safety of the members of the Village from Mother Nature. In the Town of Brookhaven, we're asking you to protect the health and safety of the town members from you. It was your decision to use four air curtain -- we call them air quality destroyers, but air curtain destructors to burn them at the same time. It was your decision to exceed air standards, and we're asking you not to continue that any longer.

Surely, Members of the Legislature, surely you can come up with a plan to deal with vegetative material that doesn't include poisoning the public. Surely, you can input upon yourself and impose upon yourself a law that requires that. That's all we're asking for today.

The last time I was here, Legislator Stern -- I'm pretty sure it was you -- you asked, Well, how much over standards were we. I then went back and wrote a letter, which I hope each of you received because I mailed it to each of you, outlining some of the serious data that was presented. And so, as you know, the standard for the fine particular matter is 35 micrograms per cubic meter, and the data illustrates that in some cases it was twice, some cases it was three times, some cases four, five, or six times higher than it should be, so if you don't think that's a problem, I don't know what you think is a problem. I really hope the same way that we consider -- and this is a serious problem -- but water rushing into people's home, it is the same thing with particular matters going into their homes and they're breathing it, and it's causing asthma, and respiratory ailments, and heart disease, and heart attacks, and if we can't protect the public from ourselves, then who are we protecting them from?

So we're asking you to pass this bill. It is a common sense one. They're not even allowed to use them in the City. One, one air curtain destroyer exceeded standards, just one. We had four here and when I spoke to some offices, they said, Well, that doesn't mean we're going to exceed standards just because the one in the City did. It's the same machine, only four times as much being put out into the air. You can't control them or manipulate them or shut them off during the different times of day; it doesn't work that way. So we're asking you to please be respectful of this. You know, we didn't do the big campaign on this. I didn't drag down community members. I don't think we should have to, but we will if we have to, so please consider this bill and vote yes.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Thank you Adrienne. Any questions for Mrs. Esposito? Okay.

Frank Fugarino. Am I saying that right? Forgive me if I'm not. Back to dunes.

MR. FUGARINO:

Very good. Thank you for pronouncing -- and I am Frank Fugarino. I'm the president of Pattersquash Creek Civic Association. Like Legislator Horsley, we have similar concerns. Your concern is flooding as a result of a breach. I live on -- facing that washover. I can see the ocean. I used to have waterview property. I'm almost about to have waterfront property. I want to give you an update, Smith County Park, on Sunday. The sand is as high as a snow fence. They are called "snow fences." That's the amount of sand that's been replaced by Mother Nature. Snow fence, have you seen it? It's about the height of this (indicating). That is as much protection as we have in Mastic Beach; that's it.

When you go in the waterways -- well, first I'll stay with Smith County Park. I went to the campground. There's stairs from the Burma Road, we call it, or the sand dune road, down to the beach now, our very long walk, an additional six steps have been added because of that much sand that has been lost. When you look to the side of the stairs, you see this nine-foot dramatic drop. Like Maura Sperry said, we are on the last row of dunes. Any other further damage to the Fire Island barrier will remove any and all sand dunes. Years ago, people used to say that there were six rows of dunes before you got to the ocean, from the bay to the ocean. We're down to our last row. In the case of the washover in front of my house, across the way from our house, we are down to this five-foot amount of sand, and that is it. All that sand, by the way, has now been washed into the bays, choking off the channels. So what has happened there, then, the impact -- and this is something that's been growing. You know, we used to see a small washover to the left, right behind Pattersquash Island in the Narrows Bay area, in the past. It's amazing how Mother Nature comes back to those weak spots. Now there's almost a half a mile to a mile of washover. Think about what we're saying here.

Now, I have to have a new house and my house is higher; but what about my neighbors, and what

about my friends? They are in houses that they have put their life savings in to rebuild. If we have another, you know, massive hurricane -- and would this one, I'm understanding, didn't hit us directly on. It was -- it came from another direction. I'm also kind of surprised. The town supervisor, Ed Romaine, gets it. In an article in the local paper, he talked about how vital this is to our community, and I'm truly hoping that you see the broad array of people that are coming here today really to talk about this issue. People have put their life savings in rebuilding this one time. Some of them had flood insurance, some did not. Those that did not used their own money, and this is it. So, I mean it's more than just a house for so many people; it's their home.

A good friend of mine is 92 years old. His name is Ben Intenato (ph). Ben lived in that house for 60 years. He lost his house not to flooding, he lost his house to waves. The waves came in and (indicating) back and forth in his house. He's now living with his wife, who's 94 who is nearly blind. Imagine living your life this way, in a rental property. He cannot go back to his house. It's a beautiful house, by the way, very unique on the water. That's what's at stake. That beeping sounds like the coffee is ready.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Yeah. That's the timer. Your time is up, but I appreciate your comments.

MR. FUGARINO:

Thank you very much. Any questions. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Any questions? All right. Thank you, Mr. Fugarino.

That's the last yellow card I have. Is there somebody else who wanted to be heard who didn't fill out a yellow card?

Okay. So let's go right to the agenda. I think those topics that were spoken of, the dunes and the air quality, will come up relatively early in our agenda.

Introductory Resolutions

IR 2253, Requiring Suffolk County to install stormwater remediation practices and/or stormwater filtration gardens when paving new and existing County-owned parking lots with the assistance of the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District (Anker). Is there a motion on this? This is -- I'm sorry, 2253.

LEG. STERN:

Motion to table by Legislator Stern.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Second.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Second by Legislator Krupski. Thank you. Any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

IR 1035, Eliminating impact assessment fee (Cilmi). We have a motion. Motion to table by Legislator Stern. Second by myself. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

IR 1260, Limiting the use of air curtain destructors by the Department of Public Works

(Browning). Gil, I see, has joined us at the front table. Do we have a motion? I'll make a motion to approve. Is there a second?

LEG. STERN:

Second.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Second by Legislator Stern. Commissioner Anderson, you had some concerns about this bill last week. I don't if you had time to take another look at this, and if you have additional information for us.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, unfortunately, I didn't -- wasn't able to provide the cost estimate information that you had requested or the committee had requested last time. As I mentioned at the last committee, I am concerned with this bill only in that it ties our hands in our ability to act during an emergency. However, the likelihood that we would be able to place more than one curtain burner in one location is pretty slim. The only location we were allowed to last time, we were permitted by DEC, was the Brookhaven landfill. I would bet my salary that the Town would not allow us to put more than one burner in there should another emergency come in. So we will be faced with looking at alternates to deal with that. We did make --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So the bill, then, as proposed doesn't tie your hands any more than they're already tied.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes, correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. Legislator Stern.

LEG. STERN:

Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think part of the conversation, part of the concern from last time was that so much of what we are able or not able to do depends on DEC and following rules, regulations, and then, ultimately, in an emergency situation, being able to conduct efforts based on what DEC says that we can do or not do. My question, Gil, is having gone through what we just went through, are there plans, then, to develop a strategy for this type of disposal in other ways, whether it's using other methods or other locations in working with DEC? I would think that after going through the process that we just did, hoping that DEC allows us to conduct operations in a certain place at a certain time, just crossing our fingers would not be the proper way to proceed. Do we have a definitive plan or working on definitive plans going forward?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

We are working on a definitive plan, primarily looking at getting contracts in place with vendors should, God forbid, a storm come through, we have those contracts in place and we're not necessarily just working under emergency conditions. Similarly, yes, we are looking at what we can do. In addition to DEC, we also were following the recommendations -- I don't want to say directions, but the recommendations of FEMA because they had the firsthand knowledge of this type of event, and it was with their suggestion that we did put those in there.

Again, I go back to an ideal situation, if the town -- if I didn't believe the town was going to adamantly oppose any additional burners, I would say, I would argue that this type of legislation might hinder our ability to react to a storm but knowing what we're up against now, having been through what we've been through, I'm fine with it.

LEG. STERN:

So it wouldn't necessarily happen anyway, but this will codify and give everybody the peace of mind knowing that it could not proceed the way that it had done in the past.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

The likelihood that we could place any type of burner anywhere else is very slim from the discussions I recall during the storm because of the proximity of the local population, airports, things like that.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Do we own these things?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

No, we rented them.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

We rented them.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

We are looking --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

This legislation that -- allows only one per location. Does it specify the size of the machine? We're not going to end up with one giant rather than four smaller ones?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

No, there's actually -- from what -- we had two different-sized units. I don't remember the size, but one was effectively one-and-a-half times the other size, but they were --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I guess that's something to look at later on. Okay. Legislator Krupski, you had a question.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

So this seems to be a safety issue, really, more of moving the material off the roads, moving the material off the wires so they can be repowered so emergency services -- so people can move on the road freely and not get injured with more debris blowing around, whatnot. So if you can't burn it at Brookhaven, so the Town would limit -- you're saying can the Town, in fact, limit that in an emergency situation and is there enough room to store it and burn it over time, or are you going to have to move it -- I don't understand in a safety -- from a safety standpoint, not from a cosmetic standpoint, from a safety standpoint, how are you going to -- you know, where would you distribute all the material?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Okay. During a storm, during both events that recently occurred, Irene and Sandy, what took place was we firsthand got the vegetative debris off the roads. We brought them to storage sites or staging areas, whatever you want to call them, locally -- you know, locally near the areas that had to be cleaned, and then they were, that debris was either -- it was either ground down or the larger pieces, in this case, the burners mostly deal with the large debris, the trunks and such of the trees, and they are very effective. That was brought from, whether it was Southold or Smithtown, down to Brookhaven and then was burned in that way.

Otherwise, the materials chipped and then it's transported to a disposal site. In the case of

specifically Brookhaven, there was a local farm which took the material at the end of the storm and prior to that, they were disposing of the material. They were, actually, I believe, barging it upstate to another recycling facility that took the material in. Similarly, Nassau County was bringing their chip material out to a recycler in -- on the North Fork. I can't remember if it was Southold or Riverhead, but so that's what the process would be. We are looking at right now trying to purchase three -- they call them "tub grinders." Basically something to grind the trees down into chips. Our concern, as I mentioned last time, is the debris standing for long periods, even decades if it's not disposed of properly.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Is that a safety concern, or is that just a pile of debris concern?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, the initial safety concern is to get the vegetative debris off the roads. Then you have to deal with it. Sandy left us with between one million to one point two million cubic yards of material that we had to contend with. The curtain burners were an effective method of getting rid of that material quickly. You know, but we did use that in combination with the tub grinders. If we're not permitted to use the burners, we will use the tub grinders. They will take longer, but, you know, that's what we'll do.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

The bill doesn't prohibit you from using the air curtain destroyers. It just says "one per location."

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

We prefer "curtain burners."

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

But, you know, you had said if you couldn't use them, but you could use them; you just couldn't use more than one per location.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct, but the problem is finding a second location --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Would be challenging.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Gil, did -- Michael Sielback, I think was the name, from American Lung Association. He brought up some interesting points about the timing of when they're used in terms of ozone levels, et cetera, air quality measurements. Is that something you'd consider if and when you use these again, that there might be some days where it's just not appropriate to use it?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

We did, during this past storm, when this issue came or was brought to bear, we went out and initiated an air quality program, which we used. We had monitors in certain locations, and we used that to minimize any increased -- you know, any increased impact to the local neighborhoods. If the levels got above 35 microns, we shut down the program. If the winds weren't right or if there was a heavy -- you know, if the air was heavy and the smoke wouldn't rise enough to get out of the

area and we would likely wind up impacting the community, we'd shut it down. We didn't want the levels -- you know, we certainly don't want to impact the community any more than we have to. It's unfortunately -- you know, the Brookhaven landfill is ideally situated in Yaphank because it's relatively a rural area, and there's a fair distance between, you know, the offsets that are mandated by the regulatory agencies as being able to place. So, like I said, when we looked at trying to find other areas, our discussions during the storm were that there were no immediate areas available to situate other curtain burners.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay. But you do consider those factors.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Absolutely.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

You know, we had one speaker talk about the, I guess, the likelihood of other severe storms, which I certainly hope it's not the case, but we have to be prepared. You know, there might be an occasion that you had to use this again along the lines of the way the bill dictates, so I think those were important considerations that were made.

Legislator Horsley.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Yeah, just quickly. Hi, Gil. Just, now will this now be addressed if this passes, this will be addressed in the storm remediation plan for Suffolk County? Is that what goes to FRES? How does that work, that we can actually have a plan in place if and when a storm does come in the future?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, this will be incorporated into the plan that FRES will develop. Obviously, as we are the implementation arm of that plan, we will be aware of it, and again any discussions during the storm or if the plan is vetted -- you know, hopefully we don't have storms and the plan can be vetted by the regulatory agencies and this will be considered. We might be able to find other locations on the Island where we might be able to do these, if we need to do these.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

So that investigatory option will be -- play out over the next year, prior to -- hurricane season is coming right upon us.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah, well, hopefully we get missed, but I'm not betting --

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Hopefully.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

But, I mean, you're right. That's exactly --

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

You got a plan.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, we've been through this twice. We know what we have to do. Can it be tweaked? Yes. We're trying to implement, as I said earlier, a program so that contracts are in place with vendors so

we're not doing emergency contracts. All our -- you know, we can -- again, we would have, for lack of a better examine, we would have local truckers in place to, you know, move the material, pay loaders, that type of equipment in place where needed in anticipation of the storm, and we would get, not that we weren't right on top of it right away, but we would be hopefully that much more ahead of the game.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Yeah. And may I advise, maybe we take a look at rail next time now that we have the BLT terminals to the Albany area, that might be one of the options we might want to look at.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

It was considered. I don't know why it wasn't used. I think probably that --

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Probably cost.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah. I would have to look back on my notes at that time, but I know it was discussed.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Yeah. Well, it's fairly new, reasonably new, so it may be a better option now than it was then.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

It's certainly worth considering.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Good. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

It might be a reimbursable cost as well. You know, it just really makes sense to take this to an unpopulated area, uninhabited area if you're going to burn it rather than in a county with a million and a half people.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Right. Unfortunately, it's -- the problem is finding that place. That's why it was used. It's an effective -- it's an effective means of reducing the volume. There's no question of that.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I understand, and you did a phenomenal job of responding to the aftermath of the hurricane, just phenomenal, and you did what you had to do. But, you know, this goes into the category of lessons learned. We did have air quality impacts, and if we can do a better job next time by taking some precautionary measures, I think this is the right thing to do.

We had a motion, we had a second. Is there any discussion on the bill? Any other motions? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

Okay. IR 1305, Directing the Department of Public Works to assess the vulnerability of Suffolk County infrastructure to seawater rise (Hahn). I'll make a motion to table. I think it's still being worked on; is that correct?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah. Last meeting, I said we would bring in plans showing what locations at least to give you an

idea of what areas would be impacted by sealevel rise. Thanks to Carl Lind from Planning, and Sarah Lansdale, those plans were prepared. I can show them to you now.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Well if you have them, I might amend the motion. You know, I had talked with the sponsor about setting up a higher threshold for when we would do this, you know, larger analysis, but do you want to -- if you have them, you can show us.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Sure. They are pretty big.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. Why don't we do this: Let's skip over it for a moment. I'd like to take care of -- we're almost at the Smith Point Dune issue. I'd like to take care of that. Then those folks can go home, and then we can come back to this.

Legislator Horsley.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Yeah, just -- I'll wait until after, as you said.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I'll withdraw my motion to table, and we'll skip over 1305.

1306, Moderating fare increase for paratransit bus service (Schneiderman). I still think this is a good bill, so I'll make a motion to approve. Any other motions?

LEG. STERN:

Motion to table.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Second to table.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Motion to table by Legislator Stern, second by Legislator Horsley.

Okay, and no second on the approval. We'll vote on the tabling. All in favor? Opposed?

Abstentions? I'm opposed. That makes three to table, so the bill is **tabled**. **(VOTE: 3-1-0-1, Opposed: Schneiderman, Not Present: Muratore)**

Those riders of paratransit, it was a big fare increase for them. I think the bill provided another approach that I think would've spread the burden a little more fairly but.

All right. **IR 1314, Directing the initiation of procedures to replenish the dunes at Smith Point County Park (Browning).** I'll make a motion to approve for the purpose of discussion. Do I have a second?

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Second.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Second by Legislator Horsley. Okay. Gil, we've heard from a lot of residents of that area. Last time we discussed this, it seemed pretty clear that you were taking expedient actions to rebuild that

dune. Fill us in. I didn't think you thought this was necessary, but it might give the folks in that area a higher level of comfort to have it legislated, so let me give you the floor first, and then we can discuss it.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Okay. Thank you. Last time, I advised the number of groups that have been working on this. We met with the Village a few weeks back as well as regulatory -- Federal and State regulatory agencies. There are two projects already underway, if you will. The County has a project. We have the permitting in place and ready to submit, and we are going to submit them specifically for the replenishment of the dunes and the beaches at Smith Point. Now, that being said, there still is a cost to the County if the County moves forward with that project, which we don't have the funding for, but, be that as it may, we are moving forward with the permit application. We should have it in within the next week, hopefully sooner, maybe a day or two later, but we're that close.

Now on to the Corps' project. Last time, I mentioned we were advised by the Corps at the meeting that we had at the Village that they were waiting for formal direction from Congress to move ahead with the project that will address the dune network and the barrier beach from Montauk to Robert -- actually, to Long Beach, I believe, and from what I understand, that formal direction will be submitted, I was advised earlier, by about June 8, if not sooner. So with that project would come the Corps' ability to address the entire barrier beach but also to pay for the whole thing, which is more important. If the Corps does it, it's 100 percent federally funded. If we do it, there is going to be a cost share involved with our doing it and moving forward. We would also have to first instance fund it.

That being said, I understand the needs and the concerns of the residents and the folks that spoke, as well as yourselves. You know, we'd be fine with moving it forward. We just wanted to make sure that everybody understands that we have been working on this and working on it vigorously, and we will continue to move our portion forward until such time as we hear from the Corps that they are actually going to take the project over.

With regard to a question that was asked earlier if you don't mind, not to digress, but on the breach, the breach is about the same as it was during the snowstorm. There was conversations last week. There's a group, the Breach Contingency Plan Group, that has regular phone conversations, and we are part of that and we listen, and it seems to be roughly 8000 feet wide, about 20 feet deep and holding. So this is a period of accretion. There's been no real formal decision on moving forward, but the commitment was made that if the Corps comes in -- I'm sorry. If the breach does not close, the Corps will initiate a project to close the breach.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

At the same time, they are doing the dune work along the --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

It would likely be two separate -- I mean, it's roughly along the same. Well, there's two -- okay, no probably not. It would probably be two separate things, because the contract for the Fire Island to Long Beach project would be much larger, and with this breach, they can work under the Breach Contingency Plan, which means they can move that much quicker. But, again, that's kind of where it's at; it's still out there, they're still moving forward with it.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Well, I just, on the bill that's in front of us, 1314, there's several things that you're asked to do. Sounds like you're already doing most of them. It would make this project a top priority for the County. It already is. It directs you go submit applications for funding to State, Federal; you have

already done that, correct?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

It requires -- I guess you have to do reports every 30 days, which you haven't done. Is that going to be a problem in terms of...

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

No, that's fine.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Everything that this bill is asking for is already in motion, right, so it's not going to be putting any undue burden on you other than those monthly reports?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Will it in any way -- could it hurt our ability to secure the Federal funds?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

The only thing I would say is we are looking at FEMA funds for our project. If the Corps initiates their project, their funds are going to go towards that project and not towards ours. So, you know, but we are looking --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

The Corps project is a bigger project than our project, no?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct, but it's looking at the same thing. You're restoring not only the dune systems that were in place, but the beaches that were devastated as well. The beaches were the first line of protection for the dunes, and without them, I think that was part of the reason, you know, the dune system got hammered as much as they did.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Legislator Stern.

LEG. STERN:

Yeah. So the source of the funding and the timing of funding will happen regardless of this legislation and this directive.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes, absolutely.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Anyone else? Legislator Krupski.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Is there any plan in conjunction with the whole project here to recover some of that overwash sand from inside?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

That would mean north of the barrier beach. We talked about it. No, there isn't, because a lot of the sand came to rest within wetlands. We're only really -- we would only be able to use material that landed within the navigable channels, which was the intercoastal behind it, and anything beyond that, it was discussed, but it was flatly turned down. The impact to the wetlands would be too great, I'm told.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Is there any County or Federal agency looking at restoring the beaches of the North Shore? Because it seems like every time there's a storm event on the South Shore, the dredges come in, sand gets pumped up, everyone's beach is restored again. On the North Shore, we're always told you can't pump any sand from offshore onto the beach.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

There was -- I believe there still is -- a project underway by the Corps to look at just that thing, from Orient Point, I believe, towards Riverhead that they were looking at just that, to be able to -- what do you call -- to be able to take material from out on Long Island Sound and push it back up onto the beaches. That's what initiated, I believe, as part of the Hashamomuck Cove study.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

I mean, there's a great resource of sand out there to push, and we can't seem to get any traction, whereas on the south fork every time there's a storm, the sand gets pumped back up. I would argue no. In either case, our hands tend to be tied a lot more. We have looked and worked vigorously to restore Smith Point Beach. We've done two dredging projects to try to restore that since I've been here. But no, their regulatory agencies are, you know, as hard on the South Shore as they are on the North, with all due respect. You know...

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Can I ask a sequencing question? Because I guess it's officially the start of hurricane season, or very shortly. The methodology, as I think Legislator Krupski spoke of, has to do with a dredge pumping sand from offshore onto the beach. I imagine that's the case. An ocean dredge comes in; at least the Army Corps would likely approach the problem that way. The community members mentioned piping plovers, so there's a window of time. There's also winter flounder and other concerns, so typically those dredging projects don't get underway until October. Is that likely what we'll see here? We won't see a dune rebuilt until October?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

The last discussions we had, in Mastic, there was discussion about possibly moving it a little bit forward a couple of weeks. I haven't seen any type of relaxation of the window since I've been here, but that doesn't mean they wouldn't place an inspector, you know, check out a beach to make sure there's no plovers nesting, things like that. That was what they were talking about. That might be something that they allow. But the realistic timeframe, the earliest you might get is September 1 when we're able to start doing the work.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I understand that, and those are all important considerations in terms of environmentally. It's just hard to imagine going through another hurricane season. Based on the aerial pictures that we looked at, they have just no protection whatsoever. That may be what we have to do. I wish there was kind of an interim measure where we could even truck some sand there into certain locations where there was certified plover-free in terms of nesting, but is there anything along those lines that can be done as a short-term measure?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

We talked about trying to work around the plovers. The fact that Burma Road has been devastated to the east of the pavilion, you know, folks are going to have to wind up, if they are going to drive out there, they are going to have to carefully drive their vehicles on the beach, and the Parks Department is going to have to locate the nests and basically, you know, let the -- I guess, protect the nests, if you will.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

That season closes, though, I think at the end of June or something, no plover nesting. So there is a -- but the dredging season doesn't open until October.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So I don't know. Maybe --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

You're also dealing with -- you're dealing with two types of habitats. There's the ones above the water and ones under.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Right. It's challenging but -- and if you had to truck in material, it would be an awful lot of truckloads to do anything.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

It would be expensive. I mean, it'd be a burden.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

We're talking about thousands of truckloads, and that would have an impact on traffic and roads.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

And you would have to have a source.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

And you'd have to have a source.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

And it would be expensive.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

And it would be expensive, no doubt.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Legislator Horsley.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

I think mine was falling right along the same line as yours. I was concerned about the timing of this as well. Let me ask you, piping plovers, aren't they, the nesting season, early spring?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I believe it starts April 1 and it ends sometime in June.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

So it seems because of the summer season. Is that why then --

MS. ESPOSITO:

It ends in August.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Does it end in August?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

It ends in August. Somebody that knows.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Well, that, I guess, answers some of my questions. Let me ask you also, sequestration, is that an issue involving the Corps? Is that something that we've got to deal with as well, that they're going to say, Eh, nevermind, we don't have the monies?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

No. I think sequestration is a separate issue that they deal with. If they were directed, they would be given a separate funding source, I believe. Normally when they're given direction and they're given projects, attached to that is a funding source, so it's specific to that. So I think sequestration went and attacked different, you know, operating budgets so different entities within the Federal government were impacted. This should be fine.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

So best case is what we're saying is that they would be doing the dredging during September. That's a best case situation, because usually they have to relieve some of the regulations involving the permitting process. So we're talking about the middle of the hurricane season at best.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

That's what I thought.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Anyone else?

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Yeah, I have a question.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Legislator Krupski.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

As far as the priorities go, you know, this is obviously an area that's in great need of service here, but if the Army Corps is going to start, where would they start, and how are they going to prioritize?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I don't have an answer to that right now.

MR. BIONDI:

Are we allowed to talk?

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

No, not at this point. As a public official, sure. You're the mayor. Why not?

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Now that we have acknowledged you.

MR. BIONDI:

You know, listening to some of this stuff is driving me crazy, and I hate sitting there without saying anything. One of the concerns, you talk about traffic. The beach is open for four wheel drive, so what's the big deal? The County is making money right now on the outer beach charging people to drive on the outer beach. We sit in Mastic Beach watching cars and trucks go across the horizon. There is no sand there. The gentleman from the ambulance company said, life situations are going to happen here. We're going to lose a life in Mastic Beach because we're sitting here deciding on when to do this, when to do the dredging, when to protect the birds and whatnot, and we can't do this. It's the County's responsibility. It's the County's property. They neglected the Smith Point area for many years. Each year, we kept losing yards and yards of sand. They did absolutely nothing to correct it. Yes, they did it twice. It was a Band-Aid fix. We can't wait for the big picture. We have to do something now. Somebody in Mastic Beach, probably somewhere along the east coast, I say from Patchogue to the Hamptons, somebody is going to lose their life because of this situation. We need to address this thing now.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Thank you for your comments.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I would argue with the mayor, with all due respect, sir, that the projects were not Band-Aid projects. They were projects to replenish Smith Point, and they were effective. In both cases, if I recall right, it wasn't too long afterwards that we had a storm that came through and wiped them out, and if they weren't in place, we would have had further damage. So, you know, we are working, the County is working as best as we can within what we're able to do to repair these situations.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay. The bill that's before us doesn't talk about a different project. It talks about a very specific project and making it a top priority, so that's the bill we'll be voting on. So if there are other interim solutions, I'm sure you'll let us know.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I'll have to cover the report monthly, and that's fine.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay. And we did, actually -- we have George looking up the piping plover season so the mating season is 'til June, but then there's -- they hatch. There's additional time up until August, as Adrienne Esposito said from the back. Where they are, the beach is still protected.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

It's surprising that they are endangered.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Legislator Krupski.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Yeah. We talked about this reporting. Is this a necessary or unnecessary distraction from you actually doing the work that you should be doing? Because we know that, you know, you look at the storms over the past few years, and I'm going to go back to the 90s when we had those big coastal storms. That did a lot of damage, eroded Long Island and both shores. And I know you're doing what you can to try to keep sand from washing away in a storm. It's going to be -- you know, it's obviously impossible. But is this reporting just something that's just going to be a distraction from you from actually getting permits, getting people lined up to do the work, or is this going to be helpful to getting the work done in any way?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

We're moving forward, as I said, with the project irrespective of whether we have to report or not. The reporting -- believe me, I'm not looking for more work. It would be a one, two, three paragraph thing. It would be beyond -- I'm not going to go into such a level of detail that's above my head, which doesn't take much when it gets into the sciences of this. But certainly, you know, I have no problem sending a paragraph or two to the committee on a monthly basis basically identifying where we are, and if there's pertinent attachments, I'll attach it. But beyond that, I'm not looking for, you know, a hundred pages.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

I don't think we are, either. I think that was important to define that so we're not looking for something -- you know, the manifesto.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I appreciate that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. Any other discussion?

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Maybe you could do it during the committee.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

That's what we talked about last time, even just a verbal.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I would have been okay with that, but I think the bill specifies in writing. I guess you could verbally report it, and the transcripts could be handed in.

All right. IR 1314, we have a motion to approve and a second. Any other motions? Hearing none, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

Let's go back. I know there are -- everybody is welcome to stay, but that concludes the issues that the public spoke on earlier.

Let's go back to **IR 1305, Directing the Department of Public Works to assess the vulnerability of Suffolk County infrastructure to seawater rise (Hahn)**. Let's take a look at the maps. They look like they are actual size.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

One to one, yes.

(*Laughter*)

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

What is this now; this is the sea level rise? Is this like the hundred-year map or something?

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

A hundred-year floodplain.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I'm going to this over the side a bit so you can maybe see this. This is one of the maps that Carl prepared.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I'm going to invite the committee to come to the table so we can actually see the maps.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

What you see here, this is the hundred-year floodplain and what has been identified -- and again I have to praise Carl for what he was able to do -- is identified different parcels of land. Obviously, this is Greenport and he's identified what the land uses are.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

These are County-owned land in green?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes, correct. So in the case of the dark green, which is kind of what we figured it would be, most of these are going to be parks, and those parks are impacted. These lighter green ones are agricultural lands that, again, would be impacted. I'm assuming they are owned -- they're probably land that was preserved.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

And as you can see, in different areas, you are going to have different land pipes.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

These were verified --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

There's a little bit in my district.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yep. So what you see, again, most of this is going to be parkland. That's really the impacted piece. You may have some land that was taken for lack of payment.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I own property here too.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

In that case, it's gray. I'd have to again look at some of this, but this is -- that's villages, the gray areas are just villages.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All villages, just villages, the hundred year flight plane. A lot of mansions in there.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Right, and you can see the underlying underneath it. Again, what I would envision is simply going

back and taking the geo-data that's shown here and in a tabular format just identifying what the properties are and then, you know -- again, not looking to develop too much detail at this point but to identify what we thought, shore hardening, actually raising the facilities, things like that, if, you know, if this legislation is to move forward. Again, we're fine with it.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

How do you protect this?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I'm fine with it.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

The water is coming. It's coming.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

There's no protection.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

There isn't, but case in Bergen Point. We are talking about --

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Hardening of the sewer plant, yes. Go team.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

-- hardening of the sewer plant. You know, but raising the edge, those were -- that was the one that stuck out to us only because we're DPW and that's one of ours. But you have a number of Parks facilities. I don't know exactly what you can do to, you know, protect them. If, again, Smith Point, the discussion has been about moving, taking the pavilion, moving it away from its current location. You know, again, there's a cost associated with that. DPW hardened the front of that years ago, back in the 90s, I believe. We actually put in sheet piling, and that's what saved it during the two storms. So again --

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

When they did the memorial, was that the same time?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah, right around there. I think we did it a little bit before the memorial.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Can I ask, because we have a stenographer trying to take minutes here, if Legislators don't have a microphone in front of them, I would ask that you basically reserve or hold back on your questions until you're back in front of a microphone so we can record it and accurately reflect it in the minutes.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So, Commissioner Anderson, this resolution asks you to study all County buildings and infrastructure valued at or above \$50,000, which falls within the Federal 100-year flood zone, and address the vulnerability to rising seawaters. Now I had -- my concern was that there was going to be an awful lot. 50,000 is a very low threshold. It's hard to build anything for under that amount, we're finding, and we just shared the capital budget working group. I would think that most of the County infrastructure is worth in excess of 50,000, so my concern was that this would be an

inordinate amount of your time, and that it might be better focused at a higher threshold, like over \$5 million or \$20 million. But if you feel having reviewed this that you can do this assessment, I'll support it. I don't have a problem with it.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

My only concern with the legislation was the timeframe, and if you don't mind, I would ask, maybe, that if we table this, I can talk to the sponsor about pushing it back. I know it says, I believe, until the end of the year, but given everything else that we're working on, you know, I'd like to discuss with her.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I know that your department is short-staffed, and I know you're still doing work related to Hurricane Sandy, and you've got a potentially busy storm season ahead, and who knows what other things, you know, infrastructure repairs that you'll be doing. I would support tabling it because I still think the threshold is too low. You may not agree with me, but I'd rather see that raised to a million dollars at a minimum so you're not looking at bathrooms and storage sheds and things like that, not that those things aren't vulnerable, but I would say you only have so much time that I'd rather see you focus on critical infrastructure.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I can raise that issue with Legislator Hahn as well.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay. And a little bit more time to do this analysis. So I'll make a motion to table.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Second.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Second by Legislator Krupski, indelibly etched in my brain at this point. Sorry. Senior moment before. Is there any other motions? So we have a motion to approve and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Approved. **Tabled (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

Legislator Horsley.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Yeah, just as a related but unrelated matter, before I forget it because I don't want to have a senior moment. Gil, we spoke with the folks, Mr. Daly at PSE&G and -- relating to our Hardening Committee. PSE&G is welcoming the opportunity to also include their projects with the Hardening Committee.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Great. Look forward to the discussions.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

So when we do put that together, we should make sure that they get an invitation as well.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Okay. Good.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Remind me so I don't have a senior moment.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

I was gonna say -- now I'm -- now it's on your shoulders.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

We've got one more under **Tabled Resolutions**; let's go to that. Well, let me state, too, for the record, Legislator -- I forgot to say that, I apologize, earlier that Legislator Muratore has an excused absence. He's trying to come to the meeting. He may get here late, but he had a conflict, so he has an excused absence from today's proceedings.

All right. **IR 1347, Directing the Department of Public Works to conduct a traffic study on a portion of County Road 86 (Spencer).** The sponsor actually requested a tabling on this, so I'm going to make a motion to table. Second by Legislator Krupski. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? It's so tabled.

All right. Moving on to *Introductory Prime*.

This is **1380, Amending the 2013 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with safety improvements to CR 16, Smithtown Boulevard at Gilbert Avenue/Sheppard Lane, Town of Smithtown (CP 5574) (Kennedy).** Commissioner, do you have some details?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah. This resolution looks to repurpose and appropriate \$200,000 from planning into construction. DPW has been involved with the development of the scope and details of reconstruction of the intersection of County Road 16, which is Smithtown Boulevard with Gilbert Avenue and Sheppard Lane. We've participated in public meetings and are ready to progress this project into construction. We feel that 200,000 is sufficient to construct the improvements proposed and recommend the resolution be proposed -- be approved.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So this was planning money and it's in this year's budget and you've done the planning, what, inhouse, yes?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Right. Yes.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

And so now you're going just to take the planning -- what was planning money and use it for actual construction.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Right.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So it must be a minor project, then.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah. It's a couple of turning lanes, islands. It's basically a small traffic safety project at the

intersection and a little bit further down the road.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

See, and that's a \$200,000 project which would have fallen into the threshold before about -- it's above that \$50,000 threshold.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Right.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Right. So I'll make a motion to approve. Second by Legislator Krupski. Any discussion?

LEG. KRUPSKI:

It's good to have a project that takes planning money and actually performs the work and makes it safer.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).**

Did you want to say anything on that, John?

LEG. KENNEDY:

It's much appreciated, and as a matter of fact it will -- it's good projects. It's a good project, and we have done a lot of preliminary work and got community input on the -- a choice for this remedy, so it takes care of a dangerous intersection, and makes it much better, so thank you. Thank you to the committee.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So when your bills are coming up, does somebody, like, run over to your office and you're here, run across the street so you could comment on them?

(Laughter)

Good timing. It helps to have an office right here at the complex.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Well, you know, we could go on and on about that, couldn't we? I'm wondering whether I'm in the hundred-year floodplain here or not.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

It's a lot harder when your office is in Sag Harbor to rush here to comment on one of your bills.

All right. **1383, Transferring Escrow Account Revenues and Transferring Assessment Stabilization Reserve Funds to the Capital Fund, amending the 2013 Operating Budget, amending the 2013 Capital Budget and Program, and appropriating funds for improvements to Sewer Collection Systems in Suffolk County Sewer District No. 1 – Port Jefferson (CP 8122).** Commissioner, do you have any other details?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes. This legislation looks to appropriate actually \$488,431 for the design of improvements to the Sewer District 1 Port Jefferson pump station and the force main. The pump station has seen significant impact from recent storms, and we want to look at what we can do to improve that and

improve the pump station, increase the flow, and protect the pump station as well. The funding is for the project we're proposing, is using serial bonds funded through the ASRF as well as taking escrow money that the County has collected from various connection fees to help pay for this work. The escrow accounts are from projects that are within the district and the connection fee that was paid through the district, so it's effectively, I mean, cash, for lack of -- you know.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. So we haven't had a motion yet. I'll make a motion to approve. Second by Legislator Horsley. Any questions on this? Hearing none, I'll call the vote. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

Moving on to **IR 1384, Amending the 2013 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with safety and drainage improvements to the Center Medians on various County roads (CP 5116) (County Executive)**. It's looking for \$250,000 for drainage improvements to center medians on CR 46. That's William Floyd Parkway. And the offsets on this, Gil, are...

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

One is from Capital Project 5576, which is our County Highway Rehabilitation Project. That was 15,000. That's available because the estimate for that project came in lower so we have that available funding; and then the \$235,000 from CPA 5855, which is the removal and replacement of the bridge on County Road 16, Horseblock Road, over the Long Island Railroad. That's planning funding that we do not need and we felt could be used as an offset for this work.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Any questions? Did we do a motion? No. Okay. I'll make a motion to approve. Second by Legislator Horsley. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

IR 1385, Amending the 2013 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with the Construction of Sidewalks on Various County Roads including ancillary road resurfacing and drainage improvements (CP 5497). This is \$400,000 for safety improvements on CR 97 and 35.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

The 400,000 is for engineering. It's for planning the first project of two separate projects. One is along County Road 97, Nicolls Road, which would look to improve pedestrian safety from Sheep Pasture Road up to New York State 25A. You do have a lot of college kids from Stony Brook that use that to access the stores up on 25A. The other one is for County Road 35, which is Park Avenue, looking to install new sidewalk from the railroad up to 25A. It'll also look at any little pavement deficiencies or drainage issues that we can revolve under this project as well.

There's an offset. 30,000 comes from CP 5577, which, again, is the County's Highway Rehabilitation Project. The cost of that project, for the record, came in under budget, and we were able to use this -- take this money and use it as an offset.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. Any questions? All right. I'll make a motion to approve. Second by Legislator Horsley. Any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

IR 1386, Appropriating funds in connection with strengthening and improving County roads (CP 5014) (County Executive). This is looking to bond 4.3 million in serial bonds.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This is our annual resurfacing contract. We feel it's the most effective way to manage the pavement and maintain the pavement. In that resolution, there was a table to show the number of sections of road we were looking to do. It's without -- obviously, we do -- this is our plan right now. It may change depending on need, but I don't know if you want me to read that for the record or just attach it to the resolution.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

No, I don't think it's necessary. It's attached to the bill. I'll make a motion to approve. Second by Legislator Krupski. Any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved.**
(VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)

Gil, did that allocation -- that's the '13 money, and '14, do you recall, did you request the same amount of money?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I don't recall off the top of my head.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

It's pretty much an annual...

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes, it is, it's annual. Usually, we've gotten around six million, if I recall right, and the last allocation was about 4.3, so we are -- it is being reduced a little bit under '14.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay. I'm sure that's taking a little bit of a toll on our roads. Is that a pun? No tolls on our roads.

All right. **1387, Appropriating funds in connection with Reconstruction of Drainage Systems on various County roads (CP 5024) (County Executive).** It's \$275,000 in bonding.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This is generally the project -- this project is the sister project of the one we just discussed. It -- we use that to make improvements to drainage facilities. You know, normally we use that to improve drainage facilities in areas we're going to be repaving or we need to do any type of improvements, things like that.

LEG. STERN:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Motion to approve by Legislator Stern. Second by Legislator Krupski. Any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

1388, Amending the 2013 Capital Budget and Program to accept additional Federal Aid and increase funding in connection with improvements to North Highway, CR 39, from Sunrise Highway to Montauk Highway, Town of Southampton (CP 5528, PIN 075736). I will make a motion. Seconded by Legislator Krupski. Gil, can you give us a little more?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah. This increase to Federal funding that was made available to this project, which in turn means

we can increase our funding contribution towards the project. The money is needed because of the additional restrictions that the railroad placed at the grade crossing, so it did cost us more money. In fairness, they have given us more, but we do need that funding. It's not adding to the project, it's just basically offsetting some of our additional costs because of requirements that the -- what is it -- the Federal government placed?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, the Railroad, MTA --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Railroad, MTA placed.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yep.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Go ahead, Legislator Krupski.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

What were the additional requirements there?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, the one I know off the top of my head is the manning when you have to have men there, the flag men, which they are needed, but you pay through the nose for that service.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

I meant, like, are there any physical changes to the project.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

That, I have to turn to Bill for.

MR. HILLMAN:

Yes. The railroad required some additional signing, additional mast -- not mast arms but additional gate arms, longer gate arms, things that we didn't anticipate in the original budgeting of the project.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Bill, I noticed there is still some work being done. It looks like it's almost finished. While we're on County Road 39, when are we wrapping this up?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

The only thing left to do is to stripe the road.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

The striping, okay, and a little bit of paving on side roads.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Minor painting. What's that?

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

A little bit of painting maybe on, like, David Whites.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah. There was an issue that came up last week. I remember one of the local roads, I thought -- I thought we resolved it, but yeah, we're very close. I mean, we're right at the tail end of it.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Couple more days, maybe. There was a timing light -- light-timing issue that I've been in communication with Dan Dresch on. It hopefully got resolved. That road, David Whites, it was going green for way too long and County Road 39, way too short. I think it was done during a rerouting of traffic and not reset, but hopefully they fixed it at this point.

MR. HILLMAN:

Yeah. It could've also been the loop detectors. When we mill and then repave, the loop detectors get damaged, so it's in all likelihood resolved, but if it's not, give us a call and we'll send somebody out there.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Yeah. I was concerned during Memorial Day traffic that that could present a real problem if it didn't go long enough on County Road 39 but...

MR. BIONDI:

We didn't hear anything.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Yeah. I guess we're okay. It's behind us now.

Okay. So we had a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved.**
(VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)

All right. **1389, Amending the 2013 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with replacement of CR 16, Horseblock Road Bridge over the Long Island Railroad, Town of Brookhaven (CP 5855).** This is \$25,000 transfer for land acquisition?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah. It appropriates 25,000 for seed money to begin discussions with land acquisition for an easement from the MTA so that we can construct -- reconstruct the bridge that goes over the railroad where Horseblock Road crosses it.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So you are just moving money within the project?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, there's 10,000 already within the Capital Program. The other was taking -- correct. We're taking planning funding, 15,000 planning funding, and we're moving it from planning into acquisition.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. We have a motion, Legislator Stern. Seconded by Legislator Horsley. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved.** **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

IR 1390, Amending the 2013 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with Energy Conservation & Safety Improvements to the H. Lee Dennison

Building (CP 1659) (County Executive). This is a \$1.9 million bond. These projects typically have saved us more than they've cost us in debt service. Is this one of those cases?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This, in fact, is also -- okay. It appropriates 1.9 million for the design, which would be about 20,000, and construction, about 1.88 million of a new generator at the Dennison. It'll be capable of handling the entire load. The project will include natural gas power generators, transfer switches, related electrical upgrade. The 2013 adopted Capital Program had insufficient funds. We had \$950,000, so we're looking for the additional \$950,000 to do the project, which is the 1.9 million that we're asking for.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I just want some clarification. So what's the total cost of this project?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Construction-wise, we're estimating \$1.88 million.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

And it's just Dennison?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

And planning was \$20,000.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Planning was 20,000. Most of the design, we're doing ourselves.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

And is this -- we're going to, I guess, save in terms of operational cost?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, first the -- yes, we have a new CNG power diesel generator. The generator that's out there now is old. It's ineffective. It only barely handles some of the emergency lighting as well as the elevators. It's really meant to get people out of the building, and we had some significant issues with it over the past year, so that's the reason we initiated this project.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So wait. So it's actually not -- I mean, the project is for the generator, which only kicks on if there's an emergency?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So we're -- I mean, this is going to sound silly, but it's \$1.9 million for a generator for a building we're about to sell and lease back, right?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, we do -- the project is needed in the terms that we need to replace the generator. We need to get people down those flights of stairs, and the current generator, I mean, failed on us a couple times last year, so as we're going to go in and do this, we want to put in a new facility that can

actually power the entire building. I don't believe the idea is to ever get rid of the building from County -- I mean --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

No, we're going to keep it, sell and lease back it.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

So, I mean, it really would facilitate the County being able to remain open --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

It's like taking out a mortgage on your home and then doing an improvement to your home; it's still yours.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Right, right.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

But it just, it seems like a lot of money for a generator, 1.9 million.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

It's all the switch gear, all the related upgrades that we need to do to get everything. It's just not a matter of taking -- I mean, it's a big generator. I don't know what the new one is like, but if you've seen the generator that's in there, it's a large, old --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

But in your mind -- all right -- so obviously, if you had to get people out and the generator failed, they couldn't get out.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I mean, they took the stairs last time, but they took the stairs in the dark. It wasn't a real -- I mean, you have some emergency lighting, but when you're coming down, you know --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So in your mind, this is a necessity.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes, it is.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Legislator Krupski, you had wanted to comment on this.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

When would this be installed?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Chief Engineer Monohan, let him answer that.

MR. MONOHAN:

Good afternoon. We plan on installing sometime late this summer, hopefully in advance of the hurricane season, but depending on the availability of the generator, one of this size isn't just an off-the-shelf item, so it does take time to fabricate, ship, and then install, but we're going to do everything we can before the storm season forthcoming this summer to anticipate the arrival of the actual piece of equipment, so a lot of the infrastructure work, wiring, et cetera will be done

beforehand.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Where is it coming from, and who makes it?

MR. MONOHAN:

We haven't decided on a manufacturer yet, but it takes up to 12 weeks to -- once ordered, and obviously we can't order until we have money appropriated.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I'm just trying to follow the movement of funds here, because this wasn't -- this generator wasn't in the 2013 Capital Program, I don't believe. This is something that we're taking money that was put in place for energy conservation-type measures, which we thought would help relieve County operating costs by reducing our utility bills. Is that correct though, Gil; is that where the money is...

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

We're taking -- some of it was within the Capital Program. We had 950 in the Capital Program. We're looking --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

For this purpose, 950,000? Okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

The other 950 is coming out of 1664. We just --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So the money that was budgeted wasn't adequate.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct. And, I mean, to be frank, it was also a realization after what we went through last year of what the -- you know, what the current equipment could handle and what was really needed. Once we went through Sandy and it couldn't power up the building, after Sandy, we came to realize that all these County departments that couldn't function because there's no electric and because you don't have a generator that size to do that, so it was decided at that point since we're going in to do the generator, let's do it so it does the whole building.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I guess that's really the decision. Do we need a generator that's going to keep the entire building operational in the event of a major power outage for an extended period of time, or do we need just to be able to keep the lights and elevators on to get people out of there? This is designed to keep the building fully operational.

MR. MONOHAN:

That's correct. That's correct. And there's also provisions for some extra capacity should a, let's say, American Red Cross or FEMA bring a trailer up that would need to hook up to our building's operating --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So Dennison is being looked at as basically a major center during a catastrophic event in terms of

the County's ability to operate. It is where the County Executive is.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct, as well as a number of major departments that work out of there, and they were impacted during Sandy where they couldn't.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So our FRES stuff, is the communications stuff still there, or that's being moved?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

FRES was all out of --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Wasn't there some emergency communications stuff where the Vehicle and Traffic Violations Bureau was?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Oh, you're right. The training folks that were down on the first floor are actually now in the old infirmary. They've been relocated out there.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay, but the equipment wasn't down there?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

There was some training equipment there; you're absolutely right, but that's just --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Oh, it was training equipment. Okay. Any other questions on this?
All right. Do we have a motion?

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Motion to approve by Legislator Krupski. Second by Legislator Stern. All in favor? Opposed?
Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

IR 1391, Amending the 2013 Adopted Operating Budget and the 2013 Capital Budget and Program and accepting and appropriating funds in connection with the Sewer District No. 21 SUNY - Improvement Project (CP 8121) (County Executive). This is additional funds for construction and assistance. It's looking for, what, an interfund transfer of 1.35 million?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct. It's to pay increased construction assistance as well as potential scope changes. The design fees were impacted when the DEC required us to look for an upland recharge area and we also found issues with the electrical systems once we started the construction.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Do we have a motion?

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Motion to approve by Legislator Krupski. Second by Legislator Horsley. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).**

IR 1392, Appropriating funds in connection with alterations to Criminal Courts Building, Southampton (CP 1124) (County Executive). It's a \$2.01 million bond to relocate and consolidate criminal court buildings in Southampton.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct. This resolution seeks to appropriate 2.01 million to design, construct, and equip a new hearing room and accessory office space to relocate Family Court within the criminal courts building in Southampton. Family Court is currently located in a lease space, and the relocation will save the County funds. Currently, we pay about \$300,000 per year in rent, and we pay about 75,000 a year in maintenance costs. This project will also address security and fire safety improvements plus upgrades to windows and interior finishes.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

This is in the County Center Complex there, right?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

They hear Southampton. Everybody thinks of it as -- a lot of people think of it as Riverhead, but it's technically Town of Southampton.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Just across the river.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Any questions?

LEG. STERN:

Motion to approve.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Second.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Motion to approve by Legislator Stern. Second by Legislator Krupski. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

IR 1393, Transferring Escrow Account Revenue Funds to the Capital Fund, amending the 2013 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds for expansion to Suffolk County Sewer District No. 3 - Southwest - expansion project - construction (CP 8183) (County Executive). Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This resolution requests to transfer \$6.7 million in escrow funds into the capital project. The funds will be used to not only expand Sewer District 3, but they'll help pay for nonexpansion related tasks such as upgrades to the existing clarifiers, blowers, and chemical systems. The total project cost, not including consulting fees, is around \$70 million right now.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

This is all within the sewer district, then?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Motion by Legislator Horsley. Second by Legislator Stern. Any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

1396, Appropriating funds in connection with Riverhead County Center Power Plant Upgrade (CP 1715)(County Executive). It's a \$235,000 bond. I guess this is in the Capital Program.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Motion by Legislator Krupski. I'll second it. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore)**

1397, Appropriating funds in connection with Civil Court Renovations and Addition - Courtrooms, Riverhead (CP 1130) (County Executive). This is a \$1.3 million bond. Commissioner, you have any additional information?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This funding will be used to construct -- to continue to construct and expand the ongoing Phase III project at the civil court, which is exterior renovation, weatherproofing of the supreme court complex on Griffing Avenue. The additional funding will be used to further the exterior building facade, stair, and slate roof restorations and replacements, allow for the current progress to continue unimpeded. Restorations are being designed, supervised, and executed to preserve the historic fabric of the older building which have been damaged over time from weather exposure and water infiltration.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Question?

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Why wasn't this part of the whole -- why is it an extra 1.3? Why wasn't this part of the whole project?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

What we found, this project has been going on many years, and every time we open it up, we find something new, some other issue. The facade was actually, we started looking at -- I think almost when I came to the County back in '06, and we ran into so many problems inside the building. We said, Oh, we got to wait and do this. Now we get to that, we open that up and we find problems with that, and that's why we continually have to come back and ask for the money.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Motion by Legislator Krupski. Second by Legislator Horsley. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?
Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).

1398, Appropriating funds in connection with the County share for participation in the construction of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling facilities (CP 5603 PIN 0759.61).

Looks like a \$4.5 million bond with 80/20 split. Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This actually appropriates 250,000 for planning and implementing a training program for all county employees who operate the vehicles that run on CNG. This will likely be run by in-house staff and was originally initiated for that purpose.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So the \$4 million bond, that was already done to create this; is that what you're saying? I'm confused.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

That's the last one, 1417.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Oh. Am I reading the wrong one?

MR. MONOHAN:

There are two resolutions on the agenda today. 1398 is for the training program for \$250,000, and 1417-13 is --

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

My notes are wrong, then, on it. Okay.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

This part is just the training. And what's the amount on it?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

250,000.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay. Motion to approve by Legislator Krupski. Is there a second? Second by Legislator Horsley. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).**

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Gil, how many people are you going to train for 250,000?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, it's really to reimburse the trainers, but the intent is to train anybody who drives a CNG has to be -- National Fire Prevention Association and the New York State Fire Code require that anybody who is going to use the CNG vehicle has to be trained in its use, how to pump it, you know, that

thing.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:
Sounds dangerous.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, there is -- I mean, you know, there is certain shut-off facilities that are on the thing that in case you do have an issue, you shut down the gas, and I don't pretend to know it, but I do know that there's training required for these type of vehicles. Everybody is used to pumping gas. This is going to be a little different. That's why I drive a hybrid.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

So **1405, Calling for a public hearing for the purpose of considering proposed increases and improvements of facilities for Sewer District No. 12 - Birchwood/Holbrook (CP 8143) (County Executive)**. Commissioner, do you have additional information on this one?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

1405 calls for a public hearing to provide improvements to the wastewater treatment facility for Sewer District 12 for Birchwood Holbrook. The project will be funded using a mix of sewer district serial bonds, stabilization relief funds, and escrow funds. The project is for construction, 1.87 million dollars of construction of equalization facilities and filtration equipment on the effluent end to further reduce any solids prior to entering recharge beds, so we're looking to improve the front end as well as the back end.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay, and those public hearings are requirements when you do these types of improvements.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I'll make a motion to approve. Seconded by Legislator Horsley. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).**

1406, Calling for a public hearing for the purpose of considering proposed increases and improvements of facilities for Sewer District No. 9 - College Park (CP 8163).

Commissioner, what is the project doing here?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

The funds will be used to provide additional effluent filtration as well as enhance recharge facilities. The filtration system will be within a building and contain auxiliary equipment for those purposes needed to support the process itself. The work is being designed inhouse and will be funded through ASRF funding.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Same motion, same second, same vote. **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).**

IR 1407, Amending Resolution No. 471-2012 in connection with the resurfacing of CR 97, Nicolls Road from the vicinity of the LIRR tracks (Furrows Road) to the vicinity of NY 27, Sunrise Highway; and CR 19, Waverly Avenue/Patchogue-Holbrook Road from the vicinity of NY 27, Sunrise Highway to Broadway Avenue, Towns of Brookhaven and Islip (CP 5599.313, PIN 076007) (County Executive).

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This one, if I may, this is going to reallocate funding from this project, \$360,000 from this project, so we're going to reduce the actual cost of the project because we got bids in and they came in under, and it's going to actually transfer it to the next resolution, which is **1408**, which has to do with resurfacing of County Road 46, William Floyd Parkway. So what this one is doing is basically reallocating or amending the resolution, taking those funds, and eventually it's going to take those 360 and place it in the next resolution under -- into the Capital Program for County Road 46, which we bid out and we didn't have enough -- the bids came in higher than our estimate.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Do we have a motion on this one?

LEG. KRUPSKI:

I'll make a motion.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I will second. Any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).**

And the related resolution, 1408, Counsel is telling me there may be an issue with **1408**, a technical that needs to be amended. Why don't I read it. **Amending Resolution No. 469-2012 in connection with the resurfacing of CR 46, William Floyd Parkway from the vicinity of Moriches Middle Island Road to the vicinity of NY 25A, Town of Brookhaven (CP 5599.312, PIN 076006).** And the issue, Counsel?

MS. SIMPSON:

The issue is in the fourth resolve clause. It says that there is a decrease rather than an increase.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Is there time to amend this? Can it be discharged and amended on the floor?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

It looks like it was changed. We have amended copy from May 22, which has the fourth resolve clause as an increase rather than a decrease, so the corrected one would be -- so there is no issue.

MS. SIMPSON:

Okay. I'm going to recommend this be discharged so that we can clear up the amended copy issue.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. Do we need to discharge without recommendation? All right. So I'll make a motion to discharge without recommendation. So it's a motion to discharge without recommendation. Second by Legislator Stern. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Discharged Without Recommendation (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).**

All right. 1409, Authorizing planning steps for the -- no, that can't be it. **1409, Authorizing planning steps for the acquisition of land for a permanent easement from the New York State Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), Long Island Rail Road (LIRR), for the replacement of a certain bridge on CR 16, Horseblock Road, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York (SCTM No. 0200-737.00-01.00-008.000) (CP 5855, PIN 075979).** Commissioner, you want to give us some more information on this one?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Again, this is simply authorizing us to reach out to the MTA to begin formal discussions to create a

permanent easement not only to repair the bridge, but there's a portion of the bridge that we're proposing, an abutment on one side that will encroach into their right of way. It won't impact the service or the ability to create another double track through that area. It simply -- we can shorten our bridge. It saves us money. We just need to really -- you know, we just have to create an easement for that abutment. The bottom of the abutment, the foundation would encroach a little bit onto the MTA driveway.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Any questions? Motion by Legislator Stern. Second by Legislator Horsley. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).**

IR 1416, Appropriating funds in connection with the purchase of replacement Public Safety Vehicles (CP 3512) (County Executive). Commissioner, we have some more detail?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Bear with me one second. The vehicles are for police and for FRES. I believe it totals 128 vehicles. It's sedans -- sorry, it's vans, prisoner vans, SUVs, large SUVs. It's various equipment and motorcycles, so it is for 24 vehicles total. I apologize, 128 vehicles total.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Legislator Krupski.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Will any of these run on compressed natural gas?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I really don't know. I assume not, but I really don't know.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Yeah. I hope we get trained to use them.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay. Any other questions? All right. Any other discussions? All right. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).**

MR. LAUBE:

Legislator Schneiderman, who was the motion and second on that?

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

I'm sorry. I thought we did. I think we had a motion to approve by Legislator Krupski, and I seconded. Yes? Yes. All right. So Legislator Krupski made the motion to approve, and I seconded.

Okay. 1417 -- And I may have to go back and take a look at a resolution we approved earlier. I just have a question.

1417, Appropriating funds in connection with construction of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling facilities (CP 5603 PIN 075961). Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This is to appropriate 4.5 million for the construction of a CNG fueling facility in Yaphank. It'd be located at the north side of our facility, actually where DPW is, just north of the Board of Election building. It's 80 percent federally funded, and it's funded through the Federal CMAQ program, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program. It will allow the County to have facilities not only on

the west end and the East End but also in the central. There is one located nearby in Brookhaven at the landfill, but this will allow the County to take advantage of it.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

The other one we did, 1398, was related to compressed natural gas too so...

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes, that was for training.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

That was for training, and this is the actual construction of facilities?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Okay. Legislator Krupski.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Who makes the decision, then, what vehicles to buy, and, you know, for what use that would use this fuel?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

The -- because of the limited funding, we've been looking to use the -- replace the general fleet vehicles with CNG rather than public safety vehicles just because, you know, we know that there's issues with public safety using those type of vehicles, so that was really it. We have very limited funding to replace our fleet. CMAQ funding is available, and that's what're looking to do.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

You need a motion? Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

All right. So do we have a motion? Legislator Krupski makes a motion to approve. Do I have a second? Legislator Horsley with that, seconding. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Muratore).

I'm looking at the other CNG one, which is 1398, which was the training. I was trying to follow it. There's an awful lot of resolves in it that make it sound like it's construction. Can we go just, Commissioner, in the construction of that resolution, 1398, we already passed it, but I might -- I just want to make sure I understand all of the resolve clauses in it. This is the one for training, and there's a 50,000 -- there's 250,000 total for training, correct?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Correct.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Is there State money involved with this?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

No, just Federal.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Federal and/or [Marcus Elli Aid]?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Well, [Marcu Elli Aid] doesn't get applied. We can't -- that's something that's given by the State after the work is done. It's not something prior to work, so it's a fund that's used to reduce the local share.

CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:

Thank you, Commissioner. I think that's fine, then. So we've reached the end of the agenda, so we are adjourned. Thank you.

*(*Meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m. *)*