

**SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**GENERAL MEETING**

**FIFTEENTH DAY**

**OCTOBER 13, 2009**

**MEETING HELD AT THE WILLIAM H. ROGERS LEGISLATURE BUILDING  
IN THE ROSE Y. CARACAPPA LEGISLATIVE AUDITORIUM  
725 VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY  
SMITHTOWN, NEW YORK**

**Verbatim Minutes Taken By:**

**Lucia Braaten & Alison Mahoney - Court Reporters**

**Minutes Transcribed By:**

**Lucia Braaten, Alison Mahoney & Kimberly Castiglione**

*[THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:33 A.M.]*

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Madam Clerk, please call the roll.

**(\*Roll Called by Ms. Ortiz, Clerk\*)**

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

(Present)

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Here.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Here.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Here.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

(Not Present)

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Here.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

(Present)

**LEG. ALDEN:**

(Not Present)

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Here.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Here.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Here.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Here.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Here.

**LEG. STERN:**

Here.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Here.

**LEG. COOPER:**

(Not Present)

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

Here.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Here.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Montano here.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

And Romaine.

**MS. ORTIZ:**

Fifteen. (Not Present at Roll Call: Legs. Losquadro, Alden and Cooper)

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Got Romaine?

**MS. ORTIZ:**

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Could we all rise for a salute to the flag that will be led by Legislator Wayne Horsley?

**(\*Salutation\*)**

We were supposed to have visiting Clergy, but he hasn't arrived yet.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Yeah, he said he would be here in a minute.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah, I know, but we can't wait. All right? While we're waiting, we'll give a few more minutes for the visiting Clergy, but could we have a moment of silence for the following:

The NYPD Officer Robert Grossman of Rocky Point who served in the 28th Precinct in Harlem and was a First Responder at Ground Zero and he died of brain cancer this week. He joins the ranks, unfortunately, of a growing number of people that didn't care about their own welfare and rushed down when this country and City and region was in trouble and he's paying -- paid the ultimate price for his sacrifice.

And let us also remember all those men and women who put themselves in harm's way every day to protect our country.

**(\*Moment of Silence\*)**

We're going to defer the prayer until the visiting Clergy arrives. In the interim, we're -- we'll do some proclamations, and first up is Legislator Stern who will present a proclamation to Richard Sorrentino for his 40 years of dedication and service to the Dix Hills Fire Department.

**LEG. STERN:**

Good morning, everyone. Thank you, Mr. Presiding Officer, and good morning to my colleagues. This morning I rise to present a very special proclamation to a gentleman who really exemplifies what is so good within our community. Rich Sorrentino is marking his 40th Anniversary as a

dedicated member of the Dix Hills Fire Department where he served with distinction and dedication as both an EMT and as a firefighter, saving and protecting the lives, health and property of thousands of residents of the Dix Hills community. Rich joined the Dix Hills Fire Department in 1968, which was a time of tremendous growth in Dix Hills, and served as an EMT and as Chief of the Department in 1986 and 1987. Rich Sorrentino has also served as past President of the Huntington Town Fire Chiefs Association. And through the years he has been presented with several awards of distinction for his exemplary service as Fireman of the Year in 2007, as one of the top five Rescue Responders in Dix Hills in 2008, and he continues to serve our community, again, with great distinction. So, please, join me in congratulating on his 40th Anniversary as a member of the Dix Hills Fire Department. It really is my privilege to say congratulations to Rich Sorrentino, but, most importantly, thank you.

*(\*Applause\*)*

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Next up is Legislator D'Amaro -- oh, and Steven Stern. Steve, you want me -- you want me to delay this? You want to go take a photo and we'll do --

**LEG. STERN:**

It's okay, it's all right.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

All right. Legislator D'Amaro and Stern.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Good morning. Good morning, everyone. This morning I'm addressing you for two reasons. The first is to recognize a group of people who always are giving to others, I think you'd all agree, but who are very often people who do not get the recognition or attention that they deserve. I'm referring this morning, of course, to people we label as caregivers. Those are people who, while at work in not-for-profit organizations, in hospitals, clinics, just to name a few, or at home, help others that are sick disabled, less injured, or even less fortunate than we are. I doubt there is anyone here today that doesn't know someone who has had their own life driven into a state of upheaval and difficulty when a loved one or someone in need comes into their life and requires a substantial amount of care and attention. So today we will have the opportunity to honor those who bear the burden of carrying for others, both our family caregivers throughout our communities and the caregivers of our community-based organizations.

Later today we'll be considering an I.R., which I've sponsored, to declare the first week of November "Caregiver Awareness Week", and I urge my colleagues to vote for it and honor all caregivers throughout Suffolk County.

The second reason I'm up here today is to recognize and honor a particular organization that helps family caregivers. It's known as Caregivers for Life. It was started by six founding members after they heard the story of a mother with three children and all of the children were suffering with rheumatoid arthritis. The mother cared for her children, of course, around the clock, but that left her, the mother, both physically and emotionally depleted. And a story like that then begs the question who cares for the caregivers. So Caregivers for Life was founded to provide support for this mother and the thousands of other people who help others on a daily basis. This organization provides caregivers with seminars on relaxation techniques and it also provides gifts of items donated by local businesses that caregivers can use to help relieve stress and just to take a moment out of their busy lives when they're helping others and provide a little TLC for themselves. It's a very worthy cause helping those who help others, and this, of course, is a very worthy organization in helping to accomplish that.

So it's my pleasure to present proclamations this morning to these six founding members of Caregivers for Life. They are standing here with me this morning. It's Jennifer Kielawa, Maria

Pezzino, James Deoquino, Robert Gilmore, Haley Kammerling, and Brielle Levenberg. On behalf of myself to all of you and the people of Suffolk County, we thank you and we care about you. Thank you.

*(\*Applause\*)*

All right. Thank you again.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Next up is Legislator Kennedy.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I'm joined with Legislator Nowick here from our Town, and we're here today to recognize Firefighters and citizens from Hauppauge. Once again, Mr. Chair, we have the great pleasure to be here to recognize the lifesaving activities of our volunteer firefighters, and in this case, actually, a Good Samaritan who happened to be going past a home literally only a quarter of a mile away from here early in the morning with a fully involved fire, and as a direct result of the efforts of our Chief, Assistant Chief Ray Germaine, and Firefighter Tom Kriklava, Jr., and our Good Samaritan Steve Weber, the life of a 77 year-old man has been preserved and saved. I think it's indicative of what all of us around this horseshoe know, Mr. Chair, and that is that our volunteer firefighters and fire departments and ambulance services are the essence of protecting our quality of life as we know it here in Suffolk County. And, certainly, it's our privilege to go ahead and extend the commendations of our body to all of them today. Let me turn the mic over to Legislator Nowick.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

And, of course, Legislator Kennedy has said it all, but from the adjoining District, I want to say thank you, thank you, congratulations. And our volunteer fire department, you're the heart of our towns and our counties. You save lives, you save us. We depend on you. And thank you for this. Thank you also, Mr. Weber. Thank you for doing what you do.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

On that happy note, let's give him a round of applause and say thank you, we appreciate it.

*(\*Applause\*)*

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Next up is Legislator Vilorio-Fisher. I'm sorry, Legislator Stern and D'Amato, I missed you, I skipped over you.

**LEG. STERN:**

Thank you, Mr. Presiding Officer. This next proclamation I'm sure is a special one, not just for Legislator D'Amato and myself, but really for all of us here in Suffolk County. And it is really, I think, our privilege to award this proclamation to Charles Hubbs. Charles is a World War II Veteran and member of the American Legion Greenport Post 1244, and served our nation with distinction and honor in the Pacific, earning numerous medals, including the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal and Sharp Shooter for carbine and rifle medal. Mr. Hubbs had never been presented with those medals as his records were destroyed in the Records Division fire in St. Louis. But through the dedicated and painstaking work of American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244, Commander Bob Santo, the Department of Defense has bestowed the medals he so richly deserved.

Charles Hubbs was presented with his medals at the July meeting of the American Legion Greenlawn Post 1244 my Commander Santo and Vice Commander Madden, finally receiving the recognition he has deserved and the gratitude of his post, and, indeed, the gratitude of his entire nation.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Just it's really an honor for me to be standing here this morning to join with Legislator Stern and finally recognize and participate in recognizing Charles Hubbs. He served our country gallantly during World War II, as Legislator Stern just enumerated the various medals that he deserved for so many years and, unfortunately, was not able to obtain until up until this time. So this morning I just want to say congratulations to Mr. Hubbs. I want to thank him on behalf of all the people that I represent, of course, in Suffolk County for his service to our nation and for his service for keeping our freedoms. Mr. Hubb, congratulations and thank you very much.

**(\*Applause and Standing Ovation\*)**

**LEG. STERN:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

And the last proclamation of the day is Legislator Viloría-Fisher.

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

Thank you, Mr. Chair. This was -- this past summer was a very exciting summer for -- in my district, because both of our fire departments, Stony Brook and Setauket Fire Departments, were celebrating their 100th Anniversary. Am I not close enough, Tom? I'm pressing it, but maybe I'm just not close enough. There we go. Anyway, we were celebrating -- come over here, Kevin, so I could stay close to this and I'm not blocking you. Anyway, we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of both Setauket and Stony Brook Fire Departments. It was an extraordinary time with celebrations and voices of appreciation for the men and women who have been so dedicated for so many years and are such an important part of our community. And today we have Chief Yoos with us and I have a proclamation commemorating the 100th Anniversary and thanking you and your Department for everything you do. You're just so important to the community, and it really showed this summer, right? Everybody was out there cheering you on. It was just such a wonderful celebration. Thank you so much for 100 years of great service.

**CHIEF YOOS:**

Thank you.

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

Not you yourself, but you know. He looks a little young for 100, doesn't he? Okay. Thank you.

**(\*Applause\*)**

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. That's all for proclamations. And we still don't have visiting Clergy, right? Okay. Then I'll take it upon myself to give the prayer. It's the "Prayer of the Short Agenda". I hope we have the wisdom to make the right decisions on issues before us, that we exercise the wisdom to be brilliant with as little discussion as possible.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Amen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

We have the public portion. The first up is Ben Zwirn. Ben couldn't resist us, he had to come back to see us.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

You drove all the way here to see us?

**MR. ZWIRN:**

That's true, Mr. Presiding Officer. But I come today as a private citizen from East Hampton to speak

about one of the bills that is on the agenda today and that's I.R. 1840, which would allow a cell tower to be put up in the County Park, Theodore Roosevelt County Park in Montauk, so that the Montauk Fire Department would be able to put up their emergency communication equipment. This is a project that has been going on for five years. It's gone through the Parks Trustees, gone through SEQRA. It's been approved at every step of the way. The community is in favor of it. It's on a site where there are poles that are already existing, that was part of an old Air Force radar site. So they're going to take down two poles and replace them. T-Mobile has been out to the site and has approved it. It will mean revenue to the County, but even more importantly, it's a public safety issue for the East End.

What would happen is that you could call 911 out in Montauk and that -- because you're on the water out there, that call could go across the water, across the Sound to Connecticut or Rhode Island and it would be very difficult as they try to find out where Montauk or East Hampton is and it's not in their jurisdictions. And it has been a problem in the past; this would correct that.

It would also have a pole out there that in the future would allow the United States Coast Guard, if they so desire, to use -- use that pole to put equipment out there to help boaters. This will help the boating community a little bit who uses 911 if they have an emergency off shore, this will help direct those calls to the right location. It is a public safety issue, it's a good bill. It's been going on for five years and I would urge your support for that today.

And it's good to see all of you, and I wish you all the best in the next coming weeks.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. I have a dual -- Arley Pelaez, is that? And, Deborah, you want to speak separately, or you want to just come with? Okay. Okay. You could stand next to here, that's good.

**MR. PELAEZ:**

Yeah, I need that support. Good morning, Presiding Officer and Legislators. I'm Arley Pelaez. I'm the Deputy Director of BiasHELP and I'm here today, along with my colleague, Debbie Kinzer, Executive Vice President, CFO, to talk with you about our agency, our programming, and the fact that Suffolk County residents, and primarily Suffolk County youth, need to continue benefiting from our services.

BiasHELP is a not-for-profit agency dedicated to preventing, monitoring and lessening the effects of bias crimes, hate-related harassment and discrimination in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. We believe that government plays an important role in bias and discrimination reduction, and BiasHELP has been successfully working in partnership with Suffolk County government on fostering the reduction of bias, hate and intolerance incidences in our communities.

With the \$60,000 funding for 2010, BiasHELP will work to support and strengthen Suffolk County community voices to ensure a positive response to discrimination and bias crimes is swift and forceful. We believe that education is the most important weapon for combating discrimination and bias-related violence.

In 2008, BiasHELP was able to reach more than 5,000 Suffolk County youth and youth-serving professionals in such communities as Moriches, Bellport, Middle Island, Coram, Deer Park, Sayville, Central Islip, Northport, Lindenhurst, Bay Shore, Hauppauge, Patchogue, Huntington, Dix Hills, Ronkonkoma, Brentwood, Medford, Wading River, Riverhead, Selden and Amityville. In 2009, I'm talking about just January through September, with our limited funding, BiasHELP has reached more than 2,000 Suffolk County youth and youth-serving professionals in such communities as Medford, Brentwood, Dix Hills, Hauppauge, Patchogue, Middle Island, Central Islip, Farmingville, Bay Shore, Selden, Sayville, Medford, Huntington, Manorville, Amityville, Northport, Mastic Beach, and Blue Point. What is unknown is the long-range consequences that the lack of educational presentations and trainings to promote prevention of bias hate crimes, as well as bullying, youth violence and gang activity in Suffolk County, will have on the residents of the County, to not wait for another

related crime or death before you act.

We are powerless without your financial support. It is imperative that you vote to get our \$60,000 funding to BiasHELP for the contract year 2010, and also work in partnership with us to ensure that Suffolk County is a community free of bias-related violence, where children can go to school without fear, families live in harmony and fairness, justice and equality prevail. We envision such a place, and through your support in our wide array of community-based programs and services, we will work in Suffolk County to make that dream a reality.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Perfect, perfect.

**MR. PELAEZ:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Right at the buzzer. Okay. We have our visiting Clergy with us. I'd like Legislator Horsley to come forward and introduce our visiting Clergy. Father, I tried to fill in for you, but they didn't appreciate it at all, so I'm sure you'll do a much better job.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Thank you, Presiding Officer. And in spite of the inspired prayer by the Presiding Officer for a quick agenda, I offer to you today Father Trapani from OLPH, Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Lindenhurst. He has served as a reserve Chaplain from 1984 to 1987, when he became an active duty Chaplain. His assignment for the next 20 years included Europe, Northern Africa, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, the Naval Education and Training Center, Newport, Rhode Island, as Grand Chaplain of Amphibious Ships, Fleet Hospital 8, Spain, Naval Hospital, Bremerton, Bremerton, Washington, and the Naval Submarine Base at Groton, Connecticut.

Father Trapani has said the last -- the five months he spent at Fleet Hospital were the most intense. Of the eighteen hundred patients there at a time, about 25 to 35% showed red-flag symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder. "I was trying to console people who had to deal with the intensity of war," he said. The most important concern they have is, "Does God still love, me?" No one comes back unaffected.

Father Trapani served and retired at the rank of Commander. "Young people in desperate need of faith and something to believe in," he said. My hope is to be able to inspire people to take a grander share. I am at the front end of the need that's out there for the faith to be more dynamic," he continued. I know the things that are important and the things that are not important.

Father Trapani is a leader of Lindenhurst and I have great respect for him. And I've give him a little time now to stop breathing so heavy because he came running into the back door. Father Trapani, please, thank you for being here today.

**FATHER TRAPANI:**

It is always good to pray. Let us pray. All knowing God, you know the hearts of the men and women gathered in this room and the awesome task that lay before them and in their future. They have been tasked by the people of Suffolk County to act on their behalf to legislate for the common good of all. This task demands that they be clear-thinkers, with a knowledge of life and the needs of people that goes beyond the desires and wants of people to the needs that will benefit all with the view to the immediate and long-range effect that each decision they make has on each and every person. Heavenly Father, assist them with your divine wisdom that asks them to look at the issues from the perspective of how it will improve or detract from the quality of life intellectually, physically, emotionally and spiritually. May they be reminded each day that the will of the people must reflect the plan of creation, which is pure and logical, free of prejudice and ordained toward maintaining a natural and good order and flow. These men and women are tasked to do their part

to keep your plan in order for the people they serve. May they be free from special interests and serve only the common interest, namely the needs that benefit the growth and development of people who live in Suffolk County. I pray that their thinking may be selfless, the decisions always fruitful, even in times of disagreement, and their decisions forthright for the common good of all, no matter what political party each represents. May they know that they are all here to serve the same people, regardless of race, creed, ethnicity or persuasion in life. May they know your presence at every moment and feel your blessings at every turn. Bless each and all, and bless our great nation and it's great people. We pray in your most holy name, our one and only God, Amen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Next is Nancy Mariano.

**MS. MARIANO:**

Good morning, everyone. And thank you, Presiding Officer. Is this on?

**MS. ORTIZ:**

You have to hold that button down.

**MS. MARIANO:**

Oh, my goodness. That's two things I have to remember. Thank you, everyone. Good morning. Because of you, last year we helped twelve hundred and eighty-five children, and I've either met or spoken to every one of you so you know that Friends of Karen provides financial and emotional help to families that have children with cancer or any other life-threatening illness.

In the package that you're getting I have some really quick handout things that I'm going to talk about, but also in English and Spanish some very important information that you can pass on. You'll see a story about James from Huntington. James is seven-years-old, our karate star, an only child who has inoperable brain cancer, and him and probably another 75 children did a kick-a-thon to raise money for Friends of Karen, and then after doing that he sent me the last amount of money that he had in his piggy bank, which was \$8, so he could go and help other children. This is just one of our major fundraisers that we have kids helping kids to help us support the \$100,000 we spend a month on medical care.

Also in your package is little Casey holding up a sign that says, "My last chemo." I'd like to share some notes from her mom.

"Our daughter, Casey, was diagnosed with leukemia when she was two-and-a-half years old. As you can imagine, our world was turned upside down due to Casey's illness. I had to take an unexpected leave from work to care for her. I was six months pregnant. I cannot tell you how relieved we were to know that some significant medical expenses would be paid by Friends of Karen, including COBRA payments, while I was on leave for seven months. Without this we would have not have been able to maintain our medical coverage, a thought that kept us awake many a night, reimbursement for all doctor, hospital and prescription co-payments for the entire course of Casey's treatment, which lasted for three years. Friends of Karen sent both of the children Christmas gifts each year, as well as back-to-school supplies. I honestly don't know how we would have managed without the support of Friends of Karen. Having Friends of Karen provide financial and emotional assistance made a world of difference, as it eased our already overburdened minds. Having a child diagnosed with cancer is a life-changing experience. We are very grateful for Friends of Karen and could not have weathered the storm without their help."

Casey is now eight years old and she's taking dance lessons, plays softball and soccer. And I'm very happy to say that most of our children do go on and survive their illness.

Your support has helped us so much. We couldn't do the work we do without your support. And I think you all know me and you know I do major, major fund-raising, but again, we were zeroed out in the budget this year. So I plea with you to help Friends of Karen go out and be able to help all

our families in our community together. And I thank you again for this opportunity. Thank you so much.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Nancy. Regina Seltzer.

**MS. SELTZER:**

Good morning. Can you hear me?

***(\*Affirmative Response by Legislators\*)***

My name is Regina Seltzer. I'm here to represent civic and environmental groups, and we're here to present our legal arguments against Legacy Village in the hope that you will make our lawsuit an unnecessary one.

Under the Constitution and laws of the State of New York, the County Legislature has the exclusive power to dispose of public property. This means that the County Executive had no authority to issue the RFP, had no authority to issue the Letter of Intent, and no authority to select a developer. That was your authority that he usurped. However, even though the County Legislature has power to dispose of the property, it is not unlimited power. Before the Legislature can dispose of the property, you have to prove that the property, which is public property, cannot -- is not longer -- is not any longer necessary for public use. And then after you authorize by a two-thirds vote that the property be disposed of, you must make sure that it is granted to the highest bidder, and that it must be for the most beneficial terms for the public. You are all Trustees, as far as the law is concerned, and Trustees means that you have an obligation to provide for the benefit of the public. Lastly, because the sale of municipal land is an action subject to SEQRA, there must be an environmental impact statement in place before you do anything with the property.

Now, I am here today to ask you to make my job unnecessary. I would be happy to not have to sue this County Legislature or the County Executive. And in the interest of the public, I ask that you discuss this with your Counsel and take the actions necessary to comply with the law. I have provided for each of you, and if I may pass it out, a list of all of the laws that are in effect. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Susan Cirigliano. Susan Cirigliano. Susan, if I'm mispronouncing your name, please forgive me.

**MS. CIRIGLIANO:**

No. We would like to thank Legislator Horsley for inviting us to be here. We are Robert and Susan Cirigliano, also known as Mommy and Daddy, but we have only heard three of our four children call us that because our son, Bobby, never had the chance. On September 15th, 2004, Bobby was six months and three days old when his head and neck were caught in the detached drop-side rail of his crib. After the drop-side rail detached, Bobby's head got caught between the side rail and the mattress. With his face pressed against the mattress, he suffocated. Bobby was taken from his crib, put into an ambulance, arrived at the hospital and never came home.

We miss Bobby every day, but what's most important is what Bobby misses. Bobby has an older sister who never had the chance to teach him how to get in and out of trouble. Bobby has a younger brother and sister he has never met. Bobby has two grandfathers that he never played catch with, two grandmothers whose cookies he was never able to taste. Bobby never had a chance to wear his first Halloween costume, he didn't get to sit on Santa's lap, and never blew out a birthday candle. As a family, our smiles have dulled and we will never be complete again. Other than Mommy and Daddy's arms, Bobby was in one of the safest places, his crib. The reality is Bobby's crib was not safe and our lives will never be the same. We refuse to allow any other family to suffer the pain we have and will for the rest of our lives.

We are here today to support Legislator Horsley and his effort to ban the sale of drop-side cribs. This is something our family has felt strongly about since Bobby was taken from us. Thank you, Legislator Horsley, for your hard work and determination. We are sure lives will be saved.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much. Mayor Pontieri. Mayor, I apologize. If I had caught your card, I would have called you first as an elected official.

**MAYOR PONTIERI:**

Not a problem at all. Thank you very much. Before we speak about the Art Space, I'd just like to make a comment on BiasHELP.

In your last budget, you approved funding that is now being used, has been used as a match for a \$250,000 grant, and we had gotten from the Knapp-Swezey Foundation, that are being used in our middle schools now to work with kids. So that it is extremely important when you consider that piece of legislation and you consider your budget that BiasHELP be kept in, because it's being used as a match to a grant to work with kids. So they're an excellent organization. I have a lot of faith in them, I've worked with them. So, from somebody's who's been with it, and I know Jack has spoken to them also and understands the need, it would be greatly appreciated. But we're here because I.R. 1852, which is authorizing funding and acquisition for Artspace. I have Shawn McLearen with me from Artspace, because this comes up this afternoon, that if you have any questions or concerns -- but I'd like to give you two pieces of information on it that are extremely important. One is we've settled on the preference, and the preference being where are the people going to come from. And what we've done is when we did the Copper Beach, we made 50% of them, of the affordables, coming from the Village of Patchogue are working. We felt this one, because it's an art space, it's in an art-based program, that it's all of Suffolk County. The preference is that when the selection is made, the first selection would be from any resident of Suffolk County at all, not specific to the Village of Patchogue, not specific to the School District, but to the whole County. I think it's important for you to understand, we're looking to work with all of the Legislative Districts in the entire County.

And the second piece of it is it's 100% affordable, 100% -- the whole 45 units will be affordable, and, therefore, making it -- and they are rental units, which is probably one of the biggest issues that we have here in the County is rental. So it will be 100% affordable and 100% rental. It will have a commercial piece to it where there may be some -- where there will be some retail, which will then give us some property tax back both into the School District and into the County.

But what we really came for is, again, if there are any questions you have on the project, after this hopeful approval this afternoon, we go for a final approval with the County -- I mean, with the State. So, hopefully, by mid-November, beginning of December, we'll be able to have a ground-breaking and invite you all to be down there. But I think Shawn McLearen is the next one on the list.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes, he is.

**MAYOR PONTIERI:**

And I will open it up to Shawn.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Shawn McLearen.

**MR. MCLEAREN:**

Good morning, Legislators, and thank you for having us this morning. I am also speaking in support of I.R. 1852. And I just wanted to echo and maybe add on to Mayor Pontieri's comments for a moment.

We've been honored to be working in Suffolk County. Artspace Projects is a national organization and we own and operate 23 such facilities across the country. Our mission statement is to create, foster and preserve affordable space for artists and their families. We have one project already in the State of New York in Buffalo. We have two in development downstate here on Long Island, and another in the City. We've been working with Legislator Eddington, as well as Mayor Pontieri, and Pat Eddington, I might point out, as well for quite awhile now, and we've done, we think, an incredible job. When we got started, as you might all recall, the economy was a bit different, and we've been working very diligently and effectively through the downturn and have continued to have a project that we think inspires the other stakeholders, including the New York State Department of Housing and Community Renewal and the Housing Finance Agency to come on in partnership with the County. So I think it's an important thing to understand that your significant partnership in this project is being -- gives us all an opportunity to leverage equally important parts of the financing from other state agencies, as well as from the Village.

We're honored to be working in the Village of Patchogue. We very much appreciate the process that we've gone through to select a site that is close to the Long Island Railroad, to the Village of Patchogue Theater, and also has a kind of an anchor in terms of the Village's long-term plans for Terry Street.

I'm happy to answer any questions that you might have, but wanted to come here again today and thank you all for the support we've received from you today.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much, gentlemen. Ellen Krakow.

**MAYOR PONTIERI:**

Just a quick thank you to everybody, the County Executive, the Board; much appreciated. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Mayor.

**MS. KRAKOW:**

Good morning. My name is Ellen Krakow, I live in Suffolk County, and I have a son with an autism spectrum disorder. My son was diagnosed ten years ago at Stony Brook University's Cody Center. I'm here today to share with you what I've learned about families' access, or lack thereof, to autism services, not only as a parent, but also as an attorney for children and adults with autism disorders. I work at Nassau-Suffolk Law Services, and thanks to State funding we receive there to provide free protection and advocacy services to people with developmental disabilities, I'm able to help autistic children and adults receive critical, educational, therapeutic and residential services wrongly denied them. I'm also a member, I'd like to add, of the County's Welfare to Work Commission.

While there are many things still to be discovered about autism, this much we know. We have an epidemic. The CDC's latest national statistics show that one in every 100 children in the U.S. suffers from an autism disorder. Autism is the fastest growing children's disorder in this country, bar none, in every 100 -- one in every 100 children. And its prevalence is even higher among boys. Studies show that this prevalence is consistent across ethnic lines and at all socioeconomic levels. Autism is an equal opportunity offender. I can safely assume that autism exists in substantial numbers in each and every one of your communities.

We have an epidemic, and yet the medical community is just at the beginning of understanding its causes, and much more medical research is needed to develop effective treatments, but the amount of research dollars spent on autism research pales in comparison to that spent on other conditions. We have an epidemic, and yet insurance companies doing business in this state are still permitted to issue policies restricting coverage to necessary autism treatments. We have an epidemic, and yet

there continues to be a substantial shortage on Long Island of critical autism services and programs. Children with autism require an array of services, including one-to-one ABA therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, social skill therapy, behavioral intervention services, and sometimes medication. Early diagnosis and early intervention for these children is essential and can fundamentally change a child's outcome.

Diagnostic and treatment facilities on Long Island, such as the Cody Center and the Fay Lindner Center for Autism, are inundated with requests for evaluations and treatments. Wait lists there are long, very long. Severely impaired children are sometimes so behavioral that they reach a point they could no longer live at home because they become a danger to themselves, their families, or both, and require specialized residences, but there are not nearly enough such residences here on Long Island to meet the demand, forcing these families to send their children to far away programs Upstate in order to safeguard them.

Adults with autism disorders also need an array of services from specialized housing to rehabilitation services, to vocational services, to service coordination. But on Long Island the supply for all of these adult services is outstripped by the demand, and this problem is only going to get worse, as the record-setting number of children being diagnosed age into adulthood.

It's essential that all levels of government respond to this public health crisis, including local government. I urge to ensure that Suffolk County take part in the important autism coalition formed by County Executive Suozzi in Nassau County, and support the Adelphi University autism survey that Diane Cahill later this afternoon from Autism Speaks will be addressing. Autism doesn't stop at the Nassau County border. This coalition needs to be a bi-county endeavor if it's to be effective for all Long Islanders struggling with autism disorders. Thank you very much.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you essential envelope. Marcie Spector. Marcia Spector.

**MS. SPECTOR:**

That's okay. I respond to just about anything.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Me, too.

**MS. SPECTOR:**

Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen. I have had the honor and the privilege of meeting with most of you over the summer to talk about teen pregnancy issues, and so I'm just going to give you a really brief summary of why I'm here. I'm here to support Resolution 1851, to establish a teen pregnancy Task Force.

SNAP, my organization, also known as the Suffolk Network on Adolescent Pregnancy, was created by the Legislature in 1979 and we have served as the County's designated agency for over 25 years. In that time, we've seen a 50% drop in teen pregnancy, and we have worked very hard to reduce the underlying issues that add to teen pregnancy risk factors. We're very proud of the decreases that we've seen over the years, but we're starting to see some increases over the last couple of years in some very vulnerable communities. And while we work very hard and have a pretty good success rate with the individual young people we work with, the reality is that teen pregnancy is a very complex social issue and really require systems change at County level and a community level, and we really look forward to working with a Task Force that would us create that community change. So we would like you to support the resolution.

I am New York State's representative to the national group. I've been the past president of the New York State Council on Adolescent Pregnancy. I think I bring a lot of expertise to the issue. I'd be more than happy to help in any way possible to make this Task Force a meaningful experience. And I thank you for the support that you've given to our agency so far. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much, Marcia. Doug Aloise.

**MR. ALOISE:**

Good morning. I'm Doug Aloise, Director of the Huntington Community Development Agency. I'm here this morning to talk about funding for Supervisor Petrone's Take Back the Blocks Program; it's Resolution 1849. Basically, we are taking absentee landlord-owned property and converting it to homeownership, which includes a legal apartment. This is a model that could work anywhere in the County. We are providing first-time home-buyers with homeownership, as well as desperately-needed rentals.

The program allows new homeowners to derive income from rentals to help with their mortgage payments and carrying costs. It also increases homeownership in fragile neighborhoods, and helps our local economy by creating new private sector jobs. It's a 3.7 million dollar deal. Specifically, we're demolishing three substandard homes and rebuilding 14 units of new affordable housing. The program is envisioned as a County/Town partnership to share acquisition costs, and the County would also grant \$100,000 in infrastructure costs for 489,000. The Town would put in 429,000 on two parcels that are Town-owned. We have also secured 1.560 million dollars from New York State Economic Development Corporation, and the Housing Partnership will assist us with qualifying buyers. They have also written with us a down-payment assistance grant for \$560,000.

I'd like to thank Commissioner Heaney and Jill Rosen-Nikoloff for their ongoing assistance, as well as the Partnership, and to thank Legislators Cooper, D'Amaro and Stern for their ongoing leadership for affordable housing and advocacy for Huntington Station. And thanks to the Labor, Workforce and Affordable Housing Committee for their support last week. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Doug. Donna Marshall. Dana Marshall, right?

**MS. MARSHALL:**

Deanna.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Deanna.

**MS. MARSHALL:**

Good morning. Good morning, Presiding Officer Lindsay, and Members of the Leg. My name is Deanna Marshall, and I'm coming here to speak on behalf of Resolution 1851, establishing a Teen Pregnancy Task Force. As indicated by the Executive Director, Marcia Spector of SNAP, teen pregnancy is on the rise here, not just in Suffolk County, but nationwide. This trend has far-reaching effects; some are obvious and some are maybe not so obvious. One of the not-so-obvious things is that, also, HIV and AIDS is also on the rise here amongst teens, and not just in Suffolk County, but nationally. And we know that teen pregnancy is a result of unprotected sex.

At a time when teens themselves should be maturing physically and emotionally, we're finding that their growth is being stunted, especially financially and their education. They are having much difficulty in sustaining these young families that they're bringing into not just the County, but here nationally, and, in addition to that, grandparents. When they should be preparing for their retirement, they're being tasked with taking care of not only their children, but now raising their children's children.

I speak today because I know that in the past the teen pregnancy rate has gone down 50%, but things have changed, and a lot of things do change over time. We need a task force to go back and take a look at what the trend is today, what is actually happening. And I just urge you to support

that Task Force resolution that's going to come before you today. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much. Peter Quinn.

**MR. QUINN:**

Good morning, Members of the Legislature. My name is Peter Quinn. You know me as an environmental and energy activist over the years, with some institutional memory.

I'd like to correct a Newsday editorial a couple of weeks ago which referred to the Barrett Generating Plant potentially to have been purchased by LIPA, and in about the fifth paragraph saying that LILCO was going bust. I want to correct that misconception, because some fledgling reporter ten years from now might be reading Newsday editorial archives and believe that to be a fact. The truth is that in 1998, when Governor Pataki and his energy czar, Lou Thompson, worked with Catacosinos to take over -- have LIPA take over LILCO, the cost was 7.2 billion dollars, of which 4.5 billion dollars went to bail out LILCO shareholders. It hardly seems to me that there was any idea that LILCO was going bankrupt. As a matter of fact, for those of you who may not know, LILCO still exists as a subsidiary of LILCO (sic), a DBA as its subsidiary, and the CEO is Kevin Law of both LIPA and the subsidiary. Those should be noted for future reference.

Another point is, when two Suffolk County health officials claim that the DEC knew for -- since 2002 about the Riverhead manufacturing gas plant, I first questioned, what -- why didn't those two individuals in the Health Department seek a health assessment if they knew about it back then? But the fact is that Governor Pataki back then laid off 800 DEC employees, and a couple of dozen others left in disgust. If you're talking about a dysfunctional DEC, you're correct. There were no inspectors, auditors, regulators to control our pollution. And we now know why we have a dysfunctional state where pollution exists everywhere, and especially in many parts of Suffolk County, where it's contaminating our water supply. And I'll leave it at that.

Oh, one other -- one final point. When you want a site declared as a superfund site, I understand, according to my recollection, that that's the responsibility of the Governor, but it's the responsibility of the County to call upon the Governor to get the Federal Government, according to the SEQRA Law, Clean Air, Clean Water Act, to get the Governor to declare the site; then Feds intervene. So I would urge you to follow the process and get them involved. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you Peter. You were almost perfect, and then you kept talking. I don't have any other cards. Is there anyone else in the audience that would like to address us? Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion to close the public portion.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Barraga.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Seconded by Legislator D'Amaro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MS. ORTIZ:**

Sixteen. (Not Present: Legs. Beedenbender and Montano)

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. I ask that any of the missing Legislators report to the horseshoe, we're about to address the agenda. Do we have -- first up is the Consent Calendar on Page 3 of the written agenda. Motion by Legislator Vilorio-Fisher to --

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

-- approve the *Consent Calendar*.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Seconded by Legislator Losquadro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

It stands approved.

**RESOLUTIONS TABLED TO OCTOBER 13, 2009**

Okay. Resolutions -- resolutions tabled to October 13th, Page 6. First up is *1107 - To enhance efficiency in selection of leasing process for County buildings (Romaine)*. What's your pleasure?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Mr. Chairman, apparently, the Comptroller's Office and DPW have not been able to reach any accommodation, despite multiple sessions of negotiations regarding this. I was prepared to move this today, but I would prefer to let the Comptroller come and speak on this issue. So I'm going to table this for one more session and then I'll let the Comptroller speak on this issue when the resolution is before us or at the beginning of the next meeting so he can advise why he strongly supports this resolution, and then at that point answer any questions of the members and then we can proceed to a vote.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. So, Legislator Romaine, you table it.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

I'll table it for one session.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

I'll second it. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1273 - A Charter Law to clarify powers and duties of the Board of Trustees of Parks, Recreation and Conservation (Browning)*.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Motion to table.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion to table, Legislator Browning.

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

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second Legislator Viloría-Fisher. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1586 - Directing the Suffolk County Sewer Agency to prepare maps, plans, reports, and make recommendations in accordance with Article 5-A for form a sewer district at Spring Meadow and Towne House Village in the Town of Islip (Co. Exec.).*

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Motion to table, Mr. Chair.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion to table by Legislator Kennedy, seconded by Legislator Beedenbender. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1590 - Preventing registered sex offenders from maintaining accounts on social networking websites (Montano).*

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to make a motion to table for one cycle so I can speak with Laura Ahearn on some issues she has.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. We have a motion to table. Do I have a second?

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1730 - Authorizing the County Executive to enter into an agreement with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in connection with the Suffolk County Route 48 CAP Section 14 Emergency Shoreline Protection Project (Co. Exec.).*

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Motion to table. Again, this project is waiting. The project that they're proposing is not the project

that is supported by the residents and will not help save their homes. There is a separate project where this money should be directed to.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

We have a motion to table. Do we have a second?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Alden. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS FOR OCTOBER 13, 2009**

**BUDGET AND FINANCE**

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Introductory Resolutions, Page 7. Budget and Finance. ***1792 - Amending the 2009 Operating Budget and transferring funds to Lucia's Angels (Schneiderman).***

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Schneiderman. Do I have a second?

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Losquadro.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Is it omnibus.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah, on the question?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Is it omnibus?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yes. This and the other three are corrections to omnibus funds.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1795 - Amending the 2009 Operating Budget and transferring funds to the Babylon Central Fire and Rescue Alarm (D'Amaro).*

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator D'Amaro, second by Legislator Stern. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Cosponsor.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1798 - Amending the 2009 Operating Budget and transferring funds to North Amityville Community Economic Council (Gregory).*

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Gregory.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator D'Amaro.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

It's still omnibus, right?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Ms. Vizzini, that -- right, it's still omnibus, all three.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

That's correct.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1799 - Amending 2009 Operating Budget to provide funding support for Downtown Beautification Organization of Center Moriches (Romaine).*

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Romaine. Do I have a second?

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Browning. On the question. Where does -- where is this one, Ms. Vizzini. Is this part of omnibus, and if not, where's the offsets coming from.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

I'm sorry, Mr. Presiding. Which one are you on?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

1799.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

1799 is part of omnibus.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1802 - Amending the 2009 Operating Budget to provide funds for the Diabetes Education Program in Health Services (Browning).*

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Motion.

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

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Browning, seconded by Legislator Viloría-Fisher.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

On the motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

On the motion, Legislator Alden, followed by Romaine.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Can I have an explanation of what those programs are and where the money is coming from?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Certainly. This was discussed extensively in Budget and Finance and/or Health. Basically, the Working Group last year made certain across-the-board reductions, including the Diabetes Program. Cornell operates a Diabetes Program. Cornell has done what they can to continue providing the service; they've allocated their own monies. At this point, we're at a juncture where we need to provide funds for the continuation of the Diabetes Program. Those funds are coming from a reduction in the Islip Health Center and a reduction in Southeast and Southwest Brookhaven Clinics. This program provides services to those people who go to the clinics, and it's my understanding from the Health Department that the administration in these respective health clinics are on board. If the

program does not continue, it could jeopardize its contribution to the 3.2 million dollar in State Aid that these other component programs get. That was the explanation that was provided.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

How much comes from the Islip Health Center, and what is the Islip Health Center?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

That's the contract with Southside Hospital.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

To operate the one that doesn't exist anymore, the one in Bay Shore?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

No.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Because you said Islip Health Center.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yeah.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

So that's why I just --

**MR. MONTANO:**

She's talking about C.I.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

The Islip Health Center is the Brentwood and Central Islip contracted portion of our Health Center operation.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Okay. And it used to include Bay Shore, right?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yeah.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Okay, good.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Right.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

So how much comes from that one?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

One-sixteen-two-seven-nine.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Now, they actually -- I'm a little surprised. They came down and testified that they can take a hit of \$116,000?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

That was represented to Deputy Commissioner Miner and that's what he represented.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Because, from my recollection of any meetings I've gone to, there's more and more people going there. They've had to -- actually, they've had to cut the hours of operation and there's more and more people showing up at the Southside Hospital emergency room. So I'm very surprised that they could afford and they would go along with or come forward with this idea that they can actually afford to take \$116,000 out of operations.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yeah. When they -- when you see the 2010 budget, you'll see that not all the expenditures provided in '09 will be spent for the respective contracted clinics.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

No. And part of it's because somebody actually closed -- not closed it down, but cut down the hours of operation. They cut down the number of people that they can see in those two locations. So, again, I'm real, real surprised that administrative decisions that actually end up costing the County more money than it would to just keep the hours of operation as they either work or expand the hours of operation. Because when people go to our health centers, we can actually bill New York State, as opposed to when they show up at Southside's emergency room, or someone else's emergency room where we get billed a hundred and something percent of whatever their needs are at that point. So I'm actually shocked at, you know, the administrative decision to just give up \$116,000 and not even look at accommodating the people that are trying to go to our health centers in those two locations.

**MR. MONTANO:**

Mr. Speaker.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Romaine.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes. I'm supportive of this resolution. I'm concerned it's being taken, like Legislator Alden, from the health centers. But the reason we're in this pickle is because last year we decided to cut the Diabetes Program from Cornell, and it was the "whoops" factor, unintended consequences. What we didn't realize is that Cornell's program is the basis for the Health Department applying for additional grants, and they use the Cornell program as the starter to apply for additional grants and money comes in. Without that, one, there is no Diabetes Program, and two, the Health Department can't go after additional grant money. And here we are at the end of the year scrambling to try to keep the Diabetes Program alive that we ourselves cut. I voted against that, some of us did around this horseshoe, and we're going to confront this issue again where Cornell has come in and they've asked for a reduction of what they were originally getting in 2008. But if they don't get that, they're just closing down the Diabetes Program, and guess what, we'll have to pick up the entire tab, and we'll be scrambling to cut health centers. And Legislator Alden is right, now we're taking from health centers, health centers that are supposed to be our first line of defense for people in need of healthcare; that's a problem. But I support this resolution because diabetes is a huge problem in certain populations of our County and we need to begin to address that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Montano.

**MR. MONTANO:**

Gail, you indicated that the -- Mr. Miner said that Southside Hospital was on board with this cut?

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Yes, they are.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

That's my understanding and --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yeah. Well, hold on a second. Legislator Browning, you said yes, they are. You want to explain that?

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Yes, they are. And I believe they sent letters of support, the health centers, and also Cornell. Can you hear me?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yeah, I can hear you.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Yes, they did send letters of support, because the Diabetes Program, they ran out of money, and because they've run out of money they're going to have to stop the program. So while the money is sort of coming out of their budget, it stays with them for the Diabetes Program; am I right?

**MR. MONTANO:**

Is she right?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yeah, another way to put it is the --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Is she right, Gail?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yeah. Well the Diabetes Program serves the --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

No, no. The letters of support, where are those letters of support?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Oh, that I don't know.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

If you'll permit me --

**LEG. BROWNING:**

I don't have it on me right now, but I could get you --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Well, the reason -- the reason I state this is I've spoken -- oh, Mr. Miner? Go ahead. I'm all ears.

**MR. MINER:**

Good morning. I apologize, I was on a conference call. I do have the Letter of Support; it's dated July 15th. It's signed from -- signed by Winifred Mack, who's the Executive Director of Southside Hospital. I can have copies made for the Legislature. But Southside supports the allocation of a \$116,279. There was a slight difference in the money. I think we actually asked them for less from the omni money to be used to support the continuation of Diabetes Prevention Program. As there are sufficient funds in our 2009 Operating Budget, this partial allocation of omni money will not hamper our mission for providing primary care services to the under and not insured of Bay Shore, Brentwood and Central Islip communities.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Wow.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yeah, I'm like stunned. By the way, how long have you had that letter?

**MR. MINER:**

It's dated July 15th. We had given it to the Health and Human Services Committee. This part of it was --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

All right. You never sent me a copy of that, right?

**MR. MINER:**

I don't know if we had or not.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

It would have been nice, since I represent the area, to have gotten a copy of the letter. And I have --

**MR. MINER:**

I believe it was part of the resolution packet, if it will --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

I have been in contact with the people at Southside, and on certain issues that -- and I don't want to get into this now, where there are statements made that Southside is on board, I get the distinct impression that they're not on board with certain things that are being said or being done. We'll get to that later. Could I have a copy of the letter you have there?

**MR. MINER:**

Absolutely.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Hi, Matt. Thanks for coming down. If you make one copy, you might as well make a whole bunch of them so that other people could look at that, too, and I'd be interested in looking at it.

Do you have any familiarity with the number of people that were served in Bay Shore, the Bay Shore Health Center, and now are being picked up by C.I., or Brentwood, or Amityville, or anywhere else?

**MR. MINER:**

Just give me one second.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Thanks.

**MR. MINER:**

There are approximately 5,000 patients from the Bay Shore community with the 11706 zip code that use the Brentwood Health Center, and an additional 400 from -- that use the Central Islip Health Center.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

How many people did Bay Shore serve?

**MR. MINER:**

I only have current statistics, I don't have the -- I have to get those.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

All right. Because, basically, my understanding, and it came from your Department and it was your report, and I don't have it with me, but I do have it at the office, that there was 12,000. Approximately less than half of those people ended up at other health centers. The rests of them, we have to make the assumption, went to Southside's emergency room for services. Is that an economically beneficial way to handle the people from the -- that normally would have gone to the health centers?

**MR. MINER:**

They may have provided -- been sent to another health center or another -- found care somewhere else.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

No, no, no. Your report showed -- and it wasn't you, you know, it was somebody that prepared it prior to you, because this goes back a few years ago when Bay Shore Health Center was closed, but it showed from the files having to be transferred that less than half the people that were being served at Bay Shore showed up at another Suffolk County health center. The rest of them, we have to make the assumption, went to Southside's emergency room. Is that the most beneficial thing to have happen for Suffolk County, financially?

**MR. MINER:**

I'm not familiar with the report, and I couldn't confirm that they all go to Southside. They may have found other clinics, walk-in clinics. They may have been directed to other facilities. I'm sorry, I'm not familiar with the report you're speaking of.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

If somebody goes to Southside's emergency room or another emergency room, is that beneficial financially for us, or is it financially beneficial to have them come to a clinic operated by Suffolk County?

**MR. MINER:**

The health center network loses or costs the taxpayers about 32 million dollars a year. So, you know, does that person have insurance? You know, that's a hypothetical question that's difficult to answer right now.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Well, it's difficult to answer, but I realize that we did have a health center in Bay Shore and now we don't have a health center in Bay Shore. And looks like we had a lot of hot air about replacing the health center in Bay Shore because we don't even have a plan to replace it. And now to take money away from clinics when the hours of operation weren't expanded, they were contracted, it just seems a little bit absurd to me. But, again, maybe that's what you support. Thanks.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Mr. Speaker, could we skip over this for the afternoon? There's some questions I'd like to look at between the break. It's not going to hurt anything by skipping over.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

How does everybody feel about that, is everybody all right with that? The only proviso is I could put it to the end of the agenda. I don't know if we're going to make this afternoon with the agenda. We

might finish the agenda.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

We have 2:30 Public Hearings.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes, we do. Yes, we do.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

We might have to come back after 2:30.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Is it all right with everybody if we skip over it? Any objections? Okay, we'll skip over it.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Thanks.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1803 - Amending the 2009 Operating Budget to provide funding support for improvements at the Woodedge Park, Town of Brookhaven (Eddington).*

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Motion to approve, and it's omnibus money.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Motion by Legislator Eddington, seconded by Legislator Beedenbender. And the sponsor says it's omnibus money.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

That's correct. Just the name was changed so that it's a compliant 501(3)(c) nonprofit.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1832 - Extending existing one percent sales and compensating use tax for the period beginning December 1, 2009 and ending November 30, 2011, pursuant to authority of Section 1210 of Article 29 of the Tax Law of the State of New York (Co. Exec.).* I'll make a motion.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Second.

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

Second.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Can I have an explanation, please?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Cooper.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

The State has already approved -- this is a continuation of a penny of our portion of the sales tax. It has already been approved by the State, and we did the Home Rule Message earlier in the year. This is our customary resolution to authorize ourselves to continue it. It constitutes about 240 million dollars in sales tax, and, of course, it's in the Operating Budget.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Is this the sales tax that was held up in Albany a couple of years ago?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

It's a very similar situation, but this was not held up, the State has already approved this.

**MR. MONTANO:**

I'm saying, is this the same tax that was extended by the Legislature that the State Assembly held up for a couple of months?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

It's not the same penny.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

It's not the same tax.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

But it's an analogous situation. It's the same tax, it's the same sales tax.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

That's what I'm saying.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Correct.

**MR. MONTANO:**

It's the same sales tax. That sales tax was extended for two years and now we're extending it another two years; is that correct?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yes. Well, yes.

**MR. MONTANO:**

Yes, right?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yes.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Okay. I was just -- I just wanted to clarify that, that's all.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

It's pro forma, we do this every two years.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Right.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

As long as I've been here, we do it every two years.

**MR. MONTANO:**

That's essentially what I was asking.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yeah. No, it does --

**MR. MONTANO:**

This is that pro forma 1%.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

It does expire, yes.

**MR. MONTANO:**

Okay.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*Procedural Motion No. 23 - Procedural resolution amending Resolution No. 372-2009, 09 designating depositories, pursuant to Section 212 of the County Law (Pres. Officer).*

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

A motion by Legislator Gregory. Do I have a second?

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Horsley. And Legislator Viloría-Fisher, you have a question?

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

No.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

I do.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay.

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

I'm just curious as to which banks this involves, because there was a bank that I thought was a fairly new bank in the area.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Gregory, as the Chair of Budget, maybe you could --

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

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

-- answer that. I know there was some discussion on this, it was about a new bank, right, that was added?

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Yes. I'm sorry, I missed the question.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Well --

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

Go ahead.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Oh, go ahead.

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

Go ahead, Mr. Presiding Officer.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Maybe you could explain the resolution. I think that's what Legislator Viloría-Fisher wants.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Okay. This was by request from the Treasurer to add an additional depository. We have, I think, probably about ten separate banks that we use as depositories. This bank, Herald Bank, would be an additional depository for us. The interest from the Treasurer to seek out this bank is because they -- this bank offers higher interest rates, and we've lost --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

No, I'm talking.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Oh, you're pointing, looking at me. Okay. So, you know, we're losing money on the interest that we can be earning with our deposits. And, from my --

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

If I could just -- what I was basically asking, this is a very new bank. We haven't heard of this bank, and so we were wondering, was there a discussion of the track record or regarding the principals, you know, assurances, because we are a little cautious about banks these days and we want to make sure that we have some background on this bank.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Yes. It's my understanding that the majority, or at least some of the principals, are from North Fork Bank, so they have a track record of -- you know, in the industry. Any monies that we give them are collateralized, so our money is secure, and they're not looking to give them a large sum of monies. By statute, by law, we can give up to 75 million dollars, but from my understanding from her testimony, that we're only looking from the outset to give them a few million dollars to deposit and then go from there.

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

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

I actually, and I have to -- well I'd like to disclose, I had a conversation with one of the advisors to the people that are going to be running this bank, and I just want to point out that in the past, we actually approved a bank that was -- their principal was just recently interviewed by Newsday and he hopes that his bank will be profitable within the next two to four years, and that's his quote to Newsday. And we actually approved them, so we approved a bank that is not profitable to handle the people's money in Suffolk County in the past. So I would say very, very -- a lot of caution really should be applied when we start adding banks to the approved list to handle people's -- our people's money, the people that live in Suffolk County. Was there full disclosure? Is there any pending actions against this bank? What presence do they have in Suffolk County? Do they -- were they accused of predatory lending? Are they in compliance with all the rules, regulations? Those type of things really should be fleshed out a little bit more.

I'm not part of your committee, so I'm asking you, as the Chairman of the Committee, were all those issues fully vet -- actually explored and really put on the record who the principals are, what their -- what their business philosophy is, what their business plan? Because I think that before we give money from the people of Suffolk County, we should really make sure that those -- that's going to be beneficial to the people of Suffolk County. Is their main presence in Suffolk County? Do they have a plan to help either small businesses or people buy their first homes. Those type of questions, I think, really, you know, it's our duty to actually ask them, put them on the record.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Yes, some of the questions that you had asked Legislator D'Amaro had asked as well. I don't know if we -- if he inquired, from my recollection, about their business philosophy, but, certainly, the concerns over monies that we were depositing with them, what's the process for securing our monies and our assets in their banks. You know, the Treasurer went over the process about how the states certify the banks, and there's Federal regulation, and they have an internal process when review these banks. This legislation will only authorize the Treasurer to do business with this bank, it doesn't mandate that they do business with the bank. So, as they go through and they frequently look at depositories that we have, and they make determinations as to where they do their deposits on what's going on with their current business situation. So I think that, you know, I felt secure and satisfied that they're doing their best to secure monies. This bill, again, would just only authorize them to use this bank, it doesn't mandate that they do it. They do -- this is not, from what I understand, their only review of any bank that we do business with, once we give them the authorization. They continually review what's going on with the particular banks and they deal with them accordingly.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Mr. Chairman.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Legislator D'Amaro.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

I had asked -- Legislator Alden, I had asked many questions of the Treasurer when she was nice enough to appear before the Committee, the Budget Committee. I had asked information about the track record of the principals, who the principals are, what banks had they been affiliated with in the past. And I asked all these questions because banks are failing at a record pace across the country right now and I had never heard of this bank before. I thought it was my obligation to ask those questions I did. The Treasurer did not have all of the answers at the time. She agreed to get me the information, but I'm still waiting, I don't have any of those answers today.

I also asked her about the collateralization. Legislator Gregory mentioned that when Suffolk County

puts deposits into a bank, taxpayer money, there are in effect insurance agreements insuring our deposits. Well, we all know what's going on with the insurance industry right now as well, and I just asked simple questions about who are the companies, what's their track record. Are they going to be here tomorrow? Have they failed? Are they getting bailed out by the Federal Government? I have no answer to any of these questions and that's why I abstained on the vote. And I would urge this body today to table this resolution to allow the Treasurer to give -- to give the Treasurer enough time to do a little more research and come up with the information that she said she would.

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

Legislator Nowick.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Yeah. I'm just looking on their website. I do see a lot of names of former bankers from different banks on the board, whether it's State Bank or HSBC. But I do agree with you, Legislator D'Amaro, as far as tabling. But I just wanted to make it clear that everybody understands, and, George, you can correct me if I'm wrong, but when we say that our money is collateralized, it's not only collateralized by the bank in question, the money is collateralized by another bank. So, in other words, if you put your money, say, in Herald, Herald Bank, I think that's the --

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

That's it, Herald Bank.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Then they have to get maybe a J.P. Morgan Chase to collateralize. It's almost double collateral, so if one bank fails, at least we know that the government money is secure. But I do agree with you, we should have time to vet this.

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

Legislator Romaine.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Thank you. I'm going to withdraw. Legislator D'Amaro answered the question regarding collateralization. I was going to ask about that. I know, as a Department Head in the County for many years, we collateralized all of our deposits, and we went interest shopping every six months or so to take a look because we always want to get the highest return. But all of our accounts were collateralized, all of our deposits were collateralized. And you're asking an excellent question about which insurance companies, and it's not even insurance companies, because sometimes when you collateralize accounts they link you to other deposits that then become available to you, as well as insurance, and that actually is better than insurance in some cases. So you're asking just the right questions. Thank you.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Did you make a motion to table, because I'll second it.

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

Is there a motion?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

I'll withdraw.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

And I'm going to second.

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

Okay. There's a motion and a second to table.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Madam Chair.

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

Yes.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

This is not my bill, but I feel that I should respond. The Treasurer, she did send out an E-mail to everyone. I don't know if it went to all the Legislators, but it certainly went to the members on the Budget Committee. I don't have it in front of me, but it addressed the issues that were brought up in the committee. And again, you know, this is a benefit to us. The Treasurer made a presentation probably about five months before the committee and we lost this year -- I think last year we had, or 2007, we earned over 26 million dollars in interest from our various accounts. 2008, we earned 11 million dollars because of the market. So we're losing a lot of money because of the interest, and, yet, that should be a concern, it's not the main concern. But the process that they go through is a process that we've done for years. For the most part, it's worked. I don't think there's any situation in the history where we've lost money or that we've dealt with a bank that folded under. Yes, there may be some concerns about profit, but I think, for the most part, you know, the Treasurer, in her duties or his duties, or whoever the Treasurer has been, has, you know, diligently carried out their responsibilities and safeguarded taxpayers' monies. And so I hear the concern, but I think it's -- you know, the questions were addressed.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Montano.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

That is the question. If I may, is it my understanding, Legislator D'Amaro, that you raised questions at the -- I wasn't at the meeting, so what I heard you say was that you have outstanding questions that you have not received answers to relative to this issue.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Through the Chair, just to answer directly, the answer is I did not get the E-mail that Legislator Gregory refers to.

**MR. MONTANO:**

Okay.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

And I want to make it clear, I think we all want, you know, the best interest rate we can find, I think the Treasurer wants that as well, and the Treasurer did not express an unwillingness to get me the information, it's just that we haven't received yet. The website that Legislator Nowick refers, I took a look at that also, but that's a self-serving website put up by the bank itself. I think we need to look a little deeper than that, especially given the troubling economic situation we're in right now with banks and insurance companies. So, the direct answer to your question is there were these requests for information. That information has not yet been received, and the Treasurer was willing to provide that information.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator --

**MR. MONTANO:**

All right.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Oh, I'm sorry.

**LEG. MONTANO:**  
All right. I'll yield.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**  
This resolution is before us for a very, very specific purpose. We are approving this bank to be put on a list to ultimately end up in custody of the taxpayers of Suffolk County's money. If it was strictly up to the Treasurer, this resolution wouldn't be necessary, it wouldn't be before us. I think that we're on the right track if we're asking questions. And I feel real uncomfortable about having -- and I didn't vote for it, but the Legislature approved a bank that by their own admission is unprofitable at this point. You know, maybe that's good to give the public's money to that bank, maybe it's not good. I thought it was not good at that point, so that's why I voted against that. I think it's our -- this is our primary duty, to make sure that these -- this bank, or any other bank that's on the list to receive public funds, is what exactly we're looking for in a bank. And part of that would be the questions that Legislator D'Amaro asked in committee and that I've asked actually at the last session where we -- not our last session, but a session out in Riverhead where we approved a bank. And I don't think we have enough information to make a decision whether this is the best place to allow the public's money to go at this point. A very short period from now we might have all that information, but I'll repeat it, I feel uncomfortable that there's somebody on that list that we just recently approved that's isn't even profitable, by their own admission. So I do support a tabling motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Legislator D'Amaro, you're still on the list. You said everything you wanted to say?

**LEG. D'AMARO:**  
Yeah, I'm finished. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Legislator Gregory.

**LEG. GREGORY:**  
If I may, I actually found the E-mail, and I'll forward it to Legislator D'Amaro or any other Legislators, that I received from the Treasurer explaining the process and how it's collateralized.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Okay. Could I just -- and I did not sit in on the budget, there's a window of opportunity here to lock in a higher rate; is that what -- no, there isn't a window?

**LEG. D'AMARO:**  
There isn't a window.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
That was never said. Okay. So --

**LEG. D'AMARO:**  
If I may, the Treasurer did indicate that this bank presently is offering a good rate.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Okay.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

And that's why she was interested in getting it approved. But that changes probably on a daily basis.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. You know, I have a great deal of respect for the Treasurer and how she does her job, and I know she does it with great efficiency. But I do understand some of the questions that were raised here and it is absolutely our job to exercise due diligence to make sure that -- you know, some of the questions that Legislator D'Amaro asked were not answered. I mean, we've already skipped over one. What if we skip over another and I'll try and get the information, because I would hate to table this and then we don't have a general session until the second week in November, and with our luck, the rates will drop a whole point or something and cost us millions of dollars, you know.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Bill could I just ask?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Bill, if I could just --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Nowick and then D'Amaro.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Just a question, and Budget Review would probably know. The County, they have bonds that we've been on -- that the bank's been on, right?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

(Nodded yes).

**LEG. NOWICK:**

So, importantly also, just so the Legislature knows, you don't really have to rush because of rates. Important, just as important with a bank is how they respond to bids. So it's very important that their rates are high, but it's also very important that when they respond to our bids, that they come in at good rates for us.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

And Legislator D'Amaro.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Thank you. I agree. I think if we just put this off, perhaps we can get the answers. But I would urge that we ask of the Treasurer what I had asked in committee, which was tell us a little bit more about the track record of the principals or owners of this bank. What's their operating history? Have there been any types of bailouts with respect to institutions they might have been affiliated with, if so, why, you know, that kind of thing that goes to the history of this relatively new bank, the principals and owners of the new bank.

And again, I just want to make it very clear, I agree with the Presiding Officer, the Treasurer does a great job. She was not resistant to providing that information. Maybe perhaps she just, you know, was delayed in doing so, and, hopefully, we can get it later today. So I support skipping over it.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Kennedy.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. My recollection from the committee is, amongst the other things that we had spoken about and that we were looking to get information on, was also -- and I believe Legislator D'Amato had asked this question as well -- was the nature of the insurance function associated with the lending institution that we're looking to put deposits into. Was there a question about how that -- because I remember some of the dialogue was about that secondary market or the -- what do they call them, the insurers or the reinsurers? To what degree were they viable as well? And I don't know whether or not that's an answer that the Treasurer can furnish us, or if that is something that maybe even the Comptroller's Office speaks to us about. There's got to be some kind of regulatory or statutory basis associated with that underlying insurance. So maybe, in an effort to get answers, that might be part of the equation.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Just through the Chair, and very quickly, in answer to Legislator Kennedy. I did ask those questions as well, because your deposits really are only as good as the insurance contract that's backing it up, and especially, I believe, and this is not to disparage the new bank, it may be the strongest bank in America, but I don't know. And so that's why I was questioning the underlying collateralization. And again, the Treasurer was very willing to provide that information and perhaps she just needed a little more time.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

And just to end this, maybe, is we've been in touch with the Treasurer's Office and she'll get that information over to us for this afternoon's session. All right? Okay. So I'm going to skip over Procedural Motion No. 23. And, at this time, I'm going to recognize Legislator Montano for a point of personal privilege that's unusual, because we're in the middle our agenda, so quickly, if you could.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yes. Thank you, Mr. Presiding Officer, and I will be brief. This past weekend at the Suffolk County Community College was hosted an international Taekwondo tournament. It's the Fourth Annual Battle of the Americas. And I had the privilege of being the Honorary President of the event. We had representatives from Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Canada, and many other countries. And we have several people in the audience today that came to watch our session and I just want to very briefly introduce them. They're here in the audience. Master Jose Gabriel Davis, he's the President of the Marshal Arts Training Center, he represents Mexico. Senor Davis, thank you. Thank you for coming.

*(\*Applause\*)*

And welcome. We have Professor Edgar Layva Celorio, President of the Taekwondo Association, Tabasco, also from Mexico.

**MR. CELORIO:**

Thank you.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

And we have Professor Samuel Perez, who's the Vice President of the Marshal Arts Training Center. Again, he's from Mexico. They will be going back. I want to welcome you.

*(\*Applause\*)*

And we have two of our local Masters who were involved in the event, Master Pedro Pena, who's the President of Pena's Taekwondo, who hosted the event. He has --

*(\*Applause\*)*

He provides a lot of services in the Brentwood and Central Islip community. And we have Master

Julio {Gomera}, who is the -- from the Taekwondo Training Center in Copiague. And I want to thank all of you. It was a great tournament. And they came bearing gifts from their countries, which I thought was excellent. Thank you for coming.

*(\*Applause\*)*

And thank you for allowing this, Mr. Speaker.

**CONSUMER PROTECTION**

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. *I.R. 1415 - A Local Law banning the sale of drop-side cribs in Suffolk County (Horsley).*

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Motion to approve.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Second.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion to approve by Legislator Horsley. Who was the second.

**LEG. COOPER:**

I'm sorry, Lynne.

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

Lynne Nowick.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Nowick. Any discussion?

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

Cosponsor, please.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Wayne.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes, Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Wayne, just -- I know that I got some stuff from you on the statistics, but could you just -- why is this important that we do it right now? What are the statistics? And we did hear, you know, personally from someone having the experience.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Well, thank you for this opportunity, Cameron. I appreciate you asking me. There have been numerous reported deaths over the last decade and more from drop-side cribs and the risks for them. And just a few quick statistics. Between the years 2003 and 2005, there were 90 deaths of children due to drop-side cribs, as well as 11,000 injuries relating to the cribs themselves. During the 1990's, there were 4.2 million drop-side cribs that were recalled. And one of the problems is that once a crib is recalled, oftentimes parents do not -- they don't -- they don't hear that call, that

clarity call from the companies to come bring back their cribs, and what happens is they go up into the attics, they go into the basements for the next young child to come along, the next generation. And it is the industry that is also recognizing that these cribs are dangerous, and that the Babies R Us and Toys R Us have actually asked that if you bring in a drop-side crib, they'll give you a 20 cent (sic) discount on a drop-gate crib, which is the safer --

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

Twenty percent?

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Which is the safer mechanism. But the deal is there is the American Society for Testing of Materials, they're the ones that have oversight on this product, and they have about 900 members. And if any member of the 900 object, they -- to a proposal to ban these cribs for sale, that it has to go through an appeals process. And, apparently, three of the 900 objected, because maybe they had too many in stock, or whatever the reason was, and that put this into an appeals situation. It has been dragging on for years. It is, again, Suffolk to take the bull by the horns and challenge the -- and challenge the industry to get these dangerous cribs off the market. And I felt that it was our duty here, as a Legislator, to help not only Robert and Susan Cirigliano and their lost son Bobby, and Michael Witte, Michele Witte, who lost Tyler, to lend them a hand. And let's bring this forward and let's do the right thing for the babies, our most precious, our most precious possessions, our children in the Suffolk County.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Any other questions? Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Tim, cosponsor.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Cosponsor.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Tim, cosponsor.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Cosponsor.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

We all are.

**MR. LAUBE:**

I called 18.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah.

**MR. LAUBE:**

I called 18.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Oh, okay. I didn't hear you. I'm sorry. Okay. Next is 1592. Pardon?

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

Are we all cosponsors?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Could you make sure that everybody's cosponsors to the bill, the whole body?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Will do.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Thank you.

**ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND AGRICULTURE**

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1592 - Authorizing the acquisition of Farmland Development Rights under the New Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program (effective December 1, 2007) for the VW Enterprises LLC property – Mitchells Lane Farm – Town of Southampton – (SCTM No. 0900-050.00-01.00-005.000) (Co. Exec.)*

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Schneiderman.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Losquadro. This was -- what was -- this was a very expensive acquisition; am I correct?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

We've got plenty of money.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

This is total purchase price of 9.996 million, \$420,000 an acre for 23.8 acres. I believe we're sharing this, shared between the --

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Town of Southampton.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

The Town and the County.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

What is the split?

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

They're doing 10%.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

90/10.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

And we're on the 90 side.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yeah.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

We have a motion and a second. Anybody want to talk about it? Okay.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

You know what, Mr. Chair, if I may, just to ask Ms. Vizzini, from time to time, we get an idea about what we have left in our various land preservation categories and I'm just curious if we are consenting to an acquisition that's going to go 9 million at this point, where are we at? What's in the drawer at this point?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Well, this is, you know, Drinking Water quarter cent money, so there is money coming in. I'd have to get the -- for the first time, the Operating Budget did a breakdown in terms of what's left at the end of '09 and where we're going by program. So there are sufficient Water Quality funds to make this purchase. After we do that, I would -- I have to go back to the budget to give you an answer. But it will be -- actually, it will be addressed in our report.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Could I just -- I don't mean to interrupt you, but it seems that the resolution's defective because that makes no mention of Town participation.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

There is a Town Board resolution, because I know this got held up in committee until --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

But it isn't in our resolution.

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

Pam is coming up.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Maybe Counsel can comment on that, but we held it up until we had that partnership agreement from the Town of Southampton by Town Board resolution. Maybe Ms. Greene can answer.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes, Commissioner Greene, maybe you could clarify this.

**MS. GREENE:**

Hello, Mr. Presiding Officer. Yes, the resolution has been amended. It has been passed by committee in its amended form to reflect the partnership.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. I'm going to ask that we pass over this, because Counsel has -- evidently, has the older version of the resolution. And however you feel about it, we should have the current version before us that we're voting on. Yeah, that's reasonable. Okay? Is that all right with everybody? Okay?

**(\*Affirmative Response\*)**

Okay. 1821 - Authorizing acquisition of land under the Old Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program for the Blachly Property - Pine Barrens core - Town of Southampton.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Motion.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Schneiderman, seconded by Legislator Losquadro. 12(5)(e) money. We still have some of that around, huh? Ms. Vizzini, refresh our memory. What is the cost on this, and how many acres are we getting for it?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

You're on 1821, Mr. Presiding Officer?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

26.7 acres.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Total purchase price of \$654,150, 26.7 acres.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

It's a bargain.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

It's all under water.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Barraga.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Maybe you can elaborate a little bit. You know, six hundred -- this is going to cost 654,000 for 26.7 acres in the Town of Southampton. The previous resolution has 23.8 acres that's going to cost us 10 million in the same town. What is so unique about the previous resolution? I mean, the Mitchells Lane Farm, is there gold underneath the ground or something that it's 10 million dollars versus --

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

There -- can I answer this?

**LEG. BROWNING:**

There is?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Well --

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

I mean, is there just a disparity in terms of the market value of one end of the town versus another?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

I would defer to the Director. I'm sure it's location, but --

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Can I try to answer this one? This one is in the Pine Barrens core, so this area can't be developed traditionally. There are credits that can be transferred, the fee can be transferred into County ownership. So this is a, you know, typical development rights, or you're purchasing those ability to transfer the credit and you're purchasing the fee, and that's why you see such a low value on it. You couldn't just take this property and start building houses on it. The other one, the Mitchells Lane property is on Scuttle Hole Road in the Bridgehampton area. It could be developed with, you know, large homes, and it would, you know, radically change that area, which is a large farming block of land there. So they are very, very different properties and that's why the valuation is so different.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Does that answer your question, Legislator Barraga?

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. On 1821, we have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1828 - Authorizing the acquisition of land under the New Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program (effective December 1, 2007) - open space component - for the Mederos property - Patchogue River wetlands addition - Town of Brookhaven (SCTM Nos. 0200-893.00-01.00-023.001 & 0200-893.00-01.00-038.001 (Co. Exec.).*

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Motion.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Second.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Eddington, seconded by Legislator Losquadro.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

This is 1828?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

1828.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Oh, okay.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay? And just to be consistent, we should go over the values there as well.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Fifty thousand dollars for 2.6 acres.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Another bargain. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Abstain.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Opposed.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Opposed? Sixteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*J.R. 1829 - Authorizing the acquisition of land under the New Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program (effective December 1, 2007) - open space component - for the Jennings property - Saw Mill Creek addition - Town of Riverhead (SCTM No. 0600-109.00-01.00-012.000) (Co. Exec.)*

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Romaine.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Losquadro. Ms. Vizzini?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Thirteen thousand --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Huh?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Thirteen thousand dollars for .236 acres.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Do we have any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Abstain.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Cosponsor, please.

### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1794 - Declaring the first week in November as "Family Caregiver Appreciation Week" in*

**Suffolk County (D'Amaro).**

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator D'Amaro, second by Legislator Stern. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

**1824 - Declaring October 13th as "Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day" in Suffolk County (Alden).** Legislator Alden?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Motion to approve.

**MR. MONTANO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Alden, seconded by Legislator Montano. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Tim, I'll cosponsor that one.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

**1851 - Establishing a Teen Pregnancy Task Force (Viloria-Fisher).**

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

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Viloria-Fisher.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Second.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Montano. All in -- Legislator Alden, you want to be recognized?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

This goes along with the testimony we heard earlier?

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

Yes.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Okay. Thanks.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Cosponsor.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Cosponsor.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Cosponsor.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. ***1859 - Amending the 2009 Adopted Operating Budget to accept and appropriate additional State Aid from the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and to transfer funding from current appropriations to Human Growth and Understanding Seminars, Inc. (HUGS) (Co. Exec.).*** I'll make a motion.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Kennedy. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LABOR, WORKFORCE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1783 - Authorizing the sale of County-owned real property pursuant to Section 72-h of the General Municipal Law to the Town of Brookhaven for affordable housing purposes (Co. Exec).***

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

Motion.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Viloría-Fisher, second by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1849 - Authorizing funding, acquisition, conveyance, development, infrastructure improvements and oversight of real property under Suffolk County Affordable Housing Opportunities Program, Columbia Street Development – Huntington Station (Co. Exec.).***

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator D'Amaro, second by Legislator Gregory.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

On the motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

On the motion, Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

And this -- oh, this comes out of the County Executive's Office. Is this similar to all the affordable housing programs that we've been approving that are available all over Suffolk County?

*(\*The following was taken & transcribed by  
Alison Mahoney - Court Reporter\*)*

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Isn't this what we had testimony on this morning, fellas? We had testimony at public portion about Save-a-Block, that we're putting money into it, that the town is putting money into it, there's Federal grants to knock down three slum houses, I guess, and to build 16 units?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Right. And Bay Shore had a project that was just north on Reddington Street, Reddington and I believe Third Avenue. I'm just wondering if this is similar to that program.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Commissioner Heaney, do you want to elaborate on it?

**COMMISSIONER HEANEY:**

Good morning. The Columbia Street Project is a partnership involving the County of Suffolk and the Town of Huntington on a revitalization program called Take Back the Blocks Program. This particular effort sought to acquire land in partnership with the Town of Huntington in order to construct seven single-family units with accessory apartments for a total of 14 dwelling units. This has been through committee. There's been a lot of discussion about this project, it's been covered in the local media and it is considered actually a model program for revitalization and residential settings.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Okay. So this is different than what we've been using as far as other programs that qualify under HUD, the elimination of --

**COMMISSIONER HEANEY:**

Not at all. This meets all of the requirements of the County's Workforce Housing Program.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

All right. You know, I'll talk to you later, then, as far as what's unique about it. But this is -- it's right under HUD's guidelines?

**COMMISSIONER HEANEY:**

Yes, it is.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Good. Thanks.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you. And Legislator Alden, the testimony this morning, and you might have been out of the room or something, that --

**LEG. ALDEN:**

I might not have been here yet.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Well --

*(\*Laughter From Panel\*)*

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

You snooze you lose.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

You could have been in the lavatory, you know what I mean?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Thanks for sharing.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Or as someone else put it, I could have been out drinking, right? There you go.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

I'll tell ya, I should have quit while I was ahead, you know?

*(\*Laughter From Panel\*)*

But the testimony was that there's three parcels with dilapidated housing on it that has been problem housing; two of them have been acquired by the town, I think we were acquiring the third parcel.

So there's some acquisition money, there's some infrastructure money because they have to knock down all the properties.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Good.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

And then they're going to build these seven units with an accessory apartment, which sounded pretty good.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Good. Thanks.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

All right. Okay, 1849, we have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1852-09 - Authorizing funding, acquisition, conveyance, development, infrastructure improvements and oversight of real property under Suffolk County Affordable Housing Opportunities Program (Artspace Patchogue Lofts – Patchogue Village)(County***

*Executive).*

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Eddington.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

I'll second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Seconded by Legislator Browning. On the question? Okay.  
All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Could you make sure I'm listed as a cosponsor?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Yes, sir.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1804-09 - Authorizing use of Smith Point Park property by Anti-Hamptons, Between the Ports and Event Power, Long Island, for a triathlon (Browning).*

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Browning.

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

I'll second that, even though I like the Hamptons.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Viloría-Fisher. Is Legislator Schneiderman going to vote for this?

*(\*Laughter From Panel\*)*

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I'm going to have to either abstain or vote against it just because of the name of the group, the Anti-Hamptons Group.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Okay. Who are they and how do you --

**LEG. BROWNING:**

They're a really nice group.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I have nothing against triatholons, but anti-Hamptons I have a problem with.

(\*Laughter From Panel\*)

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Abstention.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Abstention: Legislator Schneiderman).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1834-09 - Authorizing a Custodial License Agreement with the North Fork Audubon Society for Inlet Pond County Park, Greenport (County Executive).*** Would Legislator Romaine like to --

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion.

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

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Viloría-Fisher? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Would the Clerk please list me as a cosponsor?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Will do.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1835-09 - Authorizing a Custodial License Agreement with the Great South Bay Audubon Society for Brookside County Park, Sayville (County Executive).*** I'll make that motion.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

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

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Viloría-Fisher. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1839-09 - Authorizing use of Indian Island County Park by Peconic Community Council, Inc. For its Walkathon Fundraiser (County Executive).***

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Motion.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Romaine, second by Legislator Schneiderman.  
All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Would the Clerk please list me as a cosponsor?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Yes, sir.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1314-09 - Adopting Local Law No. -2009, A Local Law to authorize a County Registry for Domestic Violence Offenders (Gregory).***

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Mr. Chair, I would like to make a motion to table. We had to make a change to the legislation.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

The sponsor requests a tabling. Second by Legislator Alden.  
All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

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

Do we need to extend the Public Portion? It's 11:30.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

We're not in Public Portion, we finished.

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

Oh, I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

***(\*Laughter From Panel\*)***

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

I don't mean to embarrass Legislator Viloría-Fisher; she wanted to extend the public portion. She's so used to the public portion going this long.

IR 13 -- no, *1831-09 - Accepting and appropriating a grant in the amount of \$195,000 in Federal pass-through funding from the New York State Office of Homeland Security for the Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program with 75% support (County Executive).*

I'll make that motion.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1842-09 - Appoint member to Hate Crimes Task Force (Isabel Sepulveda De Scanlon) (Gregory).*

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Motion.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I'd like to second this.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Does somebody else want to say that?

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

Sepulveda.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

We have a motion by Legislator Gregory.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I will second it.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Schneiderman. And who wants to pronounce the name?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Sepulveda.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Isn't that what I said? We have a motion and a second.

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

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

She's here; there she is.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Mr. Clerk, would you list me as a cosponsor, please?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

And myself as well. Thank you.

MR. LAUBE:

Yes, sir.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Cosponsor, please.

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

Renee, I'd like to cosponsor as well.

P.O. LINDSAY:

*1796-09 - Amending the 2009 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with preparing a Sewering Feasibility Study for the downtown Mattituck area in the Town of Southold (CP 8190) (Romaine).*

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Romaine. Do I have a second?

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Kennedy. The offsets are all proper here?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

That's correct.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

The accompanying Bonding Resolution, 1796A, same motion, same second; roll call.

*(\*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk\*)*

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Yes.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Yes.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Yes.

**LEG. STERN:**

Yes.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Oh, yes.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Yes.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Yes.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Yes.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Yes.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yes.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Yes.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Yes.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Yes.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Yes.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Yes.

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

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Can I just ask one quick question?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Alden has a question.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Would a feasibility study, would that qualify for funding out of the sewer agencies and that reserve fund that we set up?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Are you talking about the one that we just passed?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

No, this is more for the future because we just passed this one.  
This is General Obligation Bonds, right?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yes.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Would a feasibility study qualify for sewer bonds?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Well, sewer bonds would be for a particular sewer. So let's say that you wanted to do a feasibility study regarding Southwest, the answer is clearly yes, because that district can pay for it.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

So if it's an extension of an existing sewer district, that would qualify if it's --

**MS. VIZZINI:**

In my opinion, yes.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Okay, good. Thanks.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. ***1838-09 - A Resolution making certain Findings and Determinations in relation to the increase and improvement of facilities for Sewer District No. 9 – College Park (CP 8163) (County Executive).***

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Beedenbender. Second by Legislator Losquadro.  
All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1845-09 - Amending the 2009 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with intersection improvements on CR 19, Patchogue-Holbrook Road at Furrows Road (CP 5128) (Presiding Officer Lindsay), and I'll make that motion?***

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Congratulations.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

On the accompanying Bond Resolution, 1845A, same motion, same second; roll call.

*(\*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk\*)*

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Yes.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Yes.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Yes.

**LEG. STERN:**

Yes.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Yes.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Yes.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Yes.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Yes.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Yes.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Yes.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yes.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Yes.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Yes.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Yes.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Yes.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes.

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

Yes.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay, the next one, 1846, the resolution is in order but we don't have the bond yet, so I'd like to skip over it and we'll contact the Bond Counsel at lunch time to make sure that it's -- see if we can get it here to approve it today. So if that's alright with everybody.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Sure.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1732-09 - Approving the appointment of Jean Marie Brand as a member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board (County Executive).*

**LEG. STERN:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Stern.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator D'Amaro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Did they all show up at committee?

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

I didn't have --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

No, it's Legislator Stern's Committee. Legislator Alden was asking, did they show up at committee?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Only the appointments.

**MR. PERILLIE:**

It's a reappointment.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Yeah, the appointment.

**LEG. STERN:**

Yes, this is a new appointment. Jean Marie Brand did appear before the committee.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Thanks.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

That's it.

**LEG. STERN:**

She answered all the questions. She's the Director of Adult Day Care at Long Island State Veterans Facility, it will be a great addition to the Advisory Board.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Wonderful. Okay, ***1807-09 - Approving the reappointment of Arlene Stevens as a member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board.***

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by -- who is that? Legislator Beedenbender.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Losquadro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1808-09 - Approving the reappointment of Carolyn Gallogly as a member and chairperson of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board (County Executive).*** Who has Carolyn? Motion by Legislator Stern. Second?

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Second.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1809-09 - Approving the reappointment of Elizabeth Eggleton as a member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board (County Executive).*** Same motion?

**LEG. STERN:**

Sure.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Same second, same vote.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1810-09 - Approving the reappointment of Christine Castiglia-Rubinstein as a member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board (County Executive).***

Same motion, same second, same vote okay?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1811-09 - Approving the reappointment of Gene Pritz as a member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board (County Executive).*** Same motion, same second, same vote.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1812-09 - Approving the reappointment of Christine Shiebler as a member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board (County Executive).***

same motion, same second, same vote.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Moving right along. ***1813-09 - Approving the reappointment of Chestene Coverdale as a member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board (County Executive).*** I'd like to make this

motion, if it's okay.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Sure.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

I need a second, Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Sixteen (Not Present: Legislators Montano & Horsley).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1763-09 - Adopting Local Law No. -2009, A Local Law to amend Resolution No. 673-2009, A Local Law Requiring Fairness in Cooperative Home Ownership (County Executive).***

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Beedenbender.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator D'Amaro.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Just a brief explanation of what the amendment is?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Losquadro would like an explanation.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

On the amendment.

**MR. NOLAN:**

Recently we passed a Local Law that requires cooperative boards to act timely on applications and give reasons for the decisions on applications. What this law does is amend that earlier law to state that a failure by a cooperative to take action timely on an application may be considered by the Human Rights Commission when they're conducting an investigation and may be evidence in a hearing or proceeding they hold on a discrimination claim.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes, Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

George, what's your interpretation of "actual or perceived possible discrimination"?

**MR. NOLAN:**

Well, the language you're referencing is in the Intent Section of the law, so it's not in any of the substantive provisions of the law. But actual or perceived is, you know, should discrimination or an applicant would perceive discrimination, then they would have the grounds to bring a complaint to the Human Rights Commission. But obviously in a hearing or proceeding, you'd have to actually show discrimination; perceived discrimination wouldn't be sufficient.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

That's in line with the Civil Rights Act as originally enacted and also as it's been amended over the course of the years?

**MR. NOLAN:**

I just know that the language you're discussing is -- mentions perceived race, but that is language that's consistent with the existing Human Rights Law.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Okay. Thanks, George.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. 1763, a Local Law to -- oh, we read that already, right?  
We have a motion and a second?

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

Yes.

**MR. LAUBE:**

That's correct.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Abstain.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Abstention: Legislator Alden).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1767-09 - Sale of County-owned Real Estate pursuant to Local Law No. 13-1976 Wayne Robinson and Cathy Robinson, joint tenants with rights of Survivorship (SCTM No. 0200-426.00-06.00-077.001) (County Executive).***

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator D'Amaro.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Beedenbender. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen -- no, sixteen (Not Present: Legislators Montano & Horsley).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1770-09 - Sale of County-owned Real Estate pursuant to Local Law No. 13-1976 Jarn, LLC (SCTM No. 0200-973.80-06.00-002.000) (County Executive).*** Do I have a motion?

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Beedenbender. Seconded by Legislator D'Amaro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1784-09 - Amending Resolution No. 65-2009, sale of County owned real estate pursuant to Section 72-h of the General Municipal Law – Town of Brookhaven (SCTM No. 0200-929.00-02.00-009.001) (County Executive).***

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator D'Amaro was that?

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Yes.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Stern. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1806-09 - Sale of County-owned real estate pursuant to Local Law No. 13-1976 William and Jenipher Quintanilla (SCTM No. 0100-112.00-01.00-036.001 & 036.002) (County Executive).***

Do I have a motion?

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

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Viloría-Fisher. Do I have a second?

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator D'Amaro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1817-09 - Sale of County-owned real estate pursuant to Section 72-h of the General Municipal Law - Town of Brookhaven - (SCTM No. 0200-182.00-04.00-036.000) (County Executive).***

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Losquadro, second by Legislator Viloría-Fisher. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1818-09 - Sale of County-owned real estate pursuant to Local Law No. 13-1976 George Ladani and Catherine Ladani (SCTM No. 0200-230.00-05.00-040.000) (County Executive).***

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator D'Amaro. Second by --

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

-- Legislator Beedenbender. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1820-09 - Sale of County owned real estate pursuant to Local Law No. 13-1976 Robert Martin and Christine Martin (SCTM No. 0200-420.00-02.00-003.000) (County Executive).***

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

Motion.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Viloría-Fisher, seconded by Legislator D'Amaro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1840-09 - Authorizing the placement of an Emergency Communications Facility at the GATR site in Theodore Roosevelt County Park, Montauk for Public Safety purposes (County Executive).***

Legislator Schneiderman, do you want to make that motion?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Seconded by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1847-09 - Sale of County-owned real estate pursuant to Local Law No. 13-1976 Keith B. Green (SCTM No. 0100-171.00-01.00-006.009) (County Executive).*** Do I have a motion?

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Cosponsor.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Cosponsor.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator D'Amaro.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Losquadro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Not Present: Legislator Montano).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

***1862-09 - Authorizing the extension of the lease of premises located at 45 West Suffolk Avenue, Central Islip, NY for use by the Department of Health Services (County Executive).*** I'll make the motion.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator D'Amaro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

We're doing really well. Okay, what is this Bond?

**MR. NOLAN:**

This is one we passed at the last meeting.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Okay, in your packet we have ***IR1 863A***, it's a.

***Bond Resolution of the County of Suffolk, New York, authorizing the issuance of \$630,850 Bonds to finance the cost of the planning and construction of the Ockers Surface Water Transportation Center at Long Island Maritime Museum grounds at Charles Dominy County Park,***

***West Sayville (CP 7165.112 and .312) (County Executive).*** We passed the resolution at the last meeting but the Bond wasn't ready, so we have to go back and do this. I'll make a motion to approve.

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

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Viloría-Fisher. Any questions? Roll call.

***(\*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk\*)***

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes.

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

Yes.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Yes.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Yes.

**LEG. STERN:**

Yes.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Yes.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Yes.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Yes.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Yes.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Yes.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Yes.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yes.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Yes.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Yes.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Yes.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Yes.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Yes.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. You called the vote?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Yes, sir.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

We have a *Procedural Motion* that was just laid down before you, *No. 26-2009 - Approving a partial settlement of the AWP litigation (Purdue Group) (Presiding Officer Lindsay)*. This was our lawsuit against pharmaceutical agencies; it's not a big amount, it's \$8,000. So I'll make a motion to approve.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Second.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Romaine. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay, *Procedural Motion No. 25-2009 - Authorizing funding for Community Support Initiatives (Phase IX) (Presiding Officer Lindsay)*. I'll make a motion.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Losquadro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Let's go back to the ones we skipped over, I think we have a couple of CN's. We're really doing well.

**MR. NOLAN:**

I don't think they've been passed out yet.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah, CN's haven't been passed out yet. I'm sorry. I guess they should be passed out.

**MR. PEARSALL:**

The CN's she's putting out, yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

We have a communications from the Treasurer's Office having to do with Procedural Motion 23. Does everybody want to just take a minute and look that over and see if you're satisfied with that and --

**LEG. ALDEN:**

I need you to hold it for like two minutes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes. Procedural Motion 23 and there was just a communications handed out from the Treasurer on -- about this new bank.

Mr. Clerk, did we ever get an approval motion on Procedural Motion 23, or was it --

**MR. LAUBE:**

No, what you have is you have -- well, you have an approval motion and you have a motion to table, and you have first and seconds on both.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Okay, so we have that.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Who made the tabling motion? I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. The tabling motion I know would take precedence. In light of the information that's been provided to us, does the individual who made that motion still want to proceed with the tabling?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Why don't we just give it another two minutes for everybody to absorb what's in the communique, if you don't mind.

*(\*Brief Pause in Meeting\*)*

Okay. If anybody needs a little more time. I know Legislator D'Amaro wanted to be --

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Well, I read the memo, it's the first time I'm seeing it this morning, along with many of you. It tells you the procedure, I guess, for collateralizing and securing the deposits in any bank that we authorize. But I think the operative paragraph or the operative sentence is the first sentence of the second paragraph where it says, "The financial institutions pledge or purchase only high quality government securities to protect public deposits," and that's good, that's reassuring to see that. But this memo does not answer any of the questions I have with respect to the track record of the bank or the people who own or are going to operate the bank which, again, the Treasurer had offered to provide that information as well. So this memo is not responsive to most of the questions that I asked.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Would it be appropriate if we continue to skip over this and see if I can get the Treasurer to respond to the questions that Legislator D'Amaro had requested?

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Sure.

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

We can just table it.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Well, rather than table it, you know, it's five of twelve, we've got a long -- not a long day, but we have to be back at 2:30, give us some reason to earn our money. So I'm going to continue to skip over that, if it's okay.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Good.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

All right. Let's go back to ***1802-09 - Amending the 2009 Operating Budget to provide funds for the Diabetes Education Program in Health Services (Browning)***. Are we ready to address that? Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Actually I was going to make a couple of phone calls just to make sure that it doesn't impact in any way, shape or form the provision of services at the health centers and I didn't have a chance to do that yet.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

We're back at 2:30.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

I know, we have the document from the Executive Director of Southside, we have a copy of that letter now.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

We have that?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes. But if you want to address that after lunch --

**LEG. ALDEN:**

If we could.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

I don't have a problem with that.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

And let me see, the last one is 1592; did we get any additional information on that yet?

**MR. NOLAN:**

There was an amended copy filed timely, so we could move on it.

The amended copy reflects the 10% from the town.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. So that's -- the resolution has been amended, so we're back to the issue. Any comments? Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

I had one question, and I think Legislator Schneiderman is Chair of this committee?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Uh-huh.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

What's the amount of taxes that are currently paid on that parcel of land? And is this affected, does this resolution affect the tax status of that property?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I don't have the property tax that's paid, most of it would be -- obviously go to the schools, a portion to the County and some to the town. Certainly undeveloped land in general is taxed at a much lower rate than developed properties.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Well, this has an evaluation of almost ten million bucks and it's an operating farm, otherwise we

don't buy them, right?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Right, this is an operating farm. You know, and obviously if it was developed, there would be some cost for infrastructure and things, Police services and things like that, that would also effect taxations.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Well, I would just make a suggestion that that might be one of the questions we ask when we're looking at buying a piece of property or even the development rights of this, you know, what's the effect.

The cumulative effect on school districts --

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

That's something with the tax map ID, you can look that information up.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

No, no, but Jay, you know, my point is I'm asked to vote on something that could have an impact on a school district or a cumulative effect on a school district. Say we buy almost all the property in this area, that school district is going to be impacted, that's probably the most impact, but we're also going to be impacted. You know, there's a bigger picture rather than just the one piece of property.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Certainly that argument could be made for any open space acquisition, but there have been some studies that have shown that in terms of stabilizing taxes, preserving land is actually the best way to keep taxes from going up.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Well, actually I saw a study very recently that showed the opposite and it showed that there's a negative impact on affordable housing, there's a negative impact on luring businesses to the area, there's a whole bunch of negative impacts including the -- and basically the wiping out of a taxable piece of property. So there's studies on both ends of it.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

This is not -- we're not buying the property, we're buying development rights, so this --

**LEG. ALDEN:**

But it will change the tax lines.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

This is currently taxed as a farm, it will continue to be currently taxed as a farm.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Oh, good. All right, I didn't realize that. Thank you. That was the answer to the question.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Is that true?

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

Yes, it continues to be taxed.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

On the tax rolls.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Wouldn't the development rights --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Why don't you put it on the record, Legislator Horsley.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Yeah, and maybe this is a question to Counsel. When we -- when an owner sells the development rights, does that lessen the assessment on the property because it would be worth less to a potential buyer?

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Nobody can buy it.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

And what would be the taxes, would they remain the same?

**MR. NOLAN:**

I know they keep paying taxes. I do not know the effect buying the development rights, what that does to the taxes, but I could certainly find out for, how it affects it.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

They tax it as a farm.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Even though you can't develop it?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Right.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. I just want to make a comment about this issue. You know, everybody knows all year long, we've been struggling with our fiscal crisis. And there were several attempts to leverage or use some of the land acquisition money to bail us out short-term, and there was a tremendous uproar about that from the environmental community. I believe I got a letter from the Town Board or the Town Supervisor from Southampton criticizing us roundly for even looking at that as a solution. And then we have a resolution before us for \$10 million to buy 23 acres with the town only participating 10%. I'm sorry, Ladies and Gentlemen, I think that's hypocritical --

**LEG. NOWICK:**

You're right.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

-- and I'm voting against it.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

That makes two of us.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Mr. Chair, can I -- I have a question for the sponsor on this one, if I can. Because I think --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

The sponsor is the County Executive.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I'll take the questions for the committee.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Yeah, I'll talk to the Legislator from the south fork, maybe if he can offer an explanation. You know, every one of us are in the process of trying to look at all of our needs and all of our wants. And I'm curious, with the additional resources that the east end towns have at this point, you know, having sat there for nine years and collected significant amounts that came in to the Community Preservation Fund on the south fork, I'm just curious at this point, do you know where they're at? Have they pledged -- why would they not be more committed or involved on a parcel like this or purchase like this?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Let me try to answer that. First, this commitment is about a million dollars, it's 10% of the purchase price, so it is a significant amount of money, but as a percentage it's a small percentage.

The Town of Southampton, as well as East Hampton, have extensive open space plans, they are aggressively pursuing purchasing open space. They have had to their benefit this Community Preservation Fund, but the revenues have declined substantially and they have borrowed against future proceeds; in the case of Southampton, I believe over a hundred million dollars in borrowing so they could expedite their land programs. Unfortunately, as the revenues decrease, they're finding a lot of the money that's coming in going just to pay that debt service. So they don't have a lot of extra money now, so this 10% partnership is a substantial commitment. In the future, as the real estate market bounces back, and we all hope it will, I think that we can ask them to play a larger and larger role, and they often do. We've seen them on farmlands purchase as much as 70% and us at 30%. But I think it's really a function of the time that we're in right now and, you know, sometimes we buy land without any town partnerships and other -- elsewhere in the County.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Absolutely. And as a matter of fact, I -- you know, that reflects, I guess, some of the differences for each of us from the various, you know, towns that we come from and, you know, north, south, east, west certainly, there are differences there. But if you look at the fact that the town has been aggressive in acquisition and we've looked at a number of purchases that we've made, you know, we look at the Cavett purchase, we look at a number of other ones, big ticket items that went towards acknowledging a plan to aggravate properties running all the way out to Montauk. You know, our evaluation is down, so one wonders at this point what would this farm be valued at out there on the open market? How strong is the market to actually purchase and develop right now? We know what we need to do in order to try and plug, you know, a 110, \$120 million hole and moving on this automatically drives our debt service. I'm just -- I know you're not the sponsor of it, but I'm curious as to what are some of the dynamics behind this?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

It sounds like I'm suffering because of the high values in my district, and it's good that some of these values are holding up. You know, we have an extensive review process with ETRB, as you know because I know you've come to many of those meetings.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Absolutely, I have been there, sure.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

You know, the evaluation, you know, goes through a number of procedures to make sure that it's proper evaluation. So, you know, farmland in this area, the development rights are very expensive, and it's unfortunate but if we want to make sure an area like this continues to attract tourists and help Suffolk's economy, I think it's critical that we continue to preserve them.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

I agree with you a hundred and ten percent. And as a matter of fact, we talked about looking at, you know, wanting to bolster our tourism. As a matter of fact, we just took an act recently where a significant amount of our additional tax on hotels and motels is going to go to expand our marketing program up and down the eastern seaboard. But I'm wondering if -- and perhaps this is unfair to be asking these questions since it is the Exec's Office who's sponsoring it. I'd like to get a little bit more about some of the dynamics here and maybe even just look at a tabling for one cycle.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

This is in contract, you know, it hasn't been signed obviously by the County Executive but the sellers have signed it. It's gone through, you know, a long path to get to this point and it was tabled in committee for a while waiting for the town to come on board and share some of the expenses. So I would just ask that it move along.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Okay.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Jay, maybe you would know the answer to this question. How old is that appraisal for these development rights?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I don't have that information. I do know that there is a -- you know, we have adopted guidelines in terms of how long the offer can be made from when the appraisal is done and accepted. So it obviously met all those guideline, we'd have to hear from the County Attorney otherwise. But the day of the -- the offer was made based on evaluation that was approved by ETRB within a timeframe that was acceptable.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Can this be over a year old, the evaluation?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

It could be.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Development rights, yeah, they're not easy to actually come to a --

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Again, you know, the holdup could be on the County's part in terms of bringing it in front of us. But when the offer was made, it has to be done within a short window of time after ETRB has reconciled the price.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

The other thing, maybe you would know this about the program. If we pay \$10 million for the development rights and then they cease to function as a farm, do we get our money back?

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

No.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I don't believe there's any reverts like that.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

So there's nothing that prevents them from actually going out of business after we pay them.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

It couldn't be developed. Could it be fallow farm field, is that what you're asking? Could it just be -- become an overgrown field?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Could they stop farming completely?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Counsel, is there any mechanism that requires it to continue in farming?

**MR. NOLAN:**

I think Director Isles actually spoke to this at one of our committee meetings. It is possible that people could stop -- if we're buying development rights, it can't be developed. I'm not sure that's ever happened in the history of the program or not, but I guess it is a possibility.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Because actually an overgrown piece of property is going to discourage people from coming and visiting the area. If it's an operating farm, people like to see an operating farm. But, you know, a bunch of weeds growing on a very expensive 23 or almost 24 acres in downtown south -- or the area of Southampton, that could be a discouragement to people coming out and visiting the area.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I don't disagree, but it wouldn't make sense for the owner to just leave it fallow when there are people still willing to lease farmland.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

What if they just put \$10 million in their pocket and just walk away from it?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Are you done, Legislator Alden?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay, Legislator Losquadro.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

As a member of the ETRB, I can't say for certain -- Legislator Vilorio-Fisher and I were looking at each other. I can't say for certain when we saw this, but it was definitely within the past two or three months when these appraisals came before the Environmental Trust Review Board for review.

And again, as past Chairman of that committee, a conforming agricultural use would be the only use allowable under the purchase terms of this program, and even if an individual did not want to maintain a farming operation themselves, there would be some value in it to them to lease it out to another farmer, because they still do have to pay some taxes on the remaining -- on the residual value for that property. So even if an individual themselves did not want to continue that farming practice, if they thought they were now independently wealthy enough from the sale of the property, there will be still some value in it to them to lease it out to another farmer to continue that, maybe if only even to pay the taxes that remain on the property. So that's why this program has been successful in the past and I think it would continue to be so.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Gregory.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just want to echo your comments and I support them. To me, this is akin to someone asking me out to dinner and then have me foot the bill and they pay -- leave the tip. This is not a partnership, 90/10%. You know, we need -- you know, we're in financial straits, we're looking for monies. And I have questions over what's been chronicled in the paper recently with the east end town using their CPF funds to fill their budget holes. You know, we need to look at that, how much more money did we spend acquiring land because they chose to use those funds to balance their budgets? So I have some real concerns. I will not be supporting this bill.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Anybody else; no? Okay. Let's do a roll call on this one.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

What's the motion?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

There's a motion to approve.

*(\*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk\*)*

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Yes.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Yes.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Yes.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Yes.

**LEG. STERN:**

Yes.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

No.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Yes.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

No.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Pass.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

No.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Pass.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Pass.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

No.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Yes.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Yes.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes.

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

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

No.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Abstain.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Abstain.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

No.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Ten.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay the resolution passes.

Okay, I'm going to go to the red folder of CN's.

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

You know they just gave us a new one, right?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah, we have a new one that's been just added. The first one is ***1920-09 - Declaring November, 2009, as Homeless Awareness Month in Suffolk County (County Executive)***.

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

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Viloría-Fisher.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Browning. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1925-09 - Amending the 2009 Operating Budget and transferring funds to Pederson-Krag Post Adoption Services (County Executive).*

**LEG. COOPER:**

Motion to approve.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Cooper.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Eddington. On the question?

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

A brief explanation of where this money is coming from, going to?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Losquadro and then Alden.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

The offsets are two Omnibus items, Huntington Freedom Center and Huntington Station Kids Cafe. The \$23,000 is coming from a defunct youth program to provide the necessary \$33,000 for the adoption services.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Omnibus money, Gail?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Ten thousand is, yes.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Ten thousand is Omnibus.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

And the other ones are?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Alden, did you still have a question?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Yes. This -- the third thing, the \$23,000, so 10,000 is Omnibus money. The third program, you said it was --

**MS. VIZZINI:**

There's money in our Operating Budget which was scheduled for this agency, they are no longer in operation so you can use that as a bona fide offset.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

And this was Omnibus money?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

No.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Okay. And this Pederson-Krag Post Adoptive Services, are they funded in the budget now or is this an add?

**LEG. COOPER:**

Yes, they are, they've been funded for a number of years. My recollection is that there was a cutback in State funding because they're all also State grants in addition to the County grants, and as a result, if they don't get this money they'll have to terminate their program right. They won't be able to continue the program for the balance of the year, so this is to carry them through for the balance of 2009. But this is a program that the Legislature has funded for many years.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

And how much money do we give them in funds without the 33 additional, do you know?

**LEG. COOPER:**

Gail, do you know?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Here's the point that I'm going to make. There's a couple of other organizations that have come to me that said that they have been cut back by New York State or they have been cut by the Feds, and I haven't brought it up here because I don't want to go through a whole new evaluation of '09 where we already did that at the beginning, basically last year. We evaluated what -- you know, which ones of these not-for-profits we were going to fund and in what amounts. And now what we're taking is money that could actually go towards a hole that we have for next year and we're going to reallocate that. And if we're going to do that, then I think we deserve -- not we deserve, we are incumbent to do a full evaluation of all the programs that we funded and see if maybe some of those other ones can be saved or extended rather than just take one and take \$33,000 and throw the money into it. I don't think it's fair to the other groups that have actually waited patiently for the 2010 budget to come out and have suffered their cuts in programs. It's not the right way to do it, I don't think.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Montano, did you want to talk?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yeah, I want to occupy the mike until Bob gets back, actually. We're doing the budget next month.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah, but for 2010, this is for '09; this is to carry it through '09.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Okay.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

And I don't know, maybe Legislator Cooper, do you know did the County Executive fund this fully in '10?

**LEG. COOPER:**

No, I'm actually not aware of the --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Do you know, Ms. Vizzini?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

They are not funded in '10.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

They're not funded at all.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Who's not funded in '10? I'm sorry.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

This program.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Pederson-Krag Post Adoption Services.

**LEG. COOPER:**

My recollection is I don't think that they were in the recommended budget for this year either, but the Legislature restored the funding.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Funded it through the Omnibus.

**LEG. COOPER:**

And perhaps even the year before, I don't recall. But this is something that's been supported by the Legislature for I believe at least four or five years at this point.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

And I understand that. The point I'm making is that I wasn't at the last -- I think it was the Health Committee. But what I heard, and correct me if I'm wrong, or maybe it was the Budget Committee, is that Pronto came before one of the committees and said that they were losing funding and they had run out of funds also. And I think that's the point that Legislator Alden is making, that a number of programs are in this situation and to piecemeal this seems to me to be -- particularly on a C of N, seems to me to be inappropriate.

Gail, when you say that this is defunded, what does that mean exactly; we put the money in the budget for this program and they never used it?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

No. I'm checking this particular code for this agency and --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

That's the Ryan House, am I correct?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Oh, Ryan? Oh, I'm sorry.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yeah, not Pederson-Krag, they do a good job. I don't have an issue with the program. A lot of these programs do a good job.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

When we put the budget together, we thought that we would be contracting with Ryan House for a youth program. However, they closed their doors, they are not functioning, yet the line --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

The line still remains.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Correct. So that --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

And if we don't --

**MS. VIZZINI:**

-- is a red flag for using that money for something else, or it goes to fund balance.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Well, that's -- a red flag meaning we can go and grab the money and put it into another program selectively, really, and that's the problem that I have with this. And the program is a good program, I know it, but there are a lot of good programs out there that are in the same position and I think they ought to be given equal consideration.

And as I said, I don't think it's -- I don't like seeing these in the form of a CN and have a five minute or a three minute conversation to decide to take this money at the exclusion of other programs that may have the same need and be just as worthy, if not more so.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Romaine.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

A few quick questions. How much is Pederson-Krag Post Adoption Services being funded currently in the budget?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

We're trying to find that, Legislator Romaine.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Are they receiving any funds in the current budget, as of this time?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

By this particular name, there is no funding in '09 or 2010 under this Pederson-Krag Post Adoption Services.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

So let's go from that. There's no funding for this program that you can find at this time in the 2009 budget, one. Two --

**LEG. COOPER:**

Well, no, they definitely were funded in 2009.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Pederson-Krag was funded but --

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Right, Pederson-Krag for the Post Adoption Services.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Yes, this program was funded in 2009. I don't know the pseudo code offhand --

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Okay.

**LEG. COOPER:**

-- but they were certainly funded.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Okay, so it was funded in 2009. The County Executive is now coming forward because he found a program that wasn't -- that stopped running and he's transferring the funds for this program, which is probably a very worthy program and I'm not saying otherwise. Okay, he's giving us an opportunity to vote this program \$33,000 to be expended in 2009, that's less than two-and-a-half months, and yet has put zero dollars in to this program for 2010; is that correct?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

That's what Ms. Vizzini said.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Okay. So essentially, "Here's a last shot of money, you've got to spend it in two-and-a-half months. By the way, I think your program is so worthy I refused to fund it in the 2010 budget." Okay, does that make sense? I mean, if the County Executive thought it was a worthy program, why did he not fund it in the 2010 budget? And why is he giving them two-and-a-half months to expend \$33,000, and will they be able to expend that amount of money in two-and-a-half months?

**LEG. COOPER:**

Legislator Romaine, what precipitated the resolution was Pederson-Krag approached me and a couple of our colleagues and advised us that because of the State cutback, there was going to be a shortfall in their budget for this year, which was unanticipated. As a result, they were very concerned because they would have to end this program early, it was supposed to go for the full year, and it was going to end if they didn't get this additional \$33,000 in funding.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Well, it's going to end on January 1.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Well, unless we provide funding on our own, unless we amend the budget, we I believe --

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Well, I've heard our Presiding Officer say in meetings that it's nearly impossible to find additional money in the budget that was presented to us by the Executive. And obviously the Executive chose not to fund them in 2010, so whether, you know, they close on November 1st or January 1st, I mean, it's tragic. And I understand Legislator Montano's point which was, "Wow, there's \$33,000." I know several other programs that are worthy, I don't want to judge who's more worthy, that have had to close their programs because of lack of funding. The Diabetes Program, for example, in Cornell Cooperative Extension, we totally defunded most of that in last year's budget.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

We can use this money for that and save --

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

That's, you know, something that, you know, it's hard to judge unless we sit around in at least a private session and discuss the merits of every program. We don't have that opportunity to talk about all the other programs that have had to be cancelled because of short funding. We do have an opportunity to talk about this, and I'm not saying this isn't worthy, and if forced to vote, I'm obviously going to vote for this because it's probably a very worthy project. But it raises a lot of questions in my mind; if the County Executive thought this was so worthy, why did he not include it in his 2010 budget? And why weren't other not-for-profits who have had to terminate their programs who run equally worth while programs be given an opportunity to access for this money? I mean, those I think are very legitimate questions.

Thank you, Mr. Presiding Officer.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Anybody else? All right, we have a motion and a second on this?

**MR. LAUBE:**

That is correct.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Abstain.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Abstain.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Sixteen (Abstention: Legislators Montano & Alden).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

All right, that concludes the CN's. I'm going to do the Late Starters in the last five minutes and then we can adjourn for lunch, and we're doing really well.

1901 is assigned to Health & Human Services; 1902 -- I'll make a motion to waive the rules and set the following Late Starters on the table; Labor, Workforce & Affordable Housing, 1902; 1903 to Public Safety; 1904 to Economic Development, Education & Energy; 1905 to Public Safety; 1906 to Labor; 1907 to Labor; 1908 to Labor. Do we have a 1909?

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

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Oh, yeah, 1909 to Vets & Seniors; 1910 to Ways & Means; 1911 to Ways & Means; 1912 to EPA; 1913 to Parks; 1914 to Parks; 1915 to Parks; 1916 to Parks; 1917 to Parks; 1918 -- I don't have that one, what committee?

**MR. NOLAN:**

That goes to Consumer Affairs.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay, 1918 is Consumer Affairs and we have to set the Public Hearing for November 17th, 2:30 in the Rose Caracappa Auditorium in Hauppauge; 1919 to Health & Human Services. Do we have a 1920? We do? Oh, we approved it already?

**MS. PASTORE:**

It should be in there.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. 1921 to Public Works; 1922 to Ways & Means and set a Public Hearing for November 17th at 2:30 in Hauppauge; 1923 to EPA and that's it. We have a motion by Legislator Viloría-Fisher and I'll second it, or second by Legislator Barraga. All --

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

What about 1924?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

I didn't have a 24.

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

It's going to Public Safety, furniture and equipment.

**MR. NOLAN:**

There it is.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Oh, it's here, I'm sorry, I missed one. 1924 to Public Safety. We have a motion by Legislator Viloría-Fisher, seconded by Legislator Barraga to waive the rules and accept the following Late Starters.

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? And with that, we stand recessed until 2:30 for lunch.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

A good morning, a really good morning.

*(\*The meeting was recessed at 12:30 PM & reconvened at 2:41 PM\*)*

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. I'm sorry I'm a little tardy. Can I have all Legislators to the horseshoe, please, so we can start the Public Hearings? You want to call the roll?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Present.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Present.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Here.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Here.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Present.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Here.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Present.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Here.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Here.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Here.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Here.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Here.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Here.

**LEG. STERN:**

(Not present).

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Here.

**LEG. COOPER:**

(Not present).

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

Present.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Here.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Sixteen (Not Present: Legislators Stern & Cooper).

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

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. The first Public Hearing is the 2010 Operating Budget. Our first speaker is Katherine Hoak. You have five minutes. Go ahead.

**MS. HOAK:**

Good afternoon, Legislators. I'm Katherine Hoak, Co-President of the League of Women Voters of Suffolk County. The League of Women Voters of Suffolk County has consistently advocated for the strengthening of alternatives to incarceration programs run by the Probation Department. These programs, proven to be highly effective, provide services for those who become entangled with the criminal justice system for many reasons, including mental illness and drug and alcohol abuse. It is perplexing to us why the County has not provided more support for them, because ATI programs improve public safety, reduce recidivism, enable many people to rebuild their lives and to become productive citizens. All of these results save the County significant amounts of money. Therefore, we are startled to learn of the County's proposal to remove the Automation Unit -- the highly sophisticated, technological component of ATI programs -- from the Probation Department and to transfer it to the County's Information Technology Department. This could seriously compromise the effectiveness of alternative to incarceration programs.

The Automation Unit is an integral part of Probation's administration that develops innovative ATI solutions to emerging crime and delinquency. Effective responses to gangs, sex offenders, high-risk drunk drivers, violent offenders and others are the result of the department's comprehensive planning approach using the best technology available, combined with supervision and treatment practices, a productive marriage. Examples of some of that technology is the use of global positioning systems, ignition interlock, a DNA registry, a sex offender registry, forensic software for cyber sex offenders and the new Secure, Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring. SCRAM is a device which reads alcohol levels of probationers hourly on a 24/7 basis and sends the readings to the Probation Department; this is a pilot program being tested by the department. There are several

other systems and devices which are also being utilized, along with treatment, to provide highly effective ATI programs.

The league cannot see the logic in the County's proposal to remove this integrated component of the Probation Department's ATI programs. Such a proposal, if carried out, could inflict serious damage to what now works so well. That level of success is recognized both by the State and by other counties. We ask that you not allow this proposal to take place. Thank you.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Presiding Officer?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much, Katherine.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Mr. Presiding Officer?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes, Legislator Romaine.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Just a quick question. When you say the County budget, you mean the County Executive's proposed budget.

**MS. HOAK:**

Yes.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Okay. I know there's representatives of the County Executive's Office here; if not here, certainly in the back listening and the audio is fed back into them. What I'm going to ask is for the representatives of the County Executive to present to the members of the Legislature, at least the Budget Working Group, rational why that funding and those programs were deleted. I am sure that there is a rationale, he did that, I'd like to understand that rationale. I understand everything you're saying, I'm extremely supportive of it, but I would like to hear why the County Executive removed that from his budget. So I would ask those representatives that are listening in the back, we see our Deputy Budget Director in the back there, Allen Kovesdy, and Mr. Heaney who's his representative.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Allen? Do you want to take that, Allen?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yeah, if we could get a -- I'm not asking to put you on the spot, but if you could get something to us in the next couple of days, to the Working Group as to why you deleted that from the budget, it might be helpful in understanding the thought process of our County Executive.

*(\*Laughter From Panel\*)*

**MR. KOVESDY:**

Thank you. I just wanted to straighten this out. No one -- the staff that the young lady was speaking about is being transferred to the IT Department. They will physically be located in Probation, they'll be working on the Probation projects. We're just strengthening the overall organization where everybody in IT, with the exception of the elected officials, works for one person. There will be no duplication of effort, no funding has been cut, the positions are just being transferred to another spot.

I would be more than happy at the end of the Public Hearing to address all of the questions rather than come up one at a time. But in this particular case, it's just a transferring of the positions, the people will still be working in the same office with the same computers, it's just that we're tightening and strengthening the overall management of IT. I hope that clarifies it, Ed.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Mr. Presiding Officer? Well, Allen, not to put you on the spot -- and again, you have the option of getting it back to us in writing -- but what you're saying is that there will be no demotion (sic) of any of the programmatic activities connected with Probation; is that what you're saying? That the activity, the funding, the staffing, all that is dedicated to Probation will remain the same; it just will be old wine and new bottles, so to speak?

**MR. KOVESDY:**

I haven't heard that analogy, but the staff will be transferred. The authority of the staff, they will be managed by the Director of IT, they will be physically located in Probation and they'll be doing the same work, ensuring that the same programs are working on a day-to-day basis. In addition, they will still have to come to the Steering Committee, which is represented by both the Executive and the Legislature, for any changes, any increases in the programs and any transfers of responsibilities. So we think that we're doing the same thing better.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

So there will be no demotion (sic) of effort, staffing, funding as it relates to Probation at all; is that correct?

**MR. KOVESDY:**

Not to my knowledge.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Kennedy.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Allen, just to follow-up on that. Like Legislator Romaine and I think many of us here, we're questioning the -- this reallocation of IT personnel. And notwithstanding your representations, both of us having been in County government for more than like a year or two now, we know that Commissioners or the Department Directors ultimately decide what it is, particularly when you're called on to prioritize about functions for any of the personnel. And especially when you look at Probation or when you look at FRES or, for that matter, even when you looked at County Clerk personnel; there's a mission that the on-board individual looks to go ahead and put their resources towards, IT being one very important.

And I can't think of any more important resource for our Probation Officers who are out in the field with these laptops that are constantly programmed to give locations back to home bases. For the life of me, I can't understand why you would want to put those people under the direction of somebody sitting over here in Building 50, it defies logic.

Also, as a matter of fact, you know and I know that if they get moved under the budget, under the Director of Commissioner Quinn, they no longer respond directly to John Desmond. And I never want to see a conflict between Director Desmond and Commissioner Quinn, nor would you for that matter, would you?

**MR. KOVESDY:**

We provided Probation with the laptops, we provided them with a new computer system, we phased out the IBM, we've taken steps to give them more with less over the last two years. We want to

avoid duplication, we found duplication in quite a few efforts and this is one way to provide duplication and to provide the taxpayers with a savings while getting the same amount of service.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Okay. I'll --

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

Is there somebody else waiting?

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

We have many cards to go, I'll yield.

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

Can you put me on the list?

**MR. KOVESDY:**

Thank you.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Wait, wait.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Eddington.

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

Wait, come back.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Allen?

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Not so fast.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

You shouldn't have jumped up, Allen.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

You know, here's my concern, that we're doing more with less, and sometimes I'm saying we're doing less with less. But we're trying to fit a quart and a half in a quart container, and if that's what we're going to do, I want to make sure they're still doing Probation work. Because there's much more to come, there's more ideas around GPS and stuff, and my concern is that once they're under someone else it will be, "Oh, well, when you get a free minute, here's something else I'd like you to work on." And I want the Probation IT people working on that stuff and improving and adding more, not taking on more and that's my concern. And unless I can get a guarantee that that absolutely will not happen, I'm not going to support this.

**MR. KOVESDY:**

I'll bring your message back.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

I'm sure it's there.

*(\*Laughter From Panel\*)*

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

We're all upset about this.

**MR. KOVESDY:**

Okay.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Thank you, Allen. .Wallace Brogue. Wallace?

**MR. BROGUE:**

Good afternoon. I thought they were kidding when I looked at this thing. I figured I was going to press the button and a trap door would open up in the floor and I'd be gone.

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

That's the other button.

**MR. BROGUE:**

Okay, I think I can do this. Good afternoon. My name is Wally Brogue, I'm the Director of the Suffolk County Historical Society in Riverhead. I'm here to speak on behalf of the Suffolk County Historical Society in the 2010 budget.

The County Executive has taken funding for the Historical Society out of, I guess it would be termed the General Fund, and moved it to Fund 192 where revenue from the new Hotel/Motel Tax will be placed. The budget provides for \$240,000 for the Suffolk County Historical Society in 2010. I have to say from the onset, this is far more than we anticipated in the 2010 budget. The County Executive had warned us well in advance during the budget process that we could expect a big cut because of the general economic conditions, so this is very good news. However, I need to tell you that it still falls short of what is needed to maintain current staff and programs.

The society's budget request for 2010 was \$240,000 and that left a \$40,000 deficit in the operations budget which could only be funded by removing money from the endowment, which the endowment can ill afford the loss of the funds in today's economy, or by cutting programs. So why is it that the Historical Society asked for \$240,000 when we knew that wasn't going to be enough? That's a fair question. The reason for that is that we really thought we would be very fortunate to hold on to the \$240,000 based on the information that we received about the budget. So we were quite taken back that we were placed in the Hotel/Motel Tax.

So what am I here to ask for? Since we're talking about a new fund and money that hasn't even been collected yet, I'm not sure what to do about my 2010 budget. I don't know if there will be additional funds that we would be eligible for within 192, I'm not sure that anybody does at this point. It doesn't seem reasonable for me to come here to this meeting of the Legislature and ask you to find money elsewhere in the operating budget for me to close this gap either.

The Legislature has been very good to the Historical Society. I believe that you recognize that the Historical Society is doing good work, spends the funds that you provide in a reasonable way and carefully, and that we do our very best to collect, preserve and interpret the history of Suffolk County which is our focus, and we're very grateful for your continued support and interest.

The Legis -- what I can say is that if the funding level for the Historical Society remains at \$240,000, the days of the museum and the hours that it is open will have to be reduced in 2010. Chances are we'll lose two to four part-time positions and we'll also have to cut programs. On the other hand, if the funding has increased to \$280,000 where it was in 2008, I believe it will be able to avoid the layoffs and maintain all of our current programs and activities. If the funding was increased to 300,000, which we asked for in 2009, we would be able to avoid any reductions and probably avoid taking funds out of our endowment so we can get that small endowment to grow a little bit as the economy improves. We respectfully request that you consider increasing the funding for the Historical Society if the funding is available in 2010.

I've left some literature for you. I don't think I need to go into accomplishments for the last two years at this point during 2007 and 2008 and how we balanced our budget during 2009, it's all there in the package. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to try and answer them now or certainly be available for you in the future.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Mr. Presiding Officer?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Wallace, I just want to -- and I'll recognize Legislator Romaine in a minute, but I just want you to understand something. There is no other money in any other part of the budget. The reason that we voted for the Hotel/Motel Tax was to keep our historic structures, our museums alive; without that, in this budget there's no money, there's absolutely no money. So as far as -- you know, we'll do the best we can with your request under that fund, but I wouldn't hold out much hope for us finding money anywhere else.

**MR. BROGUE:**

That's certainly all I could ask for. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Romaine has a question.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes. Do you have an approximate idea of how long the Suffolk County Historical Society has been in the General Fund budget?

**MR. BROGUE:**

Since 1969, I believe.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

So for the last 30 years?

**MR. BROGUE:**

Yeah.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

This --

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Forty.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Forty years, thank you. Someone was reminding me that I need more coffee. So it's been in the budget, in the General Fund budget for 40 years. What is being proposed in this budget seems to be a sharp departure because all of a sudden you're out of the budget, you're not in the budget, you're now in a revenue account. If that revenue account, Hotel/Motel Tax, doesn't take in enough money, even the cut from 280 to 240 that you're getting this year, the \$40,000 cut that you're getting which is -- you know, percentage-wise, one-seventh of your budget is being cut -- even that cut may even be deeper if that revenue isn't there. That's the problem. Instead of having at least a predictable number, you may think if we adopt this budget unchanged, unfortunately for you, may say, "Well, 240,000, it's a \$40,000 cut. We'll have to live with it," but if the Hotel/Motel Tax comes in at a different rate, you could be cut much deeper. For the first time in 40 years, you will no longer be in the General Fund. You will be attached to a revenue source, and I guarantee you when that revenue source, if it grows in the future, your percentage probably won't grow, and that's the problem with being attached to a revenue source. Thank you for coming.

**MR. BROGUE:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Montano.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yeah. Gail?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yes?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Could you just refresh my recollection? How much did -- when we passed the Hotel/Motel Tax increase, how much did we anticipate receiving for next year in that -- as a result of that increase; what was the total amount, do you have that available?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

It's roughly 5.2 million in additional revenue.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Additional over last year or a total under the tax?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Total would have been closer to 7.2.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

I'm sorry. Say that again?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

A total revenue would be about 7.2, additional was going from two point something million to the 7.2, so an additional five million new revenue.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

All right, and that was based on simply quadrupling the amount that we received, or how is that --

**MS. VIZZINI:**

The rate went from point seven five to 3%.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Right. So what we anticipate receiving is the same amount of money just at a higher tax rate. We made no adjustments for any changes in, you know, occupancy or anything like that; am I correct?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

You'll see when you receive the Budget Review Office report that the revenue projected by the County Executive is somewhat different from what the Budget Review Office is projecting; we are projecting slightly less revenue.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Less revenue. And how much under the new provision, when we passed the tax certain monies were earmarked for certain programs, I believe the Vanderbilt and the Walt Whitman Historical Society or some other --

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Correct, and percentages were to go to cultural affairs, to museums; they're in categories by

percentages.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Okay. So this program, what category does it fit into?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Under museums, I believe. And Wally's correct, there is \$240,000 for his agency.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Right. But what I'm trying to get at is that if I remember correctly, when we earmarked -- when we passed the tax, there were certain earmarked items.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

No, he's not -- the Suffolk County --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Is he in the general component or is he in an earmarked component is what I'm asking?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

When you say earmarked, I'm taking that to mean a specific entity like the Vanderbilt or Walt Whitman .

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Or one of the general categories, 10% shall go here, 10% shall go here. I don't have the bill in front of me and I haven't read it.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Yeah. He was not -- the Historical Society was not earmarked by name.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

By name, I understand that.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

But in my opinion, a Historical Society such as his is eligible for one of the component pieces of funding.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

So 10% of 7.2 million would be a total amount of 700,000 in that category where he -- his group would fit into it to the amount of 240,000; is that how this worked out?

**MS. VIZZINI:**

I think there was an effort to provide some relief to the General Fund, so since we have a long funding history with this entity, I think that benefitted them. There is some lump sum money that is not specifically allocated, that's usually allocated either during the budget adoption process or by resolution later in the year where other entities can be specifically identified.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Okay. All right, thank you. Thank you, sir.

**MR. BROGUE:**

I'm going to step back, then. Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak today.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Wally. Gerry Walsh?

**MS. WALSH:**

Good afternoon. My name is Gerry Walsh and I'm the Chairperson of the South Brookhaven Health Centers Advisory Board.

What brings me here today is I'm very concerned about the County Executive's recommendation that mammograms be done at specific centers -- Brentwood, Coram and Riverhead -- in lieu of the Mobile Mammography Unit currently in place. I believe that this will negatively impact women's health. As it is, transportation is a huge issue for our patients. Very often they have no easy means to get to the centers, whether it be because they have no car, one family car that's in use during the day, or a large portion of our patients are elderly people who feel quite comfortable traveling and driving in the local areas but not far away. Patients walk, they take taxis and they use the bus system which, at the very best, is very time consuming. If we insist that patients go on to designated centers that are far away, the actuality of it is that many women will not go at all.

The health van mammographies at the South Brookhaven Centers alone year-to-date are up 22% from last year. Approximately 60% of our patients are women; of that, 50% are age appropriate to receive annual mammograms. So we're talking about 6,000 lives, 6,000 women's lives that could be negatively affected by this recommendation, and that's just the South Brookhaven Centers, that's Shirley and Patchogue alone.

For you and me, perhaps it's a simple thing -- we call a doctor, get in our cars, we go to our appointments -- but for so many Long Islanders it's far more difficult. My fear is that women who often take care of others and do not take such good care of themselves will totally forgo a mammogram. The proposed budget of the South Brookhaven Health Centers has been cut approximately \$800,000, and while I don't know the exact figures, I'm sure some of it is going to come out by retiring this health van. In the end, I believe that this is a false savings, because if we have undiagnosed breast cancer, the potential cost, not only to the lives at jeopardy but to the public health care system, will be very costly. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you. Legislator Romaine.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yeah, I think about 700,000 or 800,000 is for the mammography van. The mammography van essentially doesn't charge people who are on Medicaid and/or Medicaid; is that correct?

**MS. WALSH:**

I do not know the answer to that, I honestly don't know.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Gail, do you want to --

**MS. WALSH:**

The whole -- the health center system has a sliding scale for all patients.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Right.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

I think that we --

**MS. WALSH:**

But I believe that you are correct.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

-- bill Medicare and Medicaid for that.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Medicaid, we bill Medicare and Medicaid.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

So this would effect people that were essentially poor or elderly, all of whom or most of whom have transportation problems in Suffolk County, where at least if these mammography vans go to local shopping centers, as I understand, or libraries or wherever they park their van for a day, and usually local Legislators will advertise you're going to be here, you're going to bet here, you're going to be wherever, or there's an ad in the paper or something like that, then people could avail themselves of that.

There is a proposal to -- despite the monies that we've spent on rehabbing the Riverhead Center for the digital mammography, to remove it and transfer it to Brentwood and then try to contract with local hospitals. But although that's in the budget, none of the local hospitals have signed on to that agreement yet, I believe it's still being negotiated. So that poses a threat also for people living further east or in your east end of your catchment area.

Obviously this is an issue that we have to grapple with, this is a budgetary issue but it's also a health issue. And there's a feeling that digital may be superior to analog, which is what the digital mammography van has right now. But I thank you for raising that question. To answer your question, about 700,000 of the 800,000 is the van that South Brookhaven Health Centers have been cut. Thank you.

**MS. WALSH:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

So you answered her question.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Oh, okay. Legislator Beedenbender.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Ma'am, if I could just ask you a question. You said you were on the Advisory Board for the South Brookhaven Health Center.

**MS. WALSH:**

Yes.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Okay. We have been talking about this issue a lot, and I really appreciate that you came here and spoke about it. You don't -- do you need a prescription to get a mammogram on this bus? It was my understanding that you do, that a woman couldn't just see it in the parking lot and go and get a mammogram, they would need to be either referred or have a prescription; is that correct?

**MS. WALSH:**

Now, don't I wish I had the answer to that --

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Okay.

**MS. WALSH:**

-- but I don't. I believe in general that is true.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Right. Well, I'm trying to keep this in the form of a question and not debate. Do you -- it seems to me, at least the evidence that's been presented to me, and I will obviously say that, you know, I have no direct experience with this, but it seems as though with more accurate equipment in the health center that can give a more detailed and more accurate analysis of what a woman may be facing, that it may -- do you think that it may be more responsible of the County to have a woman come to a health center where we have a digital mammography unit that is more accurate and more detailed and can give a more confirmed result to the woman getting tested?

**MS. WALSH:**

Not if the transportation issue is such that they will forego having one at all. While there are advantages to the digital and I understand that, but at least we need to have some kind of transportation system in place for the mammograms, because if someone doesn't get one at all, the risk is obviously great.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

I agree. But the one thing -- the reason I asked about the prescription is because I only learned this recently, I was under the impression that, you know, like the senior citizen van, the mammogram van, if it was in a parking lot a woman could say, "Ah, I could stop and do that," but since that's not the case, it would seem to me that there would be a transportation issue to get to the bus. So if somebody also has to -- already has to, you know, overcome a transportation issue to get to the mobile unit, wouldn't we rather they use that transportation issue to get to the center? And I guess I'll ask you a simpler question. If we could provide funding or some mechanism for the transportation to get women to a screening, wouldn't you prefer that we have them screened at the health center? If we could deal with the transportation issue, wouldn't it be preferable to have them at the center rather than the van?

**MS. WALSH:**

Yes, I would agree.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Okay.

**MS. WALSH:**

But as we said, it's a lot easier -- transportation is a problem, even to the local centers.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Right.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Speak into the mike.

**MS. WALSH:**

But it's not half as --

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Get closer to the microphone, ma'am?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Speak into the mike.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Just get closer to the microphone.

**MS. WALSH:**

But the fact is it's a lot easier, if you live in Shirley, to get to the Shirley Center than to get all the way out to Riverhead or to go to Brentwood. In each of these cases, the travel is at least 20 minutes further. So yes, it would be nice if we could get them and if we could put something in place it would be preferable.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Well, just so you know, the very preliminary discussions we've been having are along that very line, that we want women to avail themselves of a test and we don't want to discourage anybody, but we'd really like to be able to give them the more sophisticated test and we've been discussing ways to maybe address the transportation as well.

**MS. WALSH:**

Well, what about then the overloading of the centers; will they be able to handle the greater numbers?

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

We've been told so far that yes, they can, but that's something we're still analyzing. So, you know, I appreciate you coming because we've been talking about this in great detail and we're going to talk about it some more.

**MS. WALSH:**

Thank you. Anybody else?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Mrs. Walsh, just along the lines we've been -- the Health Department has represented to us that besides the health centers, that they've contracted with a multitude of hospitals to provide this service for the County as well. So it isn't just at the one health center in Riverhead, it would be at a number of different facilities.

**MS. WALSH:**

Well, I thought that Legislator Romaine said we don't have any hospitals who signed up yet.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

With the three east end hospitals that would substitute for the digital mammography in Riverhead. I don't have a problem with that, but the last I heard the agreement hadn't been inked as of yet. So we don't have an agreement. I'm going to monitor that carefully because clearly we want to make sure that there's that availability for people that live east of William Floyd Parkway in Suffolk County.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Legislator Alden, did you want to ask a question?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

No, I just wanted to congratulate her for her courage for coming up. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much, Mrs. Walsh. I really appreciate it.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Thanks for your service.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Matt Miner, do you want to add anything to the discussion?

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

I just wanted to follow-up on Legislator Beedenbender's question regarding referrals. They are required, New York State does require a licensed physician or practitioner to provide a referral. That is not the national standard but in New York State it is required, so anybody going to the van is required to have a referral.

Also, just a couple of other items on the van itself. Last year there were fifteen hundred, approximately fifteen hundred mammographies performed on the van, all but a hundred were health center patients, so fourteen hundred were health center patients. The majority of those visits were done at the health centers themselves, not in the parking lots of shopping centers and elsewhere. The majority, again, are done at the health centers.

We have, as Legislator Romaine discussed, had several discussions with the east end hospitals should the County go forward and relocate the Riverhead mammogram which is vastly under utilized right now, we would have agreements in place prior to any relocation. We have also discussed with Brookhaven Hospital and expect to have executed an agreement by the end of this year to provide mammography services at their Women's Health Imaging Center. Also, Good Samaritan right now, under the Women's Health Partnership, takes mammographies from MLK. So there are hospital partners throughout the County that are interested, they all have digital machines to assist us.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Alden does have a question now.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Matt, is a Nurse Practitioner authorized under New York State Law to write the prescription for a mammogram?

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

I believe that's the case, yes.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Okay.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Viloría-Fisher.

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

Hi, Mr. Miner. Thanks for being here. I have a question about your numbers and the numbers that Mrs. Walsh gave us. I'm a little confused. I thought, and I may have misheard, I thought that she said that in Southern Brookhaven alone and Shirley and Patchogue, that 6,000 women had taken advantage of the van?

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

I'm not sure where she --

**MS. WALSH:**

No, excuse me. Let me clarify that. There are 6,000 women who are of age to receive annual mammograms.

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

Oh, you're talking possible women, I see.

**MS. WALSH:**

Yes, yes. I didn't mean to imply that they are the ones who actually used it.

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

Okay. Because I think another Legislator also had a question about that. Okay, but Mr. Miner, you're saying that how many women in southern --

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Use your mike.

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

Pardon?

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

The button wasn't on, wasn't pushed.

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

Oh, I think I was facing the wrong way. Fifteen hundred women in what area used the vans, Matt?

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

County wide in 2008, there were approximately fifteen hundred women. It is up this year slightly, I believe about 18% but, again, it is County wide. But when you take a look at the cost per mammogram through the van, it's much more cost effective either to provide transportation, as Legislator Beedenbender suggested, or to direct those women to the local health center or hospital to provide care.

In 2008, it cost over \$350 per mammogram on the van, that is not a cost-effective way to provide -- and it's an analog system, too. So we're not providing the digital mammography and we're doing it at \$350 cost. So what we're suggesting is there's a better way to do that by partnering with our local hospitals and by utilizing the under utilized digital mammographies that we have in both Coram and Riverhead.

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

Just to follow up on that rather quickly, Mr. Chairman. We do know the accuracy of the analog equipment is not as good as the digital equipment. So what kind of cost impact does that have if someone, let's say, goes to the mammography van and gets either a false positive or there's a failure to see the -- you know, that there is a mass there. Has there been any analysis of the effect of those false readings?

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

I would really like to defer to the Commissioner or one of our medical directors on that, I'm not a medical person. My understanding, the big issue with the digital is just the time it takes to do that reading. It's not instantaneous, it takes several weeks for the individual to get her results back. Under the digital process, it can be communicated instantaneously so that if follow-up testing or other services need to be provided they can be done there. And that's the advantage of going to one of the women's imaging centers with the hospitals, they have the radiologist, everybody is on-site, and that's why we have tried to partner, are pursuing partnerships with the hospitals.

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

Thanks, Matt.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Barraga.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Mr. Miner, did I understand you correctly that you were indicating that of the fifteen hundred mammographies done with the van, fourteen hundred were done at the various centers?

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

Fourteen hundred were health center patients. The majority of those health center patients had the mammography done at the health centers themselves; I don't have that exact number, though.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Okay. Budget, refresh my memory. I remember a debate with reference to mammography units, the digital units, and if I recall correctly, there was an in-depth discussion from an economic perspective as to whether or not we could afford to do this because they were going to be bonded. But I thought that the digital units for Shirley and Brentwood at that time were approved, but Shirley doesn't have a mammography unit now. Did the Bond Issue for that ever go through, authorizing the purchase of a digital unit for Shirley? I'm led to believe it was never approved, the Bond Issue.

**MS. VIZZINI:**

Do you know?

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

Sir, I believe it was approved, but we -- we were able to show, and we met with Legislator Browning, that rather than invest that money and have it under utilized like Coram and Riverhead are, by partnering with Brookhaven Hospital it was a much more cost effective approach.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

So the purchase was never made, you never purchased the digital unit because you felt it was an alternative approach to -- okay.

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

Yes. And with respect to Brentwood, because we were going to the Regional Health Center, we delayed the purchase. And as what Legislator Romaine had indicated, we are looking at the utilization at Riverhead right now and, again, it may be more cost effective, especially if we have agreements in place with the east end hospitals, to relocate that unit into Brentwood just because the volume is so much more.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

But the Bond Issue, again, was approved for the Brentwood digital.

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

That is my understanding, sir.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

So in both cases we debated for about an hour-and-a-half that issue and the Bond Issues were approved but a different rationale was adopted for each location. So bottom line, neither location got a digital unit, but you had an alternative plan.

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

Brentwood hasn't moved forward yet, only because the Regional Center hasn't -- it was going -- rather than paying and then have it relocated another year from now, that's the whole -- it was just delayed at Brentwood.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

All right. Because I was under the impression at the time, if my memory serves me right, that we were going to move -- I don't remember a lot of the discussion with reference to a delay at Brentwood, my impression was at the time we were going to approve these things, the Bond Issue was going to go forward, there was an economic consideration and then -- but I don't recall that this alternate strategy was developed where we would hold off on Brentwood and not pursue Shirley.

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

Again, Brentwood, I think because the Regional Center moved a little slower, the RFP, we didn't get responses back, I think it would have been with the Regional Center, that it just dragged out a little longer. And then Shirley, once we saw the utilization at both Coram and Riverhead -- and again, I think at the time the bond authorization was approved, the County hadn't had a lot of experience with utilization. When we started looking at that, Margaret Bermel and myself, we found that the utilization wasn't there. We met with Patient Care, we met with the health centers, we met with the hospitals to try to come up with a more cost effective manner to provide the same service or better service and using the tax money a little better.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Okay. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Browning, I'm sorry.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Yeah, to follow-up on Legislator Barraga's. You know, when we talked about not having the digital at Shirley, we still had the van, now we have neither, or that's the intent is to have neither.

But one of my concerns is, you know, I've tried to do some research on this and that there is -- rather than have a digital for the van, there's a computerized-type that could be put in a van and I believe it costs about 130,000; am I correct? Are you familiar with that?

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

I know you sent me some stuff late last week. One of the problems and concerns we would have is the van has over 110,000 miles on it, I believe, it is over -- it was purchased in 1996. So if the County was going to pursue that option, one, we'd have to confirm that that imaging is reliable; and two, the County would have to project or have to plan for the purchase of a new van. Again, at the current cost versus -- when you look at the volume that we're doing, it does not appear to be a cost effective method. It may be better, like Legislator Browning or Beedenbender had suggested, providing some type of transportation for those -- or system for those people that have difficulties getting themselves either to the health center or to the hospital.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

And as far as a contract is concerned, because, you know, we have to pass this budget November 4th, we don't know if we're going to have a contract before November 4th; correct, yes or not?

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

Well, the budget won't go into effect until January. We have an agreement with Brookhaven, it's -- I don't think it's been fully executed yet, but the agreement is done. And with respect to the east end, again, we would not relocate the Riverhead machine until we had all four locations -- Riverhead, Greenport, Southampton and East Hampton -- signed and sealed.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Okay. It's just my concern is we didn't do the digital at Shirley, you know, we want to get rid of the van now so we have neither; transportation is an issue. I know that the van is very much used in my district and I do have concerns about the transportation issue, getting people to Brookhaven Hospital.

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MINER:**

Again, I think there's probably a more cost effective way to provide transportation for those patients. The mammography itself does not cost anywhere near \$350 if we were to go to the hospital or go to the health center, so we could use some of that savings to pay for the transportation.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay, Legislator Kennedy.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

We just had the mobile van up in Nesconset, as you know, a couple of weeks ago, Matt. I think it makes sense for the Health Department to take a look at utilizing it. Clearly, we have to have an alternative because we had four women who came, none of whom could be given a mammography. Now, we had a whole variety of different instances. Script, they didn't have script; in one case we had one woman who was uninsured and there was a disconnect, actually, between the staff on the van. And what I was subsequently told when I spoke with the van folks, apparently they were looking -- and as a matter of fact, the one van person had a whole list of insurers that they were screening women for, but then they told me when I had a conversation with them that they could administer a mammogram if there was script but the woman wasn't insured.

So I'm concerned from a whole variety of different perspectives. I don't know in my case if hospital-based mammography is going to be the best remedy, particularly when we're talking about, you know, the southern part of Smithtown where we have to go all the way over to St. Catherine's or over to Stony Brook or down to Brentwood. In any case, we're talking about women having to travel in somewhat remote fashions. If they don't have transportation, having to explore that transportation voucher function, I don't know that we've gotten to the point that we have a viable, alternative system. But even our existing system I think still needs to be addressed, and part of it goes to what Legislator Cameron Alden spoke about before with an NP being able to issue script. My next question is I wonder why we don't have a Nurse Practitioner on the van in the event that we have a woman that comes.

All I'll say to you is I think we have to look at it. I don't know that we're ready to abandon it yet, because I still think it has a lot of need, but it needs to be addressed as far as the function goes right now.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Was that a question, Legislator Kennedy?

*(\*Laughter From Panel\*)*

**LEG. ALDEN:**

It doesn't have to be, we're debating the budget.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Wouldn't you agree?

*(\*Laughter From Panel\*)*

**LEG. ALDEN:**

He didn't come up to testify.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Mr. Miner, I suggest you sit down before you get another confusing question. Phyllis Potts.

**MS. POTTS:**

I'm also representing the --

**LEG. COOPER:**

You have to hold the button.

**MS. POTTS:**

Okay. I don't see well. The South Brookhaven Health Centers. I've been on the Advisory Board for

quite a few years and a patient there for a long time, and I would like to emphasize that cutting budget there, particularly at this time, is not advisable. The patient load has increased in the last year with so many people losing their jobs and health insurance and our community is having more residents, and that alone, you know, makes it difficult. I know they're always trying to fill new positions because I attend almost all the meetings of the board, and if people are not able to be treated there, they're often going to the emergency room which, of course, is going to increase the cost in the long run. And someone brought up at one of the meetings that as far as the children go, if any of the children come down with something like the flu or the new flu that they're talking about and it's not caught early, there'll be mingling with your children in school. So I hate to see any of the budgets cut for the centers because I know that the administrators have been so efficient. You can see the savings that they have made and it's such a necessary facility, particularly in my area. Thank you very much.

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

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Tony Dean.

**MS. DEAN:**

Okay, there is the button. Hi. My name is Tony Dean and I bid you good afternoon. I've come to request that the budgets be partially restored to two very important departments of the Cornell Cooperative Extension. The Family Health and Wellness Program and the 4-H Youth Development Program. I've personally witnessed the value of both programs.

As the children's librarian at the Patchogue Medford library for 25 years where I arranged parent education programs for the community, Cornell was the main provider of research-based and reliable information on child development, discipline, health and nutrition. Programs were always well represented and highly regarded by parents who seek help with one of life's most important responsibilities, parenting. The "Discipline is not a Dirty Word" class has helped countless parents through the challenging years of child-rearing.

I also represent the Librarians Alliance for Parents and Children, LAPC, which is a coalition formed for librarians who conduct parent-child workshops in Suffolk County Public Libraries. Our membership represents 37 libraries that in turn provide programs, services, materials and information to thousands of Suffolk County families and throughout the whole County. These libraries rely heavily on the educational programs that are provided by Cornell's Family Health and Wellness and 4-H Development Programs. Librarians have been deeply concerned that these valuable resources may no longer be available.

There is no other resource like Cornell Cooperative Extension. As a community member of the 4-H Program Advisory Committee and a former 4-H member, I'm requesting that budget monies be restored to the 4-H Youth Development Program. Young people who are involved in meaningful programs and activities such as these provided through 4-H are more likely to become involved as community leaders. The skills learned through the guidance of volunteer club leaders, the sense of belonging to a group and opportunities to showcase their accomplishments provide the type of education and recreation that builds confidence. Through Cornell University 4-H Leadership, excellent, professionally-prepared curricula with high educational standards are provided for leaders. Many of the skills learned through 4-H are not taught in the schools but are life skills and domestic

skills such as gardening, environmental projects, domestic arts and caring for animals. Smaller group clubs are formed within communities; the cost is minimal and the benefits great.

Funding for the coordination of the 4-H clubs is small compared with the benefits of keeping our young people involved in such valuable programs which help develop leadership skills. The 4-H Youth Development Program also partners with school districts, assisting in programming for the high-risk youth and brings life-skills programs to libraries. The Suffolk County Farm and Educational Center is a Treasurer for the people of our County and it should be well maintained and the programs developed.

Agricultural is a part of our heritage. The educational programs provided at the farm are a wonderful opportunity for our suburban children to connect with nature. Programs provided there are exemplary, and I'm attaching a current fall program schedule for your benefit. Take a walk through The Children's Garden, pet the newborn lambs and watch the turkey strut. Watch the delighted families who take wagon rides and enjoy the opportunity to observe a real working farm and learn about agriculture. Children's books are filled with stories of farms. Some of the first sounds that children learn are animal sounds such as, "The cow says moo," and that's really a very valid beginning to speech development. It's documented that today's children really need a greater connection with the environment, with the natural world and Cornell's Educational problem -- problems; it is a problem if we don't have the budget. The educational programs provide that opportunity for families.

Now, I would also like to speak for Long Island Head Start where I have been involved for a number of years and currently on the Board of Directors. The Nutrition Education Programs provided by the Family Health and Wellness Program have been greatly valued by the Head Start Centers in Suffolk County. Families have learned more about diet, food choices, health and food safety. Nutrition educators have attended health fairs --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Ms. Dean, you're out of time.

**MS. DEAN:**

Oh, no.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

You've talked for more than five minutes, you're out of time.

**MS. DEAN:**

Okay. All right. I have left you a copy of what I have to say, and I was nearly done. But my request is that you please seriously consider restoring as much as you can to the budget for Cornell Cooperative Extension's Programs. Thank you very much for listening.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

You're welcome, Ms. Dean. Barbara Esposito.

*(The following was taken by Lucia Braaten, Courten Reporter and transcribed by Kim Castiglione, Legislative Secretary)*

**MS. ESPOSITO:**

Good afternoon. My name is Barbara Esposito. I'm the President of the Women in Law Enforcement, an organization of female Probation Officers. I'm also a Supervisor and Probation Officer at the Suffolk County Probation Department. I'm here today to talk about the proposed budget changes that could affect our Automation Unit. During the course of the year, over 16,000 criminal cases are supervised by the Probation Department. While many of the cases are low level offenders, a large number of them are violent, high risk individuals who are under probation supervision. Protection of the community must be our priority for all of the cases regardless of the

nature of the crime.

As we have lost manpower and we expect to lose more during 2010, it seems more crucial than ever that our utilization of automation systems is at its full potential. Over the past decade we've come to depend more on these systems to keep us in touch with other agencies and to take on some of the functions that the officers had to use man-hours to go out and investigate. For example, we now get alerts when a person has been rearrested if the person is on probation. We can check their -- the histories through Federal, State agencies and we can collect data that in the past was not available to us.

The technology that we use is also key. It allows for remote supervision in some cases for high risk offenders such as sex offenders, violent felons, drug abusers, repeat DWI's. We can monitor whereabouts through GPS, test for alcohol remotely, and can also keep people on home confinement rather than have them serve time in the County facility.

Our Automation Unit has a clear understanding of the role that technology must play in trying to maintain the safety of the community and for our officers, while at the same time being utilized to guide offenders toward a more productive life. Our Automation Unit also helps us utilize the workers that we have in the best way possible by giving us access to the information of where we -- where we have shortages and where we can best place our staff. These workers also train our staff in the use of the computer systems and are there for us when the systems go down or are malfunctioning in any way and are there, are responsive to our needs as we need them to be.

As a law enforcement agency serving a large population such as we have in Suffolk County, it is essential that our Automation Unit be dedicated to our department alone so that they can keep us at pace with the changing times and help find other ways to free up our staff to serve the needs of the community, while not taking away from their man-hours doing the tasks that are -- that a sophisticated automation system can help us do more easily. For these reasons, we feel it's important that the Automation staff remain within the Probation Department. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much, Ms. Esposito. Gail D'Ambrosio.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Good afternoon. My name is Gail D'Ambrosio and I'm the President of the Suffolk County Probation Officers Association and a Senior Probation Officer for the Suffolk County Probation Department. I'd like to address the Legislature today regarding two items in the 2010 Executive Budget recommendations for Probation. The first item is to transfer the five technology positions in the Probation Department to the County Department of Information Technology. There are many reasons why this would not be in the best interest of the Probation Department as a whole, but my concern is the impact this transfer will have on the safety of our Probation Officers and the increased cost to the County.

The Probation Department's Automation Unit has been in existence for over 25 years. To date, 279 Probation Officers, as peace officers, have department issued laptop or desk computers. To help ensure Probation Officers' safety in the office and especially in the field, Probation Officers need to have immediate access to critical information about their probationers. For example, gang affiliation, prior violent behavior or criminal activity, weapons possession, warrant status, and so on. There are times when there's an unforeseen and immediate need for updated real time information. If there are any delays in obtaining the information or in correcting system malfunctions, both the Probation Officer and the community are at risk.

Unfortunately, most people do not know what Probation Officers do or the influence it has on public safety. The personnel in the Probation Department's Automation Unit are criminal justice specialists who have firsthand probation experience. It is not just about hardware and software. We also use technology for offender control. We use GPS, SCRAM, Geogrid, etcetera. This unit also exercises

judgment in dealing with the use of sensitive information. County Information Technology personnel are just not criminal justice experts. I believe this is why all other law enforcement agencies have their own Automation Units.

Currently our Automation personnel also respond to the direction of someone who works for and understands Probation Officers' specific needs.

This transfer also doesn't make financial sense to me. The Probation Department receives reimbursement from the New York State Department of Probation and Correctional Alternatives for the services that our Automation Unit provides. Further, our Automation Unit has received grants to test emerging technology and evaluate how it applies to criminal justice. If transferred to another County department, it may jeopardize or eliminate this reimbursement. By having Probation Departmental experts on staff, consultant costs are also saved. Why change something that's worked well for all these years, especially when in the long run it might not even save the County money.

The second budget item of concern is the abolishment of three Senior Probation Officer positions. We're still not adequately staffed. Crime is not going down and neither is the amount of people that are being placed on probation. We currently have 16,000 cases. We continue to lose staff due to retirements, and anticipate an even larger amount of retirements in 2010. We need as many Probation Officers as we can get. We're asking that these positions not be abolished. Thank you.

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

Thank you.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Question.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Quick question.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislative Eddington and then Romaine.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Yes. Why do you think that the County Executive targeted your group, the Probation Department, to move or transfer?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

I don't know. There were five of us that were targeted.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Is yours the smallest group do you think or I mean --

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

You mean as far as law enforcement? No, we're comparable to the Sheriffs, I believe. As far as the union? As far as, you know, overall department, I don't know.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Okay. I'm just trying to find some rationale, that's all. I thought maybe you might have something.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

No.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Okay.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Legislator Romaine.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**  
Yes, very quickly. My understanding is that when people go on probation, it's far more cost effective than incarceration.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**  
That's correct.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**  
By multiples of at least ten, maybe 20, if not more. If we don't have enough Probation Officers, what would that mean in terms of the criminal justice system providing for adequate coverage? I mean, my concern is that we're putting a lot of people on probation and we don't have enough Probation Officers to check on their whereabouts. Some of these people are sex offenders. Some of them at one time or another might have made a mistake and committed a violent crime and then we're releasing them from prison and they're on parole, they're on probation, and Probation Officers are supposed to be watching out for the community. What is the average caseload for a Probation Officer in the State of New York? Do you know?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**  
Well, in Suffolk County the average level two caseload is 87.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**  
And what is it elsewhere?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**  
I don't know. Sorry. I can find out.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**  
Is that a high or low number?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**  
To us it's very high. I mean, that's the level two. I mean, level three is a lesser amount of supervision and they're much, much higher and the intensive supervision units are lower. But 87 for anybody to monitor is a lot of people. In relation to --

**LEG. ROMAINE:**  
How effective can Correction Officers be as their caseload increases --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Probation.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**  
-- because you've indicated that you're experiencing a number of retirements and that isn't dealt with, I guess, in the budget that the County Executive presented. Correct me if I'm wrong.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**  
I'm sorry. Say that again?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**  
The number of Probation Officers are not growing in the County Executive's budget. They're declining.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Right.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

And yet your population is growing. Is that correct?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Yes.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

And you anticipate further growth in 2010?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

As far as people go on Probation?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Yes. I always think when it saves the County money to put people on probation, I always anticipate the numbers to grow.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Right. So your caseload in all likelihood in 2010, if no action is taken, would grow.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

I would think so, yes.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

And your effectiveness in supervising people on probation may decline with greater caseloads?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

I'd like to think that we do the best job we can no matter how high are caseloads are, but yes. The more sometimes things do -- you can't possibly supervise a person to the maximum when you have ridiculous numbers.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Thank you. I've been in government a long time. The first thing that someone told me is the first obligation of any government is public safety. Thank you very much.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Gail, if you would just wait. Legislator Kennedy has a question.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I'll try and keep it brief. We spoke already about the IT issues, so I'm not going to go back to that again. But three Supervising or Senior Probation Officer positions are being abolished?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Yes. According to the budget recommendations, yes.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Those are currently vacant positions or those are filled?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

They are currently vacant positions.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Okay. Are you familiar with the Rockefeller Drug Laws?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Somewhat.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Okay. And you know that they've been repealed and that repeal is going to begin, I guess, starting at the end of this month I believe it is.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Okay. Is that a question? I don't know. I'm sorry.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

End of October, the beginning of November. My understanding is we have anywhere from seven to 800 individuals that are incarcerated Upstate that are coming back down to Suffolk County in the span of the next year.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Okay. I've heard that. I'm not sure of an exact figure.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Okay.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

I know that we do have a new unit where two Probation Officers are being assigned to, Senior Probation Officers, to that County Court Drug Court to handle some of that.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Judge Gazzillo's part, right? The County Court part?

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

I believe so. I'm not sure.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Okay. So in any event, as to what Legislator Romaine spoke about with you, that you anticipate your load growing, you not only anticipate it, you know it for a fact that there are significant individuals who are making application and going to be released and released on some kind of parole.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Probation.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Probation, I'm sorry. Probation.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Yes.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Okay. Good. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Gail.

**MS. D'AMBROSIO:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Allen wants to jump in the middle. Go ahead, Allen.

**MR. KOVESDY:**

I just wanted to correct the record. The positions that are abolished in Probation are all unfunded. There's one Senior Clerk Typist, one Principal Account Clerk, and one Senior Probation Officer. They're not three Probation Officers. That's from the budget.

Number two, there's no change in reimbursement. The IT Department has a very sophisticated system to track reimbursement. As a matter of fact, we expect to get better reimbursement. We've redone it, the reimbursement system, this year. And third, we have checked and the Commissioner Quinn will be here for your hearings next week, and I'll be more than happy to answer any questions you had, Mr. Eddington. He will be here at the budget hearings next week to address any questions you have about the transfer. I made a phone call to make sure that happens. Thank you for your time.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Diane Cahill.

**MS. CAHILL:**

Good afternoon. My name is Diane Cahill. I'm the New York State Advocacy Chair for Autism Speaks and I'm here today representing thousands of individuals with autism and their families who reside in Suffolk County. Autism Speaks is the largest national advocacy organization in the world. We are dedicated to increasing the awareness of autism spectrum disorders, funding research, and advocating for the needs of those affected and their families.

Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that currently lasts throughout a person's lifespan. It is the fastest growing developmental disability in the world. Last week numbers were reported by the CDC and published in pediatrics wherein autism affects one in every 91 children, making it more common than pediatric cancer, diabetes and AIDS combined. It occurs in all racial, ethnic and social groups, and is four times more likely to strike in boys than girls. At least 80 children are diagnosed each day. A new case is diagnosed within every 15 minutes, and there is no medical detection or cure.

While the rate of prevalence increases each day, the rate of public funding for programs and support does not. Some examples are pediatric AIDS affects one in 8,000 and receives \$394 million worth of funding per year. Juvenile diabetes, one in 500; \$130 million of funding. Autism affects one in 91 and received \$15 million in funding this year.

Children on the Autism spectrum demonstrate deficits in social interaction and communication and show repetitive behaviors or interest. Symptoms range from mild to severe, and vary with each child. In New York State and elsewhere, families of children with Autism have sought out treatments. No one treatment is perfect for every child, but speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and ABA have produced positive gains. In addition, early intervention is critical to gain maximum benefit from existing therapies.

With good healthcare children with Autism can make remarkable strides. Autism Speaks is working on a state by state initiative to mandate insurance companies to cover diagnosis and treatments of Autism, and we currently have passed insurance mandates in 15 states, most recently Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire. We are actively pursuing insurance reform for Autism in New York State. Any healthcare reform in New York State and the country must end Autism discrimination.

In the case of a child with Autism, doing without care or diluting care could mean the loss of critical opportunities to ameliorate the devastating effects of the condition. Families are forced to cope with delayed, inadequate and fragmented care, and often pay for costly interventions out of pocket or forego them. We believe that the pertinent question and the discussion regarding individuals with Autism is not whether we can afford to provide appropriate interventions, but rather whether we can afford not to.

Of course the cost of healthcare and other services is but one measure of the cost of Autism. Another measure is the emotional cost of the condition, a measure that cannot readily be quantified. Whatever calculus is used, there can be no doubt that savings lie in reducing Autism's tolls. Ending discrimination against our children is not only a wise investment, it will also ensure that every one of our children, including those with Autism, has the best chance to reach his or her full potential.

About a year ago the Nassau County Autism Coalition was formed where agencies and families, educators, physicians, advocates and government came together, and many of us represent all of Long Island, and we made recommendations for change in policy on a Federal, State and local level related to Autism. Two weeks ago we held a conference at Adelphi University where we rolled out the recommendations in the areas of education, research, health and medical, family support and adult services, and I've given everybody a copy.

I'm here today to ask that Suffolk County become part of this coalition and it become an Island-wide endeavor, and that one of the things that we are doing immediately is we are conducting a prevalent study of those children and adults affected with Autism in Nassau County. The County is -- it's costing Nassau County \$10,000 and Adelphi University is coming in and partnering.

We're asking that Suffolk County take an active role in understanding and educating themselves in what needs to be done at the local level to enhance the lives of individuals with Autism. We'd like the County to become involved with the coalition, and we'd like them to conduct a prevalent study of Suffolk County and put \$10,000 aside in the budget as well as find an educational institution in Suffolk County that will partner with them on it. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Cahill. Maureen Fiorello.

**MS. FIORELLO:**

Good afternoon. My name is Maureen Fiorello. I come before you today to request a partial restoration of funding for two important departments of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, the Family Health and Wellness Program and the 4H Youth Development Program.

As the Director of a family -- a parent resource center, I have worked for almost two decades with staff of the Family Health and Wellness Program as they brought researched based information to countless parents through their educational programs. These programs have been provided throughout this entire County. If you think human development and parent education, you cannot help but think Cornell Cooperative Extension. These programs that enhance family life and improve parent child relationships, that alone can provide opportunities for parent child communication that are considered not only prevention, but like that Master Card commercial, priceless.

This program also provides research based information around chronic disease prevention and management and nutrition education. As the Director of a large child care program for over 20 years, I have been fortunate enough to have the Family and Wellness Program provide in-service trainings for approximately 75 of my staff, which then filters down to the close to 1,000 children and their families enrolled in these programs.

In my 20 years in this position I have never worked with individuals as dedicated and hardworking as these professionals. Months after an in-service my staff continued to talk about what they

learned and the resources that were provided and the direct affect on the children and families in their programs. Information and printed materials that is not available elsewhere.

According to the Family Strengthening Policy Center, the Parents Imperative, Investing in Parents So Children and Youth Succeed, Washington D.C., National Human Services Assembly it states, "Few communities have an effective parenting success system. As a result, too many families, especially those with multiple risks, fail to receive support that would enhance their capacity to function." It goes on to say, "The literature and the experience of professionals in the field strongly point to dual generation approaches, those that combine child focus services with investments that build parent and caregivers assets across their multiple roles as having the most impact. Effective parenting success programs also proactively connect higher risk families to community resources."

I am proud to say we have that right here in this County through this agency. For over 90 years, 90 years, Cornell Cooperative Extension has had a strong history partnering with Suffolk County. I know money is tight. Please do not allow that relationship to end. In order to sustain education programs in nutrition education, human development and diabetes education and wellness, the Family Health and Wellness Program must be restored.

And please bear in mind I started this by saying we're requesting partial restoration. There's an old expression that many of you may have heard, that if you give a man a fish he eats for a day; if you teach a man to fish, he eats for a lifetime. Please allow Cornell Cooperative Extension to continue to teach the families in our County. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much, Ms. Fiorelli. Roseann Miceli.

**MS. MICELI:**

Good afternoon. My name is Roseann Miceli. I'm the Executive Director of Reach Community and Youth Agency and I am here today to what else, ask you for help. Excuse my scratchy voice. It will go in and out. I work with youth, I'm on the first of my 20 colds anticipated for this season.

Reach CYA is a community and youth agency dedicated to providing social, recreational, educational and enrichment programs for children, youth and families of the Commack and Half Hollow Hills School districts. Over 4,500 youth participate in our programs. Reach CYA provides youth with safe, supervised programs every day after school, on evenings, weekends and holidays, valuable programs that prevent youth from engaging in activities that are detrimental to their well-being and development.

First I'd like to say thank you for the many years you've been supportive of Reach CYA, except last year we were hit pretty hard and we're hoping it might have been some kind of mistake or oversight that you would be willing to help rectify. Reach CYA relies on funding from the Town of Huntington, New York State OCFS and County funding through Suffolk County contract agency funds. We appear in two lines of the Suffolk County Budget, code ALL1, activity name Half Hollow Hills Youths, and activity code AZB1, Youth Development Association of Commack.

To be as clear and concise as possible, I'll bullet a series of events which led to an unfair reduction of \$26,000 in our Suffolk County 2009 funding and proposed 2010 funding. In September 2008, the 2009 recommended Operating Budget included continued funding of \$26,000 for Reach CYA, but in November of 2008 Reach CYA was alerted by Suffolk County Youth Bureau that 100% of our proposed County funding in code AZB1, Youth Development Association of Commack, was eliminated by the Suffolk County Legislature. We understand that times are tough. We thought we might have to tighten our belts a little, but we were the only single disbursement of the Suffolk County Youth Bureau which was eliminated 100%.

In December, 2008, County Executive Levy informed us that although he funded our agency within his 2009 Recommended Operating Budget, the Suffolk County Legislature, without consultation with

either Reach CYA or his office, and without any explanation, eliminated funding for Reach CYA. Levy recommended Reach CYA ask this Suffolk County Legislature for funding from their Community Support Services Program.

I spoke with several empathic Legislators who surmised that this was some kind of mistake or oversight, perhaps there was some confusion because Reach CYA is listed in the Suffolk County Budget as the Youth Development Association of Commack and many associations were no longer receiving funding. Although Legislators are supporting of Reach CYA's after school programming and gang prevention initiatives, we were warned that due to the tough economic climate a mid-year adjustment that would restore all our funding did not seem likely in 2009. Our supportive, dedicated local Legislator Steven Stern helped restore \$8,000 for Reach YCA's 2009 single disbursement contract, and we also appreciated the Community Support Initiative grants by Legislator Stern and Legislator Cooper, which helped us recoup another \$3,000 in lost funding.

Just a couple of months ago the 2010 proposed budget came out and once again Reach CYA is listed AZB1 code at zero dollars. This time perhaps an oversight by Levy. Our agency cannot afford to absorb this reduction again this year. This \$26,000 budget cut, 10% of our budget, it would cause a reduction in over 1,700 service hours. We have many part-time staffers, direct service hours. We would lose approximately five part-time after school staff members every day the program meets after school. Programs are overflowing with eager participants. We've seen an influx of children with special needs attending our programs. We need the proper amount of money to provide the proper amount of supervision.

Please help us restore this much needed funding. No other organization provides the type of free or low cost in school, after school, evening and summer programming for youth and their families of Commack and Half Hollow Hills that Reach CYA provides. Please restore \$26,000 in code AZB1, Youth Development Association of Commack. Thank you for listening and thank you for all you do.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Ms. Miceli. Dale Moyer.

**MR. MOYER:**

Good afternoon. I am Dale Moyer, currently serving as the Interim Executive Director for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County. I would like to thank you for your support throughout the years. Cornell Cooperative Extension feels privileged to have been a partner with Suffolk County for 92 years. The mission of Cornell Cooperative Extension is unique, as we bring unbiased research based information to County residents and businesses. Individuals and families turn to CCE for help with chronic disease prevention and management, nutrition education, as well as human development and parent education. Through the basic principles of 4H, we have helped young people develop life skills and reach their full potential. We work alongside the County's nearly \$400 million agriculture and marine industries, heritage industries that support a \$4 billion tourist industry. In addition, we support -- we operate, excuse me, the County Farm in Yaphank and the Peconic Dunes Camp, along with managing the solar project.

We have all faced challenges this past year as our County and our nation adjusted to the economic uncertainties. In the 2009 County Budget, our organization was cut nearly one million dollars in funding. The cuts were mainly directed at two program areas, the 4H Youth Development and our Family Health and Wellness Programs. In these two program areas we were totally eliminated from the budget. With the help of determined staff and volunteers and supportive friends, we pulled together and have been able to continue to modify programs of Family and Youth Services. However, we are not confident we can continue these programs if faced with another year of no funding.

In the County Executive's 2010 proposed Operating Budget, no further cuts were suggested, except a previously agreed upon 10% reduction in our Water Quality funding. The proposed funding is consistent with the 2009 levels, therefore, there's no County funding for the Family Health and

Wellness and our 4H Youth and Development Programs.

Our Administrators and Board of Directors have met and discussed our financial issues extensively. We have studied our budgets closely and have determined a minimum of funding that would enable us to keep our family and youth programming in tact for 2010.

I'm here today to respectfully request Legislative help so our family and youth get the information they need to be healthy and vibrant County residents and restore \$270,000 to our 2010 Operating Budget. This funding, which represents a position of our core funding for these programs, would help us to bring in more than 1.2 million in other funding next year. This funding would make it possible to offer other services to the residents of Suffolk County, many of whom are limited resource families and youth. Thank you for your time and your support throughout the year. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Romaine.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes. Just to go over this again. Dale, first of all I want to thank you for showing up at our budget hearing in Riverhead. Secondly, you were the only organization that took a 100% cut in the two programs that you mentioned, and you've come back this year, not asking for them to be restored, but only partially restored. It is my understanding, and I'm still waiting for a response from the Health Department, that they use some of the programs that you run to apply for additional grants by using the programs that you run, and I'm waiting for that information to be forthcoming.

I intend to offer an amendment to the budget if it's not included in the budget, and I can't predict whether it will be in the Legislative proposal. To do so I'll need four Legislators to join me otherwise I can't propose it. I will probably need ten to vote for it, and more likely 12 if there's an Executive veto. So I know that you've reached out to all Legislators, and I know Budget Review isn't here at the time, but I'm sure their staff can hear me in the back on the audio. I will be asking for an amendment to be drafted for that purpose, and I will be seeking cosponsors from the members.

I also know that you were asked to cut your Clean Water Program funded by the 477 by 10% because the Commissioner told you there would be less money available. As you know, I've forwarded you the report of the Budget Review Office. There's actually more money that will be available next year than this year in the 477. So your preemptive 10% request obviously was not based on good numbers, since the 477 Fund continues to grow, not shrink. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you. Thank you, Dale.

**MR. MOYER:**

Thank you very much.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Kevin Cantwell.

**MR. CANTWELL:**

Good afternoon, Legislators. I am Kevin Cantwell and I'm the President of Cornell Cooperative Extension. I'm a volunteer, I'm a father, I'm a business owner, and my purpose here today is to introduce myself to those of you who I do not know, and ask for your support and thank you for your support that we've had over the past 92 years. I have personally been involved with Cornell Cooperative Extension for about 30 years. First as a business owner, then as a parent, then as a grandparent. My grandson has gone to the Suffolk County Farm. There's a true passion about the people that work for Cornell Cooperative Extension.

There are a number of volunteers that are here today. They are here because they are passionate about the things that they do that you Legislators allow them to do by funding this organization. Last year we were cut a million dollars. We were cut not by the County Executive's budget, by your group right here. So my purpose today is to ask you to consider the valuable work that we've done. We know that there is some very difficult economic times that are going to represent the County residents. I'm a taxpayer as well. I represent a pretty broad slice of most of who your constituents are, as well as probably some of what you are. Okay. You're passionate about what you do, the people that you serve. That's what brings me and my volunteers here.

So I would just ask for your continued support, understanding that we will be under some difficult economic times going forward, that at least we'd be given the consideration for maybe a little bit of the funding that we ask for, minimal core support, so that we can stop the negative spiral that will affect our organization, but at least that we don't have any further cuts by your group. So with that, I say thank you. If there's any questions.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Legislator Alden.

**LEG. ALDEN:**  
Thanks for coming down and testifying. But you just stressed, though, that we cut your group a lot of money. You don't have to do it today, but I'm going to ask you for a little guidance then. Could you supply me with a list of organizations that you would find acceptable for us to cut their funding to restore your money? And you don't have to do it today. But that's the kind of problems that we're facing this year. So, if you would, I would be more than appreciative. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Thank you, Mr. Cantwell. Appreciate it.

**MR. CANTWELL:**  
Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Gregory Noone.

**MR. NOONE:**  
Good afternoon. My name is Gregory Noone. I'm the Program Manager of Thursday's Child of Long Island. It has been my honor to have met with many of you at your offices located throughout our beautiful County. I am again honored to address this body today and seek your continued support for Thursday's Child AIDS Services Access Programs. I begin by thanking the Legislature on behalf of the over 3,000 Suffolk County residents who are living with HIV and AIDS. I am humbled and grateful to be of service to this group.

People living with HIV and AIDS come to Thursday's Child seeking help. Some seek financial assistance, many seek access to fresh food and proper nutrition, many seek advice, counseling and support. Others need help filling out forms, accessing benefits. Many use the phone, the computer, the copy machine. Most, if not all, just come because we reassure them that they will be all right.

Thursday's Child of Long Island is much more than a case management provider. It is much more than a benefits advocacy project. It is much more than a housing provider. It's an idea started 20 years ago by our founder, Ms. {DeeDee} Kelly, who taught us to take our strong emotions and create a compassionate agency with a mission to provide services to people with AIDS.

I'm here today to speak about the 2010 Suffolk County budget. I'm grateful to report to you that we have secured the support of County Executive Steve Levy, but we need and plead for the Legislature's funding in this coming year. Thursday's Child has provided help to hundreds of families across the County. In the first eight months of 2009, more clients received services at this agency

than in the entire 12 months of 2008. This is due to your support.

Our food assistance program is unique and tailored to maintain HIV/AIDS medical treatment adherence. Access to fresh foods is essential. With your support, over 160 persons have received emergency food assistance 280 times this year to date. Our personal hygiene pantry project is unique and geared to maintain dignity and self-respect. Due to your support, over 80 persons have received personal hygiene packages 125 times this year to date. With the support of this Legislature, Thursday's Child has hired an office assistant who brings professional support, skills and a compassionate confidence to all callers.

This Legislature is nationally recognized for its groundbreaking judgements from our first in the State ban on driving while talking on cell phones, to the most recent discussions on crib safety. I know that I speak for many of my pride in your actions. I'm also very proud to report of our agency's deepening ties with both the Departments of Health Services and Social Services. Thursday's Child is grateful for the support given to us by Dr. Chaudhry, and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.

Our gratitude extends to all Suffolk County employees. They are the finest and most professional, from the caring men and women at the John J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility, one of the jewels of Suffolk County Government, to the herculean efforts put in by the social workers at the family health centers, I say thank you. And I wish to publicly commend the dedication and efforts of the Department of Social Services Commissioner's Response Unit. Thursday's Child is thankful for the corporation and support from so many County offices.

Please fully fund Thursday's Child in 2010. People living with AIDS are our neighbors, our sons and daughters, our brothers and sisters. Thank you for helping us serve our neighbors in need.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you. Thank you very much.

**MR. NOONE:**

Thank you, Bill.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Next up is Vivian Hart and Frank Sinisi. You want to come up together? That would be wonderful.

**MS. HART:**

Good afternoon. I'm Vivian Hart, the new Executive Director of Pronto. I thank the honorable members of this committee for your continued support of Pronto and for the opportunity to briefly present our concerns and appeal to you for assistance.

Pronto has served as an important human service organization to the residents of Suffolk County for over 40 years. I have only been with the agency for 11 months, but I have seen the positive impact that Pronto's programs and services have on individuals who walk through our doors everyday looking for food, clothes and household items. Pronto has experienced a significant increase in the number of people needing our services. We have been averaging about 55 new clients each week since January of 2009, and we expect to serve over 80,000 people by the end of this year.

Since our DSS funding under the COPS program was terminated as of 30 September of this year, we are here today to request to be included in the County's budget for 2010, and for any other additional funding that could be offered to us for the remaining months of this year. Please allow Frank Sinisi, President and Chairman of the Board of Pronto, to explain further.

**MR. SINISI:**

Good afternoon, gentlemen. Thank you very much for all your help that you have given Pronto over

the years, and especially the last few years. What I wanted to talk about, though, is, you know, it's great. I understand the problems of the country and the community when things are like they are and you have the weak economy that we have. But that's bad for an organization such as --

**MS. LOMORIELLO:**

Hold the button, please.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Also lift the mike up.

**MR. SINISI:**

Sorry about that. Thank you, sweetie. As I was saying, it's very difficult for an organization like Pronto when your budget is cut, but we understand some of the cuts. But as I say, with the budget being cut we have grown unbelievably, especially over the last four years. And I'll get to that in a second. But we've -- what we were cut off our budget, first of all, was 100%, then increased to 75%. We had to write a new budget for the year. So it was originally \$85,000, I believe, and what we have lost out of our budget was twenty-one thousand, six-hundred and some odd dollars. What I'd like to see done, if at all possible, is if we can recoup that \$21,000 because things are really taking a turn for the worst as far as dollars are concerned.

What has happened over at Pronto, it was in '08 when people -- we told people what we did in total numbers in servicing. In 2008 we serviced over 51,000 people, and in 2009 we have already serviced in the first three quarters 73,732 people. That's just for the three quarters; that's not counting the last quarter. If we count the last quarter in and assume we do the same as last year, but we know we'll probably get hit with about 20% increase, we're going to do 85 to 90,000 people. And it takes a lot of bucks to feed and clothe and take care of that many people. So we really need your help and that's what we're asking of you.

So if you can do this for us come 2010, put us on the County budget where we used to be, for some reason it was put on to the State program and part of it stayed with the County. I think it's 65, 35 percent. The State is 65 and the County pays 35 percent. For 2010, my Director went down to take -- and called someone at the County and they were told that the COPS Program is totally discontinued, so that kind of put us in shock a little bit when we hear that for 2010 there'll be nothing. So this is what we want to discuss and take it a little further when you meet some day next week. So we would appreciate it, whatever help that you can give us in talking about this. Thank you very much.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Mr. Chair.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

DuWayne. Yeah. I'm sorry. Legislator Gregory has a question, Mr. Sinisi.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Hi. Thank you for coming again today. Now, what's the total amount that you're seeking for this year?

**MR. SINISI:**

Of people?

**LEG. GREGORY:**

No funding. Monies.

**MS. LOMORIELLO:**

Hold on to the mike, please.

**MR. SINISI:**

It was around \$85,000.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

How much are you looking for, Frank?

**MR. SINISI:**

Well, we'd like to get -- oh, total for 2010?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah.

**MR. SINISI:**

I'd like around 110, 125,000.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

And there's eighty-five in the budget now?

**MR. SINISI:**

Eighty-five, right.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. So you're looking for a bump of about \$30,000.

**MR. SINISI:**

Yes, because we fired two people and reduced hours. That's how we got our budget down a little bit, but we have to hire those people back and we're going to need that money to do this.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Gregory, does that answer your question?

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Yes, but I had a second question. Now, you had mentioned the other day that you were in jeopardy of closing your doors, too, right, as of right now?

**MR. SINISI:**

That's right. As of November we could possibly do that.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

How much do you need to sustain you for the remainder of the year?

**MR. SINISI:**

We're probably going to need -- I thought around 50,000 when I was here the other day, so I'm looking maybe around 40,000. We normally get some money coming in because of the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. But if we can at least get maybe the 20 some odd thousand back from the County, that would be a big help.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Now, how many families -- your an organization that's been around 40 years?

**MR. SINISI:**

About 40 -- 1969 in the basement of Saint Ann's Church we started.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Now you service families throughout --

**MR. SINISI:**

What we do is -- actually we get people that are coming in from Amityville, we have people coming from South Huntington. We've had people come out from Mastic, from Shirley. We get people coming from Coram, Patchogue. Mainly our target area is Central Islip, Brentwood and Bay Shore, which is the second largest Hispanic community in New York State, only New York City being larger.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Now in nineteen whatever, sixty-nine, how many families did you or people --

**MR. SINISI:**

Well, I wasn't around in 1969. I couldn't --

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Okay. How many do you service now?

**MR. SINISI:**

Right now we'll end up with the area at about 85,000.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Okay. All right. Thank you.

**MR. SINISI:**

We only opened this new building in 2005 and we went from a very small building to a 10,500 square foot building.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay.

**MR. SINISI:**

Any other questions?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes, there's other questions. Legislator Barraga has a question for you.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Frank, if you receive the additional 30,000, does that keep the doors open through 2010?

**MR. SINISI:**

Excuse me?

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

If you receive the additional 30,000 from the County, does that keep the doors open through 2010? And the reason I ask is that it was my impression in speaking with you and your Executive Director that there's a loss of State funding as well. You've got \$69,000 which you've gone through, but that's 69,000 that's supposed to last through 2010. So there's nothing -- no additional money coming from the State in 2010. Is that right?

**MR. SINISI:**

From State?

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Yes, State.

**MR. SINISI:**

No -- right, right now there's nothing coming from the State, that is correct.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Okay. Now if you got the 30,000 from the County, there's no additional funding coming from the State. Can you stay open?

**MR. SINISI:**

I believe so.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

All right. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

I think that, just to follow-up on that, that's a critical question for us, because we have no ability, we have no money left in 2009. There's nothing that we can do for you in 2009. You know, the best we could do is look forward to the 2010 budget and if we -- you know, if we increase the County Executive's request, I want to make sure that you're open to use that money.

**MR. SINISI:**

We have a lot of grants out there right now, and I'm expecting possibly one of them coming in. Plus we do get donations from the community and other foundations around this time of the year with the holiday season. That's why I say about the 25, \$30,000 would help us for sure get through the year.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

It's a double edged sword when you tell us you're going to close the doors, you know?

**MR. SINISI:**

It is very possible, it really is. I'm not -- our clients are worried about it and so is our staff. Our staff now are working like volunteer overtime to 50 hours a week to cover up for the people that are not there.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. But you understand where we're coming from. We don't want to allocate money to an organization that's going to be out of business.

**MR. SINISI:**

We own the building there so I don't know if we totally -- we might have to close for a couple of months until we get our grants coming in.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Legislator Viloría-Fisher has another question for you.

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

Okay. I'm going to invoke the adage that there's no such thing as a stupid question, but can you explain COPS, sir? Mike? Frank rather.  
Frank? Hello?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Frank, come on back.

**MR. SINISI:**

Hello. Yes, ma'am.

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

I don't know what the COPS Program is. I mean --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

What is COPS you mean.

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

What is COPS?

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

You have to push the button, sir.

**MR. SINISI:**

That's the -- let me get it here. I got the letter right in front of me. It's the -- COPS Program is Commodities Distribution Program.

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

So is that when you get food from agricultural -- like when you get, for example, school districts sometimes get cheese and milk.

**MR. SINISI:**

No, not from the school district.

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

No, that's not what I'm staying. I'm saying that's an example.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

You have to push the button, Legislator --

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

I have it.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

No.

**P.O. LINSAY:**

It was on and off.

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

I was looking away. I'm sorry.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

That's all right.

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

So it's getting food from USDA, for example? That kind of thing?

**MR. SINISI:**

We get our food from Long Island Cares and Island Harvest.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

No, but what is COPS, Frank?

**MR. SINISI:**

Let me give you the exact -- okay. Community Optional Preventive Services Corporation. That's COPS. C-O-P-S.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

What does it do, though? What does it do?

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

You said you weren't getting your COPS funding.

**MR. SINISI:**

It gives us money, that's what I know, all I know about it. But you get it from the County.

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

Is that State money?

**MR. SINISI:**

It's 65 percent State and 35 percent County.

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

Okay. I think Vivian wanted to come up and answer.

**MR. SINISI:**

She probably could answer a little better than I can.

**MS. HART:**

Yes. The COPS Program is a State funded program. And for some reason we were switched over from the County years ago, and I don't know the reason why, but we switched from the direct line on the County budget to the State budget. I have an idea that they felt that because we were distributing a lot of food that we would better be allocated under a commodities program than the County program. But since the State ran out of funding, now we're at a loss now for even that.

**D.P.O. FISHER:**

Okay. So the COPS Program in 2009 was providing how much money? How much money was this COPS Program providing in 2009?

**MS. HART:**

That was giving us the 80,000 and -- 84,000.

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

Okay. How much was the County giving you?

**MS. HART:**

The County was actually only giving us about 20,000, 21,000 -- and I don't have the exact figure, but it was a little over 21,000 from the County.

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

Okay, and in 2010 you'll be getting no State funding.

**MS. HART:**

We'll get nothing at all. As of 30 September the COPS Program was terminated, and we will get nothing for the fourth quarter and nothing for 2010.

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

So in 2009 the State didn't even fulfill it's commitment to you for the year?

**MS. HART:**

No, ma'am.

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

Okay. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Legislator Montano.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Hi, Frank. How are you there? You may have answered this, and I apologize, I was out of the room. I'm looking at the 2009 adopted and it was 86,457, but what's estimated on the expenditure is 64,843. Did you explain earlier why there is that difference in terms of adopted versus estimated expenditures?

**MR. SINISI:**

When we first sent the budget up it was for the eighty-six, and then it was sent back to us to cut it down and make it 75% of the eighty-six, which was 64,000. And we resent it in and they accepted it and that would cover the first three quarters.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

So after you were adopted for eighty-six, your contract was only for sixty-four, is that what happened?

**MR. SINISI:**

Right. It got cut 25 percent. That's twenty-one some odd thousand dollars.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

That's what I'm asking how does that -- where's Gail? So it was unilaterally cut by the County Executive?

**MR. SINISI:**

No. The State.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

All right. So what you're saying is that this was a pass-through from the State going through the County, and then the State actually cut their funding.

**MR. SINISI:**

That's correct.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Gotcha. That's what I was looking for.

**MR. SINISI:**

It was the State that cut it.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

And that's why you're in the deficit that you're in now.

**MR. SINISI:**

Right. Yes, that's true.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Okay. Thanks, Frank. We'll talk.

**MR. SINISI:**

Thank you. Anyone else? Thank you very much.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you. Denis Yuen.

**MR. YUEN:**

Good afternoon, Presiding Officer Lindsay and fellow Legislators. First of all, I'd like to thank presiding -- the Deputy Presiding Officer for showing up at our Nassau/Suffolk Coalition for Homeless Annual Conference last week. It was appreciated that you were there to speak. My name is Denis Yuen and I'm the Program Director and the Coordinator of Maureen's Haven Homeless Outreach Program. Since 2002, the Maureen's Haven Outreach Program, under the auspices of Peconic Community Council, Inc., has provided a safe, warm, temporary housing to those who are homeless on North and South Forks of eastern Long Island -- in eastern Suffolk County seven nights a week, from November 1st through April 1st.

Screening and transportation of these guests to and from the many participating houses of worship is by provided by PCC. Our large base of church and community volunteers provides a home cooked dinner, breakfast, a bag lunch and encouraging support every night in one of the 15 houses of worship which provide the shelter for the evening. Depending on the site, other amenities may include a hot shower, a 12 step meeting, laundry facilities, basic medical care or clean, dry clothing.

During the 2008-2009 winter season, Maureen's Haven housed 185 unduplicated individuals over the 160 nights it operated. A total of 5,980 beds were provided over the course of the long winter, an increase of 62 percent over the prior year. Based on the figure of \$75 per night to provide temporary housing, which is an old Department of Health and Human Services figure, we estimated we saved the County Department of Social Services \$448,500 last season. Over the course of the past seven winters you can project a savings to the County's programs to be in the millions and you can see how valuable a service our program provides.

Fifteen houses of worship have opened up their facilities, and another 11 houses assist and contribute to them, and over 1,200 volunteers from those houses of worship, community organizations such as Rotary and Kuwanis Clubs, businesses, and groups of private individuals provide fellowship, hot meals, basic necessities, and overnight chaperones. The houses of worship which participate are located from Greenport to Aquebogue to Southampton. True to the East End, we cover an area of 41 {million} miles every evening to complete our screening and transportation process to deliver these guests to their house of worship for that evening.

Administering the program, screening and transporting these guests every evening to and from each house of worship is our organization's largest overhead expense. I would be remiss in not giving credit where credit is due. Maureen's Haven would not be the success it is without the dedication and cooperation of all the volunteers who donate their time and resources to help make the East End's homeless population live's a little bit more bearable. We know where the concentrations of the homeless are and we post flyers in and around those areas. All we can do is invite and encourage them out of the woods or out of their cars. We cannot force anyone to go.

In the past winters we have serviced the homeless up to Southampton Town. The good news is that Maureen's Haven Homeless Outreach is expanding to East Hampton Township this November. The expansion of our services is not yet funded, but we are taking a leap of faith, because there are finally houses of worship in East Hampton Township who are finally willing to take that leap of service. We do not have any estimations on the level of participation of the homeless out there, but we would appreciate some seed money for that service expansion.

The sad fact is that Peconic Community Council is always operating behind the eight ball. Even with a modest budget and projections, last winter's overwhelming crowds put our program in the red due to longer working shifts for the screeners and drivers, more fuel, more bus tickets, and more food to supplement the volunteers' donations, \$16,000 in all in total.

I have stated some of the overwhelming statistics beginning a year ago. Some more unbelievable stats. We averaged 37 guests a night, with a high of 62 on several occasions. There was a stretch during the coldest part of January and February of 2009 that we were averaging 55 guests per evening. The volume of homeless guests not only put a strain on PCC, but a huge burden to the volunteers who had to buy the food, prepare the food, purchase more bedding, soft goods, and toiletries and laundry and much more bedding.

Given the predictions of another brutal winter weather wise and a slow to recover local economy, everyone involved in the Maureen's Haven Program are not too optimistic. We know that these are tough times, budgetary times, in Suffolk County and throughout the State and country, but we're asking you to look at our track record and consider what we do for the people of Suffolk County. Peconic Community Council needs County increased funding to effectively do what we do best, to keep those who are homeless safe, warm and fed during the cold winter months.

I would like to thank you, your fellow Legislators and County Executive Levy for your support in the past. I look forward to taking our relationship to another level based on the overall services we now provide the residents of Suffolk County. Thank you for this opportunity to update you on our experiences and issues.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Denis. Stay right there because Legislator Romaine has a question.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

A quick question. Your funding for 2009 compared --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Hold the button.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

I have the button down.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

You cut off.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Oh. Your 2009 compared to the County Exec's proposed 2010 budget, could you tell me the funding levels that are provided for Peconic Community Council, Maureen's Haven in particular?

**MR. YUEN:**

I unfortunately didn't see the 2010 projected. You may or may not know that line. We were about -- only about 42,000 change last year for the fiscal year, which has steadily dropped over the years -- the last three years. I think we went down from 56 down to 48, 45 and about 42.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

And your program begins in October and ends about April?

**MR. YUEN:**

November 1st through April 1st. Last year we did an extra eight nights into April because of the freezing weather. We did that on emergency.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

We have cold weather now.

**MR. YUEN:**

I'm a little concerned about that. It's gotten too cold too quick.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Very quickly. Your program provides shelter for homeless, people who live on the streets or in the woods. The way they do that is they have churches take them in, feed them, let them sleep there, feed them breakfast and they're out on the road again and then pick them up every night to take them to different churches throughout the entire East End.

**MR. YUEN:**

That is correct. Again, now we can say entire East End, including East Hampton. East Hampton is going to be on a limited basis until we have more churches come on board with us.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

And how many people a night?

**MR. YUEN:**

Your guess is going to be as good as mine. Again, we had an extremely busy winter last winter. If it starts out this cold -- last year we started quickly. Within the second week of November got up to the 35, 40 range and then continued to grow and steadily were in the 50 range all winter.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

That's 50 homeless people you're picking up every night, taking to various churches for sanctuary throughout the East End.

**MR. YUEN:**

Yes. Just think of the dynamics of doing that, screening them, picking them up at two to three different locations with one owned van and other multiple -- other ancillary forms of transportation.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Now, by law you're not obligated to do this; you do this as a not-for-profit. By law, my understanding is the Department of Social Services is obligated to do it, but doesn't do it. How much would it cost if the Social Service Department met its requirements by law? Per client, per night.

**MR. YUEN:**

I assume that question wasn't -- was that addressed to me?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

It depends on whether they're in shelters or motels.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Right. I raise that question because the alternative here, and as a Legislator from this area, if Peconic Community Council is not adequately funded, I am going to demand that the Department of Social Services provide shelter for the homeless and not let them freeze on the streets. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Denis, if you could be so kind, Legislator Barraga has another question.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Something came up a couple of weeks ago that kind of bothered me. Apparently the Department of Social Services makes a distinction with reference to the homeless in terms of whether or not couples are married or not married. So, for example, if I'm with a woman for six or nine months, we're living together on the streets but we're not legally married, when we try to go to a shelter we are separated. Because of that provision, many couples do not want to go to shelters because the

male may feel that the female may be in jeopardy or vice versa. In houses of worship where you provide shelter to couples, do you make a delineation between who's married and who isn't, or you just provide the shelter and they are together?

**MR. YUEN:**

We provide the shelter. They can come on board, they can eat together, they can watch a movie together, they can relax together up until whenever lights out -- usually about ten o'clock. There the delineation happens. The churches have a women's section and a men's section. It doesn't matter if you provide a marriage certificate or just say you are boyfriend and girlfriend. Women sleep in one area, men sleep in another. Again, we don't turn them away. But I know Social Service does not have accommodations for married couples or even couples in general. Does that answer your question?

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Yeah, that answers my question. So I'm trying to think in terms of Social Services. I guess the situation is the same, an area for males and an area for females, but they seem to also make the determination as to whether or not someone is married or just together.

**MR. YUEN:**

We don't ask that question. Again, they're not sharing the same bed so it's not a concern of ours. We do let them socialize, you know, to a certain degree in the evening at the churches, but after when it's lights out they each go to their own areas.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

I have to get more information. I just don't want a situation developing where some sort of determination is made and as a result, you know, less people are using the shelters because they are, you know, categorized or separated. If the Department of Social Services is set up -- their shelters are set up the same way as you are, then it wouldn't make any difference. I know I was with -- in one parish where that was brought up several times where people were very reluctant because they were together, but not married. They didn't want to go into shelters; they'd rather stay on the street.

**MR. YUEN:**

I know there is a say gap in coverage with Social Services because there is no houses set up for couples whether they're married or not. So that's a distinction, they do not want to separate, or like you said, the male is fearful for the woman who is going off to whatever house they're going. We had probably six to seven couples, again married, not married, I don't ask, six to seven couples that spent most of the winter with us last year. Again, they travel together, they stay together.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Okay. Thank you very much.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Mr. Presiding Officer. I'd like to just add one thing. I am concerned about the homeless population for one simple reason. All the shelters are full. We're now up to 60 motel placements in this County. We are now up to 60 motel placements in this County, and that's going to grow. The shelters are full. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much, Denis.

**MR. YUEN:**

Thank you for your time.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Karlene Maimoni.

**MS. MAIMONI:**

Good afternoon. I just want to enter into the record a petition that was signed by 199 Suffolk County Probation Department employees.

**MS. LOMORIELLO:**

Speak a little closer.

**MS. MAIMONI:**

Can you hear me now? There is only one copy. It's 199 employees. We just wanted that entered into the record. They took it upon themselves to sign a petition opposing the transfer of the five Information Technology staff to the Department of Information Technology.

I just do want to alert you to the fact that in spite of what might have been said here today, this will fiscally impact the County's revenues because the County will not be able to apply for State Aid reimbursement for those positions and the County will potentially lose about \$110,000 next year alone. Over the course of ten years, we have accrued \$1.5 million in State Aid revenue for these revenue -- for these Automation positions. So I am particularly concerned about that.

In addition, because I do write a lot of the grant programs for the department, I am concerned that without the Information Technology staff there to support and provide the needs, the statistical information that I need to write grants, I will not be able to effectively compete in -- for Federal and State revenues for the department. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much. Okay. I don't have anymore cards on the 2010 Recommended Budget. Is there anyone else in the audience that would like to talk about the budget? Seeing none, I'm going to make a motion to recess.

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

You can close this, can't we? We can close if this is the second one.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. I'll change that motion to close.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Seconded by Legislator Losquadro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Fifteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Next up is *I.R. 1290 - A Local Law to enact a grading policy for food establishments*. Legislator Losquadro?

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Do you have any cards?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

No cards.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Recess.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Anybody in the audience wants to speak on 1290? Seeing none, a motion to recess by Legislator Losquadro. I second that. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Fifteen. (Not Present: Legislators Romaine, Gregory and D'Amaro)

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Next, *I.R. 1748 - Proposed increases and improvements of facilities for Sewer District No. 7 – Medford, CP 8129*. I have no cards on the subject. Anyone in the audience want to discuss, talk on this subject? Seeing none, I have no direction so I'll make a motion to recess.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Alden. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Fifteen. (Not Present: Legislators Romaine, Gregory and D'Amaro).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

*1749 - Proposed increases and improvements of facilities for Sewer District No. 5 – Strathmore Huntington, CP 8115*. I don't have any cards on this subject. Is there anyone in the audience who would like to address us on this subject? Seeing none, I'll make a motion to recess.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Mr. Chairman.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Just from the Public Works perspective, generally these have to get done. These are generally pro forma so I think we should close them rather than recess them. I know we don't have anybody from the County Executive offering advice, but normally these are the precursor to another resolution that will come through afterwards.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

The only thing, and I appreciate that, we can do whatever you want to do, but these came from, I believe, from the Executive's Office and without direction you want to close it? We'll close it.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

It's up to you, Mr. Chairman.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Do you want to make a motion to close?

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

I'll make a motion to close.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Do we have a second to close?

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

I'll second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Barraga. All in -- recess -- I'll tell you what. I'll withdraw my second to the recess so we just have the close in front of us.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

You want to reconsider?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Do this one first.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah, just before we go backwards, all right? We have a motion to close and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Fifteen. (Not Present: Legislators Romaine, Gregory and D'Amaro).

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Motion to reconsider 1748.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. We have a motion and a second to reconsider. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Motion to close.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Who was the motion and the second?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Motion.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion by Legislator Alden, second by Legislator Vilorio-Fisher, to reconsider.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Thank you. Fifteen. (Not Present: Legislators Romaine, Gregory and D'Amaro).

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Motion to close.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion to close by Legislator Beedenbender, and seconded by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Sixteen. (Not Present: Legislators Romaine and Gregory).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

It stands closed. ***1776 - A Charter Law updating the Suffolk County Charter as recommended by the Charter Review Commission.*** Is there anyone in the audience who would

like to speak on this subject? Seeing none, I'll make a motion to close.

**LEG. ALDEN:**  
Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Second by Legislator Alden. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**  
Seventeen. (Not Present: Legislator Romaine).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
*1793 - A Charter Law to strengthen the independence of the Ethics Commission.* Would anyone in the audience like to speak to us on this subject? I have no cards on this subject.

**LEG. MONTANO:**  
Motion to recess.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Legislator Montano makes a motion to recess.

**LEG. ALDEN:**  
Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Second by Legislator Alden. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**  
Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
It stands recessed. *1797 - A Local Law to enforce the New York State Returnable Deposit Container Law.* I have no cards on this subject. Anyone in the audience like to speak to us on that subject? Seeing none, Legislator Kennedy.

**LEG. KENNEDY:**  
I'll make a motion to close, Mr. Chair.

**LEG. ALDEN:**  
Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Motion to close by Legislator Kennedy, seconded by Legislator Alden. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**  
Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**  
Okay. *I.R. 1800 - A Local Law to regulate privatization of County owned marinas.* And I have many cards on this. Barbara Bertone. Barbara?

**MEMBER OF AUDIENCE:**  
It was my understanding we were going to go in the order of the cards.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Well, Barbara Bertone's cards were mixed in with the budget ones, so that's the first one I came across.

**MEMBER OF AUDIENCE:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

So Barbara is not here. Okay. We put Barbara on the side. William Grauer.

**MR. GRAUER:**

Good afternoon, and thank you for allowing me to speak today. My name is William Grauer, and I am with the Timber Point Boat Owners Association, which represents boaters who use the Shinnecock and Timber Point Marinas. I'm here to support Resolution 1800. This resolution simply states that the Legislature must be involved with any privatization of the marinas. As you know, the County Executive has plans for privatizing the marinas to raise more money. He had the Parks Department issue a request for expression of interest, an RFEI. He said that this is only an attempt to get ideas.

In fact, in a recent letter he states that it is not the Suffolk County nor the Parks Department intent to award a contract for the privatization of marinas. The letter goes on to say please rest assured that this is merely an exploration of ideas and insights into rules and regulations pertaining to marinas. However in the release of his budget plan on the same day as the letter, there is a line item of \$300,000 realized by privatizing the marinas. This seems contradictory.

On the surface, of course, asking for ideas on how to save the County money is very laudable. However, taking such an ominous step as privatizing any park resource should be done only through a well established legal process that includes public hearings, issuing of an RFP, involvement of the Parks Commission, and involvement of the full Legislature. The RFEI, however, reads like a full blown RFP, requesting background references, business plans, and financial health. If you were just looking for some good ideas, what difference does it make how much money somebody has in the bank.

And speaking of good ideas, our association has many good ideas that would generate additional revenues and cut costs while still keeping the rates affordable for Suffolk residents. Our group had a very constructive meeting a month ago with the Parks Department and including Deputy Presiding Officer of the Legislature. I was at that meeting and we laid some of our ideas on the table and we have more ideas. Going forward, we hope to be involved with the Department to flesh out the details.

And just for the record, our Association is not in favor of privatizing the marinas. We don't feel it's necessary and not in the best interest of the County.

Going back to the RFEI. It contains no safety features to ensure that the rates will remain affordable for Suffolk residents nor does it have a statement that these parks are for the benefit of Suffolk County residents first. There is, however, this statement in the RFEI. "The County reserves the right to make an award to a proposer based on a response to this RFEI." The County reserves the right to make an award based on this RFEI. This contradicts another part of Mr. Levy's September 16th letter in which he states, "RFEI's do not constitute or result in the awarding of contracts to operate any marinas".

Well, am I being paranoid? Perhaps. But let me share this with you. When the RFEI was developed and released, it was done so without the knowledge even of those Legislators who sit Parks Commission. Not even the Chairwoman of the Commission was aware. We are concerned that the Legislature is being totally left out of the decision. I would encourage you to ensure that the

Legislature is not short-circuited in this privatization idea.

Some of you may think that this is a very small matter, only affecting say 500 or so Suffolk residents, but I submit to you that if the marinas are privatized without the involvement of Legislators, this will set a precedent that in the not too distant future the next park resource to be privatized may be the campsites, the beaches, the golf courses and perhaps even the entire Parks Department itself.

But even the more important question, is the Legislature ready to give up its role of being involved with Suffolk park issues? Will you allow the legal process and procedures to be warped by camouflaging an RFP as an RFEI? I respectfully submit that you pass resolution 1800 into law and thereby clearly establish that the Legislature has a role in this process. Ladies, gentlemen, I thank you for your time.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you.

*(\*Applause\*)*

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Ugo Polla.

**MR. POLLA:**

Hi. My name is Hugo Polla. I live in Southold, New York.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

You've got to hold your finger on the button, Mr. Polla.

**MR. POLLA:**

Oh, I have to hold it?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yeah.

**MR. POLLA:**

Okay. This is my first time here so you'll have to excuse my --

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

That's all right. That's okay.

**MR. POLLA:**

I live in Southold and I use the facilities down there by Shinnecock Canal, that marina that's there. One of my friends has a sailboat there and we use it and we're quite stunned by the fact that this facility, this County facility, wants to be privatized. We can't find a rationale with it. Now, I'm not as sophisticated as some of these other people here with specific direct knowledge, but it just seems to me that -- and it was an education being here listening to all the people that want money for all kinds of reasons. Here's a situation where you guys can collect money from us. We're giving money, we're paying for the services, and it wants to be curtailed.

I'm old and maybe I'm skeptical and maybe I'm cynical, but when something like this, my park, parks that I pay taxes for to be provided for, when that kind of a situation is turned so that somebody's going to be privatized and make profit out of, I smell a rat. I hope I'm wrong.

Basically all -- I'll end up by saying is I support 1800 and hope that you pass that piece of legislation which will give all of you, and hopefully us, an opportunity to review the circumstances under which part of my property is going to be turned over to somebody and make money from. It's money

that's come out of my pocket provided that's provided that service. Now it's money that's going to come out of my pocket to go into somebody else's pocket, and I don't like it. Thank you.

*(\*Applause\*)*

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Mr. Polla. Robert Gassman.

**MR. GASSMAN:**

My name is Robert Gassman. I'm a retired CPA, a seasonal slip holder. I don't wish to add anything further to this matter, except for one thing, and that is something that is contained in your own website concerning the authority given to you I suppose by law, but it says under your own website under jurisdiction and I quote, "This committee shall have jurisdiction over County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation. This committee shall have jurisdiction over all programs, policies, funding matters, initiatives and/or legislation affecting or pertaining to such activity." I end the quote.

I think Webster's Dictionary simply puts the definition of jurisdiction as the power, the right or authority to interpret and apply the law. Apparently there's some confusion as to how this law shall be observed and that confusion is stemming from references in the -- in the proposed budget, the proposed 2010 budget, concerning references to the privatization in the proposed budget.

I simply want to say that I support the bill. It will give us all some time to research this proposition, and indeed it will be an avenue in which the residents of Suffolk County can share their ideas for generating this much needed revenue. Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Mr. Gassman, if you would, Legislator Viloría-Fisher has a question for you.

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

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you for coming down, Mr. Gassman. Thank you, Mr. Grauer, for being here. As Mr. Grauer mentioned, we had a very long, detailed meeting regarding the marinas, and I'm just going to ask you some questions so that you can fill in the rest of the Legislature on some of the things we discussed. You had almost a spreadsheet prepared for us on your cost savings plans. Can you please tell us what you had regarding use of utilities, that is very large vessels and the amount of electricity that they use.

**MR. GASSMAN:**

Yes. Actually the proposal that was brought to the table, and thank you for being in attendance, simply restated a lot of the -- a lot of the fees that were indeed in effect today. We had suggested certain increases. We had certain sharing of utility costs. We had certainly some suggestions to be made with respect to how the community operations could be more efficiently run with more personnel, therefore generating indeed more fees over services that are otherwise not paid for by transient boat owners.

These were, I think, a whole proposal of how this could possibly increase the revenues that are -- that could be enjoyed by Suffolk County. To say nothing of the fact that I had done an analysis which indicated that as glorious as the Shinnecock Canal Marina and Park is to its residents, it is about 50% utilized, which leads me to believe that there is certainly marketing skills that have not been thoroughly exercised here.

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

Okay. You went very quickly and beyond my question, so I just want to reiterate. Although you are the users, you were actually proposing an increase in user fees in some areas.

**MR. GASSMAN:**

We understand that this would be necessary and indeed we would be --

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

Okay. So you would be self-imposing an increase in your own fees.

**MR. GASSMAN:**

That's correct.

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

The second thing that you mentioned, and I don't want anybody to miss those details, is that there are certain times of the day when we are missing or losing out on income because we don't have enough seasonal personnel in attendance to collect the transient user fees.

**MR. GASSMAN:**

That is correct. As a matter of fact, sometimes in late afternoon when personnel are not available, people simply use the facility and the next morning when the personnel have not arrived, they simply leave without paying for the use of the slip.

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

Okay. And something else that you mentioned when you did that very detailed report for us was that there seemed to be a statement in the RFEI that there would be a savings of \$300,000 a year, but in fact when you did your analysis and you had the increases and the personnel that would be available, the extrapolation that you had from that is that we would more than make up for the kind of income from privatization.

**MR. GASSMAN:**

Yes. Let me -- let me expand that a bit. The fact of the matter is that according to the figures that I have developed, we could very clearly increase the amount of money that we could possibly enjoy in revenues. The problem, however, is that I don't have concise information of really the operating costs of that marina for the County of Suffolk. So I have no idea of being able to effectively compare what I would consider would be necessary as opposed to what is actually happening.

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

Well, I appreciate your time and your help. Thank you for being here.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Mr. Gassman.

**MR. GASSMAN:**

Thank you.

*(\*Applause\*)*

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

James Dumozych.

**MR. DUMOZYCH:**

I'll pass in an effort to save time.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you very much. Appreciate that. Dotty Kerrigan.

**MS. KERRIGAN:**

Good afternoon. Presiding Officer Lindsay, thank you for having me, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Legislature. I'd like to read excerpts of a letter that was written to Honorable Lindsay, Presiding Officer, by Cheryl Felice on behalf of the Association for Municipal Employees. I'll start here. I again -- I am again calling your attention -- can you hear me?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yep.

**MS. KERRIGAN:**

Sorry. I again am calling your attention to what appears to be more of the County Executive's unilateral attempts to privatize our entire County workforce one department at a time. This time his target is set on the County marinas located in Great River, Hampton Bays, East Moriches and at Smiths Point. Levy's usual style of governing by press release on the same date that he sent letters to about two dozen boaters who dock their boats at the County marinas stating that Suffolk County had no intention of awarding a contract to privatize County marinas. Levy also briefed Newsday about his proposed budget. Among the expected savings he highlighted was 300,000 from outsourcing marina operations. Although Levy sent letters refuting his own words to these boaters, he actually published a Request for Expressions of Interest in developing and operating four County marinas.

Page 10 of Levy's proposed 2010 Operating Budget lists this issue as one of his top management initiatives to increase revenues and cut costs. And page 16 states a vendor is expected to be selected in the fourth quarter of this year, because privatizing the marinas will have a number of positive benefits to the County and to the residents.

AME finds these types of misstatements together with the outright distortions of truth coming on the heels of the deceptions about crime going down when it has surely risen, and the absence of racial profiling when our own County Police reports confirms the opposite, all of which have undermined the credibility of Levy and his administration. Something is getting very much out of hand here in Suffolk County.

AME would like to continue to offer its assistance in the ongoing fight against privatization and preserving what is best for the workforce and residents alike. We ask that your office lead the entire Suffolk County Legislature in fighting these veiled yet serious requests for -- I'm sorry.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Privatization.

**MS. KERRIGAN:**

Privatization. Thank you. I needed that. And let our County workers feel secure about their own financial futures and the residents secure in the services provided by Suffolk. Many of our AME members have been County workers in excess of 30 years and their County careers are a lifetime of commitment. They believe in the future of consistence, service that Levy seeks to decimate. We simply cannot allow that to happen. Thank you.

*(\*Applause\*)*

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

Thank you, Dotty.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Dot. Charles LaCarubba.

**MR. LaCARUBBA:**

My name is Chuck LaCarubba, formally Charles. I'm a member of the Timber Point Marina. And the thing that bothers me most about this whole thing is that I look upon the Legislative group here to

be representative of the law for the County residents. And here the Parks Department can go off and do things without your knowledge. How do you take that? I mean, it's totally wrong. They can do anything they want. In fact, this contract, and it is a contract, it's not a request for information, because the rumor is already out on the street that they have selected someone. I smell a rat also. I never use those terms, but I'm using it now. Something is going on with that group and it's out of control, it lacks management, and that's why the marinas are in trouble, because they don't manage them. And you people should look after them. I think it's your responsibility.

As a Suffolk resident, I look to you people for that oversight. All my fellow Timber Point employees -- employees -- marina residents, said most of the things, but I think this law is a must. Someone has to look over that group. They're out of control. That's all I have to say.

*(\*Applause\*)*

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

Thank you.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you. Lawrence Novak.

**MR. NOVAK:**

Hello.

**MS. ORTIZ:**

You can pick up the mike.

**MR. NOVAK:**

I'm a boat owner at Timber Point and I'm in support of I.R. 1800. A lot of changes have occurred in Timber Point over the last three years, brand new bulkheading for Timber Point West. The County spent a lot of tax dollars there. A brand new fuel tank, brand new pump, brand new bulkheading on the East Marina, brand new, what is it, docking up to the bulkheading. Also brand new parking lot in the West Marina. So these marinas, basically a lot of our tax dollars have been invested in it. What I'm worried about is that once the privatization, if it does occur, we may be forced out because people with deep pockets, even from Nassau County, will be allowed to use our facilities, and basically the money that the County has invested in facilities for their residents.

So if the Legislature has anything that they can do, they should put some limits on whatever is happening so that County residents -- because I'm a member of -- I'm in East Islip anyway, and if I go to Atlantique with my boat I pay a certain fee. If someone from Nassau County pulls in, they pay double the price because they didn't pay for any of the infrastructure with their taxes. According to the referendum, this privatizer can charge anything he wants, and I'm just worried about him forcing out people like me with real high rates and giving it to someone in Nassau County when my taxes have paid for the marina basically. And basically that's what I have to say.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Thank you, Mr. Novak. And I'm going to call Barbara Bertone. Has she come back in the room? No? Okay. I don't have any other cards on this subject, but before -- all the folks that talked about 1800, I just want to clarify something. We will do our due diligence and look at the specifics of 1800 -- of 1800, but because the County Executive issues an RFEI, that is not a fate of accomplishment. If a vendor is selected the contract has to come back to this Legislature for approval, and right now the budget Working Group is working with the proposed budget that the County Executive has put forward, and that is very much a topic of the Working Group right now, the \$300,000 in revenue that the Executive is counting towards this privatization. So nobody is going to let this slip by, and the Executive cannot, and I repeat, cannot do this unilaterally. All right? But we will look at 1800. With that, Legislator Alden, what is your pleasure on 1800?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Close.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion to close.

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

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Seconded by Legislator Viloría-Fisher. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Eighteen-hundred stands closed and I thank you all for coming and giving us your opinion on this whole issue.

***J.R. 1801 - A Local Law to prohibit false advertising by unlicensed electricians and plumbers.*** And I don't have any cards on this subject. Is there anyone in the audience who would like to speak on this subject? Seeing none, I'm going to make motion to close.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Losquadro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

***(\*The following was taken & transcribed by  
Alison Mahoney - Court Reporter\*)***

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. That concludes our Public Hearings for today. I'd like to make a motion to set the date for the following Public Hearings of November 17th, 2009, 2:30 PM at the Rose Caracappa Auditorium in Hauppauge; 1864, a Local Law eliminating campaign finance and electronic filing requirements; 1867, a Local Law to expedite construction of affordable housing; 1874, a Local Law modifying the process for Legislative Budget Amendments; 1894, a Local Law to ensure the integrity of prescription labels in Suffolk County; 1895, a Local Law prohibiting sex offenders from living near their victims; 1896, a Local Law to preserve the Montauk Point Lighthouse by amending Resolution No. 805-09, a Local Law to reauthorize the Hotel/Motel Tax; 1900, a Local Law to reallocate Hotel/Motel Tax revenues to enhance tourism promotion in the Peconic Region. Come on, guys, hold it down. We're almost done, all right? Do I have a second to the setting?

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

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second by Legislator Viloría-Fisher. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

The dates for that -- the date for those following Public Hearings have been set.

All right, we've got to go back, we still have a few odd pieces of business. Okay, let's go. Come on, hold it down. Come on, stay focused, okay?

**1802** -- I think that's the first one we've got to go back to, right -- ***Amending the 2009 Operating Budget to provide funds for the Diabetes Education Program in Health Services (Browning)***. Where are we with this, Tim? We have a motion?

**MR. LAUBE:**

You have a motion and a second to approve.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

To approve, okay. My memory is slipping; why did we not approve it earlier?

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

The letter from the clinic.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Southside Hospital.

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

From Southside Hospital.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Oh, okay. Okay, we got the letter from Southside Hospital. Okay, we have a motion and a second.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Mr. Chairman?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Abstention.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Yeah, I'm going to abstain also.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Sixteen (Abstentions: Legislators Alden & Montano).

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Two abstentions.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Did you call the vote?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Sixteen with two abstentions.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Then we have *Procedural Motion No. 23, Procedural Resolution to amend Resolution 37-2009, Designating depositories pursuant to Section 212 of the County Law (Presiding Officer Lindsay)*. We got -- we had some information transmitted to us by the Treasurer on collateral agreements.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Mr. Presiding Officer, I think the question still remains whether Legislator D'Amaro's questions were answered.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Were they?

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

I don't think so.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

I'm at the same point we were before lunch. I haven't had any further communication except for that one memo which really doesn't address the majority of my questions, no.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

So --

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Call the vote.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

You want to -- does somebody want to make a motion to table?

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

He has a motion to table.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

I think there is a motion.

**MR. LAUBE:**

You already have a motion and a second to table and you have a motion and a second to approve.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Let's call the vote.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Okay, the motion to table takes precedence. All in favor. Opposed? Abstentions on tabling?

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Opposed.

**MR. LAUBE:**

One opposed?

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes. It stands tabled.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Seventeen (Opposed: Legislator Losquadro).

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Page nine, we have another one.

**MR. NOLAN:**

We've got the Bond on 1846.

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

Oh, you got the Bond?

**MR. NOLAN:**

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. 1846, we didn't act on that because we didn't have the Bond, we do have the Bond in hand now. ***So 1846-09 - Amending the 2009 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds for a traffic study at the intersection of Nicolls Road (CR 97) and Pond Path and the intersection of Nicolls Road (CR 97) and Mark Tree Road, Brookhaven (CP 3301) (Kennedy).***

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

I'll make a motion to approve, Mr. Chair.

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

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Motion to approve by Legislator Kennedy, seconded by Legislator Viloría-Fisher. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Same motion, same second on the accompanying Bond Resolution, 1846A; roll call.

***(\*Roll Called by Mr. Laube - Clerk\*)***

**LEG. KENNEDY:**

Yes.

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

Yes, cosponsor.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Yes.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Yes.

**LEG. STERN:**

Yes.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Yes.

**LEG. HORSLEY:**

Yes.

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Yes.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Yes.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Yes.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Legislator Montano?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Yes, yes. Sorry about that.

**LEG. EDDINGTON:**

Yes.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Yes.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Yes.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Yes.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Yes.

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Yes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes.

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay, we've got one other piece of business, if you just stick with me. I believe, Legislator Cooper, you want to make a motion to reconsider CN 1925 that we passed earlier?

**LEG. COOPER:**

Yes. That was the resolution that provided \$33,000 in funding for Pederson-Krag Post Adoption Services. I subsequently had a conversation with staff for the County Executive and apparently there was a miscommunication; the County Executive had been under the impression that it was all my Omnibus money and he wants to be consistent. So I would like to make a motion to reconsider the vote on IR 1925 --

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Second.

**LEG. COOPER:**

-- and I'll be requesting a vote shortly on an amended resolution.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Well, I have a CN, 1926.

**LEG. COOPER:**

That's the one.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. All right, so shortly is --

**LEG. COOPER:**

Like in two minutes.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay, okay. Very good.

*(\*Laughter From Panel\*)*

**LEG. MONTANO:**

You have one minute.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay, we have a motion to reconsider 1925 and a second by Legislator Beedenbender. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

**1925** is now before us, ***Amending the 2009 Operating Budget and transferring funds to Pederson Krag Post Adoption Services (County Executive)***.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Motion to table.

**LEG. COOPER:**

I'd like to make a motion to table 1925.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Motion to table 1925, seconded by Legislator Beedenbender. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions for tabling?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

It stands tabled. Motion, 1926, you want to make a motion?

**LEG. COOPER:**

I would like to make a motion to approve IR 1926?

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Second.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Okay. Well, motion to approve 1926 and a second by Legislator Beedenbender. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

It stands approved.

**LEG. BEEDENBENDER:**

Motion to adjourn.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

And as far as I know, we are done, right?

**MR. NOLAN:**

We are done.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Yes. I accept a motion to adjourn by Legislator Beedenbender and a second by Legislator Losquadro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**MR. LAUBE:**

Eighteen.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

We stand adjourned.

*(\*The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 PM\*)*

*{ } - Denotes Spelled Phonetically*