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NEWS RELEASE

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**ROMAINE SECURES FUNDING FOR
COUNTY ROAD 48 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

Suffolk County Legislator Ed Romaine today announced that the County Legislature adopted, and the County Executive signed, a resolution securing funding to begin planning and design of safety improvements for County Road 48 from Chapel Lane to SR 25.

Many members of North Fork fire departments have expressed their concerns regarding the condition of this road, especially the impact it has on ambulance passengers enroute to Eastern Long Island Hospital. While the County Department of Public Works has been reluctant to make any changes in the past, this resolution will guarantee these improvements move forward.

“The constant ‘bump-bump’ on the road is really tough on patients lying in the back of ambulances,” noted Romaine. “Add that to the deficiencies of a road that was constructed in the 1930s and it becomes clear improvements are necessary.”

The improvements are a three-phase, multi-year project, which is slated to begin in 2010. Legislator Romaine has stated his intention to ensure funding is included in the 2011-2013 Capital Budget and Program for the reconstruction work from Chapel Lane to SR 25 and for planning, design, and construction westward to Southold Town Beach.

Phase I construction – Chapel Lane to SR 25 –is estimated at \$3.5 million. A future phase will include safety improvements in the vicinity of the Soundview Restaurant and Motel which has been plagued with a series of serious accidents in recent years.

Legislator Romaine has led the charge to make several improvements to CR 48 during his tenure. In 2006, he secured funding for the installation of a traffic light at Westphalia Avenue in Mattituck and earlier this year Romaine had the Department of Public Works erect turn signals at the intersection of Cox Lane in Cutchogue.