



Edward P. Romaine

*Suffolk County Legislator
First District*

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LEASE APPROVED FOR EAST END VETERANS CLINIC

The Suffolk County Legislature has approved a resolution co-sponsored by Legislator Ed Romaine to authorize a lease for the use of a portion of the County Center in Riverhead to serve as an East End VA medical clinic.

Suffolk County has the highest concentration of veterans in New York. The medical needs of Suffolk's veterans are serviced by the Northport VA Medical Center, which has reported a more than 60% growth in their patient population over the past several years. However, Eastern Long Island veterans often have difficulty receiving treatment in a timely fashion because of their geographic distance from Northport.

Operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs, the 4,300 square foot Riverhead clinic will provide primary care and mental health services to Suffolk's veterans on eastern Long Island. Fifty percent – \$500,000 – of the renovations and construction costs were funded through a grant from the Dormitory Authority of New York. Equipment and furnishings will be provided by the VA. The no-cost lease expires in 2020.

Legislator Romaine and Riverhead VFW Post 2476 Commander Joe Edler toured the still-under-construction facility today to review the progress.

“We owe it to our veterans to provide a top-notch health facility on the East End,” said Legislator Romaine. “While construction is still ongoing, I am confident this facility will be one of the premier medical facilities on eastern Long Island.”

“I am grateful the county and the VA were able to work together to provide our East End veterans with the medical care they deserve,” added Romaine.



Post Commander Joe Edler & Legis. Ed Romaine tour the new East End Veterans Clinic