

**P R E S S R E L E A S E F R O M
L E G I S L A T O R J O H N M . K E N N E D Y , J R .**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug 31st , 2010**

**CONTACT: Ali Nazir
CHIEF OF STAFF**
PHONE: (631) 854-3735
CELL: (631) 767-6230
Email: Ali.Nazir@suffolkcountyny.gov

FLOOD WATCH UPDATE (AUG 31ST 2010)

Even though it has been a dry summer, groundwater levels still remain elevated, and long term remediation efforts have not been forgotten. In the last week of summer, work is finally expected to begin regarding silt remediation, and drainage system reconstruction in the vicinity of Bow Drive. Terry Contracting has been selected to perform the phase 1 project, a jointly funded initiative between Smithtown, and the County of Suffolk through its dedicated ¼ cent sales tax funding.

Also upcoming is a resolution to conduct planning and engineering work on the streambed and adjoining drainage structures throughout the Village of the Branch, and onto County Parkland up to the Millers Pond Weir. This work is long overdue, and the results will provide long term solutions to the chronologically recurring flooding conditions. Equally exiting was the notification received this week that the New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) has approved the concept jointly developed by Legislator Kennedy, H2M, Village of the Branch and the Town of Smithtown, the proposal involves the reconstruction of culverts, and the removal of silt and accretion. Deadline for submission of the proposed plan is September 30th , 2010.

If you have any further questions or concerns regarding this matter feel free to contact Legislator Kennedy's office at (631) 854-3735, and those questions will be addressed accordingly and promptly.