

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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From left to right: Ryan Porter, Renaissance Downtowns; Councilwoman Susan A. Berland; County Executive Steve Bellone; Councilwoman Tracey A. Edwards; Legislator William "Doc" Spencer; Huntington Town Supervisor Frank Petrone; Andrea Bonilla, Community Liaison Source the Station; and Legislator Steve Stern.

LOCAL LEADERS ANNOUNCE COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING FOR HUNTINGTON STATION

\$1.25 MILLION INVESTMENT IS PART OF A 20 MILLION DOLLAR PROJECT TO SPARK REVITALIZATION IN THE COMMUNITY

Huntington Station, NY –Legislator William R. Spencer, M.D. was joined by County Executive Steve Bellone, Town of Huntington Supervisor Frank Petrone, Legislator Steve Stern and community organizations at the Huntington Opportunity Resource Center today to announce funding to expand infrastructure along New York Avenue in Huntington Station. The \$1.25 million approved at the December General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature will be used to complete a comprehensive report, engineering and design plan for sewers south of the Huntington Train Station and is a key component to the long awaited revitalization efforts in the community.

"Investing in sewers is the foundation of advancing the revitalization and will open the door to a bright future for the community," stated Legislator William R. Spencer, M.D. "With engaged partners in the town and community moving this forward, the sewers will enable Huntington Station to once again reclaim our strong sense of place and become an attractive downtown."

"Supporting community based planning is vital to growing Suffolk County's economy," County Executive Steve Bellone said. "This project will create jobs and provide the support we need for vibrant downtowns. Part of being responsible with taxpayer dollars is making critical investments in community-based plans that help grow our economy."

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Huntington Supervisor Frank P. Petrone said, "As we continue to build momentum in Huntington Station's revitalization, it is important that we identify and address possible impediments. The lack of sewers south of the railroad tracks is one of those impediments, and this grant will start the ball rolling toward solving the issue. Thank you to County Executive Bellone and Legislator Spencer for spearheading the effort to provide the funding to study the matter and to design a solution."

When considering the available funding, Huntington Station was marked as a strategic location for infrastructure improvements to trigger economic growth in the County. This investment is the roadmap for the larger \$20 million dollar project included in the 2017 Capital Budget for the construction of sewers in subsequent years. The project is expected to lift the local economy, provide new housing opportunities, create jobs, and increase property values.

"This funding marks an important first step in the long-awaited revitalization of Huntington Station," Legislator Steve Stern said. "Sewer infrastructure is important not only for economic development, but also to support small businesses, expand opportunity and improve the quality of life for all of Huntington. It is also critical to preserving our environment and protecting water quality. I am proud to join with my colleagues to announce this exciting initiative."

Andrea Bonilla, a longtime Huntington Station resident and the Community Liaison for Source the Station stated, "Source the Station has been collaborating and working with the Huntington Station community for over 4 years. We understand the importance of sewers for a sustainable revitalization of our community, and are excited to see this component come to fruition as we all continue to strive for a better future for all Huntington Station stakeholders."

"Clearly, sewers are the key component when it comes to protecting our environment, spurring our local economy and promoting the type of smart, sensible housing growth that will enable our children and grandchildren to remain on Long Island," said Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station). "On behalf of Legislators Spencer and Stern, as well as the entire Huntington Station community, whose residents and businesses have patiently waited their turn for sewers, I thank both my legislative colleagues and County Executive Steve Bellone for supporting this critically important infrastructure funding."



Rendering of revitalization plan for southern side of Huntington Train Station. Rt. 110/Depot Road Intersection.
Photo Credit: Renaissance Downtowns