



Bridget Fleming
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*Legislator Fleming Secures Funding for
Stormwater Management in Riverside, Cedar
Island Lighthouse, and Establishes
Transportation Working Group at November
22nd General Meeting*



CAPTION: Legislator Fleming advocating for Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program and Land Stewardship Initiatives Funding for the Riverside Circle Reconstruction Project at the November 22, 2016 General Meeting.

Suffolk County's Second District Legislator Bridget Fleming accomplished a great deal for residents of the South Fork at the November 22, 2016 General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature, delivering a total of eight bills to benefit her constituents.

One of the victories of the day was the approval of a bond resolution, issuing \$250,000 of the Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program and Land Stewardship Initiatives (WQPRP) Fund to the Riverside Circle Reconstruction Project. The Legislature passed the bond with 14 votes in favor. This funding will be used for the construction of a system that will reduce nutrient and pathogen loading to the Peconic River through the use of a variety of stormwater management practices accepted for use in the New York

State Department of Environmental Conservation Stormwater Management Design Manual. “I am grateful to my colleagues for their support on this important project. Reducing nutrient loading is critical to the protection of our waterways,” said Legislator Fleming following the vote. “This is an important step that we must take to protect our water now and for future generations.” Fleming has also secured WQPRP funding for two other water quality protection projects in her district, including the replacement of the Eastern Boat Pump-Out Station at the Shinnecock Marina, and funding for Phase 4 of the Lake Agawam Storm Water Remediation Project in the Village of Southampton. Additionally, the Environment, Planning, & Agriculture Committee will consider appropriating WQPRP funds for the Tiana Bayside Marine Education and Outreach Center within the Town of Southampton on Monday, November 28th at 10:15 a.m. in the Legislative Auditorium of the William H Rogers Building in Smithtown.

Following shortly after the Riverside Circle vote, the Legislature considered and ultimately approved the appropriation of \$500,000 from the Historic Restoration and Preservation Fund to the Cedar Island Lighthouse in East Hampton. Constructed in 1868, the Cedar Island Lighthouse which once safely guided whaling ships into Sag Harbor and is still serves as a landmark for modern vessels, is currently the only lighthouse in Suffolk County that is in a state of disrepair. In the early 1970s, the historic lighthouse was damaged by fire, and received only temporary repairs. As a result there are currently several holes in the roof of the structure that are causing it to deteriorate. The funding appropriated from the Historic Restoration and Preservation Fund will be used for the planning and construction of a new roof. Once the repairs are made, it is the intention of the County to enter a private-public partnership with the Long Island Chapter of the United States Lighthouse Society in order to make continued improvements to the structure and maintain it. “The historic Cedar Island Lighthouse is of great significance to the residents of the East End” stated Fleming. “A new roof on this structure is an important first step in the restoration of a resource that will promote economic growth and improve our community character.”

Also passed at the November 22nd General Meeting was a resolution establishing a working group to maximize the level of transportation services provided by Suffolk County, sponsored by both Second District Legislator Bridget Fleming and Third District Legislator Kate Browning. In early October, the county discontinued 10 Suffolk County Transit bus routes due to budget constraints, 3 of which service Fleming’s district. Fleming believes the decision to end routes should have been made in consultation with certain knowledgeable and important players, including private companies who operate routes that were cut. The newly established working group will bring relevant parties to the table, such as the Long Island Bus Riders Union, Town and Village officials and private bus operators, who will collect data on current and anticipated uses, ridership trends, travel origins and destinations, and ridership at major points of interest and make recommendations that can serve as a basis for a new bus service plan that will reconfigure bus service where feasible to serve key ridership segments and key assets. “There are a number of resources that the county failed to tap into prior to making these cuts. As a former member of the Southampton Town Board, I firmly believe that there is value in working with different levels of government and other stakeholders” stated Fleming. “It is my hope that this working group will find innovative solutions to the transportation problems we face in Suffolk County that will maximize the level of service our residents receive, promote the use of our transit system, and keep costs at feasible levels.”

The complete list of Fleming's legislation that was approved at the General Meeting on November 22nd is as follows:

[IR 1910](#): Amending the 2016 Capital Budget and appropriating funds in connection with the Historic Restoration and Preservation Fund (CP 7510).

[IR 1861a](#): Co-sponsored legislation, Bond Resolution of the County of Suffolk, New York, authorizing the issuance of \$250,000 Bonds to finance the New Enhanced Suffolk County Water Quality Protection Program – 2014 Referendum – Reconstruction of Riverside Roundabout, Riverhead.

[IR 1941](#): Sponsored legislation establishing a working group to maximize the level of transportation services provided by Suffolk County.

[IR 1867](#): Sponsored legislation requiring the Department of Public Works to provide notice of certain capital projects to towns and villages.

[IR 1888](#): Sponsored Legislation appointing a member to the Tick Control Advisory Committee (Zachary Cohen).

[IR 1810](#): Co-sponsored the sale of County-owned real estate pursuant to Section 72-h of the General Municipal Law (Town of East Hampton) (SCTM No. 0300-155.00-01.00-030.000).

[IR 1811](#): Co-sponsored the sale of County-owned real estate pursuant to Section 72-h of the General Municipal Law (Town of East Hampton) (SCTM No. 0300-155.00-01.00-031.000).

[IR 1926](#): Co-sponsored the authorization of a two-year extension for the development of a parcel of land transferred pursuant to the 72-h Affordable Housing Program to the Town of East Hampton.