

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



KATE BROWNING
County Legislator, 3rd District
Public Safety Committee, Chair

Media Release
March 9, 2016

COUNTY LEGISLATURE

1120 Montauk Hwy., Suite G
Mastic, NY 11950
Fax: (631) 852-1303

Contact: Joshua Slaughter
631-852-1300
631-456-1718

National Grid Seeking to Extend Natural Gas Main in Mastic Beach

“Neighborhood Expansion Program” Requires Public Participation

Mastic Beach, NY – Legislator Kate Browning (WF-Shirley) and Mastic Beach Village officials continue to pursue bringing natural gas to the area, and as a result National Grid is looking to extend a natural gas main from Flower Rd into the Village of Mastic Beach Business area. Unfortunately, the response from targeted homeowners after public outreach has not been sufficient to move forward. Legislator Browning is urging residents in the area to participate in the process so that the project can become a reality.

The boundaries of the proposed project include south of the newly constructed Colony Preserve, east of the William Floyd Pkwy., north of Neighborhood Rd and west of Mastic Rd. Previous efforts have been made to bring natural gas to the area. However, since that time National Grid has a new program, the “Neighborhood Expansion Program” that can help with this project. It only requires 60 percent of traditional commitments from homeowners, and allows for aggregating interest in a neighborhood. It is a limited time offer approved by the Public Service Commission as a pilot program. In addition, when residents convert to natural gas they may be eligible for a rebate. In order for the area to meet the criteria National Grid must begin with the targeted section, but going forward there could be an opportunity to do the same for the other residential areas of Mastic Beach, Mastic, and Shirley.

“Now is the time to expand natural gas on the peninsula, but we need the public to respond enthusiastically,” stated Legislator Browning. “If we miss this opportunity it may never happen.”

There are approximately 597 prospective homes in the target area, and National Grid has only received a response from 22 residents; 5 of which are not in the targeted area. National Grid made direct phone calls to the residents as well as sent mailings in regards to this possible project and public meeting dates. The first meeting was poorly attended. The more support and interest in the project by the residents within the targeted area, the more likely the project will happen.

In late March or early April, National Grid will be heading up a team going door to door within the targeted area, to raise awareness as well as answer questions for residents. They will be providing literature for those who are home and door hangers for those who are not available. Unfortunately without the active participation of the residents, this project may not come to pass. If a resident cannot attend the meeting, they can call National Grid directly to express their interest in bringing natural gas to their homes. Interested property owners should contact Valarie Hunter at (631) 758-5004 or email at Valarie.hunter@nationalgrid.com.

###