

RESOLUTION NO. 349 -2013, CONDUCTING A STUDY TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SUPPORT CENTERS AT VETERANS SUPPORT ORGANIZATION SITES IN SUFFOLK COUNTY

WHEREAS, the County of Suffolk continually strives to improve its emergency preparedness; and

WHEREAS, during and after Superstorm Sandy, government agencies, volunteer organizations and non-profit organizations worked together to provide emergency assistance and aid to the thousands of residents impacted by the storm; and

WHEREAS, many veterans service organizations, including American Legion and Veterans of Foreign War posts, responded to the needs of their local communities – serving food, distributing supplies, blankets and clothing, and opening their posts as warming and charging centers for residents; and

WHEREAS, veterans service organizations have expressed an interest in participating in a system whereby they could be contacted by the County and activated in times of emergency to aid local communities; and

WHEREAS, the County should examine the possibility of establishing a Community Emergency Support Center Program that will allow veterans support organizations to provide basic, non-emergency assistance as swiftly as is practicable following weather emergencies; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services (“FRES”) and the County Veterans Service Agency (“VSA”) are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to examine the feasibility of designating veterans support organization sites as Community Emergency Support Centers to provide non-emergency assistance to individuals in need following an adverse weather event; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the study shall consider the criteria veterans services organizations would need to satisfy in order to qualify for the program, how such centers would be activated, the costs associated with such a program, the scope of a center’s duties, and any other issues relevant to the establishment and operation of these centers; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that FRES and the VSA shall prepare a written report containing their findings, determinations and recommendations, and submit a copy of same to the County Executive, each County Legislator and the Clerk of the Legislature within a 120 days of the effective date of this resolution; and be it further

4th RESOLVED, that the Director of the VSA will present these findings and recommendations to the Veterans & Seniors Committee of the County Legislature; and be it further

5th RESOLVED, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: May 7, 2013

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: May 15, 2013