

RESOLUTION NO. 797 -2013, DIRECTING THE DIVISION OF VECTOR CONTROL TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PLANS TO REDUCE TICK-BORNE ILLNESSES

WHEREAS, the County of Suffolk is charged with protecting the health, safety and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the County established a Division of Vector Control within the Department of Public Works to prevent both mosquito- and tick-borne illnesses; and

WHEREAS, while both mosquito- and tick-borne illnesses are serious health concerns, Lyme's disease, a tick-borne illness, is the most widespread vector-borne disease in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control estimates that approximately 300,000 Americans are diagnosed with Lyme's disease each year, with the highest number of incidences occurring in the Northeast; and

WHEREAS, an individual is 300 times more likely to contract Lyme's disease than mosquito-borne West Nile Virus; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Vector Control is required to file a yearly plan subject to legislative approval which outlines the work it intends to carry out in the upcoming year and the methods to be used to conduct same; and

WHEREAS, previous annual plans put forth by the Division of Vector Control and the County's Long Term Vector Control Plan do not address means to reduce tick-borne illnesses; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Vector Control should regularly develop plans to aid in the reduction of tick-borne illnesses in Suffolk County to protect the health and welfare of all County residents; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Department of Public Works Division of Vector Control shall include in its yearly Vector Control Plan a section which details the steps being taken to reduce the incidence of tick-borne illnesses in Suffolk County; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the section of the yearly plan shall detail the work to be done by the Division, the methods they intend to employ, a general description of the land the Department anticipates must be entered upon in order to carry out these responsibilities and include the methodologies used to assess the effectiveness of the program over time in reducing tick-borne illnesses; and be it further

3rd 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: October 8, 2013

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: October 17, 2013