

RESOLUTION NO. 151 -2014, DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF USING BEET-BASED BRINES FOR TREATING ROADWAYS DURING WINTER STORMS

WHEREAS, the County of Suffolk is continually striving to improve the maintenance and safety of its roadways; and

WHEREAS, the County must always be prepared to ensure safe road conditions during and after inclement winter weather; and

WHEREAS, sugar beets have proven to be an unlikely but effective source of road maintenance products; and

WHEREAS, the extract of sugar beets is used as a road primer in upstate New York and in Midwestern states prior to inclement weather, as well as a mixture with conventional salt brine to de-ice roads during and after storms; and

WHEREAS, beet brine prevents snow and ice from bonding with the pavement and is environmentally safe; and

WHEREAS, beet brine also reduces the amount of salt needed to treat roads, further stretching taxpayer dollars and the County's salt supply; and

WHEREAS, recent concerns about the County's dwindling salt supply during this year's active winter storm season make consideration of beet brine based road treatments timely; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works should study the feasibility and costs associated with using beet brine to treat County roadways during inclement weather; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Department of Public Works is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to study the feasibility of using beet brine on County roads prior to and after winter storms; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the study shall include, but will not be limited to, an estimate of the costs associated with using beet brine on County roadways, the availability of sufficient supply and the impacts associated with changing treatments; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that the Department of Public Works will report their findings and recommendations to the County Executive and the County Legislature, within 90 days of the effective date of this resolution; and be it further

4th 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: March 4, 2014

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: March 14, 2014