

**RESOLUTION NO. 91 -2015, DIRECTING THE ISSUANCE OF
A REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ASSOCIATED
WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CONVENTION AND
EXPOSITION CENTER IN SUFFOLK COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Suffolk County is a diverse community with a population of 1.5 million residents; and

WHEREAS, many large commercial enterprises, educational institutions and high technology firms are located in Suffolk County; and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County also has a thriving tourism industry which attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year; and

WHEREAS, while Suffolk County is one of the largest and most important suburban communities in the entire nation, the County does not have a facility that can host large regional sporting events, concerts, conventions or trade shows requiring at least 100,000 square feet of enclosed space; and

WHEREAS, a convention center has the potential to bring large organizations, groups and businesses to Suffolk County for conventions and trade shows; and

WHEREAS, visiting individuals and businesses would be exposed to the many strengths of Suffolk County, which could lead to further local economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, a multi-function exposition center could also attract recreational activities and events, including cultural events, interest-based shows (dog, horse, boat and auto shows), sporting events and other public gatherings; and

WHEREAS, a convention and exposition center will also create jobs in the construction and tourism industries and help support the service industry in the surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County should solicit proposals for such a project to draw additional revenue into the County's economy; now, therefore be it

1st **RESOLVED**, that the Department of Economic Development ("the Department") is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to develop a request for expressions of interest ("RFEI") for the development of a convention and exposition center in Suffolk County; and be it further

2nd **RESOLVED**, that the Department shall consult with community stakeholders, including, but not limited to, equestrian organizations, Suffolk County Community College and the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau, in the development of the RFEI; and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that the RFEI shall focus exclusively on uses where Suffolk County Community College's facility in Brentwood is not suitable; 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 3, 2015

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steve Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: March 17, 2015