

Intro. Res. No. 1861-2016

Laid on Table 9/7/2016

Introduced by Presiding Officer, on request of the County Executive and Legislators Fleming, Browning, Hahn

RESOLUTION NO. 854 -2016, AUTHORIZING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE RIVERSIDE ROUNDABOUT, RIVERHEAD, USING THE NEW ENHANCED SUFFOLK COUNTY WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAM FUNDS (CP 8733)

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 31-2014, a Charter Law Amending the ¼% Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program (DWPP) for Enhanced Water Quality Protection, Wastewater Infrastructure and General Fund Property Tax Relief for Suffolk County, created the 2014 Enhanced Suffolk County Water Quality Protection Program, codified in Suffolk County Charter Article XIIA; and

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 31-2014 was approved at a referendum in November of 2014, by Suffolk County voters; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 adopted capital budget contains three water quality protection 2014 referendum capital projects totaling \$29.4 million: CP 8732 for land purchases (\$20 million), CP 8733 for water quality projects (\$4.7 million), CP 8734 for sewer improvement projects (\$4.7 million); and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has determined that the Drinking Water Protection Program is essential to the well-being of the County's drinking water supply, and it is in the best interest of the County's residents to preserve the sanctity of the Program and to secure significant environmental and public health benefits; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 437-2016 appropriated \$4.7 million in serial bond proceeds for water quality protection and restoration program and land stewardship initiatives projects as set forth in the Enhanced Suffolk County Water Quality Protection Program; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 471-1994 as revised by Resolution No. 461-2006, established the use of a priority ranking system, implemented in the Adopted 2016 Capital Budget as the basis for funding capital projects such as this project; and

WHEREAS, funding is requested for this project through the New Enhanced Suffolk County Water Quality Protection Program; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 498-2016 appropriates funds in connection with the reconstruction of Riverside Traffic Circle into Capital Program 5557.310, in the amount of \$4,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning has requested funding that will enable the Suffolk County Department of Public Works (SCDPW) to implement the Reconstruction of the Riverside Roundabout project, located in Riverhead at the Intersection of CR 63, CR 104, CR 94, and NYS Route 24; and

WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Water Quality Review Committee at its August 11, 2016 meeting, pursuant to Article XII of the Suffolk County Charter, has recommended

funding the Reconstruction of the Riverside Roundabout as an appropriate use of Suffolk County Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program and Land Stewardship funds; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the project is to reconstruct the Riverside Roundabout in order to reduce nutrient and pathogen loading to the Peconic River through the use of a variety of stormwater management practices (SMP) accepted for use in the NYSDEC Stormwater Management Design Manual; and

WHEREAS, The existing Riverside Roundabout was initially constructed between 1937 and 1947, and the existing storm sewer system discharges directly to the Peconic River, designated by the NYSDEC as scenic and recreational due to the outstanding scenic, ecological, recreational, and scientific value; and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Department of Public Works conducted a study in 2011 on the alternatives for the reconstruction of the Riverside Roundabout, from which SCDPW has selected a preferred alternative which involves reconstructing the existing traffic circle into a modern roundabout which includes the design of an entirely new storm sewer system using modern stormwater management practices that would reduce loading of pollutants of concern such as phosphorus, nitrogen, sediment and pathogens to the Peconic River; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 498-2016 appropriates funds into Capital Project 5557.310 in the amount of \$4,000,000 for the reconstruction of Riverside Roundabout, and as the reconstruction of the Riverside Roundabout estimate for the project has been developed and progressed, it has become apparent that the original allocation is less than what will be needed to complete the stormwater component of this project; and

WHEREAS, this project will complement the protection and management of the Peconic River and Estuary; and

WHEREAS, the project will be initiated within one year of the date of adoption of this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the project will be completed within three years of the date of adoption of this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, that this Legislature has determined that the Proposed Improvements to County Road 94 Roundabout, Town of Southampton and Town of Riverhead constitutes an Unlisted Action, pursuant to the provisions of Title 6 NYCRR, Part 617 and Chapter 450 of the Suffolk County Code, and the proposed project will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment for the following reasons (Adopted via SEQRA Resolution 926-2015):

- 1) the proposed action will not exceed any of the criteria set forth in Title 6 NYCRR, Part 617.7, which sets forth thresholds for determining significant effect on the environment, as demonstrated in the Environmental Assessment Form;
- 2) the proposal does not appear to significantly threaten any unique or highly valuable environmental or cultural resources as identified in or regulated by the Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York or the Suffolk County Charter or the Suffolk County Code;
- 3) the proposed action will include pedestrian crosswalk signage and appropriate, dark skies compliant, crosswalk lighting;

- 4) the Suffolk County Department of Public Works will insure that the project's stormwater infrastructure receives routine maintenance;
- 5) the Suffolk County Department of Public Works will continue to coordinate with the Town of Riverhead on stormwater and traffic issues north of the proposed roundabout on Peconic Avenue and in connecting downtown Riverhead; and
- 6) the proposed improvements to the County Road 94 roundabout will reduce existing traffic congestion during the morning and evening rush hours and improve vehicular and pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, the County Legislature, by resolution of even date herewith, has authorized the issuance of \$250,000 in Suffolk County Serial Bonds; now, therefore be it

1st **RESOLVED**, that it is hereby determined that this project, with a priority ranking of sixty-nine (69), is eligible for approval in accordance with the provisions of Resolution No. 471-1994 as revised by Resolution No. 461-2006; and be it further

2nd **RESOLVED**, pursuant to the new Article XIA of the Suffolk County Charter, CP 8733.310 funding shall be used for water quality protection and restoration program and land stewardship initiatives projects as set forth in Section C12-2(B) of the Suffolk County Charter, exclusive of Suffolk County personnel costs; and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that the County Comptroller is hereby authorized to pay \$250,000, from the previously appropriated funds in capital project 525-CAP-8733.310 for the New Enhanced Suffolk County Water Quality Protection Program – 2014 Referendum, Water Quality Projects component, Section C12-2(B) of the Suffolk County Charter, for this water quality restoration project, 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 Title 6 NYCRR Part 617.5(C) (18), (20), (21), and (27) as the proposal involves the adoption of regulations, policies, procedures and local legislative decisions in connection with routine or continuing agency administration and management; and be it further

5th **RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or designee, and the Department of Economic Development and Planning, with the approval of the County Attorney, are hereby authorized and empowered to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary or desirable, consistent with the purposes and intent of the foregoing resolution.

DATED: October 5, 2016

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: October 20, 2016