

RESOLUTION NO. 990 -2016, MAKING A SEQRA DETERMINATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED INVASIVE SPECIES ERADICATION PROJECT AT CANAAN LAKE, TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN

WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) reviewed a project designated as the "Proposed Invasive Species Eradication Project at Canaan Lake, Town of Brookhaven", pursuant to Local Law No. 22-1985, which project involves a phased approach to reduce the amount of invasive species in the Canaan Lake and to improve the lake's overall water quality; and

WHEREAS, Canaan Lake is a man-made 21 acre lake that has been significantly impacted with invasive aquatic species which are severely hampering the natural habitat and recreational uses of the lake; and

WHEREAS, the phased project approach includes the installation of a new culvert with an adjustable sluice gate which will allow for slow and controlled seasonal drawdown event(s) (anticipated to occur in the fall and winter months over an approximately two year period) of Canaan Lake; and

WHEREAS, the lake drawdown will be conducted to expose and potentially kill off some of the aquatic species and allow for the dry excavation and offsite disposal of some of the exposed built-up organic sediment; and

WHEREAS, after the excavation of the dry sediments the sluice gate will be gradually raised to allow for the slow and controlled refilling of Canaan Lake back to its normal water level; and

WHEREAS, depending on lake conditions and excavation results, the project may include more than one lake drawdown and excavation event; and

WHEREAS, an Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) was prepared and submitted to the CEQ office by the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning and a presentation was made by the Vice President of P.W. Grosser Consulting and subsequently sent out to all concerned parties; and

WHEREAS, at its October 19, 2016 meeting, the CEQ reviewed the EAF and information submitted by the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning; and

WHEREAS, the CEQ recommended that the above activity be considered a Type I Action, pursuant to the provisions of Title 6 NYCRR, Part 617 and Chapter 450 of the Suffolk County Code; and

WHEREAS, the CEQ has advised the County Legislature and the County Executive by memo dated October 20, 2016 of said recommendations; and

WHEREAS, Section 450-5(H) of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE requires the Presiding Officer to introduce legislation for an appropriate SEQRA determination; and

WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Legislature has reviewed the EAF and the CEQ recommendations; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that this Legislature hereby determines that the Proposed Invasive Species Eradication Project at Canaan Lake, Town of Brookhaven constitutes a Type I Action, pursuant to the provisions of Title 6 NYCRR, Part 617 and Chapter 450 of the Suffolk County Code, that the proposed project will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment for the following reasons:

- 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) any and all required NYSDEC freshwater wetlands permits will be obtained as well as any and all required NYSDEC and/or Suffolk County Parks Department wetland mitigation/restoration plans and wildlife management plans;
- 4) the proposed project is being conducted in a phased approach which will allow for the evaluation of existing conditions and completed work to inform excavation procedures as well as possible future drawdown/excavation events;
- 5) all excavated materials will be sampled and disposed of in accordance with NYSDEC requirements;
- 6) the drawdown and refilling of Canaan Lake will be done at a slow and controlled rate and include downstream monitoring to avoid downstream flooding and to minimize turbidity increases; and
- 7) the proposed project is anticipated to result in a long term positive impact on the water quality in Canaan Lake by reducing the amount of invasive species and organic soft sediment which has built up in the lake;

and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be filed with the Suffolk County Clerk, the initiating unit of said project, and with the CEQ; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that in accordance with Section C1-4(1)(d) of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CHARTER and Section 450-5(C)(4) of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE, the CEQ is

hereby directed to prepare and circulate a SEQRA notice of determination of non-significance in accordance with this Resolution.

DATED: November 22, 2016

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: November 29, 2016