

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVE LEVY
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

THOMAS A. ISLES, A.I.C.P.
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

SUFFOLK COUNTY AQUACULTURE LEASE PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Program in Peconic and Gardiners Bays

Notice of Project Kickoff Meetings

Suffolk County has been authorized by the State of New York to develop and implement a shellfish aquaculture lease program for the underwater lands in Peconic and Gardiners Bays pursuant to New York Environmental Conservation Law §13-0302, enacted on September 14, 2004. In 2005, County Executive Steve Levy designated shellfish aquaculture planning as a Suffolk County Department of Planning priority, and capital project funds were secured to prepare the lease program. The Suffolk County Aquaculture Lease Program Advisory Committee (ALPAC) was also established per County Executive Order.

Preparation of the lease program will require Geographic Information System mapping and marine resource analysis, the identification of potential locations where shellfish aquaculture is feasible, the description of lease program administrative procedures and the fulfillment of all programmatic environmental reviews. A request for proposals solicitation process was completed in 2006, and Cashin Associates, P.C. was selected as the technical services consultant to assist the Department of Planning in this effort. Work on the project was initiated at the beginning of the New Year and completion is expected during the latter part of 2008.

In response to an ALPAC recommendation, the Department of Planning will convene two kickoff meetings for the *Suffolk County Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Program in Peconic and Gardiners Bays* project. One meeting will be held at a location on the North Fork, and the other, at a South Fork location, in order to facilitate attendance by the public. The meetings will be widely advertised, giving the public the opportunity to attend either one, or both meetings.

- The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 31, 2007 from 7:00 – 9:30 pm at the Southold Town Hall, 53095 Main Rd., Southold, NY.
- The second meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2007 from 7:00 – 9:30 pm at the Southampton Town Hall, 2nd Floor Boardroom, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton, NY.

LOCATION
H. LEE DENNISON BLDG. - 4TH FLOOR
100 VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

MAILING ADDRESS
P. O. BOX 6100
HAUPPAUGE, NY 11788-0099

(631) 853-5190
TELECOPIER (631) 853-4044

These informational meetings are being held to inform local officials, various interested parties and the general public about the project as it gets underway. A presentation will be given by Department of Planning staff and Cashin Associates, P.C. on the various work components and the expected timeline for completion.

Following the presentation, attendees will be given the opportunity to respond and provide comments to ALPAC during the public portion of these meetings. Oral testimony from each member of the public will be limited to a duration of two minutes. Two copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted to the meeting registration desk. If possible, advance receipt of any prepared statements at the mailing address indicated on this letterhead would be appreciated.

If possible, please contact Department of Planning staff member Michelle Weiss by email (michelle.weiss@suffolkcountyny.gov) or by phone (631-853-4775) to indicate your intentions of attending the meetings.

Should the decision be made to cancel a meeting due to inclement weather, a notice of same will be posted on the Department of Planning website, as follows:
<http://www.co.suffolk.ny.us/webtemp3.cfm?dept=11&ID=131>

Thomas A. Isles, Chairman