



SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR SARAH ANKER COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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SHOREHAM, WADING RIVER, RIDGE, MIDDLE ISLAND AND CORAM

FALL/WINTER 2014

Coastal Erosion Task Force

*Storm Devastation Prompts Legislator to Create Task Force
Protecting Residents' Safety and Property Value*



Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker was interviewed by CBS News reporter Carolyn Gusoff on her efforts to create a North Shore Coastal Erosion Task Force to address the increase in erosion along the county's coastline.

Recent legislation sponsored by Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker to create a North Shore Coastal Erosion Task Force, addressing erosion issues on Suffolk County's north shore, was approved unanimously by the Legislature.

Resolution 1697-2014, calls for a task force to develop strategies that will protect the north shore's infrastructure and environment from the effects of coastal erosion. The idea for the task force came about after Legislator Anker met with local residents that experienced significant damage and property loss as a result of Superstorm Sandy and Hurricane Irene.

Legislator Anker will chair the task force, which will also include seven environmental experts from federal, state, and county departments. County participants will include the Suffolk County Planning Department, Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Department of Public Works.

Plant specialists from the National Resources Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and marine experts from Stony Brook University's School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) will lend their expertise, as well as representatives from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the First U.S. Congressional District.

"According to NYS DEC, areas along the coastline in my district have been severely affected by erosion," said Legislator Anker. "More than 30 feet of prime real estate was lost due to Superstorm Sandy. It is imperative we address this issue as soon as possible and with every resource available."

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Rails to Trails Update

*County Approves
Funding Allocation*



The Suffolk County Legislature unanimously approved appropriation of funds for the design stage of the Port Jefferson-Wading River Rails to Trails project. The design stage of the 10-mile, federally-funded green trail project will be conducted by RBG Engineering, and will include community input on the design and development of the trail.

"The trail has been an ongoing project and it is no easy task bringing together the many levels and layers of government and stakeholders to move this project forward," said Legislator Anker. "This is a wonderful opportunity to enhance our north shore communities, and it will not only provide a boost to our local economy, but it will provide a safe a place for our residents to enjoy the outdoors."

Advocating for Safe Roads

Due to safety concerns, Legislator Anker has contacted NYS Department of Transportation to request a traffic study in the Shoreham-Wading River High School area off Rt. 25A. The Legislator continues to monitor the request for the study and will take additional community input.

Preserving Open Space

Legislator Moves Forward to Preserve Miller Place Parcel

Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker is taking action to protect an environmentally sensitive 5.4-acre parcel located off Landing Road in Miller Place. Having been contacted by constituents voicing concerns about the potential development of the land, Legislator Anker has formally submitted a request to the county's land acquisition department to acquire the parcel for open space.

Legislator Anker submitted a resolution in 2011 to preserve the parcel, which sits adjacent to the 64.4-acre waterfront Cordwood Landing County Park, for open space. To Legislator Anker's disappointment, the former owner would not sell the land to the county, due to a county law which dictates that the county can only offer "fair market value" for the parcel. Not to be discouraged, Legislator Anker continued to monitor the status of the property and after learning the property was under new ownership, she submitted legislation to have the property appraised by the county.

"The parcel embodies the natural character and beauty of our north shore community," said Legislator



Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker visits Suffolk County Cordwood Landing Park, adjacent to a 5.4 acre parcel being considered for acquisition.

Anker. "This is an opportunity we can't turn down. With the community's support in advocating to preserve the parcel and with the parcel's acceptance in meeting the requirements for county acquisition, I will do everything I can to preserve the parcel for open space."

Since taking office, through legislation action Legislator Anker has preserved over 2,000 acres of open space.



Partners in Recycling

Legislator Sarah Anker joined County Executive Steve Bellone, Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine, Green Stream Recycling (GSR) President Will Flower, GSR Partner Joe Winters and Winters Brothers Vice President Sean Winters in announcing an Intermunicipal Agreement between the Town and the County's Department of Public Works to establish a Single Stream Recycling Pilot Program, through legislation sponsored by Legislator Anker.

Celebrating 50 Years In Protecting Our Farms and Our Environment

Soil and Water Conservation District Legislative Committee members Legislator Sarah Anker and Legislator Al Krupski joined Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory and committee members at the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the committee.

The Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District was established in 1964 to address environmental concerns related to the farming community and soil erosion.



Legislator Anker's Committees include:

Suffolk County Chairwoman of the Education & Information Technology Committee • Vice Chairwoman of the Budget and Finance Committee
Veterans and Seniors Committee Member • Environment, Planning & Agriculture Committee Member
Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District Committee Member • Brookhaven National Laboratory Legislative Committee Member