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4	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
5	COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
6	X
7	X
8	June 18, 2008 9:30 a.m.
9	Arthur Kunz Library
10	H. Lee Dennison Building Hauppauge, New York
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14	BEFORE:
15	R. Lawrence Swanson, Chairperson.
16	James Bagg, Chief Environmental Analyst.
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24	Amy Eberhart
25	Court Reporter

2	Α	Р	Р	E	A	R	A	N	С	E	S:

- 3 Michael Kaufman, Vice Chairperson
- 4 Eva Growney
- 5 Thomas Gulbransen
- 6 Richard Machtay
- 7 Daniel Pichney
- 8 Gloria G. Russo
- 9 Mary Ann Spencer
- 10 Richard Martin

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- 12 Speakers:
- 13 Lauretta Fischer
- 14 Bill Hillman

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2	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: I'd
3	like to call the meeting to order.
4	MR. MARTIN: You may.
5	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Any
6	comments on the minutes that were
7	posted?
8	MR. MACHTAY: Mr. Bagg, any
9	comments on the February minutes,
10	and I presume you checked it out?
11	MR. BAGG: Chris, comments
12	on the February minutes?
13	MS. De SALVO: They were put
14	into the minutes, the original
15	minutes.
16	MR. MACHTAY: They were
17	accurate?
18	MS. De SALVO: Yes.
19	MR. MACHTAY: Thank you.
20	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Any
21	other comments?
22	MR. MACHTAY: I'll move the
23	February minutes.
24	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Motion
25	has been made to approve the

project.

project over at Pilgrim, and they

1	
2	both stated they stated to me
3	that neither project contemplated
4	expansion of CR 4 to four lanes.
5	They were not looking at it as a
6	relief valve or anything like
7	that. And there were no, shall we
8	say, pushes, or anything like
9	that, in the Town of Babylon or, I
10	guess, Town of Babylon's analysis,
11	and I would guess the Town of
12	Huntington's also. But, again,
13	they were not pushing for four
14	lanes.
15	MR. MACHTAY: That's fine.
16	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
17	Just telling you.
18	MR. MACHTAY: The fact of
19	the matter is, at last month's
20	meeting, and I have the minutes
21	here, the County representative, I
22	forget what his name was,
23	indicated that yes, in the future
24	it could be made into a four-lane
25	road, okay. And what's indicative

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2	of that is that the shoulders are
3	being made travel-worthy; no. 1.
4	We don't know how wide they're
5	not telling us how wide the actual
6	right-of-way is, whether they have
7	to be takings or they can just do
8	it. And, No. 3, they're not
9	putting in curbs, which would be
10	an expense to remove, substantial
11	expense to remove if they were
L2	going to make it wider. It's like
13	they're setting it up.
14	The question is: If they
15	are setting it up for a four-lane
16	road at some point in the future.

road at some point in the future, because of whatever need may come around, whether it's safety, capacity or what have you, okay, shouldn't we know that now? And, as a matter of fact, someplace in the minutes he does say it can be made into a four-lane road, okay.

Now, shouldn't we know that now for the purposes of our  ${\tt SEQRA}$ 

-	L	8
2	2	review?
3	3	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
4	1	You're talking essentially
5	5	segmentation. I understand where
6	5	you're going with that.
7	7	MR. MACHTAY: That thing
8	3	doesn't pop out at us some, you
9	)	know, two years from now, oh, gee,
10	)	we forgot and we should have made
11	-	it
12	2	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN: I
13	3	do know the chief engineer of the
14	Į.	county DPW is here and he is going
15	j	to be talking about some of this.
16		We might want to halt a little
17	,	bit.
18		Jim?
19		MR. BAGG: I just want to
20		say something. I mean, the
21		project is being presented because
22		there is a safety concern on that
23		road.
24		MR. MACHTAY: Absolutely.
25		MR. BAGG: If the County

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2	were to consider expansion becaus
3	of increased traffic congestion
4	and pressure, that's a ten-year
5	project down the road. You're no
6	talking about they're going to
7	come up to you in two years and
8	say, well, we're going to make it
9	a four-lane highway. That's not
10	doable.
11	MR. MACHTAY: And, Jim, if
12	it even borders on segmentation,
13	SEQRA is the only thing we should
14	be concerned with, right? If it
15	even borders on segmentation,
16	shouldn't they, for their own
17	protection, okay, use the section
18	of SEQRA that says, yes, you can
19	segment if, and here's the reasons
20	why; am I right?
21	MR. BAGG: You're absolutely
22	right. The question here is:
23	This project is not I don't
24	think anybody contemplates a
25	four-lane road in this section of

1	10
2	Commack Road now or in the future.
3	Now, if the towns in the future
4	say we have all kinds of traffic
5	congestion, we have to move the
6	traffic, that's a whole new
7	project, Rich, and that's, as I
8	said, ten years in the making. It
9	has nothing to do with this
10	project at all.
11	MR. MACHTAY: Okay.
12	Well, once again, I'd like
13	to ask him some questions.
14	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Let's
15	move on.
16	Historic trust update.
17	MR. MARTIN: Okay.
18	The housing issue, we have
19	one additional house at Prosser
20	Pines, which is occupied by a
21	county employee at this point, but
22	we still have a number of
23	vacancies and we're still working
24	on the legislative resolution that
25	would change the formula for the

1	
2	rent and for the people that can
3	occupy this building. I haven't
4	seen a lot of movement since last
5	meeting on that, to be honest.
6	But that's still in the works.
7	We also worked with public
8	works over the past month on a
9	pilot project from National Grid
10	to install a new gas
11	furnace/electric generator in two
12	of our buildings; the St. James
13	Store and Isaac Mills House, which
14	is will be put into the
15	residential program. And this
16	will, hopefully, reduce the energy
17	costs at these buildings and also
18	provide some electric, creation of
19	electric for use in the buildings
20	itself. And if you produce
21	additional electric you can sell
22	that back to the company.
23	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: How
24	are you going to generate this
25	electricity?

1	
2	MR. MARTIN: From a new
3	furnace. We're just learning
4	about it now, DPW got wind of this
5	pilot program. They're only
6	installing three furnaces, and
7	they picked Suffolk County Parks
8	as a place to try this out. And
9	then they'll be monitoring them
10	for, I think, over a course of a
11	year to see how they function and
12	what the benefits are.
13	The St. James Store we
14	thought was a good one because
15	it's opened year-round, so it will
16	be switched over from oil heat to
17	this gas furnace. And National
18	Grid will pay for all the costs to
19	do the switchover, and same with
20	the Isaac Mills House. We think
21	that will help out in the renting
22	of that facility.
23	We tried, also, for the
24	house in West Hills, the Smith
25	House, which has high energy

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2	bills, but we were not able, with
3	the heating system there, to
4	convert. We're looking for one
5	more additional house within the
6	county parks, the housing program,
7	that can be switched over to this.
8	And, obviously, if it's
9	successful we might look to do
10	some additional buildings. And,
11	so, this is twofold; this is
12	energy conservation for the County
13	and, also, I think it would be
14	helpful in renting these
15	facilities, because that's been
16	one of the problems, high energy
17	costs, that we have in these
18	direct buildings.
19	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
20	What kind of boilers are you
21	talking about?
22	MR. MARTIN: They're new.
23	I'd have to have public works step
24	in, they're actually educating
 25 .	themselves now. They were looking

1	1
2	to install them this summer,
3	they'll be up and running by
4	September. So, there was a
5	timeframe there was a window of
6	opportunity that this program was
7	available. So, we're really
8	learning as we're going. I can
9	learn more about it and report
10	back to you.
11	MR. BAGG: These boilers
12	serve double-duty, they generate
13	heat as well as electricity?
14	MR. MARTIN: Yes.
15	MS. GROWNEY: They're
16	furnaces?
17	MR. MARTIN: Have you heard
18	anything?
19	MS. GROWNEY: No, I haven't.
20	Do you know who the
21	manufacturer is?
22	MR. MARTIN: No, I don't

have all the specifics.

brought National Grid on-site.

You need to have gas line close to

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1	10
2	the house, they're paying for the
3	new underground line to the house.
4	So they surveyed the store and the
5	Isaac Mills House, those are a
6	definite go, and we're looking for
7	one more house.
8	So, three out of three of
9	the pilot project will be in the
10	parks.
11	MS. GROWNEY: What about
12	Hubbard?
13	MR. MARTIN: There's no gas
14	you'd have to have a gas line
15	going out, and there's probably
16	not one in the street at that
17	location, for this pilot project.
18	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON:
19	Anything else, Richard?
20	MR. MARTIN: Under the
21	grants, we're still working on
22	them. We have the Babylon Town
23	Historic Society contract has been
24	returned from the county
25	attorney's office, that's still

1	16	
2	being reviewed by the parks.	
3	There's a number of changes that	
4	the county attorney's office put	
5	into that contract.	
6	And we also met with the	
7	county attorney's office and the	
8	Town of Huntington together, to	
9	iron out all the clauses for the	
10	contract that the town is going	
11	in, the parks department, on the	
12	Coindre Boathouse. And this	
13	relates to the \$600,000 that the	
14	town has promised to give the	
15	county towards that restoration.	
16	As part of that they plan to go	
17	into contract with parks to manage	
18	that building, run programs from	
19	there, work with Sagamore Rowing	
20	as part of that contract, and they	
21	also asked to, possibly, add the	
22	fishing pier, which is directly	
23	opposite the boathouse, to that	
24	contract. They would like to have	

some fishing program available

1	T.
2	also. So that's, I think, moving
3	forward now.
4	There's a lot of confusion
5	as to what this contract was to
6	cover at that site. I think we
7	ironed that out so they can move
8	forward; otherwise, there's no
9	movement with the other contracts
10	that we have in our department.
11	And I have not heard any
12	updates on Scully Estate Seatuck
13	contract.
14	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Thank
15	you.
16	Anybody here from the
17	public?
18	Recommended Type II actions?
19	MR. BAGG: Basically, in
20	your folder is the June 10, 2008
21	legislative packet. I've reviewed
22	it in terms of SEQRA
23	classifications and
24	recommendations, nothing stands
25	out. A lot of the items complete

1	1
2 SEQRA that you've already passed	
3 on, or at future dates have passe	
on, and mostly Type II actions.	
5 CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Okay.	
6 Any questions?	
7 MR. GULBRANSEN: Question o	on
No. 15, Amending the Leads	
9 Program, Type II Action. Do you	
10 recall what kind of an amendment	
11 that is?	
12 MR. BAGG: I don't recall.	
13 Simply, I think, they're moving u	ıр
14 to the later leads contracts; in	
15 other words, what they're going t	<b>.</b> 0
16 do is, any renovations of	
17 buildings that involve more than	a
18 million dollars, they want to	
19 confirm to leads as well.	
VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:	
They're tightening up the	
22 standards basically, and trying to	0.
encompass more buildings.	
24 CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Any	

other comments?

	1	19
	2	Motion to accept staff
	3	recommendations?
	4	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
	5	Motion to accept.
	6	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON:
ı	7	Second?
;	8	MR. PICHNEY: Second.
	9	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Second
1	0	by Mr. Pichney.
1:	1	All in favor?
12	2	(All Aye).
13	3	All opposed?
1	4	Motion carries.
15	5	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Is
16	6	there anybody here to speak about
17	7	County Road 4?
18	3	MR. BAGG: Chris, let them
19	Э	know they're up.
20		CHAIRPERSON SWANSON:
21	L	Proposed acquisition for open
22	2	space.
23	3	MS. FISCHER: I have four
24	1	properties before you today, three
25		of which are in the Overton

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2	Preserve.
3	You want me to go on?
4	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Yes.
5	MS. FISCHER: Overton
6	Preserve area, Coram Town of
7	Brookhaven.
8	The first one is Beechwood
9	Horseblock Building Corporation
10	property. This is a 16-acre lot
11	situated on the easterly side of
12	the preserve area. The preserve
13	is approximately 400 acres in
14	total. We've been picking up a
15	number of pieces, as well as the
16	Town of Brookhaven.
17	A piece that's outlined in
18	red is the proposed acquisition
19	before you. Other properties
20	acquired by the County are in
21	green, Town of Brookhaven is in
22	purple and the other two before
23	you are in orange color, that
24	we'll get to in a moment.

It's predominantly oak

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2	fore	est habitat and undisturbed
3	vege	etation.
4		VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
5	Laur	cetta, basically, if I'm
6	look	king at this, we're picking up
7	thre	ee or four different properties
8	in t	this area. Apparently, they
9	were	e owned by Fairfield or
10	cont	tract vendees associated with
11	Fair	rfield, but we're picking up
12	basi	cally properties in this area,
13	abou	at 70 acres or so, is that
14	abou	it what we're looking at?
15		MS. FISCHER: Approximately.
16		VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
17	They	all link together
18		MS. FISCHER: This is the
19	firs	t one, this is 16 acres. This
20	is a	Beechwood, not a Fairfield.
21		VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
22	So I	was wrong on that one. But
23	thes	e properties link together in
24	a co	herent hole, from what I'm
25	seei	ng from the

MS. FISCHER:

There are

7	2
1	
2	trails that are in here, but
3	MS. GROWNEY: Any county
4	trails?
5	MS. FISCHER: there are
6	no designated trails. At this
7	point they're informal trails used
8	just locally.
9	MS. GROWNEY: Okay.
10	MS. FISCHER: Hopefully
11	there will be a trail system
12	created once we connect all the
13	pieces, hopefully.
14	MR. GULBRANSEN: Was there
15	an attempt to address that long,
16	thin parcel right to the west of
17	it, which was wooded?
18	MS. FISCHER: Yes. As you
19	can see, all the pieces, either in
20	the crosshatch or the diagonal,
21	are properties that we're looking
22	to acquire
23	MR. GULBRANSEN: Okay.
24	MS. FISCHER: as part of
25	this, as part of this whole

VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:

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2	Second.
3	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: We
4	have a second by Mr. Kaufman.
5	Any other discussion?
6	All in favor?
7	(All Aye).
8	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON:
9	Opposed?
10	Abstention?
11	Motion carries.
12	MS. FISCHER: The next one
13	before you is Fairfield Coram 112,
14	LLC Property. This property is 23
15	acres in size and it's located on
16	the westerly side, actually
17	adjacent, the roadway to the west
18	of the property is County Road 112
19	in Coram.
20	Again, a wooded piece of
21	property primarily, and it's
22	outlined in red on the westerly
23	side on this map.
24	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
25	Motion unlisted.

	1	20
	2	MS. RUSSO: I second the
	3	motion.
	4	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Motion
	5	is second.
	6	Any other comments;
	7	questions?
	8	All in favor?
	9	(All Aye).
-	10	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON:
1	11	Opposed?
1	12	Abstentions?
1	13	Motion carries.
1	4	MS. FISCHER: Thank you.
1	.5	And the third piece in the
1	.6	Overton Preserve is the Fairfield
1	.7	Mills Estates LLC Property. This
1	.8	is a 48-acre lot to the north
1	.9	along the northern Mill Road area
2	20	outlined in red on your third map.
2	21	It's just directly north of the
2	2	property that was acquired by the
2	3	Town of Brookhaven.
2	4	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
2	5	Motion unlisted neg. dec.

1	21
2	Are there any questions?
3	MR. GULBRANSEN: Is there
4	anything with about that
5	property adjoining it which we
6	need to know about with regard to
7	you said there was excavation
8	of some kind?
9	MS. FISCHER: Yes, but we
10	didn't look at it specifically in
11	any detail.
12	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Do you
13	know what the operation was?
14	MS. FISCHER: I don't know
15	offhand.
16	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN: I
17	have a little bit of a memory of
18	the property. I believe it was
19	just a sand excavation. I know
20	they scraped off some of the
21	vegetation about 20 years ago or
22	so, I had friend who lived to the
23	west of there. I know that it
24	was not an industrial lot
25	excavation in terms of, you know,

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1	
2	just knocking it down 30 feet or
3	anything like that. There was
4	some material moved from the area.
5	I also have a memory that there
6	was not industrial activities to
7	any great degree on there.
8	Again, that's my memory,
9	but, if I remember correctly,
10	before we purchase all this land
11	we have to do an enviro review
12	anyway.
13	MR. BAGG: Yes.
14	MS. FISCHER: And any
15	encroachments will be dealt with.
16	MR. BAGG: According to the
17	County, when you run an assessment
18	for toxic and hazardous substances
19	it has to be free and clear of any
20	contamination and, if anything is
21	found, it has to be remediated
22	prior to the County taking it or
23	we can back out of it.
24	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Okay.
25	Any other comments?

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,	2	Have a motion?	
(	3	MR. BAGG: Unlisted.	
4	4	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: We	
į	5	have a second?	
(	6	MS. RUSSO: I second.	
-	7	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: All i	.n
8	3	favor?	
9	9	(All Aye).	
10		Opposed?	
11	L	Abstentions?	
12	2	Motion carries.	
13	3	MS. FISCHER: The last one	
14	1	is a property in the Long Pond	
15	5	Greenbelt area, Town of	
16	5	Southampton. This is another	
17	7	piece of the puzzle within this	
18	3	area, a 10-acre, 10.3-acre site	
19	)	consisting of two lots outlined i	n
20	)	red. To the west is a large	
21		town-owned property, which	
22		consists of some, you know, kettl	е
23	3	hole, wetland ponds. This area i	S
24		very well-connected in a very	
25	,	strange topographic formation wit	h

1	
2	Long Pond to the east, which
3	actually starts in Sag Harbor to
4	the north, and goes all the way
5	down to the Poxapogue (phonetic)
6	Pond near the southern portion of
7	the town and then east as well.
8	This is all within the south fork
9	SGPA, and that is one of the areas
10	we're highlighting to acquire.
11	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Why is
12	it not on the master list?
13	MS. FISCHER: These were
14	actually considered separately by
15	Legislator Schneiderman, and we
16	helped him actually put this list
17	together. Although it was done
18	after we had completed our master
19	list there were other pieces that
20	we didn't prioritize, but he had
21	indicated wanted to move them
22	forward. There's no reason, other
23	than the fact that we had other
24	ones, that we had prioritized
25	closer to the Long Pond Greenbelt

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1	
2	formation. We had no problem with
3	regard to adding these on as well.
4	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: That
5	would meet the criteria of your
6	master list?
7	MS. FISCHER: Yes.
8	MS. RUSSO: Lauretta, what
9	are the rectangles that are all
10	clustered together there?
11	MS. SPENCER: It looks like
12	asphalt.
13	MS. FISCHER: Oh, that's
14	a actually, it's a chicken
15	farm.
16	MS. RUSSO: Really?
17	MS. FISCHER: Yes.
18	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: What
19	is she talking about?
20	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
21	To the south and west.
22	MS. FISCHER: To the south
23	and west you're looking at, yes.
24	MR. BAGG: Actually, that
25	was is it a chicken farm or is

	22
-	32
2	it a quail
3	MS. FISCHER: Chicken or
4	quail, something like that.
Ę	MR. BAGG: Quail.
(	MS. FISCHER: Yeah, it's
7	some fowl.
8	MR. BAGG: It's actually a
9	quail and pheasants that are
10	produced for hunting clubs and
11	they sell something like 250,000
12	birds a year.
13	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
14	With not many survivors.
15	MS. FISCHER: Poor things.
16	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
17	Don't blame me. I'm a bad shot.
18	I never hit anything.
19	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: We
20	have a motion?
21	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN: A
22	motion unlisted make that.
23	MR. MACHTAY: Second.
24	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Any
25	other discussion?

	22
1	33
2	All in favor?
3	(All Aye).
4	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON:
5	Opposed?
6	Abstentions?
7	Motion carries.
8	MS. FISCHER: Thank you.
9	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Now
10	we'll go back to County Road 4 as
11	they relate. Anybody here to make
12	a presentation on that?
13	MR. HILLMAN: Yes. Bill
14	Hillman, Chief Engineer, Suffolk
15	County DPW.
16	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Yes.
17	MR. HILLMAN: Okay. I'm
18	going to group my comments into
19	two sections; first, on the
20	roadway job and then on the bridge
21	that's in question.
22	As was explained last
23	session, the Department intends to
24	construct one 11-foot lane in each
25	direction, with an eight-foot

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2	center median and six to
3	seven-foot shoulders. This will
4	dramatically improve safety. It's
5	been shown that when you improve a
6	center median it reduces the
7	accidents up to 44 percent. The
8	shoulders also will reduce
9	accident dramatically.
10	In addition, they will
11	provide an area for bicyclists to
12	travel on. So, we have existing
13	right-of-way of 49 and a half
14	feet. I know it was questioned
15	last time, I'm not sure where the
16	comment came from, could we go out
17	to 48 feet, widen the road to 48
18	feet, and that doesn't provide
19	sufficient right-of-way for us to
20	come back and put a sidewalk in.
21	So, we did look at that, but
22	it just within this project
23	is within the existing
24	right-of-way. So we need to come
25	up with a roadway section that

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1	35
2	works to improve safety, and also
3	to allow for a sidewalk to be
4	constructed in the future.
5	As far as coordination goes,
6	I've met with Legislator Sterns'
7	office numerous times, I think you
8	probably heard, another meeting
9	with the community that we've had
10	on this project. We've reached
11	out. We've had numerous meetings
12	with the community on this road,
13	other roads, all the developments
14	that's going on in the area.
15	I've been involved
16	personally with PJ Ventures,
17	Tanger, Heartland Industrial Park
18	Expansion, Commack Cinemas, Forest
19	Labs, New York State DOT,
20	Intermodal (phonetic), Heartland
21	Town Center, the Town of
22	Smithtown's desire to increase
23	their properties on County Road
24	67, rezone them to allow highrises
_	

in front of the industrial park.

2	So, the County is intimately
3	aware, with all the development
4	that is going on in the area, we
5	do not make these decisions in a
6	vacuum. We coordinate with the
7	towns when necessary, but I would
8	like to stress that this is a
9	county road. We make the decision
10	solely with the the decisions
11	on how to improve county roads are
12	solely within the rights of the
13	County. We do coordinate with the
14	towns frequently and on numerous
15	occasions, but we cannot, and will
16	not, ask for approval of a project
17	from towns within a county
18	right-of-way. We do coordinate
19	with them, as I said extensively,
20	but
21	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: I
22	think that's all we ask, that you
23	show us some evidence that that
24	was we don't need a lecture.
25	MR. HILLMAN: Okay.

1	3
2	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: We're
3	doing our job, and one of our jobs
4	is, in fact, to make sure you do
5	that coordination. When it's not
6	evident then it's our job to
7	remind you.
8	MR. HILLMAN: Well
9	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Enough
10	said.
11	You have any other technical
12	comments?
13	MR. HILLMAN: No, but I'd
14	like to expand upon that, if I
15	could.
16	We have schedules that we
17	must keep, and when something is
18	delayed
19	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Part
20	of the schedule is to come to this
21	meeting.
	· ·

22 MR. HILLMAN: Correct. 23 CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: And 24 when you come to this meeting 25 there is a chance that, in fact,

1	
2	something might not be quite
3	correct in the view of the
4	committee, that is something that
5	you should take into your
6	planning.
7	MR. HILLMAN: Without a
8	doubt we do; however, I have
9	strong objections to delays from
10	non-environmental issues,
11	coordination issues
12	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON:
13	Coordination is environmental.
14	MR. HILLMAN: How do we
15	stretch environmental into
16	coordination?
17	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Very
18	simply, the towns and the County
19	are sharing one environment.
20	MR. HILLMAN: I'd like a
21	little bit further explanation, if
22	I could, because I just don't see
23	the connection.
24	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: You
25	don't see any connection between

Edgewood Brush Plains. You have

to coordinate, sometimes, with

24

4	1
whoever the owner is. I believe	2
it's New York State right now. I	3
believe that DOT has a piece of	4
the action in coordination, et	5
cetera.	6
These are the kinds of	7
things we need to look at,	8
excluding what Larry was saying,	9
and I'm not saying Larry is wrong.	10
This is an additional area.	11
Coordination has to be done on	12
certain areas. We had specific	13
questions on CEAs and, also, it's	14
well within our purview at CEQ.	15
And, if you look at the	16
SEQRA regulations themselves,	17
we're allowed to look at traffic	18
impacts and things like that.	19
That forms part of what our job	20
here is today.	21
MR. HILLMAN: I agree,	22
traffic impacts.	23
VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:	24

We were not seeing all of that.

1	41
2	That is one of the issues that we
3	had at the previous meeting.
4	MR. HILLMAN: When I read
5	the minutes, it seemed like this
6	body was asking for concurrence
7	from the four towns.
8	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: No,
9	just acknowledgement that you, in
10	fact, had been part of the
11	process. They had been part of
12	the process.
13	Rich?
14	MR. MACHTAY: As far as
15	environmental issues are
16	concerned, if a road is being
17	improved, and it may contribute to
18	more volume on that road, and you
19	have people's homes which are to
20	the west, and a few to the east,
21	that back up to this road, you
22	have air quality issues, you have
23	traffic issues, there's your
24	environmental issues.
25	And I think some of the

1	
2	questions that I asked had to do
3	with, is there a plan here to,
4	sometime in the future, increase
5	the capacity of this road, and I
6	got a non-answer. If you look at
7	the minutes, that was never
8	answered, okay. And except to the
9	extent that somebody said, "Well,
10	you know, maybe."
11	MR. HILLMAN: That is still
12	in the planning stage.
13	MR. MACHTAY: It's not an
14	answerable question. I agree with
15	you.
16	MR. HILLMAN: Correct.
17	MR. MACHTAY: I agree with
18	you, but the way it's being set up
19	with shoulders that are being
20	paved to the extent of the travel
21	lanes, according to what they
22	said, with no curbs, it almost
23	makes it look like it's imminent.
24	MR. HILLMAN: No.
25	MR. MACHTAY: All I asked

require -- the town required

1	
2	curbing to contain runoff, to
3	direct runoff, and here they're
4	telling us the runoff is just
5	going to run off the road.
6	MR. HILLMAN: That's
7	correct. Because when you
8	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
9	There's good drainage over there.
10	MR. HILLMAN: A common
11	drainage practice is to allow, if
12	you have good clean sand along the
13	edge of the road, is to allow the
14	runoff to go off to the road.
15	When you put curb in, you now must
16	put a positive drainage system in,
17	or a leaching system in, and it
18	dramatically increases the cost.
19	Drainage is very expensive. So if
20	we were to put curb in we're now
21	forced to put extensive drainage
22	in and the budget does not allow
23	that.
24	MR. MACHTAY: That's a good
25	explanation, which I did not get

24 From your explanation for 25 the need to coordinate or the

1	4	6
2	spirit of coordination and,	
3	perhaps, the lack of environmental	
4	imperative to that coordination,	
5	that doesn't seem consistent with	
6	the County's permit for storm	
7	water runoff, and each of the	
8	town's permits with the state for	
9	MS4 permits are all about	
10	inter-municipal coordination.	
11	So, it seems to me, and by	
12	the way, it's all about the	
13	conveyance into the roads. But if	
14	you're putting a road in and you	
15	have the autonomy to do this as	
16	you see fit, I don't see how	
17	coordination with all of the towns	
18	wouldn't have to occur anyway and,	
19	therefore, we wouldn't be asking	
20	for some burdensome delay because	
21	I don't think you can do anything	
22	with regard to road operations	
23	unless, and until, you talk to	
24	those connected parties; is that	
25	not true?	

1	4
2	MR. HILLMAN: I don't see
3	the connection between the MS4 and
4	that requiring us to coordinate
5	with the town on a specific
6	roadway improvement job.
7	Again, we need to keep in
8	mind that this is a safety
9	improvement project.
10	MR. GULBRANSEN: I'm not
11	talking about safety, I'm talking
12	about a road plan, but I would
13	expect to be, de rigueur. It
14	would be common practice for you
15	to check across with those runoff
16	considerations. And, often as you
17	say, if there's no curbs there's
18	going to be a non-issue. But it
19	seems to me there would be a
20	checkpoint where you would touch
21	base with the other adjoining
22	municipalities. If not, then
23	we're into another one of those
24	environmental related things that
25	just happens while you're doing

1	48
2	the safety measure.
3	MR. HILLMAN: I'm not seeing
4	the if we went to this
5	section of this road is within the
6	Town of Babylon, or Town of Islip,
7	it's right on the border, it's
8	either Islip or Babylon. If we
9	went to the Town of Islip south
10	of the expressway is either
11	Babylon or Islip, but let's
12	assume
13	MR. GULBRANSEN: It's
14	Huntington, actually, and Babylon.
15	Doesn't touch Islip at all.
16	MR. HILLMAN: If we were to
17	go to the Town of Babylon and tell
18	them, we're going to improve this
19	road by putting medians and
20	shoulders on and we're going to
21	allow road runoff to without
22	curb and without a positive or
23	without a leaching system, what is
24	their I don't see what their
25	responsibility with MS4 is within

1	
2	our roadway jurisdiction?
3	MR. GULBRANSEN: You put the
4	two ifs in the preamble, which
5	would make it a non-issue. If and
6	if, then it's a non-issue. If
7	either of those were not met then
8	it would be an issue, and I was
9	just trying to understand why it
10	would seen so foreign of a concept
11	for you to do?
12	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN: I
13	read the MS4 regs and I don't
14	necessarily see that the
15	coordination issue is always
16	required. In certain situations,
17	yeah, it probably is, I don't see
18	it as being an overall imperative
19	where there is a checkpoint
20	system. In that sense, I'm
21	agreeing with Bill, but I
22	MR. GULBRANSEN: My question
23	was to understand whether Bill's
24	statement about the environmental
25	issues being someplace else,

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9

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2	because it's a safety matter, it
3	didn't seem to me that it was that
4	problematic.
5	In some cases it will apply
6	and in other cases it will be

conditions where it no longer applies. But it does seem like it's fundamentally part and parcel at the beginning and then when it reaches the substantial clarification that it's no longer applicable then it goes away. doesn't seem like an imposition or a schedule buster to have to check into that.

VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN: No, but in this sense I see the situation as being as follows: Basically, it's a road improvement. I understand the shoulders are being hardened, I understand that there's a concern about segmentation and a possible expansion of four lanes, but if

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1	53
2	they're fundamentally not changing
3	the drainage, which is what it
4	appears to be in this situation,
5	and if they're fundamentally just
6	doing a couple of safety
7	improvements, I don't see the
8	necessity to check each and every
9	little item.
10	For example, you create a
11	little island or something like
12	that, put a traffic light, I don't
13	see that as requiring massive
14	coordination and double-checking
15	with each individual municipality
16	in the area. It does happen under
17	law, it's not required under law.
18	And, again, under the MS4s, I'm
19	not seeing that.
20	MR. GULBRANSEN: Because of
21	this project?
22	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
23	Yes.
24	MR. GULBRANSEN: I'm not
25	talking about this project only.

1	
2	My question to Bill was along the
3	lines of, generally his statements
4	seem to treat these environment
5	considerations, and there was no
6	statement about runoff as apart
7	from safety. And my simple point
8	is: I think it is part of it
9	until you find reasons to say, oh,
10	never mind.
11	MR. HILLMAN: Can I try to
12	clarify what I mean first?
13	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
14	Wait a second.
15	There's actually a more
16	fundamental issue. You're not on
17	the Board long enough to know
18	this. It used to be that there
19	was never any coordination between
20	DPW and the various towns, and
21	they were very, very independent
22	agencies. Over the years the
23	concerns of CEQ have been made
24	clear to the Department, and they
25	really have become a lot more

1	
2	responsive and they have done a
3	lot more coordination over the
4	years; everything, again, from the
5	runoff, drainage, et cetera. They
6	really do check this stuff out.
7	I'm not saying necessarily it
8	happened here, or whatever, I'm
9	just saying, as a general rule,
10	they have become much more
11	responsive.
12	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Jim.
13	MR. BAGG: Over the years,
14	DPW has been coordinating with the
15	towns and all the local
16	governments thoroughly, and one of
17	the problems in the past that CEQ
18	had is that the DPW didn't really
19	point out what had gone before a
20	project. As Bill had mentioned,
21	you know, they talked to people in
22	Tanger, they talked to all kinds
23	of people here with respect to
24	this project and, possibly, a need
25	for expansion in the future. And

this particular project, and other
projects, we're starting to get
away with, is the CEQ doesn't
understand what has gone before
and DPW should bring that to the
table and say, look, we thoroughly
invented this thing and we've been
to X, Y and Z to get to this
point. It's not like the council
is the first stop. CEQ is one of
the later stops that is further
down the road; however, DPW has to
make it clear to the CEQ, as in
the past they had, you know, what
is gone or transpired to get to
this point. It's not a question
that you have to go to the town to
get their approval, but I think in
most projects DPW does try to
coordinate and get input from
local groups and local civics and
local groups and local civics and everything else, and they've done

I'm not saying that this

1	
2	project has no environmental
3	impact, it does. Every project
4	has some environmental impact,
5	without a doubt, and that's a very
6	valid point. My only point I was
7	trying to make was that this is a
8	safety improvement project, not a
9	drainage project. We're putting
10	in spot drainage where necessary.
11	Getting back to your MS4,
12	let me give you an example where
13	we would coordinate extensively
14	with the town, and we are.
15	On Montauk Highway in
16	Southampton, the Town recently
17	allowed development, and there's
18	excessive road runoff coming from
19	town roads onto a county road and
20	flooding out homes now, which ten
21	years ago never happened because
22	those developments weren't there.
23	They hardened those surfaces. The
24	water is now coming down the hill
25	and onto the county road. We're

1	
2	in extensive coordination with
3	them on those drainage issues.
4	Even on a standard roadway
5	job, if we were to come through,
6	and during the course of our
7	drainage survey we've identified a
8	drainage issue at an intersection
9	with a town road, and it's sort
10	of, is it their's, is it ours, who
11	is going take care of it; well, we
12	would coordinate with the town on
13	those issues.
14	As we go through the
15	planning process we evaluate the
16	entire scope of the project and
17	coordinate where necessary.
18	The last point I'd like to
19	make is that, quite often what
20	happens in the legislature is that
21	they discharge without
22	recommendation. The only thing
23	I'm asking for is for some
24	consideration. Instead of tabling
25	a matter, approve it pending we

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2	provide additional information,
3	and then we could provide that;
4	and let me explain why I'm just
5	asking for that consideration.
6	You might think I have an
7	army of engineers sitting back in
8	DPW; I wish I did, I have don't.
9	I have one, one in-house designer
10	for 1,500 miles of road, one. I
11	have four consultant managers who
12	are engineers. The majority of
13	our work gets done by consultants.
14	So that, when you say, is it such
15	an inconvenience to come back here
16	to CEQ, quite honestly, when I
17	have five people doing roadway
18	design, four of them managing
19	consultants, one doing in-house
20	design, it is. We don't have the
21	staff to continuously come back
22	and forth.
23	We came, maybe we were
24	slightly unprepared to answer
25	certain questions about

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2	coordination, and maybe in the
3	future that same thing will
4	happen. The only thing I'm asking
5	for is some consideration to say,
6	you've answered all the general
7	environmental questions, looks
8	likes it's a good project from an
9	environmental standpoint, because
10	every project has an impact on the
11	environment; however, we just want
12	you to get back to us, make sure
13	you we're going to approve this
14	pending you confirm to us that
15	you've coordinated with X, Y and
16	Z. We'd be more than happy to do
17	that.
18	We've had an excellent
19	working relationship with CEQ for
20	a number of years, we want to
21	continue to have that. We're just
22	looking for a little cooperation
23	on our end.
24	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: I
25	think you've had plenty of

everybody knows about what's going

1		
2	e or	and what the future holds for
3	ot	ther lands down in that area,
4	ol	tay.
5		So, the answer was they
6	st	ould have been better briefed on
7	al	l the things that you just went
8	tr	rough that you talked to the
9	CC	ensultants, you talked to the
10	to	wns, you talked to, and so on
11	ar	d so forth.
12		I think one last thing,
13	Mr	. Petrone's letter from
14	Hu	ntington indicated what he
15	th	ought what his staff had said to
16	hi	m, and I know when I met with
17	hi	m he was concerned that you were
18	CC	ntacting the highway department
19	an	d not the town engineering
20	de	partment or the supervisor's
21	of	fice, okay, and it wasn't until
22	CE	Q sent something to the
23	su	pervisor's office, the
24	en	gineer's department and the
25	pl	anning department that they were

1		6
2	able to formulate, and that	
3	happened six days before the CEQ	
4	meeting.	
5	So, if they were going to	
6	send some comments in, okay, it	
7	would have taken them a few days	
8	to put that altogether.	
9	So, having said that, I	
10	think someone from his office has	3
11	contacted you or contacted DPW?	
12	MR. HILLMAN: Not to my	
13	knowledge. I haven't heard. He	
14	might have spoken to the	
15	commissioner's office.	
16	MR. MACHTAY: And said,	
17	please contact, not the highway	
18	department, but rather the	
19	engineering department and	
20	supervisor's office.	
21	MR. HILLMAN: Sure.	
22	And, again, I'll go back to	)
23	my original statement, that we	
24	make decisions on that	

coordination on an as-need basis.

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2	If we're going to be doing a job
3	and we feel that the town can
4	provide substantial input and
5	positive input towards our project
6	we'll be more than happy to do
7	that; however, this is a fairly
8	simple project.
9	We have 49 feet of
10	right-of-way, it's a safety
11	improvement project. And even if
12	we wanted to go to 48 feet and
13	make it a capacity project, we
14	can't. We don't have the
15	right-of-way to do that, and that
16	would take years. Quite honestly,
17	if DEC land is on either side,
18	that's not going to happen.
19	So, in a normal roadway
20	job where there's consideration
21	for capacity improvements and
22	things like that; County Road 39,
23	County Road 58, I'm sure you've
24	all heard of those on the east

end, extensive coordination with

1	64
2	the towns on those matters. This
3	was a fairly cut and dry project.
4	Safety improvement within the
5	existing right-of-way, can't
6	really do much more because we
7	don't have the right-of-way to do
8	it, we're never going to the get
9	the right-of-way to do anything
10	anyway.
11	Again, the coordination with
12	the towns, to be quite honest, was
13	not all that necessary.
14	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
15	Bill, it may be, to my mind, at
16	any rate, that this was one of
17	those projects that looked
18	relatively innocuous from your
19	standpoint, but to our standpoint,
20	knowing certain things and being
21	aware of certain, shall we say,
22	wider purviews, it looked a bit
23	little bit different to us. There
24	were a lot of questions;
25	segmentation, we had the CEA

Sure.

Ι

MR. HILLMAN:

25 VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:

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2	mean, frankly, that's what I do a
3	day or two days before a meeting,
4	I will call Jim up, I did it
5	yesterday, and I will ask: Is
6	there anything on the agenda that
7	we need to really focus in on?
8	Are there any questions? Are
9	there any issues or anything like
10	that? That sometimes can defuse
11	problems.
12	MR. MACHTAY: I've only been
13	on this board a little over a
14	year, and it's been my experience
15	that any time the DPW came before
16	this board, okay, they pretty much
17	got what they asked for almost
18	immediately. This is the first
19	time I've ever seen something
20	really get delayed.
21	You know, I think the Board
22	has a very good relationship with
23	DPW, as you said before. And I
24	think, you know, what you said
25	before about not having not

24

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over the road runoff and we're now

hardening the shoulders, as you

1	
2	said, and it's going to provide
3	additional runoff and how is that
4	going to be addressed, I would
5	have no problem coming back.
6	My only reason to come here
7	is that, if it's what I consider a
8	non-environmental issue,
9	hardcore let's say that
10	hardcore environmental issue, then
11	please try and give us the
12	consideration to say, this project
13	seems to meet all the
14	environmental issues that we've
15	discussed; however, we have some
16	concerns that you may not have
17	coordinated with the towns, could
18	you just get back to us on that.
19	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
20	This really comes back to what I
21	said a minute ago. To your eyes
22	it looked one way, to our eyes
23	there was something different
24	about the project.
25	Let me put it in a different

1	
2	context. If this was entirely,
3	say, within the Town of Smithtown
4	and there were two industrial
5	developments, say in Commack and
6	then in Smithtown, and you had
7	Jericho Turnpike, which was
8	suddenly going to face
9	overcapacities I can't say the
10	word properly in a zoning
11	context, just look at it in terms
12	of how a town operates, there
13	would be a lot of questions. And
14	if somebody said, oh, we're just
15	going to keep Jericho Turnpike at
16	four lanes, when it maybe should
17	be six, that would cause a lot of
18	issues, that would cause a lot of
19	the traffic reviews, et cetera.
20	In terms of a larger area
21	where this is straddling several
22	towns, it looked funny to us,
23	there was something odd about it.
24	And that's why I'm saying, it bore
25	a little bit more review.

1	
2	Again, you have Tanger, you
3	have Jerry Wilcox up there with
4	9,000 units, you have Smithtown up
5	there at the four corners by
6	Crooked Hill, et cetera. There
7	potentially could be issues.
8	I saw the traffic engineers
9	yesterday, I mean, I just ran into
10	them, and they said that those
11	issues have been looked at and
12	they weren't going to be expanding
13	the road, there was no
14	consideration towards that. Fine.
15	We looked to the issue, we
16	didn't see that. And, given the
17	locations, et cetera, it could
18	look as if something, you know, it
19	needs a little bit more review; is
20	there going to be extra capacity
21	dumped onto that road and stuff
22	like that.
23	So, this is one of those
24	funny projects where something
25	you saw it one way, we saw is it a

I should also point out, if

1	72
2	I recall correctly, the project
3	dealing with the bridge on this
4	road came before the CEQ in 2000,
5	2001, and still nothing has gone
6	forward. So, you know, what you
7	bring forward is not always crisis
8	either.
9	MR. HILLMAN: Without a
10	doubt.
11	And the previous chief
12	engineer, Bill Shannon I'll
13	just give some history on the
14	bridge had the desire to remove
15	the bridge due to safety concerns.
16	When he moved forward on that it
17	came to his attention that the
18	bridge was utilized by walking
19	groups, biking groups, and some
20	pedestrians, bicyclists, actively
21	use the bridge. He started the
22	initiative to evaluate that bridge
23	to determine if it could be
24	brought up to modern safety

standards so that it could

1	
2	continue to be a benefit to the
3	community.
4	Shortly after, I took over,
5	I had a conversation with him and
6	he expressed, you know, what's the
7	harm if that bridge stays if we
8	can bring it up to modern safety
9	standards and protect the
10	motorists on the road, and I
11	agreed with him 100 percent.
12	So, during that time period,
13	we do move quite slow on certain
14	things, I agree 100 percent. I
15	wish I had more staff to focus on
16	things better, but during that
17	time period we've been evaluating
18	whether we modify that bridge to
19	bring it up to modern safety
20	standards.
21	Just recently, last year,
22	late last year, it was determined
23	it would cost about \$3 million to
24	do that. And what it requires is
25	to lower the road at the bridge by

1	$^{\prime}$
2	about three feet. You're now
3	creating a bathtub. We would have
4	to put a positive drainage system
5	in along that, and I think it goes
6	back about a half a mile on either
7	side of the bridge that we would
8	have to start to lower the road
9	and a positive drainage system
10	throughout to protect the
11	abutments, and that totaled about
12	\$3 million.
13	You can build we also
14	estimate you can build a
15	pedestrian bridge for about \$2
16	million. So, from a cost
17	standpoint, to rehab that bridge
18	and bring it up to standards
19	doesn't work well.
20	So, the intent is to remove
21	the bridge, and I'm sure you heard
22	the conversation we just had with
23	the community. We've looked at it
24	numerous way from Sunday to try

and make it a -- try and keep the

Τ.	
2	bridge because it is a goal was
3	a goal of the Department, but
4	safety has to come first in our
5	eyes.
6	So, the game plan, as I see
7	it, again, I don't make policy and
8	I don't control the capital
9	program, but my recommendation for
10	this project will be to come in
11	with a safety improvement project,
12	remove the bridge, do the
13	shoulders and the medians, leave
14	room for sidewalks. At some later
15	date come back, hopefully get
16	those sidewalks in and so that
17	people can walk down and get to
18	the park and get to the preserve.
19	And, also, at some point put a
20	pedestrian bridge back in.
21	. I can't make any
22	commitments to that because I
23	don't control the budget.
24	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Thank
25	you.

1	, $\sim$
2	Rich.
3	MR. MACHTAY: Just for the
4	purposes of SEQRA, in 2001 CEQ,
5	and I was not here, passed a
6	resolution recommending that the
7	legislature remove the bridge,
8	okay. In 2006 funding for your
9	project was amended to include
10	\$100,000 to rehab the bridge.
11	Does that mean that the project
12	and Jim has tried to explain this
13	to me and I'm just posing it to
14	you: Does that mean that the
15	project was already funded or was
16	it just in the capital program?
17	MR. HILLMAN: The which
18	project?
19	MR. MACHTAY: The road
20	improvement project.
21	MR. HILLMAN: Well, the
22	\$100,000 was for, as you
23	indicated, was to improve the
24	bridge. Again, 2001 I wasn't
25	with the County at that point

		7.7
	1	
	2	either, but between somewhere
	3	in that time period, and just
	4	recently, late 2007, we were in an
	5	evaluation stage. It was not
	6	determined whether the bridge was
	7	going to stay or be removed.
	8	MR. MACHTAY: That's not
	9	what I'm asking.
	10	MR. HILLMAN: But it leads
	11	to the answer.
	12	MR. MACHTAY: Was the road
-	13	improvement project already
-	14	funded?
-	15	MR. HILLMAN: It was always
-	16	in the capital program.
1	17	MR. MACHTAY: In the capital
1	18	program
1	19	MR. HILLMAN: Right.
2	20	MR. MACHTAY: but it was
2	21	not appropriated?
2	22	MR. HILLMAN: Correct.
2	23	MR. MACHTAY: So the
2	24	amendment in 2006 was simply to
2	25	amend the capital program; because

that practice, but DPW, when it

24 CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: 25 Second? We have a second?

dec. for Commack Road CR 4.

1	8
2	MR. PICHNEY: Second.
3	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: We
4	have any further discussion?
5	MR. BAGG: Who was the
6	second?
7	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Dan.
8	All in favor of the motion?
9	(All Aye).
10	Opposed?
11	Abstentions?
12	Motion carries.
13	MR. HILLMAN: Thank you.
14	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: I just
15	want to assure you, we want to
16	work with you, but we also have
17	our own responsibilities that we
18	have to make sure that we feel are
19	done adequately and completely.
20	MR. HILLMAN: And I fully
21	understand that and I agree with
22	that. My sole purpose to come
23	today was just to try and have
2.4	this body understand some of the

problems that the Department faces

CHAIRPERSON SWANSON:

want to tell us what those

You

24

I guess that's it. We have

			8
1	-		0
2	2	a motion to	
3	3	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:	
4	l	Motion to adjourn?	
5		MR. PICHNEY: One more	
6		comment I brought up last time	
7	1	about the trees being removed on	
8	3	Nicholls Road, and you very	
9	)	generously offered to write a	
10		sign a letter, if I wrote a	
11		letter, regarding that issue and	
12		possible civil violations.	
13		Since that time I had some	
14		discussion with people in the	
15		community and I discovered that	
16		the request to remove those trees	
17		was made by the presiding officer	
18		of the legislature. And he,	
19		unfortunately, did not realize	
20		that problems may ensue.	
21		CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Okay.	
22		MR. PICHNEY: I also found	
23		out that the presiding officer had	d
24		offered \$10,000 towards replanting	g
25		that area, and it was a grant to	

the Chamber of Commerce, the
Blueport Chamber of Commerce, and
they're currently evaluating that.

I also put in a call to

Marion Cohen, who is the presiding
officer's, I think, main
assistant, she's also a personal
friend of mine. She didn't return
the call, and I also put in a call
to Mike to explain some of the
issues. This is all, by way, of
saying that I did not write the
letter and I thought that based on
some of these complications or
other issues that I should defer
to higher authorities here.

VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN: We're going to put a \$10,000 bounty out on you now.

MR. PICHNEY: I know, for opening my mouth.

CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: You think it's best that we just move our heels at this point and --

1	
2	MR. PICHNEY: Yeah. We
3	can't bring back the trees and
4	there were, you know I going
5	into it I understand there were
6	safety issues. I thought that
7	they could be addressed by
8	eliminating part of the shrubbery
9	and limbing up the trees, but it
10	went beyond that, unfortunately.
11	It would have meant topping the
12	trees, which is even worse.
13	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: But
14	there is a potential replanting
15	plan?
16	MR. PICHNEY: Yes, there is
17	a potential replanting. You can't
18	do a lot with \$10,000, but there
19	is.
20	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Okay.
21	MR. PICHNEY: There is some
22	existing plantings there that were
23	done either with previous grants
24	or pre-volunteer efforts.
25	So, maybe the \$10,000 will

	8
1	δ
2	clean it up a little bit
3	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Okay.
4	MR. PICHNEY: and
5	everybody will be happy.
6	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Okay.
7	Good.
8	MR. PICHNEY: And, thank
9	you.
10	MS. RUSSO: Even you?
11	MR. PICHNEY: Believe it or
12	not, even me. You can wave to me
13	when I'm out there with my truck.
14	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON:
15	Clarify, some years we don't have
16	an August meeting, in recent years
17	I think we have, and it will
18	depend largely upon the agenda and
19	whether or not there are important
20	issues and so forth. But there's
21	a potential that we, at least
22	historically, have not had an
23	August meeting, but we will have
24	one in July.
25	MR. BAGG: As I pointed out,

	87
1	
2	Larry, last week, we said we might
3	move the meetings here, but
4	because of potential conflicts
5	with the other conference room and
6	noise issues, we'll continue to
7	meet across the street when we
8	can, because that's a large open
9	forum. They have recorders for
10	the stenographer and other things.
11	So, I think we'll keep the
12	schedule the way it is.
13	
14	(Continued on following page.)
15	
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1	88
2	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: Okay.
3	All right.
4	We have a motion to adjourn?
5	VICE CHAIRPERSON KAUFMAN:
6	Motion.
7	MR. MACHTAY: Second.
8	CHAIRPERSON SWANSON: All in
9	favor?
10	(All Aye).
11	Opposed?
12	See you in July.
13	
14	(Hearing concluded at 10:50 a.m.)
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