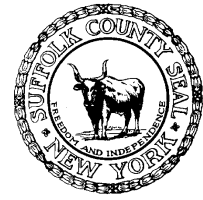




# Long Island Regional Planning Board



## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the preservation of open space and farmland on Long Island is essential to protect the environment, quality of life and foster economic sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the Long Island Regional Planning Board is at work on the Third Comprehensive Regional Plan for Long Island and recognizes the present critical need to preserve open space and farmland, encourage smart redevelopment in built out areas and prevent over development of Long Islands remaining land resources; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Brookhaven has proposed a major land preservation initiative known as the Community Preservation Fund (CPF) that will provide the Town with much needed funding to protect the last remaining open space and farmland in the Town; and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Brian X. Foley came before the LIRPB at our meeting of July 10, 2007 and presented the need for a CPF in the Town of Brookhaven, an outline of its function and expected outcome; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Brookhaven reports that the proposed CPF, to be funded by a 2% real estate transfer tax, is expected to generate some \$500 million over the life of the CPF and protect as many as 5,000 acres of land; and

## LIRPB RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, to build strong support for the proposed CPF the Town established a steering committee that included environmental groups, civic groups, builders and Town staff to develop a CPF plan and program that addresses the needs of all stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Brookhaven CPF includes important provisions such as:

- 1) Exempting qualified first-time homebuyers from the transfer tax;
- 2) Only allowing CPF funding to be used to buy land from willing sellers; and
- 3) Allows for and incorporates a modest transfer of development rights program, with these rights to be broadly distributed across the Town by allowing for a wide variety of uses and the proceeds from the sale of such rights to be returned to the CPF to purchase more land; now

Be It Therefore

RESOLVED, that The Long Island Regional Planning Board endorses the Town of Brookhaven Community Preservation Fund as an essential new funding source in preserving 5,000 acres of the vacant land remaining in the Town, which land will be purchased to preserve and protect farmland, drinking water, rivers and bays, wetlands and wildlife habitat, community parks and hamlet greens, hiking trails and other outdoor recreational areas.