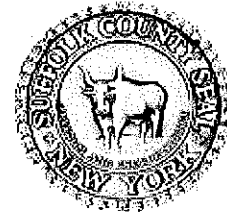




LONG ISLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL



John D. Cameron Jr., Chair
Michael White, Vice Chair
Jeffrey Kraut, Treasurer
Theresa Sanders, Secretary
Elizabeth Custodio
Hon. Barbara Donno
Nancy Engelhardt
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Hon. Anthony Santino
Hon. Ralph Scordino

April 24, 2017

Honorable DuWayne Gregory
Presiding Officer
Suffolk County Legislature
William J. Lindsay County Complex
William H. Rogers Building
725 Veterans Memorial Highway
Hauppauge, NY 11787

Re: Suffolk County Septic Improvement Program – Introductory Resolution 1262-2017

Dear Presiding Officer Gregory,

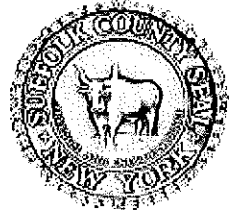
The Long Island Regional Planning Council, a bi-county organization dedicated to promoting the physical, economic and social health and well-being of the Long Island region and serving as a catalyst for action, strongly supports the passage of Resolution 1262-2017.

Greater than 70% of all Suffolk County residents, more than 360,000 homes, use antiquated cesspools and septic systems to dispose of their household waste. Many of these homes are still using systems installed over 50 years ago that leach nitrogen-laden waste liquids directly into groundwater and surface water causing detrimental effects. Thousands of the homes served by polluting cesspools and septic systems will never connect to a sewer system because of the prohibitive cost of sewer system installation. Harmful algal blooms, fish kills, loss of shellfish, beach closures, and degraded wetlands have all been attributed to the nitrogen pollution from these systems.

Suffolk County has provided leadership in reversing degradation of water quality with the "Reclaim Our Water" initiative. Properly designed, sited, installed, managed and maintained Innovative and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems provide an environmentally sound alternative to sewers in portions of Suffolk County. However, for a program to replace outdated cesspools and septic systems to be successful, it must be



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affordable. The Suffolk County Septic Incentive Improvement Program will offer grants and low interest loans to homeowners to purchase an approved Innovative Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment System designed to markedly reduce nitrogen pollution from wastewater. This new grant and loan program is critical to the County's efforts to begin reversing decades of nitrogen pollution and improving water quality on Long Island.

The Long Island Regional Planning Council states its full support for the passage of Resolution 1262-2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard V. Guardino".

Richard V. Guardino
Executive Director
Long Island Regional Planning Council