

RESOLUTION NO. 426 -2020, ESTABLISHING AN INTERNAL TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO ENHANCE SUFFOLK COUNTY'S PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

WHEREAS, the current COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the strengths and weaknesses of emergency-preparedness for municipalities across the nation; and

WHEREAS, while Suffolk County is managing many aspects of the current crisis well, there are areas where the County could improve processes to better prepare for future public health emergencies; and

WHEREAS, it is likely that additional public health crises will affect the County at some point in the future; and

WHEREAS, the County's response to the current COVID-19 crisis should be reviewed as to determine where adjustments can be made to improve the County's ability to address future public health emergencies; and

WHEREAS, an internal task force should be created to evaluate the strengths and opportunities in Suffolk County's response to the current COVID-19 pandemic and evaluate new strategies that would be beneficial to implement in the event of a future public health emergency; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that an internal County Public Health Emergency Review and Preparedness Task Force ("Task Force") is hereby established to review the County's initial response to the COVID-19 crisis, analyze the County's actions during the crisis, and suggest improvements to the process for future public health emergencies; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall consist of the following nine (9) members:

- 1) Eight (8) County Legislators, to be appointed by the Presiding Officer of the County Legislature; and
- 2) The County Executive, or his designee;

and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall hold its initial meeting either fifteen (15) days after of the termination of County's State of Emergency with respect to the current COVID-19 crisis or ninety (90) days after the effective date of this Resolution, whichever occurs first. This meeting shall be convened for the purpose of organization, and the selection of a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary; and be it further

4th RESOLVED, that the members of said Task Force shall serve without compensation and shall serve at the pleasure of their respective appointing authorities; and be it further

5th **RESOLVED**, that the Task Force shall hold regular meetings, keep a record of all its proceedings, and determine the rules of its own proceedings with special meetings to be called by the chairperson upon his or her own initiative or upon receipt of a written request therefor signed by at least three (3) members of the Task Force. Written notice of the time and place of such special meetings shall be given by the secretary to each member at least four (4) days before the date fixed by the notice for such special meeting; and be it further

6th **RESOLVED**, that the Task Force shall be charged with examining and evaluating existing policies and procedures of the County's public health emergency preparedness plan and developing specific recommendations for improvements that can be made to the County's response to future public health emergencies; and be it further

7th **RESOLVED**, that the Task Force shall request information and assistance from various departments and agencies, as well as other government entities and the private sector to gather information on each entity's ability and resources to address a future public health emergency. The departments, agencies, and entities from which reports and information shall be requested includes, but is not limited to:

1. The Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services;
2. The Suffolk County Emergency Medical System;
3. The Suffolk County Department of Social Services;
4. The Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, including corrections officers;
5. The Suffolk County Probation Department;
6. The Suffolk County Police Department;
7. The Suffolk County Department of Health Services;
8. The Suffolk County Department of Public Works;
9. The Suffolk County Department of Human Resources, Personnel and Civil Service;
10. The Suffolk County Office of the Medical Examiner;
11. The Suffolk County Parks Department, including park rangers;
12. The Suffolk County Department of Information Technology;
13. The Suffolk County District Attorney's Office;
14. The Suffolk County Clerk's Office;
15. The Suffolk County Comptroller's Office;
16. The Suffolk County Fire Academy;
17. The Emergency Support Function group 8, Public Health and Medical Services;
18. The Poospatuck Nation;
19. The Shinnecock Nation;
20. The Suffolk County Office of Handicapped Services;
21. The Suffolk County Accessible Transportation Program;
22. The Suffolk County Office for the Aging;
23. The Suffolk County Veterans Services Agency;
24. The Suffolk County Child Protective Services Agency;
25. The Building & Construction Trades Council of Nassau and Suffolk;
26. The Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence;
27. Long Island Cares, Inc.;
28. Island Harvest;
29. The American Red Cross of Long Island;
30. The Salvation Army of Greater New York;
31. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Suffolk County Council; and
32. The County Legislature's District Offices;

and be it further

8th **RESOLVED**, that all County departments, agencies and offices shall provide information and assistance to the Task Force in a timely fashion when requested; and be it further

9th **RESOLVED**, that the Task Force shall issue a written report containing its findings and determinations, together with recommendations for policies and procedures to improve the County's response to future public health emergencies. This report shall be made available to the public and shall include recommended changes that can be implemented immediately as well as short- and long-term structural reforms, including the development and implementation of a wide-scale public health emergency preparedness plan; and be it further

10th **RESOLVED**, that the written report of the Task Force shall be provided to the County Executive, Clerk of the Legislature, and each member of the County Legislature within 120 days of the Task Force commencing its' work; and be it further

11th **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as routine or continuing administration and management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: June 9, 2020

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: June 12, 2020

RESOLUTION NO. 989 -2020, AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 426-2020, ESTABLISHING AN INTERNAL TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO ENHANCE SUFFOLK COUNTY'S PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 426-2020 established an internal County Public Health Emergency Review and Preparedness Task Force ("Task Force") to review the County's initial response to the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Task Force is to analyze the County's actions during the crisis and suggest improvements to the process for any future public health emergencies which should arise; and

WHEREAS, with the State of New York still being under a state of emergency, Resolution No. 426-2020 needs to be amended to provide additional time for the Task Force to complete its work and compile a report on the County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the 10th RESOLVED clause of Resolution No. 426-2020 is hereby amended as follows:

10th RESOLVED, that the written report of the Task Force shall be provided to the County Executive, Clerk of the Legislature, and each member of the County Legislature [within 120 days of the Task Force commencing its' work] by July 1, 2021; and be it further

and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that all other terms and conditions of Resolution No. 426-2020 shall remain in full force and effect; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26) and (33) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW insofar as these actions constitute routine or continuing administration and management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

[] Brackets denote deletion of existing language.
___ Underlining denotes addition of new language.

DATED: December 15, 2020

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: December 21, 2020