

**RESOLUTION NO. 636-2021, AMENDING CHAPTER 1070 OF
THE SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE TO ENCOURAGE
PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE TRIPLE A
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Triple A Program was established by Resolution No. 265-2013 to provide a system of prioritization for real property the County seeks to acquire; and

WHEREAS, the funding allocated to the Triple A Program is sometimes exhausted prior to year-end; and

WHEREAS, the Triple A Program would benefit immensely from partnering with other governmental entities and/or not-for-profit organizations to jointly acquire land; and

WHEREAS, additionally, the Legislator in the district in which the Triple A Program is considering a parcel of land should be notified so that he or she can aid in the partnership efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Triple A Program should be amended to encourage partnership outreach to other governments and not-for-profit organizations in order to increase its ability to preserve open space and farmland throughout the County; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that § 1070-17 of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE is hereby amended as follows:

§ 1070-17. Approval of resolutions; "Triple A Program"; quarterly reports.

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- A. Resolutions for proposed land acquisitions, other than acquisitions pursuant to Article XXXVI of the Administrative Code of Suffolk County and acquisitions undertaken for reclamation of properties due to natural disasters, shall be submitted to the Suffolk County Legislature for approval in three stages as set forth herein. When the Division of Planning receives a "letter of interest" for a potential farmland or open space acquisition, Planning staff shall notify the legislative office representing that district(s) of the receipt of such letter.

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- C. Acquisitions shall be conducted according to the following "Triple A Program":

- (1) Appraisal resolution.

(a) Unless a parcel already appears on the Comprehensive Master List or planning steps have been approved prior to January 1, 2013, the Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment, shall review and evaluate potential sites for acquisition, including sites

recommended by the Farmland Committee, Legislature or County Executive, sites to be acquired in partnership with other municipalities or nonprofit entities and other sites which have come to the attention of said Department. The Division of Planning and Environment shall reach out to other governments and not-for-profit organizations to determine interest in joint acquisition when a proposed acquisition is greater than 1 acre in size.

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(2) Acquisition resolution.

(a) Upon establishing highest offer prices, a report containing all sites reviewed and the highest offer price set for each shall be forwarded to each member of the Legislature, together with scoring and recommendations for or against acquisition from the Division of Planning and Environment, as well as an account of the funds expected to be available for acquisitions. Such report shall be delivered to the members of the Legislature within 30 days after the review by the Environmental Trust Review Board and no less than seven days prior to the meeting of the Environment, Planning and Agricultural Committee at which such report is scheduled to be acted upon.

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D. The Division of Planning and Environment shall notify the legislative office representing the parcel upon closing of the acquisition. The Director of the Division of Real Property Acquisition and Management shall submit a quarterly report to the County Executive, the Commissioner of Economic Development and Planning, the Environment, Planning and Agriculture Committee of the Legislature and the members of the Suffolk County Legislature, which report shall contain the status of each parcel contained in any approved acquisition resolution.

and be it further

2nd 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 language.

___ Underlining denotes addition of new language.

DATED: July 27, 2021

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: August 9, 2021