

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
DIVISION OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Tom Gulbransen
Chairperson
CEQ

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: August 24, 2022
TIME: 8:45 AM – 8:57 AM
LOCATION: ZOOM Video Conference

PRESENT:

Frank De Rubeis
Thomas Gulbransen, Chair
Michael Kaufman, Vice Chair
Rob Carpenter Jr
Anthony Graves
Mark Haubner
Kaetlyn Jackson
Hon. Anthony Piccirillo
Mary Ann Spencer
Herbert Strobel

ABSENT:

CAC REPRESENTATIVES:
None

STAFF:

Sarah Lansdale, Commissioner, Suffolk County Dept. of Eco Dev and Planning
Andrew Freleng, Chief Planner, Suffolk County Dept. of Eco Dev and Planning
John Corral, Environmental Projects Coordinator, SC Dept of Eco Dev and Planning
Christine DeSalvo, Principal Office Assistant, SC Dept of Eco Dev and Planning
Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services, Suffolk County Departments of Parks,
Recreation and Conservation
Jennifer Kohn, Assistant County Attorney, Suffolk County Department of Law

GUESTS:

Legislator Nick Caracappa, Suffolk County Legislature, District # 4

Call to Order:

CEQ Chair Tom Gulbransen read the following opening Meeting statement:

“This is the CEQ special meeting for August 24, 2022 meeting of the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality and for the record we do have a quorum present.

Instead of a public meeting open for the public to attend in person, members of the public may listen to or log into the video conference. This meeting and its notice follow the Open Meetings Law as amended by Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2021, signed into law by Governor Hochul on 9/2/2021, which law, in part, authorizes County committees and bodies to hold meetings remotely via videoconferencing or teleconferencing, provided the public has the ability to view or listen to the meeting and the meetings are recorded and later transcribed. In this instance, we will be using ZOOM and will be recording the entirety of the meeting.

Additionally, we will be following the voting protocol used by the Suffolk County Legislature at its March 17, 2020 meeting. All voting on Board Actions and Resolutions will be done via a roll call and we ask that all Board Members clearly state their name when making a motion and clearly state their vote when their name is called.”

Correspondence:

None

Public Portion:

None

Project Review:

Recommendations for LADS Report:

Possible Reconsideration of Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table July 26, 2022

Mr. Gulbransen noted that in accordance with guidance from the CEQ’s Legal Counsel, in order to properly reconsider the Recommendations for the July 26, 2022 LADS Report the CEQ will have to make a sequence of motions.

The three motions the CEQ made are outlined below:

- Mr. Kaufman made a motion to reconvene a CEQ Special Meeting for the possible reconsideration of the CEQ recommendations on the Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table for July 26, 2022. Legislator Piccirillo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

After the CEQ voted to reconvene, Legislative Piccirillo noted that he appreciated the CEQ reconvening this meeting. Legislator Piccirillo noted that he was not sure how it was missed at the last meeting but that he would not support even the most ministerial votes associated with Midway Crossing at both the CEQ and the Legislature. Legislative Piccirillo noted that he believes this project would do harm to the community that he represents and he welcomed CEQ members to come to his office and take a tour of the project area.

- Mr. Kaufman then made a motion to reconsider the recommendations the CEQ made at its August 10, 2022 CEQ Meeting for the SEQRA recommendations for the Suffolk County Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table July 26, 2022. Mr. Strobel seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Mr. Carpenter then made a motion to accept the staff recommendations for the Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table July 26, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Graves. Legislator Piccirillo voted against the motion and Mr. Kaufman abstained from IR 1612-2022, IR1617-2022 and IR 1618-2022 and recused from IR 1567-2022.

Other Business:

None

CAC Concerns:

None

Mr. Gulbransen noted that the CEQ had no other business to consider and the CEQ adjourned the Special Meeting.