

1 PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTATION & ENERGY COMMITTEE
2
3 OF THE
4
5 SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
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9 A Meeting of the Public Works, Transportation & Energy Committee of
10 the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa
11 Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature
12 Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on
13 May 15, 2023, at 2 p.m.
14

15 **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

16 Legislator Nicholas Caracappa, Chairperson
17 Legislator Sarah Anker
18 Legislator Bridget Fleming
19 Legislator Al Krupski
20 Legislator Anthony Piccirillo
21 Legislator Dominick Thorne
22 Legislator Robert Trotta
23

24 **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

25 William Duffy, Counsel to the Legislature
26 Frank Tassone, Clerk of the Legislature
27 Hope Clark, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
28 Laura Halloran, Budget Review Office
29 Janet Heller-Smitelli, Counsel's Office
30 Ali Nazir, Aide to Presiding Officer McCaffrey
31 Chris DeLuca, Aide to Presiding Officer McCaffrey
32 Brendan Sweeney, Aide to Presiding Officer McCaffrey
33 Robert Martinez, Aide to Legislator Caracappa
34 Catherine Stark, Aide to Legislator Krupski
35 Derek Stein, Aide to Legislator Krupski
36 Irene Donohue, Aide to Legislator Fleming
37 Maria Abbatiello-Farley, Aide to Legislator Thorne
38 Joseph Brown, Commissioner/DPW
39 Bill Hillman, Chief Engineer/DPW
40 Janice McGovern, Chief Engineer/DPW
41 Michelle Zarafis, County Executive's Office
42 All other interested parties
43
44

45 **TAKEN AND TRANSCRIBED BY:**

46 Lucia Braaten & Alison Mahoney, Court Stenographers
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1 (**The Meeting was Called to Order at 2:07 p.m.**)
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3 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

4 Okay, everybody. Sorry for the delay. Welcome to the Public
5 Works, Transportation and Energy Committee meeting. I'm going to
6 ask everyone please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance, and remain
7 standing for a short moment of silence. And we're going to ask my
8 colleague, Legislator Rob Trotta, to lead us in the Pledge.
9

02:07PM 10 (**Pledge of Allegiance**)
11

12 Just a brief moment of silence to reflect on and wish the
13 Police Officer that was shot in Coram on Friday, though he's on his
14 well -- on his way to recovery, he still faces some challenges. So
15 he's in our thoughts, as are all law enforcement personnel who
16 serve this great county, as well as our law enforcement and
17 healthcare workers. Just a moment of silence to reflect on all of
18 them. Thank you.
19

02:08PM 20 (**Moment of Silence**)
21

22 Thank you. All right. Mr. Clerk, can we have a roll call, please?
23

24 (**Roll Call by Frank Tassone, Clerk of the Legislature**)
25

26 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

27 Present.
28

02:08PM 29 **LEG. TROTТА:**

30 Here.
31

32 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

33 Here.
34

35 **LEG. FLEMING:**

36 Present.
37

38 **LEG. ANKER:**

39 Here.
02:08PM 40

41 **LEG. THORNE:**

42 Present.
43

44 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**

45 Present.
46

47 **CLERK TASSONE:**

48 *Seven.*
49

02:08PM 50 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

51 Thank you. Do we have any correspondence?
52

53 **CLERK TASSONE:**

54 All correspondence have been distributed accordingly, Mr. Chairman.
55

56 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

1 Thank you very much. Moving on to public portion, I have two
2 speakers, beginning with Frank Fugarino. Am I pronouncing that
3 right, Frank?

4
5 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
6 Yeah, that's good.

7
8 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
9 All right. Just make your way up to the podium. Make sure the
02:09PM 10 microphone is on. There should be a green light. And just state
11 your name for the record, please.

12
13 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
14 I'll push that. There you go. My name is Frank Fugarino. I'm
15 President of Pattersquash Creek Civic Association, Mastic Beach.
16 We have about 125 members. In fact, our members are the parents of
17 the Officer that was shot in Coram.

18
19 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
20 Oh, man.

21
22 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
23 I came tonight -- today, and I appreciate the opportunity. Good to
24 see you all again. I came to speak about Resolution 1412. It's
25 important for us in Mastic Beach, and I'll tell you why. We have
26 everybody pulling and going in the same direction with the Town's
27 support of Beechwood Homes with our background support of getting
28 the grassroots effort to have businesses in support of Beechwood
29 Homes. But more importantly, our last civic meeting, we had
02:10PM 30 Peter Scully as our speaker. He connected Pattersquash Creek,
31 Mastic Beach in the same sentence with Forge River. I was
32 thrilled, because we've been in -- I've been in this battle for a
33 long time to protect our bays. I live on Pattersquash Creek,
34 actually, and face the bay. But he was making such valid points
35 about how important the -- all of that effort is to protect the --
36 and to -- and to make sure that our bays are not polluted. This is
37 just another step.

38
39 Pattersquash Creek, Neighborhood Road runs right through there, by
02:10PM 40 the way. And so what we're doing to reduce cesspool, and damage,
41 and nitrogen entry into the bays, this is all part and parcel of
42 this. We can't -- we can't be successful in Mastic Beach without
43 that kind of support, sewers, small businesses, all small
44 businesses on Neighborhood Road, and then being within an eighth of
45 a mile or less I'd say in city blocks, two blocks from
46 Pattersquash Creek itself, which feeds into the bay, feeds into
47 Narrows Bay.

48
49 So we're hoping that you do support this. Understand that our
02:11PM 50 members, all 125 of them, are in support of helping those small
51 business owners connect with the proposed sewerage of Mastic --
52 sewerage of Mastic Beach. Thank you.

53
54 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
55 Anybody?

56

1 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**
2 *(Raised Hand)*.

3
4 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
5 Yeah.

6
7 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
8 Legislator Krupski.

9
10 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
11 Yeah.

12
13 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**
14 Good afternoon.

15
16 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
17 How are you?

18
19 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**
02:11PM 20 How are you?

21
22 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
23 How are you doing?

24
25 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**
26 Good. You know, this -- I saw this last week on the agenda, and
27 there's an area where the County -- I know USDA, the Town's been
28 involved with preserving a lot of that land --

29
02:11PM 30 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
31 Yeah, yes.

32
33 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**
34 -- south, where that's subject to continual flooding. So how far
35 does this project go towards that? And I was going to ask the
36 Commissioner, Commissioner Brown afterwards during the meeting on
37 these resolutions, are they taken into account sea level rise?
38 Because last week was all about, between the Long Island Sound Sea
39 Grant and the Peconic Estuary partnership, you know, considering,
02:12PM 40 you know, efforts to address infrastructure projects because of sea
41 level rise.

42
43 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
44 Right.

45
46 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**
47 So does this project take that into account in that area?

48
49 **FRANK FUGARINO:**
02:12PM 50 Well, I'll speak for myself and all of the various workshops I've
51 attended. This is about polluting the bay. This is about sewerage
52 so that we do not continue to pollute our bay. Neighborhood Road
53 is far enough from the bays. In fact, even with Hurricane Sandy,
54 it did not get touched by water. You'd have to go back to 1938.
55 So it's not about sea level rise. Where we live as residents, we
56 are concerned about sea level rise, and we -- and we have to

1 recognize that.

2

3 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

4 Thank you.

5

6 **FRANK FUGARINO:**

7 But the resolution is about -- about progress for Mastic Beach.

8

9 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

02:12PM 10 Yeah, thank you.

11

12 **FRANK FUGARINO:**

13 Thank you.

14

15 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17

18 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

02:12PM 19 Absolutely. Anybody else? All right. Next up, we have Maura
20 Spery. Hopefully, I corrected that one, too. I'm not sure.

21

22 **MAURA SPERY:**

02:13PM 23 Hi. Thank you for the opportunity. Maura Spery, 5 Hemlock Drive,
24 Mastic Beach. I'm here as the President of the Mastic Beach
25 Conservancy, and I am here to also support, as Frank Fugarino of
26 Pattersquash Creek does, the sewerage of Neighborhood Road. We
27 have been working on this for, some will say, over 25 years, but
28 certainly the past 15 years we have done three different public
29 planning processes, including charrettes, and Neighborhood Road has
30 been part of that plan since the 2008 Town plan.

31

32 I'm going to just reiterate what Frank said. What we're looking at
33 is our bays. What we're looking at is, as you all know, Suffolk
34 County and our Great South Bay going from providing over 50% of
35 shellfish to this nation to now zero. We are starting to bring
36 that back with the oyster farms that we have. We are starting to
37 bring that back with the kelp planting at the conservancy. We are
38 in the process of getting an aquaculture farm off of the coast to
39 do kelp and oysters for the protection of our bay.

02:14PM 40

41 And we just want to say how much this matters to our community, how
42 it will really be the start of something truly wonderful with the
43 revitalization of our downtown, as well as our blue and green trail
44 that we've been working on. Mastic Beach really can be a shining
45 star, it can be an educational incubator for people, it can be an
46 ecotourism site. So in the 15 years and half a million dollars of
47 plan, we see how great our community is, and how the potential is
48 unlimited for us. So I just would like to say please support Bill
49 No. 1412, or Resolution Number.

02:14PM 50

51 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

52 I can't tell you how much I appreciate your comments. I think
53 everyone up here feels the same way. We here at Suffolk County, we
54 take a lot of pride in what we're doing here, in not only
55 protecting our aquifer, but protecting our coastal waterways and
56 our -- you know, all of our rivers and estuaries, and it's

1 important. We're doing good work here, and thanks to many people
2 who sit on this board here, on this committee, that work is moved
3 forward and continues to move forward. So I do appreciate the work
4 you do within that community on ensuring that our -- our waterways
5 are protected. And you sound very enthusiastic, very educated on
6 it. So I could appreciate you and your fellow speaker Frank for
7 coming out. And, yeah, I don't think you have anything to worry
8 about on these kind of projects. These are important to our
9 County, important to our communities, important to our wildlife,
02:15PM 10 agriculture, both.

11
12 You know, when we say agriculture, a lot of people don't think
13 about water, you know, what goes on in the water when it comes to
14 agriculture. It's not all -- and no disrespect, Legislator
15 Krupski. It's not all corn and potatoes.

16
17 (*Laughter*)
18

19 You know, what we -- what we grow in our waterways is outstanding.
02:16PM 20 So thank you for your words.

21
22 **MAURA SPERY:**
23 Thank you so much for the time.

24
25 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
26 Both of you. Thank you, Frank. Anyone else? Is that it on the
27 public speakers? All right. All right. We'll close public
28 portion, seeing no other speakers.

29
02:16PM 30 Appointment resolutions, we have none. On the agenda, folks, there
31 was a presentation scheduled. We are going to move that, postpone
32 that presentation to our next meeting, so this way we can have more
33 information in that presentation that's necessary. So that will be
34 put on hold. All right?

35
36 Next up, we'll have Tabled Resolutions. All right. We'll begin
37 with **1065 - Amending the 2023 Capital Budget and Program and**
38 **appropriating funds in connection with the Electric Vehicle Supply**
39 **Equipment Installation at Various Suffolk County Facilities**
02:17PM 40 **(CP 1834). (Co. Exec.)** I will make a motion to table that.

41
42 **LEG. TROTTA:**
43 Second.

44
45 **LEG. THORNE:**
46 Second.

47
48 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
49 We have a motion and a second. I'll give it to Trotta, Legislator
02:17PM 50 Trotta. He got in under the wire there, just ahead of my colleague
51 to my right. And with that, any -- all in favor? Opposed?

52
53 **LEG. FLEMING:**
54 On the motion.

55
56 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

1 Yes, on the motion.

2

3 **LEG. FLEMING:**

4 Just inquiring as to the purpose behind the tabling, and would be
5 interested in hearing from -- I see the Commissioner has taken a
6 seat at the table there. This seems like a critically important
7 piece of infrastructure work to move forward with, so not -- I'm
8 not clear on why we're not moving forward.

9

02:17PM

10 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

11 Well, the request for the tabling came right from our Executive,
12 and I agree with it, because we don't have the information that we
13 requested at our last meeting. It's not -- it's not available to
14 us. So we'll wait until we do get the appropriate information.
15 But with that, you have a question from Legislator Fleming, I
16 guess, so.

17

18 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

19 Yes, Legislator. This is 1318, we're on I.R. 1318?

02:18PM

20 **LEG. FLEMING:**

21 No.

22

23 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

24 No.

25

26 **LEG. FLEMING:**

27 1065.

28

02:18PM

29 **DIRECTOR ZARIFIS:**

30 Chair, if I -- if I may just step in. Sorry. Just to respond to
31 your question, Legislator Fleming, we're working in partnership
32 with the Legislature to kind of just make sure that things are in
33 order for this specific resolution, so we did request that it be
34 tabled at this time.

35

36 **LEG. FLEMING:**

37 I guess my question is what is not in order. What are we waiting
38 for? It's -- I mean, this says electrification of the fleet,
39 electrification of vehicles is such a critical move forward, you
02:18PM 40 know, in the face of climate change. We're an island, and
41 transportation is recognized by many as maybe the second most
42 impactful contributor of carbon emissions, you know, across
43 sectors. So just wondering what it is that's holding things up,
44 because I'd like to see this move.

45

46 **DIRECTOR ZARIFIS:**

47 It's just source of funding. We're just working out that
48 logistically.

02:19PM

49 **LEG. FLEMING:**

50 Oh, I appreciate that. Okay, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

51

52 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

53 No problem, thank you. So with that, we have a motion to table and
54 a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

55

1
2 **CLERK TASSONE:**
3 *Seven. (Vote: Tabled 7-0-0-0)*

4
5 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
6 *I.R. 1065 is tabled. I.R. 1174 - Appropriating PAYGO funds in*
7 *connection with the Purchase of Replacement Non-Public Safety*
8 *Vehicles (CP 1823). (Co Exec.) I make a motion to table that.*

9
10 **LEG. TROTТА:**
11 *Second.*

12
13 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
14 *I got a second, Legislator Trotta. Anyone on the motion? Seeing*
15 *none, all in favor? Opposed?*

16
17 **CLERK TASSONE:**
18 *Seven. (Vote: Tabled 7-0-0-0)*

19
02:20PM 20 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
21 *All right. I.R. 1174 is tabled. All right. I.R. 1294 - Amending*
22 *the 2023 Operating Budget, transferring Assessment Stabilization*
23 *Reserve funds and appropriating funds in connection with the*
24 *Purchase of Sewer Facility Maintenance Equipment (CP 8164).*
25 *(Co. Exec.)*

26
27 **LEG. FLEMING:**
28 *Motion to approve.*

29
02:20PM 30 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
31 *I have a motion to approve. Is there a second?*

32
33 **LEG. ANKER:**
34 *Second.*

35
36 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
37 *We got a second.*

38
02:21PM 39 **LEG. TROTТА:**
40 *Motion to table.*

41
42 **LEG. FLEMING:**
43 *Motion to table? For what?*

44
45 **LEG. TROTТА:**
46 *Because I don't have the backup material.*

47
48 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
49 *So we have a -- I'm sorry. We have a motion to -- is that a*
02:21PM 50 *motion, Legislator Fleming, to approve it and a second?*

51
52 **LEG. FLEMING:**
53 *I can -- I can't make a motion and second in the same motion.*

54
55 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
56 *No, no, second from Legislator Krupski.*

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02:22PM

02:22PM

02:22PM

02:22PM

02:22PM

LEG. FLEMING:
Oh, oh, oh, oh.

CLERK TASSONE:
We have a second from Legislator Anker.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
All right. With that, I'm going to make a motion to table this resolution.

LEG. FLEMING:
Again, on the -- on the resolution.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
Do I have second?

LEG. TROTТА:
Second to table.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
We have a second.

LEG. FLEMING:
On the motion.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
On the motion.

LEG. FLEMING:
Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just wondering, again, I mean, obviously we just heard from the folks in Mastic how important sewerage is, and I know it's a major function of government here in Suffolk County. So just inquiring as to -- we've heard a motion to table. There's a motion to table, which takes precedent over my motion to approve. I certainly want to see the essential functions of government continuing. So just wondering what the perspective is, Mr. Chair. If you want to offer -- I don't -- you don't have to, but you might want to let us in on why it is that we're not moving forward with this. And I'd love to hear from the Department as to whether that's, you know, going to present a challenge.

LEG. TROTТА:
Through the Chair, if I may.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
Of course.

LEG. TROTТА:
Yeah, Legislator, there's a variety of these we're going to be tabling today, because there's no backup material. It's very vague, they say the money can be moved around. So we want to know what specifically it's being used for. I would say at least more than three-quarters of the upcoming resolutions we've -- we're going to be tabling, because in the resolution it says it could be moved around, it could be changed. And we want language in those

1 resolutions saying that you have to come back with specific
2 instances where the money is going to be used. We are no longer
3 writing a blank check.

4
5 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

6 In addition to that, we requested that information prior to this
7 meeting, you know, and it did not get to us. So, you know, without
8 that information requested, we're not inclined to move forward. We
9 are more inclined to table it for next go-around.

02:23PM 10

11 **LEG. FLEMING:**

12 I guess I'll defer, obviously, to the Department. But just before
13 I cast my vote, I would -- I would be interested to know. I mean,
14 this resolution does spell out that this funding would be used for
15 sewer facility maintenance and equipment. I just wonder to what
16 extent it's -- the specifics are going to hold up, you know, the
17 effort of the administration to move forward with some of these
18 essential functions of government. So I don't know. Commissioner,
19 if you could just note, is there something that you're aware of
20 that's not included in the resolution that would give us a better
21 understanding of how this would be -- how these monies would be
22 expended?

02:24PM 20

23
24 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

25 Legislator, yeah. Joe Brown, Commissioner of DPW. I -- there's a
26 couple of issues here that were involved in the tabling. One was
27 what you're referring to, you know, what the Chair is referring to
28 about the list.

02:24PM 30

29
30 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

31 Yes.

32
33 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

34 We do have an updated list. You know, this was laid on the table,
35 you know, more than two months ago. So it was before that
36 discussion happened and we agreed to do that, but I thought that an
37 updated list had been provided. If you don't have that, I'll make
38 sure you get that. Additionally, I made a comment previously,
39 either a month or two ago, that there are electric vehicles in the
40 current purchase plan. However, they're in 2024 and they're not --

02:25PM 40

41
42 **LEG. FLEMING:**

43 We're talking about sewer equipment now.

44
45 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

46 Yes, this is sewer equipment. It's trucks, it's a Vactor, which,
47 you know, it sucks up material and moves it. It's hook trucks,
48 cranes, tractors, SUVs, pickups. We do plan to purchase
49 electric -- a couple of electric vehicle pickups in 2024, but this
50 is -- this is just for 2023. We have no plans to purchase anything
51 electric with these funds for 2023. So that was also an issue that
52 had been a concern of this committee. So we would like to see it
53 go forward. I'm glad to read through the list. I thought that had
54 been provided to you, so I apologize for that. It hasn't --

02:25PM 50

55
56 **LEG. FLEMING:**

1 Well, actually, the list is -- the equipment that's proposed to be
2 acquired with this funding is actually in a list that is attached
3 to the resolution. It's in the third "RESOLVED" clause that the
4 vehicles and equipment are detailed in the attachment. So I
5 guess -- I certainly appreciate that the majority is focused on
6 good government and, you know, accountability. I just wonder in
7 this particular instance if it really applies in that that -- you
8 know, the specifics have been supplied by the Department with
9 regard to this equipment.

10
11 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

12 I'll go --

13
14 **LEG. FLEMING:**

15 And I just worry that we're going to find ourselves sort of
16 handcuffing in basic functions of government, handcuffing the
17 Department when they have, in fact, answered the questions with
18 some level of specificity.

19
02:26PM 20 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

21 Well, casting aspirations (sic) such as those are -- you know, I'm
22 not really, you know, pleased hearing, you know, that coming from
23 you, Legislator. But I could tell you, we do -- we do our
24 diligence.

25
26 **LEG. FLEMING:**

27 Wait, wait, wait. I want to just clarify something. Mr. Chair,
28 I'm not --

29
02:27PM 30 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

31 I have the mic. I have the mic right now.

32
33 **LEG. FLEMING:**

34 But hold on.

35
36 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

37 You spoke and you cast your aspirations (sic) that you always do --

38
39 **LEG. FLEMING:**

02:27PM 40 I want -- I want to apologize.

41
42 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

43 -- that we are being one-sided and we're playing politics.
44 Legislator Fleming, I have the mic. You had your chance, you said
45 what you had to say, and I will defend your accusations, as I
46 always do, because they are completely out of line. You are
47 trying --

48
49 **LEG. FLEMING:**

02:27PM 50 But I'm trying to apologize, because you're misunderstanding.

51
52 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

53 You can apologize afterwards when I'm done speaking, because I will
54 reiterate what we did last time around. We asked certain questions
55 and we got misinformation. Number one, we don't get all the
56 information we request. Number two, I asked if there were electric

1 vehicles. I said -- and then we got mixed responses. Then we
2 found out there are indeed six electric vehicles, which brings us
3 back to the other tabled resolutions that -- and why we did not go
4 forward with the presentation today, because they are not prepared.
5 They are not prepared to give us the information that was requested
6 by this committee, therefore, that will be tabled. And if this
7 is -- ties into the same -- the same avenue as those electric
8 vehicles, being that some of them are involved in this purchase, I
9 will continue my tabling, not because of political reasons, because
02:28PM 10 of lack of information.

11
12 We had that -- that list was provided today, today, and not all of
13 us got that list. So the fact that anyone wants to wait until the
14 last minute to provide information that was requested how many
15 weeks ago, that is not on us, and that is not a political move.
16 That is -- so your aspirations (sic) are unwarranted. Not
17 aspirations, I'm sorry. Your --

18
19 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**
02:28PM 20 Aspersions.

21
22 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

23 Yes, I appreciate that. Your accusations and -- listen, I'm
24 getting -- I'm getting to the point where we are trying to -- we
25 are trying to maintain good government by knowing exactly where our
26 tax dollars are going. How much and where they are going to,
27 appropriating in the right direction where we're giving approval
28 to, having vague language where -- where these millions of dollars
29 in total can be spent where it's spent, and changed their mind at
02:29PM 30 the -- you know, at their whim does not constitute good government
31 in my opinion and many of my colleagues' opinion up here.

32
33 We have a right, if we are casting a vote to appropriate money for
34 a certain project, and that certain project then changes, we have a
35 right to have them come back in front of us, explain to us where
36 that money is going, why that original project changed, and where
37 is it going now and what that project is. That's good government,
38 being informed, knowing where the dollars are going, knowing
39 exactly what the community it's going to, what project it's going
40 to, so we have the ability to answer questions when they are asked
41 to us by our constituents and residents. So quite simply, we --
42 you know, we have the right and we are doing our diligence by
43 asking the appropriate questions. So --

44
45 **LEG. FLEMING:**
46 If I may.

47
48 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
49 Yes, ma'am, go right ahead.

02:29PM 50
51 **LEG. FLEMING:**

52 Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I appreciate your leadership of the
53 committee, and I certainly understand that it's critically
54 important that the Legislature serves an oversight and
55 accountability role. I agree with that 100%, and for eight years
56 I've participated, I think, in a pretty robust way with that very

1 role of the Legislature. I would like to just correct for the
2 record the characterization, sir, that you've made that I accused
3 anyone of anything, or that I was casting -- I think you meant to
4 say aspersions.

5
6 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

7 Yes, aspersions, thank you.
8

9 **LEG. FLEMING:**

02:30PM 10 Which was certainly not my intention. I just am seeing a
11 resolution, this particular resolution, which states that there's
12 limited amount of specific equipment that we're being asked to
13 authorize funding for. In the resolution it refers to a list. I'm
14 informed by Counsel that the list had not been provided. So I
15 certainly appreciate that if that's the case, it does make it
16 difficult for those of us on the Legislature to case a
17 well-informed vote.
18

02:31PM 19 But I did want to -- so I'm more than happy if that is the concern,
20 that these specific details weren't provided in -- within enough
21 time to consider a well-informed vote. I mean, I certainly think
22 that that is reasonable and I wouldn't oppose it. I would,
23 however, oppose the characterization that by putting a respectful
24 question and suggesting that there is, you know, a different way of
25 looking at something is in some way accusing, or political, or
26 casting aspersions, it is not my intention. Just as you are, sir,
27 I'm trying to do my job to the best of my ability. I'm proud of
28 the work that I bring to this horseshoe, and I certainly did not
29 intend any offense or to cast any aspersions.
30

02:31PM 31 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

32 Thank you for clarifying that, Legislator. No one is questioning
33 your work on this horseshoe over your term here, but you have --
34 and you can go back and all, we can pull the tapes, with what you
35 have accused the Majority of this Legislature more than -- more
36 than several occasions of playing political footballs with some of
37 these. And let me tell you, whether you mean it or not, you say it
38 and it really -- it's offensive when you do that, when we are just
39 all trying here to work together and have good government in
02:32PM 40 Suffolk County. And you could take any position you want on how it
41 was led over the past few years, but we are just looking to tighten
42 it up and getting more information.
43

44 Having words such as "various", and it could "subject to change",
45 and that's fine, because things do -- are subject to change. But
46 those subject to changes are also now going to be subject to come
47 back in front of us, so we are well informed, to make an informed,
48 educated decision on exactly where those dollars are going to be
49 spent, and that's all I'm saying. So to hear it time and time
02:32PM 50 again from you, Legislator Fleming, that this is somehow a
51 politically motivated decision to ask for more information is
52 highly inaccurate and it is offensive.
53

54 So forgive me for, you know, acting the way I did, but it's not the
55 first time, Legislator Fleming. You have to understand, whether
56 you realize it or not, you have made those allegations in the past.

1 And so I would just appreciate it if you can, you know, start with
2 asking the questions, and if you have more questions, we would love
3 to answer them. But just please don't go right to questioning
4 whether this is politically motivated or not, when it's certainly
5 not, I can assure you of that.

6
7 **LEG. FLEMING:**

8 Thank you, sir. And I made no reference to political motivation.
9 I simply made --

02:33PM 10

11 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

12 This time.

13
14 **LEG. FLEMING:**

15 -- asked a question as to what was the reason, the rationale for a
16 tabling motion, when I'd like to see our government continue to
17 function and to move forward. So, again, I just -- I don't want
18 to, you know, dwell on it, but I do want to clarify for the record,
19 I -- Mr. Chair, I'm being accused of doing my job in a way that
20 you, sir, find offensive. I haven't heard this much. So you say
21 again and again, you say you can go to the tapes. I did not say
22 this was political. I asked what the Majority Caucus, which you've
23 said that you and Mr. Trotta said that you would be tabling a lot
24 of things, so I simply ask why. And I think I'm well within --
25 whether I'm in the Minority, the Majority, I'm also an elected
26 official. I think I'm well within my responsibilities to ask those
27 questions, and so I'll continue to do it.

02:34PM 28

29 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

30 And that you are. And that you are.

02:34PM 31

32 **LEG. FLEMING:**

33 But I will have to continue to correct the record if you're going
34 to accuse me --

35
36 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

37 Well --

38
39 **LEG. FLEMING:**

40 -- of things that aren't accurate.

02:34PM 41

42 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

43 I would suggest at this point --

44
45 **LEG. FLEMING:**

46 I'm doing my job.

47
48 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

49 -- because I'm not going to have this going back and forth with
50 you, because I am telling you, you may want to pull the transcripts
51 of this meeting and see how -- exactly what you did say, and then
52 I'll accept your apology afterwards. Moving forward.

53
54 **LEG. FLEMING:**

55 I don't -- I will not apologize for the work I've done today.

56

1 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

2 Well, then accept responsibility for what you actually do say,
3 then, on the record.

4
5 So we have a motion to table 1318. No, I'm sorry, 1294. My
6 apologies, 1294. That takes precedence of moving forward. We have
7 a motion and a second. Can we do a roll call vote on this, please?

8
9 **CLERK TASSONE:**

10 Yes.

11
12 *(*Roll Called by Frank Tassone - Clerk of the Legislature)*

13
14 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

15 Yes to table.

16
17 **LEG. TROTТА:**

18 Yes to table.

02:35PM

19
20 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

21 Yes.

22
23 **LEG. FLEMING:**

24 Yes.

25
26 **LEG. ANKER:**

27 Yes.

02:35PM

28
29 **LEG. THORNE:**

30 Yes to table.

31
32 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**

33 Yes.

34
35 **CLERK TASSONE:**

36 *Seven. (Vote: Tabled 7-0-0-0)*

37
38 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

02:35PM

39 I.R. 1294 is tabled. *I.R. 1318 - Appropriating funds in connection*
40 *with Improvements to County Road 38, North Sea Road (CP 5505).*
41 *(Co. Exec.)* I'll make a motion to table this resolution.

42
43 **LEG. TROTТА:**

44 Second.

45
46 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

47 Second.

48
49 **LEG. ANKER:**

50 On the motion.

51
52 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

53 On the motion.

54
55 **LEG. ANKER:**

56 Just a quick question to the Commissioner. By tabling all of these

1 pieces of Legislation, is that going to be an issue as far as
2 getting some of the work done that might be needed before the next
3 Legislative session? Will we lose money, maybe with the grant or
4 funding that's available.

5
6 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

7 No, Legislator, it has no impact on all of that. There's been a
8 lot of community involvement recently since our meeting, and we're
9 having another meeting Thursday with members of the community and
02:36PM 10 some representatives. So we have to sort out a few issues with
11 sidewalks, and access, and parking. But the whole overall project
12 needs to move forward, it needs to be resurfaced, and that's our
13 intention. So the Division has asked to table for a couple of
14 cycles, and then it's our intention to move the project forward as
15 soon as possible.

16
17 **LEG. ANKER:**

18 Okay, thank you.

19
02:36PM 20 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

21 And just to add to that, I took place in the Zoom meeting with
22 Legislator Fleming, and people in her community, and the
23 Commissioner's staff, and there were some very good comments,
24 dialogue back and forth. I think it's still unresolved, hence the
25 meeting Thursday, which I couldn't -- wish I could be at, but I
26 cannot, involved in the business community and then a few others
27 that will have -- you know, and they voiced some opposition to the
28 sidewalks as well. So it's important that everybody be heard, and
29 I think Legislator Fleming is on board with that. But, at this
02:36PM 30 point, Legislator Fleming, you have questions or comments?

31
32 **LEG. FLEMING:**

33 On the motion, yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you for your
34 participation in the community discussion around this extremely
35 important investment in the East End community.

36
37 So I did ask Ms. Clark earlier, before the meeting, to distribute
38 to members of the committee a letter that you should all have from
02:37PM 39 this time last year from the North Sea Fire Commissioners, who
40 asked for my support in moving forward with this important
41 infrastructure project. It is road repair, and all its -- you
42 know, and all its components on North Sea Road, which is County
43 Road 38. It's a coastal roadway, it's a very important roadway
44 that connects North Sea, Noyack, Sag Harbor, North Haven.

45
46 The Commissioners last year asked for my support for the project.
47 They noted the deteriorating and hazardous conditions, and narrow
48 shoulders, crumbling concrete, that the vehicles are traveling too
49 fast. They've observed vehicles rolling out, backing out into
02:38PM 50 oncoming traffic. So there's a lot of work that needs to be done.

51
52 I want to thank the Department, the Commissioner, particularly
53 Chief Engineer Bill Hillman, for their ongoing, really terrific
54 interaction with the community. We had this on County Road 41 a
55 couple of years ago and last year, and the project is terrific, in
56 part because of the willingness of the Department to really engage

1 the local community. So this is super important, because there is
2 an ambulance barn that is just being built right here in the
3 corridor. There are businesses that are going to be affected in
4 the corridor. Huge safety concerns throughout the community. And
5 so we are -- the Department's been hosting a series of stakeholder
6 meetings. This Thursday, we do have a meeting at the North Sea
7 Fire Department that will include the ambulance and business owners
8 in the corridor, and we really look forward to continuing the
9 discussion. I will note that the Commissioners in the letter I
10 distributed did ask for sidewalks, and drainage, and resurfacing.
11 There's a lot of work that needs to be done, and I look forward to
12 the continued discussion.

02:39PM

13
14 I would just note that even though I -- I would have made the
15 motion to table. I was thinking that I was going to do that, since
16 it's in my district. But I certainly support the motion to table,
17 because the end result, I'm sure, is going to be much, much better
18 than if we hadn't engaged the community. And so I don't want my
19 support for a motion to table to in any way indicate that this
20 isn't a critically important investment in our community that's
21 supported certainly by emergency services and many, many people in
22 the community. So thanks for that.

02:39PM

23
24 And I hope this is going to stay on the agenda. I hope, actually,
25 by next committee we'll be able to move forward. We won't have,
26 I'm sure, a full conceptual design, but certainly I think should be
27 in a position where we can have -- where the department can have a
28 sense of what the -- what the funding is. This is in the Capital
29 Program, it has been for many years, and it's a critically
30 important project on -- for the East End community. Thank you.

02:40PM

31
32 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

33 Thank you.

34
35 **LEG. THORNE:**

36 Mr. Chairman.

37
38 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

39 So we have Legislator Thorne.

02:40PM

40
41 **LEG. THORNE:**

42 Just through the Chair, is the Southampton Volunteer Ambulance
43 Squad up and running now at that location?

44
45 **LEG. FLEMING:**

46 No. The barn is -- well, I mean, they're there, but they're in a
47 much smaller facility. The barn is currently being built.

48
49 **LEG. THORNE:**

50 Okay, so it's being built. But that particular structure is not
51 being operated on as yet?

02:40PM

52
53 **LEG. FLEMING:**

54 No, no, it's still framed out.

55
56 **LEG. THORNE:**

1 Okay. Thank you, ma'am.

2

3 **LEG. TROTТА:**

4 Motion and a second.

5

6 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

7 All right. So we have a motion and a second to table, I believe,
8 right?

9

02:41PM

10 **LEG. TROTТА:**

11 Yep.

12

13 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

14 All right. So all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

15

16 **CLERK TASSONE:**

17 *Seven. (Vote: Tabled 7-0-0-0)*

18

19 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

02:41PM

20 Whew. All right. So I.R. 1318 is tabled. And that is it for
21 Tabled Resolutions.

22

23 Going into *Introductory Resolutions*, we'll begin with *I.R. 1388 -*
24 *Bond Resolution of the County of Suffolk, New York, authorizing the*
25 *issuance of four point -- \$4,750,000 in Bonds to finance*
26 *Improvements to County Road 21, Middle Island-Yaphank Road in the*
27 *vicinity of Longwood Road (CP 5138.312). (Co. Exec.)* Do I have a
28 motion on this?

29

02:41PM

30 **LEG. TROTТА:**

31 For the sake of discussion, I'll make a motion to approve for now.

32

33 **LEG. THORNE:**

34 I'll second it for the sake of discussion.

35

36 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

37 I have a motion. Do I have a second? Legislator Thorne, you're
38 seconding it?

39

02:41PM

40 **LEG. THORNE:**

41 I second the motion so we can have a discussion.

42

43 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

44 All right. Well, say it, then, go on the record and say you
45 second.

46

47 **LEG. THORNE:**

48 I second the motion.

49

02:42PM

50 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

51 Very good, congratulations.

52

53 **LEG. TROTТА:**

54 On the motion.

55

56 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

1 On the motion.

2

3 **LEG. TROTТА:**

4 Commissioner, we looked at a map back in the room there. Is this a
5 flooding issue or something at the corner? It seems like a lot of
6 money to -- what are you doing with \$4.7 million?

7

8 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

02:42PM

9 Yeah, it is drainage, and also some resurfacing, because it was
10 required. You know, in the -- in pavement drainage, you have to do
11 some resurfacing. It is a low spot. This is a project that's been
12 in the works for a long time and had an appropriate reso --
13 appropriating resolution in 2000, but we want to move forward. And
14 the Chief Engineer is here, if you want more details specifically
15 on the --

16

17 **LEG. TROTТА:**

18 Two thousand?

19

02:42PM

20 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

21 Oh, excuse me?

22

23 **LEG. TROTТА:**

24 Twenty-three years ago?

25

26 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

27 Twenty -- no, I believe it's 2020.

28

29 **LEG. TROTТА:**

30 Okay.

31

32 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

33 I wrote down 2000, but I believe it's 2020.

34

35 **LEG. TROTТА:**

36 I was going to say.

37

(*Laughter*)

38

39 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

40 My -- my mistake.

41

42 **LEG. TROTТА:**

43 That's about when the -- when the Property Section building was
44 going to be built, in 2020.

45

46 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

47 Yeah, my apologies.

48

02:43PM

49 **LEG. TROTТА:**

50 All right. Bill, can you give us a little overrun of what this --
51 overview or --

52

53 **MR. HILLMAN:**

54 Sure. Bill Hillman, Chief Engineer, Highway, Structures &
55 Waterways. So, yes, there's a flooding problem along the west side
56

1 at --

2

3 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

4 Longwood Road?

5

6 **MR. HILLMAN:**

7 Longwood Road. Thank you. And then the pavement north of that and
8 south of that, we're probably going to resurface I'd say upwards of
9 a mile-and-a-half. So it's drainage and also resurfacing. The
02:43PM 10 majority of the money is going to go to resurfacing, though.

11

12 **LEG. TROTТА:**

13 When you say drainage, you're going to put pipes in and --

14

15 **MR. HILLMAN:**

16 Yeah. No direct discharges into the stream, it's just to the west,
17 but some leaching basins that would be tied together, but no
18 additional discharges.

19

02:43PM

20 **LEG. TROTТА:**

21 And right now it's going right in there, whatever?

22

23 **MR. HILLMAN:**

24 It's right now going right into the stream, yeah.

25

26 **LEG. TROTТА:**

27 All right, I'm good with that.

28

29 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

02:44PM

30 Does this qualify for the WQPRP funding for drainage in the
31 district?

32

33 **MR. HILLMAN:**

34 Yeah, in may.

35

36 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

37 So why wouldn't we go that route?

38

39 **MR. HILLMAN:**

02:44PM

40 Well, we could, it's only \$250,000 of 4.75, but it's def -- we
41 definitely could, could do that.

42

43 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

44 So it -- so that's -- see, this is why I don't have that
45 information. All we have is one lump sum, so I don't know what the
46 breakdown is. You're saying 250,000 is for the drainage portion,
47 and the rest would be for --

48

49 **MR. HILLMAN:**

02:44PM

50 No, for Suffolk County water quality.

51

52 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

53 Yeah.

54

55 **MR. HILLMAN:**

56 The max, the max you can get for any one project --

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56

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
Okay. Right, okay.

MR. HILLMAN:
-- is 250,000.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
Right.

MR. HILLMAN:
So we may have done that, I don't know. But it's a good question, I don't know the answer.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
We should probably have that in here. Why not access it if it's available?

MR. HILLMAN:
We may already have it.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
So -- well, can you get that information?

MR. HILLMAN:
I can, absolutely.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:
All right, thank you. I appreciate that, Bill. Yes, Legislator Trotta.

LEG. TROTТА:
Just a quick -- so we don't know that it's going to cost 4.75. That's like an estimate, or has this like been bid out? How does this work?

MR. HILLMAN:
No, it hasn't been bid out yet. So we come in with an estimate and we appropriate the money. Legally, we're required, before we can go out to bid, to have to have the money.

LEG. TROTТА:
You know, it's really weird because --

MR. HILLMAN:
I think -- I stand corrected. I don't think that's accurate, but --

LEG. TROTТА:
It's not, yeah, because we had this discussion years ago about why are we giving them a number. Why don't you put it out to bid and then come to us?

MR. HILLMAN:
Well, I mean, it's not -- it's not like we're going to -- we're going to overspend. I mean, the bid's the bid. If we got

1 \$4.75 million and it was only \$4 million, the \$750,000 isn't
2 getting spent.

3
4 **LEG. TROTТА:**

5 I know. But, you know, you know what this does, though? This
6 breeds -- and I'm not saying you, but it breeds corruption, because
7 now I got four guys bidding on this. They go, okay, guess what,
8 they have 4.75 million. You bid five, you bid five, you bid five,
9 but the next time they come out -- this is like ripe for
02:45PM 10 corruption.

11
12 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

13 We are on public record stating that we are appropriating this much
14 money.

15
16 **LEG. TROTТА:**

17 Right?

18
19 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

02:45PM 20 So it's sort of putting the cart before the horse.

21
22 **MR. HILLMAN:**

23 It's in the Capital Program, which is published. I mean, I mean
24 every contractor, every vendor knows that going in. I mean, I'll
25 just say in my 20 years I've seen no evidence of any of that
26 collusion.

27
28 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

02:46PM 29 Yeah, we -- Legislator, we do have to come forward and ask for the
30 money, so that's why you're getting an exact number. At the
31 State --

32
33 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

34 Well, why not come forward after you get the bid.

35
36 **LEG. TROTТА:**

37 Come after you get the bids.

38
39 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

02:46PM 40 At the State we had a process that was a little different where we
41 would give a range, we'd say it's going to be between 5 and 10
42 million. And a contractor of a certain size would know what to bid
43 on, say they could plan, "*Okay, I'm going to go after that*
44 *project.*" But we wouldn't disclose it unless we absolutely had to,
45 or it was in some sort of legislation.

46
47 **LEG. TROTТА:**

48 Yeah. Who figures out this 4.7 million, who did that? Like is
49 that some --

02:46PM 50
51 **MR. HILLMAN:**

52 Our engineers.

53
54 **LEG. TROTТА:**

55 Okay. So they -- the number of miles, how much pavement it costs a
56 mile --

1
2 **MR. HILLMAN:**
3 Yeah.

4
5 **LEG. TROTТА:**
6 -- blah, blah, blah, blah, blah.

7
8 **MR. HILLMAN:**
9 Yep, yep.

10
11 **LEG. TROTТА:**
12 So I got to tell you, this is -- you know, I'm going back, I can
13 hear myself talking eight years ago when this came before us, and I
14 started saying, "*What are we doing?*"

15
16 **MR. HILLMAN:**
17 Well, I'm just -- I would just point out that it would be a
18 complete overall of how we do business right now, because it is in
19 the Capital Program.

20
21 **LEG. TROTТА:**
22 Yeah, I know.

23
24 **MR. HILLMAN:**
25 The Capital Program is published. We would then have to give
26 ranges, I guess, in our -- in our --

27
28 **LEG. TROTТА:**
29 Yeah, I would -- I think that would be a little better. Okay.
30 Then we'll make some changes coming soon.

02:47PM

31
32 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
33 Anyone else on the -- all right. So we have a motion and a second
34 to approve; is that correct? All right.

35
36 **CLERK TASSONE:**
37 That's correct, Mr. Chairman.

38
39 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
40 All right. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

02:47PM

41
42 **CLERK TASSONE:**
43 *Seven. (Vote: Approved 7-0-0-0)*

44
45 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
46 I.R. 1388 is approved. *I.R. 1390 - Appropriating funds in*
47 *connection with Improvements to County Environmental Recharge*
48 *Basins (CP 5072). (Co. Exec.)* I'll make a motion to table based on
49 what we discussed earlier with the lack of information.

50
51 **LEG. TROTТА:**
52 Second.

53
54 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
55 And, Commissioner, are you aware of what we're requesting? It's --
56 been -- it's been sent to you for more clarity, and that we will

1 need the language that if it -- if it is subject to change, that
2 then if there's a specific project, we want to know where it's
3 going. And if it does -- it is necessary to change that, you'll be
4 back in front of us to let us know where it's going.

5
6 **LEG. FLEMING:**

7 On the motion.

8
9 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

10 On the motion.

11
12 **LEG. FLEMING:**

13 I just wanted to inquire, this -- again, this is work that is in
14 the Capital Budget, which is -- I mean, the Capital Plan, which is
15 a three-year document. Well, it was three years and then we have
16 subsequent years. But it's a long-term planning document around
17 capital expenditures, which are critically important. I mean, we
18 are seeing sea level rise and we've seen -- we've seen, you know,
19 real concerns.

20
21 I know, for instance, in my district, Shinnecock East parking lot
22 crumbled into the bay a couple of seasons ago. We had to come up
23 with a couple of hundred thousand dollars in emergency funding to
24 address it. So I do think there's a very important purpose that is
25 served by careful planning around finance, and estimates have to be
26 made in order to arrive at, you know, numbers that make sense, so
27 that you can craft a budget that's going to meet the community's
28 needs.

29
30 This one in particular is of personal interest to me, because we're
31 talking about recharge basins. I think some of you know, there's a
32 recharge basin in the City of Seattle that's named after my
33 sister --

34
35 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**

36 Oh, wow.

37
38 **LEG. FLEMING:**

39 -- because a municipality had put off the improvements for a very
40 long time. And she actually perished in a flood in her basement,
41 because the recharge basins in her neighborhood were not
42 functioning very well. We've seen, actually, a couple of seasons
43 ago super -- the tropical depression Isaias had a backlash to it
44 that no emergency services folks anticipated and eight people in
45 Brooklyn perished in their basements.

46
47 So I do think recharge basins need to be -- the Department needs to
48 have certain -- a certain level of confidence in being able to do
49 work and to plan work moving forward in order to keep the community
50 safe. Recharge basins are really, really important. I wish I
51 didn't know it as well as I do.

52
53 But I guess I would ask, with regard to the specificity that's
54 missing, I mean, we have a Capital Project which is detailed in the
55 Capital Plan. So if you go to the Capital Plan and you look at
56 this, there'll be a description. Our Budget Review Office analyzes

1 every year the Capital Plan that's proposed by the Executive.
2 There's an extensive report that includes analysis of the
3 description that's given by the -- by the Department. So I'm just
4 wondering what it is in this particular legislation that is
5 lacking, when we know that it's \$450,000. It's Capital Project
6 5072, which is improvements to environmental recharge basins. Are
7 you looking for like the specific recharge basin or -- again, I ask
8 the question because it is important to a certain extent to allow
9 government to function in a predictable way. So I also appreciate
02:51PM 10 accountability and the oversight function of the Legislature. Just
11 wondering on this specific resolution, what is the -- are you
12 aware, Commissioner, of the information that the Legislature finds
13 lacking?
14

15 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

16 Yes, Legislator, we provided a location, CR 85, Montauk Highway, at
17 Idle Hour Boulevard.
18

19 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

20 Yeah.
21

22 **LEG. FLEMING:**

23 Well, I would just --
24

25 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

26 And then it goes on to say the Department of Public Works does
27 not -- does note that it may be necessary to add or substitute
28 other locations due to seasonal limitations, changes in priorities,
29 or the requirements determined by DPW, and I respect that, I get
02:52PM 30 that. But we also have the right to request, you know, knowledge
31 of those changes and substitutions and anything else. You know,
32 we're being advised here, we raised -- we raised questions not only
33 amongst each other, but to Counsel, and we have every right to know
34 and to participate in these decisions that the County is making,
35 especially when we're -- we are sitting up here appropriating
36 money, whether it's already placed into the Capital Projects or
37 not. But we have a right to be in the know, because if right now
38 we're voting on County Road 85, Montauk Highway, and we're saying
39 this is going to get done, lo and behold, it doesn't get done,
02:52PM 40 because DPW changed the location, made a substitute location, and
41 we have no idea.
42

43 So we have every right to request this information to be as
44 knowledgeable as your Department on where these repairs are going
45 to. And no one questions the importance of it, I can assure you of
46 that, Legislator. And I'm very sorry about what happened to your
47 family member, your sister. We want to ensure that these issues
48 don't happen anywhere else across this County or anywhere else.
49 But we can only control what we can control, and that's in Suffolk
02:53PM 50 County. I can assure you that we are very, very sympathetic to
51 you, number one, but also we're well aware of the importance of
52 recharge basins. And if you -- if you had privilege to the many
53 conversations that I've had with Economic Development & Planning,
54 and also with Joe, you would know how important it is to me up
55 here. But we also have a responsibility to be in the know, not
56 only fiscally, but to know exactly where these projects are going,

1 so we can share the information with our constituents, or anybody
2 else who might be asking. We have a very short turnaround,
3 fortunately. So once we have the language in place, that if it is
4 subject to change, we should be informed of that change, where
5 these projects are going to go. And if it's not 85 Montauk -- you
6 know, County Road 85, Montauk Highway and Idle Hour Boulevard, that
7 we know, all right, that we know that.

8
9 **LEG. FLEMING:**

10 Yeah.

11
12 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

13 You may not agree, and I can respect that, but that's how a lot of
14 us feel up here, and we're trying to work together. And we did
15 request this information, and we did make a note at the last
16 meeting that vague language would no longer be considered going
17 forward. We have to have a better way of doing things, and that's
18 going to take a little more work, a little more patience, but we
19 will get it right, and these issues won't happen again. Making
20 change is just that. You know, change takes a little bit of time
21 to communicate the changes that you want and some -- some
22 circumstances to accept the changes that are being asked. No one
23 likes change, I can respect that, too, but we are in a world that's
24 ever changing. We are under scrutiny, and I want to be able to
25 answer questions and say, hey, I've done everything in my power to
26 ask the right questions, to be informed, and we've made informed,
27 educated decisions. And lo and behold, if I can accept
28 accountability, I can expect accountability.

29
30 **DIRECTOR ZARIFIS:**

31 Chair, if I -- if I may?

32
33 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

34 I had, I think, Legislator Krupski. Oh, I'm sorry, Michelle. I
35 thought that was -- Sarah, I thought that was you. I'm so sorry.
36 I wasn't looking up.

37
38 *(*Laughter*)*

39
40 **LEG. ANKER:**

41 She has a nice voice.

42
43 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

44 You both have nice voices.

45
46 **DIRECTOR ZARIFIS:**

47 No problem.

48
49 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

50 Yes, Michelle.

51
52 **DIRECTOR ZARIFIS:**

53 I just wanted to on the -- state on the record, I believe there
54 just was some confusion with the request last time. I thought that
55 it was for just the resolutions that had various County facilities,
56 so I didn't realize it was a broader range of resolutions that you

1 were looking for additional information on. So I'd be happy to
2 work with you to clear out or clear up some of that, make sure that
3 moving forward you have the necessary information.

4
5 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

6 And I would greatly appreciate that, because I don't want to hold
7 up projects. These are important projects, I really do. But we
8 also have to send a message that we ask for information, we expect
9 to get that information. It's not going to be like whoops. And
02:56PM 10 I'm not accusing anybody. I know, Joe, you and your Department do
11 great work. Bill, thank you for everything you do out there. I
12 just want to get everybody on the same page of what's expected
13 going forward. Again, change, sometimes it's difficult, but I hope
14 you understand and respect where we're coming from by asking for
15 these details. So, yes, I would love to work with you on it. I
16 don't want to hold up any projects. I know they're important to
17 this County and the residents where these projects are going. So
18 being that there's such a short turnaround, luckily for us this
02:56PM 19 time around, I don't think it gives a lot of -- does a lot of
20 damage if we do that and try and get it right if we're all on the
21 same page. If you'll --

22
23 **LEG. FLEMING:**

24 Mr. Chair, can I just ask what it is that needs to be gotten right
25 on this resolution?

26
27 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

28 We already went -- we've already been through this --

29
30 **LEG. FLEMING:**

31 No, because --

32
33 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

34 -- Legislator --

35
36 **LEG. FLEMING:**

37 -- you said you wanted the --

38
39 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

02:56PM 40 -- so I'm not -- I'm not going to take the time to do it again.

41
42 **LEG. FLEMING:**

43 Okay. But if I may just -- I would like to just understand. The
44 specific projects are included in this. We know, the Commissioner
45 just said what they are. Is it the -- is your concern that we're
46 giving flexibility to the Department to change this if --

47
48 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

49 Without our knowledge, yes.

02:57PM 50
51 **LEG. FLEMING:**

52 What?

53
54 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

55 Without our knowledge or sharing that information, yes.

56

1 **LEG. FLEMING:**

2 So how is that going to be reflected in the reso -- what's going to
3 be different about the resolution? I don't -- the resolution gives
4 us the specifics of what recharge basins need to be addressed. It
5 also said --

6
7 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

8 And then it goes on to say --

9
02:57PM 10 **LEG. FLEMING:**

11 Right. Because in -- I mean, how many miles of roadway do we have
12 in this County? It's -- we've got 1.5 million people. We have,
13 you know, a thousand miles of coastline. This is a massive County.
14 If we're going to ask the Department to come back and offer
15 alternatives when they have to be flexible to address the needs of
16 this massive roadway network, I do worry that we're going to be
17 just jamming up the reasonable, you know, progress of government.
18 I get it that you want the specifics, but the specifics are in this
19 resolution.

02:58PM 20
21 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

22 In the resolution?

23
24 **LEG. FLEMING:**

25 I just don't know what's missing.

26
27 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

28 Can you show me where it is in the resolution? So I have it in the
29 backup, this specific location, but show me where it is in the
02:58PM 30 resolution.

31
32 **LEG. FLEMING:**

33 It's in the backup. It's in the --

34
35 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

36 It's in the backup, but it's not in the resolution, is it?

37
38 **LEG. FLEMING:**

39 Okay. But, I mean, it's --

02:58PM 40
41 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

42 Okay.

43
44 **LEG. FLEMING:**

45 -- available to any Legislator.

46
47 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

48 But you made the point, you're the one who said it. Again,
49 Legislator Fleming, you say things on the record that are not
02:58PM 50 accurate. You said it's stated in the resolution; it is not in the
51 resolution.

52
53 **LEG. FLEMING:**

54 The reso --

55
56 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

1 So you keep stating things and they're not.

2

3 **LEG. FLEMING:**

4 In my view, sir, what we're voting on --

5

6 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

7 It's not in the resolution.

8

9 **LEG. FLEMING:**

02:58PM 10 -- is the resolution and the backup material --

11

12 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

13 Well, then say that.

14

15 **LEG. FLEMING:**

16 -- that's been provided. That's what we're voting on.

17

18 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

19 Speak clearly for the record. You're a counsel, you're a lawyer.

02:58PM 20

21 **LEG. FLEMING:**

22 You do your homework, you read it and you make a decision.

23

24 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

25 If you were -- okay, thank you, I appreciate that. Legislator
26 Krupski, did you have something you wanted to add?

27

28 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

29 Yep, I've got a question.

02:58PM 30

31 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

32 Sure, absolutely.

33

34 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

35 Mr. Chair, so this is a -- this is a resolution for basically
36 sumps. In my experience, Suffolk County has done a great job with
37 drainage for decades, and this administration is -- is exceptional
38 at drainage. And recharging our storm water provides a multitude
39 of benefits, not only highway safety, but also for our aquifer and
02:59PM 40 surface waters, if applicable. So at -- I just want to make sure
41 we're not here at the next committee meeting going through this
42 again. Why can't we approve the sump resolution, for money to
43 improve the sumps, when I think the Department needs some
44 flexibility, frankly. And if they -- if they have something that
45 is of a timely or a project, that they should be able to be
46 flexible on it. And I don't -- I don't know if -- how that could
47 be written into a resolution, but I think it should be done soon so
48 that we can move on these things, because these -- all these
49 resolutions will start to get jammed up, and they need to have --
03:00PM 50 these work plans I know take years to develop many times, so they
51 need to -- they need to keep moving along.

52

53 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

54 I don't disagree. And now, again, I'm -- one final time. So
55 according to this, the candidate site this year is County Road 85.
56 We approved that going forward. And you go back and tell

1 everybody, hypothetically -- this is in your territory. We just
2 approved, County Road 85 is going to get done. Lo and behold it
3 doesn't get done. You call up Joe, "Well, why didn't" -- "we voted
4 on this, why didn't it get done?" "Well, we substituted the
5 location."

6
7 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

8 Uh-huh.

9
03:00PM 10 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

11 And meanwhile, you went out to your civics or your chambers, you
12 let everybody know that this is what was written in the resolution
13 or the backup to the resolution, but it didn't get done because it
14 got substituted, unbeknownst to you or anyone up in this committee.

15
16 So all I'm asking for is communication, dialogue. If we're going
17 to vote on something, you know, give us -- give us -- if it's one
18 candidate, great. Give us a list of potential candidates, then. I
19 don't know. Let's think of another way to do it. So I know -- if
03:01PM 20 I can say County Road 85 is one of the candidates to be done, we
21 just voted on appropriating money, it's different than saying we
22 voted on 85, you know. So there has to be more. We're
23 responsible. We have a -- we hold the responsibility ourselves,
24 Legislator, to bring accurate information to our constituents, our
25 business owners, our residents, and I just want to -- I want to be
26 able to provide that information to the best of our ability. Will
27 it always be accurate? Probably not, but we can come closer.

28
29 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

03:01PM 30 Can the Chief Engineer maybe add to that?

31
32 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

33 Yeah, I see him at the mic.

34
35 **MR. HILLMAN:**

36 Thank you very much. So I don't -- I don't disagree with the -- in
37 theory, with the idea that the Legislature has oversight of and
38 needs to be made aware of changes. I've been the -- I've been the
39 Chief Engineer for 20 years now. I can't remember a time where we
03:02PM 40 made a change and one of the Legislators called my office upset
41 because they weren't aware of the change. And I'll go back
42 20 years when I came on board and was asked to figure out a way to
43 make things go smoother and better, because things weren't getting
44 done.

45
46 **LEG. FLEMING:**

47 Uh-huh.

48
49 **MR. HILLMAN:**

03:02PM 50 For example, there are tremendous public safety issues that could
51 arise due to this new philosophy. And the same discussion was had
52 20 years ago when we introduced this language for the very first
53 time. We had the same exact discussion, and that language --

54
55 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

56 I wasn't present for that, Bill, so excuse me.

1
2 **MR. HILLMAN:**

3 I know that, but I'm just letting you know I was and I've been
4 through this.

5
6 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

7 Uh-huh.
8

9 **MR. HILLMAN:**

03:03PM 10 And, ultimately, that language was settled on because of the public
11 safety issues that are associated with delay. For example, if a --
12 if a catch basin is failing and it's not on the list, we now need
13 to come back to the Legislature, and it could take two months to
14 come back to you and get approval. And then by that point, the
15 catch basin could fail and we could have a major problem. When
16 there's -- when there's a problem on a roadway such as County Road 83,
17 County Road 97, County Road 39, these roadways that are heavily
18 traveled, we need to have the flexibility to address them quickly.
19 That goes for drainage, guide rails. When we could -- we could
03:03PM 20 have a list of guide rails that we intend to do. Tomorrow there
21 could be an accident that changes those priorities, and there's --
22 it could be on a road that we have to act on very quickly.
23

24 Traffic signals. When we get a -- when we get a request in from
25 many residents and Legislators to do a study on something, well,
26 that results in the potential for doing a capital improvement, a
27 left-turn phase, a pedestrian crosswalk. So then that wasn't on
28 the list, so now we have to come back again, when it's something
29 that we could do immediately, and it's for your constituents. Many
03:04PM 30 times it's for a Legislator.
31

32 So dredging, there's -- dredging will cease to exist as it does in
33 today's world. We have a four-month dredge window, and we have a
34 guess at what we'll have permits on. We're getting permits up
35 until -- literally, we're telling -- we're cutting a work order to
36 a contractor and we're expecting the permit in this afternoon from
37 the Army Corps of Engineers. That's how tight it is, that's how
38 close it is. So if we have to come back to the Legislature and
39 check, check on that, we're not going to be getting dredge projects
03:05PM 40 done the way we're getting them now. The two-week window that we
41 get in the Spring, we're dredging Long Neck, Royal and North -- I
42 forget. We're doing two dredge projects this Spring. We get two
43 weeks in the Spring. We have no idea which ones those will be.
44 It's not going to get done.
45

46 This will -- this will dramatically change our operation. There
47 will be public safety implications. And, quite honestly, I think
48 it's fixing a problem that doesn't exist. If you guys could point
49 to me and tell me where me and my staff have done a bad job at
03:05PM 50 this, and said, "*You didn't tell us about this, and this, and this,*
51 *and this,*" okay, I'm willing to have that conversation. But I
52 can't remember a time when a Legislator picked up the phone and
53 said, "*You changed priorities that were listed on that resolution*
54 *and you didn't tell me.*" We always pick up the phone and have a
55 conversation with the Legislators.
56

1 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

2 Let's start with this, Bill, since you brought it up. Do you
3 remember the Zoom meeting we had last month when I asked you for
4 the dredge maps, and you said, "*Well, we got to get back in the*
5 *computer*"? And I said, "In the meantime, when you come up with the
6 proposed dredging sites for this season, you can send them to me?"
7 "*Absolutely,*" you said, right?
8

9 **MR. HILLMAN:**

10 Yes. They're not done. And I also explained --
11

12 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

13 You just mentioned how many? And you sent to me nothing. So this
14 is the problem I'm having. When I do ask for information, or any
15 of us up here ask for -- well, some of us up here ask for
16 information, we don't get it. We get yes, yes, yes, and then it
17 doesn't show up. We've asked for information in the past, and I'm
18 not going to get into it, because I'm not going to put anybody on
19 the record, I'll have these conversations in person. But I'm going
20 to tell you right now, we had that Zoom meeting, I specifically
21 asked you, you specifically said, "*I guarantee I will get those to*
22 *you, I promise you, Legislator, no problem.*" You just listed
23 several locations that I have no knowledge of, because, guess what,
24 I did not get that information from you, Bill.
25

26 **MR. HILLMAN:**

27 But those aren't on the dredge priority list. Those were --
28

29 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

30 You just mentioned them.
31

32 **MR. HILLMAN:**

33 Those were emergen -- those were emergency Spring-window dredge
34 requests. They weren't -- they're not, they're not the prior --
35 they're not on the priority list that you requested. That's a --
36

37 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

38 No, no.
39

40 **MR. HILLMAN:**

41 That's a completely different --
42

43 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

44 I didn't ask for -- I asked for -- give me a list of what -- what
45 the projects -- I said even if they just -- because I know they're
46 subject to change. Give me the list of what you intend to do, and
47 the priority may come up, right?
48

49 **MR. HILLMAN:**

50 For the next dredge season.
51

52 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

53 Right.
54

55 **MR. HILLMAN:**

56 Right.

1
2 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
3 No, for this current dredge season.

4
5 **MR. HILLMAN:**
6 Coming up. The --

7
8 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
9 Well, it's coming up, right, it's about to start?

03:07PM 10
11 **MR. HILLMAN:**
12 The Fall window.

13
14 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
15 Yeah.

16
17 **MR. HILLMAN:**
18 We coordinate with the Towns. We ask the Towns to provide us a
19 list of locations, then we hone it down. And I told you I would
03:07PM 20 share, share that list with you. I have not -- that list has not
21 been developed yet.

22
23 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
24 All right. Well, I may have --

25
26 **MR. HILLMAN:**
27 When it's developed, I will definitely share it with your office.

28
29 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
03:07PM 30 Maybe I heard differently. Maybe I didn't hear it accurately, but
31 I just heard you run off a couple, but all right. When you get
32 that list --

33
34 **MR. HILLMAN:**
35 I will.

36
37 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
38 -- please share, as I requested. Thank you. Okay, so I hear the
39 debate going back and forth and I respect everybody's position, all
03:07PM 40 right? Already been said, that we will sit down, we will
41 definitely have this discussion. We'll come up with some middle
42 ground that works for everybody. I understand you need the
43 latitude in your department to get things done. I understand there
44 are emergencies that need to be addressed. I'm not trying to, and
45 no one up here is trying to stop those occasions -- those
46 circumstances from, you know, happening and addressing them. But
47 we -- I don't want to go from being too vague to overly specific
48 where you can't get the job done, that's -- hence, we got to have a
49 sit-down, all right? We have a short turnaround. I said this will
03:08PM 50 be resolved, I'm very confident that it will, so -- but, in the
51 meantime, we -- when we request information, we expect to get
52 information, and if it's -- and if it's not -- if you have
53 arguments, such as you do right now, let's hear them prior to
54 coming out here and addressing them. When we ask for that
55 information, you should call up, Bill, yourself, Commissioner, and
56 say "*Listen, we have a problem because this may occur.*" We

1 understand, we're open to it, but it shouldn't be happening here,
2 when we're giving you weeks to get the information to us. And,
3 again, Michelle did address that, maybe there were some
4 misinterpretation or miscommunication of what the information was.
5 We will sit and we'll have a discussion, as I do -- we'll do with
6 you.

7
8 I'm very confident in your abilities, Joe, I've said it on record
9 many times, I said it to you personally many times. I'm not trying
03:09PM 10 to hog-tie you. I'm not trying to put any of our residents in
11 danger, just trying to get on the same page where we have the
12 information, the accuracy to the best of our ability where our
13 funding is going to and where the repairs are going, so we can
14 accurately communicate that to the residents. So maybe we're
15 trying to be overly precautious, but I'd rather do that, I'd rather
16 be overly precautious and try and get language that's suitable to
17 make sure we're all informed, all doing our diligence, than just
18 be, hey, whatever goes goes. That's just who I am.

19
03:09PM 20 I had this discussion with Legal, had the discussion with some of
21 my colleagues up here, and we seem to be on board with it. But,
22 ultimately, as Chair of this department -- of this committee, I
23 will work with you, I will work with Michelle, Bill, whoever you
24 want me to sit down with. Let's get the language that works. I'll
25 run it by my -- our side up here. And this is something we could
26 do in a day, you know, in a conversation, but let's have that
27 conversation, all right? All right. Where are we at?

28
29 **LEG. TROTTA:**

03:10PM 30 I have a quick question.

31
32 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

33 A quick question, Legislator Trotta.

34
35 **LEG. TROTTA:**

36 Commissioner, how much is your budget? Hundreds of millions of
37 dollars, right? You tell me you don't have a contingency fund to
38 handle emergencies? Of course you do. So the public safety aspect
03:10PM 39 of this is, you know, just come up there and say, "Oh, you know,
40 public safety." We just want to know what you're doing. You know,
41 there's 62 counties in the State of New York, you know the story,
42 we're number 61 now. We're just trying to be more fiscally
43 conservative. We're not trying to give anybody a hard time. We
44 just want a little bit more specificity of what's going on and
45 watch the tax dollars a little more, that's it. You know, to say
46 it's public safety, public safety, oh, some -- that's just, you
47 know, BS. So that's all we want, a little bit more.

48
49 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

03:11PM 50 I think -- you know, Legislator, I think the Chair's suggestion
51 that we sit down and have a general discussion about this of what
52 we can do and can't, I think we're putting things in resolutions.
53 We may double the number of resolutions that we present as we
54 change direction. As number six in the priority list of a project
55 of five becomes number five, and we want, everybody in the County
56 wants it to become number five, then we have to come back and

1 create a new resolution stating that, which takes a month or two
2 to -- to produce, which then delays that work, which is what Bill
3 was referring to.

4
5 **LEG. TROTТА:**
6 I understand.

7
8 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
9 I think there are ways of doing it. I think we should talk about
03:11PM 10 all of our options and --

11
12 **LEG. TROTТА:**
13 It's not hard, this is not hard to figure out.

14
15 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
16 I completely respect the committee's desire to know, to have -- be
17 involved in those discussions and those solutions. And we do need
18 the ability to change priorities for public safety, for -- things
19 deteriorate at different degrees. We delayed one of the projects
03:12PM 20 in District No. 2 that was paved in the '90s. Who knew it was
21 going to still be functioning today, because the pavement just held
22 up longer. Not everybody was happy about that, but it was the
23 right thing to do. So we need -- we need the ability to do that in
24 the future, but I think there's ways that we can -- we can meet --

25
26 **LEG. TROTТА:**
27 In the middle.

28
29 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
03:12PM 30 Meet the Chair's desire to be involved in those discussion without
31 creating double the number of resolutions that have to come back
32 every time we make a change and --

33
34 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
35 And no one wants that.

36
37 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
38 Yes.

39
40 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
41 I get that, nobody wants that. And I could assure you we will find
42 what we're looking for, all right?

43
44 Just one more question on my -- I see the boiler plate language you
45 have is pretty standard. Is there a seasonal limitation on when we
46 could do catch basins?

47
48 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
03:12PM 49 Well, there's -- in this case, because this is a full, complete
50 renovation of the basin to make sure it's functioning, you know,
51 removing all the overgrowth and making sure that the bottom is
52 filtering down --

53
54 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
55 Joe, I just want to --

56

1 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
2 Yeah, so, I guess --

3
4 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
5 Is there a seasonal limitation?

6
7 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
8 Well, to answer your question, you know, what's involved, I feel
9 that could be done, you know, eight months a year. You're not
10 going to be effective in the winter, but the rest of the time it's
11 an eight-month. So we're -- you know, we're already two or three
12 months into that eight-month window.

03:13PM

13
14 Additionally, there is \$100,000 in here that's going to allow us to
15 do more of this stuff inhouse. We do a couple of basins every year
16 in our Highway Maintenance group. They're a very busy group that
17 does all kinds of things, moves people around from building to
18 building and repairs, you know, steps at the various offices.
19 They're always busy with something, but they do have the ability to
20 do, I think, more inhouse. This is something that Bill and that
21 Director and I've talked about --

03:13PM

22
23 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
24 And we've talked about that.

25
26 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
27 So this hundred thousand --

28
29 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
30 And I'm happy to hear that.

03:13PM

31
32 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
33 This hundred thousand is very important. You have to have
34 furniture and equipment. That's equipment so that we can do more
35 of these inhouse.

36
37 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
38 Well, that's coming up, right, that's a later --

39
40 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
41 That's -- no, that's in here. That's --

03:13PM

42
43 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
44 That's in here also?

45
46 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
47 Yes.

48
49 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
50 Yeah, okay, all right.

51
52 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
53 And then the construction is -- and we have, you know, more than 50
54 basins, quite a few. So, at this pace, you know, we're only doing
55 one every 50 years. We need to step that up, so we need --

56

1 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

2 But just to be clear on one thing, Joe, because I don't want to
3 alarm the public who are listening. If there is a catch basin
4 that's failing or has failed in the middle of the winter, we will
5 correct that, would we not?
6

7 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

8 Yeah. Catch basin, yeah. But in this case, a recharge basin --
9

10 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

11 Recharge basin, right, yeah.
12

13 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

14 -- is going to fail slowly over time.
15

16 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

17 Yeah, yeah.
18

19 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

20 And they really need to be cleaned out every 20 years or so. We're
21 not the only one with this problem. The State has 540 of these
22 things on Long Island, and they were on a pace to do them every
23 200 years. So it's underfunded in general on Long Island and
24 something needs to be fixed.
25

26 **LEG. TROTТА:**

27 You know, I'd like to -- I don't know if I made the motion to
28 table, but I'll -- if it is, I'll withdraw it and we'll make a
29 motion to approve.
30

03:15PM

31 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

32 With the caveat that we will get together and we'll address the
33 concerns of the committee.
34

35 **LEG. ANKER:**

36 I'll second to approve.
37

38 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

03:15PM

39 Thank you, Sarah. Okay. So we have a -- we want a withdrawal of
40 the tabling motion.
41

42 **COUNSEL DUFFY:**

43 Who made the motion to withdraw?
44

45 **CLERK TASSONE:**

46 Legislator Caracappa actually made the motion, but there was no
47 second on that.
48

49 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

03:15PM

50 So, okay. Then I will withdraw my motion to table and we'll make
51 a -- I have a motion and a second to approve, with the caveat that
52 we will have this discussion sooner rather than later,
53 Commissioner, and Michelle as well, and we'll loop Bill into it.
54 So with that, we have a motion to approve and a second. All in
55 favor? Opposed? Abstentions?
56

1 **CLERK TASSONE:**
2 *Seven. (Vote: Approved 7-0-0-0)*

3
4 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
5 Okay. That was what's called the long way around. Okay, so that's
6 approved. Geez, marón. All right. **Resolution 1391 -**
7 **Amending the 2023 Capital Budget and Program and accepting,**
8 **appropriating and authorizing funds in connection with Suffolk**
9 **County's Strategic Highway Safety Action Plan (CP 3317).**
10 **(Co. Exec.)**

03:16PM

11
12 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**
13 Motion to approve.

14
15 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
16 And I'll second that. We have a motion and a second. Anybody on
17 that motion? Seeing none, all --

18
19 **LEG. THORNE:**
20 Second.

03:16PM

21
22 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
23 It's already been seconded.

24
25 **LEG. THORNE:**
26 Oh, okay.

27
28 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
29 All right. It's all right. Better late than never. All in favor?
30 Opposed? Abstentions?

03:16PM

31
32 **CLERK TASSONE:**
33 *Seven. (Vote: Approved 7-0-0-0)*

34
35 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
36 I.R. 1391 is approved. **I.R. 1392 - Appropriating funds in**
37 **connection with Construction of Sidewalks on Various County Roads**
38 **(CP 5497). (Co. Exec.)**

39
40 **LEG. TROTТА:**
41 Motion to table.

03:16PM

42
43 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
44 Motion to table from Legislator Trotta. Is there a second?

45
46 **LEG. ANKER:**
47 On the motion.

48
49 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
50 Well, is there a second on that motion?

03:17PM

51
52 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**
53 Yeah, second.

54
55 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
56 We have second.

1
2 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**

3 For purpose of discussion.
4

5 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

6 For purpose of discussion. On the motion, Legislator Anker.
7

8 **LEG. ANKER:**

9 I'm addressing the Commissioner. As far as the sidewalks, again,
03:17PM 10 that's an important issue, especially dealing with safety. Do
11 we -- is there going to be an issue if we don't pass this this
12 session? It will slow down the ability to pave the sidewalks?
13

14 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

15 Legislator, I don't think two weeks, I think we're on a two-week
16 cycle, is going to have that much of an impact, but we do need to
17 move forward. We're losing the season, you know, every week that
18 we go by.
19

03:17PM 20 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

21 I'm also -- I'm also going to take into account, I want -- I need
22 something answered for me. So in the resolution, this is proposed,
23 the sidewalk from Nicolls Road from 347 down to the church.
24 Looking at the map, I believe there is absolutely no need for
25 three-quarters of this project to move forward. From 347, there is
26 a -- not a bit of residential area until you get to Oxford Road.
27 Oxford Road, there's a community one way in, one way out, that's
28 Oxhead Road. If anybody's going to be coming and going to that
29 church walking, it's going to come from that community. I would
03:18PM 30 propose that we change this from Oxhead Road to the church, not the
31 miles from 347 to all the way to that church, because there is
32 nothing there. There's not even a bus stop there. There is no
33 residential area whatsoever, it's wooded, and, in my opinion, not
34 necessary. So where did this even come from that it's to that
35 point?
36

37 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

38 Chair, this is a rare situation with those busy roads, where both
39 the Temple and the Unitarian Church have direct access to 97, so --
03:18PM 40

41 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

42 I get that.
43

44 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

45 Yeah. I could only say, I mean, and we'll ask our Chief Engineer,
46 who knows the project better than I do, but there may be people and
47 you're cut off. You've got four different quadrants, then, 97 and
48 347 cut off into four different neighborhoods, and it's hard to
49 make those crossings. So I think it has more to do with that with
03:19PM 50 people from those other various quadrants making their way across
51 347 and then having access directly. But I would defer a more
52 specific answer to our Chief Engineer.
53

54 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

55 I looked at Google Maps and there is absolutely no residential
56 areas except until you get to Oxhead Road. So if you want explain

1 it, Bill, go right ahead.

2

3 **MR. HILLMAN:**

4 I can only say that our -- I know my staff has coordinated with
5 both the Rabbi and the Minister, I guess. I can coordinate with
6 them and get back to you.

7

8 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

9 Please do so --

10

11 **MR. HILLMAN:**

12 Certainly.

13

14 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

15 -- because I cannot support this as it's written, so.

16

17 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

18 Also, Legislator Hahn is involved in this, this resolution as well.

19

03:19PM

20 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

21 I get it. It doesn't minimize my questions, all right? So I
22 support the motion to table until we get this information and other
23 information. Anyone else on the motion? So we have a motion to
24 table and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

25

26 **CLERK TASSONE:**

27 *Seven. (Vote: Tabled 7-0-0-0)*

28

29 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

03:20PM

30 So this is -- that was 1392; am I correct?

31

32 **LEG. TROTТА:**

33 Yes.

34

35 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

36 Okay. Thank you. *1393 - Appropriating PAYGO funds in connection*
37 *with Complete Streets Fund (CP 3313). (Co. Exec.)*

38

39 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

03:20PM

40 Motion to approve.

41

42 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

43 I have a motion to approve. Is there a second?

44

45 **LEG. ANKER:**

46 Second.

47

48 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

03:20PM

49 Second from Legislator Anker. We have a motion to table,
50 Legislator Trotta. Is there a second?

51

52 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**

53 Second.

54

55 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

56 And we have a second to table. Anybody on that motion?

1
2 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**
3 *(Raised Hand)*

4
5 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
6 Legislator Krupski.

7
8 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

9 Thank you. I can only, you know, compliment the Department of
03:20PM 10 Public Works on their work on Roanoke Avenue when they did this,
11 and the fact that it is actually a Complete Street with pedestrian
12 and highway safety, including drainage. And I would just like to
13 support their further efforts, you know, County-wide, not just in
14 District 1, so.

15
16 And I do have a question for the Commissioner. So this kind of --
17 it came up at the last committee meeting for EPA, Commissioner
18 Lansdale came out to present -- rather, presented a study on sea
03:21PM 19 level rise on County infrastructure. County Road 48 was
20 highlighted as the top priority. Is there a schedule for elevating
21 that road and working with the Town to, you know, adjust the side
22 roads in order to provide safety for sea level rise during --
23 during storm events, but also during -- just because of sea level
24 rise?

25
26 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

27 So they briefed me recently on this project, so I have not been
28 involved in that effort until recently when they -- there was a
03:21PM 29 briefing on some of the projects. The current list did not have
30 any raising of highways, but that is something that we would like
31 to do in the future.

32
33 One of the projects that I managed was the raising of the -- I'm
34 drawing a blank on the name now. The highway that runs to JFK in
35 the five towns. And Nassau Expressway was raised about four feet,
36 and then they put piles underneath to make sure that you didn't
37 have that -- like you have on Meadowbrook Parkway and Wantagh
38 Parkway, that incremental settling where you have the wave action
39 that occurs. Not cheap, you know, it was a hundred million dollar
03:22PM 40 job. They added a bikeway. They really did a nice job on an old
41 expressway that needed to be fixed for about 40 years.

42
43 So there are examples out there where you can do something
44 significant like that to raise a road, and then make sure that it
45 doesn't have settlement in the future; very expensive. But in
46 their current list of projects that's not at -- you know, at the
47 top of the list.

48
49 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

03:22PM 50 And how do -- how do we get that project at the top of the list?
51 Because it is -- talk about public safety. This is a very heavily
52 traveled road for people, and it affects interstate commerce.

53
54 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

55 I think there are great opportunities to go after grants, in
56 addition to, you know, the program, the Resiliency Program. We've

1 added grant staff to DPW. We were relying recently on other
2 departments with some limited success. We now have our own grant
3 staff that we're developing. We've also brought on a Vision Zero
4 person who's involved in a lot of this stuff in going after those
5 grants proactively and the different funding sources, whether it's
6 the infrastructure law or others. So that's something we're going
7 to be really focused on independently within Public Works in the
8 future, and there's going to be more interaction with economic
9 development recovery in those priorities.

03:23PM 10

11 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

12 So the -- okay. So you will -- you will work on -- and your staff
13 will work on the priorities there?

14
15 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

16 Yes, with --

17
18 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

19 I mean, County-wide.

03:23PM 20

21 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

22 With theirs. And I've asked to be personally more involved --

23
24 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

25 Okay.

26
27 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

28 -- because I have a lot of experience in this with New York City
29 and also Nassau County.

03:23PM 30

31 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

32 Great, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33
34 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

35 No problem. I just want to know, how did it relate to this one,
36 this particular one. Is this just about the jobs, the work in
37 general that's going on or --

38
39 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

40 Complete -- well, Complete Streets, it ties in.

03:24PM 41

42 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

43 All right.

44
45 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

46 Thank you.

47
48 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

49 That's fine.

03:24PM 50

51 **LEG. ANKER:**

52 Yeah, on the motion.

53
54 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

55 On the motion, yes, Legislator.

56

1 **LEG. ANKER:**

2 I know we recently passed -- not recently, maybe about four or five
3 months ago -- a resolution to partner with the Town of Brookhaven
4 to raise Pipe Stave Hollow. And, again, that's I guess a
5 partnership with the Town on a Town road. Do we do that often to
6 help when -- because, again, I'm looking at Legislator Krupski and
7 he's focusing on a County road. We probably should really look at
8 the County roads in general, because we both went to a -- an
9 erosion -- what? An erosion forum.

10
11 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

12 Sea level rise.

13
14 **LEG. ANKER:**

15 Sea level rise, and we really need to start preparing for that.
16 And I think you're right, I think there's probably hundreds of
17 millions of dollars on State -- in State and Federal funding
18 available. But how do -- how do we focus more on County roads in
19 getting those roads --

03:25PM

20
21 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

22 So my perspective is it's State, County and Town, Village roads,
23 it's everything, depending on in particular what are our evacuation
24 routes. So in the case of Nassau Expressway, it serves as a dual
25 evacuation route all -- for the Far Rockaways and for Long Beach,
26 two different parts of that expressway. That is a big part of why
27 that was important. People have to evacuate before an emergency,
28 especially low-lying areas. But it's very important to have
29 emergency vehicles be at -- to be able to get in there as quick as
30 possible. So if you're raising a roadway four feet, that obviously
31 shortens that time period. So it should be in particular looking
32 at evacuation routes as well.

03:25PM

33
34 **LEG. ANKER:**

35 Yeah, maybe we can support the efforts in getting additional
36 funding through letters of, you know, advocacy, you know, for you.
37 So please let us know, because I'm sure we're all very happy to
38 support -- to support that. Thank you.

03:25PM

39
40 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

41 So thank you. With regards to this particular project, 1393, can
42 you tell me exactly what is planned here? Because, again, Google
43 Maps, I see sidewalks in front of the school, I see the shoulder,
44 appropriate shoulders, rails. What exactly is going on here?

45
46 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

47 So, Chair, this has been a good program. I mean, really, the
48 Division has done a great job of focusing on schools and near
49 schools, and that's been the focus over the last -- the three years
50 I've been here. And this, in this particular, this meets that same
51 -- that same pattern.

03:26PM

52
53 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

54 Okay.

55
56 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

1 This is County Road 21 at the Rocky Point High School. I've had a
2 lot -- a series of meetings. There were a lot of safety concerns
3 about people crossing the road, accessing the different schools in
4 the area. So that is our plan for this funding. We've been doing
5 Complete Streets every year, so it's --

6
7 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

8 But what is the actual plan? What are you -- what are you
9 proposing here?

03:26PM 10

11 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

12 It's a -- it's a series of sidewalks.

13
14 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

15 Sidewalks. I see sidewalks, too. So what is --

16
17 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

18 Yeah, to make those connections. So where they're dropping off
19 kids for buses, they don't necessarily have a connection to every
20 building and across every roadway. So I could ask the Chief
21 Engineer to provide a little more specific detail, if you'd like.

03:27PM 22

23 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

24 The information I'm getting, it's not about connecting to the
25 school, it's connecting to -- yeah, I want to see it. I want to
26 see it all. It's about connecting to local shopping centers, or
27 something like that, where they go for lunch?

28
29 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

30 No. It's more about children jaywalking where they don't have a
31 close connection.

03:27PM 32

33 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

34 You're going to put a sidewalk across the street?

35
36 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

37 We're going to put crosswalks in and --

38
39 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

40 I see a crosswalk.

41
42 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

43 And also sidewalks to make those connections better, so that they
44 don't have to walk --

45
46 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

47 All right. I need to see --

48
49 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

50 -- walk out into a street or across the street.

03:27PM 51

52 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

53 Yeah. But where, where in part -- all right. You know what, I
54 want to see the presentation on where this is going,
55 because according to Google Maps I can see everything.

56

1 **LEG. TROTТА:**
2 I think -- I think you can pull it up on the map.

3
4 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
5 Okay, right. Okay. And I'm all for safe schools, I'm all for
6 children's safety, but I'm also for, you know, having the knowledge
7 about where these -- what exactly is going on here, so --

8
9 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**
03:28PM 10 Yeah, so the Chief Engineer could speak to those specifics, Chair.

11
12 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
13 Sure.

14
15 **MR. HILLMAN:**
16 So it's construction of sidewalk on the east side of the roadway.
17 It's presently asphalt sidewalk. It's upgrades to the traffic
18 signal for pedestrian countdown timers, pedestrian signals,
19 crosswalks. You know, it's a small amount, it's only \$250,000, it
03:28PM 20 doesn't go very far these days, but -- so it --

21
22 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
23 Is this for planning or actual work?

24
25 **MR. HILLMAN:**
26 No, actual brick and mortar.

27
28 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
29 Okay. Well, that's good, that's a plus. So I see here in this
03:28PM 30 one, you're talking about across the street from the school on the
31 east side, where I see a -- you're saying that's asphalt there?

32
33 **MR. HILLMAN:**
34 I can't really see where you're pointing to, but I do know that on
35 the east side there are asphalt sidewalks that we'll be
36 constructing in concrete, and, again, additional upgrades to the --
37 to the traffic signal for pedestrian crossings, countdown timers,
38 push-buttons.

39
40 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
03:28PM 41 So for 250,000 you're not actually putting sidewalks in, then.

42
43 **MR. HILLMAN:**
44 Well, we're supplementing that with our sidewalks -- sidewalk
45 project and traffic signal project.

46
47 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
48 You're supplementing --

49
50 **MR. HILLMAN:**
03:29PM 51 The funding, because \$250,000 isn't sufficient to do all the work.
52 So we're using other -- other funding sources to complete the
53 project.

54
55 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
56 Did we approve that project, or is that in the Capital Budget?

1 Because I don't -- I don't recall any of that. So this is -- this
2 is -- okay, so explain this to me.

3
4 **MR. HILLMAN:**

5 Sure. So we have many projects, as we're going through this, that
6 you'll see that are what we call requirements projects. Fifty --
7 5047 is traffic signals, 5014 is paving, 5024 is drainage, 5097 is
8 sidewalks, 5080 is guide rail; those are all CP numbers. So all
9 those projects we cut work orders on. And then if there's an
10 issue, we cut a work order to a contractor, and they go out and
11 make the repair or the installation. So we have those funding
12 sources. So in this particular instance, we're using the Complete
13 Streets funding to start the project off, but we'll be using the
14 signal requirements contract and funding sources to do any
15 remaining signal work, and also the sidewalk CP, Capital Program,
16 to do any sidewalk work that can't be done with the 200 -- with,
17 you know -- when we fall short of the 250,000.

18
19 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

20 So there's an existing crosswalk; is that where we're going to put
21 the signal?

22
23 **MR. HILLMAN:**

24 Yes.

25
26 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

27 And that gives access to -- it looks like residential area, not to
28 another school.

29
30 **MR. HILLMAN:**

31 Yeah, there's apartments across the street.

32
33 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

34 Right. Do they have a crossing guard during --

35
36 **MR. HILLMAN:**

37 I believe they do. I'm not a 100% sure. I can't -- I shouldn't
38 answer that question, I don't know.

39
40 **LEG. TROTТА:**

41 I'm sure they do.

42
43 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

44 So how do these schools get selected? Because there are -- there
45 are schools on -- you know, for this -- these projects, because I'm
46 telling you, there are schools in other parts of this County that
47 would probably -- would like the same consideration.

48
49 **MR. HILLMAN:**

50 All they've got to do is reach out. We met with the School
51 Superintendent, the Principal and --

52
53 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

54 Right. But the way --

55
56 **MR. HILLMAN:**

1 -- the Legislator.

2

3 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

4 All right. The way the Commissioner just explained it to me is
5 that these sidewalks were going to other schools that have access
6 to other schools.

7

8 **MR. HILLMAN:**

03:32PM

9 They're doing their own -- in conjunction with our project within
10 our right-of-way, they're doing their own project on their site. I
11 think that's what the Commissioner was referring to.

12

13 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

14 Right, because that would fall within the school district's
15 responsibility.

16

17 **MR. HILLMAN:**

03:32PM

18 Correct, and they're -- so we're working in conjunction with them.
19 We're making modifications within our right-of-way, they're making
20 modifications within their school property.

21

22 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

23 Within our right-of-way, which means -- which is the east side of
24 the street, County Road 21. That's our right-of-way?

25

26 **MR. HILLMAN:**

27 Yes, that's correct.

28

29 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

03:32PM

30 And that's going to be fully sidewalked? Can you give me the
31 approximate length? And is it the distance of the school? Is it
32 going all the way up to 347? Where is this project?

33

34 **MR. HILLMAN:**

35 I believe concrete sidewalk begins at the northern edge of the --
36 the apartment complex, but I don't have that exact detail, I'm not
37 100% sure.

38

39 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

03:33PM

40 All right. Well, there's a -- there is a motion to table and a
41 second, all right? Were you able to get the information for us so
42 we can have better details what's going on?

43

44 So, again, it's just, you know, I'd like to have more information
45 in the resolution, so I don't have to ask a lot of these questions,
46 you know, or in the backup, so we don't have to ask a lot of these
47 questions about what we're doing right now. So if it takes a
48 little more documentation so we can be satisfied on the -- on the
49 level of information that we're seeking, so be it. I'd rather do
50 it -- do my homework on that instead of doing it here and now. So
51 this is what we're trying to avoid. So just a little more
52 communication and a little more documentation. Here you go, Bob.
53 It would be greatly appreciated. So we have -- thank you for your
54 time, Bill. So we have a motion to table and a second. Anyone on
55 that motion? Seeing none, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

03:33PM

56

1 **CLERK TASSONE:**

2 Six.

3

4 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

5 Opposed to table.

6

7 **LEG. FLEMING:**

8 I'm opposed to table.

9

10 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

11 All right. So we have two, two opposed to table.

12

13 **LEG. ANKER:**

14 Three.

15

16 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

17 Three opposed to table.

18

19 **CLERK TASSONE:**

03:34PM

20 Four.

21

22 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

23 Four?

24

25 **CLERK TASSONE:**

26 Four to approve, three to -- opposing to table. (*Vote: Tabled*
27 *4-3-0-0*)

28

29 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

03:34PM

30 So that carries, is that enough? It's just I wasn't sure if there
31 was a percentage. All right. I.R. 1393 is tabled until we get
32 some more information. Thank you.

33

34 *I.R. 1394 - Appropriating PAYGO funds in connection with Median*
35 *Improvements to Various County Roads (CP 5001). (Co. Exec.)*
36 Anybody on the motion? Anybody on the motion?

37

38 **LEG. TROTТА:**

39 Motion to table.

03:34PM

40

41 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

42 Okay, we have a motion to table. Anybody second that?

43

44 **LEG. THORNE:**

45 Second.

46

47 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

48 We have a motion and a second to table.

49

03:34PM

50 **LEG. ANKER:**

51 Motion to approve.

52

53 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

54 And we have a motion to approve from Legislator Anker. Is there a
55 second on that motion to approve?

56

1 **LEG. KRUPSKI:**

2 For the sake of discussion, I will second the motion.

3
4 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

5 Second the motion to approve. So the motion to table goes first.
6 On the motion? Legislator Trotta, you made the motion. You have
7 questions?

8
9 **LEG. TROTTA:**

03:35PM 10 Yeah, just -- just to the next two. This is the same situation
11 where we just want more specifics, and we'll get through this. And
12 next time, if we get more specifics, it will all be approved.

13
14 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

15 Before we do that, let me just ask you, because we did make -- we
16 did approve the last one we discussed. For the sake of not holding
17 up anything, and safety or anything, how -- what's the -- what's
18 the project like here as far as the safety ramifications, you know,
19 these median improvements. I know anything with roadways is
03:35PM 20 important. My -- my major goal here, to get to the finish line, is
21 not upholding -- not upholding these projects from getting done,
22 but to have language in place that we don't have to go through
23 this, you know, ever again. Hopefully not in the next 20 years.
24 You know, Bill was here for the first go-around. Can you just
25 explain what's up with this project?

26
27 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

28 Yes, Chair. In particular, this is -- the planned work is County
29 Road 46 in the vicinity of New York State Route 25. We have some
03:36PM 30 old antiquated fixed object basins in the median that can be hit by
31 a car that are above-ground. We want to remove those, we want to
32 regrade a little bit, and, you know, put in some new safer
33 structures to reduce crossover fatalities and that sort of thing.

34
35 **LEG. TROTTA:**

36 I'll remove my tabling motion.

37
38 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

39 All right. The motion to table has been removed. Again, well,
03:36PM 40 I'll support the motion to approve with the caveat, and we -- I
41 think we've beaten this horse to near death, Joe, so I think we all
42 get the gist of what we're looking for here, all right? Again,
43 without holding up projects, without public safety, without tying
44 your hands as well, we will -- we will find middle ground this week
45 and get the language. We'll get to where we're looking to get to,
46 okay?

47
48 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:**

49 Understood, Chair.

50
51 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

52 All right. I'm going -- I'll support -- we're just going to take a
53 vote on the motion to approve. All in favor? Opposed?
54 Abstentions?

55
56 **CLERK TASSONE:**

1 *Six. Six. (Vote: Approved 6-0-0-1 Not Present: Leg. Krupski)*

2
3 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

4 I.R. 1394 is approved with the caveat. All right.
5 **1395 - Appropriating PAYGO funds in connection with Installation of**
6 **Guide Rails and Safety Upgrades at Various Locations (CP 5180).**
7 **(Co. Exec.)** I will make the motion to approve, seconded by
8 Legislator Piccirillo. Again, just for the record, Joe, you know
9 where we stand, you know what we're looking for. I look forward to
03:37PM 10 the meeting to resolve this issue, all right? Thank you. Anybody
11 on the motion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?
12

13 **CLERK TASSONE:**

14 *Six. (Vote: Approved 6-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Krupski)*

15
16 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

17 I.R. 1395 is approved. **I.R. 1399 - Appropriating PAYGO funds in**
18 **connection with the Fuel Management/Preventive Maintenance and**
19 **Parts Inventory Control System (CP 1616). (Co. Exec.)** I'll make a
03:38PM 20 motion to approve.
21

22 **LEG. THORNE:**

23 Second.

24
25 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

26 Motion and second. Again, for the record, with the caveat that we
27 address the concerns on the language. Anybody on the motion?
28 All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?
29

03:38PM 30 **CLERK TASSONE:**

31 *Six. (Vote: Approved 6-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Krupski)*

32
33 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

34 I.R. 1399 is approved. **I.R. 1400 - Appropriating PAYGO funds in**
35 **connection with the Renovation of Public Works Building, Yaphank**
36 **(CP 5194). (Co. Exec.)** I'll make a motion. Is there --
37

38 **LEG. FLEMING:**

39 Second.

03:38PM 40
41 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

42 Second, Legislator Fleming. I'm sorry. Legislator Fleming.
43 Anyone on the motion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?
44

45 **CLERK TASSONE:**

46 *Seven. (Vote: Approved 7-0-0-0)*

47
48 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

49 I.R. 1400 is approved. **I.R. 1411 - Amending 2023 Operating --**
03:38PM 50 **Adopted Operating Budget, amending the 2023 Capital Budget and**
51 **Program and appropriating funds in connection with the proposed**
52 **sewering of Forge River (Phase 3) (CP 8510). (Co. Exec.)** I'll make
53 a motion. Is there a second?
54

55 **LEG. THORNE:**

56 Second.

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03:38PM

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CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:

Second, Legislator Picc -- I'm sorry, Legislator Thorne. Anybody on the motion?

LEG. KRUPSKI:

On the motion.

CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:

On the motion, Legislator Krupski.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Sure, and it relates to, you know, all the recent predictions, and I know there's a lot of different predictions on sea level rise. How does the area there relate to some of the predictions, and how -- and, you know, the service area of the proposed sewer, you know, relating to the elevation of the roads?

COMMISSIONER BROWN:

Yeah, Legislator, this, as you know, is a very low area. The Forge River area septic tanks with a rising ground water table, which is a result of that high -- you know, raising water level, which then creates an issue, as you -- as you may know, infiltrating into those septic tanks and the bottom of the septic tanks. So that's why part of the reason this is a priority. I'll tell you, this is a major planned reconstruction. Construction is about four years out, probably over \$100 million, to put it in perspective. So the 8 million is a small percentage of that to make sure that the plan is done correctly and the design is done correctly toward that project that is a huge project and very important to the County.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

No, and I support it. I remember going there to help a previous Legislator at the time when this was being proposed years ago. But I wonder, has it been adjusted at all based on current, more current predictions? I don't even think sea level rise was a consideration when this was originally -- this plan was originally proposed.

COMMISSIONER BROWN:

Yeah, I wouldn't say that it's been adjusted, and we do have our standards, which over time, unfortunately, sometimes behind the times get adjusted as far as -- as far as pipe design and everything else that goes into those -- you know, that project, that bigger project. We are looking at that and we will continue to look at that. The reality is, is this is the kind of planning process that takes years.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Yep.

COMMISSIONER BROWN:

So to accelerate it, you know, sooner than 2027 would be hard to do, but -- but it is certainly a priority.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

1 All right, thank you.

2

3 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

4 Thank you, Legislator. Anyone else on the motion? Seeing none, we
5 have a motion and a second to approve. All in favor? Opposed?
6 Abstentions?

7

8 **CLERK TASSONE:**

9 *Seven. (Vote: Approved 7-0-0-0)*

03:41PM 10

11 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

12 I.R. 1411 is approved. *I.R. 1412 - Amending 2023 Adopted Operating*
13 *Budget, amending the 2023 Budget, Capital Budget and Program and*
14 *appropriating funds in connection with the proposed sewerage of*
15 *Mastic Beach - Neighborhood Road (CP 8511). (Co. Exec.) I'll make a*
16 *motion on that.*

17

18 **LEG. THORNE:**

19 Second.

03:41PM 20

21 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

22 Second by Legislator Thorne. Anybody on that motion?

23

24 **LEG. TROTТА:**

25 Nope.

26

27 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

28 Seeing none, all approved -- oh, I'm sorry. All in favor?
29 Opposed? Abstentions?

03:41PM 30

31 **CLERK TASSONE:**

32 *Seven. (Vote: Approved 7-0-0-0)*

33

34 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

35 All right. I.R. 1412 is approved. *I.R. 1413 - Rescinding*
36 *Resolutions 1212-2021 and 232-2022, amending the Adopted '23*
37 *Operating Budget, amending the 20 -- is this like repetitive, or am*
38 *I just reading this wrong? Amending the 2023 Capital Budget and*
39 *Program and appropriating funds in connection with the engineering,*
40 *planning, design and construction of Smithtown Sewers (CP 8153).*
41 *(Co. Exec.) I'll make a --*

42

43 **LEG. TROTТА:**

44 Motion.

45

46 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

47 I got a motion from Legislator Trotta, I'll second that motion.
48 Anybody on that motion? Seeing none, all in favor? Opposed?
49 Abstentions?

03:42PM 50

51 **CLERK TASSONE:**

52 *Seven. (Vote: Approved 7-0-0-0)*

53

54 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**

55 I.R. 1413 is approved. *I.R. 1427 - To accept Economic Development*
56 *Initiative-Community Project Funding (CPF) grant for the Holbrook*

1 **Sewers at Main Street and Union Avenue Area (CP 8167) and authorize**
2 **grant agreement. (Co. Exec.)**

3
4 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**
5 Motion to approve.

6
7 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
8 Motion by Legislator Piccirillo, I'll second that motion.

9
03:42PM 10 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**
11 On the motion, Mr. Chairman.

12
13 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
14 And on the motion, Legislator Piccirillo.

15
16 **LEG. PICCIRILLO:**
17 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I would just like to thank
18 Congressmen Garbarino, who worked hard through the budget process
19 at the Federal level to bring these much needed dollars home for
03:42PM 20 this sewer project. And I just wanted to put that on the record.
21 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22
23 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
24 Well, that is all levels of government working together for the
25 betterment of our communities and our environment. So thank you
26 for that, Legislator Piccirillo. Good work on getting those funds
27 allocated. Anyone else on the motion? Seeing none, all in favor?
28 Opposed? Abstentions?

29
03:43PM 30 **CLERK TASSONE:**
31 Seven. (Vote: Approved 7-0-0-0)

32
33 **CHAIRMAN CARACAPPA:**
34 I.R. 1427 is approved. All right. Seeing no further business
35 ahead of us, we stand adjourned.

36
37 Thank you, everyone, for that very lively debate. Thank you to our
38 Steno, thank you to our Sheriffs. I saw you. Are you playing
39 Galaga? And thank you to our IT staff, and, of course, our Budget,
03:43PM 40 always in the room here, our Budget Department. Thank you, Joe.
41 Have a nice day.

42
43 (**The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 p.m.**)
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