Farmingville, NY - On September 27, Supervisor Mark Lesko (center) and Deputy Supervisor/Councilwoman Kathleen Walsh (right) rode atop a locomotive to celebrate the Grand Opening of the Brookhaven Rail Terminal (BRT) on Sills Road in Yaphank. The $40 million facility is located on 28 acres and will receive and ship over 500,000 tons of construction and aggregate material a year. Future expansion will allow for shipping of over one million tons per year. The facility was constructed as a joint venture and privately funded by a group that included US Rail and Pratt Brothers Contracting of Bay Shore.

"This is a true success story that has been a long time in coming," said Supervisor Mark Lesko. "It's all about jobs and taking trucks off the road. We will look back on this day as a seminal moment when the economy started to turn in Brookhaven Town and the region."

Deputy Supervisor/Councilwoman Walsh said, "This is an exciting day in Brookhaven Town. The economic and environmental impact of this new facility will be felt far and wide. I welcome the BRT and look forward to seeing their business grow and prosper in the years ahead."

Councilwoman Connie Kepert, who represents Council District 4 where the terminal is located said, "Removing trucks from the road and providing business and industry with an alternative source of transportation is a positive result of locating a rail terminal in Yaphank. Brookhaven Rail will help to create jobs within the Town at a time when jobs are desperately needed. I am looking forward to the completion of the rail terminal as well as the completion of the required planted buffer."