Farmingville, NY - On June 12, Councilwoman Connie Kepert attended the 2015 Vision Long Island Smart Growth Awards at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury. The Smart Growth Awards are an annual event hosted by Vision Long Island to honor projects, communities, and individuals who encompass and represent the principals of Smart Growth. Smart Growth focuses on providing mixed-use communities that are pedestrian-friendly, walkable, convenient, attractive, and are located close to public transportation options. Those honored at the event are dedicated to downtown revitalization, Smart Growth planning, and improving infrastructure on Long Island. Guest speakers at the event included Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano and Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone.

"It is always my great honor to attend Vision Long Island's Annual Smart Growth Awards to recognize the accomplishments of those who have moved forward initiatives to make Long Island a more attractive, vibrant, and affordable place to live," stated Councilwoman Connie Kepert. "Congratulations to all the 2015 honorees and their communities."

This year's honorees included:

Regional Leadership - Randi Shubin Dresner from Island Harvest
Government Leadership - Jorge A. Martinez, Freeport Deputy Mayor
Housing Choices - Brooke Point, a 39 unit affordable housing project in Valley Stream. The award was presented to D&F Development, the Village of Valley Stream, and Mayor Ed Fare.
Housing Choices - Liberty Village Housing for Homeless Veterans in North Amityville. The award was presented to the developer, Concern for Independent Living, and the LI Coalition for the Homeless.
Mixed Use - "The Loft" on Main Street in Farmingdale. The award was presented to the developer, Staller Associates, the Village of Farmingdale, and Mayor Ralph Eckstrand.
Transportation Leadership - Long Island Jobs with Justice and the LI Bus Riders Union for bringing advocacy and victories to LI bus riders.
Walkability - Village of Great Neck's Incentive Zoning Plan. The award was presented to Mayor Ralph Reitman.
Planning - Port Jefferson 2030 Comprehensive Plan. The award was presented to the Village of Port Jefferson and Mayor Margot J. Garant.
Environment - Northport Sewage Treatment Plant upgrade. The award was presented to Suffolk County, specifically, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone and Legislator William R. Spencer, and the Village of Northport.

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