March 1, 2013

Dr. Lee Koppelman, Town Planning staff, the Councilman and Committee leaders outline the process to develop a community based land-use plan for a vibrant commercial center along Route 112 from the LIRR Station to Route 347

Representatives from the Port Jefferson Station/Terryville Civic Association; the Terryville Fire District; North Brookhaven Chamber of Commerce; Comsewogue School District; Comsewogue Library; and the Comsewogue Historical Society with Councilman Fiore-Rosenfeld and Dr. Lee Koppelman at the first meeting of the Port Jefferson Station Commercial Hub Study Citizens Advisory Committee.

Farmingville, NY - On March 6, Councillman Fiore-Rosenfeld organized the first meeting of the Port Jefferson Station Commercial Hub Study Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) at the Comsewogue School District Admin Building on Norwood Avenue in Port Jefferson Station. The CAC was presented with an overview of the project from planning consultant Dr. Lee Koppelman, a professor in the Department of Political Science and the director of the Center for Regional Policy Studies at Stony Brook University; Town Planning staff, Thomas Chawner, Long Range Planning; and new CAC Chair & Port Jefferson Station resident Charlie McAteer. The focus of the study is on development along Main Street (Route 112), from the Port Jefferson train station to Route 347.

"Like a number of commercial districts in the Town, Port Jefferson Station has fallen victim to haphazard development and the lack of a community based plan which has, as a result, created sprawl and traffic congestion and ultimately blight" said Councilman Fiore-Rosenfeld. "With the right mix of incentives and community support this commercial corridor has such great potential to be revitalized given it's proximity to the LIRR station. I thank those who are serving on the CAC and I invite any citizen of PJS to join as members of the various citizen sub-committees of this study. I look forward to working with the residents, business leaders and the local civics to develop a plan that will benefit the entire community and accelerate economic growth in Port Jefferson Station and the surrounding areas. I also would like to thank our Comsewogue Superintendent and School Board for allowing Port Jefferson Station citizens to make use of this wonderful school board meeting space for their CAC meetings."

"I would like to thank our Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld for helping the Port Jefferson Station-Terryville Civic Association acquire the funding for our Hub Study. This started as a conversation around the table and with Steve's help has become a reality. Smart development will result in a community that we can all be proud of. I am looking forward to working with Brookhaven Town and the various committees that will guide this study," stated Ed Garboski, President of Port Jefferson Station-Terryville Civic Association. "I am very proud of the efforts put forth and the commitments made from our residents who have gotten involved with the study and know with full certainty that together we will make a positive difference and have a say in how our community is developed."
Charles McAteer, Committee Chair said, "As chair of the CAC, I am very proud and thankful for the group of community volunteers to serve on the various sub-committees of this Port Jeff. Station Commercial Hub Study. We certainly look forward to interested individuals coming to the March 27th 7pm meeting to review the process and sign up for groups they are interested in working on. The timing of this Town of Brookhaven study, initiated by Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld, is perfect given the recent similar study of Upper Port Jeff. Hub area north of the LIRR station. I hope you will join your fellow neighbors in the Comsewogue School District served by the Port Jefferson Station-Terryville Civic Association to give your input so this Hub study and future of your Hamlet continues to strive and improve the Quality of Life of our Community."

The Port Jefferson Station Commercial Hub Study CAC is the overall steering group for the Port Jefferson Station Hub Transit-Oriented Development study. The CAC is made up of representatives from the Port Jefferson Station/Terryville Civic Association; the Terryville Fire District; North Brookhaven Chamber of Commerce; Comsewogue School District; Comsewogue Library; and Cumsewogue Historical Society. The committee will work with the various sub-committees to review their findings and recommendations. They will also work with consultants, town officials and the Town planning department to encourage community input in this planning and the proposed development/standards process. Upon completion, the CAC will present the final HUB study and recommendations to the Brookhaven Town Board. The CAC sub-committees include:

- Commercial and Industrial Zoning Sub-Committee
- Traffic, Pedestrian Safety and Transportation Sub-Committee
- Housing and Residential Needs Sub-Committee
- Design, Aesthetics and Architecture Sub-Committee
- History Sub-Committee

"The Hub Study Design Committee is key on reclaiming the historical character of the Port Jefferson Station and Echo business district, while setting standards for a commercially viable, pedestrian friendly and environmentally-sound future," stated Joan Nickeson, Chairperson, Sub-Committee Design, Aesthetics and Architecture.

If any resident is interested in serving on a CAC sub-committee, they should email committee Chair, Charlie McAteer at charles.mcateer@stonybrook.edu and Councilman Fiore-Rosenfeld at fiore-rosenfeld@brookhaven.org.

The next meeting of the Port Jefferson Station Commercial Hub Study Citizens Advisory Committee will be held at the Comsewogue Library on Wednesday, March 27 at 7:00 pm. The meeting is open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend and serve on a sub-committee.