Councilwoman Kepert poses with Ray DiBiase, Eugene Daly, President and CEO of LK McLean, and Christopher Dwyer, winners of the ACEC Gold Award

Farmingville, NY - Councilwoman Kepert was happy to attend the 2013 Engineering Excellence Awards held by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) New York to congratulate L.K. McLean Associates, on their receipt of the Gold Award for the design and construction of the Whiskey Road/Miller Place-Yaphank Road Roundabout.

The intersection of Whiskey Road and Miller Place- Yaphank Road was originally brought to the Councilwoman’s attention following the occurrence of four fatal traffic accidents at this location. Initially, the Town installed All-Way Stop Signs at the intersection, but decided to retain LKMA to assist in pursuing a more permanent solution to improve safety when accidents at the intersection continued to occur.

The Town and LKMA engineers worked together to develop strategies that would aide in the improvement of the intersection, including a roundabout. A roundabout has key advantages including reducing the number of traffic accidents, improving traffic flow, and eliminating motorist confusion. In an effort to avoid impacting the nearby Nature Preserve and adjacent wetlands, LKMA engineered an egg-shaped roundabout. The "egg-about" also allowed limited tree clearing, as the project was located in the Pine Barrens Compatible Growth Area.

"I was happy to be on hand to congratulate L.K. McLean for their selection by the American Council of Engineering Companies as a Gold Award winner for their design and construction of the Middle Island Roundabout," stated Councilwoman Kepert. "The roundabout has greatly improved the safety of the Whiskey Road/Miller-Place Yaphank Road intersection. The very capable engineers at L.K. McLean had to overcome a number of constraints including tractor-trailer traffic, the existence of a nature preserve, and significant changes in grade. Thank you and congratulations to the engineers at L.K. McLean for your hard work and innovative design."