Farmingville, NY - Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine and Highway Superintendent Dan Losquadro today announced a $1.25 million project to upgrade streetlight fixtures across the town, replacing them with energy efficient Light Emitting Diodes (LED) street lights.

Under the project, the Town will replace 2,500 lights that have the highest wattage, saving the town an estimated $300,000 per year in electricity. The project will pay for itself within five years. Lights on major roadways will be replaced first, followed by street lights in residential neighborhoods.

"This project will result in an annual savings for our taxpayers and benefit our environment by reducing our energy consumption across the Town," said Supervisor Romaine. "Using LED technology, our road lighting will be more reliable, more energy efficient and require less maintenance."

"One of the first things I did when I came into office was perform a full assessment of all operations in the Highway Department, looking for ways to bring in new technology, save tax dollars, and operate more efficiently. This program is the first of many I will be implementing to achieve those goals," said Highway Superintendent Losquadro. "Replacing our outdated streetlights with new, energy efficient LED lights will provide safer, more reliable lighting for our residents, and save money at the same time."

LED street lights are more energy efficient than conventional high pressure sodium or metal halide street lighting fixtures. LED lights are up to 60 percent more efficient than the street lights they replace and have an estimated life of 20 years. The much less frequent need to service or replace LEDs means low maintenance cost.

An LED street light can normally produce the same amount of light, or more, as a traditional light, but requires only half of the power to operate. In addition, LED street lights dim as they need to be replaced, rather than completely failing, as current street lights operate.