Farmingville, NY - On Friday, December 6, Councilwoman Connie Kepert spoke on a Complete Streets panel at the Pace University Land Use Law School's Annual Land Use and Sustainable Development Conference in White Plains. This year, the annual conference's theme was Leading Communities Toward a Resilient Future and the focus was on challenges that face local New York Communities and the policies that allow for communities to build "equitable, sustainable, and economically prosperous places for people." The conference included session topics on coastal redevelopment, flood plain regulation, complete streets, hydrofracing, urban revitalization, solar panel permitting, green infrastructure, urban agriculture, property rights, and form based infill development.

Councilwoman Kepert’s presentation focused on the Town of Brookhaven's Complete Streets legislation that she sponsored and passed in September of 2010. The legislation works to accommodate and protect the safety of all road users, including motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. The legislation requires that all streets in the Town of Brookhaven that are paved be evaluated for additions such as bike lanes, sidewalks and crosswalks which improve the safety of our roadways. Since its passage in 2010, the legislation has resulted in new sidewalks and bike lanes added to Wilson Avenue, Homestead Drive and Granny Road in Gordon Heights, as well as sidewalks along Station Road in Bellport and many other roadways within the town.

Councilwoman Kepert said, "It was a pleasure to attend this event and an honor to be able to speak and share our Town's experience with the other conference attendees. I look forward to continuing my dedication to advocating for safe streets for all users."