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**September 21, 2009 CORAM** - Councilwoman Connie Kepert sponsored land swaps and the rezoning of three parcels at Rtes. 25 and 112 at the town board meeting on Thursday, September 17, enabling the New York State Department of Transportation to re-route traffic away from the overcrowded and dangerous intersection. The re-routing will allow the Town to make this stretch of Coram's downtown a safer place to be.

"This bypass will both reduce traffic congestion and allow motorists to avoid a confusing and dangerous intersection," stated Councilwoman Kepert. "The people of Coram said they wanted to stop the destruction of our sensitive lands and create a downtown with public spaces, shops, and houses. This new Main Street will accomplish just that," Kepert continued.

Brookhaven Town Supervisor Mark Lesko stated, "Councilwoman Kepert has taken the first step in transforming an entire corridor, from one characterized by haphazard strip development to one characterized by vibrant mixed-use pedestrian oriented development."

The Beautification project involves the planting of the triangle at the intersection of Rt. 112 and 25. The Coram Civic Association has been actively involved in the transformation of downtown Coram. "The Coram Civic as been an active partner in the town planning process," stated Councilwoman Kepert. "They have been particularly involved with the beautification project at the center of Coram. This beautification makes Coram a place that residents are proud to call home," she continued.

"Additionally, Tom and Bill Kelly of Kelly Brothers Landscaping must be commended for the enormous amount of design work that has gone in to the beautification project," Kepert said. "They are donating the labor and materials for the project that is due to begin this fall. This is the perfect example of how small business involvement is vital to the economic growth and stability of Brookhaven's downtowns," she concluded.