Councilman Romaine Introduces Legislation to Bring Sewers to Shirley, Mastic
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SHIRLEY, NY-- Brookhaven Councilman Keith Romaine will introduce resolutions at the October 27 Town Board meeting to designate areas along the Montauk Highway business corridor in Shirley and Mastic as Recovery Zones and allocate funds for dry sewer lines in the area.

"Installing sewers in the Montauk Highway business corridor is one of the most important economic development projects we can do for this area. These lines will attract new businesses, and bring jobs to this community," said Councilman Romaine. "Designating these areas as Recovery Zones is the first step in this process, and will allow the Town to use funds from the federal Economic Stimulus to subsidize bonding for this capital project, saving local tax dollars for Brookhaven taxpayers."

Earlier this year, the U. S. Treasury Department announced $25 billion in bonds authority available under the Recovery Zone Bonds program, as part of the federal economic stimulus package. The Recovery Act included $25 Billion for two new types of Recovery Zone Bonds - $10 billion for Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds and $15 billion for Recovery Zone Facility Bonds. Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds allow state and local governments to obtain lower borrowing costs through the new direct federal payment subsidy, for 45 percent of the interest, to finance a broad range of economic development projects.

Brookhaven Town was authorized to issue $18.58 million of the Recover Zone Economic Development Bonds for projects in 16 qualifying communities, including Shirley and Mastic.

"When the federal Economic Stimulus package was first announced, I fought to have these and other projects included in the Town's 'wish list' for consideration to be funded. Now, with these funds available through low interest financing under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, we can begin the process of bringing dry sewers to this business district," said Councilman Romaine.

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