

Town Cleans Up Large Homeless Encampment in Coram

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Farmingville, NY – On September 8, Supervisor Ed Romaine and Councilman Michael Loguercio were on site at a large homeless encampment in the woods off Middle Country Road in Coram where the Town's Department of Waste Management executed a massive clean-up effort. According to the Suffolk County Police Department, the location was the source of more than 40 complaints since the beginning of August. Those complaints included drug use, prostitution and fights. It was estimated that more than 50 people used the site regularly, creating a dangerous environment in the woods that was detrimental to the surrounding businesses and residents who live in the community. Among the many tons of items removed from the encampment were empty drug bottles and

hypodermic needles.

"No one should be living in such wretched conditions," Supervisor Romaine said. "There's no mistaking that we have a growing homeless problem on Long Island and I call on the County to ramp up their efforts to get these people out of the woods and into proper housing. Camps like this one are extremely dangerous places and we must do whatever we can to eliminate them from our community."

Councilman Loguercio said, "I have received many complaints about this location and by working with the Suffolk County Police, our Town Law and Waste Management Departments, we were able to do something about it. This was a very unsafe and unhealthy environment for people to live. I am saddened to think that they had nowhere else to go but here. We have contacted our Suffolk County Department of Social Services and requested immediate assistance for those individuals who were living there."

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