

Town Board Unanimously Accepts Route 25A Final Visioning Report

posted on 10/29/2010 10:13:35 AM

Farmingville, NY - At its October 19 meeting, the Town Board unanimously passed a resolution sponsored by Councilwoman Jane Bonner to accept the Route 25A Final Visioning Report. The study was compiled over the past year by an interdisciplinary team of professional planners who conducted five (5) community planning forums along the 10-mile Route 25A corridor from Mount Sinai to Wading River. A critical component of the Study was extensive participation by more than 300-community residents who engaged in the Forums. A 20-person Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) established by Councilwoman Bonner guided the project through each step to ensure the most critical community issues were addressed in the study.

The CAC was composed of representatives from local civic, school, fire district and community organizations. Additionally, hamlet-based Working Groups were established to provide assistance in planning and implementing each Community Forum. The resulting vision for both the corridor and each hamlet updated past studies and provide a sound basis to embark upon the land use implementation phase of the study in January 2011. The study is the first of its kind in Brookhaven, and one of the few corridor-wide studies ever undertaken in Suffolk County.

The study successfully developed a wide range of recommendations to reduce vehicular accidents and congestion along the corridor, implement a Complete Streets Program, preserve open space and historic assets, and strategies to support and encourage local businesses. Other significant issues addressed by the study included the negative impact of large scale (big box) retail upon local businesses, the need to improve landscaping and streetscape and reduce sign pollution, and better enforcement of existing traffic laws along the corridor. Most significantly, each hamlet updated their Vision for the future emphasizing the retention of the positive attributes of each hamlet, and devising a range of suggested improvements in keeping with the updated Visions.

"The Route 25A corridor has been a priority of mine since taking office and I promised residents that this Visioning Report would not be a study that just looked at old studies but a fresh, comprehensive examination of its current state," said Councilwoman Bonner who spearheaded the creation of the Route 25A Visioning Report. "I'm also proud to have its validity confirmed by Dr. Lee Koppleman, who said it was the best planning document he has seen in 5 years." She commented further, "I look forward to getting started on Phase II and excited to roll up my sleeves and get to work."

The Town is currently finalizing plans to begin Phase II of the study which will develop a land use plan to implement the visions and recommendations from Phase I. It is expected that Phase II will be initiated early in 2011, and will be completed in 12 - 14 months

Residents can view the Route 25A Final Visioning Report on the Town's website at www.brookhaven.org.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone (631) 451-6595 • Fax (631) 451-6258