

Brookhaven Breaks Ground on New "Green" Parks Administration Building

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CENTEREACH, NY - Brookhaven Councilwoman Kathleen Walsh, Supervisor Mark Lesko and members of the Town Board today broke ground for the Town's new Parks & Recreation administration building. The new 12,000 square foot public facility, which will be constructed using a number of "Green Building" strategies, will replace an aging and decaying Parks & Recreation building in Coram.

The new 12,000 square foot building, located at the Town's Centereach Pool and Recreational facility on Hawkins Road, will meet LEED standards, and is estimated to cost \$5.5 million, with construction taking 10-12 months to be completed. The project has been submitted to qualify for federal economic stimulus funding because of the "green building" strategies it employs.

"After years of work and planning, I'm overjoyed that we are finally breaking ground on this exciting project, which will benefit our residents, the youth of this community, our taxpayers and the environment," said Councilwoman Walsh, who is also the Town Deputy Supervisor. "This is a much needed building to serve the growing recreational needs of our residents, and the youth in the Centereach-Selden community. This project also meets LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards, and is expected to create an estimated 50 jobs in the construction and green trades industries."

Exemplifying Brookhaven's continuing efforts to provide high quality and varied recreational opportunities, the new building will address Brookhaven's growing recreational and seasonal needs.

"Town facilities should model ways to secure long-term energy savings through energy efficient designs and techniques. This new Parks administration building will do just that," said Supervisor Mark Lesko. "Using renewable energy sources, like photovoltaic technology, is extremely important for our environmental future."

"Our Town board wanted to insure this new municipal facility will incorporate a number of 'green building' strategies, including solar photovoltaic systems, energy efficient light fixtures, high efficiency windows and clerestory windows with large exterior overhangs," said Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld, the Town boards liaison to the Parks Department.

"This building will be a win-win for our residents - a new facility to serve our community that protects our environment and provides countless cost savings through energy efficiency and use of renewable resources," added Councilwoman Jane Bonner.

Structurally Insulated Panels (SIPs) - consisting of rigid foam insulation in between two panels of oriented strand board - will also be used, rather than traditional wood studs for floors, walls and roofs to provide more uniform insulation coverage and help maintain indoor temperature. The building will also have engineered wood trusses, use recycled (content) materials in areas such as rest room partitions and floor coverings, and use materials, paints and finishes that emit fewer toxic fumes. The site for the building itself also will incorporate green strategies, including building orientation, use of native/non-invasive vegetation, reduced site disturbance, erosion control, and light pollution reduction on site.

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