

# Check-Out Time for Ridge Motel East

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## ***Town Demolishes Long Vacant Eyesore***

**Farmingville, NY** – On March 27, Supervisor Ed Romaine (at podium), Councilwoman Jane Bonner, Councilman Michael Loguercio and Councilman Dan Panico were in Ridge as the Town of Brookhaven demolished the long vacant Ridge Motel East located at 1019 Middle Country Road (Route 25). Suffolk County Legislator Al Kupski, members of the Ridge Fire Department, Ridge Civic Association and residents from the community also were at the demolition.

This four acre Suffolk County owned parcel with five dilapidated structures is located in the Pine Barrens Core adjacent to Brookhaven State Park and New York State DEC property. The motel has been vacant for many years and was being used by squatters and others involved in illegal activities. The Town had issued numerous Building Code violations to the former property owner. The structures were demolished by the Town in accordance with Chapter 73 of the Town Code which provides a "fast track" to rid communities of unsafe structures. The County will reimburse the Town for the cost of demolition and debris removal.

"The demolition of the Ridge Motel East has been a very long time in coming," said Supervisor Romaine. "This property is one of the worst examples of an abandoned, dangerous eyesore that we have seen in the Town. I thank our Law Department for going the extra mile to assure that these structures are removed and no longer a blight on the Ridge community."

Legislator Krupski said, "This is a good example of county and town government working with the local community to clean up this blighted site. Once the buildings are removed, the property will return to its natural state and a portion can be used for safe and secure parking for use of the adjacent park."

Councilwoman Bonner said, "When vacant buildings are left to deteriorate as much as these have, it's just a matter of time before they attract a bad element and the community suffers. I'm glad that we are finally able to clean up this property and hope it remains open space for a very long time."

"The residents of Ridge have suffered far too long looking at this eyesore and dealing with the unsavory activities that went on here," said Councilman Michael Loguercio. "This demolition continues our aggressive Townwide effort to clean up neglected properties and make our neighborhoods safe for everyone."

Councilman Panico said, "In Brookhaven Town we have raised the acceptable standard for our residents. Decrepit structures like these will no longer cast a shadow on the community of Ridge. This is yet another example of our commitment to our residents' quality of life."

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