

Supervisor Romaine, Councilmen Foley and Panico Oversee Demolition of Crumbling, Condemned Homes in Medford

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Farmingville, NY - On March 24, the Town of Brookhaven began the demolition of two condemned houses and a garage located at 2244 Medford Avenue (Route 112) in Medford. The ramshackle structures had been vacant for many years and the source of numerous community complaints. In November 2014, Suffolk County took title to the properties and has cooperated fully with the Town to help rid the neighborhood of these eyesores. The County will fully reimburse the Town for the cost of demolition and debris removal. Pictured left to right are Councilman Neil Foley, Councilman Dan Panico, Medford Taxpayers and Civic Association President Joan Travan and Supervisor Ed Romaine.

"I thank the County for working closely with our Law Department so we could move quickly once they took title," said Supervisor Romaine. "These structures have been run down for so many years and removing them will improve the Medford Avenue streetscape and increase the property values of the neighborhood."

Councilman Foley said, "The Medford community and civic leaders have pushed very hard to get this property cleaned up and I'm happy to join them today. One of my first priorities when I took office was to help them get it done. I thank the County for their cooperation and our Law Department for their efforts to see it through."

Councilman Panico said, "The Town of Brookhaven is leading the fight to take back our neighborhoods. I commend Councilman Neil Foley for all of his efforts. Upon taking office he has truly hit the ground running and taken the bull by the horns for the Medford community and his entire district."

"For years, these buildings have been an eyesore in the center of Medford's business district. When the Medford Taxpayers and Civic Association brought this problem to the attention of Supervisor Romaine and Councilman Foley, they made a commitment to remove this blight. As president of the civic association, I am ecstatic that they have delivered on this promise," said Joan Travan. "Supervisor Romaine and Councilman Foley have been reliable partners with the Medford Taxpayers and Civic Association in our commitment to improve the quality of life for our community. The demolition of these buildings by Brookhaven Town is yet another step in making Medford a better place to live and do business."

Although not on the Supervisor's "Dirty Dozen" list, the buildings were demolished in accordance with Chapter 73 of the Town Code, which provides a "fast track" to rid neighborhoods of unsafe structures. Since the Supervisor announced the "Dirty Dozen" in September 2014, seven "Dirty Dozen" houses have been demolished by the Town and one by the homeowner. The cost of demolition and debris removal is placed as a lien on the tax bill of the property and is paid by the owner - not the taxpayers.

The "Dirty Dozen" listed below, includes properties from every Council District in Brookhaven Town:

- 1. 25 Devoe Place, Mastic (Demolished by owner)**
- 2. 33 Ashwood Drive, Shirley (Demolished 3/12/15)**
- 3. 131 Bedford Avenue, Mastic (Demolished 10/15/14)**
4. 10 Murray Lane, Coram
5. 2808 John Roe Smith Avenue, Medford
- 6. 1 Seacliff Avenue, Miller Place (Demolished 1/22/15)**
- 7. 6 Frank Street, Patchogue (Demolished 3/3/2015)**
8. 26 Gabon Lane, Coram
- 9. 22 Sundial Lane, Bellport (Demolished 11/6/14)**
10. 9 Middle Island Road, Yaphank
- 11. 5 Parnet Court in Port Jefferson Station (Demolished (10/1/14)**
- 12. 26 Berkeley Avenue in Selden (Demolished 9/3/14)**

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