

Congressman Tim Bishop, Supervisor Mark Lesko, and Councilman Dan Panico Mark Half-Way Point of Sewer District #2 Construction

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New Sewer District Will Promote Economic Development and Protect the Environment



Supervisor Lesko speaks at the construction site of Sewer District #2 treatment plant. Also pictured are Councilman Dan Panico and Congressman Tim Bishop.



Congressman Tim Bishop, Councilman Dan Panico and Supervisor Mark Lesko at the site of Sewer District #2 treatment plant which is under construction.

Farmingville, NY - On Tuesday, April 26, Supervisor Mark Lesko and Councilman Dan Panico joined Congressman Tim Bishop to mark the half-way point of construction of the Sewage Treatment Plant for Sewer District #2 in Shirley. Through the formation of a special district and with the help of federal stimulus funds, the Town is constructing the 200,000 gallon per day plant to serve the properties within the Brookhaven R&D Plaza sub-division, which includes 235 acres of Light Industrial zoned property, portions of which had previously been sterilized from further development or expansion by the lack of available sewers. It will allow expansion of existing and new businesses within the sub-division and will protect the environment by reducing the amount of nitrogen entering the groundwater.

The Town was able to secure a low interest loan with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding to help the property owners within the sewer district finance this \$10 million project. It is eligible for a maximum of up to 50% principal forgiveness for the cost of construction.

"The construction of sewer district #2 is a great example of all levels of government working together with local businesses to advance economic development and protect the environment," said Supervisor Mark Lesko, "I especially thank Congressman Bishop and all of our federal and state officials for their support in helping to fund this project."

"This project is about investing in our community and creating jobs," Congressman Bishop said. "This is a great use of leveraging federal dollars to improve infrastructure and create private sector jobs. Fighting for Long Island jobs continues to be my top priority."

"Projects like this emphasize the fact that the notions of being pro-business and pro-environment are not mutually exclusive," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "Here we have a perfect example of a project that will help our local economy by providing jobs that range from construction and trades to those created by business expansion. Moreover, the environmental benefits of avoiding additional nitrogen loading caused by untreated sewage are long understood and much needed. We need to continue to make significant investments in the infrastructure of our communities and the creation and expansion of our sewage treatment plants."

The Sewer District #2 plant is being constructed using the Biologically Engineered Single Sludge Treatment (BESST) process system enclosed within a building equipped with an ultraviolet odor elimination system. The treated effluent will be discharged into subsurface recharge pools. The advantages of this system are a smaller plant size and reduced operating costs.

The Town will oversee the operation and maintenance of this sewage treatment plant plant. Construction on the plant began in March of 2010 and is expected to be completed by the fall.

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