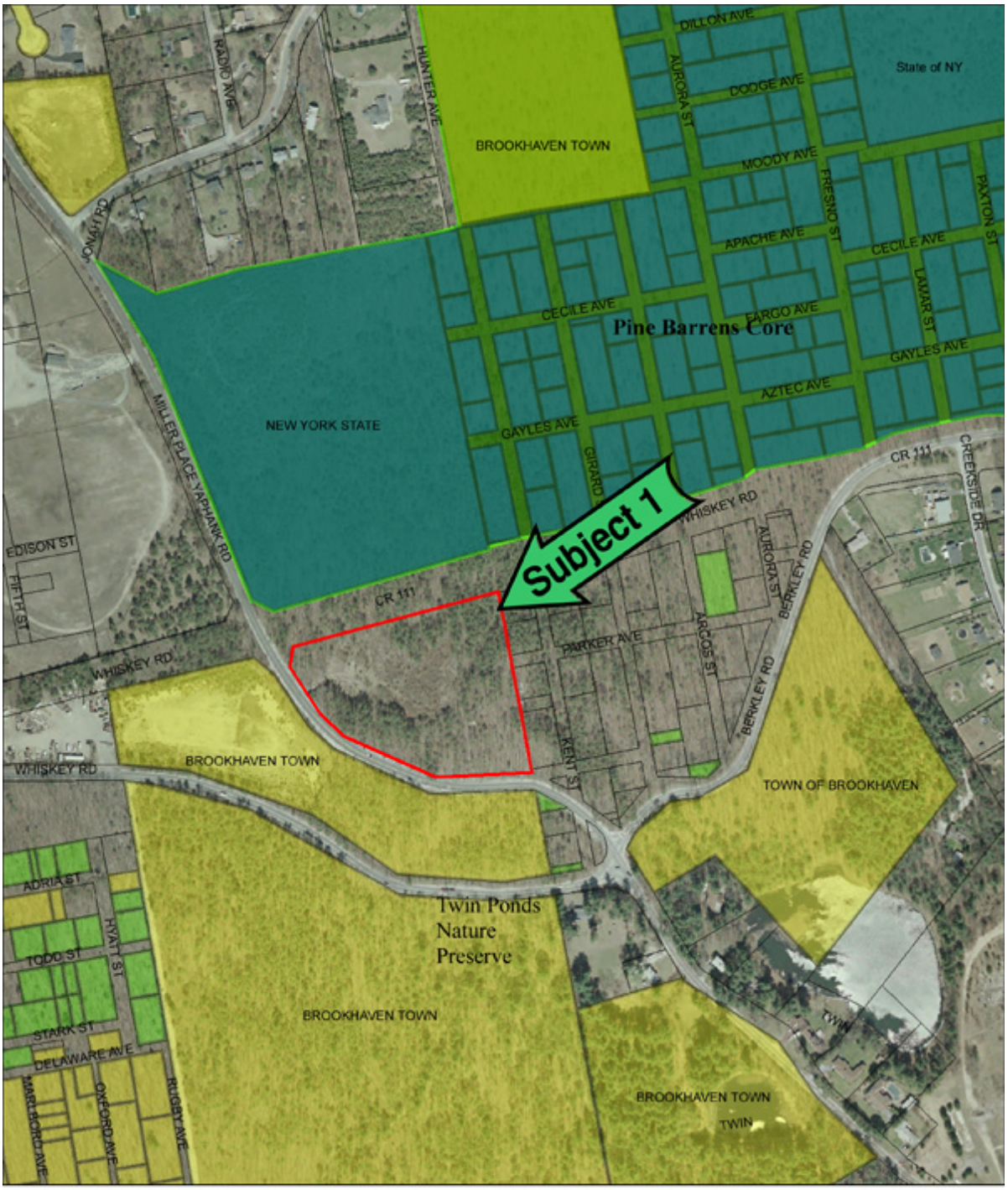
Town Closes On Open Space Purchase of 7.05 Acres in Middle Island within Compatible Growth Area of the Long Island Pine Barrens

posted on 6/18/2014 3:44:30 PM

June 18, 2014



Smith, 200-263-3-1. 7.59+/- acres, Miller Place-Yaphank Rd, Middle Island

0 250 500 Feet

Farmingville, NY - Recently, Brookhaven Town closed on the purchase of 7.05 acres of undeveloped land located along Miller Place Yaphank Road, north of the Whiskey Road traffic circle in Miller Place to be preserved as open space. The property is situated within the Compatible Growth Area of the Long Island Pine Barrens, with the northern section adjacent to the Core Preservation Area. It is extensively wooded with pitch pine and various oaks forming the tree canopy, providing a habitat to a variety of pine barrens wildlife species including pine warblers, eastern towhees, turkeys, great crested flycatchers, and various mammal, turtle, and snake species.

"It was important that the Town add this parcel because it forms an ecological bridge connecting the 5,300-acre NYSDEC Rocky Point Natural Resources Management Area to the north and the Town's 200-acre Twin Pond Nature

Preserve to the south," said Supervisor Ed Romaine. "By purchasing property for open space, we reinforce our commitment to preserve the environment for the generations that will follow us."

Councilwoman Jane Bonner, who represents Council District 2 where the property is located said, "Preserving open space in my district has been a priority since I first took office in 2007. Years ago, overdevelopment was a threat to our farms and woodlands, but we've reversed that trend and worked hard to retain the rural character of the north shore communities."

The property is within Hydrogeologic Zone 3, the most important water recharge zone on Long Island and it is estimated that the property recharges more than 4 million gallons of pure water on an annual basis to the underlying groundwater aquifers. It was purchased by the Town for $550,000.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor
One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone (631) 451-6595 • Fax (631) 451-6258