

# Town Awarded \$30,000 New York State DEC Planning Grant to Plan for Sewer Connection to Greater Bellport Hamlet Center

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**Farmingville, NY** – Supervisor Ed Romaine announced today that the Town has been awarded a \$30,000 New York State DEC Planning Grant to prepare an engineered plan, map and report for a sewer collection system to connect the Greater Bellport Hamlet Center to Suffolk County's Harrison Avenue Sewage Treatment Plant (STP). The plan, map and report will build upon the Greater Bellport STP Siting Options & Feasibility Study.

Supervisor Ed Romaine said, "The economic revitalization of the Greater Bellport Hamlet Center relies greatly on a future connection to the sewage treatment plant. Now, with the award of this grant, we can get the process started in earnest. I have met with many property owners and business people in the Bellport community and there is a new sense of progress and enthusiasm for the future."

Councilman Michael Loguercio said, "Moving forward on a sewer line to service Bellport has been a top priority of mine since taking office in 2016. Their absence has been a deterrent to the development of new business and harmful to the environment. I expect that once the sewers are in, we'll see a real turnaround in the local economy."

Brookhaven's 2014 Greater Bellport Land Use Plan presented the blueprint for a transit-oriented downtown supported by train and sanitary infrastructure. Because of the sensitivity of Suffolk County's groundwater supply, Brookhaven has aggressively pursued centralized wastewater treatment to protect the environment while stimulating economic development.

Extending sewer connections to the Montauk Highway corridor in Bellport has been identified in planning studies as the catalyst to spur investment and economic development to the area. To support the community's vision for downtown revitalization, the 2013 Sewer Feasibility Study revealed connection to the Woodside/Harrison Avenue Sewage Treatment Plant was the most environmentally sound and economically viable alternative for sanitary treatment to encourage and service new development.

Toward that end, a plan, map and report is required to be engineered to extend the existing sewer district and collection system to Greater Bellport. The plan, map and report will:

- indicate the extension and connection of the sewer collection system;
- engineer the proposed collection system and method of operation;
- indicate the terminus and course of the system including the treatment plant and pumping stations,

The community's goal is to be "shovel- ready" when sewer infrastructure funding becomes available. The system design would have the potential to handle 75,000 gallons per day of wastewater from the Greater Bellport Hamlet Center, as well as an estimated 60,000 gallons per day from Bellport Village.

**Division of Public Information \* Office of the Supervisor**

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