

Supervisor Romaine and Councilman Panico Oversee Demolition of Vacant Eyesore on Overlook Drive in Mastic

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Farmingville, NY – On October 8, Supervisor Ed Romaine and Councilman Dan Panico were present to oversee the demolition of a “zombie house” located at 118 Overlook Drive in Mastic. The house, vacant for many years, was a dangerous eyesore in the neighborhood and a public safety hazard, with a history of violations of New York State Building and Fire Prevention Codes as well as Town of Brookhaven codes. The house has also been the site of alleged drug and gang activity. Located in close proximity to the Forge River, part of the property remediation included filling in of the cesspool, thus eliminating another source of nitrogen loading in the already impaired Forge River Watershed.

The demolition was unanimously approved by the Town Board at its August 27 Town Board meeting, where several residents spoke in support of the action. The house was demolished by the Town in accordance with Chapter 73 of the Town Code which provides a “fast track” to rid neighborhoods of unsafe structures. The cost of demolition and debris removal is the responsibility of the property owner. The Town places a lien on the property that is then placed on the tax bill. The County reimburses the Town and they collect the money from the property owner.

Supervisor Romaine said, “When I look around this neighborhood, it’s plain to see that people take pride in their homes, and it’s not right that they have to live with a mess like this. We are making great strides in cleaning up neighborhoods across the Town and we will continue to improve the quality of life for our residents.”

Councilman Panico said, “This home is the latest in a long line of blighted properties we’ve demolished in the Mastic Shirley area. Raising the bar on acceptable standards of living and giving people the quality of life they deserve have been the hallmarks of my tenure. These efforts will continue so that our neighborhoods reach their true potential - a clean, safe and orderly place to call home.”

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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