

Town Awarded \$25,000 State Grant to Help Crack Down on Illegal Junk Yards in North Bellport and East Patchogue

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Farmingville, NY – Supervisor Edward P. Romaine announced today that the Town of Brookhaven has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. This grant is a result of a NYS Senate Bill sponsored by State Senator Thomas Croci, for the enforcement of codes by local municipalities.

The Brookhaven Town Fire Marshal's Office will be utilizing the grant funding to further enforcement efforts related to Supervisor Romaine's "Junk Yard" Initiative. The initiative, which began in earlier 2017, is focusing on the numerous illegal junk yards and auto dismantling facilities that have plagued the Montauk Highway corridor in the North Bellport and East Patchogue areas for many years. Enforcement of both state and local codes are being utilized to force operators and land owners to clean up these properties and in some cases, cease the activities where they are found to be illegal due to improper land use. This is another step forward the Town of Brookhaven is taking to improve the quality of life for all Town residents.

Supervisor Romaine said, "The illegal junk yards along Montauk Highway are not only a detriment to the community, they are a threat to the environment and the health and safety of the residents who live nearby. Thanks to Senator Croci, Town Fire Marshals will be able to strengthen their efforts to clean them up or even close them down."

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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