

Supervisor Romaine and Councilman Panico are Joined by Mastic Beach Village and Ambulance Company Officials to Demolish Blight and Make Way for New Ambulance HQ

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Farmingville, NY – Brookhaven Town Supervisor Ed Romaine (center) and Councilman Dan Panico (third from right) were joined by Mastic Beach Village Mayor Maura Spery, Trustee Anne Snyder and officials and volunteer members of the Mastic Beach Ambulance Company for the demolition of a commercial blight located at 343 Neighborhood Road that has plagued downtown Mastic Beach for more than a decade. The demolition site, once home to a hardware store and then a market – paves the way for a brand new, state-of-the-art facility that will serve as headquarters for the Mastic Beach Ambulance Company.

Prior to the demolition, Councilman Panico told those in attendance that it has been a decade-long journey in finding an appropriate location that could house the much-needed new headquarters, and further noted that an ambulance facility on Neighborhood Road was the ideal place. The ambulance company's current headquarters is located at 180 Whittier Drive, Mastic Beach. Supervisor Ed Romaine said, "The men and women of the Mastic Beach Ambulance Company will soon have a well deserved, new headquarters that will help them do their job more efficiently. Every day they save lives and spend so much time away from home serving the community. They needed a new building, and this one will be a vast improvement over their former home."

"Today's event marks the culmination of an almost decade-long journey for the Mastic Beach Ambulance Company," said Councilman Panico. "However, today also marks the commencement of a new chapter in history for the people of Mastic Beach. It is my sincere hope that the demolition of this blight which cast a shadow on downtown Mastic Beach, even on its brightest day, will be the catalyst and investment for the future growth of the area – an area rich in natural beauty yearning to reach its full potential."

Mayor Spery hailed the fact that a new ambulance facility will only help to spark rebirth in downtown Mastic Beach. "The demolition of this building in our business district will usher in a new, revitalized downtown for the Village of Mastic Beach. Not only will the new Ambulance Company building provide more room for emergency services and volunteers, but will provide meeting rooms for planned services that will benefit the residents of our village," Spery said. "The hard working men and women deserve a building that reflects their commitment to helping our community."

"Today is a continued re-birth of our downtown," echoed fellow Village Trustee Betty Manzella, liaison to the Village's Building and Housing Division. "Working with Supervisor Romaine and Councilman Dan Panico, we are wiping away long-time blight from our Main Street landscape and replacing it with a vibrant, much needed facility to support our EMS volunteers providing protection and safety for the community."

Mastic Beach Ambulance Company Charles Voelger said that the demolition brings the ambulance company "one step closer to being able to provide residents of Mastic Beach with a much needed improvement in their EMS service. Better access, better services and an eye towards the future begins now."

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