BROOKHAVEN TOWN BOARD SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2014 - 5:00 P.M. ONE INDEPENDENCE HILL, FARMINGVILLE, NEW YORK

RE: RONKONKOMA HUB TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE:

BROOKHAVEN TOWN BOARD

EDWARD P. ROMAINE, Supervisor DONNA LENT, Town Clerk ANNETTE EADERESTO, Town Attorney VALERIE M. CARTRIGHT, Councilmember (District 1) JANE BONNER, Councilmember (District 2) KEVIN LAVALLE, Councilmember (District 3) TIMOTHY MAZZEI, Councilmember (District 5) DANIEL PANICO, Councilmember (District 6)

> Lori Anne Curtis Court Reporter

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   A P P E A R A N C E S:
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         CERTILMAN, BALIN, ADLER & HYMAN, LLP
4
              Attorneys for TRITEC
              100 Motor Parkway
5
              Fifth Floor, Suite 156
              Hauppauge, New York 11788
6
         BY: DAVID SLOAN, ESQ.
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8
   ALSO PRESENT:
   LEIGH RATE, Senior Assistant Town Attorney
9
   TULLIO BERTOLI, Brookhaven Town Planner
   TERRI ELKOWITZ, VHB, Inc.
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   ANITA LAREMONT, Harris Beach, PLLC
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    ***Interested Members of the Public
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1	Proceedings	
2	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: I will	
3	call this meeting to order, and I	
4	will ask our new councilwoman, Ms.	
5	Cartright, to lead us in the	
6	pledge of the flag.	
7	(Pledge of Allegiance.)	
8	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: We	
9	won't have a moment of silence	
10	because this is just a public	
11	hearing, not a board meeting, so	
12	we'll go to roll call.	
13	Ms. Lent?	
14	MS. LENT: Councilmember	
15	Cartright?	
16	MS. CARTWRIGHT: Present.	
17	MS. LENT: Councilmember	
18	Bonner?	
19	MS. BONNER: Here.	
20	MS. LENT: Councilmember	
21	LaValle?	
22	MR. LAVALLE: Present.	
23	MS. LENT: Councilmember	
24	Mazzei?	
25	MR. MAZZEI: Here.	

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1	Proceedings	
2	deserves a great deal of credit, I	
3	guess, for the proposal for	
4	Ronkonkoma Hub he saw an issue,	
5	and had an idea for	
6	transit-oriented development and	
7	improvement of the area around	
8	Ronkonkoma Station, and has worked	
9	diligently until he left office.	
10	That work continued after he left	
11	office, because of the things that	
12	had been put in motion.	
13	Tonight, the Board will	
14	hear on these things, and we will	
15	start with an explanation we	
16	will start with	
17	MS. EADERESTO: A	
18	presentation tonight, and our	
19	first speaker will be Leigh Rate,	
20	from the Department of Law. She	
21	is a Senior Assistant Town	
22	Attorney working on this project.	
23	MS. LENT: Mr. Supervisor,	
24	should we make a motion to open	
25	the public hearing?	

SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Yes, why don't we start, before we hear testimony, to open all four of the hearings, so we will start.

MS. LENT: Public Hearing

Number 1, "Acceptance of the

Supplemental Ronkonkoma Hub

Transit-Oriented Development Land

Use and Implementation Plan and

Draft Supplemental Generic

Environmental Impact Statement and

the commencement of a minimum

30-day comment period."

Legal notices were

published no less than ten days

and no more than twenty days prior

to the public hearing in one of

the legal town newspapers. Our

office has received the signed

affidavit and publication from

that newspaper.

Should the Board render any decision tonight, this has been deemed a SEQRA Type 2 action. The

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Town Clerk's office is in receipt of two letters in support for the plan and one letter in opposition.

SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: And they will be entered into the record.

MS. LENT: Public Hearing

Number 2: Introductory of Local

Law Number 1 of 2014, Amending

Chapter 85 of the Code of the Town

of Brookhaven, entitled "Zoning,"

by enacting Article 47, entitled

"Ronkonkoma Hub Transit-Oriented

Development District."

Legal notices of public

hearings were published no less

than ten days and no more than

twenty days prior to the public

hearing in one of the legal town

newspapers. Our office has

received the signed affidavit of

publication from the newspaper.

Should the Board render a decision

tonight, this has been deemed a

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SEQRA Type 2 action. We have not received a letter in response from Suffolk County Planning Commission at this time.

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Public Hearing Number 3:

To consider a Town Board's Own

Motion for change of zone for

J-Business 2, J-Business 4,

J-Business 6, and L-Industrial 1

to Ronkonkoma Hub Transit-Oriented

Development District on property

known as Town Board's Own Motion

Hub 1, located in Lake Ronkonkoma,

New York.

This Town Board's Own

Motion was published in an

official town newspaper no less

than ten days and no more than

twenty days prior to the public

hearing as required. We are in

receipt of the signed affidavit of

publication from the town

newspaper.

The owners of the subject

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property were notified by certified mail, and the certified mail receipts have been made part of the Town's official record. A SEQRA negative determination will be submitted by the Board upon a SEQRA resolution if applicable.

Public Hearing Number 4: To Consider the Adoption of the Ronkonkoma Hub Urban Renewal Plan. Legal notices of public hearing were published no less than ten days and no more than twenty days prior to a public hearing in a Our office legal town newspaper. has received a signed affidavit of the publication from the town newspaper. Our office has received the signed affidavit and publication from the town newspaper.

Should the Board render a decision tonight, that has been deemed a SEQRA Type 2 action.

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1	Proceedings
2	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
3	you very much.
4	At this time I am going to
5	make a motion to waive the current
6	rules of public hearing to allow
7	each speaker a fully-complete
8	three minutes to address each of
9	the items of their concern.
10	I so move.
11	MR. MAZZEI: Second.
12	MS. LENT: All in favor?
13	(Whereupon, all respond in
14	the affirmative.)
15	MS. LENT: Any abstentions?
16	(No response.)
17	MS. LENT: So moved.
18	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE:
19	Accordingly, after the
20	presentations are finished that
21	put forward the facts of this
22	public hearing, the general public
23	will be called up in the order
24	that they filled out their cards
25	by the Clerk, and the general

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1	Proceedings	
2	public each will have a full three	
3	minutes to discuss all that they	
4	have to say.	
5	If they can't get in all	
6	they wish to say, they can submit	
7	written comments for up to and	
8	probably more than the next	
9	30 days on this hearing.	
10	And with that, we will	
11	start the presentations with Leigh	
12	Rate from our Town Attorney's	
13	Office.	
14	MS. RATE: First, I'd like	
15	to please clarify the record, that	
16	all of the actions are considered	
17	one action, and they are a Type 1	
18	action, as opposed to being deemed	
19	a Type 2 action. I believe the	
20	Clerk mentioned a Type 2 action.	
21	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Okay,	
22	it is a Type 1 action, just so	
23	everyone understands, under the	
24	SEQRA, which is the State	
25	Environmental Quality Review Act,	

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1	Proceedings	
2	is what?	
3	MS. RRATE: That we have	
4	pos-decked this project and an EIS	
5	is being prepared.	
6	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Okay,	
7	a positive declaration means that	
8	a full Environmental Impact	
9	Statement has to be done and will	
10	be done on this project before it	
11	can move forward, even after these	
12	hearings?	
13	MS. RATE: That's correct.	
14	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank	
15	you very much.	
16	MS. RATE: So for the scope	
17	of the public hearing tonight,	
18	there are five actions that the	
19	Board will be considering. First	
20	is the Supplemental Ronkonkoma Hub	
21	Transit-Oriented Development Land	
22	Use Plan. In connection with that	
23	plan is the Draft Supplemental	
24	Generic Environmental Impact	
25	Statement. Both of those were the	

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1	Proceedings	
2	subject of a public hearing in	
3	October of 2010, so that's why	
4	these are supplemental.	
5	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: And	
6	there was a hearing on this I,	
7	obviously, wasn't a member of town	
8	government then in 2010 before	
9	the Town Board?	
10	MS. RATE: That's correct,	
11	so these are supplemental to that.	
12	There was also a public hearing on	
13	the Transit-Oriented Development	
14	District Code for Ronkonkoma, the	
15	area. The Town Board's Own Motion	
16	to change the zoning of the	
17	property in the Ronkonkoma Hub	
18	area to the TOD, Transit-Oriented	
19	Development District, and also on	
20	the Urban Renewal Plan.	
21	And as the Supervisor	
22	already stated, the Board will not	
23	be making any decision tonight.	
24	The Board can close the hearings.	
25	The public comment period remains	

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1	Proceedings
2	open for 30 days. It will close
3	on February 10th, and after that
4	time, the Town can prepare and
5	file the Final Environmental
6	Impact Statement to SEQRA and
7	perhaps make a decision on all
8	these actions in the spring or
9	early summer.
10	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: So
11	after the Final Environmental
12	Draft Environmental Impact
13	Statement is completed, there
14	still will be another hearing on
15	that.
16	MS. RATE: It won't be
17	another public hearing; it will
18	just be a resolution to accept the
19	documents and adopt the zoning and
20	the Urban Renewal Plan.
21	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: So if
22	you don't get a chance to speak
23	tonight, or you don't get a
24	particular comment in, you are
25	welcome to come to the

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1	Proceedings	
2	regularly-scheduled Town Board	
3	meetings if you want to say	
4	something and have the Town Board	
5	listen.	
6	And I believe our next Town	
7	Board meeting is January 21st.	
8	MS. RATE: Yes.	
9	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: That's	
10	it?	
11	MS. RATE: That's it for	
12	$m \in .$	
13	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Ms.	
14	Rate, thank you again for the	
15	explanation.	
16	Ms. Eaderesto?	
17	MS. EADERESTO: Mr.	
18	Supervisor, just to clarify the	
19	record, what is not before this	
20	board and what is not disclosed in	
21	these hearings tonight is any	
22	eminent domain or condemnation. I	
23	know that there has been a lot of	
24	talk about that. That is not	
25	before the Board tonight. It	

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1	Proceedings	
2	should really not be coming into	
3	testimony at all. If and when	
4	that step was ever taken by any	
5	municipal authority, that would be	
6	subject of a separate public	
7	hearing, and that would be the	
8	appropriate time to speak in	
9	regards to that subject.	
10	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: If	
11	it's ever considered.	
12	MS. EADERESTO: That's	
13	correct.	
14	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Okay,	
15	who do we have next? Our planning	
16	commissioner.	
17	MR. BERTOLI: Mr.	
18	Supervisor, Town Board members,	
19	before I begin the presentation,	
20	it is true that former Supervisor	
21	Mark Lesko was one of the	
22	proponents, but at the same time,	
23	I'd like to give credit to	
24	Councilman Tim Mazzei. He was	
25	very much a part of this process	

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even before I came here

four-and-a-half years ago. I

remember meeting with both of

them, and they made it clear that

this was a project that was meant

to be of regional significance, so

I wanted to give credit to him.

Additionally, historically Long Island has always been built, prior to suburbia in 1947, along our train lines. Suburbia, when it was first popular as the plan started, presented a different That suburbia model, as we model. now know, has a series of issues concerning it. Ronkonkoma Hub would be turning back to a planning model that creates town centers at our train lines, providing mixed-use components, and, more specifically, addresses the needs of two demographic groups; one, the Millennial

kids -- kids in their twenties,

concerns.

our sons, your sons -- and the
Baby Boomers. They represent now
50 percent of our population.
Transit-oriented development is
intended to address those

When we began this process in 2007, before I came here, this (indicating) was one of the many plans for this area. In fact, I remember having lunch with Dr. E. Koppelman, where I indicated that I had worked on a plan in the mid-'80s for this area, and he laughed and said, "I worked on one in the early '60s for this area."

that we've worked on through a series of decades, I suppose, and this is the latest version. If you stand on top of the parking garage, and you look out, you see a sea of empty car lots, cars, taxis, buses that come by. In

So this represents a plan

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fact, if you have ever experienced dropping somebody off at the train station, you know the cars are regularly doubly and triply parked there. What you also witness is a series of buildings and businesses that have had struggles through the years. They are primarily single-story structures set along Railroad Avenue, and going further north you will see a small residential community.

One of the key components

that lends itself to a

Transit-Oriented Development is

that the LIRR has 17,000 riders

per day; 6,500 peak-hour

passengers. The new third rail

expansion will move almost double

of ridership along this line, and

it is, of course, just merely a

little over an hour to Penn

Station.

You can begin to see the

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regional context and the points of origin of this particular area when you look at the regional map and you see the Long Island Expressway in very close proximity to the rail, as well as MacArthur Airport down the Islip side. So this area really is served by rail, road and planes.

The original land use study in 2007 considered 180 raw acres slated on 349 parcels and 312 structures. That area was approximately 1.1 million square feet of village space. I will say that that study has a number of charettes, numerous significant outreach components. It was a study that went through a traditional community-based planning effort.

The zoning is an odd mix of light industrial commercial, or J-Commercial, and of

E-residential, which is small-lot residential use.

What we started to do
internally within the Planning
Department is to look at the
components of access, point nodes
that would become of significance.
This is a diagram where you see
three starlight structures, which
begin to highlight those areas
that are significant; one being
the train station and the other to
stars are the entrance point, and
we began to see how traffic flowed
in and out of this particular
area.

Some of the earlier

sketches that we did internally,

again, was a Railroad Avenue Main

Street component with a larger

residential component to the

easterly side. We went through a

series of these diagrammatic

sketches internally until we

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arrived with a plan that became part of the land use plan that VHB did in the beginning of 2010. You can see a three-dimensional representation of those earlier sketches; below the area you will see two sketches to show a Main Street effect and a more quiet residential four-story over to the easterly side.

As we started our efforts, we also saw that we wanted to create a walkable community. One of the first sketches that certainly I was looking at was to see how everything worked within a quarter-mile distance of the train station. And instead of looking at zones, we looked at districts. And districts, relative to heights, and forms, components and structures of buildings entirely interwoven throughout the site.

Those series of studies led

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to a series of additional studies where we started to look at where it was appropriate to have five-story buildings and where it was more appropriate to have three-story buildings which matched the existing community which was primarily one- or two-story structures.

that traditional zoning districts which separates uses out was not something that we were looking for. As I mentioned, our earliest communities on Long Island were built, and they were built or organically. They were built out of what currently now is what we call form-based codes, which are a way of de-emphasizing the uses and emphasizing more the particular forms; not just the buildings, but streetscapes, build-to lines, a

were looking to do is de-emphasize
the uses, let the market
conditions drive the uses, but
concentrate on the form and
texture components of the project.

The form-based code, which is unique to code writing here in New England, has a series of components. It has first a regulating plan, which separates out the particular area into a series of districts, and it creates a series of graphical writing of pages which represents in a very graphic manner a criteria under which you can build in those districts. You will notice the packet that's been sent to you which has the form-based code. If you look at that you will see 20 pages of the code, 17 graphical representations, only three of which are legalese. So, it's a whole different way to look

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Proceeding

2 at land use.

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At about this time -- one the concerns that we had was one, we wanted to make this project real. We wanted to have the implementation of a plan and the plans that coincide. We went out in a public process to select a master developer. That process, on December 7th selected -unanimously selected TRITEC Development Group as our master developer. At that point, we set out jointly, in partnership, to look at the conceptual components that came out in the planning and their concern as to how the project was to be developed, and the plan then kind of melded together in those two elements.

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Here (indicating) we started to study how the circulation would be formed and how we'd separate taxis, buses and

trains, and there were a number of studies that related to this.

Additionally, we looked at tying in the streetscapes. We wanted, for example, to have short blocks.

We did a maximum amount of living within the blocks. In all of them you have pedestrian walkability.

We did not want huge blocks that pedestrians could not walk through.

Additionally, we looked at phasing, how this project rendered itself to being built in segments as particular parts of the project would be there through the acquisition of private property.

We certainly focused a great deal of attention to the Main Street component, to the centerpiece of the train station.

Here (indicating) again we see two sheets from that code, and we're always separating things out

districts. And within the context of that district, you have a criteria of the place, you have a form of that building; heights, build-to lines, landscaping plans, everything needed to create and craft a project.

Two more pages (indicating). The one on the right represents street sections. You will note that we actually reduce streets. It's our way of tightening those streets to safer streets, because drivers are driving slower, we are creating bike lanes and pedestrian walkways. There are no streets that have driveways in front of Buildings are tight to the them. street, to that degree.

This was the plan that was finally arrived at with the form-based code that governs heights, with a greater height

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around the train station and five-story heights around Union Avenue. As you go to a particular area, you look at that particular district, you will have all the criteria to build that.

The final, the color and scheme you see shows the varying districts. There's about six of them, as represented, as will be done. Most of the parcels will be then rezoned to fit the criteria of this form-based zone.

And finally, out of this

process we created a nice series

of pictures which are meant to

give architectural representation

to the process. Here

(indicating), Main Street, looking

down towards the east, you will

see a series of buildings that are

tending to be mixed use. Some may

be office on top, some may be

residential. The market will

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1 Proceedings 2 drive that component. 3 One of the things we are 4 always concerned about is the 5 arrival point. Here (indicating) you will come off the train 6 7 station, the context of this is a 8 larger plaza that we wanted to 9 have individuals come experience. 10 There's a microbrewery in front of 11 the train station, a series of stores to both sides. 12 13 Looking down Railroad 14 Avenue (indicating) you begin to 15 see a mix of residential, office 16 and retail. 17 Along the more 18 pedestrian-based streets, we were 19 looking at a series of prototypes. 20 There is no historical prototype 21 in Ronkonkoma, so we tried to 22 parody this. This is looking 23 down, walking down towards the 24 train station. To the right you 25 see a three-story element; to the

	3 0
1	Proceedings
2	left you see residential above
3	retail.
4	Along Hawkins and Union is
5	strictly a residential
6	development, three stories.
7	Again, an historical element is
8	meant to complement but not
9	overwhelm. Another intersection
10	of Union and Carroll (indicating)
11	has another feel and look to it.
12	The final slide
13	(indicating) is looking from the
14	bridge of Ronkonkoma Avenue
15	looking back to the complex.
16	Now, at this time, I would
17	like to introduce Terri Elkowitz
18	of VHB.
19	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Terri,
20	welcome. Before you start, I just
21	want to point out there are a
22	number of vacant seats in the
23	front. If you would like to sit
24	down, please do. The fire marshal
25	has indicated that we are at full

capacity in this room, and I believe arrangements are being made to pipe, by sound system, the hearing into supplemental rooms, if I'm not mistaken. So, we will do that.

And again, many people have signed up on cards, but if you do want to speak -- we have several cards already, a stack of cards already that thick, but if you want to speak, there are cards there and you will get a full three minutes to express your opinion. And, of course, you are always invited to give anything you want to express your views.

Terri, please.

MS. ELKOWITZ: Good

evening, Mr. Supervisor, members

of the Board. For those of you

who don't know me, my name is

Terri Elkowitz, and I am a

principal at VHB Engineering. And

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1	Proceedings	
2	VHB has been fortunate enough to	
3	be working with the Town since	
4	2007 when it embarked on this	
5	planning process.	
6	Now, I'm just going to take	
7	a few minutes to go over the	
8	substance of some of these studies	
9	and the zoning form that is before	
10	you tonight. And also the	
11	extensive public processes that	
12	the Town	
13	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Terri,	
14	I'm going to have to interrupt	
15	you. Attorneys don't have to take	
16	an oath, but non-attorneys, when	
17	testifying at a public hearing,	
18	have to take an oath.	
19	MS. ELKOWITZ: Okay.	
20	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: So I	
21	will ask the Clerk to administrate	
22	that.	
23	MS. LENT: Do you swear to	
24	tell the truth, the whole truth	
25	and nothing but the truth so help	

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1	Proceedings	
2	you God?	
3	MS. ELKOWITZ: Yes, I do.	
4	Thank you.	
5	So I'll take the next few	
6	minutes to go over the substance	
7	of the studies that the Town has	
8	embarked upon and completed and	
9	then the Board reviewed and worked	
10	on for the past seven years, and	
11	then also just go over the	
12	extensive public process that the	
13	Town Board has gone through to	
14	realize what really is the	
15	community's vision for this area,	
16	because for our office I think	
17	this is the tenth public meeting	
18	that our office has participated	
19	with with the Town on this	
20	project.	
21	The redevelopment of the	
22	Ronkonkoma Hub if you look at	
23	your existing 1996 comprehensive	
24	plan, redevelopment of this area	
25	is cited in there. But in 2007	

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SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: This 3 is the Town's comprehensive plan? MS. ELKOWITZ: The Town's 4 1996 existing comprehensive plan talks about redevelopment of the Hub.

> SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank you.

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MS. ELKOWITZ: And as Commissioner Bertoli said, in 2007 the Town decided that based upon market conditions and based upon the ridership, that this area presented a very good opportunity for Transit-Oriented Development. And the Town embarked with us on a number of visioning activities with the community. And as part that, we worked with the Town to do two plans set forth in the 2007 document, "Existing Conditions," and one in 2008 that talked about the opportunities for redevelopment of what the Town

might consider, and Commissioner
Bertoli showed you some of those
preliminary sketches.

In 2010, we worked with the Town to prepare the initial Draft Land Use Implementation Plan and initial Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement, a document that looks very much like the supplemental that's before you today. But what that GEIS, that initial draft study, was was your initial concepts.

Since that time, as you know, the Town has done some other studies. The Town did a 2010 Blight to Light study, and the Town determined on its own that the Ronkonkoma Hub was an area, among other areas in the town, that was blighted. As the Supervisor heard before, the prior Town Board held a public hearing on the initial DGEIS and the

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1	Proceedings	
2	initial Land Use Implementation	
3	Plan on October 19, 2010.	
4	Thereafter, because the	
5	Town wanted to ensure that this	
6	plan get implemented, it went and	
7	they initiated a request for a	
8	public process for a master	
9	developer, and it selected one.	
10	Thereafter, after the	
11	Town's selection of the master	
12	developer and after the Town	
13	reviewed all of its submissions	
14	that it had received, the Town	
15	prepared its own Blight study in	
16	this specific area in Ronkonkoma.	
17	And based upon that Blight study,	
18	the Town Board, on September 28,	
19	2012 determined that in accordance	
20	with Article 15	
21	MS. LENT: Excuse me.	
22	MS. ELKOWITZ: Yes?	
23	MS. LENT: Can I ask up	
24	there (indicating), the noise is	
25	really drowning you out. Would	

		3 7
1	Proceedings	
2	you please	
3	(Audience members quiet	
4	down.)	
5	MS. ELKOWITZ: After the	
6	Town did its Blight study, it	
7	determined that in accordance with	
8	Article 15 of the General	
9	Municipal Law that an Urban	
10	Renewal Plan should be prepared,	
11	and we worked with the Town and	
12	Harris Beach and Anita Laremont	
13	from Harris Beach, who is next to	
14	me, will be presenting to the	
15	Board. We worked with you and	
16	them to prepare the Urban Renewal	
17	Plan, and what both the Blight	
18	study and Urban Renewal Plan found	
19	was that there were numerous	
20	vacant properties and buildings,	
21	underutilized properties and	
22	buildings, deteriorated	
23	properties, inadequate	
24	infrastructure, inadequate	
25	sidewalks and curbs, as well as	

incompatible land uses and a mix of zoning that really didn't lend itself to cohesive development.

So, the Urban Renewal Plan recommended revitalization through a number of measures. The first one, of course, was through the Board's consideration of the adoption of the Transit-Oriented Development District, which is before you tonight, and Commissioner Bertoli summarized.

The other things that the
Urban Renewal Plan recommended
were that there would be publicly
designated outdoor spaces, there
would be sufficient parking
facilities, a mixture of
structures and service, and then
there had to be an upgrade of
public facilities and
infrastructure. And, of course,
these goals, and the Town has said
this many times, would be

accomplished primarily through the adoption of the TOD, the rezoning and the private acquisition and redevelopment of properties.

Now, with regard to the environmental review, because the Urban Renewal Plan and Land Use and Implementation Plan as evolved changed the mix and level of potential development that could occur, the Town Board determined that in accordance with SEQRA, it should prepare a supplement, a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement to evaluate the impact of the zoning mode that's before you. And it's important that everyone understands that what the Town Board was obligated to do and what the Town Board chose to do was to have us assist the Town in determining what was the maximum development that could ever happen

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under that zoning. Because, the Supervisor well knows and as the Board members well know, SEQRA requires that you evaluate the worst case impacts that could happen, whether or not they happen, and then to devise mitigation measures that would be necessary to be implemented by the developer if -- as the developer were to develop various aspects of the project. So that's exactly what your Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement It identifies maximum does. zoning potential and it evaluates the impact of it.

Now, obviously I'm not
going to go through everything
that's in the Supplemental EIS,
but I will tell you that it
thoroughly evaluates soil,
topography, water resources and
sanitary disposal, ecology, land

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1

Proceeding

use and zoning, traffic and parking, air quality noise, socioeconomics, community facilities and services, aesthetics and cultural resources.

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And because this is a Generic Environmental Impact Statement and because you are evaluating the impact of a theoretical maximum density development, this Generic Environmental Impact Statement also sets forth conditions and thresholds. So in layman's terms, it's those mitigation measures that would have to be employed for any developer to achieve certain levels of development. So if you are building a hundred units, you may have to do X and Y. If you are building 200 units and 100,000 square feet of retail, you may have to do mitigation measures X, Y and Z, and this Generic Draft

		4 2
1	Proceedings	
2	Environmental Impact Statement	
3	targets required mitigation	
4	measures, including traffic, to	
5	various levels of development.	
6	So, as you have heard, the	
7	Town Board accepted this Draft	
8	Supplemental GEIS proposed review	
9	on November 12th, and set this	
10	public hearing tonight. The Town	
11	Board also established a period	
12	where it would receive comments	
13	through February 10th, and my	
14	purpose here tonight is to sit	
15	with you and to listen to the	
16	public's comments so that I can	
17	assist the Board in preparing a	
18	Final Generic Environmental Impact	
19	Statement that responds to all	
20	comments.	
21	So unless you have	
22	questions for me, that concludes	
23	my presentation.	
24	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank	
25	you very much.	

1	Proceedings
2	We'll move then to does
3	the attorney from Harris Beach
Д	wish to comment?

MS. LAREMONT: Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Anita Laremont, and I'm a partner in the law firm Harris Beach, and I represent the Town in connection with the Ronkonkoma Hub project. In addition to our work on this project, we also serve as counsel to the Town of Babylon in connection with the Wyandanch Rising project, which is another TOD project, and also to the Town of Hempstead with their transit-oriented development project.

Prior to joining Harris

Beach, though, I served as the

General Counsel of the Empire

State Development Corporation for over 16 years. During my tenure,

I was responsible for a number of

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	Proceeding
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transformative land use projects
in the State, ranging from the
42nd Street Development project to
the redevelopment of Lower
Manhattan in the aftermath of the
9/11 attacks to the Empire
Development Projects.

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The use of Urban Renewal designations in connection with such large-scale development projects is not unusual. The designation, made in accordance with New York State's General Municipal Laws, gives municipalities the tools to carry out new development projects. It is permissible for municipalities to establish a coherent development scheme for an Urban Renewal Development and to facilitate site assemblage.

The General Municipal Law provisions regarding Urban Renewal projects lay out the procedural

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steps that must be followed in order to establish an Urban Renewal Project. The process requires, as Terri said, the preparation of a Blight study, which is to establish that the project area is substandard and insanitary.

this study, as you just heard, and the necessary determination as an area appropriate for Urban Renewal has been made. Subsequently, the Planning Board held a public hearing on the Urban Renewal Plan and certifies that the plan complies with the criteria set forth in the General Municipal Law, and determines that the plan that conforms to the findings previously made, that the area is appropriate for Urban Renewal.

Today you are holding a public hearing that, among other

		4 6
1	Proceedings	
2	things, is to consider the	
3	Ronkonkoma Hub Urban Renewal Plan.	
4	At the conclusion of the	
5	Environmental Review process, you	
6	will be asked to adopt that plan.	
7	Absolutely no action by the Town	
8	with respect to implementation of	
9	the project may take place until	
10	the Supplemental Generic	
11	Environmental Impact Statement is	
12	adopted, the zoning changes are	
13	approved and the Urban Renewal	
14	Plan is adopted.	
15	I also would be happy to	
16	answer any questions that you may	
17	have.	
18	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank	
19	you very much.	
20	Are there any questions	
21	from members of the Board?	
22	(No response.)	
23	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: There	
24	being none, at this point in time	
25	we'll move into public comment.	

Let me just reiterate some of the things I said earlier. To begin with, we will treat these four public hearings as one, as we must under SEQRA, so feel free to comment on any of them.

Number two, no decisions on any of the hearings will be made other than closing the public hearing tonight. Once the public hearing is closed, you will be able to submit written comments up to and including February 10th, and the Board voted earlier to amend its procedure to allow a full three minutes to everyone speaking at the public hearing tonight.

So, we will start. The

Clerk will call the cards, and we

will listen very carefully, and

I'm sure with great intent, and I

expect the audience will afford

the same respect to those

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		4 8
1	Proceedings	
2	commenting.	
3	Thank you very much.	
4	MS. LENT: We have Saul	
5	Fenchel, and Mr. Fenchel will be	
6	representing he's an attorney,	
7	and he's representing two	
8	entities, so he's filled out two	
9	cards. Amy Engel, Marianne	
10	Garvin	
11	MR. FENCHEEL: Good	
12	evening. My name is Saul	
13	MS. LENT: Sorry, not yet.	
14	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Let me	
15	make clear a couple of other	
16	things. One card, one speaker, no	
17	matter how many people you are	
18	representing; number two, you	
19	cannot assign your time. Everyone	
20	gets up to three minutes to fully	
21	present, and then they can present	
22	any written documents to the	
23	Clerk's Office. Those ladies	
24	there (indicating) will be happy	
25	to get them.	

		4 9
1	Proceedings	
2	MS. LENT: And at this	
3	time, Len Axinn, and I need to	
4	swear everybody in.	
5	I know you are an attorney,	
6	but I'm going to do everybody at	
7	one time.	
8	Do you swear to tell the	
9	truth, the whole truth, and	
10	nothing but the truth, so help you	
11	God?	
12	(Whereupon, Mr. Saul	
13	Fenchel, Ms. Amy Engel, Ms.	
14	Marianne Garvin and Mr. Len Axinn	
15	respond in the affirmative.)	
16	MS. LENT: Before you	
17	speak, let us know your name, the	
18	hamlet you live in, the Town	
19	Oyster Bay, whatever it may be	
20	before you begin with your	
21	remarks.	
22	Mr. Fenchel, you may start.	
23	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE:	
24	Unfortunately, with that	
25	microphone, you have to hold it	
		,

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1	Proceedings
2	very close.
3	MR. FENCHEL: First, good — H1
4	evening. My name is Saul Fenchel.
5	I'm from the law firm Berkman,
6	Henoch, Peterson, Peddy & Fenchel.
7	I'm a Long Islander; I happen to
8	live in Huntington. I have
9	though I do have a great interest
10	in this Ronkonkoma Hub development
11	simply as a Long Islander and
12	simply because as a Long Islander,
13	I do support development. I think
14	it is important that we begin to
15	change the way define business in
16	the past, and to encourage
17	development. So my position here
18	tonight, although I am
19	representing two people, two
20	clients who have expressed a great
21	deal of questions about this
22	project, is that, in fact, it's
23	not an opposition to development.
24	So I am representing
25	Mr. Greg Mensch, he's the

principal at North Fork Express, and across the street, Mr. Newman from -- who is the principal of the Worldwide Gym and also the owner of various parcels and property. The first property is about 3.6 acres, the second is about 4.6 acres, and these properties are on part of the proposed development.

Before this whole thing

began, I was admonished to be very

short and not to speak about

eminent domain, which seems to be

the consensus of attention, but

whether we'd like to or not, the

fact is that this hearing

tonight -- well, not the hearing,

but this meeting tonight is for

the purpose of considering things

which are things which are

implementing -- or preliminary to

implementing the Urban Renewal

Plan and the TOD, and

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Proceedings

specifically, the Urban Renewal Plan refers to the unspeakable world of the use of eminent domain.

At Page 24 of the Urban

Renewal Plan, it says, "The

possible use of eminent domain by

the Town of Brookhaven (as set

forth in the MDDA, a copy of which

is included [sic])," which is to

be made part of this Urban Renewal

Plan, "Any such use of eminent

domain would follow the applicable

requirements of New York State

law."

Does this mean, and I think this would satisfy a great deal of concerns of my clients, is: Will there be a separate hearing on the appropriate use of eminent domain?

SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: That already was announced earlier. If eminent domain was to be considered, it would have to be a

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1 Proceedings 2 separate hearing, number one; 3 number two, the report that you 4 read out of said "possible use of 5 eminent domain"; and number three, 6 in the Urban Renewal it may refer 7 to, but it doesn't mandate or 8 require eminent domain. I want to 9 be absolutely clear about that. 10 MR. FENCHEL: Then, in that 11 case, I simply have to inquire as what would be the consequences 12 H1-2 13 the inability of the sponsor, 14 the designated developer, TRITEC, 15 to purchase a certain property --16 MS. LENT: I'm sorry, sir, 17 but your time is up. 18 MS. EADERESTO: I would 19 just like to state for the record, 20 that in Phase 1, TRITEC has 21 negotiated with and has a contract 22 with all owners of Phase 1. 23 an arm's length contract. 24 Phase 1 can be completed, to 25 answer your question, based on

	5	4
1	Proceedings	
2	negotiated purchase.	
3	MR. FENCHEL: Can I just	
4	ask	
5	MS. LENT: Mr. Fenchel,	
6	your time is up and you can	
7	speak	
8	MS. EADERESTO: If you call	
9	my office, I'd be happy to speak	
10	to you tomorrow.	
11	MR. FENCHEL: Well, in that	
12	case	
13	MS. LENT: I'm sorry, sir,	
14	your time is up.	
15	Ms. Engle?	
16	MS. ENGLE: Hi. My name is	
17	Amy Engel. I'm the Executive	12
18	Director of Sustainable Long	
19	Island, and Sustainable Long	
20	Island's mission is to promote	
21	economic development,	
22	environmental health, and social	
23	equity for all Long Islanders.	
24	As part of our mission, we	
25	support comprehensive	

community-based planning, mixed use and Transit-Oriented

Development. We strongly support the Ronkonkoma Hub project. I believe it will greatly enhance the local area and facilitate revitalization.

We believe Transit-Oriented

Development is needed, because by

focusing development around

existing transportation

infrastructure, municipalities

place transportation within reach

of citizens, all citizens, who

cannot afford to drive or don't

have access to transit, creating

more equitable communities.

TODs also reduce traffic congestion, air pollution and energy consumption, as well as the need for costly roadway improvements. TODs increase transportation towards gaining access, and the enhanced mobility

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	5 6
1	Proceedings
2	for all community members while
3	creating compact mixed-use
4	neighborhoods.
5	For these reasons,
6	Sustainable Long Island supports
7	the Ronkonkoma Hub and all of the
8	changes necessary to the Town Code
9	and zoning to allow for this plan
10	to move forward. Thank you.
11	And, I'm sorry, I forgot to
12	mention, I reside in Holtsville
13	within the Town of Brookhaven.
14	I'm in District 5.
15	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
16	you.
17	MS. LENT: Ms. Garvin?
18	MS. GARVIN: My name is
19	Marianne Garvin. I live in Stony 🗖 H3
20	Brook, in the Town of Brookhaven.
21	I'm also the president and CEO of
22	CDC Development Corporation of
23	Long Island, a 45-year-old
24	regional non-profit whose mission
25	it is to create vibrant,

sustainable communities throughout the region.

Expert in housing and economic development, but perhaps more importantly, as a 36-year resident of the Town of Brookhaven. I moved to Setauket in 1978 as a newly-married woman, and rented for ten years, as my husband and I made the transition from students to joining the workforce, to eventually having two children.

Once our children were
approaching school age, we decided
it was time to move to the next
phase of our lives, and we
purchased a house in Stony Brook.
Well, children would ride their
bikes in the street, play catch in
the backyard, and run around the
property with their friends. Our
single-family home and
neighborhood were perfect for

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raising our family. Now, after 26
years in the same house, we are
empty-nesters. We still love our
house, but we are in the next
phase of our lives, and wonder if
we need or want it. Just as when
we were young and we had no
interest in owning a house, now
other housing options are more
attractive to us.

My story is not unique.

And it is because of the natural life cycles of people that we should provide a diversity of housing opportunities for them in order to meet their needs and encourage them to remain on Long Island. Long Island's housing is predominately single-family and owner occupied. Having these wonderful neighborhoods is a strength and an asset, but not sufficient to create a region that is economically vibrant and

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	5 9	
1	Proceedings	
2	sustainable.	
3	According to the five-year	
4	strategic plan developed by the	
5	Long Island Regional Economic	
6	Development Council, it is	
7	essential for our economy to	
8	develop higher-density housing	
9	around transit hubs like	
10	Ronkonkoma, combined with retail	
11	and other commercial	
12	establishments to create a sense	
13	of place, and a destination for	
14	our young people and	
15	empty-nesters. This certainly	
16	does not threaten our suburban way	
17	of life nor threaten our form of	
18	present neighborhoods; it does	
19	offer a diversity of options so we	
20	can attract new people to live and	
21	work on the Island and to	
22	encourage others to stay on the	
23	Island after their single-family	
24	home no longer meets their needs.	

25

I encourage this Town Board

1 Proceedings 2 to give the necessary approvals to 3 allow this very important regional 4 priority project to advance. 5 thank you for allowing me to speak 6 today. SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: 7 Thank 8 you. 9 (Applause.) 10 MS. LENT: I will just ask, 11 along the balcony, if you are 12 going to speak, step away from the 13 The noise is traveling 14 down. Thank you. 15 My name is Len MR. AXINN: I am a business owner 16 17 Ronkonkoma, with our main office 18 being approximately a quarter-mile outside of the Hub. We've been 19 20 there for nearly 40 years, and I'm 21 speaking in favor of the 22 development with concern as a 23 local business as well. 24 I've heard some concerns of 25 others that they don't like this

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development conceptually. Are you kidding? Have you seen Railroad and Union and Hawkins and Mill lately? Do we want that to be the view that people see in Ronkonkoma? I don't think so.

I'd much rather see new construction that replaces the current blighted areas with much-needed housing, commercial and office development.

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Another thing I hear is

that traffic is going to be a

nightmare. Are you kidding? Have

you tried to drive on Union or

Hawkins when the train arrives in

the station? It's impossible

today to make a turn onto one of

those streets, and I have to do it

every night because I'm there

every night.

I think our focus as neighbors should be to make sure the new development takes into

H4-1

1 Proceedings 2 account new road construction and Cont'd. 3 infrastructure, so that they take 4 care of our own newly-created 5 traffic, as well as our current 6 situation should be improved. 7 Another thing I heard in 8 the papers is that people don't 9 want Saudi Arabian interest 10 involved in our the Town. 11 didn't want to be the first one to 12 bring this up, but I guess I

> Perhaps those who feel that way don't get gas at Shell or Exxon or Mobil stations. personally don't use those stations. What I do know is this: It takes money to build a development like this, a lot of money. I would much rather see that Saudi monies is invested here improving our area, than me sending my money over there.

So I also want to say that I own a property within the Hub.

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		6 3
1	Proceedings	
2	It's improved with a modern	
3	building. It has a long-term	
4	lease with a pie-credit tenant,	
5	and so I have concerns about my	
6	own property and how it will be	
7	affected by the ultimate	
8	development. I just want to make	7
9	sure we're treated properly, that	
10	there's concern for the existing	
11	buildings and residents there	
12	during the construction period for	
13	access and minimization of the	
14	noise and dust and all that, and	H4-2
15	if there is a condemnation	1117 2
16	proceeding, I'm sure it will be	
17	conducted after this hearing you	
18	mentioned, Mr. Romaine, and with	
19	all due respect to the property	
20	owners.	J
21	Thank you.	
22	(Applause.)	
23	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: To	
24	those involved in the development,	
25	I hope you are making notes,	

because those are the type of questions we want to address as to the impacts.

Call the next card, please.

MS. LENT: Phil Sorrentino, H5
Steve Jensen, Debbie Davey and
Lenney Minervini.

Please raise your right hand.

(All comply.)

MS. LENT: Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

(Whereupon, Mr. Phil
Sorrentino, Mr. Steve Jensen, Ms.
Debbie Davey and Mr. Lenney
Minervini respond in the
affirmative.)

MS. LENT: State your name, the hamlet you come from and town you live in, Brookhaven, Oyster Bay, whatever it may be.

Thank you.

MR. SORRENTINO: Good evening, Supervisor and Council.

Thank you very much for allowing me some time to voice my opinion on this matter.

My name is Phil Sorrentino.

I live in Lake Grove, in the Town
of Brookhaven, and I utilize

Ronkonkoma Station several times a
week, and I'm for this project.

For me, it's a point of pride
living in this town. It's a point
of wanting to stay here and be a
part of it and feel like the Town
itself wants to keep us here.

I have children of my own.

They will be graduating and going off into the business world, maybe working in the City, and the prospects of my daughter leaving the area is kind of hard for me to wrap my head around. And this project, giving the opportunity of her possibly living in the area

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	6 6
1	Proceedings
2	and still being able to work in
3	the City, brings my wife and
4	myself a smile to our faces. And
5	I think it's a shot in the arm to
6	the community business-wise, and I
7	think it's a great thing.
8	Thank you for the time.
9	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
10	you very much.
11	(Applause.)
12	MR. JENSEN: Good evening, \square^{H6}
13	Mr. Supervisor, Town Board
14	members. My name is Steve Jensen.
15	I'm the chairman of the Long
16	Island Builders Institute
17	Community Outreach Committee. I
18	own a business, and I live in the
19	Town of Islip. My business is a
20	stone's-throw away from the future
21	Ronkonkoma Hub.
22	I applaud the Board for the
23	great work they have done with the
24	TRITEC organization on the
25	Patchogue project. That was a

	Ρ	r	0	С	е	е	d:	i n	gs	3
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beautiful project that we are involved with now. The Ronkonkoma Hub is going to be another bright spot on the map of Long Island, and a model for other towns as well. Most people know the area we are discussing because of the Long Island Rail Road station in Ronkonkoma. It's no secret the area is in need of revitalization.

TRITEC should be welcomed with open arms because of its resum of successful projects.

It's not "if" they can build a bustling, vibrant Transit-Oriented Development; it should be "when" they would start.

Yes, it's an exciting time for the people of Ronkonkoma, creating jobs, housing, new businesses, broadening the tax base and creating a new destination where people want to work and play. I'm confident the

1 Proceedings 2 Brookhaven Board will do the right 3 thing for the people of 4 Ronkonkoma, and I'm very much in 5 support of the Ronkonkoma Hub. 6 Thank you for allowing me to 7 speak. 8 MS. LENT: Thank you. 9 (Applause.) Good evening, 10 MS. DAVEY: 11 Mr. Supervisor and Town Board 12 My name is Debbie Davey, 13 and I reside at 210 11th Avenue, 14 Holtsville, Town of Brookhaven. I 15 have resided in the Town of Brookhaven for more than 30 years. 16 17 I have had a business in the Town 18 of Brookhaven for 23 years. 19 I am here tonight to give 20 support of the Ronkonkoma Hub 21 Transit-Oriented Development for 22 multiple reasons. This property 23 surrounding the Ronkonkoma train 24 station is severely blighted, and 25 it desperately needs a

transformation to create a safer environment to all the residents.

I can honestly say I currently take the train at Ronkonkoma train station with trepidation because of the present unsafe condition of the area. Not only will this project create safe surroundings, but it will create and generate 5,100 jobs, providing opportunities for our employees and family members.

Simultaneously, it will be giving a much-needed boost to our economy and to our community. will help keep our young people here on Long Island where they It will create millions belong. of dollars in new tax revenues for our local governments. It will provide a variety of new housing, including office and hotel opportunities. It will transform our community in every area and be

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a better place for all our residents.

I want to commend the Town
Board for choosing TRITEC

Development as the master builder
for this project. TRITEC has a

proven track record and has set a

high water mark for others. I

truly believe it is of great

importance for all of us that

reside and do business in the Town

of Brookhaven to support this

redevelopment project.

Hence, I am 100 percent for the project and would like to see it move forward in a positive direction; helping our economy, helping our community, and keeping our families together, here, in the Town of Brookhaven. I ask that you vote in favor of the Ronkonkoma Hub Transit-Oriented Development, and I thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight

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7 1 1 Proceedings 2 in support of this project. 3 (Applause.) SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: 4 Thank 5 you very much. 6 MR. MINERVINI: Thank you, 7 8 Mr. Supervisor, and Town Board, 9 for giving me the opportunity to 10 speak tonight. My name is Lenney 11 Minervini. I live in East Meadow, 12 in the Town of Hempstead. 13 also a member of the Long Island 14 Builders Institute, and I see this 15 as a very positive thing for Long 16 Islanders in general. 17 I have a daughter who 18 graduated college and left the 19 Island, which, we miss her, and 20 having said that, it would make me 21 an empty-nester to look for a 22 place that's affordable and where 23 we can stay on the Island, also. 24 There are other

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communities, like Patchogue, that

	7 2
1	Proceedings
2	TRITEC worked at, that seem to be
3	quite successful on the Island
4	here. And just today there was an
5	article in the Newsday about a
6	Huntington project that was deemed
7	to be quite successful after all
8	was said and done.
9	It's also an opportunity
10	for employment for the people that
11	work for us, and I would like to
12	see this move forward.
13	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
14	you very much for your comments.
15	(Applause.)
16	MS. LENT: Next speakers
17	are William Hubbs, Brian Boker,
18	Larry Davis and Denise Schwarz.
19	Please raise your right
20	hand.
21	(All comply.)
22	MS. LENT: Do you swear to
23	tell the truth, the whole truth
24	and nothing but the truth so help
25	you God?

	7 3
1	Proceedings
2	(Whereupon, Mr. William
3	Hubbs, Mr. Brian Boker, Mr. Larry
4	Davis and Ms. Denise Schwarz
5	respond in the affirmative.)
6	MS. LENT: And do the same,
7	state your name, town you reside
8	in, et cetera.
9	MR. HUBBS: Thank you, H9
10	Mr. Supervisor, and Town Council.
11	My name is William Hubbs. I
12	reside in Huntington Station in

the Town of Huntington.

For decades the areas surrounding our transit hubs have suffered from neglect and despair. This project will be a prime incentive for residents, commuters and businesses alike. It will provide hundreds of construction jobs, create a revival of a currently blighted area, and provide a much-needed diversity of housing. Similar projects in Hempstead, Patchogue and

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Huntington are underway, and have demonstrated that these types of Transit-Oriented Development can and do work. The developer has demonstrated on other projects that they are fully competent to complete this project. I would urge you to support this project, and thank you very much for the opportunity to speak.

MS. LENT: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BOKER: My name is

Brian Boker. I'm a Ronkonkoma

resident. As a matter of fact, I

live two blocks from the railroad

station with my family. I've been

there for eight years, and prior

to that, in Brookhaven Town in

Port Jefferson. One of my sons

graduated from Sachem North, and

the other one is still in Sachem

North, and in the past five years,

enrollment has dropped over -- I

believe it was over 400 students plus that it dropped. With this project, student enrollment will increase.

I'm here both as a resident and as a real estate professional.

I've spoken to my neighbors who live right -- I live off of Ronkonkoma Avenue, just as a point of reference.

They realize their property values will go up because of this project, and that's something that is very close to everybody's heart in my neighborhood. I also work in shopping realty. We are the retail real estate brokers for the Patchoque project. Just by coincidence, I live by the Ronkonkoma Rail Road station, and I've been doing retail leasing for 39 years in Brookhaven, and I feel that, you know, living in the area where the blight is, retail is --

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1 Proceedings 2 it's a shame. 3 In Patchogue alone, there 4 was a 40 percent vacancy rate 5 before TRITEC built New Village. The modules hadn't even been 6 7 started to be fully occupied yet, 8 and they are down to a 5 percent 9 vacancy rate in the Town of 10 Patchogue. That's amazing. 11 Now, the retail that was 12 spoken for that's blighted, I've 13 seen delis, at least five delis, 14 go in and out of there. Just by 15

spoken for that's blighted, I've
seen delis, at least five delis,
go in and out of there. Just by
the virtue of this project
existing, those stores will get
rented, and I'm confident of that.
And I passionately believe that
you have chosen the right
developer. In Patchogue, TRITEC
was so neat and clean about it.
They spent more money being
concerned about the residents, and
making sure that the residents and

town retail that were existing

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7 7 1 Proceedings 2 were not disturbed, and I believe 3 the same thing will be done here in Ronkonkoma. 4 5 Thank you. 6 (Applause.) MR. DAVIS: Good evening, H11 7 8 Mr. Chairman and members of the 9 My name is Larry Davis, 10 and I am the chairman of the Long 11 Island Builders Institute, the 12 largest residential trade 13 association here in New York State. I'm here this evening to 14 15 speak in favor of all four 16 resolutions which are the subject 17 of this public hearing in relation 18 to the development of the 19 Ronkonkoma Hub Transit-Oriented 20 Development project in the area around the Long Island Rail Road 21 22 station in Ronkonkoma. I'm also a resident of the 23 24 Town of Brookhaven, and I reside

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in the hamlet of Miller Place.

For many years, Long Islanders
have been talking about how best
to use the properties around the
Long Island Rail Road station in a
productive manner which would
encompass both the need for
diversity of residential
properties, as well as a mixed-use
development, which would encourage
a pedestrian-friendly design for
additional commercial and retail
activities.

Now, with this hearing
tonight, the Town of Brookhaven
and their master developer, TRITEC
Real Estate, are taking the
necessary steps to make such a new
type of development a reality, a
reality not only for the current
residents of the Town of
Brookhaven, but also for those
residents to come who will be
living and working within the new
redevelopment area.

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The Ronkonkoma Hub 3 Transit-Oriented Development will 4 provide much needed redevelopment 5 to the area around the railroad 6 station. It would also provide 7 new housing opportunities for our 8 young people who desperately want 9 stay on Long Island, but do not 10 want to purchase a single-family 11 It will provide much needed revenues to the local school 12 13 district, it will create hundreds 14 of new jobs in the community, will 15 provide much needed customers to 16 our existing businesses in that 17 area, and will encourage the use 18 of mass transit options within our 19 community. 20 In addition, the

In addition, the

development of this area in a

manner that will complement our

single-family communities in the

Town of Brookhaven, and will

provide new and existing housing

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options for our young residents and senior citizens. It will provide new tax revenues for our local governments, thus reduce the burden of real property taxes on the current residents.

In addition, by keeping our young people on Long Island, it substantially increases their option to raise their family on Long Island, at which time, they will want to purchase the single-family homes which already exist in our community. seniors who want to downsize their living space will also be able to find new customers to sell their homes to, thus increasing the price at which they believe they will be able to sell their current homes.

The Town of Brookhaven has already selected one of Long
Island's great development

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companies, TRITEC Real Estate, to
be the master developer for the
project. TRITEC has a great
business plan, as is shown by the
great work in the Village of
Patchogue and other locations on
Long Island. TRITEC is the
perfect company to ensure that the
plan created by the Town of
Brookhaven will be completed to
the benefit everyone.

In conclusion, the Long
Island Builders Association
strongly supports the
redevelopment of the Ronkonkoma
Hub area, both for what it will
mean to the Town of Brookhaven,
but what it will also mean to our
residents and communities. Now is
the perfect time, and the
Ronkonkoma Hub area is the perfect
place to bring a new type of
development opportunity to our

community --

	8 2
1	Proceedings
2	MS. LENT: Sorry, your time
3	is up.
4	MR. DAVIS: and we urge
5	the support of all these
6	resolutions.
7	Thank you.
8	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
9	you.
10	(Applause.)
11	MS. SCHWARZ: Good evening, H12
12	Mr. Supervisor and Town Board
13	members. My name is Denise
14	Schwarz. I am the president of
15	the Ronkonkoma Chamber of
16	Commerce, whose businesses reside
17	in both the Towns of Brookhaven
18	and Islip. I reside in the Town
19	of Islip.
20	The Ronkonkoma Chamber of
21	Commerce is to make certain and
22	create economic prosperity among
23	local businesses, as well as the
24	quality of life in the greater
25	Ronkonkomas. As the Chamber of
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Commerce, we need the benefit of a successful Ronkonkoma Hub project.

The project can revitalize the blighted area which now surrounds the Ronkonkoma train We hear the concerns of station. the local business owners as well residents from the surrounding areas, who are worried about how a project of this size will affect We feel this project will provide much needed housing, as well as employment opportunities. If we had a crystal ball, the discussion would be much easier. We don't have a crystal ball, but the next best thing is to look to our friends in Patchoque.

The development on Main

Street in Patchogue has changed

their town around, and if you have

ever spent a day or evening

shopping or dining out in the

area, you would understood what I

mean. The desire to live there has increased substantially, be it through rentals or through the purchase of home, condo or co-op.

The housing growth comes full circle, bringing in businesses, rejoining the community to make a better, more desirable place to live. We desire that same growth, and want our residents to be able to enjoy their community here in Ronkonkoma.

Currently, the area around the proposed Hub location is not much to enjoy. The Ronkonkoma
Chamber of Commerce only wishes the best for the residents and businesses of Ronkonkoma. The Chamber feels that the project will only brighten our way of living and give new opportunities to residents and businesses who want to call Ronkonkoma "home."

Ultimately, we support the

631-277-2700

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1	Proceedings	
2	Hub project, provided that TRITEC	
3	provides fair compensation to the	
4	property owners, and we encourage	
5	TRITEC to exhaust all	
6	possibilities, rather than	
7	pursuing eminent domain.	
8	Thank you for the	
9	opportunity to speak to you.	
10	(Applause.)	
11	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank	
12	you very much for your comments.	
13	MS. LENT: Our next speaker	
14	is Edward Enders, Rita Passeggio,	
15	Kevin Law, and Mario Mattera.	
16	Please raise your right	
17	hand.	
18	(All comply.)	
19	MS. LENT: Do you swear to	
20	tell the truth, the whole truth,	
21	and nothing but the truth, so help	
22	you God?	
23	(Whereupon, Mr. Edward	
24	Enders, Ms. Rita Passeggio, Mr.	
25	Kevin Law and Mr. Mario Mattera	

1 Proceedings 2 all respond in the affirmative.) 3 MS. LENT: Mr. Enders, you will be first. 4 H13 5 MR. ENDERS: Thank you. 6 Good evening, Supervisor Romaine and Board members. 7 Му 8 name is Edward Enders. I'm with 9 the council rep for the Northeast 10 Regional Council of Carpenters. 11 reside in Riverhead, however many 12 of my members reside the Town of 13 Brookhaven and in the Ronkonkoma 14 area. 15 I would just like to 16 congratulate the Town, the 17 engineers, the planners, TRITEC. 18 It is a beautiful plan. Nobody 19 can argue that. The Ronkonkoma 20 area has -- I've taken the train 21 out of there many times. It is 22 not one of the garden spots of 23 Long Island. This will make it 24 one of the garden spots of Long 25 Island.

	8 7
1	Proceedings
2	Myself and my members urge
3	the Board to move this project
4	forward, and let's just move this
5	plan forward.
6	Thank you.
7	(Applause.)
8	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
9	you.
10	Good luck to your members.
11	MS. PASSEGGIO: Thank you, Thia
12	Mr. Supervisor and members of the
13	Board. My name is Rita Passeggio.
14	I live in Shoreham, in the Town of
15	Brookhaven, and I'm speaking to
16	you as a resident. I can only
17	speak from my heart; I don't have
18	any technical data to give you.
19	I do use the train station
20	all the time, and I've been a Long
21	Islander for 30 years, but before
22	that, I was in Canada, I'm
23	Canadian. So, I have a lot of
24	international friends that come
25	in, and they come to the city, but

I always invite them to my home, and they always offer to take the train so that I don't have to pick them up from the city. And their first view of Long Island is always the Ronkonkoma train station. And I keep telling them how beautiful Long Island is, and that first impression is a little bit of embarrassment. And the first time I even viewed the train station, I thought I made a wrong turn into th parking lot because it was in such disarray.

When I bring my daughters
here, I always make sure that I'm
early to pick them up, or I make
sure the other trains are going,
because I don't think the area is
safe. And so having this to come
to in the future is just -- it
would be a dream come true, and I
support this project, definitely.
Thank you.

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1	Proceedings
2	(Applause.)
3	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
4	you for your comments.
5	MR. LAW: Good evening. My H15
6	name is Kevin Law. I'm the
7	president and CEO of Long Island
8	Association out of Melville in
9	Suffolk County. I live in the
10	Town of Smithtown.
11	I'm here this evening
12	I'm wearing a couple of hats on
13	behalf of Long Island Association,
14	which is the Island's largest
15	business group, representing about
16	two-thirds of the Island's
17	workforce, including many small,
18	medium and large businesses in the
19	Town of Brookhaven.
20	We wholeheartedly support
21	your efforts here to take a
22	different look at how we address
23	our land use challenges facing us
24	today. So, we are in total
25	support of what you are trying to

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here, as well as the overall

I also co-chair the Regional Economic Development Council here for Long Island, where our legal board issued two separate rounds of \$4 million to your efforts here, because we believe this will be a shot in the arm for our economy, and will put men and women in the trades back to work, will create and diversify our housing supply, and will create short- and long-term economic benefits for our region.

These types of projects, we support throughout the Island. I've testified on projects in the Town of Huntington, in Glen Cove, in Hempstead, in Babylon, and we believe that the business community needs to show its support, because we understand the challenges that you as

	91
1	Proceedings
2	decisionmakers have to make when
3	it comes to big projects like
4	this.
5	We wholeheartedly support
6	your efforts. We think it is the
7	way to go, it is the way to
8	address our future land use
9	challenges, and I commend you for
10	your efforts here this evening.
11	Thank you.
12	(Applause.)
13	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
14	you.
15	MS. LENT: Mr. Mattera, you
16	can begin.
17	MR. MATTERA: Good evening, H16
18	Supervisor Romaine and
19	Councilmembers. Congratulations,
20	by the way, on everybody's
21	election, and I know that we are
22	going to be looking forward to
23	working with everybody on the
24	Board.
25	My name is Mario Mattera.

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1	Proceedings	
2	I'm the business agent for	
3	Plumbers Local 200. I'm a	
4	resident of Smithtown, with my	
5	neighbor, Mr. Law, here.	
6	I just wanted to say, I	
7	represent approximately 1,100	
8	members, 85 percent of them which	
9	live in Suffolk, and 50 percent	
10	live in the Town of Brookhaven, so	
11	I am here again speaking on behalf	
12	of the residents of Brookhaven.	
13	I'm here to speak on a	
14	great project, the newly proposed	
15	Ronkonkoma Hub, which is	
16	desperately needed for the future	
17	of smart growth in the Town of	
18	Brookhaven and in Suffolk County.	
19	We need this project just for our	
20	children, our middle age, our	
21	seniors. You know, everyone says,	
22	"What about our children?" What	
23	about our seniors?	
24	It's very, very important	
25	for the future of us keeping our	

growth here, to have smart growth.

This project, where it's located,

is amazing; mass transit, Long

Island Expressway, go to the city

in 60 minutes, go out to the

Hamptons, go out to Montauk. You

couldn't ask for a better

location.

Not for anything, the residents that will be pretty much living there, a lot of them, you have 5,000 permanent jobs. I'm not just talking about the construction. 5,000 permanent jobs. They can work, eat and sleep there, and how important that is. It's that village-type concept that we need, that's going to be built all over for smart growth.

The construction jobs we need desperately, local jobs for local people, and for even our members that right now are working

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on the job in Patchogue -- which I commend our mayor, Mayor Pontieri, for his vision, and then TRITEC coming and getting involved with that job. Look at Patchogue. last ten years -- ten years ago, you wouldn't even really go there, and look at what you do today. You are going to go there for lunch, you are going to go there and meet people -- our members right now that are working there are already putting in applications to try to live there, which they are. There's over 2,000 applicants right now for that project that's been given out for 350 apartments. What does that tell everybody? We need smart growth. It's very, very important.

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I was listening to our great Supervisor Romaine at his speech the other day for his

		9 5
1	Proceedings	
2	swearing in, and he's very	
3	concerned about the environment.	
4	Everybody needs to know,	
5	\$42 million project that's going	
6	to be coming out of the sewage	
7	treatment plant that will handle	
8	not only that project, but it will	
9	handle a lot of Islip's problems	
10	that they have right around that	
11	area, for the future. So there it	
12	is, environmental-friendly right	
13	away.	
14	I want to commend the	
15	developers, which I work with very	
16	close, the TRITEC builders, for	
17	the job that they you know, for	
18	their vision. You know,	
19	Patchogue, the worst economy that	
20	we've had	
21	MS. LENT: Your time is up.	
22	MR. MATTERA: Oh, my	
23	goodness, you have to give me more	
24	than three minutes.	
25	Okay, you know what? Thank	

	9 6
1	Proceedings
2	you so much. This is a great
3	project. We need to vote "yes"
4	for this, and you can hear
5	everybody how they feel about this
6	project. We have a great
7	response.
8	Thank you.
9	(Applause.)
10	MS. LENT: Nick Dalvano,
11	Vince Lancella and Bruce Edwards.
12	I'm missing one Grant
13	Hendricks.
14	Okay, please all raise your
15	right hand.
16	(All comply.)
17	MS. LENT: Do you swear to
18	tell the truth, the whole truth,
19	nothing but the truth, so help you
20	God?
21	(Whereupon, Mr. Nick
22	Dalvano, Mr. Vince Lancella, Mr.
23	Bruce Edwards and Mr. Grant
24	Hendricks all respond in the
25	affirmative.)

	97
1	Proceedings
2	MS. LENT: Okay, do the
3	same; state your name, town you
4	live in, and township.
5	Mr. Hendricks, you are
6	first.
7	MR. HENDRICKS: Good H17
8	evening, Supervisor Romaine and
9	members of the Town Board. Thank
10	you for allowing me to address you
11	regarding the proposed Ronkonkoma
12	Hub project. My name is Grant
13	Hendricks. I reside in Bay Shore,
14	in the Town of Islip. I serve as
15	a member of the Board of Directors
16	for the Long Island Pine Barrens
17	Association. I am also a board
18	member of the Suffolk County
19	Industrial Development Agency, as
20	well as a former board member of
21	the Long Island Regional Planning
22	Council.
23	Today I'm here representing
24	the Long Island Contractors

25

Association, whose members

comprise the heart and soul of the local heavy construction industry.

We employ thousands of union men and women here on Long Island, and play a pivotal role in building and strengthening the region's infrastructure.

We are no strangers to the project. In fact, we consider it an economic priority for the town and its taxpayers. LICA appeared before the Brookhaven Planning Board at its November 18th meeting to stress our strong support for the proposed project, the Ronkonkoma Hub Transit-Oriented Development and Urban Renewal Plan.

We were reassured when the Planning Board carefully reviewed and considered the application including supporting testimony offered by many that evening.

This evening, LICA continues to

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L	Proceedings
2	articulate our support, as
3	Town Board now considers th

But words alone will not create the type of economic activity that will protect the future of homeowners and businesses in central Suffolk County. LICA's mission is to advocate in word and in deed on behalf of those projects that threaten our region. Accordingly, LICA wishes to report that thousands of men and women in the Long Island heavy construction industry stand ready to assist the Town in making this project a

project of regional significance.

You may remain confident
that the required manpower and
equipment will be available to
construct the necessary
infrastructure required to support
a project that can become the

631-277-2700

welcome reality.

transformative symbol of Long
Island's ability to grow and
prosper, as well as be the best
place to live and work.

Long Island is at a cross
roads where the economic future is
being decided now. With your
community leadership, the tools
necessary for success will be
there for the Brookhaven Town
taxpayer. We are excited to be
part of a project that will bring
economic development to our region
that it so desperately needs.

In addition to the immediate job creation, this proposal will provide a needed mixture of 21st Century housing integrated with retail opportunities. Its unique proximity to transportation will allow Long Island to enjoy the Transit-Oriented Development successes that are now being

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	101
1	Proceedings
2	enjoyed in other parts of our
3	nation.
4	The Town of Brookhaven has
5	the opportunity to demonstrate
6	that public policy leadership will
7	get the job done, whether it's
8	generating new jobs and
9	investment, preserving our quality
10	of life, strengthening our real
11	estate values
12	MS. LENT: Mr. Hendricks,
13	I'm sorry, your time is up.
14	MR. HENDRICKS: Thank you
15	for the opportunity to speak in
16	favor of this project.
17	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
18	you for your comments.
19	If you have written
20	comments, you can certainly hand
21	it over to the Clerk, and it will
22	be shared with the Board members.
23	I'm sorry you didn't have enough
24	time.
25	MR. HENDRICKS: Thank you.

MR. DALVANO: Thank you, Supervisor Romaine and Town Board My name is Nick Dalvano, members. and I am a resident of Brookhaven in the town of Medford. I am the director of operations for a family-owned business, which is Always Elevators, which is located here on Long Island just on the other side of MacArthur Airport. We employ over 20 local residents who are young, like myself, and would love to be able to live and work right here. My father was unable to

My father was unable to
attend, and asked me to support
the designation of certain areas
surrounding Ronkonkoma railroad
station as part of the Ronkonkoma
Transit-Oriented Development
project. The Hub project has one
goal in mind; bringing members
together by creating a commuter
destination which offers a prime

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residential area, retail stores,
entertainment venues, offices,
restaurants, all in one place. I
truly believe moving forward with
this project would be good for
greater Long Island.

The Ronkonkoma Hub project will bring life to an underutilized area, providing benefits to all who are involved. Using Patchogue Village, as everybody else has talked about, you can clearly see what's going on here and how it will benefit us, without any negatives. It will attract hundreds of daily commuters in close proximity to Islip MacArthur Airport, which my business uses daily.

So I ask you to support the Ronkonkoma Transit-Oriented Hub project, and take this first step in improving the community. Thank you for your time.

H19

Proceedings

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(Applause.)

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Good

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evening, Mr. Supervisor, Town

MR. LANCELLA:

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Board members.

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I can't give you the

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technical aspect of this project.

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I'm going to -- but I'm going to

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give you what I have from my heart

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on this. I've been a resident of

11

Town of Brookhaven for the past

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50 years. I've had my business in

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the Town of Brookhaven for the

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past 37 years. One of the biggest

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issues -- I have three children;

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one child that went to college out

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of state and remained there for

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six years. I've spoken to a

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multitude of young adults, who say

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the same exact thing in

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conversation when speaking about

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Long Island. They say that it's

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the same old Long Island. No

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jobs, no housing.

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Now, I walk through the

Town of Riverhead and Town of
Patchogue and I see a breath of
fresh air. I see a
revitalization. And it's not just
that our children are coming home
for the holidays that I am talking
about. It's all the little
moments that you miss, whether
your daughter is cooking with her
mom, or your son is fishing with
his dad. These are the most
important things in life. If we
could keep our youth here, I
believe that's one of the most
important parts of this project.
I see the revitalization as
creating jobs in the poor economy
here, and I see it as housing to
keep even if it's just a
handful more children to stay with
their families and grow up on Long
Island as I did.

I feel that's one of the important issues of this project.

	106
1	Proceedings
2	I was alerted to this project
3	because I belong to Long Island
4	Business Institute, and I've seen
5	what's going on in Patchogue, and
6	as I said before, I can't give you
7	the technicalities, but I believe
8	it's going to be a rebirth and
9	save our children from leaving,
10	and to me it's heartbreaking.
11	It destroys families when you see
12	these children leave New York. It
13	seems to be the sign of the times
14	for this area.
15	Thank you very much for
16	your time.
17	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
18	you for your comments.
19	(Applause.)
20	MR. EDWARDS: Thank you, Thenk
21	Town Board, for this opportunity
22	to speak. My name is Bruce
23	Edwards. I'm a resident of
24	Ronkonkoma in the Town of Islip.
25	This project has had quite

	107
1	Proceedings
2	a long life. It has outlasted the
3	administration that originally
4	proposed it, which is one of the
5	reasons I believe this project, I
6	will quote our U.S. Senator
7	Schumer, stated "Ronkonkoma Hub
8	has the potential to change the
9	face of Ronkonkoma."
10	This should carefully be
11	reviewed by a Town Board that has
12	had almost half of its members
13	just sworn in or not in place.
14	The project itself is not what
15	troubles me. As said by the
16	Planning Department, there is a
17	need for this type of project.
18	However, the density of this
19	project is off the charts. I
20	would like to see a more
21	reasonable density.
22	(Applause.)
23	MR. EDWARDS: I hear what
24	the Town of Brookhaven is doing to
25	its commuter residents is a

H20-2

H20-3

H20-4

Proceedings

disservice, because the plan has
no commuter parking in the plan in
its current state. Where will the
people park? The former Hub
project by the Long Island Rail
Road had done a study, and in it
they noted that the Ronkonkoma
parking lot is now at 105 percent
capacity.

Due to the proximity of the Ronkonkoma Hub, literally on the border of the Town, studies that were done did not include the surrounding areas, which are in the different jurisdiction. By not including the larger area, these studies are incomplete and faulty.

(Applause.)

MR. EDWARDS: The company of VHP did a traffic study, and they used the morning rush hour between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. Now, I was a commuter at Ronkonkoma for

H20-4

Cont'd

Proceedings

over 25 years, and if you go into the station at 7:00, you walk there. Without the inclusion of the Town of Islip it is problematic.

Now, as far as the face of
Ronkonkoma goes, since there is no
ownership component in the
residential sections of this
project, which could take 10
percent of the Town population, we
feel that it's a problem. There
should be some sort of ownership
involved, and I think the tag line
in real estate introduced it as
"pride of ownership," and there

Lastly, just as a matter of transparency, I would like to note that the first speaker, or one of the first speakers, Marianne

Garvin, president and CEO of the

CDC Long Island, neglected to

mention that James Coughlan -- I

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will be none there.

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1	Proceedings
2	believe he's the CEO of TRITEC
3	is also the chair of CDC Long
4	Island.
5	Thank you.
6	(Applause.)
7	MS. LENT: Next we have
8	Mr. Thomas Herron, Dale Spencer,
9	Elissa Kyle and Artie Cipoletti.
10	If you will raise your
11	right hand.
12	(All comply.)
13	MS. LENT: Do you swear to
14	tell the truth, whole truth,
15	nothing but the truth, so help you
16	God?
17	(Whereupon, Mr. Thomas
18	Herron, Mr. Dale Spencer, Ms.
19	Elissa Kyle and Mr. Artie
20	Cipoletti respond in the
21	affirmative.)
22	MS. LENT: You will speak,
23	state your name, town you reside
24	in.
25	Mr. Herron, you are going

to start.

I'd like to thank the Town of
Brookhaven for letting me speak
tonight. I'd like to commend the
Town and Planning Board on this
progressive and forward-thinking
project. I represent the
Northeast Regional Council of
Carpenters. I am from Bay Shore,

in the Town of Islip.

I'd like to take a minute
of your time and just take a look
at that Patchogue project that our
members have been able to work on.
That will give you an idea of what
a nice product we do put out. Our
members that live in the Town of
Brookhaven will also be driving
the economy forward, because they
will be working here, also. If
you take a look at the other
projects on the Island also, the
Wyandanch Rising project, another

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1	Proceedings
2	transit-oriented project, this is
3	the way Long Island was meant to
4	go forward.
5	Historically we've all had
6	the work in hamlets around the
7	transit-oriented areas, and this
8	is just a natural progression for
9	Long Island.
10	I would also like to say
11	that we're very fortunate to have
12	these elected boards doing these
13	projects, and we look forward to a
14	quick passage of this project.
15	Thank you.
16	(Applause.)
17	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
18	you for your comments.
19	MR. SPENCER: Thank you, H22
20	Mr. Supervisor, Town Board. My
21	name is Dale Spencer. I live in
22	town of Ronkonkoma in Brookhaven
23	Town. I'm also a curator for the
24	Lake Ronkonkoma Historical
25	Society.

1 Proceedings 2 We very much support this 3 project. Personally, when I first looked at the project, when it 4 5 first came up, I kind of laughed, 6 because doing history in the Town, 7 we had over the years -- we've had many attempts to do the project. 8 9 Well, upon further examination of 10 this and watching what happened 11 with the Patchogue project, and 12 talking to officials in Patchogue, 13 including the historical society 14 officials, we found that the 15 TRITEC people -- we met with them 16 also -- were very open and 17 transparent about the project. 18 We really like the way that 19 it ties in with the Town, and that 20 it's guaranteed that the whole 21 project will be done. We feel 22 that Ronkonkoma's economy is 23 slightly depressed. We've seen 24 some of our bigger businesses in 25 town go out, because we don't

really feel we have the proper amount of residents to keep the Town viable. This is an exciting plan for us, and we think it will be good for the Town. We think the increasing number of residents in the Town is going to help all the businesses in town, and help the vibrancy of the whole town.

We are very excited about

it. We don't want to see our

young people leave, and the old

economy of Long Island definitely

contributed to that. My own niece

who recently came back from

college with a degree is bemoaning

the fact that Long Island is a

cultural wasteland for her, and

that she can't do any of the

projects she wants to do here.

Going forward in the future -- Ronkonkoma once used to be one of the shining jewels of Long Island when it was a resort

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1	Proceedings
2	area. It fell in the '60s and the
3	'70s, and the Ronkonkoma project
4	to us seems like a chance to start
5	Ronkonkoma on the road back to
6	becoming one of the shining jewels
7	of Long Island, and we feel that
8	this project is really going to
9	contribute to that.
10	Ronkonkoma is a town with a
11	lot of great people and a lot of
12	pride in its town, and we look
13	forward to the project going
14	forward and hope all the people on
15	the Town Board will vote for the
16	advance of this project.
17	Thank you very much.
18	(Applause.)
19	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
20	you for your comments, and thank
21	you for what the historical
22	society does.
23	MS. KYLE: Hi. My name is H23
24	Elissa Ward Kyle. I'm the
25	sustainability director for Vision

Long Island, a smart-growth

planning organization, and our

offices are located in downtown

Northport off of Main Street, and

I happen to live two blocks from

the Huntington train station.

There are many good things to be said about this project.

Many people have said them, and I don't want to repeat what other people have said, and certainly three minutes cannot touch upon all of them. I just want to talk mostly on the review process, the community aspect, that has taken place so far and should continue to take place in the future as this goes forward.

Just to let you know,
several years ago, in 2009 Vision
Long Island honored this project
at our annual Smart-Growth Awards
for its right to transportation
option, and provided more of that

117 1 Proceedings 2 sort of environment that we 3 believe have choices of different types of transportation to use. 4 5 That is lacking on Long Island. 6 Overall, you know, the 7 form-based code helps to really 8 make this a quality project, a 9 real sense of place, focusing on 10 different scales of development, 11 you know, with the highest close 12 the train station and stepping 13 down the further away, and really 14 focusing on the public realm that 15 really helps create identity for a 16 neighborhood and really helps make 17 that place walkable. 18 Simply being adjacent to a 19 train station doesn't make people 20 want to walk there. Having people 21 come there with attractive and 22 safe sidewalks are things that 23 factor into that greatly. 24 Though the parking and 25 traffic are items of concern, this

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2 type of project, because of its 3 nature, has much lower impact than other types of development of this 4 5 scale. The people who live there 6 will either be commuting by train 7 -- which means they won't be driving anywhere -- they will 8 9 work, perhaps, in the 10 development -- again, not driving 11 -- or if they do have to drive to 12 their job, they will be leaving 13 when everyone else is arriving, to 14 offset that peak time. 15 commuter parking is going to 16 remain, as it is, with the parking 17 structure and everything. 18 is going to be additional parking for the additional uses that can 19 20 be shared, so that when residents 21 leave, employees will come into 22 that particular spot and reduce 23 the overall need in the area for 24 massive parking lots.

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It's also our understanding

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2	that the double track, which
3	will which, is a separate
4	independent project, but they will
5	benefit from each other, whether
6	or not the double track you
7	know, the double track happening
8	does not is not necessary for
9	this project to be successful.
10	I will submit a written
11	copy of this testimony, since I
12	have five seconds left.
13	Vision Long Island has
14	never supported eminent domain
15	MS. LENT: Sorry, that's
16	it.
17	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
18	you for your comments.
19	MR. CIPOLETTI: Thank you,]H24
20	Mr. Supervisor and members of the
21	Board. Artie Cipoletti. I live
22	in Islip. My business is based in
23	Islip. I work in the construction
24	industry. I work hand in hand
25	with the Long Island Initiative.

1 Proceedings 2 This TRITEC is a visionary company. 3 It's an excellent choice 4 that you made in picking them as a 5 master developer. I totally 6 support it. My employees reside 7 in Brookhaven as well as in Islip, 8 and we look forward to moving 9 forward on this project. 10 selection, once again, is 11 phenomenal on your part. 12 The job, as you can see, is 13 visionary. The proof is in 14 Patchogue. Just go by there. 15 know I'm being repetitive to what 16 other people have said, but being 17 on that job myself and seeing 18 what's happened in the community,

you can see it will be such an

uplift for Ronkonkoma, and it can

become again what it once was,

which is a destination location.

Thank you.

SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank you for your comments.

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1	Proceedings
2	(Applause.)
3	MS. LENT: Jim Morgo,
4	Charles Barredo, Lois Fricke, and
5	Lenny Levy. Lenny Levy, is he
6	still here?
7	BOARD MEMBERS: He left.
8	MS. LENT: Okay, Cara
9	Longworth.
10	Do you swear to tell the
11	truth, the whole truth, and
12	nothing but the truth, so help you
13	God?
14	(Whereupon, Mr. Jim Morgo,
15	Mr. Charles Barredo, Ms. Lois
16	Fricke and Ms. Cara Longworth
17	respond in the affirmative.)
18	MS. LENT: State your name,
19	hamlet you live in and the Town
20	you reside in.
21	MR. MORGO: Good evening,]H25
22	Supervisor Romaine and members of
23	the Town Board. I'm Jim Morgo,
24	and I live in Bayport, Town of
25	Islip. Up front, I want to

Communications that has a contract with TRITEC, the master developers on this project. The principal reason, the only reason, I agreed to the contract was to try to be helpful in advancing the Town's vision for the 50 acres surrounding the Ronkonkoma train station.

As many of you know, I
served as the first president and
CEO of the Long Island Housing
Partnership, but I want to focus
on the time I spent as Suffolk's
first Commissioner of Economic
Development and Workforce Housing,
and then as Chief County
Executive. In both of those
positions, I was charged with
attracting new businesses and
retaining them here, along with
the taxes that pay our schools,
the jobs they provide with our

citizens, and the economic activity the businesses generate for the mom-and-pop stores in our local communities. I was part of the team that brought Canon USA's western hemisphere's headquarters and its nearly 2,000 high-paying jobs to Suffolk County for the significant benefit to all involved.

But in dealing with Canon, and, in fact, in all the businesses I worked with, the ones that stayed, the ones that left, and the ones that never came to a business, all mentioned a lack of appropriate homes for the young, upwardly mobile professionals.

And the businesses mentioned that their young professionals have personally few options on Long Island.

And I'm -- and in talking about housing options, the

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business owners weren't just talking about homes their workers couldn't afford. Many earned significant salaries. No, they were talking about places that their young workers wanted to live, vibrant neighborhoods where they could walk to restaurants, stores, entertainment and transportation. Countless neighborhoods, some on Long Island, have been brought back to life by an influx of young professionals. I was going to cite Patchoque, but Pontieri's head is too big already.

Who knew that the New
Village neighborhood could be such
a neighborhood. And if I was
still working to attract and
retain businesses, you could bet I
would be featuring its promise.

Finally, as far back as I could remember, Long Island has

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1	Proceedings
2	been touted as the next Silicone
3	Valley and I see my time is
4	close, so let me sum up.
5	We should be the next
6	Silicone Valley. In fact, in this
7	town, you have two of the nation's
8	leading ones; you have Stony Brook
9	and you have Brookhaven National
10	Lab. With Stony Brook, it's
11	trying to build its reputation as
12	a center of high-tech science
13	research. They are having a
14	terrible problem attracting
15	people, and they pay \$80,000 a
16	year for new
17	MS. LENT: Sorry, your time
18	is up.
19	MR. MORGO: Okay, I think
20	you got my point. Thank you.
21	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Jim,
22	thank you for your comments.
23	(Applause.)
24	MR. BARREDO: Good evening, TH26
25	Mr. Supervisor and Brookhaven Town

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Board members. My name is Charles Barredo. I am a resident of Wantagh, in the Town of Hempstead. I am 58 years old, and I have grown up and raised my family on Long Island. I am a Long Island businessman, and I have traveled the Long Island Rail Road many times, and have used the Ronkonkoma Hub enough to watch it deteriorate and become an uncomfortable environment to pass through. And most recently, as my 18-year-old daughter travels back and forth on the train, it makes me even more uncomfortable. always concerned about her safety traveling through there. being one of many reasons I would like to state for the record my support of the Ronkonkoma Transit-Oriented Hub project. I think we all know that it will beautify the currently

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1	Proceedings
2	blighted area. It will create
3	more jobs and, no pun intended,
4	will spur the economy for Suffolk
5	County and also Long Island. I
6	want to applaud the Brookhaven
7	Board's selection of TRITEC as the
8	master developer. They have
9	earned a stellar reputation in our
10	industry, and all you have to do
11	is visit Patchogue to know that.
12	It is my request, very
13	simply, that the Board members
14	vote "Yes" to approve this
15	project.
16	Thank you.
17	(Applause.)
18	MS. FRICKE: Good evening, H27
19	Mr. Supervisor and Council Board
20	members. My husband and I are
21	residents of Brookhaven for 49
22	years. We reside at 22 New York
23	Avenue in Port Jeff Station. I am
24	here today to speak on the
25	Ronkonkoma Hub Transit-Oriented

Development project's four resolutions on today's agenda.

Since the opening of

Ronkonkoma railroad station in

1988, I must have been to that

area at least a hundred times over

the years, and taken the train at

least half of those times. The

condition today at the station is

not appealing. It is a place that

you go to park, take the train,

and leave. This is a blighted

area, ready for redevelopment.

Many people have been

talking through the years about

redeveloping this area for some

time, as the area provides the

potential for an environmentally

sound and economically viable

transit-oriented development.

This Town Board should be

commended for taking the

initiative to finally get this

area redeveloped in a way the Town

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1	Proceedings
2	and its residents can be proud of
3	and feel safe to frequent.
4	Lastly, we would like to
5	fully support the choice of this
6	Board of TRITEC as the master
7	builder of this project. Their
8	reputation, as has been said many
9	times before this evening, and
10	proven record, is well known in
11	the building industry as well as
12	the communities they have worked
13	in. Their current project in the
14	Village of Patchogue will serve as
15	a model for future development
16	projects across Long Island, and
17	the Ronkonkoma Hub will do the
18	same.
19	Thank you very much for
20	listening.
21	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
22	you for your comments.
23	(Applause.)
24	MS. LONGWORTH: Good] H28
25	evening, Supervisor and

Councilmembers. My name is Cara

Longworth. I am the Executive

Director of the Long Island

Regional Planning Council. I'm

here tonight to speak on behalf of

the council and Chairman John

Cameron.

Recently the Long Island
Regional Planning Council
published a Long Island Regional
Comprehensive Sustainability Plan.
The plan was a culmination of
months of work with planners,
environmentalists, economists and
local stakeholders. We studied
the challenges we face in the
region, and developed the
strategies to guide the region to
make Long Island economically,
environmentally and equitably
sustainable for the next 25 years.

We all know Long Island faces challenges, and the plan targets several. The Long Island

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Regional Planning Council feels
the greatest impediment for Long
Island's future economic viability
is the unsustainable taxes and
lack of diverse housing stock that
the region is presently
experiencing.

The plan identifies 39

strategies we need to undertake to overcome our current challenges, and several of the strategies are satisfied by projects like the proposed Ronkonkoma Hub. We support the development of communities and job sites around train stations, expansion of the transit system, and development of diverse housing options, making residences and homes that are affordable for young workers, professionals and empty-nesters.

The Long Island Regional
Planning Council recognizes that
large-scale development

transit-oriented projects have the potential to affect the quality of life for Long Islanders in a regional significant way in areas of economic development, housing, transportation, energy, environment, education, public health, emergency service and social and economic equity.

The potential project meets many of these criteria. The Regional Planning Council designates this project as a project of regional significance, because the Ronkonkoma Hub project has such a potential progress, and the council is scheduled to vote on the application next Tuesday.

Although it's only required that a potential project meets one of the criteria, this project meets several. The economic impacts of the project, including the capital investments and the

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thousands of jobs, permits and construction jobs projected as well as the housing, affordable housing project, and transportation criteria being built near transportation hubs satisfies at least three of our criteria.

Finally, when the Regional Council considers this project, this Board is going to have final support from both Suffolk County and New York State. The County has agreed to support the design of new sewage facilities. Kevin Law mentioned earlier, the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council has identified this project as a project of significance, and has awarded significant money in both Round 1 and 2 of its funding, and the Regional Planning Council has named this project viable in

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1	Proceedings
2	accordance with its comprehensive
3	sustainability.
4	MS. LENT: I am sorry, but
5	your time is up.
6	MS. LONGWORTH: Thank you.
7	MS. LENT: Gregg Freedner,
8	Bud Cipoletti, George Schramm, and
9	David Kapell.
10	If there is anything that
11	you want to leave for the Board,
12	you can hand it to the side.
13	Please raise your right hand.
14	(All comply.)
15	MS. LENT: Do you swear to
16	tell the truth, the whole truth
17	and nothing but the truth, so help
18	you God?
19	(Whereupon, Mr. Gregg
20	Freedner, Mr. Bud Cipoletti,
21	Mr. George Schramm and Mr. David
22	Kapell respond in the
23	affirmative.)
24	MS. LENT: Mr. Freedner,
25	you are first.

2 MR. FREEDNER: Good

H29

evening, Mr. Supervisor and Board members. My name is Gregg

Freedner. I'm a resident of Ronkonkoma on the Brookhaven side, and I've been a member of Lake Ronkonkoma Civic Organization board for over ten years.

I'm a very proud person who lives in Ronkonkoma, and I am a lifelong resident, and I was never proud of the area around the railroad station for obvious reasons. My concerns with this project -- which I do support, because anything is better than what is there -- but one of the concerns is that 20 years ago, I brought my wife out from Brooklyn to live with me in Ronkonkoma, because I loved it so much, and in these 20 years, she's noted that the Town is getting more crowded and there's more traffic. And

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136 1 Proceedings then when she heard about this 3 project, she said, "Gregg, please don't let Brooklyn come out to 4 5 here." And that's --6 (Applause.) 7 MR. FREEDNER: Again, I 8 support the project, because I 9 want something better than what's 10 there, but a couple of things I do 11 have reservations about. 12 Number one, I don't believe we 13 should have five-story buildings 14 in Ronkonkoma. I don't think our 15 fire departments can safely handle 16 that, and I've been told by an 17 expert that they can't. 18 I'm concerned about 19 density, what can our streets 20 It was mentioned before 21 that there is going to be a second H29-2 22 track put on the MTA. You need to 23 keep that into consideration with 24 all the people coming out on those

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new trains, when you are going to

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1	Proceedings
2	have all these people working in
3	this area. It's going to add a H29-2 Cont'd.
4	lot of people, a lot of traffic,
5	so it's a concern of mine.
6	I'd like to see most of the
7	apartments in there be one
8	bedroom, so we don't overcrowd the H29-3
9	schools. I would like to see a
10	lot of the apartments be 55 and
11	over. My biggest concern is that
12	their marketing fails them.
13	There's a lot of empty buildings
14	in Ronkonkoma right now, and I'm
15	sure the people that built them
16	planned on filling them, and I'm
17	sure TRITEC plans on filling this
18	project, too, and I hope they do;
19	however, my concern is that a
20	small blighted area becomes a
21	giant monstrosity.
22	Thank you.
23	(Applause.)
24	MR. CIPOLETTI: Mr.
25	Supervisor, Board, thank you for

2 the opportunity to speak. My name 3 is Bud Cipoletti. I'm a member of 4 the Town of Islip. I believe I 5 the first of the real youths of 6 Long Island to come up and speak. 7 I commend the parents that are 8 here and the people that have had 9 long careers and have been able to 10 buy houses, and I wanted to make 11 sure that I came to this hearing 12 to be heard from the youth side. 13 My main concern on Long Island is 14 the staggered neighborhoods. 15 approach to this is twofold. 16 first of all, I'm concerned about 17 the evolution of the place I grew 18 up and lived and got an education 19 in college. Looking for jobs has 20 been tough. I graduated in 2010, when we were in the midst of a 21 22 recession, and got one job and 23 had to kind of fiddle around, but 24 what I'm seeing in the past year, 25 past six months is the

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revitalization of certain 2 3 neighborhoods.

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Being from Islip, usually I 4 5 recreate in the immediate area. 6 have since gone to Patchogue, and 7 it's become my new beacon of 8 recreation. The other thing I'm 9 surprised nobody mentioned is the 10 lake in Ronkonkoma. It's the 11 largest of the lakes on Long 12

Island, and if any of you have never been there, it's a beautiful place. I'm a boat-owner, and I am able to take my boat out on the concrete ramp there. It's one of the only concrete ramps in Long Island. And being a wildlife advocate, I know that I studied the plan that is being proposed, and with the sewage and with the pollution problems in the lake currently, the sewage will do

nothing but clean up the lake and

restore a vibrant fishery, if any

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of you out there are into fishing.

I know I want to stay on Long

Island and go fishing with my

father for years to come, and

hopefully raise a family.

Just to harp on something a man said in the last panel, he said something about our youth looking -- not that we aren't able to afford a single-family home, but it's the places that I am forced to look. I grew up on the south shore of Long Island, and I want to live in a place that is evolving, that feels current, because I want to not only impress my children, I want to impress my I want to show them that my generation has a chance to live in a place that wants evolution. I want to live in a place that wants evolution, not stagnant, Ronkonkoma is right now.

Bringing projects like

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141 1 Proceedings 2 this, you will bring minds like 3 myself -- I am representing a 4 massive general populus of 5 youth -- I want to go fishing on a 6 lake, I want to wine and dine my 7 future wife in a place like this. 8 Thank you. 9 (Applause.) MR. SCHRAMM: Good evening. H31 10 11 My name is George Schramm. Ι resident of Ronkonkoma in the Town 12 13 of Brookhaven, and I'm the president of the Lake Ronkonkoma 14 15 Civic Organization. In 2007, the Town of Brookhaven hired a 16 17 consultant to explore the various 18 possibilities for revitalization around the railroad station. 19 20 These findings were presented to 21 the community in a series of 22 public meetings in 2007 and 2008. 23 The Civic helped facilitate 24 those meetings, because we were

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officially notifying our

community. If after attending, they clearly indicated they preferred no development or limited development, then that's what would have been the Civic's goal; we would have worked to achieve that. But that's not what happened.

Those meetings revealed

that there was overwhelming

support for a mixed-use

development in a blighted

industrial area near Ronkonkoma

train station, and that the nearby

neighborhood and single-family

homes should be served and

protected.

Through discussions with
the planning consultants and the
Town, it became perfectly clear
that for this special project, we
would need the use of a master
developer and Transit-Oriented
Development. By using a master

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developer instead of waiting for a developer to become interested in developing the project, the Town selected a developer and entered into an agreement with that developer. Both the Civic and Chamber of Commerce participated in the selection process. this situation is very different from the typical relationship on development projects. The developer isn't a firm that showed up one day and decided it was going to undertake the project. The master developer arrangement was specifically chosen so that the community would always be involved in the project, as it proceeded at a deliberate pace.

The second component of the project was the choice of a Transit-Oriented Development. TOD is a mixed-use pedestrian-friendly project. It is accessible via a

144 1 Proceedings variety of transportation options, 3 and typically contains storage 4 services, office space and housing 5 for starting-off young 6 professionals and seniors. 7 believe the community's first 8 choice of developer was a wise 9 The Ronkonkoma Hub project 10 will provide housing opportunities 11 for these well-educated 12 professional residents, while 13 creating new, revitalized stores 14 and services that spur economic 15 development. 16 Developers required to work 17 with the communities developed 18 design standards to ensure that 19 the architecture is appropriate, 20 high quality and in keeping with the character of Lake Ronkonkoma. 21 22 As such, the Civic would not 23 support eminent domain. 24 Approval of tonight's

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resolutions will facilitate the

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development the community has chosen for the railroad station.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank you for your comments, and for the work of the Civic Association.

MR. KAPELL: Good evening, Mr. Supervisor, members of the Town Board. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is David Kapell. I live in Greenport H32 in the Town of Southold, and I'm here on behalf of the Rauch Foundation of Garden City. Rauch Foundation publishes the Long Island Index, which many of you may be familiar with. project that's been in place now for 11 years. Our first report was -- documented the phenomenon that we call the "brain drain," which is a steady loss of youth on Long Island, youth that we've

146 1 Proceedings 2 taken great pains to educate and 3 raise, but due to certain housing 4 opportunities and employment 5 opportunities, in many cases, 6 forces them to leave the Island. 7 This is a process that dooms us in 8 the long run if we don't respond 9 to it. 10 Further research has 11 demonstrated that this is a result 12 of a lack of housing alternatives, 13 unrealistic tax burdens, 14 inadequate transit connections and 15 underutilized downtowns. The 16 action that this Board proposes to 17 take tonight will address these 18 issues in a severe way, in this 19 particular location, and to that 20 extent it's consistent with the 21 priorities of the Rauch 22 Foundation. 23 In sum, the current

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1	Proceedings
2	The rubber hits the road when
3	Boards like yours pick up the
4	challenge to do something about
5	that, and I know it's a difficult
6	decision for you to make. It's
7	going to have negative
8	consequences for some, but in
9	balancing the equities, I think
10	it's important for this Board to
11	move this process ahead and to
12	vote yes to the resolutions before
13	you.
14	Thank you.
15	(Applause.)
16	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
17	you. I would mention David is the
18	former mayor of Greenport, and led
19	a massive revitalization there.
20	MS. LENT: Next we have Ken
21	Kellaner, Debbie Goetz, Joseph
22	Urban, and Dawn Hopkins.
23	Raise your right hand.
24	(All comply.)
25	MS. LENT: Do you swear to

	148
1	Proceedings
2	tell the truth, the whole truth,
3	and nothing but the truth, so help
4	you God?
5	(Whereupon, Mr. Ken
6	Kellaner, Ms. Debbie Goetz, Mr.
7	Joseph Urban and Ms. Dawn Hopkins
8	respond in the affirmative.)
9	MS. LENT: Mr. Kellaner,
10	you will go first.
11	MR. KELLANER: Good
12	evening. My name is Ken Kellaner.
13	I live in the hamlet of
14	Farmingville in the Town of
15	Brookhaven.
16	Most of the points I was
17	going to make tonight have already
18	been covered, so I'll just try to
19	highlight on some of them.
20	I support the project
21	fully, and urge your approval to
22	move it forward as quickly as
23	possible. The project will
24	certainly clean up what was well
25	documented today as a blighted

area. I was particularly touched by the lady who came from Canada and said she was embarrassed when she brought friends and relatives to visit Long Island, and they had to suffer by going to Ronkonkoma train station.

There's great trains

bringing you out here, and then

you get shocked by a very poor

environment, so this project will

clean that up.

There's been a lot of

discussion about housing, about

the need for housing for our young

people, to retain them on Long

Island and to provide good housing

options for our seniors. I don't

think it was discussed enough,

though, the problem that that one

speaker that brought up new

businesses coming to Long Island

but not being able to bring their

people with them because the

housing options are lacking. Both the price and choice of housing, that's a big problem that needs to be addressed, and I think it could be addressed with this project.

I think we spoke of a problem with parking that was mentioned by one gentleman. have basically a farm of parking laid out as far as the eye can see, so retaining that is not I think if the developer is creative, he will come up with a system that integrates structural parking to create more land for better purposes, and also try to utilize the parking so when the residents leave to go to jobs elsewhere in the morning, the commuters commuting can reuse those parking spaces. We don't need spots for everybody. they could be cross-utilized

throughout the day and over the

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H33-1

H33-1 Cont'd

weekend.

We also talked about Lake
Ronkonkoma as being a destination.
Many of us go to Port Jefferson,
Sayville, we go to Northport,
because it's a nice place. Now
everybody is going to Patchogue.

It would be nice in the future if
we could stay here and go to Lake
Ronkonkoma for dinner and to
entertain friends, and go to
dinner for special occasions.

Also, this project will fit nicely with some of the other things taking place in Lake Ronkonkoma. It was mentioned by one of the previous speakers, the revitalization of the lake, and some member of the Lake Ronkonkoma Civic Organization mentioned about 10 years ago when we envisioned a good design for Portion Road. That was the beginning of the Smart Growth discussion and

designing for pedestrians. So all of those elements will fit together with this project to make Lake Ronkonkoma a community that we could be proud of. I urge you to approve all the resolutions that are before you tonight.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MS. GOETZ: Good evening. I

My name is Debbie Goetz. I'm from

the Town of Brookhaven. First

off, I'd like to thank the Board

and Supervisor Romaine for the

meeting. For the record, I am

opposed to the Ronkonkoma Hub plan

for several reasons.

First of all, I'm wondering

how many families really would

want to live that close to the

train tracks. I am just curious.

And the impact it would have on

the local communities in the

surrounding areas would be

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153 1 Proceedings 2 tremendous regarding the amount of 3 traffic it would create considering 1,450 apartments could 4 5 have at least one car per unit or 6 more to the already overcrowded 7 highways and local roadways. 8 Where are the jobs to H34-3 9 sustain 3,000 more people in the 10 There are several more 11 apartment dwellings being proposed 12 in the Town of Islip. They are 13 proposing 250 apartments in the 14 Holbrook area, 600 in Great River, H34-415 and 9,000 units in Brentwood. $H \circ W$ 16 do we sustain all this; you know, 17 sewer, water? What about the cost 18 of hiring more police, fire and 19 EMTs to the area? And I have 20 heard some speakers say that it 21 will increase the tax revenue; 22 however, I believe TRITEC has H34-5 23 received \$5 million in tax rate 24 necessities and IDA tax abatements

25

as well.

Also, there's an article in Newsday on Monday that was posted on the Internet that was a total of 228 comments. Of course, they closed the commenting. It was a hundred pages or so, and I have a couple of comments from the article. One of them is "The young people can't afford to live in these places. Rents will start at \$1,300 for a studio apartment." Another is "There's two pages of sewer and waste treatment plan construction. Where do they plan on dumping waste from washers, dryers, toilets by the thousands, dishwashers, dumpster juice? all has to go someplace." Another person said, "'If you build it, they will come' is not working, once you add in rental payments and all the other living expenses. Many of the good paying jobs are in the city, and during peak hours

	155
1	Proceedings
2	the train commute costs \$35 a day,
3	which equates to \$9,000 a year."
4	And the last comment I have, "It's
5	a bad idea," and I think that
6	pretty much sums up the whole
7	idea.
8	Thank you.
9	(Applause.)
10	MS. LENT: What hamlet
11	MS. GOETZ: Oh, sorry.
12	East Setauket.
13	
14	MS. LENT: Thank you.
15	Mr. Urban?
16	MR. URBAN: Good evening, H35
17	ladies and gentlemen. My name is
18	Joseph Urban, and I live in the
19	area of the Ronkonkoma railroad
20	station, the area that TRITEC is
21	looking to develop into a village.
22	I bought my property about
23	40 years ago. I chose my property
24	because it's located around the
25	corner of the railroad station,

H35-1

H35-2

Proceedings

which allows me to walk to the station, take the train into the city, see a show, have dinner, and come home without having to worry about driving or parking. I also chose the property for its size, which is one-third of an acre. I now have full-grown trees, a large area for a garden. My property is nicely landscaped in the front, which took me years to accomplish. I'm 70 years old now, and retired.

I am comfortable in my home and did not expect my life to be disrupted by having to relocate.
What are my options?

I have attended all the meetings regarding this project.

At every meeting, the question was asked about eminent domain. We were told by TRITEC and Mr.

Bertoli, the Commissioner of Planning, that would not be the case; eminent domain would not be

H35-2

Proceedings

used. At this point in time in my life, I may be told to pick up and relocate. Where do I go that has the location, convenience, size in property that I now enjoy in my retirement?

Since the planning for this project began eight years ago, I have not been contacted by anyone from TRITEC or anyone else involved. The first correspondence that I received in all that time came a short time ago in the form of a certified letter regarding a changed zoning. The zoning had been changed from J-7 to L-1, and now it's being changed again.

TRITEC said it wanted to work with the residents, but that doesn't seem to be the case. In my opinion, their only interest seems to be their own. I would like to ask the members of this

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1	Proceedings
2	Board, what would you say if I
3	told you I was taking your home
4	and property? And I know you
5	can't answer that, but give it
6	some serious thought.
7	(Applause.)
8	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.
9	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: I
10	would ask the audience, if you are
11	going to applaud for someone,
12	please do it at the end, because
13	when you do it in the middle, we
14	can't hear the comments.
15	MR. URBAN: Thank you.
16	MS. HOPKINS: My name is H36
17	Dawn Hopkins. I live in
18	Ronkonkoma, in the Town of
19	Brookhaven. I am also the vice
20	president for the Lake Ronkonkoma
21	Civic Organization. I am here to
22	speak in support of the
23	redevelopment plan of the
24	Ronkonkoma Hub.
25	Earlier in this process,

	159
1	Proceedings
2	the Town of Brookhaven and the
3	Lake Ronkonkoma Civic Organization
4	came together to facilitate a
5	visioning process to allow our
6	community members to express what
7	they wanted in the area of the
8	Ronkonkoma Hub. I participated in
9	that visioning, and I can say that
10	the current plan is conceptually
11	consistent with the ideas that the
12	community expressed in that
13	vision. So, once again, I ask for
14	your support in this project.
15	Thank you.
16	(Applause.)
17	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
18	you.
19	MS. LENT: Slav Odynocki,
20	MaryAnn Johnston, Annette Gatow
21	(phonetic spelling), and Jennifer
22	Appel.
23	Okay, there's only three of
24	you. You must be Mr. Odynocki.
25	What is your name?

Slav Odynocki. I'm a resident of
Ronkonkoma. I have a business
there since '89. The whole reason

23

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why I purchased that particular property was because of approximation to the railroad. I own a dental laboratory there.

That was very convenient for my employees to come and go, and for my patients, whether they come from New Jersey or Manhattan.

Plan also included after I finish my career as a dental technician, I will convert my building into a residence. property is small enough for an older person to take care of. We like to go to the city to enjoy the city, go to events, easy to walk to train station and back to the house. That was plan back in about '88, '87. And now this (indicating) is the first letter that I'm getting from anybody that something is going on in the area.

For all the planning I've done for all these years, I would

H37-

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162 1 Proceedings like to have more information as 3 far as what is being done with the 4 property with eminent domain. H37-1 Will be enforced or not? 5 And Cont'd. would be nice to be get 6 7 information as soon as possible, 8 so I can continue whatever I need 9 to do. 10 Thank you. 11 SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank 12 you for your comments. I will 13 tell you now, sir, this Board has made absolutely no decision about 14 15 eminent domain at this point. MS. LENT: 16 Ms. Johnston? 17 MS. JOHNSTON: MaryAnn 18 Johnston. 19 Speaking as a matter of 20 process, when I arrived here, it 21 was while people were being held 22 in the lobby because the room was 23 overcrowded. Several of the 24 speakers who spoke earlier while I

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stood up there with scores of

	163
1	Proceedings
2	other people, had been signed up
3	in advance. That's not right.
4	MS. LENT: No one was
5	signed up in advance.
6	MS. JOHNSTON: They were.
7	They stated it to me. I watched
8	them arrive, and they were signed
9	up in advance by others, whether
10	or not you asked for ID's on them,
11	I don't know
12	MS. LENT: I'm going to
13	stop the clock for a minute, and
14	I'm going to tell you that no one
15	signed up ahead of time.
16	MS. JOHNSTON: I'm sorry,
17	they were. Mr. Hendricks said he
18	was signed up in advance. So was
19	Mr. Law. Anyway, that being said,
20	that is a single problem.
21	Secondly, we have a room
22	behind this room, and there isn't
23	any reason why people are excluded
24	on a regular basis, when this
25	building is overflowing. We have

	164
1	Proceedings
2	a room that you can be heard, and
3	they can watch, and you have the
4	technology to facilitate. People
5	were turned away in the lobby, and
6	they shouldn't have been.
7	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: I
8	would ask you to speak to the
9	purpose of the public hearing.
10	MS. JOHNSTON: The purpose
11	of the public hearing is for the
12	public to be heard, Mr. Romaine.
13	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.
14	(Applause.)
15	MS. JOHNSTON: Secondly, I
16	have concerns as to this hearing
17	that there is a resolution tonight
18	on designating this for Urban
19	Renewal; is that correct?
20	MS. EADERESTO: It's on the
21	Urban Renewal Plan itself.
22	MS. JOHNSTON: Exactly.
23	And Urban Renewal requires some
24	kind of removal to renew; doesn't H38-1
25	it? Can't do renewal without

H38-1 Cont'd.

H38-2

H38-3

Proceedings

removing. And I'm not opposed to blight. I'm opposed to the density of this project personally, and to the height of five stories. I've watched what TRITEC did in Patchogue, and with all due respect, it's a stick building; no concrete, no steel. Sticks. That's not what we want to see being built in our town.

And as far as remediating a blighted situation, you don't have enough parking for commuters as it is in that train station. I'm concerned. How do you propose to facilitate Transit-Oriented

Development when the train only moves east and west? It doesn't move north and south. Everyone who lives there needs to have a car unless the only places they want to go are east and west.

This is not the 1980s before we rid ourselves of the

	166
1	Proceedings
2	north and south, south railroad
3	tracks. We need to have that. We
4	need to have better transit
5	options in this town, I'm not
6	opposed to doing so. I'm opposed
7	to the density and the scope of
8	the Ronkonkoma Hub. It is
9	entirely too large, and, yes, it
10	is something that is being footed
11	by the taxpayer.
12	MS. LENT: Sorry, your time
13	is up.
14	MS. JOHNSTON: Thank you.
15	(Applause.)
16	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
17	you for sharing your thoughts.
18	MS. APPEL: Good H39
19	afternoon good evening,
20	Supervisor Romaine and members of
21	the Board. My name is Jennifer
22	Appel, and I'm general counsel and
23	program advisor to the Long Island
24	Housing Partnership, 180 Oser
25	Avenue, Hauppauge, New York.

Partnership, for the past 25

years, has tried to ensure that

all Long Islanders have access to

decent, safe and affordable

housing. One of the ways we

accomplish this is through showing

our support for diversified,

innovative housing proposals like

the one being considered tonight

by this Board.

repetitive, but I think it can't
be stressed enough how important
it is for these developments and
for the community to thrive to
have a mix of housing developments
such as what is being proposed at
the Ronkonkoma Hub. Both
homeownership and rentals, which
are available to people of all
income rates, is necessary for
Long Island to thrive.

Another component is that

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2 people have access; they have 3 access to walk to a supermarket, 4 a restaurant, to entertainment, 5 and that they have the ability to 6 access mass transit if they need 7 This is all encompassed in 8 the plan that is being proposed 9 tonight. And it's not just a plan 10 in theory. There's evidence of 11 successful developments all over 12 Long Island. People referenced 13 the Village of Patchogue. There's 14 also the Village of Farmingdale, 15 which is actually just starting 16 construction on a very similar 17 proposal by its train station. 18 There's the town of Bay Shore, 19 which has also has experienced a 20 renaissance based on similar 21 proposals. At Avalon in 22 Huntington Station, which was 23 fought and fought for years, 24 just about near completion, and 25 they are starting to rent up.

So it's just not a theory or a pie-in-the-sky proposal.

These developments happen, and they are successful. That is why Long Island Housing Partnership is here tonight to show our support for this proposal.

Thank you.

SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank you for your comments.

MR. MORANO: Good evening. H40
Robert Morano. I reside in Islip
town. I would like to disclose
that I'm a private mortgage
banker, so being for this project,
I will get zero business from it.

However, I never spent any money in Patchogue before that project there. My friends and family never spent one minute in Patchogue before all of that renaissance, if you will, came about. I want the opportunity to spend some time, to spend some

money, in Ronkonkoma.

A young man had said that
he believes there should be an
ownership going into this. As
somebody that makes money in
homeownership, there are buyers
and there are renters. My first
apartment was \$1,000 in a
basement. For \$1,300, I'd be more
than happy to go above a
subterranial line in a beautiful
location such as this.

Going back to Patchogue for one second, you know, the young lady said that who would want to live next to a train station. I believe there's just about 300 units in Patchogue. TRITEC, I believe, received almost 2,000 applications. I think there's plenty of people that would be more than happy to live above the Town which they spend time in.

Thank you for hearing my thoughts.

	171
1	Proceedings
2	(Applause.)
3	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
4	you for your comments.
5	MS. LENT: Maria Graziano,
6	Larry Farrell, John Kelly or
7	Kealy, Philip Sanchez.
8	I'm sorry, John Kelly?
9	(No response.)
10	MS. LENT: Okay, we'll go
11	to the next, Nancy Gamby.
12	Raise your right hand,
13	please.
14	(All comply.)
15	MS. LENT: Do you swear to
16	tell the truth, the whole truth
17	and nothing but the truth, so help
18	you God?
19	(Whereupon, Ms. Maria
20	Graziano, Mr. Larry Farrell, Mr.
21	Philip Sanchez and Ms. Nancy Gamby
22	respond in the affirmative.)
23	MS. LENT: State your name,
24	hamlet you come from, and township
25	you reside in, please.

H41-1

Proceedi	ng	
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And we have Ms. Graziano 3 first.

> MS. GRAZIANO: Good evening. My name is Maria Graziano. I live in Ronkonkoma. I just wanted to state I have many concerns in regard to this project, and one of them is the builders -- I understand that the builders are getting a tax abatement, which means -- I'm thinking it means that, you know, our school taxes -- what happens to our school taxes, who pays them?

S

17 18 that go to Sachem, and they have 19 20

had numerous cuts already, and they have taken away extracurricular activity, they have taken away late buses, they have laid off teachers. That's affecting my child's quality of education. As it is, you know, we

And I have two children

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Cont'd.

Proceedings

have parents that have gotten

together, and -- you know, we want

to keep our kids off the street.

It's important that they get a

good education, and it's important

that they have extracurricular

activities so they do stay off the

streets.

I come from Brooklyn. I

came out here so that I could have
a better quality of life and I

don't have to have people living
on top of me, and I can come to my
home, and I can have my children
have a good education. As far as
the tax abatement, it seems
like -- and the affordable
housing, it seems that us as
homeowners are going to be the
ones who are going to be picking
up that bill.

I -- our taxes, by them -we're going to pick up that bill
by the taxes being -- I can't even

	174
1	Proceedings
2	think of the word.
3	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: By
4	their abatement?
5	MS. GRAZIANO: Right, by
6	raising our taxes.
7	Also, the property
8	situation, I live a couple of
9	blocks from the train station, and
10	my block looks like I live in
11	Manhattan. There are cars
12	parked and they are not
13	resident vehicles parked all
14	over the block. There are times I
15	can't even get into my driveway.
16	I really don't know how that
17	problem is going to be solved by
18	adding more people with this
19	housing project.
20	Okay, that's it. Thank
21	you.
22	(Applause.)
23	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
24	you for sharing your concerns. We
25	appreciate it.

1 Proceedings __H42 MR. FARRELL: My name is 3 Larry Farrell, and I am a resident of Ronkonkoma on the Islip side, 4 5 Lake Hills Ronkonkoma, been there 6 for 15 years. I think the biggest 7 thing, when we talk about 8 Brooklyn, and the difference 9 between Brooklyn and Long Island, 10 is that in Brooklyn and the city 11 there's a difference between 12 homeownership and private 13 homeownership, and equity in your 14 community. And when you live in 15 an apartment complex, you don't 16 have that equity. And I come from Brooklyn, also. We wanted to live 17 18 in a community where we had equity in the community, but that's not 19 20 my point, so I guess I'll move on. 21 Ronkonkoma -- this project 22 is unique because Ronkonkoma is 23 unique. We share a zip code, 24 11779. We share everything. 25 of my neighbors who live on

Hawkins Avenue think it's the same town as on Main Street. They don't know the difference. You are on Ronkonkoma Avenue, you are Lake Ronkonkoma. Our deed says, Lake Ronkonkoma, but we're in Ronkonkoma. Islip people didn't know, and just recently I installed a sign on the corner of Johnson Avenue and Ocean Avenue identifying the Town of Islip's hamlet in the town of Ronkonkoma. We don't have that.

Now, Mr. Romaine, I was

there the day at the Bavarian Inn,

on that very hot day that you did

the demolition, and you mentioned,

or instituted a multiyear

jurisdictional project where all

the towns came together, and Steve

Bellone said this is the

MegaCenter or epicenter of Suffolk

County. Well, this project is the

epicenter of Islip and Brookhaven;

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it's right on the edge.

So what I'm suggesting is based upon the way the project is now, and the closed-door dealings we've dealt with with TRITEC on the Islip side, that we have to oppose this project as it is. So what I am suggesting is, is to create an inter-municipal agreement that can work with both the Town of Islip, the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County and New York State, and get the citizens' committee on that Board so we can all work together, and make sure this is a project that we can be proud of and make sure it works.

S

This is a huge project,

1,450 apartments. I've seen

projects in Farmingdale where they

fought over 30 units, 50 units, 60

units. This is 1,450 units.

TRITEC started telling us it was

450, then 850, then 1,450, and now

H42-1

178 1 Proceedings we're hearing this is just Phase 3 How much further can it go? So we would like to see a 4 citizen -- or I would like to see 5 6 a citizens' committee board with 7 Brookhaven, Islip, Suffolk County 8 and New York State. 9 (Applause.) 10 SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank 11 you for your comments. Boundary lines have been 12 13 drawn long ago, unfortunately, to determine jurisdictions. I can 14 15 guarantee you the Islip Town has 16 not asked Brookhaven to share on 17 any of their large projects they 18 are proposing on our border. 19 I just want to make you 20 aware that that may be a good 21 idea. Obviously --22 MR. FARRELL: But it 23 impacts our community. 24 parking is on the Islip side,

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water treatment on the Islip side.

H43-1 Cont'd

Proceedings

moving into the second phase, that our clients are treated fairly, meaning that they receive just compensation, and this cloud of possibility of eminent domain, as Dr. Odynocki mentioned before, does not continue to hang over them.

The 50 acres that's identified in the project is not all blighted. There are thriving businesses there, there are residents there, and my clients H43-2 have been here a very long time and invested a lot of money into these businesses, and a lot of money in their residences. And they are going to be negatively impacted when the project comes along, and all the benefits of the project go to TRITEC and everybody else right down the line, whereas my clients who have been here, been in this community for a very

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long time, will be displaced.

What I'm talking about is not just my clients, but the homeowners who don't want to move, and will be forced to move. And the undercurrent here is eminent domain. Once the first phase is done, and we go to the second phase, and they don't want to go, TRITEC hasn't contacted them, and the only way you can get someone out who doesn't want to go is eminent domain. So if the Board is going to do that, TRITEC, then sooner, rather than later, let's know what is going to happen.

The second thing is when -someone mentioned this earlier as
well. What is the next step?
It's obvious that when the
redevelopment project moves
forward, and they burn the
properties they can't take, they
are not going to just go around --

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1	Proceedings
2	this is a 53-plus-acre project
3	they will have to use eminent
4	domain. The entire area is not
5	blighted. We need to treat the
6	clients fairly. We need to treat
7	the owners fairly, the property
8	owners, the businesses, the
9	residents. They have to be
10	treated fairly, they have to
11	receive just compensation, and
12	they really, really have to know
13	what is going to happen.
14	The uncertainty hanging out
15	there for a number of years is
16	unfortunate. It's detrimental to
17	the businesses; it's detrimental
18	to the residences, and does no one
19	any good.
20	(Applause.)
21	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
22	you for your comments.
23	MS. GAMBY: I'm Nancy H44
24	Gamby, I live in Commack, in
25	Huntington. I also was a

Brookhaven resident for 16 years.

Also, my sister lives in

Brookhaven, so I have a very

vested interest in Brookhaven.

First of all, on the eminent domain, I happened to be the one to ask the question of TRITEC at an open meeting at Windows on the Lake, where I asked that if somebody doesn't want to sell -- and well, TRITEC said they had three years to sell their property. And at that point, they said that if they didn't want to sell their property for whatever TRITEC was going to offer them, that they would elicit eminent domain. That is a Newsday paper report, so that is public record. That was from TRITEC's mouth.

SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: I will simply state that this Board has not even taken up the issue of eminent domain, so that is not on

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anyone's radar, and the hearing tonight is to speak to the proposed project, which, if you have comments on that, would be helpful.

MS. GAMBY: I do.

Okay, you have the ridership of the LIRR. They said their ridership would double. That brings 34,000 riders; okay? Then you have the 1,450 units, which at the beginning, when it was originally introduced, it was 450 units of proposed housing. So you have the ridership from those people, plus they only have 1.1 or 1.2 parking spaces per unit. somebody wants to have a birthday party, where are they going to park? They have to have at least 30 of their neighbors give them the tenth of a car so they can have somebody over for a birthday

H44-2

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cake.

H44-3

Proceedings

You also have businesses

that are going to open there. The

businesses that open there will

take away from the other

businesses around in the area.

There's businesses that are vacant

all over the county.

And what gives TRITEC the right to acquire property over a H44-4 prior property owner who is already there? Because they are going to be the owner of 50 acres? These people who have bought their private property originally, we owe it to them, their right to their property. Now, TRITEC told me also at that same meeting that they weren't allowed to build the property as per the plan the exact same way TRITEC would be, they are not going to be allowed to, because TRITEC wants to own the property.

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	186
1	Proceedings
2	domain, that's abuse of the
3	private property owner, and
4	there's tax abatements in
5	Wyandanch of 30 years in one, 40
6	years on another, and all the
7	taxpayers, single-family housing
8	owners, they are going to be
9	picking up the tab.
10	I'm trying to hurry because
11	I only have six seconds.
12	1,450 houses are all going
13	to Sachem
14	(Applause.)
15	MS. LENT: Your time is up.
16	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
17	your comments.
18	MS. LENT: Edward Solomon
19	and Diane Mottola.
20	Raise your right hand.
21	(All comply.)
22	MS. LENT: Do you swear to
23	tell the truth, the whole truth
24	and nothing but the truth so help
25	you God?

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1	Proceedings
2	(Whereupon, Mr. Edward
3	Solomon and Ms. Diane Mottola
4	respond in the affirmative.)
5	MS. LENT: State your name,
6	town you live in, and township you
7	reside.
8	MR. SOLOMON: My name is
9	Edward Solomon. I live in the
10	hamlet of Ronkonkoma, in the Town
11	of Islip.
12	MS. BONNER: Please speak
13	closer to the mike. Thank you.
14	MR. SOLOMON: Most of the
15	points have already been addressed
16	by the lady who went before me.
17	So I would just like to give you a
18	warning on eminent domain, so it
19	doesn't come about in the future.
20	There's a foundation of
21	American liberty, it's the
22	cornerstone of the enlightenment
23	that dominated the minds of John
24	Locke, Thomas Jefferson and James
25	Madison. That right is the right

2 a man to enjoy the fruits of 3 his own labor. I felt so sorry for that 70-year-old man speaking 4 5 before, that he's going to have 6 everything taken from him, what he's worked for for his whole 7 8 life. And people are to be secure 9 that persons and their house and 10 effects against unreasonable search and seizures, so stated in 11 12 the Fourth Amendment, and to 13 receive just compensation for any 14 and all property confiscated for 15 public use, not public purpose; 16 New London notwithstanding, 17 raised in Fifth Amendment. 18 the government fails to protect this most fundamental right, it is 19 20 dysfunctional. However, when the 21 government not only fails to 22 protect this right, it becomes a 23 great transgressor itself, 24 reducing our communities and what 25 is prospering and what is working

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under the iron fist of absolute despotism of the -- it's not even a government; it's a tyranny. are a tyranny. That is what you You are not even a government, because you don't function as one. You don't fulfill the rights as outlined in the Declaration of Independence. You are not that anymore.

The first speaker, Mrs. Marianne -- I don't know. You had the audacity to call our community a blight. I don't know She probably left. where you are. You are a blight. Your soul is a blight. This Board is a blight. You are a blight. Say "no" to

eminent domain, and since when have our public servers become public masters? Who do you serve, Saudi Arabia? Who do you serve? Oil companies?

Anything else I got to

631-277-2700

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1	Proceedings
2	say I just wrote this, because
3	everybody said you had a lot of
4	beautiful speakers here today,
5	that weren't part of the scripted
6	echo chamber. Yeah, I think
7	that's all I got to say, so I dare
8	you to try eminent domain in the
9	future.
10	Thank you.
11	(Applause.)
12	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
13	you for your comments.
14	MS. MOTTOLA: Hi. My name H46
15	is Diane Mottola. I am a resident
16	of Ronkonkoma, in Islip. I'm also
17	here to support my neighbors. You
18	know, we have a severe impact
19	situation, where I'm exactly
20	located, as far as railroad and
21	the roads around me, and I am just
22	like borderline, okay.
23	And I've met TRITEC many
24	times, and asked them about their H46-1
25	studies and scope of their

Proceedings

studies, and I mean, from what
I've always seen from them and
heard from them was that they
won't come over onto the Islip
side. They just refuse to hear
that it's going to affect and
congest and hurt us on the Islip
side.

Cont'd.

H46-1

I mean, I have to keep saying, "Islip," because they are still using our roads. It's still going to be -- the size and scope of this project is going to take over and overflow many things besides traffic and congestion.

This is why I'm opposing the project, because I don't understand. We started with 450 units, and now we are up to 1,450 units. It's impossible to accept in its current form.

H46-2

Many of the points I was going to bring up have already been discussed, and I just ask for

H46-3

Proceedings

you guys to have cooperation with the Town of Islip. I mean, we were trying to see if we can get a citizens group to handle both If you guys would consider conducting some kind of group like that, to keep in touch so it's a liaison. I think it's very important for this project. It's borderline. It's not a matter of who's having more projects. it's going to be a race to both sides. Now you are talking Islip's projects and your projects, and that's how I feel, so...

SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Thank
you for your comments. For the
record, I have respect for the
members of the Islip Town Board,
all of them who I know, great
respect.

 $\begin{tabular}{lll} MS. LENT: & There are no \\ \\ more & speakers. \\ \end{tabular}$

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	193
1	Proceedings
2	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: There
3	being no more speakers, I would
4	ask for a motion to close this
5	hearing.
6	MR. MAZZEI: Motion to
7	close.
8	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Motion
9	to close. Is there a second?
10	MS. BONNER: Second.
11	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: All
12	those in favor of closing this
13	hearing?
14	(Whereupon, all board
15	members respond in the
16	affirmative.)
17	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: Having
18	no further business before this
19	board and the close of this public
20	hearing, I make a motion for an
21	adjournment.
22	Is there a second?
23	MR. LAVALLE: Second.
24	SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: We
25	now all those in favor of

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194
                          Proceedings
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                    adjourning?
2
                             (Whereupon, all board
 3
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                    members respond in the
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                    affirmative.)
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                             SUPERVISOR ROMAINE: We now
7
                    stand adjourned.
                             (Time noted: 7:37 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATION

I, LORI ANNE CURTIS, a Notary Public in and for the State of New York, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto

set my hand this 19th day of January, 2014.

LORI ANNE CURTIS

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