Appendix B

Public Hearing Transcript
TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

STATED TOWN BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 4, 2009

9:30 A.M.
APPEARANCES:

KATE MURRAY, SUPERVISOR
EDWARD A. AMBROSINO, COUNCILMAN
MARK A. BONILLA, TOWN CLERK
DONALD X. CLAVIN, JR., RECEIVER OF TAXES
ANGIE CULLIN, COUNCILWOMAN
JAMES DARCY, COUNCILMAN
DOROTHY L. GOOSBY, COUNCILWOMAN
GARY HUDES, COUNCILMAN
JOSEPH RA, TOWN ATTORNEY
MR. RA: On behalf of the Town Board and Charles Wang, Scott Rechler, Mike Picker, the developers of the Lighthouse project, we'd like to thank you all for being here. My name is Joe Ra, I am the Town attorney for the Town of Hempstead and I'd like to go over some of the -- some sort of ground rules for today's hearing.

What brings us here today is the filing of a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement by the developer. The purpose of today's hearing is a state mandated hearing on the environmental impact of the Lighthouse project. This is not a hearing on whether or not it's a good proposal, a bad proposal, it's a hearing to get input on the environmental aspects.

We will hear from today, the applicant, involved agencies that wish to be heard and governmental officials and members of the public. As you entered the room today, you were handed a card. You should fill-out those cards and have them collected by members of the staff who are in the

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aisles. I urge you to make sure you put your
name, address and contact information on
those cards.

Public comment will be limited to
two minutes. If you cannot mention all of
your points at that time, the hearing stays
open until August 17. You may comment on
this proposal on the environmental impact by
putting it in writing and sending it to the
Town of Hempstead. You can e-mail us and
there are cards available with the e-mail
address or you can speak at the public
hearing. All three methods have the same
impact, all three methods, whether you speak
here or put it in writing and we put it into
the public record. The Board reads every
card, every letter that they get, and as I
said, you have until August 17th to make
those comments.

If there are representatives here
from involved agencies, governmental
agencies, civic associations or other groups,
please make sure to let your presence be
known to the staff members in the aisles, and
with that we will get started in a short time.

One other thing, the hearing is scheduled to start at 9:30 and end at 5:00 p.m. At 1:00 there will be a lunch break. The reason I mention that -- the lunch break will be from 1:00 to 2:00. The reason I mention that is given the number of people here, and we know that there are some members of governmental agencies that will speak for longer than two minutes, there are some of you who will not get to speak at the podium, however as I said previously, if you fill-out your card and you put your comments on the card, it has the same effect as speaking to the Board. Thank you, very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good morning ladies and gentlemen, welcome to each and every one of you. Mr. Wang, Mr. Rechler, Mr. Picker and all of your staff and members of your team, we are delighted to see you all here. We will be here, as Mr. Ra just said, until 5:00 today and we are looking forward to hearing from as many of you as we can, and if
at the end of day there are still some folks who wish to be heard, you can certainly register your comments and it will have absolutely equal weight as testifying here today and we will remind you during the course of the day how to register those comments.

Welcome to our regularly scheduled Town Board meeting. Today on our calendar, in addition to the environmental hearing which I suspect most of you are here for, we also have a number of other public hearings of very short duration, a decision calendar and an administrative calendar. Obviously as you came in, you filled-out a speaking slip. If anybody still has not filled-out a speaking slip who wishes to be heard on either the other public hearings or the environmental public hearings, please see one of our town staff.

Also we will have the regular business as previously scheduled and then we will go into the Lighthouse public hearing. If everyone in the interim would please rise
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to say the Pledge of Allegiance.

  (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

And since there are a number of you who I am sure who have not been to a Town of Hempstead Town Board meeting, I want to introduce my colleagues, playing goalie, we have Don Clavin, who is our Receiver of Taxes. We have Councilman Jim Darcy; we have Councilwoman Dorothy Goosby; Senior Councilman Tony Santino; Councilwoman Angie Cullin; Councilman Gary Hudes and Councilman Ed Ambrosino. We also have our Town Clerk, Mr. Mark Bonilla on the far right, and let's get this meeting going.

  CLERK BONILLA: Supervisor Murray.

  SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Present.

  CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Ambrosino.

  COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Here.

  CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Cullin.

  COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN: Here.

  CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Darcy.

  COUNCILMAN DARCY: Here.

  CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Goosby.
COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Here.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Hudes.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: Here.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Santino.

COUNCILMAN SANTINO: Here.

CLERK BONILLA: And Receiver of Taxes, Donald X. Clavin, Jr.

MR. CLAVIN: Here.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Please call the first public hearing.

CLERK BONILLA: Proposed local law regarding regulations and restrictions to limit parking in Elmont, Merrick, North Valley Stream, and Oceanside.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Does anybody wish to be heard on this public hearing? May I have a motion.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: I move that the public hearing be closed and that the proposal of law be adopted.

COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN: I second that.

CLERK BONILLA: Supervisor Murray.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Ambrosino.
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COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO:  Aye.
CLERK BONILLA:  Councilwoman Cullin.
COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN:  Aye.
CLERK BONILLA:  Councilman Darcy.
COUNCILMAN DARIO:  Aye.
CLERK BONILLA:  Councilwoman Goosby.
COUNCILMAN DARIO:  Aye.
CLERK BONILLA:  Councilman Hudes.
COUNCILMAN HUDES:  Aye.
CLERK BONILLA:  Councilman Santino.
COUNCILMAN SANTINO:  Aye.
SUPERVISOR MURRAY:  Please call the next public hearing.

CLERK BONILLA:  Proposed local law regarding parking or standing prohibitions in Levittown, Oceanside and West Hempstead.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY:  Does anyone wish to be heard on this matter? May I have a motion.

COUNCILMAN HUDES:  I move that the public hearing be closed and the proposal of law be adopted.

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO:  I second that.

CLERK BONILLA:  Supervisor Murray.
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SUPERVISOR MURRAY:  Aye.

CLERK BONILLA:  Councilman Ambrosino.

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO:  Aye.

CLERK BONILLA:  Councilwoman Cullin.

COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN:  Aye.

CLERK BONILLA:  Councilman Darcy.

COUNCILMAN DARCY:  Aye.

CLERK BONILLA:  Councilwoman Goosby.

COUNCILMAN DARCY:  Aye.

CLERK BONILLA:  Councilman Hudes.

COUNCILMAN HUDES:  Aye.

CLERK BONILLA:  Councilman Santino.

COUNCILMAN SANTINO:  Aye.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY:  Please call the next public hearing.

CLERK BONILLA:  Proposed local law regarding arterial stops in Merrick and Wantagh.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY:  Does anybody wish to be heard on this matter?  May I have a motion.

COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN:  I propose we close the public hearing and the proposal of law be adopted.
COUNCILMAN DARCY: I second it.

CLERK BONILLA: Supervisor Murray.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Ambrosino.

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Cullin.

COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Darcy.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Goosby.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Hudes.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Santino.

COUNCILMAN SANTINO: Aye.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Please call the next public hearing.

CLERK BONILLA: Proposed local law regarding travel regulations in the vicinity of schools in Oceanside.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Does anyone wish to be heard on this matter? May I have a motion.

COUNCILMAN SANTINO: Yes, I move that
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the public hearing be closed and the proposal
of law be adopted.

COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second the
motion.

CLERK BONILLA: Supervisor Murray.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Ambrosino.

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Cullin.

COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Darcy.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Goosby.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Hudes.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Santino.

COUNCILMAN SANTINO: Aye.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Please call the next
public hearing.

CLERK BONILLA: Proposed Revised Public
Parking Field Maps in Baldwin.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Does anyone wish to
be heard in this matter? May I have a

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COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Yes, Supervisor I move this hearing be closed and the proposed public parking field map as revised be adopted.

COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I second the motion.

CLERK BONILLA: Supervisor Murray.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Ambrosino.

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Cullin.

COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Darcy.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Goosby.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Hudes.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Santino.

COUNCILMAN SANTINO: Aye.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Please call the next public hearing.

CLERK BONILLA: Proposed revised public
parking field maps in Hewlett, Levittown, Merrick, Seaford, and Woodmere.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Does anyone wish to be heard on this matter? May I have a motion.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: I move that this public hearing be closed and the proposed revised public parking be approved.

COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN: I second the motion.

CLERK BONILLA: Supervisor Murray.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Ambrosino.

COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Cullin.

COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Darcy.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilwoman Goosby.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Hudes.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

CLERK BONILLA: Councilman Santino.

COUNCILMAN SANTINO: Aye.
SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Please call the next public hearing.

CLERK BONILLA: Accepting as complete, a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement and scheduling a SEQRA public hearing in connection with the application for the creation of a Planned Development District and a request for a change of zone in connection with the redevelopment of the Nassau Veteran Memorial Coliseum Site and other adjacent properties from Residence B, Mitchel Field Hotel, Mitchel Field Office and Mitchel Field Office II Districts, to the proposed PDD and approval of a Conceptual Master Plan in connection with property in Uniondale.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: This is of course the environmental hearing that we are all here for.

Before I begin to call up Mr. Wang and Mr. Rechler, I just want to say and convey a few thoughts, if I might. This is certainly a very, very important day, just the fact that we have so many folks here,
this is kind of the biggest schedule to come indicates that, this is a very, very important project and of course I think I speak for my colleagues here and the Town Board to say that the Town Board has always been and always will be focused on innovative developments, and this 150 acre project certainly falls into that category. As we all know our region is confronting the same economic consequences of a national recession that every other region has been battling, so we also need jobs and economic stimulation and support for the property tax base. Innovative development can bring those benefits and more. It can also offer sports, recreational opportunity, social interaction, educational stimulation and other quality of life enhancing features.

We are here today, because it's important that whatever we do at the proposed Lighthouse project site, it must be done right. Decisions that we make in this matter will effect our children and grandchildren and many generations to come, so today's
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hearing as Mr. Ra, our town attorney has
indicated a moment ago, is part of the New
York State mandated review designed to
protect the environment. This is not about
the merits of the project, instead, whether
the proposed development is appropriate at
the site will be the subject of a later
zoning hearing that comes after this
environmental session has been concluded.

Now the environmental issues that
we will be considering in this process of
today's hearing include traffic, air quality,
drinking water, sewage, disposal, garbage
collection and its disposal, storm water
run-off amongst other environment issues. I
just ask each and everyone of you, you've
already passed with flying colors, to be
respectful of each and every one of the men
and women who testify today.

Everyone certainly deserves our
courtesy, attention and consideration and I
am very, very pleased to say that you've
already passed with flying colors and those
who cannot speak today or cannot attend
today's proceedings can have their views on the environmental issues under the Lighthouse rule DGEIS considered by e-mailing, you could go to our Lighthouse comments @TOHmail.org, by mail, Town of Hempstead, Lighthouse Project, 1 Washington Street, Hempstead New York, 11550 and as we said before, the deadline for the public comments on those environmental issues that we will be considering today is August 17, 2009.

So today we will hear first from the applicant, Mr. Wang and Mr. Rechler and their group, involved agencies, governmental officials, community leaders and the public at large and before I call Mr. Wang, if we can, I would also like to thank our host, President Stu Rabinowitz, Dean Rich Guardino, the entire public safety staff here at Hofstra University, they have been nothing but accommodating to us, and forward remarks, President, Stu Rabinowitz. If you would like to come forward, or if you would like to -- okay, but thank you again President Rabinowitz, Hofstra has been
Absolutely fabulous. So Mr. Wang, if you would like to begin your presentation.

BY MR. WANG,
DEVELOPER

MR. WANG: Bringing Mike Bossy and Bob Nystrom does something. Thank you very much Supervisor and thank you to the Board. Good morning everyone on behalf of my partner Scott Rechler, I want to thank you for being part of this very exciting and important day to us.

In the many years working on the Lighthouse Project and listening to the many different voices from all of the communities surrounding the project as well as across Long Island, we have brought the Lighthouse Project before the Town Board and the public to officially comment for the record. I am so proud that the Lighthouse has brought together such a diverse group of supporters from all over Long Island. As I said earlier this morning across the street at the Coliseum, the widespread support for the Lighthouse Project has been overwhelming.
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The Lighthouse is hope for Long Island and we are closer than we have ever been before, but I caution all of you, we are not there yet. Even after today, we need to keep pushing ahead until we get that shovel in the ground.

Now, I have a short video here to show you about the project, but before I show you a video of some of the details about the project, I'd like to also thank Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi for being here today. He has steadfastly supported this example of his vision for the new suburbia. We started with the County many years ago, we are finally at this point, so now I'd like to run this short video.

(Whereupon, a short video was shown.)

You know my partner Scott Rechler and I both know that it would not have been possible to get to this point without the support of the public. We have conducted over 202 community outreach meetings and when I look into the crowd today, I see the faces of the people we have met with, leaders from
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labor. I think about the folks they have
brought together this morning walking
side-by-side with us as we try to get the
Lighthouse built. Thank you for your
support.

I also see Islander fans, thank you
for your support. Thank you to the Uniondale
School District, the people from the Garden
City Chamber of Commerce, Friends to 100
Black Men, the Uniondale Fire Department, the
Village of Hempstead, East Meadow Chamber,
West Hempstead Civic and all the folks from
the Diocese of Rockville Centre, all the many
people, thank you, thank you, thank you.

As the Supervisor said, all of the
comments made at this meeting, all the ones
submitted to the Town will be read and will
be addressed, and I know that not all the
supporters could make it here today, and here
we have here over 15,000 letters and names of
supporters that reached out to us expressing
their support for the project and I'd like to
turn those all over to you and to the Town,
and because some folks cared still even
more to have their voices heard, we have a
second short video of people who supported us
from all across the Island, so you don't have
to get up for this one, it's shorter than the
first. So if we can, let's run that off.

(Whereupon, a short video was
shown.)

It's really great to witness how
much support there is for this project. We
have prepared and submitted a 7000-page Draft
Generic Environmental Impact Statement that
comprehensively addresses the benefits and
impacts of the Lighthouse development. As
the main focus of this hearing is to solicit
public comments on the DGEIS, I will conclude
my presentation and will be here to listen to
the public's comments. It is then the
comments will be addressed by the Town in the
Town's final generic environmental impact
statement. At this time, I'd like to also
thank again Supervisor Kate Murray, her
entire staff and the entire Board, especially
Joe Ra who has been tirelessly working with
us through this process and I want to thank
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also everyone who has taken the time out to
come out in support of this project. Thank
you. very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you. Mr. Wang.

If I could call up President Stu Rabinowitz
from Hofstra University, our wonderful host
today.

STUART RABINOWITZ,

PRESIDENT, HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

MR. RABINOWITZ: On behalf of Hofstra
University, I want to welcome all of you
back, I want to welcome all of our neighbors
to our campus.

A lot of people have thanked us,
but I want to tell you that it's our
privilege to be able to host this hearing.
The first of a long and thorough review
process on the Lighthouse proposal at the
Nassau hub and this public hearing. Hofstra,
is, I think you know, deeply committed to the
well-being of the region and our neighbors
and we are a significant stakeholder on this
project. We have 2,600 employees; we have an
annual budget in excess of $350 million a

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year; we have more than 12,500 students at
this University; we have 220 acres which are
right next door to the proposed site; we have
115 buildings and we have over 110,000
alumni, many of whom live on Long Island and
like the Islanders, I hope, there is no way
Hofstra is ever moving from Long Island.

So we believe deeply that the
future of Hofstra University and the future
of the region are intertwined. So it is an
honor and our pleasure to be able to play any
role we can in helping reach the right
decision on this project.

The second thing I want to say is
we have a tremendous amount of confidence in
the Town Board of the Town of Hempstead, as
we do with all of our public officials. We
know that you are responsible and
conscientious, and we know that this is a
bold proposal and that you will, as you
should, carefully analyze and assess its
potential impacts, because that's what
today's hearing is about in part, and that
with all the problems that arise, that can be
mitigated, that you will work cooperatively
with the developers and the community and the
other stakeholders in ameliorating whatever
those negative impacts are, but all of that
said, we are also confident that the Town
fully understands that this proposal is
crucial to the future of Long Island and the
region and that there is an extraordinary
need for expediting the decision making
process in this case to approve the project,
the Lighthouse at Nassau hub.

The benefits of this project to
Long Island, which you've heard spoken by
many, many people are enormous, and frankly
this is the time, this is the plan, this is
the place and these are the developers to
make this bold vision into a reality. You
all know the benefits. This is the worse
economic downturn since World War II. We are
desperate for jobs, this project will provide
temporary and permanent. We are desperate
for a larger economic base for our school
taxes. This project will provide that.

In the long run, the thing we are
most desperate for is that we stop the alarming departure of 25 to 34 years from Long Island. There has been a tremendous brain drain and there continues to be a tremendous brain drain on Long Island from young professional work force members -- potential members. They don't live here.

Hofstra admits freshman classes of about 1,700 a year, about 50 percent of them are from out of state, 50 percent are in-state and the surrounding area. All of them are accomplished and determined and intelligent and would make great work force members. We bring them here to go to school, because we can, and we can't keep them here because they can't afford to live here, and if they could afford to live here, they don't want to live here because wherever those pockets of places to live are -- it just doesn't provide the retail amenities and lifestyle that a lot of young people want.

Both of my children are professionals. One lives in Washington DC and the other lives in Buckhead in Atlanta,
Georgia. They are not on Long Island, so Hofstra losses potential employees, very qualified young faculty members, qualified administrators, other businesses, I'm sure, do the same, because it is not an affordable attractive place to live on Long island and that's one of the key benefits that would result from the Lighthouse project, and lastly and very importantly, in the long run, we need to finally replace the defense industry with some kind of industry that makes Long Island different, that flourishes on Long Island to provide the mainstay for our economic engine. We never have replaced the defense industry. When Grumman left and so on and so forth, it has never been replaced by a major industry. I think most of us agree that future lies in technology, the high-tech business, in biomedical business and medical technology.

Hofstra University, as many of you know, in partnership with the North Shore Long Island health care center is about to open a medical school, right across the
street from the Lighthouse project, September 2011. It will be followed by probably a school of allied medical professions and a school of public health. It will be followed by a research facility probably a branch of the Feinstein Institute built on Hofstra's campus. What a synergy there would be between the life sciences at Hofstra University and the Lighthouse. What a synergy. We would help attract high-tech businesses, office space and so on at the Lighthouse and the Lighthouse would house and attract the young scholars, the young workers and administrators who will help build that industry and make this part of Long Island flourish.

Secondly, this is the place. You are not talking about green space here, you are talking about one of the ugliest parking lots and one of the ugliest -- all respect to Charles, one of the ugliest arenas in America, that's what you are talking about developing. It's in the middle, of nowhere between highways which makes it easy to get
to and thirdly, and perhaps finally, these
are the developers, they are special
developers that have a deep, deep connection
to Long Island. They are not running away
from here, they are going to see this project
through and they are going to make sure it
works right.

So there is a saying now, or a
reputation that Long Island has among
developers which, is any plan, any major
plan, anything with vision, any good ideas,
it's dead in the water on Long Island before
it starts. I the know the Hempstead Town
Board is going to prove them wrong and you
will receive the credit you deserve for
paving the way for Long Island's future,
thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you again
President Rabinowitz and I have to say from a
personal perspective, I absolutely enjoy
working with you and I want to commend your
leadership in bringing so many exciting
things and programs to Hofstra University.
You've really put it on the map, and I
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congratulate you for your own vision.

Next we have County Executive Tom Suozzi.

THOMAS SUOZZI,

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

COUNTY EXECUTIVE SUOZZI: Thank you, Supervisor, I am Tom Suozzi. I am an Islander and I support the Lighthouse project.

Also I want to start by thanking Supervisor Murray and the Town Board for being so accommodating by moving your venue to this facility and by being so open about getting people's comments and trying to move this process forward, so thank you very much to you and the Town Council, and thank you to Charles and Scott and your entire development team for giving us a vision for the future that is consistent with the concept of new suburbia that really gives us great hope for the future of Nassau County. Thank you very much for the developers, thank you very much. You can clap for the developers.

I have been supportive of this
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project since the very beginning for the concept that, Number one, we need to renovate The coliseum and we want the development to generate the funds that are necessary to pay for the redevelopment.

Number Two, we want to keep the Islanders here on Long Island. Number three, we want to expand our tax base. Now we face new problems with the national recession. Now it's even more desperate then ever before, but even without the recession, Nassau County faces some very serious challenges.

It was back in 1947, that the Town Board of the Town of Hempstead had a huge crowd of people show up like this who came out to rally in favor of a very brand new concept that never happened before anywhere in the world, it was Levittown. People said we had to do something dramatically different, we have to change and there was a lot of fear of that project, but it was the beginning of suburbia, to the point that today, for the first time in the history of
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the United States of America, 50 percent of Americans live in suburbia. The problem is
the nation's first suburb, Nassau County, is
now over 60 years-old in that suburban model
and it is facing some very serious
challenges.

There are great, great places and
great things that we love about Long Island.
Nassau County has the lowest crime in the
United States of America for any community
over a half a million people. We have one of
the lowest unemployment rates for any county
in New York State, we have ten of the top 100
schools. We have beautiful North Shore water
fronts and South Shore ocean beaches. We
have great educational institutions, we have
great hospitals, we are a stones-throw from
the capital of the world, New York City.

Those are all great things, but we have four
major problems that are threatening our long
term sustainability.

Number one, our property taxes are
too high. Number two, as president
Rabinowitz mentioned, from the ages of 24 to
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34, only eight percent of our population is in that age group. In New York City, it's 15 percent of the population, in Westchester, it's 10.8 percent of their population. In the fastest growing places in America, like Las Vegas, and Phoenix, and Utah and North Carolina and Florida, it's 17 percent of their population. Young people are not moving back here, not only because it's so expensive, because it's not affordable in Manhattan and Brooklyn either, and young people are moving there, but because young people don't get married in their 20s. If they get married, they get married in their late 20s, early 30s, and you have to provide an exciting venue for them to live where there is housing available for them to live in.

The third problem we face are pockets of poverty that have been ignored for a long time in one of the most segregated places in America, and the fourth problem we face is traffic. Now all four of those problems will get worse, they will not be
corrected unless we start thinking dramatically differently.

This project is the hope for the future of Nassau County. This project represents the concept of new suburbia, the concept of what we can be once again for America, a model for other suburban communities to follow, because we suburbans sprawl, there is no place for us to grow, no new places for us to build new Levittowns or new places to build the mall or the strip mall or this or that, that we have seen along. Instead, we can reimagining other places that have already been developed in Nassau County. 90 percent of Nassau County must stay exactly the way it is now, 90 percent has to remain untouched with our single-family home neighborhoods and our parks and our open spaces. We have to preserve our open spaces, but 10 percent of Nassau County needs to be completely reimagined, where we expand our tax base, where we invite young people to come and live here, where we create an exciting place where
people want to go, where people want to live, where people want to meet other people. That 10 percent is represented in our pool of downtowns, it's represented in places like Belmont Race Track, and the old Grumman property and the waterfront in Glen Cove, but the most important project, the one that is most real, the one that will herald to the people of Nassau County, the people of Long Island, the people of New York State, the people of America, to other developers, the one project that says we can do it, we can become the model of the people, the one that is real is the Lighthouse project. We have to get this project done for the future of Long Island.

Now, I have spoken many times about the Lighthouse project. I've been in lots of meetings and have given lots of presentations, but a couple of weeks ago, I held a meeting with over 200 young people, those ages just over 20, up to 35. They want this type of project to happen, they need it to happen. We've been talking about the
brain drain for 15 years. We have been
talking about doing new exciting stuff for 20
years.

We looked at Nassau County versus
Suffolk County. We have only built 2 and
half million square feet of new construction
in the past decade. They are three times
bigger than us, they started developing long
after we did, they built 12.8 million square
feet of new construction to expand their tax
base. They have built twice as many new
homes. We don't want growth just for
growth's sake. We don't need more 711s and
Burger Kings or Big Box Stores, and not to
pick on any of those companies, but we don't
need growth just for growth's sake. We need
growth that preserves the things we love
about suburbia, but attacks those four
problems that I talked about. The young
people that we want to be here, want this
project to happen. The senior citizens that
are here, that are suffering because of the
property taxes need this project to happen.

I have great faith in Long Island.
I have great faith in the elected officials that are sitting before me right now. I have great faith in these developers, I have great faith is this crowd of people here. Who in this room -- I know this is about the enviromental issues, not pro or con, who in this room supports the Lighthouse project, just raise your hand.

We have a great opportunity to do something very, very important. I know you have a tremendous challenge ahead of you to resolve all of these different thorny questions regarding the environmental questions. I know, that working together, we can resolve those issues and we can accomplish this project. Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Bishop William Murphy.

Your excellency, I have to say I think you might be the most unique witness today. It's a delight to see you.

BISHOP WILLIAM MURPHY

BISHOP MURPHY: Well, this unique
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witness is here and very happy to see you too
and all the people who gathered here today.
Some people they say -- by the way, my name
is William Murphy, I am the Bishop of the
Catholic Diocese for Rockville Centre.

Here on Long Island, there are
about 1.5 million Catholics, about evenly
distributed between the two counties. I am
here to today for the same reason everyone
else I think is here. I want to associate
myself, first of all with the words of both
President Rabinowitz and Executive Suozzi,
they have a lot more facts and figures than I
have, but I am here today as the Pastor and I
know that my fellow women and men clergy in
other churches and religious groups do what I
do. We go around from place to place
throughout Nassau County, and Suffolk County,
in my case and we visit with people, we spend
time with people, we listen to people and as
a result I think I get a flavor of the people
here who live in Nassau County and I can't
tell you what you already know, but I can
confirm what you already know, we need
something new, we need something exciting, we need something with promise.

All of you elected officials work very, very hard and I know that and I honor you all, but you know how tough it is to keep things going in the current situation, you know how tough it is to resolve some of the many problems that face any suburbia like ours.

I believe very, very much that what the Lighthouse project offers us in Nassau is a new moment for a new vision to take root in our community and change our community for the better. Every now and then you need a visionary, and it's not just because he's my dear friend, but I will tell you Charles Wang is a visionary and he knows how to take that vision and turn into something that is very, very real. We have too many barriers, some of them are artificial some of them political. This project offers us, I believe, the opportunity to break down some of the barriers that we have in Nassau County, to forge new relationships among
people and towns and villages and to offer,
particularly young people, as Executive
Suozzi said, a hope and a reason to invest
themselves into this wonderful, wonderful
place that we live in.

I am an Honorary Islander, by the
way. I was made one by Charles eight years
ago. I've never yet put on a pair of skates
in the Coliseum, but I have gone often to the
games and continue to support the team with a
great deal of enthusiasm. We need a new
Coliseum, we need most of all, new hope, new
vision and this provides us with the new
vision. I am 69 years old, Supervisor, and I
hope that before I retire, we will see the
Lighthouse project up and functioning for one
and all. Thank you, very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.
Commissioner Gary Bettman. Welcome to the
Town Board.

GARY BETTMAN, COMMISSIONER,
NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

MR. BETTMAN: Thank you, Supervisor
Murray, Members of the Council, thank you to
all of the people that are here today, it's not very often that I get an ovation like that. Just as long as there were no officiating errors last night.

I grew up on Long Island, so I am a native Islander and I support the Lighthouse project, and I don't believe that there is any place that the New York Islanders should be playing but here on Long Island in Nassau County.

While many of us here talk about the exciting vision that Charles Wang and Scott Rechler have for the transformation and creation of the new form of suburbia. I don't think anyone could have been more eloquent than Executive Suozzi, so since I'm not an urban planner and it's out of my zone of expertise, let me talk a little bit about what I know something about and that is professional sports, in general, the National Hockey League and the Islanders. I was actually helping Mike Bossy, I was in the Nassau Coliseum when the Islanders won one of their cups and while it was many years ago
and my mind tends to fade as all of ours does
as we get older, it is a vivid, vivid memory
at a point in time of which there was great
glory and focus, not just on the Islanders,
but on Long Island, and I think that is a
time and remains a time of great pride for
all people who live on Long Island, but
without putting any edge to this, and I'm not
trying to do that, I think it is clear and I
say this perhaps as a matter of observation,
and as a matter fact, there is probably no
worse major league facility right now in
North America than the Nassau Coliseum.
This facility must be replaced,
because I have no doubt that the Islanders
cannot and will not stay in this facility one
second longer than they are legally bound to,
and as a result, and again this is not said
with an edge, it is the sooner we go about
the task of replacing or renovating the
Nassau Coliseum, the sooner the great fans on
Long Island can stand behind and continue to
be comfortable knowing that the only
professional sport team on Long Island will
stay here forever, and that's where the Islanders belong.

For seven years, Charles Wang has committed himself both emotionally and I will add financially to a great extent, to keeping the Islanders here, keeping them stable and in pursuit of the Lighthouse project. There can be no greater testimony to his endurance and his willingness to stick behind something, to make it a reality than the fact that you are still here today, still trying to get this project that we all would have thought would have been done years and years ago, but it's a not point in time to look back. This is really a point in time to look forward and I can tell you that I have no doubt that this project will be in good hands with Charles Wang and Scott Rechler, but more importantly the future of the Islanders on Long Island depends on this project going forward, and this team getting into an arena because none of us want to contemplate what the alternatives will be. So I am here to respectfully urge that you expedite this
project in any way you can, let's get a
shovel in the ground and let's make sure that
not just with John Tavares, but with the new
arena the future of the Islanders is bright,
thank you, very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.
Roger Clayman from the Long Island
Federation of Labor.

MR. CLAYMAN: It's a new shirt, I like
it very much.

John Russo sends his apologies
Supervisor, he had to run out, but he is on a
very important mission, and that mission is
to meet with the Governor and other state
leaders to try to get some infrastructure
money so that we can improve the environment
of this area and make this project possible
and help you address the concerns that I know
you have about those environmental questions.

My name is Roger Clayman. I am the
executive director of the Long Island
Federation of Labor. I am here to represent
some of the concerns of a house full of union
members who have been out today.
SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Can everybody stand up who is part of the union. Thank you.

MR. CLAYMAN: I think some went back to work.

We represent 250,000 union members and their families on Long Island and the concerns that you address today, to make certain that the environment is correct, that the needs of the community are served are the same needs that we represent. We are the same as you. We are part of the community. We love what the developers are trying to do and are doing for this community. We love the Islanders too and we believe that if you would address issues of the environment, the developing and protecting of the middle class on Long Island is the best way to do it. To create good jobs, particularly union jobs that pay good wages and benefits, ensure that our middle class survives and the people who come here can also afford to live here, so we appreciate your efforts.

There is a lot at stake here for us, our members and families have been hit...
hard by the national recession, they are
losing their jobs and their homes. We
believe the Lighthouse Project represents a
significant step forward. It’s the avenue
toward recovery. It means jobs, a rebirth
for Nassau County and a new and exciting
future for Long Island. It is essential to
protect those jobs, that we build our
infrastructure, build the roadways and we
pledge to do anything we can do politically
or in any other way to access the resources
to make this a reality and help you do your
job better, thank you for your consideration.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Mr. Jim Castellane,
President of the Long Island Building and
Trades Council.

JIM CASTELLANE, PRESIDENT
LONG ISLAND BUILDING and TRADES COUNCIL

MR. CASTELLANE: Good morning,
Supervisor. I want to thank the Board for
giving me the opportunity to speak on this
project. I think you heard me speak about it
before, right?

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Just a few times.
MR. CASTELLANE: I look at Charles Wang this morning and Scott Rechler and Tom Suozzi and yourself and you represent Long Island. We all represent Long Island. We know the problems that we face out there, you are hearing it. The economic times that we are facing right now, we could come out shining on Long Island, with the support of this Town Board, with the vision from Mr. Wang and Scott, and our County Executive, it seems to me that we have everybody in place and that everybody really understands the importance. I, personally, in the Building Trades Council, I have 65,000 members and I am facing 35 percent unemployment. That's what a lot of people want, back to work, and that's deep because they are losing their homes, they're losing their wives, start drinking. I don't know how many people up there have actually ever lost your job, when you lose it for an extended period of time, like we have been facing, serious things happen. It's great to have a rally, it's great to come before this Board, it's great.
to meet Charles and Scott. I don't sleep too
good knowing I have 35 percent of my men
sitting home. The project is great for Long
Island, we will shine and I said to Charles
this morning at the rally, I'll stand by that
community because I firmly believe it.

Right now, Charles Wang and Scott
Rechler and Tom and yourself Supervisor and
your Board, you are my stimulus package
because I haven't anything for
infrastructure. I have some money that came
in for roads, but it's almost the same as we
get every year. That's where I am going now,
to meet with the Governor. I am not too
stimulated when my guys are losing their
homes and the guys that are losing their
homes aren't too stimulated, but it will be
great thing for Long Island. I encourage you
to please try to understand the seriousness
of what we are facing and how you can come
out on top in the United States and shine by
getting this project done and getting it done
quickly.

What the County Executive said
about developers not wanting to come here is true, because I hear it on my phone. We all know who Donald Trump is. Is there anybody who doesn't know who he is. He is trying to build a hotel, he can't get it done. He is going to walk away, he's going to get fed up, so I personally would like to thank Charles for hanging in there and being as tough as you are to withstand the pressures, the political pressures and everything else that went on this, but now we are together. We are a team, and if we can work as a team, we will put our people to work and I just want to get one of those little sail boats that you got, they look fantastic.

The Coliseum does need rebuilding. We know what we need. We stood in that parking lot this morning. We saw it, so I want to thank you, Supervisor, and the Board, and I urge you, I want you to know that labor is 100 percent in support of building this project, so if you don't mind, I'd like to let you hear what we said this morning. You weren't with us this morning, we had a little
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slogan called just build it and it was pretty loud, so how about it guys just, build it.

(Whereupon, audience members chant, just build it, just build it, just build it.)

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Michael Dowling, President of North Shore Long Island Jewish.

MICHAEL DOWLING, PRESIDENT

NORTH SHORE LONG ISLAND JEWISH

MR. DOWLING: Thank you. very much. I am delighted to be here and I thank you for the invitation. As mentioned by my colleague, I am the President and CEO of North Shore LIJ Healthcare System. I am here representing the largest employer on Long Island, we've got 38,000 employees in the system overall and we are continuing, obviously, to expand on an ongoing basis all the time. So I am here first of all to congratulate Scott and Charles for your wonderful vision. I think you deserve an enormous amount of credit for putting a big idea on the table and I do think you deserve another round of applause.
We enthusiastically support the project and we urge its immediate approval. There are many reasons for this. I will not repeat, many of these have been stated all ready, but just a couple of points.

Approval of a project like this makes a dramatic statement. It makes a statement that Long Island embraces big ideas, that it embraces innovation and very, very importantly, that it embraces investment. It also demonstrates that we are willing to prepare for the future. We cannot live the part of just status quo, you've got to be moving forward all the time. It's the same in every business, you've always got to anticipate what you've got to be doing and where the world is going over the next number of years, and what it is you've got to be doing to prepare for it.

We have to keep the Islanders on Long Island. They are part of the fabric of Long Island and the Islanders have to stay here. It would be one of the biggest travesties of all time, if that were not to
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occur, and our children and our grandchildren will forever regret it and be sitting there wondering who are the people that took inaction, or that failed to act or had inaction that allowed them to actually move to a further location, so we cannot let that happen and as Stu Rabinowitz said, we obviously have to provide the opportunity for our young people to stay here.

Just to give you an idea, we hire about 70 people a week in all facets of healthcare. I want these people to be coming from Long Island. I want them to be living on Long Island. I want them to be investing in Long Island. I don't want to try to attract people from other parts of the region to come to Long Island and then when they get here they cannot stay. The Lighthouse is key to make all of this happen. It has, obviously, as others mentioned, Tom Suozzi and others, significant economic and social significance. The Lighthouse project is our stimulus project. We hear a lot about this nationally, about a national stimulus.
program. This is a stimulus project for Long Island.

Also I want to mention as Stu Rabinowitz said, because we are partnering in something extraordinary, we are partnering in the development of a new medical school located, as Stu mentioned, just a walk from here, right next to the future Lighthouse project. This is the first medical school opening in New York since the early 70s, 1 of 13 in the United States. We want to make this a hub to attract scientists and doctors and researchers into Long Island to invest in Long Island and to be right here.

We want to create a healthcare system on Long Island to compete with the best in the United States, whether it be the Mayo clinic of Cleveland and the medical school, I promise you that Hofstra is a big part of this and the Lighthouse right next to this project creates unbelievable synergy. This will make everything work well, so I would ask in conclusion is to understand that this is a window of opportunity. It doesn't
come that often, but when it comes, you've
got to grasp it. This is a game changer for
Long Island. The actions that you will take
is a game changer, it will change Long Island
for the better, forever, so I strongly,
strongly urge you on behalf of the largest
employer on Long Island to act swiftly,
approve the project, not over politicize, not
over lawyer it, just move forward, get it
done and let's get the action going, thank
you so much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Jane Fasullo from the Sierra Club.

JANE FASULLO,

SIERRA CLUB

MS. FASULLO: Good morning.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good morning.

MS. FASULLO: I am here in fact to
address the environment in not necessarily a
negative way. I think the expectation in the
audience here is I am from the Sierra Club,
and probably assuming I am speaking against
the project, I am in no way doing that. I
neither support or deny the benefits of this
program -- project.

However, this is an environmental hearing, and as such, I need to address some very important issues. First, I am a volunteer, I drove an hour and a half to get here. The lack of information on the web site brings me to make my comments. The information on the website does not include what the affordability of housing will be at this particular location.

In Suffolk County, for example, we are looking at affordable housing which is defined as 80 to 120 percent median average income. That actually comes down to $80,000 or more a year. That information is severely lacking. I don't see what it translates to in dollars for this project, and I would like to see that on the website, some forward honesty when it comes to finances.

Leaving that issue aside and coming back to the environment. The most critical issue that I'm not sure can be addressed sufficiently is the one of water and it comes to the entire design of this project. If
this were to be truly an environmentally sustainable project, not just for five years, but 50 years down the road, one could look at it and say this is a shining example for the United States. You must address the design from every aspect.

I have heard promises that you will use greywater, I've heard promises that you will in fact incorporate lead standards. These are just promises, there is nothing hardcore about these. There are no commitments in the contract, they should be there and when you speak about lead standards, you must distinguish between bronze, silver, gold and platinum. I see nothing in the designs that the building is going to incorporate solar, I see nothing that incorporates wind and as we know wind is going to be a major source of our energy in the future, it should be incorporated in these designs. I do see, however, a lot of open ponds and fountains. I see these during the summer time as a waste of the fresh water we have, and unlike New York City, we do not
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have 15 reservoirs, we have 1. That's weighs
one full magothy. If you misuse it by
treating it with ethylate (phonetic) and
letting ethylate go into the magothy you will
pollute the water or if you misuse it by
overdrawing it, it will affect all of the
surrounding community. You will pay for that
30 years down the road. So as you design
this project, we need to keep those things
under consideration, thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Matt Crosson, good morning.

MATT CROSSON, PRESIDENT
LONG ISLAND ASSOCIATION

MR. CROSSON: Good morning, thank you
for the opportunity to address the Board.
I am the President of the Long
Island Association, which is the largest
business organization in the State of New
York and the largest business organization on
Long Island, and the first point I think I
should make to this Board is that the
business community of Long Island stands
shoulder-to-shoulder with organized labor in

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support of this project.

Long Island is the sum of its parts. The quality of life that we all enjoy, the economic prosperity that we rely upon, the very future we all hope to experience on Long Island all depend upon the choices made locally about how each town and each village will grow, and the choice before you is clearly the most important such choice to come before any Town Board on Long Island in decades.

There are many Long Islanders who instinctively oppose growth. They think that growth equals inconvenience, more people, more taxes, trouble. In fact as Tom Suozzi said, well-planned intelligent growth means exactly the opposite. It broadens the tax base, it attracts more businesses, it creates high paying jobs and many regions around the country have already experienced the visionary growth that is represented by this project has improved the quality of life, not just for the people who live and work within the newly built community, but also for the
surrounding communities.

Now there are several themes that are emerging already in the testimony that you've heard and I want to expand on all of them. This project comes at a critical time for Long Island. Obviously, we are staggering under the weight of a national recession. Unemployment, the total number of unemployed people on Long Island is at an historic high today as we speak. Job losses are approaching those we experienced during the recession of the early 1990's, the most difficult economic period of time in the history of Long Island, but most important, Long Island continues to lose younger people, people between the age of 25 and 44 faster than any place in the State of New York, including western New York and upstate New York which has been in an economic depression for over 20 years. We are losing young people because they don't want to live here, they can't afford to live here, they can't find the types of housing they want to live here, they can't find the kind of stimulating
environment that they need, so they are choosing to go elsewhere.

This project provides them exactly the kind of opportunity they are looking for. Obviously, it will provide jobs, tens of thousands of construction jobs, tens of thousands of permanent jobs that will affect the taxpayers, but even more important, and this point I think I would command to you most importantly in making the decision you have to make, the Lighthouse project will show the nation and it will in fact show the world that Long Island is moving forward, long Island is progressing. We are growing both with the times and into a brighter future.

This project will provide inspiration to those very young people who may be feeling that they should make their lives somewhere else. It will provide hope for the many people who love this place but wonder if they can afford to keep living here. It will provide a reminder that Long Island remains a place of innovation and of
problem solving.

Now I and others are speaking in broad terms about this project, but we all recognize that this Board is required by law to wrestle with the details of this project, their effects on the environment, and ultimately their effects on the people of this town. My purpose in stating the support of the Long Island Association so broadly is to place this project in its larger context, and to ask this Board to remember when it makes its decision, that the Town of Hempstead's action on the Lighthouse project has implications for all 2.8 million people who call Long Island home and will call it home in the years ahead.

If there are issues, and there are always issues, if there are issues within the project's design that require attention, deal with them head-on, but do not allow this project to be derailed or delayed for Long Island's future, a great deal rides on the decisions you make today, thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Mr. Larry Levy,
Executive Director for the National Center for Suburban Studies right here at Hofstra University.

Good morning.

LAWRENCE LEVY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL CENTER FOR SUBURBAN STUDIES

MR. LEVY: Good morning. This is a little weird, this turnabout. I'm not used to this.

Just a quick disclaimer, I am not here to speak for Hofstra University, Stu Rabinowitz did a more than able job of that.
I am also not speaking for the Long Island Regional Planning Council, a contract group to produce a Long Island sustainability study. I am here as someone who has studied this and other American suburbs for over 30 years and who has lived on Long Island for almost 50 years and wants to be able to live here and wants the kids to be able to live here.

When I first came to Newsday, we ran a series called Long Island Crossroads, and it started out, Long Island could be a...
heaven or Long Island could be a hell, it all
depends on the next 25 years, and of course
we are still wrestling with the same problems
30 years later and haven't gotten it done,
and this project, if Mr. Wang and Mr. Rechler
didn't want to call it the Lighthouse, they
could call it the Crossroads, because it's
truly a Crossroads project for Long Island.

We once -- Nassau County especially
were a leader among suburbs in America.

There is an argument whether we were the
first or not, but we were certainly the one
that grew the fastest. We created the most
jobs, we led in manufacturing, we led the
flight to the moon, now we are known more
around the country as lagers, as lagers in
most important numbers when it comes to
growth, when it comes to growth in jobs, when
it comes to retention of our young people and
so if you look at us in the broader
perspective of the American suburb, which are
the most important places, which are the most
demographically dynamically places, we are
falling behind.
This project could also be a heaven and it could be a hell. If, as many people have said, it's not done right, if proper attention isn't paid to traffic, if proper attention isn't paid to issues like affordable housing, racial diversity, the environment, many other things that people have talked and will talk about, it would be worse than doing nothing at all, but these are obstacles that can and must be overcome, they are overcome all over the country.

In my travels, political jurisdictions as complicated as ours, have found a way to get together on projects of regional importance. There are examples all over the country, I'll submit a more formal statement on places that you might want to visit, Reston Virginia is a fine model of a community that has a downtown core somewhat like what Mr. Rechler and Mr. Wang are proposing to do. There is nothing more complicated than the Washington DC suburbs, and if they can do it, and if suburbs all over the country are able to come together to
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solve the problems, then this project would
not be a hell, but it would be a heaven that
Newsday talked about so many years ago. I
think I will stop there, I want to be the
first person to keep to the two minutes and I
wish you a lot of luck. I know that you all
can overcome your political, and ideological
and jurisdictional issues and prove that this
is the place that can still get things done.
We need to prove that to ourselves, we need
to prove that to people with vision and
people with money to invest, that this is a
place, not of obstacles, but of opportunity.
Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you. Nicholas
Episcopia, Trustee of the Village of Garden
City. Bob Nystrom.

ROBERT NYSTROM,
FORMER NEW YORK ISLANDER

MR. NYSTROM: Thank you, very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good morning.

MR. NYSTROM: Good morning Supervisor
Murray and Town Council. It's certainly a
pleasure for me to be here, especially since
I was a past member of the New Islanders and now consider myself a true Long Islander. I am here because I support the Lighthouse project. I support the Lighthouse project for a number of reasons, the most important reason is because I love Long Island. I came here in 1972. I was drafted by the New York Islanders and came down here to the States at that time. I found it to be an incredible place to live and an incredible place to play hockey and an incredible place to work and also bring up my family.

The reason I am here is I don't want to see that go by the way side. Are we going to stand by and watch our kids move to different areas of the country because they can't afford to live here? Are we willing to lose our kids to areas that support growth. I hope not, Long Island needs to continue growing and the Lighthouse project is exactly the type of development that we need. We need to refurbish the run-down Coliseum, so that we again can get players like John Tavares, Josh Bailey to come here and
hopefully bring the cup back to Long Island.

In this economy, we need the 75,000 construction jobs that this project is going to create. We need those 19,000 permanent jobs. We need to generate $61 million in tax revenues to offset the increasing cost of living on Long Island. We need to provide our kids and their kids with a place that they go can go to watch championship hockey, where they can play hockey or work-out.

Where they can go to a movie or to a ball game, where they go to eat and just hang-out with friends, why, because this is what Long Island is all about, and unless we want to give it all up, we need to support the project and get it done. I am here to urge you Supervisor Murray and the Town Council to do what it takes to get this project done. Long Island needs it, thank you so very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Christine Mullaney from the Eastern Property Owners' Association, Garden City.

Good morning.
MS. MULLANEY: My name is Christine Mullaney. I am here today on behalf of the Eastern Property Owners' Association of the Village of Garden City. We are a civic association that represents the interests of approximately 40 percent of the residents of Garden City, those living east of Franklin Avenue and west of Ray Court between Old Country Road to the north and Meadow Street to the south.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Can I just ask you put the microphone down.

MS. MULLANEY: Sure, we are confining our comments -- we will be giving you a longer letter, but to three areas of the draft study, the first is the massive size of this proposed project.

Nassau County and in particular the three to five mile radius of around the proposed project consists of millions of square feet, commercial and retail property, many recently left vacant due to the economic
downturn or by businesses that have left the
region to retain tax advantages in relocating
to other states. We cannot understand or see
any evidence that would support the need now
or in the future for an additional one
million square feet of commercial office
space and 500,000 square feet of retail
space. In addition to space, all of the
cannibalized tenants in existing space in
surrounding towns and villages such as Garden
City, along Franklin Avenue.

We don't need buildings vacant and
impacting negatively on our village and other
surrounding villages. We would request that
a commercial property needs assessment and a
projection be completed and that the
commercial aspect of this project be adjusted
to suit the actual results of the assessment.
Otherwise, we have additional but vacant
properties. As for retail space within this
area, major tenants in and around Roosevelt
Field, the Source mall, as well as other big
and small on Old Country Road and Hempstead
Turnpike, a review of these properties show
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numerous vacancies. The demand for business
is not enough to sustain them. Although it's
understandable to add retail space with a
project such as the Lighthouse, we believe
that 500,000 square feet is excessive and we
request support data that this amount of
additional space is needed.

The second area we would like to
address is the impact of this project on the
water supply in the area. Currently in
Garden City we have numerous areas of ground
contamination that were left behind by
industrial and governmental tenants, these
contaminated areas will create plums of toxic
material within the soil. Current water
demand pulls water in the ground via wells,
the drawing of water towards the wells causes
these plums of toxic materials to be pulled
towards and into the wells in addition.

The Village of Garden City has
spent millions of dollars in taxpayer money
to erect and maintain stripping towers at
various locations within the village so that
the water in our wells is suitable for use.

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Considering the tremendous water needs that this project will require for its commercial and residential tenants, we are deeply concerned that the drawing of water to the Lighthouse will change the direction of these plumes, thereby accelerating movement towards our existing wells. The further contamination of these wells will create irreparable damage to our water supply and be devastating to the village and to the residents.

We therefore ask that a current study be performed that will determine the actual need of the project and how these needs will be met by the existing water supply. The study should include and consider each and every contaminated site and well that supplies water to the village of Garden City as well as other neighboring towns and villages, and the affect the Lighthouse project would have on these current supply systems, and removal of the contaminate that we battle every day.

The third element I would like to
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address is the impact that this massive project will have on our already stressed roadways in and around the area. We know the significant flaws in the data used in the study. Nearly all of the data was collected prior to 2007, most of it dating back to 2003. Without a current study of the impact additional traffic will have on the regions and surrounding villages and towns, you cannot make an informed decision on any changes or upgrades that would be needed to support what will be a huge influx of daily and event driven traffic. We ask that a current study be performed and its results published so that we can accurately understand the impact and further the enhancements to our current system that will be needed to support the project and protect the surrounding community from the overflow that will be created.

The new study should include the impact development would have on roadways and villages and towns surrounding the project. The following roads for instance were not
included in the current data, Washington Avenue, Old Country Road in Mineola to Fulton Avenue in Hempstead, a major north/south connector roadway with residential housing that will see a huge increase in traffic. It is not in the current study. Oak Street and Westbury Boulevard. Oak Street is a major commercial artery that provides access to Westbury Boulevard and Hempstead Turnpike. Westbury Boulevard West and Charles Lindbergh through the neighboring residential areas of Hempstead connects with the southern most residential area in Garden City and Lindbergh, Commander and Royalston Street, a major cut-through Clinton Road via Meadow Street.

Any development that is proposed significantly increases the volume of cut-through traffic. Stewart Avenue in Garden City, the current draft fails to note that Stewart Avenue is a residential Street in Garden City, that there are two schools and two houses of worship on Stewart Avenue and that this Avenue is a major route to the
excess passengers traveling on Old Country Road and cannot absorb any more overflow at rush hours, a study that provides sufficient evidence of these facts. It also incorrectly states the speed limit at 40 miles per hour on Stewart Avenue and the fastest is 30 miles per hour in Garden City.

We all also note, the draft document notes the study of the area known to be the hub as alternative modes of transportation that would be considered in and around the hub area, it would seem inevitable some form of alternative transportation would be considered. So we ask that a comprehensive study be performed as part of the Lighthouse Project that would provide in detail any and all alternative transportation systems that could be developed as well as a proposed location of such alternatives such as light rail and automated guide way transit. In either case, any proposed system must consider the input from surrounding communities and should be developed so that it does not intrude on
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1 communities and serve to negatively affect
2 them. There are options available for
3 locating such systems so that they would have
4 minimal or no affect on surroundings
5 neighborhoods, thank you for your time.
6
7 In closing we would like to say
8 that while we are just one village that would
9 be affected by this development, we are one
10 village that borders the development, which
11 is why we are so concerned with it and with
12 how it will negatively affect us. We feel it
13 would be wise and prudent to allow for the
14 proper time to fully study the impact that
15 this massive development will have on our
16 residents and on our commercial business
17 district and it is our expectation that you
18 will consider the magnitude of the impact,
19 positive or negative that this project will
20 have on Garden City and the surrounding
21 communities, because once it is completed, it
22 cannot be reversed, thank you very much.
23
24 SUPERVISOR MURRAY: We will take a
25 five-minute break.
26
27 (Whereupon, there was a brief
SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Robert Schoelle, next witness.

ROBERT SCHOELLE, JR.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

MR. SCHOELLE: Good morning, Supervisor Murray, Members of the Board. My name is Bob Schoelle. I am the Village Administrator for the Village of Garden City. I am here this morning to provide some remarks on behalf of Mayor Rothschild, and the Village Board of Trustees. The previous speaker has touched on a number of issues that I was prepared to remark on and will be covered in our written documentation, so I am going to, in respect for everybody's time, exhibit a little brevity.

The Village of Garden City, located just west of the proposed Lighthouse Project is vitally interested in the redevelopment of the Lighthouse property, both in terms of regional impacts and also obviously the potential effects on the residents, property owners, merchants and professional
proprietors in our village. We are pleased to be undertaking review of this important project and we thank the Town of Hempstead for the opportunity to comment. We will be following-up shortly with a more detailed written comment as a review of this project continues. It's important to note that the Village of Garden City is not opposed to the development of the project site, particularly the modernization of Nassau Coliseum and its redevelopment as a multi-use sports, entertainment, convention and tourist center. We are also in favor of the concept of a regional economic boast and employment generated.

However, we are concerned about the projects scale and intensity. We are concerned about the corporation abuses that will directly compete with nearby villages, including the business community within the village of Garden City. This the largest project in the history of Nassau County. Six weeks to a year for nine large volumes consisting of thousand of pages of highly
technical material and then to evaluate these various analyses is not sufficient time for even involved and interested agencies, with their teams of experts, much less interested members of the public. We have been spending a great deal of time with our professional consultants in reviewing this material and will provide the Board with written documentation within the comment period, which will touch upon about such areas as smart growth, water, traffic, building height and density. We thank you very much for the opportunity to come forward this morning and thank you for your efforts in regard to this project.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

At this time, Mr. William Lloyd, Superintendent of Uniondale School District.

Good morning.

WILLIAM LLOYD, SUPERINTENDENT,
UNIONDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT

MR. LLOYD: Good morning.

Supervisor Kate Murray, distinguished members of the Board,
thank you for this opportunity to address the Board. As a resident of Uniondale for over 25 years and Superintendent of one of the best school districts in the nation, I look forward to welcoming the families of the Lighthouse.

The Uniondale public school district is pleased that an agreement has been reached which we expect, together with the project tax revenues will mitigate the financial impact of the increasing enrollment from the proposed residential units. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Charles Wang, Mike Picker, for their outstanding collaboration and partnership with the Uniondale School family. I would now like to acknowledge three of my board members who are here this morning, Trustee President, Dr. Terri Mangum, Trustee Emerson Mott, Trustee James Sharpe and I would look to introduce my Vice President, Mr. Neville Georges, Mr. Georges.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you, Good morning; Mr. Georges.
MR. GEORGES: Good morning Supervisor Murray and Members of the Board.

Thank you for this opportunity to address this Board. On behalf of our children, I would like to echo Dr. Lloyd's statements. The Uniondale Board of Education looks forward to servicing the families of the Lighthouse and will welcome them to their new home in Uniondale, thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Mr. Eltringham of the Garden City Chamber of Commerce.

ROGER ELTRINGHAM, PRESIDENT

GARDEN CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MR. ELTRINGHAM: Thank you, Supervisor Murray, Board members. My name is Roger Eltringham. I am president of the Garden City Chamber of Commerce, the single largest community chamber of commerce on Long Island.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Wang for the record. I congratulate him on their vision. You have my admiration and
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respect for all you've done. It takes special people to put together a special project like that. Contrary to what the language suggests in the plan said, Garden City is not here to try to torpedo the Lighthouse project. My purpose is not to be negative, but to try to be realistic. The benefits are construction jobs, tax based increase, worker housing, upgrade of the Coliseum, keeping the Islanders on Long Island. I can't really get my arms around the Kansas City Islanders, and in addition to permanent jobs, support jobs as well as construction jobs, those benefits are all obvious.

Speaking for the Garden City Chamber of Commerce, I want to comment on the less obvious and on the path that this development is taking, that would well secure the town and village structures around the Lighthouse. When I look at one million square feet of office space and 500,000 square feet of retail space and yet another hotel, I could only describe my feelings as
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one of queasy apprehension about our future. Either way I have queasy apprehension, but as things stand today, we can't even support the retail space that already exists, Glen Cove Road, Old Country Road, the Source, the vacant properties, even Roosevelt Field themselves have gaping vacancy problems that are growing. The office vacancy rate in and around Garden City is 15 to 17 percent, Garden City retail vacancy rate is teetering, I don't think we are much different than the surrounding villages and towns, so given the dreary business environment, that's not going to get better anytime soon.

I see the looming glitter and promise of the Lighthouse and wonder if we are not about to experience another malling of Nassau County, that decimated towns and villages 20-30 years ago. To me right now, Tom Suozzi's new suburbia looks like it could make his recent vision a thing of the past. I hope that's not the case. This doesn't have to be. Garden City has always had a successful operating model and balance.
between residents and business that is based on sound principles of finance with which we have consistently adhered and this brings me to my point. In its present form, the Lighthouse is a development that could draw business and office occupancy to light to its center leaving Garden City and other towns as a second rate half-empty shell that can't compete with the glamour of this unbelievably huge and spectacular location. The planning of the Lighthouse Project and details strikes me as having been more self-contained to the empty space surrounding the Coliseum.

I would urge Mr. Rechler and Mr. Wang to consider and implement a modest scaled down version, that factors in the needs and economy of Hempstead, Garden City, Mineola, Westbury, Carle Place, Uniondale and East Meadow so that we can all continue to thrive and grow using a complimentary, but not dominating plan to make more sense for us all. The increased tax revenues from the Lighthouse will help Nassau County and the
surrounding businesses that are empty, paying no taxes and generating no jobs.

If Mr. Wang's project bordered or was near his beloved hamlet of Oyster bay, then perhaps he might think as we do. and just maybe the water and traffic issues might be easier to resolve if a more modest plan existed. I urge the Board to be diligent, yet expeditious in pursuing and getting this plan moving, we want to see it move, we just want to see the plan done, and see it done right, thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: John Kaiman, Supervisor of the Town of North Hempstead.
Welcome to the Town of Hempstead John.

JON KAIMAN,
SUPERVISOR, TOWN OF NORTH HEMPSTEAD

MR. KAIMAN: Good morning, good afternoon, Supervisor Murray, Town Board.
It's been awhile before I stood before a Town Board, I'm usually sitting up there, so this is kind of an interesting place for me to be today. I also appreciate that from a neighboring town, it's not our place to tell
another town where we think they should be going. I am here not only as a Town Supervisor of the other neighboring town of almost a quarter of a million people, but a member of the Long Island Regional Planning Conference. We have been involved and engaged in this issue. I am here to simply add some observations.

The Town of North Hempstead, which is a town just north of here does have the benefit of being near enough to this project that we will get many benefits. We will have the economic engine within your community to sustain the large county, that's an important point for our other towns and the communities within Nassau County to be able to generate sales tax, the mortgage tax revenue, the other revenues through jobs, through economic development is important for all of us, not just your town but for the County and the region as you heard before.

Our largest employer, LIJ stepped forward and said this is the project that supports them. The obligations on them, like
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you said, are such that as a person who has
similar-types of decisions that we need to
make, I appreciate the complexity of it. I
understand how difficult it is when community
groups and local residents and other builders
step forward and say we have concerns, those
concerns are important, they're relevant,
they're real. The question for us, who make
decisions and certainly for this Board is how
do you incorporate those into the future, how
do you make the right decision? (clapping)
A single clapping hand.

The beauty of this project is the
comprehensive nature of it. The difficulty
that we face when people come forward with a
large project is that its so easy to say
let's take off this portion of it, let's make
this smaller, let's reduce this scope here
and when we do that, we lose the
comprehensive nature of what could be a
brilliant project. It's the investment that
the project developer is called upon to make
in the larger community that makes a project
like this sustainable. They have to
understand how to improve the infrastructure
the water, the sewage, the traffic, they need
to make sure that they are addressing your
concerns, your concerns of course are the
people's concerns. It is a benefit to any
community to have the private sector come in
with millions upon millions of dollars to
address generational issues, such as water,
sewage and traffic, to be able to make those
improvements at this particular period of
time, when the economy is bad, when jobs are
hard to find, when people are struggling,
when stores are going out of business, this
is the time that we are called upon to make
investments in our future and we have private
developers willing to do that in such a
comprehensive way with the studies that will
be done and are being done, I have no doubt
that you are seeing documents and you will be
reading documents for months and possibly
years to come regarding traffic or
infrastructure and the impact on local
communities.

Business creates business, success
creates success, to able to generate business
here will generate further business
attachment to the local communities. The
goal is to do that in a way that does not
undermine those communities, but enhances
those communities so that when businesses are
growing within this project, that will
generate further interest in some of the main
streets along the communities or within the
communities that are situated right outside
of this project.

I am hoping and I do expect that
even communities such as North Hempstead will
feel some of the benefits as the success of
this comes our way. We are hoping, I am
certainly hoping that the Board finds a way
to approve this project. I am sure that the
covenants and considerations and things that
you could attach to any approval can be make
sure that you address the concerns of the
Garden City residents who spoke eloquently
here before and other communities. I am sure
that the residents will be well served by the
support of the project. I am hoping that we
don't minimize this project to the point
where it disappears or loses the
comprehensive nature of it. The magnificence
of this project is that it will change the
face of our county forever.

Every once in a while that needs to
happen. Every once in awhile I drive down
the street, I look at a building, I say how
did that building get built. My Board would
never authorize that building today because
its too big, its too wide. Its an important
structure in our community, it provides
housing or an economic engine for a community
and it is so difficult to make these
decisions that grow a community when there is
always going to be impact.

We have less people living here
today in this county than we did 30 years
ago, by hundreds of thousands of people. We
have more cars, but we have less people.
This is the way to create growth and the
smart way to do it, the way that your town
benefits, my town benefits, my county and our
county and our Island. I hope that you can
find a way to do this in an expeditious manner. I'm sure that you are doing it so that you can get through this in the most proper way, this is a wonderful Board meeting that you are having today. I have mine tonight, so I am having a straight day of Town Board meetings so this is actually an interesting experience again.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: My condolences.

MR. KAIMAN: I am going to talk to the future developers in my town and explain to people why sometimes we need a little more density in order to grow a community in ways that make sense, so I know exactly what you are going through. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak here today.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Dr. A.W. Cofarelli.

Good morning.

DR. A.W. COFARELLI,

FRIENDS OF HEMPSTEAD PLAINS

MS. COFARELLI: Good morning. I am A.W. Cofarelli. I am speaking for the Friends of Hempstead Plains.

Long Island's Hempstead Plains is
historically the only prairie habitat east of
the Mississippi river. The prairie
originally covered 60,000 acres of central
Nassau County, the only remaining remnants of
the Hempstead Plains open to the public are
the 19 acres of prairie grass land located on
the Nassau Community campus just northeast of
where we are standing, managed by the
non-profit environmental organization,
Friends of Hempstead Plains.

The Hempstead Plains Nature
Preserve and the adjacent 26 acres held in
the Plains is self-preserved, it supports
over 250,000 species of plants, birds
butterflies and other wild life, some of
which are rare endangered species. The
Hempstead Plains Preserve will soon include a
new outdoor natural history and environmental
educational center. The Hempstead Plains
Education Center is filled with
environmentally sustainable material and
technology with exhibits and guided tours for
the benefit of the students and surrounding
community, including the people who would
work and live in the proposed Lighthouse
project, the land for which extends to the
development have indicated they intend to
help protect the bucolic quality of this park
land so that it will remain enjoyable for
bird watching, nature study, research,
walking and quiet contemplation. The Friends
of Hempstead Plains support the concept of
environmentally responsible planning and
implementation of this project. Long-time
Nassau County residents are aware of the need
to preserve the quality of open space in a
time of increasing urbanization.

The Friends of Hempstead Plains'
position is that the preservation and
protection of the quality of this open space
of park land is in the best interest of
Mr. Wang and Mr. Rechler's proposed project
and in the best interest of the entire
community. We value the positive
relationship that we have developed with the
planners and want to keep a close working
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partnership to see to it that Hempstead Plains is preserved intact for posterity.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Mike Bossy.

MIKE BOSSY,

FORMER NEW YORK ISLANDER

MR. BOSSY: Thank you for allowing me the time to address the Board. I don't get nostalgic very often and I do mostly when I catch old games of me playing when I was a youngster, and I happen to be watching one of those games yesterday and watching that game brought me back to the time that I was drafted by the New York Islanders in 1977. I remember being introduced to Long Island and stepping foot into the Nassau Coliseum in June 1977 and thinking it was the best place in the whole world. Not only because it was a fairly new building, but because it was the beginning of my career as a professional athlete and I spent ten fantastic years on Long Island and won four Stanley Cups with the New York Islanders.

I retired in 1988 and from 1988 to 2006, I came back periodically to Long Island
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for different events at the Nassau Coliseum, the same Nassau Coliseum. From 2006 to today, I am working for the New York Islanders in the same Coliseum. I think it is time, after seeing numerous in almost every professional sports franchise city, build a new venue for their teams. I think it is high time that we do the same on Long Island for the New York Islanders. I would also like to say when we were a winning team and a Stanley cup champion team, there were a lot of things that go into becoming a great team, a lot of desire, a lot of dedication, a lot of passion and a lot of hard work.

I know that Charles Wang and Scott Rechler, Mike Picker have that same passion, dedication, desire and hard work to make the Lighthouse a viable project on Long Island. I would encourage everybody to be creative, to be diligent in addressing every situation necessary. In the last three years with my work with the Islanders, I run across a lot of former fans, a lot of current fans and a lot of business people on Long Island. We
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all know about the economy in the last year, the downturn in the economy and I hear a lot about it and I think the Lighthouse project would be a good shot in the arm for the economy on Long Island and obviously it would help keep the New York Islanders where they belong, thank you, very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Helen Meittinis.

HELEN MEITTINIS,

EAST MEADOW SCHOOL DISTRICT

MS. MEITTINIS: Good morning Supervisor Murray and all the Town Council. Although I'm a civic leader, I am an Islander fan and I would like to see them stay in their home. I have met several times over the years with Mr. Rechler and Mr. Wang as a representative of my Salisbury Community in the East Meadow school district.

There is not just one community involved, please remember that. We just want to reinforce what is very obvious. The environmental concerns are first and foremost because without emphasis on water, waste,
garbage, traffic and public safety issues, we cannot go forward with any projects. Yes, I am in support of development of this property. It is our biggest investment in our town, just be cautious of overdevelopment. However, we must help our surrounding communities, and keep our surrounding communities on the forefront.

Not all in this room will be impacted the way we are. Our East Meadow Salisbury Communities are the arms that grace this property. We just don't want you to forget our part in this development, many of our Salisbury East Meadow residents represent many labor unions. I have gone on record in the past in the Nassau County legislature that I am a union member of CSEA. I come from a family with a strong, strong presence in IBEW Local 3 and 25. We must never weary from keeping -- one must -- I'm sorry, must be a definite factor in all this, that we must never weary from keeping this all Long Island Unions and do not entertain any out-of-state workers whatsoever as sometimes
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happens in the middle of a project.

We speak about jobs, therefore we must keep all of those jobs here until the project makes it through the stretch and over the finish line. You have the power to proceed in keeping all of this in mind, it could be a grand slam for all, thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Chris Botta.

CHRIS BOTTA, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT

NEW YORK ISLANDERS

MR. BOTTA: Supervisor Murray, Town Board, Mr. Ra, Mr. Deery, you've kept your word while half of my village of Rockville Centre is on the beach somewhere, except for maybe myself, a lot of the audience here, of course, Bishop Murphy is not on the beach. We thank you for that. You are here, we are here and for that I salute your tireless stewardship of this project. You stood by your word, you said you'd work on this all summer, and you did. Mr. Ra, my friend, congratulations. With so many thanks, my buddy Rob Ricky is here with me. We grew up
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going to Islanders games, we worked together
in a deli, we will gladly -- Ben's Deli,
Chinese Food, whatever you want for lunch,
it's on me and we will go there.

Today you will hear from some
opponents of the Lighthouse Project. Many
will be based on very fair points, no doubt,
we all must show respect for them. My goal
here today is simply to urge you to do,
Supervisor Murray and Town Board, whatever is
in your power to make the Lighthouse project
work with Charles Wang and with Scott
Rechler. These are dedicated successful
generous neighbors, these are ideal citizens
of Nassau County to lead this landmark
development.

I spent most of the last decade
inside the Islanders family, I should point
out I am a Town of Hempstead resident. I am
a former Islanders -- executive might be too
strong of a word. I'm like an executive. I
am a writer. I am also, if you can believe
this, an adjunct professor at Hofstra
University and very proud to be that, but I
spent the last decade inside of the Islanders' family and the last year I have been excited and my feelings have not changed. There is not an owner in the modern history of professional sports who has done more to keep a franchise afloat in his own back yard than Charles Wang.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Ann Wells.

ANN WELLS, ACORN

MS. WELLS: Hello, my name is Ann Wells and I am a member of ACORN, that is an organization that is nationwide.

We do have a concern with this project and we are very much in favor of it. I would just like to say that we want to make sure that the people who live in this County, and those who have not been able to afford some of the housing that we have now, that they will be given some consideration for that project, and we have people who are out of jobs now and who are not able to get jobs. We would like them to be given consideration also, so we say that this project should go forward and it should go forward as soon as
possible, thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: David Denenberg.

DAVID DENENBERG,
NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATOR

MR. DENENBERG: I am David Denenberg. I am a Nassau County legislator. I am chairman of the Planning Development and Environment Committee for the legislature, born and bred in East Meadow, lifelong Islander fan and I am for the Lighthouse.

As chairman of Planning, Development and Environment, as well as in my practice, aside from county legislator, the best 50-hour a week, part-time job I ever had, but as part of my regular job, one of my practices is environmental law and under SEQRA, the Supervisor said it correctly, about what you need to look at, but all of it on balance, is for this project. If you are looking at emissions, part of smart growth and here is an opportunity to implement smart growth, it's a catch phrase that we think of so often for a project and for development that is pro-environment, pro-labor and
pro-business, all together, that's what this project is. You are thinking of emissions, the emissions for sports technology, for high tech, for housing, for retail, for a convention center and for a refurbished arena is next to nothing, it is environmentally friendly in that respect. When you talk of storm water run-off, what could be worse than 77 acres of asphalt leading straight into our storm drains and doing nothing. We can't handle it because of all of the new building criteria and improved storm water -- improved storm water outflow, when you talk of the water concerns, those are real concerns, but as I was talking with several people throughout these years, the Magothy and pollution in the Magothy are items that in new developments we can take care of and actually make better than the situation right now. There is sufficient water resources, we have to tap into them properly.

When you talk about traffic, let me leave you with this, who but Mr. Wang and Mr. Rechler are going to invest more than $50
million for this project to improve traffic congestion. When you make a destination point, one of the biggest problems now is when there is a concert, when there is an Islander game everyone comes all at once, everyone leaves all at once. That hasn't been said yet today, this would spread the traffic out for an event, it would spread the traffic out for a work day. It's not a push all at once. Nassau County in a major investment study needs an injection, needs a shot in the arm. We need to go to our federal officials who weigh in favor of this project to give money for the transportation alternative in and around the hub that we need in the future.

Finally, part of the environmental review is weighing the public policy considerations that includes weighing something that I believe would be a model in terms of smart growth that won't take anything away from the good models we have in Garden City, Great Neck, Rockville Centre or Long Beach, but this is a seminal project on.
a scale that is a game changer. Other communities will use this as a model for multi-use development in their downtowns to make their downtowns better, to save our children right here where they belong, where education at Hofstra and Nassau Community, they need to stay here. We need to give them housing. We need to give them jobs. This will be a model for downtown areas throughout Nassau County and even Suffolk County.

Let me close by saying, you know when I was 16, 17, 18, I remember the Islander parades when we won the Stanley Cup. I never thought I'd be sitting here to speak to the Hempstead Board, sitting next to two of my childhood hero's, Mike Bossy and Bob Nydstrom. It's our job right now to make sure my three children and their children will have the opportunity to be at Islander parades and that Hempstead Turnpike looks a lot better than it did in 1979, '80, '81, '82, '83, because we can do it and this is the start of something awesome. On balance the environmental impact has to be weighed.
and it's in favor, let build it, thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Barbara Zukowski, Barbara Zukowski of East Meadow, John Egloff, E-G-L-O-F-F. Hi, good afternoon.

JOHN EGLOFF

MR. EGLOFF: Hi, good afternoon. I am a life-long resident of Nassau County, Westbury and this project concerns me because it is called the smart growth project, that sounds nice, but that really means nothing. It is simply being used to silence any critics that dare mention the inevitable permanent environmental quality of life impact that this project will have on Long Island and its residents.

The Lighthouse project will create a miniature city with a high population density, more so than any of the locally surrounding areas and simply is bad suburban planning. For example, we don't need two forty-story towers in the middle of Hempstead Plains. They are out of character for the entire surrounding community. Is it really smart growth to have 203,000 housing units in
addition to a hotel, retail and office space
all concentrated in such a small area? All
along with this development comes the
increased demand for water as the Lighthouse
environmental impact statement itself points
out, the current water supply is inadequate
and the project will likely need to drill a
new well with an estimated capacity of 1.98
million gallons a day. New York State limits
on water consumption in Nassau County's 53
Water Districts is combined 201 gallons per
day averaged over one year and Nassau has
been close to or over that amount.

In July of 1999, the County
exceeded the maximum sustained yield and for
all of 1999 the usage reached the 2,100
million gallon average annual limit for the
first time. This is according to the New
York Times 2001. According to the draft
Nassau County Master Plan 1998, by the year
2020 water use is expected to increase to
133,000 gallons a day per person which is
over 16 million gallons more per day than
what was drawn in 1999. Nassau County has
reached rates between 450 to 300 million gallons per day of which only two-thirds recharges the area for the public water supply.

This trend will continue to make salt water intrusion a growing problem for the coastal water supply system and they may end up having to pipe the water from central Nassau. One of my concerns stems from the way in which the water intrusion is addressed in the Lighthouse water resource study on Page 8, where it states the issue of contamination of the water supply wells with salty ground water is addressed in the 1998 ground water study. However, it is documented as a local condition, it is not a local condition, except for those communities on the south shore where the water wells in those communities supply Nassau and the south shore will be affected by the extraction of additional water from the central part of the Island.

Simply put, fresh water is being pumped out and salt water is being removed or
replaced. Nassau County's water supply is clearly in jeopardy because of salt water intrusion of fresh water and continuing contamination of our ground water system.

I will try to cut this short, I have one more statement, two and half minutes for the rhetoric some of the other speakers have had, because this will affect all of us for generations to come.

Unrestrained development has become costly for many American communities. We should only have to look and learn from the water shortage problems in many communities in the western United States are experiencing to realize that unlimited development is unsustainable when the resources are finite. I hope the Board looks carefully at all of the environmental impact studies and weighs them and also for some other speakers that spoke before me, ask that further studies that are a little more insightful, they seem to be very lack in definition of these extensive reports that your people have prepared.
I'd like nothing more than to see development on Long Island, but I would like to see it come in a responsible restrained fashion that is sustainable for everybody concerned for the future of the Island.

Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you. Peter Quinn, Peter Quinn, Frank Borelli, Mary Ellen Fray.

MS. FRAY: Here I am.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Okay. Where are you? Upper deck, okay.

MARY ELLEN FRAY,
UNIONDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MS. FRAY: Good afternoon, Supervisor Murray, Town of Hempstead Board members, Mr. Wang, Mr. Rechler, distinguished guests and members of the Long Island Community:

The Lighthouse project is a mammoth undertaking for our Uniondale community. The Town of Hempstead is currently reviewing the codes and regulations that govern such a project and we urge due diligence. As a community based organization, our members
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welcome all types of economic development
that benefits our community, the Lighthouse
project must join in partnership with our
community needs.

Our letter, to you, Supervisor
Murray in March was more specific about the
issues that concern us. We are concerned
about the Lighthouse project demand on the
limited resources in our region. In
particular our ground water availability and
additional traffic that will be generated by
this project may conflict with other large
projects including the planned expansion of
Covanta waste to energy plan and the
development of the A. Holly Patterson
facility, and so we are urging that you do an
assessment of which are the most important
projects. I don’t think all of them can be
draining our water.

We urge that the Lighthouse planner
view our region holistically and take our
community concerns into the planning process.
As residents of Uniondale, we are also
apprehensive about the prospect of unbalanced
development that ignores the economic issues
of our community. We believe it is important
for the Lighthouse Project to develop
long-term relationships with the local
businesses with strong outreach to minority
companies and to build a sports technology,
sports medicine and sports retail pattern
that supports local restaurants and
businesses, but doesn't compete with them.
The Uniondale Community Council welcomes the
support of the Lighthouse project in our
efforts to fund a visioning process for
Uniondale.

Our letter almost two years ago
requested this visioning process and
Uniondale/Roosevelt weed and seed also wrote
to ask for inclusion in the town's visioning
program. This is not meant to slow down the
review process, but to improve the interface
of our community with this project. Given
the current economic climate and the number
of vacant businesses and houses, it is
incumbent on all of us to have a master plan
for Uniondale, thank you.
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SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Cleavon Abraham.

CLEAVON ABRAHAM

MR. ABRAHAM: Good afternoon.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good afternoon.

MR. ABRAHAM: Good afternoon Supervisor Murray, Town Board, I see many of my good friends. I have to give a special note to my Councilwoman Dorothy Goosby and good afternoon fellow Nassau County and Long Island residents. First, I just have a special note, I just wanted to ask some of the folks Supervisor Murray called for are actually friends of mine. Is it possible, I would like to have their balance of time to exceed mine.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: We will see how it goes.

MR. ABRAHAM: We will see how it goes. Well I do want to say first, I want to give thanks to the Town Board under your leadership Supervisor Murray who are here today. I know your job is going to very difficult and by that special message, I don't want to intervene in your position, but
I thank you, I thank you for your hard work,
I thank you for your commitment to Nassau
County residents, thank you all.

I do want to say to the folks that
are here as well as to those that are
listening, that the future is now. We can no
longer wait, we have people, young people
leaving in droves, going to North Carolina
and Georgia every single day, every single
week. We have folks that are leaving this
county, young and old because they can't
afford to live here anymore, the property
taxes have become too onerous and lastly and
most importantly, we have labor and we have a
team that does not have the facility that is
the quality of their stature. The bottom
line is the future is now. We can no longer
wait for and hope and think, this project has
been too long and I have seen too many
people, too many colleagues leave this area.
My two minutes is up already? Supervisor
Murray, now is the time thing we talked about
earlier.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: You should wrap it
up now.

MR. ABRAHAM: I'll warp it up, but I would want to say just in closing as I said before, that if we keep anything in mind and I know there are nay sayers and there are opponents, and I ask for everyone to be respectful to them, but I ask them also, if we are not doing this for our young people, if we are not doing this to make sure that our economy remains strong, if we are not doing this for our labor who has committed, who has unemployment, we have folks that are standing on the unemployment line every day, then who are we doing this for? We need to make sure that this project goes through, full steam ahead to ensure that the livelihood and the economy of Nassau County and Long Island as a whole remain whole.

I will say in closing, that I respect, like I said before the positions of others, but I ask that we go forward with this project of the Lighthouse and I want to thank Mr. Wang and Mr. Rechler and Mr. Picker for giving us the opportunity to be here.
today because without your vision, we would not be here. Thank you, again.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Robin Brazley from the Hempstead school district. Good afternoon.

ROBIN BRAZLEY,

HEMPSTEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT

MS. BRASLY: Good afternoon. I would like thank my Councilwoman Goosby for her leadership in ensuring that we are informed. I am speaking on behalf of President Charles Renfroe of the Hempstead School Board. This is our first opportunity as a district to have some weigh in on this and look forward to it being the first of many.

Our primary concern is that of transportation. We are a walking community, we are -- I guess we have been displaced as a hub, so we are the gateway to the hub. We are the district in the Village of the Town of Hempstead. The original part of the original heart that has been carved away where not very much is left other than the burden of suburbia. We pay a
disproportionate cost of the unpopular share
of living here in Nassau County and we want
our leadership to understand that the things
we heard today sound very good.

Clearly the issue of water and the
issue of traffic and transportation are key
issues that need to be resolved. It is our
concern that our leadership exhibit
leadership, because a partnership between a
well-financed developer who are men of honor,
but more importantly very intelligent and
motivated and visionary and the capacity and
infrastructure are municipal concerns. If we
don't have enough water, we don't stop the
project, we think about how we can develop
infrastructure.

In the case of the Hempstead school
district, it is our inability to plan
transportation that is people friendly versus
car friendly. I am a fourth generation Long
Islander. I did raise my children here. I
grew up in the shadow of Hofstra University,
I road my bike on Oak Street when there were
drag races there. I remember the towers when
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they were built here at Hofstra. I absolutely remember the Coliseum when it was built and it was home of the Nets and we used to cheer there as part of the Hempstead High School basketball team.

I spent my life here, my heart is here, my children do not live here. They have left. What we need is visionary infrastructure that foresees the 21st century and will take it on and will not only sustain and develop a future for Nassau County, but those communities like my own that have been colonized and victimized by growth and development. We are the reason there is a County -- restructure the County, we have a restructured town because my community was not granted its constitutional representations of one person one vote.

Thanks to the foresight and courage of Councilwoman Goosby, but those structures have not changed and we can't get to the 21st century unless we agree that even if the political leadership in this town has not shown itself to be an effective planner,
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that the Nassau County constituents that live
there will not be overlooked and overrun.

None of us is benefitted if we don't create a
capacity for 21st Century growth and we hope
that you will join us in Hempstead, the
school district who has always been outside
of the infrastructure discussion, but now
must become an active player. Our brand new
superintendent of two days who is a very
brilliant woman and have these conversations
that will help us move our community forward
and protect our children, 6,000 of them who
walk to school across these busy thruways on
unregulated sidewalks with very poor traffic
patterns.

    We need the vision, leadership,
honor and resources of the Lighthouse project
to join forces with our new government and
take the best minds, the solutions to these
problems that have not been figured out yet.

We need to come to the table and figure them
out and we can move forward and this time do
it without the racial stigma and segregation
and incompassion of the past, thank you.
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SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Dorothy Boxley.

DOROTHY BOXLEY, ROOSEVELT

MS. BOXLEY: Good afternoon

Superintendent Murray and the Board. I came here to speak on behalf of Roosevelt. I live in Roosevelt and I notice that I heard a lot of towns being mentioned, but I did not hear you mention what will happen to Roosevelt, if this project was to go through. It sounds good, and I'll tell you, I'm not against anything, because it's my first time listening to the Lighthouse project, but I know that living in Roosevelt, we do pay the largest taxes and right now for years we have been paying taxes for the development of Roosevelt Field, and I am still trying to find out why we are paying for Roosevelt Field, the hamlet of Roosevelt.

So whenever you do something on Long Island, even though we are a hamlet, it seems that Roosevelt has been the blunt of the responsibility of paying the highest taxes here, so I just want you to realize that you are always getting my letters.
always write to you and I tell you I love my community of Roosevelt, Roosevelt can be a great community. I don't know what you've got planned for Roosevelt. I am hoping that when they build this complex here, that you will not stick Roosevelt with the taxes that you have been doing for years, and I hope you will take into consideration that we do love our community and we will like for you to also, because we are under the Town of Hempstead, we have no voice, basically, but I think we should have a voice, because as you know, we are the taxpayers, so she is not going to ring the bell on me, I will stop, thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I am the voice from Roosevelt.

MS. BOXLEY: I am very sorry Councilwoman Goosby, you are the voice of Roosevelt, but you know something, I know you have other surrounding areas that you have to take care of and we are just like I said 15,000 people and sometimes we are neglected, not blaming it on you or anyone else. I
would just like to bring it to your attention
that we are tired of paying all of these high
taxes and not being recognized, thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Maureen Reese --
Wilhimena Thunderberg, I'm sorry, I called
you first. Sorry about that. Wilhelmina
Thunderberg. Maureen Reese from the Uniondale
School District. Leone Baum, the vice
president of the Hempstead Chamber of
Commerce.

You can speak into that mike.

LEONE BAUM

MS. BAUM: Good afternoon. I have been
here since 8:30. I think its still morning,
but is it not.

I just want you to know I am the
Vice President of the Hempstead chamber of
Commerce. I have a seat on the village,
traffic and safety board and I served on the
Hempstead for Hofstra, Hofstra for Hempstead
committee, so I really kind of know what I am
talking about. I hope I say it so you can
understand it.
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The Village of Hempstead Chamber of Commerce sent one of those letters of support that Mr. Wang gave to you earlier. I hope you get to read it, it was not too bad. I have a big statement that I gave to your clerk, so you can read it later on, I am going to try to stick to the environmental issues.

On Long Island all things, good and bad flow southwest, so addressing infrastructure to be developed as part of your project, there will be issues of sewage, water and pollution, as addressed in the DGEIS. However -- as far as -- because I became -- anyway, particularly the long range impact, I'm concerned about the long range impact on my village, the village of Hempstead which is directly southwest and as Robin Brazley just told you, we are the recipients of everything that this County doesn't want.

The sewage, we know that there will be a new sewage facility built because the one here is now is filled. We want to make
sure it happens and it happens correctly and
the water run-off is a whole other problem.
The water table itself, it's probable the
water table will be affected, consequences
affecting surrounding communities should be
addressed, there are all levels are all over
Long Island, many of which are not recorded
officially. A possible impact in changes on
the quality of the water, the salinization of
the water is a hidden problem.

Pollution -- Mitchel Field site
served as an air field for many years dating
back to the early part of the 20th century
and it's very probable that that soil
absorbed more than its share of oil, fuel and
other toxic pollutants. Certainly removal
will be required and my fear is spread of the
toxic material, the plums into the southwest
and directly into my village. The caution
that has to be exercised is incredible in
making sure this doesn't happen.

My last point, last point is
transportation. A major concern is
transportation including the impact on air
quality, noise, emissions and any kind of pollution. I continue to hear about Mineola as the entry point of choice for people traveling to the site, I have not heard about the village of Hempstead. There was a multi-borough terminal in Hempstead and Hempstead has always been the hub of transportation in the county and you can't move it, it's the belly button right in the center. The Long Island Railroad station can be reached directly from the Long Island Rail Road's Atlantic Avenue station in Brooklyn or from the Jamaica station in Queens. Buses already cover the county from the central terminal which also travelled into Queens and to all points east, west, north and south of the hub and this project.

I am strongly suggesting that Hempstead not be overlooked, but that it be included as an important aspect to the plan. The new word that I learned at a transportation workshop held by the Nassau County Planning Commission is connectivity and let's at least make an effort to connect...
all the dots in order to make this project work. And, in closing, my hope is that this project which is too important to be allowed to fail, will stand the test of the future and as Bishop Murphy said, thank you for the vision that you are providing, Mr. Rechler and Mr. Wang, very important and also as mentioned by Mr. Dowling, the synergy that will be created by having this project in this particular location and see you at the Lighthouse.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Maureen Reed from the Uniondale school district, is she here? Eric Alexander.

ERIC ALEXANDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR and RONALD STEIN VISION LONG ISLAND

MR. ALEXANDER: Good afternoon, Town Board my name is Eric Alexander, I am the executive director of Vision Long Island, with Ron Stein the president of Vision Long Island. We are a smart growth planning organization. Over the last 12 years, we've done 1,400 presentations to try to gain smart
growth across Long Island.

We are excited to say after 32 meetings that we had, we developed with community leaders and chambers commerce, local officials, we have seen tremendous support for this project and have seen a transformation from the initial vision into one that is more community acceptable and is something that is clear. Our Board of Directors of Vision Long Island soundly supports the Light House project. Here are the good things about it, clearly there's lots of them, there is mix of use, there is a true sense of place, there's affordable housing, there are some rentals, we might want to see more, we know there are jobs for the region, we know there is neighborhood retail that's going to be appropriate and not compete with surrounding communities.

We know there will be public spaces, we know there's green building to the degree we need there to be as well as individual buildings will be going for lead certification. That's unheard of for this
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region. We know there is a tight street
grid, we know there is walkability, we also
know there is transportation mitigation, $55
million, congress votes to senators operating
for more. We'd like to see county studies
move forward so even more resources can come
into the region. We know that sewer, energy
infrastructure and water are issues are the
subject of this hearing and there will be
recommendations for mitigation in those
areas.

Lastly we created a 15-page
document with design details and
recommendations which are simply ways to just
tweak the project so that it can be more
laudable and more functioning. It's already
a great project, and to say this is clearly
the premier smart growth project for Long
Island, we want to see this move ahead
without delay.

The last point, I was just at the
rally that was coming forward, kind of found
this funny, there are a lot of Islander fans
here. I was a Ranger fan and all of my life
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I heard the 19/40 chant, but I am excited here to say build it now -- build it now, build it right and we are excited to see a lot a community support and we are excited to see the County do it properly.

MR. STEIN: We are Islander fans, Eric.

MR. ALEXANDER: Okay, thank you.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Did I hear you say that you are aware that Senators and Congress people have promised money for the transportation?

MR. ALEXANDER: They have put in earmarks, maybe I should clarify that. I have seen Senator Gillibrand's list and Senator Schumer's list for transportation mitigation both for the Meadowbrook and other roadways. So we have seen those lists of requests.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Could you provide those lists to us?

MR. ALEXANDER: Sure, they are public information, we will be happy to e-mail those over. I guess I will leave you our document with all the details, thank you.
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SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Nicky Hendricks from Uniondale, Mary Dolan Rippo, Jim Haggerty, Jim Haggerty.

JIM HAGGERTY, GARDEN CITY

MR. HAGGERTY: Good afternoon, I am here this morning as a resident of Garden City. Good morning Mark, how are you? I am here also as a partner in a business that's located in Garden City and I come here this morning as a parent raising my three children in Garden City first. First let me tell you I support the Lighthouse project because it is exactly what towns like Garden City, Uniondale, Westbury and Nassau County need at this time.

In the short-term it's obvious it's going to create thousands of jobs during construction of the Lighthouse project, but it is the long-term that's important here. The Lighthouse project will result in many more people living and working in Nassau County. This can only be good for small businesses. If we had more people here in Nassau County living and working, they will
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shop in our stores, they will come and eat in our restaurants. It's a win/win for small business in Nassau County, Garden City, Uniondale and Westbury.

The Lighthouse project is also, at least in my opinion, it is good for the young children. We have heard many speakers say how our young people are leaving Nassau County because they cannot find an affordable home. I dread hearing those words from my own children when they get old enough to buy their own house and I hope the Lighthouse project looks forward to change that. If we can create affordable housing, our children and my children are going to stay here in Nassau County and I hope that this project goes forward, because I want my children here and I ask the Board to move forward with the project to change that, creating affordable housing. It helps small business and it will keep our young children here, thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Rosalie Norton.

Good afternoon.

ROSA莉E NORTON,
Ms. Norton: Good afternoon. I thank for you for the opportunity of coming here today and saying that, I am representing both the Executive Boards of the Community Support Association of West Hempstead as well as the Civic Association and I want to go on record that we are in the support of the Lighthouse project.

This project must move forward, it should not be held hostage to the what ifs or those asking for study after study after study. We lost tens of thousands of jobs with the demise of Grumman, Republican and Fairchild. Tens of thousands of our residents, thousands of people from the City and other areas were employed by these companies. They travelled our roads and use our resources and no one complains.

Now some would have you believe that building the Lighthouse project will result in a catastrophe of biblical proportions, some fear 2,300 units of housing
is too much, that 500,000 square feet of retail space at the Lighthouse will erode existing retail business. The surrounding communities should view the Lighthouse Development as a catalyst which will revitalize businesses. The Lighthouse is not a rural City and the residents confined only to live and stay within the boundaries. The residents can and will venture and are expected to venture beyond the development, they very well may be the extra customers needed to revitalize downtown areas. Some question the height of the building, yet we currently have 388 square foot smoke stack, so a 5-star hotel would be superior to a smoke stack.

The problems with traffic must be resolved with or without the Lighthouse. Cheap and convenient means of transportation is needed in the entire county, not just for the Lighthouse. The concerns of Uniondale must be addressed, but we also have to consider what this means to the entire county and to the town. The status quo is not an
option, sprawl is not an option, fear must be replaced with optimism that this project is a win/win situation for everyone. I urge the Board to continue the path you have been taking in expediting the process. The Lighthouse represents the future by appropriately maximizing land, creating jobs and reaching tax revenue without sacrificing our suburban quality of life. It is the equivalent of a privately funded stimulus package right in our own backyard. I apologize for taking more time.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: As the lunch hour quickly approaches, we will be breaking as Mr. Ra said from 1:00 to 2:00. Knowing that there are folks who potentially cannot stay after -- until after the lunch hour. I am wondering if we could have by show of -- if anybody needs to leave before lunch, if you want to stand up, give your ticket that you filled out, the speaking tickets to our town employees, we would certainly register your comments, just so that's an option as we approach the lunch hour.
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James Egan, are you here, Mokey McGowan, Lisa Tyson.

Good afternoon.

LISA TYSON, DIRECTOR

LONG ISLAND PROGRESSIVE COALITION

MS. TYSON: Good afternoon, thank you for having us here and we are very happy to be here today.

My name is Lisa Tyson, director of the Long Island Progressive Coalition. We are a 30-year old organization dedicated towards social, economic and racial justice, and you know Long Island is known for NIMBYism, well today, it should be known for YIMBYism. Yes, in my back yard.

We have a campaign called YIMBY and we have sat down with developers and really talked about the affordable housing component of the plan, 20 percent of housing, five percent rental on-site affordable housing, that is what we want from this project and that's what they committed to, so we really appreciate it because this project has been changed to make it better.
When we look at this project, we know it has regional significance. It's important at this time economically on Long Island, if we don't build a project like this, we are losing out on a huge opportunity. We can't wait another eight years for this land to be developed. We do understand you need to address transportation and it's going to go way beyond $60 million, you really have to work with our congressional leaders, with our senate leaders, with the department of transportation to make sure it works for all of the surrounding communities. I live less than a mile away, I know transportation must be addressed.

The other issue is for jobs basically we have a campaign called Hire me at the Lighthouse where we want to make sure that people within ten square miles surrounding this development get these jobs. We don't want people from New Jersey, Brooklyn and Queens coming for the jobs, we want Long Islanders and I support -- I love
the Islanders, we want to keep Long Islanders on Long Island and that's what this project is about, so please make sure you hire us at the Lighthouse and thank you very much.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: You indicated that you had got a commitment for 20 percent affordable housing?

MS. TYSON: That was the original RFP from the County.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Have you been given a definition of what affordable is?

MS. TYSON: 120 percent of the median income. I believe that is what the RFP had stated. And this is actually shared incomes, so people at 60 percent of median income, 80 percent, 100 percent, there are all different income levels, people from Roosevelt, people from Hempstead should be able to live in this project community.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: You mentioned Hire me at the Lighthouse campaign, have you got a commitment on That.

MS. TYSON: No, we are actually sitting down right now. It is a wonderful
opportunity to set-up internship programs at
the local colleges to make sure that we have
a hiring site for people who live in the
local communities, so they can get first
preference in these jobs. We actually have
local elected officials including some people
here who have signed onto this project but
have not gotten a commitment from the
developer, we just started to have these
communications.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: You also mentioned
about hiring locally, keeping the jobs on
Long Island, have you had any commitment on
that?

MS. TYSON: That's what we are referring
to now, and we are actually are only talking
post-construction jobs, not the construction
jobs, but the 19,500 jobs, those are the ones
we want to make sure stay in the local area?

COUNCILMAN DARCY: But you haven't
gotten any commitment on construction jobs?

MS. TYSON: We are not working on
construction jobs, I believe Jimmy Castellane
from the Building Trades, and having
discussions Roger Clayman, from my understanding. We are not involved in that component of post-construction jobs.

COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Have you made any provisions for apprenticeship for those who are not presently in the union?

MS. TYSON: Our campaign, as well as the building trades, are talking about what we are all talking about apprenticeship programs, but to be honest right now, people in labor unions right now are out of jobs right now, the people who should be working because of the economy right now. We have to make sure it goes beyond apprenticeship programs and that's the key, because we want people -- especially low-income people to get good long-term labor jobs, that's what this project has to be about, labor, strong living wage jobs.

The other piece of it is, we had a living wage law in Nassau County several years ago. Every job on this property will be a living-wage job at least 1,250 or like 1,150 in healthcare, so the jobs on this
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project are extremely important, they will
all be good jobs.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

MS. TYSON: Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Frank Cassano, from
the Nassau County Red Cross.

FRANK CASSANO,
NASSAU COUNTY RED CROSS

MR. CASSANO: Good afternoon, Supervisor
Murray, Councilwoman Goosby, distinguished
members of the Board. My name is Frank
Cassano and I am Chief Executive officer of
the Nassau County Red Cross. The Red Cross
cannot give you an educated opinion on the
environmental impact of this project, but we
can certainly give you a tremendous opinion
of the New York Islanders, they are vital to
the community, and they make a difference in
the lives of Long Islanders every day.

The impact of losing the Islanders
will lean very heavily on charities here on
Long Island. Shortly after I became the CEO
of the Nassau County Red Cross in 2005,
Hurricane Katrina devastated our coast, many
of our volunteers were sent to help and many evacuees found themselves on our door steps right here in Nassau County. We were happy to help, and so were the New York Islanders. They opened up their games and they gave us the opportunity to raise funds for the relief efforts. Since then, the relationship has grown through their focus on playing hockey with a heart. They have sponsored many of our events, they helped get the word out about the importance of learning skills like CPR, by taping a player attending a course. Last winter they even dedicated an entire game to the Nassau County Red Cross.

Ultimately that one game netted thousands of dollars during the winter where we saw an extraordinary number of fires, many of them right here in Hempstead. To put that into perspective, those funds enabled us to provide food, clothing and shelter to hundreds of Nassau County residents that had fire, dozens of fires, again many of them right here in Hempstead. I am sure you can all understand how welcome that help was.
especially in today's economy. By no means we were not the only not-for-profit that received support from the Islanders, groups like Island Harvest that benefitted from food drives, hospitalized children have had their spirits lifted by visits from players, schools have learned the importance of team work through the Islanders assembly program, this list goes on, but I am sure the line behind me is a long one, so I am going to wrap up.

In closing, I'd like you to consider this, if the Islanders left Long Island, who would take their place? How many vital programs would suffer. I could say this, it would definitely be a blow to Nassau County Red Cross and the hundreds of Nassau County residents who get burned out of their homes or worse every year, thank you very much.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: You talked about the tragedy of Katrina and I note that the policy currently is a very integral part of the evacuation system put together by the Nassau
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County office of emergency design --

MR. CASSANO: Actually sir, pardon me for interrupting, the Coliseum will not be a Red Cross shelter. The wide beam construction, we saw what happened to the sports arena in New Orleans, the major Red Cross shelter is at Nassau Community College in the physical education building. The Coliseum will house animals, I believe, as a pet shelter.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: My understanding is that the Coliseum is designated as a shelter, particularly in hurricane situations and so on where the south shore of Long Island has to be evacuated.

MR. CASSANO: No sir, you are incorrect, it is Nassau Community College.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: In a letter that we received, the Nassau County Department of Health, it does say the Nassau Coliseum is currently designated as the proposed shelter in the event of emergencies, you are saying.

MR. CASSANO: I am saying to you, sir, that the Nassau County Coliseum will not be a
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Red Cross shelter due to the wide beam construction of the roof.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: You are talking about a Red Cross shelter --

MR. CASSANO: From my understanding in working with the County office of emergency management, the Coliseum will be designated as a pet shelter. The health department will be using another building at Nassau Community College to house special needs people and the Red Cross will open up the mega shelter at Nassau community college.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: Are you talking about the current Coliseum or the proposed Coliseum?

MR. CASSANO: We've never had conversations about the proposed Coliseum.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Mr. Wang, perhaps you can clear up the confusion, is the Coliseum designated as a shelter site?

MR. PICKER: The gentleman is correct, the Coliseum today is not a shelter, the Department of Health letter is incorrect.

MR. WANG: It is designated for animals

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I believe.

MR. CASSANO: As a pet shelter.

MR. WANG: We call hockey players animals.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Now, we are going to break as I mentioned a moment ago, if anybody wants to come forward to see our staff and cannot come this afternoon, please come forward and register your comments, thank you.

(Whereupon, there was 1:00 p.m. lunch recess.)
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CERTIFICATE BY COURT REPORTER

I, RENEE BELMAR, a Professional, Certified Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of New York do hereby certifies that the foregoing testimony taken in the matter of the Town of Hempstead, Stated Town Board Meeting of August 4, 2009, consisting of pages 1 through 143 is an accurate transcription of my cryptic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I SET MY HAND THIS DAY.

________________________________________
RENEE BELMAR
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER
NORTH SHORE COURT REPORTERS
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEW YORK

NORTH SHORE COURT REPORTERS  1-800-794-5342
MICHAEL WHITE: Good afternoon. My name is Michael White. I am the Executive Director for Long Island Regional Planning Council and I'm here on behalf of the council.

We were privileged to have the opportunity at our June meeting to have a very important critical dialogue with the Supervisor, the Town, and the developer which also brought up very important rules of our council designating the Lighthouse Long Island Project, as a project of regional significance.

It truly is, in that it will create jobs. It will be an economic stimulus. It is certainly sorely needed to provide important rental housing and the Lighthouse Project will become Nassau's downtown. To sort of mix in a little metaphor, it perhaps will be the mother of all cool downtown for Nassau County. It will also become a new home of the Islanders. Something that I know you've heard a lot about as well.
Long Island Regional Planning Board continues to advocate for these types of projects of regional significance to be reviewed expeditiously, to be reviewed quickly, and effectively, and we await that decision from the Town. And fortunately, this will not take years as we've seen in progress on this project review as unfortunately it does take on Long Island, too long to have these projects move forward.

So we support the important work that you're doing and supporting this project to go forward as expeditiously as possible and thank you for this moment To comment.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you, Mr. White. Charles Rajinson. Good afternoon.

CHARLES RAJINSON: Good afternoon. How are you?

TOWN SUPERVISOR: Good. CHARLES RAJINSON: My name is Charles Rajinson. I have a company called Make you Press. We're an embroidery
company. I just want to give some economic numbers.

I've heard some people talk about Garden City. I've heard some people talk about Uniondale, those areas. Let's get some real numbers so you have what this project means just for the construction phase of what I call ancillary sale. The things that are going to happen when the construction workers and this is only based on 5,000 construction workers.

Construction workers like to buy T-shirts for them. They like to have something that talks about the project. We estimated it will be 1.5 million dollars worth of T-Shirts to be worn for that project alone just to have pride in what they're doing.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Hopefully from your house too.

CHARLES RAJINSON: It actually probably won't be because they will be done by a union shop and I'm not one of those. But to give you a qualification, from the Yankee Stadium, the Mets project, over 4,000
shirts for each one was done just for Local 25. So that's about $32,000 for each project of just one union. $600,000 worth of Carhartt coats will be bought for these construction workers. $300,000 worth of hard hats, $300,000 would produce safety vests, about $600,000 worth of Timberland type shoes, construction shoes, will be bought by these construction workers just to go ahead and start to go back to work.

Just asking the unions, I asked them what is the amount of people that are out of work. Right now, on Long Island and they told me currently over 5,000 workers are currently out of work from all trades. So this is an important project to the Long Island economy besides everything else that it does for all the others.

By the way, the other part, construction workers have to eat and the project, we figure, just for the 5,000 workers is 4.5 million dollars worth of food to supply lunch and I only wish I owned the coliseum deli. Thank you very much.

TOWN SUPERVISOR: Chris
Marrone, Long Island Breakfast Club.

Michael Tosner.

MICHAEL TOSNER: First of all, thank you councilwoman and thanks to many. We know about the economic cost of not doing this project. There is also an environmental cost for not doing the project.

The last two decades the way to support the population of Long Island suburban sprawl or retrofitting all houses being two-family houses and that's highly unenvironmentally friendly. No one who retrofits all houses in all counts follow the leads, certifications, or uses grey water for toilet flushing or anything like that.

So the water usage on the watertable is going to be a function of population and I think the more we can use it again, that use the certifications and build a green, a better for Long Island and have a more planned community that people can live and work and shop in. So, Thank you.
SUPERVISOR MURRAY:  Kevin Clyne, C-L-Y-N-E. Claudia, it looks like Swanson, Claudia Swanson. Robert Freundenberg.

ROBERT FREUNDENBERG:  Good afternoon everybody. Thanks for this opportunity to speak. My name is Robert Freundenberg, I am a Senior Planner for the Long Island Regional Planning Association. It's an independent research advocacy organization that promoted livability and vitality and substantially of the region for 85 years.

The Regional Planning Association and the Long Island committee would like to express our strong support for the Lighthouse Development Project and comment on how to maximize the benefits for the Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, and the Metropolitan region.

Well, I know this project represents the best chance to demonstrate a new way to support for Long Island and our kids to support this for the following reasons: One, it is the rate time for this
area known as the Nassau hub. Even as a series of plans and proposals have failed to be realized. We now have exciting, viable project that has passed a series of hurdles and setting and implementing this project now will not only set back development of the area for years, it will send a signal that will inhibit needed development throughout Long Island.

Long Island knows too many projects that has provided a new pass work and sustainability and quality of life. Many of the stars are aligning for this project and now is the time to move ahead. Moving ahead on this project will create jobs for those who need them and give an economic multiplier and an extended tax break this project will bring.

We would encourage efforts be taken from the majority of jobs would be drawn from the family community. Second, this is the right place. Those involved in a second regional plan, RPA, identifies a number of areas throughout the region that has the potential to become regional.
centers.

This is one of them that after 40 years has not realized its potential both the New York Metropolitan Acquisition Council and the County have targeted this area for growth. And, Lighthouse Project could become the catalyst for development throughout the hub. Third, this is the right use.

The Lighthouse Development Project offers a diverse range of uses that can provide opportunities for all generations of Long Islanders from housing, office, entertainment, tourism and retail. So what is needed to make this project truly successful; there needs to be some transportation solutions that still need to be addressed to mix the ingredients that will make sure that this, that, well, we aren't sure that this project succeeds.

So we encourage, the State, the County, and the Town to work together with the government, the State and Federal Governments to find integrated transit solutions and transport solutions for this
project. Second, our planning of sustainability. We are glad that this project is taking on a lot of sustainable options. We encourage the project to push ahead. We want to keep the true Lighthouse, the beacon for pushing sustainable design beyond this sustainability of today and for all.

So, in closing, now is the time for Long Islanders to say yes to development that would rather raise this economy and provide a station for the next generation of Long Islanders. The location is right, the mix of uses is right, and the timing is right.

We hope to see this project move ahead and strongly urge you to move ahead with this project.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.
Lora Shultz, Lora Shultz.

LORA SHULTZ: I am Lora Shultz, I am Vice-President of Residents For a More Beautiful Syosset. I testify for both in favor, and against many projects at this town.
For today, I put my hat on as a hockey mom. For the thousands of Long Island dads and the thousands of Long Island moms, just like me, who attend Islander hockey games with their kids and make memories that last a lifetime, I ask you to please build this Lighthouse project and we will come. Thank you very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Tom Hern.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Michael White spoke on his behalf.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Okay, Thank you. Dan Goldberg.

DAN GOLDBERG: Good afternoon, I'm Dan Goldberg. I'm an East Meadow resident. My wife is also a Traffic Engineer for Cameron Engineer and we're definitely for the proposal for the Lighthouse Project.

I think it's a great opportunity for our economy and for things to happen here. Um, so, a lot of people -- I just went to California last week, and, you know, people look at New York, you know, and our government is like, we don't know
what we're doing and things like that, you
know, but this is a great opportunity to
show, you know, people that we can actually
do something -- actually looking forward to
doing something that can be beneficial not
just for the economy, but also, you know, to
create tourists coming in and it will just
bring a new level to our economy.

So I think it's a great
opportunity to do this so, I appreciate it.

Thank you. I hope this goes on. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Gary Manning, Gary Manning. Roger Farina.

ROGER FARINA: Good afternoon
Ma'am.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good
afternoon.

ROGER FARINA: My name is Roger
Farina. I'm an Islander and I support this
project. Let me correct that and add a
little more of what I am.

I'm a combat veteran. I left
Long Island in 1985. I'm a third generation
Long Islander. My great grandparents came
over from Italy and unfortunately, if we
stay on Long Island right now, there won't be a fourth generation in my family on Long Island and I really want to be able to bring them back home.

So, that is why I support the Lighthouse Project. I've looked and I've been following for a very long time and if you go on the Lighthouse website and you look at the development team, I think you guys have 14 consultants from traffic consultants to all kinds of different consultants, and I believe they've done the right thing.

I think they've done their homework and there might be a couple of glitches here and there, but I think in the grand scheme of things, these guys, they've got it. They've got it nailed and that's why I came up here from North Carolina where I am retired from the Army and I'm standing here in front of you because I believe in this and I want them to come home so please approve it.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Robert Zambuto.
BOB ZAMBUTO: Hi, my name is Bob Zambuto. I am actually for the Long Island Lighthouse for the economic development and plans. I took about 90 seconds of my time just to say that, but I was here about a year and a half ago, the very first time that I had ever come to Town Hall meeting to discuss this very project and you promised that it would go up and you didn't follow through.

I appreciate you all coming here today to giving me an opportunity to speak. We've heard a lot of people coming today and some people made comments about the water table and traffic which are really definitely major concerns. Traffic is a big thing and has to be addressed, but we are in the 40th anniversary of the moon mission and 40 years ago, they didn't say that it was too hard or too difficult.

We've moved forward and we've found a way to make sure that this happens for all of Long Island. I support the Lighthouse Project and I'm very thankful to be here. I like to thank Mr. Wang for
picking John this year.


KEITH SCALIA: Good afternoon.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: You've got your plans, I see.

KEITH SCALIA: Yeah. I am currently running for the Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor at this point.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Oh, God.

At least you read the notices.

KEITH SCALIA: I envy the fact that the Town of Hempstead board has the chance to be a trailblazing administration, something that my own town board has continuously failed at.

While there are many politicians and town supervisors and the Lighthouse video presentation of today, notability absent was John Venditto of the Town of Oyster Bay. Ironically, when we were wanting to look at the Town of Hempstead east to see a litany of failures,
hence, it comes to the lack of development of a ground field because the Town of Oyster Bay lost the history of cycling any type of progressive growth, only one small group of people have benefitted financially, while specifically, those higher session counsel while families, young and old struggling to stay, have not.

The essence of your jobs as elected officials is to maintain and approve the quality of life to people you were elected to represent. The proposed lighthouse project is in the hands of a quality of life project not just the Town of Hempstead residents but for Long Island as a whole.

It is quality of life because it will put people to work and keep them working. It is a quality of life issue because it will keep our young people here and help us senior citizens afford the absurd escalating school property taxes. Thus, families will stay together and quite frankly, what's more quality of life than that. It is my hope that when you do
approve this project, it will light the fire across for more smart development in other townships across Long Island, specifically in the Town of Oyster Bay, and the Grumman property.

I ask that you be the public servant that you took an oath to be and be a model for Long Island's progressive transformation from the 20th century community into the 21st century. Thank you for your time.


MICHAEL WHITFIELD: Good afternoon Board. My name is Michael. I've been a resident of Nassau County my entire life and I speak on behalf of thousands of ex-cons who will return to our society soon and the quality of life that I'm here to represent is employment.

I've completed several
programs upstate courtesy of taxpayer's money, and I'm now back into the community, and I've been to every available job site, however, I have not been able to receive employment. We have thousands more coming behind and we cannot come home to a place in which we were born and raised, made a mistake, paid our debt to society, and return, and cannot come to such complexes as they're being built and given a chance to shovel dirt to feed our families.

What do you expect us to do? I sat upstate in Clinton, Attica, Alpine, and watched many town meetings and not one meeting has anyone else reformed the return of an ex-con and helped them find employment so that such places that you're building can remain safe haven for people to have normal ways to feed their families to see this place as such.

I love Long Island with all my heart. I've been here my entire life. I've made wrong -- I've made wrong in the past as well as others, but we cannot continue to be left behind. We must be taken forward.
Someone that has this futuristic view must somehow incorporate us, connect us. Connectivity was the word, I believe this young lady said earlier. Well, you must connect this dot. This dot is a very important dot. Prison just wastes more and more of your money. Thank you very much.


GARY JENKOWSKI: Good afternoon.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good afternoon.

GARY JENKOWSKI: My name Gary Jenkowski. I am a lifetime Salisbury residence. There is a local concern I have about the lighthouse. The one question is, will the Lighthouse Project strip the community of police protection and the quality of life? Who patrols the lighthouse area?

The police department will respond to many more crimes, car accidents and medical emergencies within the county ambulances. Where will they get the
manpower from? The answer, the surrounding communities. Our communities will be stripped of police protection and ambulance service.

If we can get the commitment from the county executives to have more police officers and patrol cars in the communities, it will be great. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.


DIANE WEIR: I'm sorry. Good afternoon. My name is Diane Weir, I'm Executive Vice-president of Long Island Housing Partnership and I thank you for holding this hearing.

I know everyone is talking about the crane train and we see it everyday and I've come to verify the facts that on our data base, we have 25,000 names of working families waiting for appropriate housing throughout Nassau and Suffolk. Nassau, again, does not have a lot of
opportunities. I commend this town board, you have a wonderful program, an affordable home programs in stage 16, but again, I think that housing is an integral part of this program for someone that was asking median income.

They will be 120% and for a family of four that goes to a maximum of $122,000. So you're talking working people, middle class working people, that will be able to get these homes, apartments, whatever the town home and that's important because without a workforce, again, our economy is in dire straits.

So, I thank you for holding this hearing and I commend you. I know you're looking forward to a lot of hard work in the future. Thank you.


Well, moving along. Howard -- is it Castle or Camel? Oh, no, Kimmel, Kimmel Development Foundation.

HOWARD KIMMEL: Good afternoon.

Thanks for holding the meeting. Introducing myself once again, I've been an international consultant on housing and consultant of the United States Government and worked for the State of New York for over 40 years.

I've been in the business for over 60 years. As a graduate planner that tells you that I support this project 100% and I would support it 120% if I knew that it was an affordable housing component. 120% is not an affordable housing level. In terms of the environmental issues, one, traffic flow, you have an excellent team of traffic planners who will be working on improving traffic.

You will have air quality standards improved as well because you will be working with LIPA and LIPA is interested
in more than electricity. They are interested in green housing effect. In terms of water quality, you have improved water quality, when you have high rise rather than one-family or two-family homes.

So I completely support what we are intending to do, one and two I will give you more information on affordable housing at the next time that we meet.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Mr. Kimmel, I'm just curious, you said that the 120% level, you said, that you don't agree with that level?

HOWARD KIMMEL: That's -- it used to be that you could not have a stable family or a rental apartment in Nassau County unless you have 135% AMI, average median income, but that is market level. You have for affordable housing -- you have to work in terms of HUD definitions and a HUD definition for a family of four is what they consider as an income level which would be 80% of the area median income down to 40%.

As you go down lower and lower
on the income levels, you get higher and higher scores in terms of what the HUD and the New York State division of housing will permit. So, I would speak in terms of affordable housing as being work force housing for families let's say with 40,000 and 90,000 and up income rather than higher income.

That income level is reduced or increased depending upon what is a one-person family or a six-person family.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you Mr. Kimmel. Barbara Epstein.

BARBARA EPSTEIN: Good afternoon Supervisor Murray, Town Board. My name is Barbara Epstein. I am the Housing Director of League of Women Voters of Nassau County. League of Women Voters for Nassau County is a nonpartisan organization which encourages, informs active participation in government and influences public policy to education advocacy.

We believe that the Lighthouse Project is of great importance for Nassau County and all of Long Island. The project
provides not only for a major retail and
economic engine, but surrounds state of the
art sports center but also for addition to
the housing stock which represents a good
opportunity to a surely slow economy for
Long Island but with League of Women Voters
also have a key interested in the
environmental aspect of this project.

Today I speak for the League
regarding the affordable housing component.
The overall content of smart growth is to
bring together a diversity of people in
custom cultures. Putting them together with
a strong mix of housing storage, restaurants
and services.

This combination allows
residences to enjoy a lifestyle that frees
them from an auto-oriented community the
people needed to make this project
successful for the so called next
generation. These young workers are
desperately needed on Long Island for the
growth of our economy providing affordable
housing for these young workers is essential
to the success of the entire Lighthouse
Project.

The League of Women Voters of Nassau County in accordance with our establish division condition on affordable housing supports the decision to designate at least 20% of the Lighthouse housing as affordable next generation workforce housing. These affordable workforce housing would include an increase number of rental units in view of the scarcity in Nassau County.

Construction of a substantial number of units in the first phase of development as gathering throughout the housing areas. The League of Women Voters urge the town board to hold public hearings should there be a major changes it can set forth a master plan for the Lighthouse Project.

Affordable housing for the Lighthouse Project will be as a positive step in reducing the brain drain. Let's keep our young people on Long Island. Now, there was a point made before regarding housing and in the proposal which is on your
website in the section of the summary, page 121, there is a section regarding residential using and I said you might want to refer to that particular section were they are talking about how at the 20% affordability which is mentioned there as well with the residential usage. Thank you very much.


GEORGE ROUSIER, JR.: Hi, thank you for having this meeting. I come from Brooklyn, Long Island. A long way from Brooklyn to South Ozone Park and to Long Island and I'm glad that my son and two daughters -- one daughter graduated here in Hofstra, four years, came here and when this support team, the New York Islanders, came here they put this place on the map.

I know I'm a little emotional, that's okay, I'll settle down. And I say that you should stay, bottom line, okay. Now, I understand the houses that some people here probably got through the
houses, the traffic. Of course, they got an interest in this, but Long Island wasn't built that way. They built the Belt Parkway, Long Island Expressway, I know is a little crowded, Jones Beach.

If they didn't build these places, they'd never have a Long Island.
It's very important. As far as the traffic, they need to work things out. One way or the another to get here. It's up to you, but we don't need this team to go to Colorado or wherever they got to go because Long Island needs this team. Why am I gettin' so emotional? I grew up in Brooklyn. I watched this team beat the New York Rangers, but I don't know about New York, it's a better team anyway.

And when I came to Long Island, we used to go to the Racket and Rink, where all the Islanders used to skate. Bobby Nystrom, I mean, who are these guys. I'm sorry, that's the story I understand environmental they got probably more important things to do than that. Anyhow, this here, this Bobby Nystrom, I mean I kind
of care for him. He won four in a row, and they would have won five, but anyway that's another excuse.

Anyway, there's one more thing Bill Torre built this team that was great and the only reason -- you got to give the Rangers credit, but the only reason they broke up was when the Islanders brought the cup and you know it and they know it.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Salvatore, is it Alanio, Alario?

SALVATORE ALAIMO: Alaimo.

Salvatore J. Alaimo, retired engineer, resident of Uniondale and I'm going to bring back something I brought up years ago. That the water that's being discharged in the ocean from the County Park sewage facility be piped up here so at some point a water problem that's being caused by the demand for water by the recycling plant and will be needed in this community for the wells in town.

I suggest, again, that the discharged water which is palatable and potable -- because I was in the military and
I knew how to recycle water back then. And what I'm saying is -- I was in the Corps of Engineers. The water should be piped back up and reinjected into the ground and even partially fit directly into the recycling plant up here and recharge the water basin so that the wells in town will not go dry. That's the only thing I see that wasn't carried on here -- addressed here and I appreciate if someone can talk to the County or maybe the town can do it in conjunction with the County make the state connect to bring the water line from the discharge side of the plant down to Cedar Creek and bring it up right away to the Meadowbrook, right into the area and recharge the recharge base.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Dory, is it Michelle?

DORY MICHAEL: It's Michael.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Oh, Michael, okay. Good afternoon.

DORY MICHAEL: What?

TOWN SUPERVISOR: Good afternoon ma'am. I am against the
Lighthouse Project. I understand that the proposed idea will create temporary jobs, but then what? If this project goes all the way through and the economy is still the same, the only difference, in my eyes, is we will have 36-story buildings to look at which they are already building, left and right.

How is building this project really going to help Long Island? Someone made the comment that people between the ages of 25 and 35 are going to live in the City. Now, if all of the statement is true, once this project is completed, what will become a mini New York City and then what's next; a mini Brooklyn or a mini Bronx.

I realize that Long Island needs help, but this isn't the way. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Phil Andrews, Phil Andrews. Are you coming down?

PHIL ANDREWS: How you doing?

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good afternoon.

PHIL ANDREWS: I believe that
this project is a significant project.
Economic development is the foundation and
on top of everything, in this society is
economic development and business growth. I
just applaud all the leaders getting
together, working together, getting on one
page.

I learned a long time as a
child there is a book called Stone Soup.
That if we get together we can do things and
make things happen. I think this is a
vision at this time to move forward and to
create more wealth and jobs so that is why
young people will be able to pay for that
housing so they have some type of economic
opportunity.

So I'm just glad that the
project is getting this far and we're
working together in some way, we're going
we're going to make it happen and the vision
is going to come through. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.


ALBERT WANG: Good afternoon.

My name is Albert Wang I have been living in
Garden City for the past 13 years. I've seen some misconception that everyone that lives in Garden City is not supportive of the Lighthouse Project and that's not entirely true.

My family and I have learned more about the project which have become big supporters and we are looking forward to the benefit of the Lighthouse Project in bringing to surrounding communities. Now, I understand many have mentioned that we are not able to keep, young professionals, young adults on Long Island is a concern and only now we have begun to recognize that.

I'm a young professional who lives and work on Long Island and love Long Island. I work Monday through Friday on Long Island, but every weekend I spend my time outside of Long Island and only because most of my friends don't live on Long Island, so I have to go out to see them and one of my friends, whose family is here, to say one day that, you know, we want come to Long Island and catch a game, watch and enjoy the concert instead of saying, hey
Albert, what's there to do on Long Island, you know, I think the Lighthouse Project is the key to change that.

This project is important to the locals in Nassau County, Long Island. And you shouldn't wait any longer and let's get this done and do it and hopefully, you know, we can make this happen very soon.

Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

It says Peter Mondzyuh, M-O-N-D-Z-Y-U-H from Bay Shore.

PETER MONDZYUH: Hi, my name is Peter Mondzyuh. I am from Bay Shore and a lifelong Long Islander. I've been here pretty much my whole life. I'm actually one of those people that is 25 through 34. I'm barely surviving on Long Island as it is and it might actually be a last hope for someone like me to actually stay on Long Island.

I would really, really, really appreciate more affordable housing because I don't see any towns on Long Island whether it's the Town of Oyster Bay, the Town of Brookhaven, the Town of Islip, the Town of
Babylon. There is no affordable housing. I made $32,000 last year. I don't have a girlfriend. I don't have a wife. I don't have a sugar mom. I don't have any of that. Where am I suppose to live? How am I supposed to own a home? Mr. Rechler, and Mr. Wang is giving Long Island an opportunity here and this shouldn't go to waste.

I see a lot of people using fear and they don't really understand what is at stake here. Things like drinking water and alternative uses of energy like when it can be put into this project at a later date. Long Island needs us right now.

It's not something that can wait and can be, you know, put into a thing and say, okay, we have a little bit of time. This is now the time. We should not be using the economic downturn as an excuse and people really need to get educated and thank you very much for your time.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Drew Bennett, Chris Crimosch, C-R-I-M-O-S-C-H.

CHRIS CRIMOSCH: Thank you very
much for this opportunity. I wanted to respond to some of the comments that I've heard earlier today. Some of the issues like working situation on Long Island are relevant and important. However, I think that we need to realize this is a ten year plan and that these issues can be addressed in time and Long Island's population has decreased.

If we showed in the past that we can hold a larger amount of people in a given time and then we can have a reduced population as the population increases again over a decade that this is being built this is something that can be done. It is achievable and it is attainable.

I mean, when you think about it, Long Island has already bought enough business and young people how is doing nothing improve anything? The second thing that I wanted to address that I heard earlier today was the call to make for more modest plans. We should scale it down, we should make it smaller. We should make it more like what we already have.
My issue is that not the concern that people have with their own communities, I think that it is valid and it is important. However, I think that it is a fact that the towns of Long Island, what they were already doing, was successful and was what we should be doing in the future. We would not be in the situation that we're in right now where we are losing people here on Long Island. I think the most important thing is that we have to realize that doing something in a different way, might be the way to answer these common questions and solve these common problems.

I hope that we can do something like that. That we can look at our environment and realize that in time and in steps we can achieve what we want to achieve and make things even better for the place that I love.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.


SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good
afternoon.

HOLLY WONG: Hi, good afternoon. It's a long wait, but it's good to hear everybody's comment today and I learn a lot --

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Can you please state where you're from?

HOLLY WONG: I'm from Hong Kong, actually, I'm an East Meadow resident for 16 years. 16 years ago, me and my husband moved from Queens to East Meadow and we have a dream. Our dream is to raise our kids and we want to stay here.

Unfortunately, with the public taxes, like, it raised tremendously the past couple of year and we almost lose our house like three years ago because of that. Many of our friends and neighbors already moved out of Long Island and it's very upset to hear that, but with the Lighthouse Project, I believe, it will keep our dream alive for many generations because I want my children -- they're a few years close to hit college and what's after college?

I talked to my husband and
said what am I going to do with my house
with all the property taxes? So with the
Lighthouse Project, I believe, that will
keep our dreams alive and also many other
Long Islanders, and I support the Lighthouse
Project.

And, I truly believe that it
will open a dream for my children
to stay on Long Island and when they
graduate, that they have all the
opportunities to be here. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

James Korojowski. Mark T-a-l-t-h -- I think
he requests to spell it.

MARK TARTAGLIONE: My name is
Mark Tartaglione and I'm a supporter of the
Lighthouse Project. I want to thank Charles
Wang and his staff for coming up with this
project. I'm supporting it for several
reasons. One, the New York Islanders.

I've been a loyal fan for over
30 years, and 4 straight Stanley Cups, 19
world series. Keep the team here, not
Kansas City. Let them get their own team.

It's ridiculous. Second, jobs. This is a
bad economy, unemployment is high and this
project would create a lot of jobs for a lot
of people out of work. Third and last, my
father's property taxes. He is a Town of
Hempstead resident for the last 34 years.

He pays a lot every year in
property taxes. He complains to me and
complains. That's why I moved out.
Hopefully all the tax revenue from this
project will help stabilize that. So once
again, thank you very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: And for the
record, you live at 38 Hollywood Avenue in
Selden?

MARK TARTAGLIONE: Yes.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Okay, thank
you. Margaret Natale, DeMarco, Jeffrey --
from Dix Hills, looks like Parker, maybe.
Michael DeMarco, Michael DeMarco. Norm
Misor, M-I-S-R-O-R from South Bellmore,
Nicholas Giglia, G-I-G-L-I-A.

NICHOLAS GIGLIA: Good
afternoon, Supervisor Murray, Members of the
town board and everybody else here. Again,
my name is Nicholas Giglia. I'm a resident

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of North Bellmore. I keep an independent advocacy clause for the Lighthouse. It's called, let there be Lighthouse hoping to just encourage people to learn more about the project and be better citizens.

Thank you very much for keeping your promise to move this project forward because right now Long Island is at a crossroads. 40 years ago, we landed on the moon for the first time something that people thought it was impossible. President John F. Kennedy said that we did not do it because it was easy, but because it was hard and that lunar module was built in a plant right here on Long Island.

They said it was like leaving a piece of Long Island on the moon. Recently, the economic engine of the aerospace industry has gone far away. Now, instead of importing planes, we export our planes. I know plenty of people who grew up with me here on Long Island, went to school with your tax dollars, every single one of your tax dollars, that now have no intention of coming back.
In fact, I've got four weddings next year of friends of mine that I grew up with none of them are on Long Island and none of them have any intention to come back after all that is said and done. It is very clear that this community needs a new opportunity and a new economic engine.

Personally, I'm starting my high technology business and people tell me constantly, why don't you move to silicon valley because that's where things get done, but if you think about it, what is silicon valley except a series of suburbs with an identity and an economic engine.

I realize that there are going to be people that have concerns and we must not diminish those concerns with such things as water quality. The cost of doing this project is not insignificant, but the cost of doing nothing, is more than we can ever bear. We need to do something to move Long Island forward, give opportunities and hope for people just like me who will come afterwards and will try to move their way to someplace else.
If you think the defeatous thinking that people talk about, I would like turn it around just slightly and I swear I'll be done within 15 seconds. Could you imagine if 70 years ago, people said why build the Empire State building during the recession, excuse me, during the depression, No one will ever go there.

Why build a Levittown; there's no guarantee the GIs will come out to Long Island. They are never going to live on Long Island. It's silly and it's defeatous thinking. We must do this. We must do it quickly, and we must do it right. My favorite father, marketing guru, Seth Grotan, said that there can only be at this time a rapid change, two types of companies.

In fact, I believe there can only be two types of communities, brave and dead. What do we want to be.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Bruce Schneider, Bruce Schneider. Joe Conte, Joe Conte. Dominick Regina.

DOMINICK REGINA: Hi.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good
afternoon.

DOMINICK REGINA: How are you?

My name is Dominick Regina. I live in Manhattan, grew up in Astoria, Queens, idolizing Long Island to be honest with you, but now I live in Manhattan and that's where, I guess, the opportunity, the attraction for younger people -- I'm not so young anymore myself, but I heard people bring up issues regarding the Lighthouse about water and traffic and everything.

The way I see it, there's $3.7 billion dollars of investing going on here. I'm quite sure they'll find, or yourself, will find the solutions within that to make these problems -- mitigate the problems, improve them, or you can just ignore them and pretend that they're going away and deal with the issues later, which obviously is what led to getting to this point today.

So I implore the town and the board to expedite the process to continue moving forward because there is something to be said by the process almost taking as long as the actual development. There is
something wrong with that, you know, eight years, seven years, whatever it is not that it's any of your fault, but the whole project is only going to take ten years to build and this is seven or eight years into planning to get something built that doesn't usually attract more people.

So, if this doesn't get done, I don't see like a whole line of people waiting to come up with another $3.7 billion into the economy. So I implore everyone, please do their due diligence, address the issues, make sure that things get taken care of, 'cause we don't want people not having water or whatever.

But at the same point use this project as a stimulus to address the issues valid that they may be that people brought up about water and everything else. Use this as an attempt to get things moving, solve the problems, and have a better future for Long Island. Thank you very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Catherine Garry, Catherine G-A-R-R-y. Art Feeney, F-E-E-N-E-Y. Is Art Feeney here?
Dr. Robert Pescan, Dr. Pescan. Joyce
Rosenfeld, Joyce Rosenfeld. Sal Juvenello.
Elise, it looks like Negrin, N-E-G-R-I-N.
Joseph Mugivan, M-U-G-I-V-A-N.

JOSEPH MUGIVAN: Thank you
Miss Murray, honored members. My name is
Joe Mugivan and I live in Port Washington.
I'm the lighthouse consultant, Member of the
International Dark Sky Association and one
issue that hasn't been touched on is that
this project could be sitting on the hill of
energy efficiency.

There is a law in Connecticut
that says that all street lights should be
fully shielded so the lights point straight
down, there's no glare in the driver's eyes.
All the lights in New York State would be
outlawed in Connecticut. The governor of
New Hampshire just signed the same bill that
declares that all street lights should be
all shielded and the assembly in New York
State has already passed a similar bill and
is pending before the senate and my
understanding is Senator Johnson is
supporting it.
Now, recently the American Medical Association, just recently, on June 15th indicated that it has a resolution that advises all municipal governments to use fully shielded lighting for the safety on roadways, energy efficient design, and glare reduction for the visually impaired and the elderly.

This type of lighting brings a 30-50% more energy efficiency. This is the kind of lighting that should be considered for the project. I have a bill before the New York City Council, the transportation committee and theirs is still pending, to change all the street lights in New York City to fully shield the light fixtures.

I think that the Public Works Department of Nassau County has moved to name that as a policy for all government locations and I'm concerned that this project has not looked at this issue and this is the future. The lighting we have on our highways now are going to be obsolete and this is a way -- this is an area that we can come in with good lighting within our
buildings, we can follow the International
Energy Conservation code for interior and
exterior lighting and there will be great
energy savings.

Mr. Wang, I handed to you
something a little bit earlier and you have
my information and I work with the New York
East Regional Director of International Dark
Sky Association and with some folks here out
in Nassau County. I'm hoping that this
project will get up to speed on energy
efficiency so we can lead the way and show
the rest of the State.

Nassau County Public Works is
the first public works in New York State to
recognize this and I like this project to
follow suit. Thank you very much for your
time.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: John Hale,
John Hale, H-A-L-E.

JOHN HALE: Good afternoon.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good
afternoon.

JOHN HALE: Okay. I moved from
New York in 1990, came to Roosevelt and
because of the slow progress in Roosevelt, I moved back to Brooklyn. When you have stagnation in an area, it's very uncomfortable for a person from Brooklyn wait for years for development. Roosevelt has come a long way since then.

I moved back into Uniondale because of the promise of this development. It would be very nice if, um, there was someway that the hard workers in the communities will be able to register for work, those that qualify.

That's all that people like me are asking for with such a great development in our community. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

Jaime Green. Good afternoon.

JAIME GREEN: Good afternoon.

My name is Jaime Green. I am a proud homeowner in Freeport and a local business person with offices in Uniondale and West Hempstead. I want to add my voice to the many support for this project, this bold and much needed Lighthouse Project. We truly need this Lighthouse Project in Nassau
County, specifically in Uniondale.

This project will help the local economy for people to work and create opportunities for small businesses like mine. Nassau County is a great place to live and work so let's keep it that way for years to come by giving the green light to the Lighthouse Project. Thank you very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Larry Austin, Larry Austin. Lawrence Boers, Lawrence Boer, B-O-E-R.

LAWRENCE BOES: Good afternoon Madam Supervisor and members of the board. My name is Lawrence Boes, B-O-E-S and I'm here as an individual. I just put that down as a number of things that I've done and various things that I belong to, including, a part-time official of the Village of Westbury and my wife is the Deputy Mayor. But I speak as an individual on behalf of this project because I think Nassau County is at a crossroads as I said before and like a doughnut with a hole in the middle. This whole area has a few gems
in the making including the library row and
the museum row and a few office buildings in
the coliseum is now, you all know,
antiquated facilities that needs radical
improvement and replacement. Otherwise, we
are and will be a stagnant population. We
need renewed growth. We need a renewed
population who is attracted to Westbury.

People like myself, who are in
their 70s, we're about to retire or move on,
move near our families perhaps and other
places and we need somebody willing to come
here and enjoy the pleasures of Nassau
County. One of our treasures for example,
is Jones Beach and our beaches. We have to
bring something new to Nassau County and the
Town of Hempstead and I think this project
is part of it.

We need also to some
centralized government facilities that make
it easy to come to this area or are
attracted to come. For example, we need
also to have a central referenced library or
a technology library or a central high
school of some kind through Boces that would
attract, you know, the top students of Nassau County. Right now, we have a number of very good public school districts some of which excel, but other gems of students in all of the districts who might welcome going to a centralized high school similar to Stuyvesant High School and others in New York City.

So this is just an idea. What the actual content is, I, you know, I leave it to those who have to do the financial work. Thank you very much.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Briana Ogobacho.

BRIANA OGOBACHO: Hi, my name is Briana Ogobacho. I'm a student of Nassau Community. I've lived on Long Island for 21 years. I am not for or against the Lighthouse Project, but my concern is my concern is there is no parking in Nassau now. How is the parking and development of the Lighthouse going to affect kids going to school school there? Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

That is the end of the speaking slips. I
have a whole bunch of other slips, but those
are for people who indicated they did not
want to speak maybe, but not yes. So, I
guess at this point, what I would do is, ask
if anybody who wishes to be heard who has
not signed in or maybe said no and changed
their mind etcetera. Going once, going
twice. Mr. Wang, would you like to -- is
there a -- good afternoon.

KATHLEEN PARKSON: Good
afternoon. I'm a resident of Roosevelt and
I am planning to start a small business. I
wonder if there are any plans who help small
business owners. My business would be legal
research and so, I'm wondering if there is
some component for people like myself.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Perhaps you
can have a conversation with the developers
over that one. Thank you is there anybody
else? Oh, I'm sorry.

RAVEN JONES: Good afternoon.
My name is Raven Jones. I am a Uniondale
resident. I live at the cross roads on
Nassau Avenue and Ardala Avenue which is
near the Green Field Cemetery. I have lived
here for 20 years. I've raised four
children and my husband works here for the
MTA, okay.

I am not against your project.
I like the idea of people going back to
work, having homes because believe me, none
of my friends have bought a home other than
myself and two other people. They simply
say they cannot afford it. So, I am worried
about, yes, the homes that will be going up,
the people that you will be putting in or
bringing in.

I'm worried about if any of my
children are going to be able to get a job
on this island. I have four, one has
graduated college with two degrees, refuses
to come back to Long Island, cannot work
here, cannot afford to pay here. He's in
North Carolina, getting ready to buy his
house and his business which he could have
been doing here, so I'm a little upset about
that, yes.

I have a 20-year-old that
works for the Town of Hempstead. The only
reason he doesn't leave is 'cause he's got a
good job and he's hoping he'll be able to
keep it, but you got to get health benefits
in there too. I have a 17-year-old. When
he graduates high school, he's going to fly.
He is not coming back. My 13-year-old
hasn't decided yet. He wants Mommy's house,
if he'll be able to afford it in 20 years.

He wants to make it happen.

My husband will be soon be able to retire in
three years. If something doesn't happen
here in Uniondale for us, we will be selling
our home and leave and I am not between the
age of 29 and 35. Get with it people, there
are 40-year-olds out there. We have homes,
we have children, we like being here, we
like doing things on Long Island, but guess
what? We're not getting it.

Our schools, we have one high
school overcrowded. Now, if you're bringing
new people in and the want to join us,
that's fine. They want to go to the
overcrowded schools that we're going to with
no boilers, no windows, plenty of problems,
be my guest, join us. We'd love to have
them, but something has to be done. One
library you can't get in sometimes 'cause there's so many kids. Come on people, this is our home. We want to be with you, we want to work with you, but you have got to do something to help the Uniondale residents 'cause I'm going to tell you for the last ten seconds, I live on a block that is about a half a mile.

I found three people that knew about your project, three. I found two people that cared and I'm one of them to come. So that is something to think about. Maybe you should take a walk around Uniondale and talk to some of them homeowners, talk to some of the people you see on the streets that don't know what's going on 'cause a lot of them don't. They really don't.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you.

SALVATORE J. ALAIMO: I'd like another two minutes, If I may. I have three children living. None of them, none of them live in the State of New York. My daughter moved out four weeks ago. She couldn't afford her house in Bay Shore. She is a
licensed traveling physical therapist. She went down to Georgia, Atlanta. Every college gave her -- I guess it's an adjunct professorship. She is teaching and working as a traveling therapist. My other son, also a graduate in the Uniondale school district, is an official with New York -- AT&T. My last son is in business for himself, in Florida.

This has been a good community for raising my children, but not allowing them to live in. It's a sin and I am totally for what Mr. Wang wants to do. This community needs help desperately and you are sitting there and I sense a feeling of complacency on that board, I'm sorry, but I do and you know something -- get rid of the incompetent politicians.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Does anyone here wish to speak?

COUNCILMAN DARY: Mr. Alaimo, may I rebutt that, please.

SALVATORE J. ALAIMO: Surely.

COUNCILMAN DARY: You have to understand what our role at today's hearing
is and our role in this process. We are the
ones that will be deciding whether this
project goes or doesn't go. We cannot take
a position for or against until we are ready
to make our vote.

SALVATORE J. ALAIMO: Are you
pregnant, sir? Does it take nine months?

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Let me
finish. I let you speak.

SALVATORE J. ALAIMO: But,
sir --

COUNCILMAN DARCY: No,
understand, okay. Our role here is to make
sure if this project is done, it's done
correctly. You know, I've stood here all
day, I've watched the video and been
impressed with some of the comments made.
Too are Long Islanders --

SALVATORE J. ALAIMO: And where
does your son work --

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Mr. Alaimo,
let me finish, please. Many of us are
Islander fans. Speaking for myself, I was a
long time Islander fan from the beginning.
I was there when they won their four cups.
I have a little confession to make though.

One of my favorite players at that time, was Bobby Clark from the Philadelphia Flyers. Bobby wasn't the fastest guy around, he wasn't the strongest guy around, but he's the hardest working guy on the ice, and it's my belief that he helped the Islanders win the four cups that they won because he pushed them to the point of playing the best game that they could play and that enabled them to win the cups four years in a row.

I see my role in this process as the Bobby Clark of this process. I'm going to push the developers to play their best game possible to design this project in a way that it can be exactly what they want it to be, a beacon for the rest of the island, but I'm not going to sit here and have someone say that I'm being complacent because I'm not taking an active role in the comments that are being made here.

I do have a series of questions that have to be addressed that I'm going to be asking to the developers over
the sand of this process and there are  
issues that are going to have to addressed  
if they want me to be on board with this  
project, but as far as our participation  
here today, we are here to gather  
information, to hear what this community is  
saying, to hear what the people who are for  
the project are saying and the people who  
are against the project are saying.  

That's our role. If it seems  
like complacency to you, I'm sorry that it  
seems that way, but I wanted everybody else  
here to understand why we taken --  

SALVATORE J. ALAIMO: My  
response to you, sir, this gentlemen and his  
crew, this scene has produced a lot of  
documentation. I'm wondering how much of it  
was read and when.  

COUNCILMAN DARCY: 6,600 pages  
of --  

SALVATORE J. ALAIMO: And when.  

COUNCILMAN DARCY: Since  

February of this year when they submitted it  
to us.  

SALVATORE J. ALAIMO: That
doesn't answer the question.

COUNCILMAN DARCY: The application was filed with the Town in January of 2008. Here we are in August of 2009 and we are very far down the line of what project of this scope and magnitude would normally be so to sit here and say that we're being complacent, you're doing a disservice to us.

CHARLES WANG: Can I make this comment? Can I make this comment of what a project --

SALVATORE J. ALAIMO: You cannot dispute my feelings, sir. Those are my feelings. If those are yours, I can't dispute them either.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: They are duly noted and let's move on. Thank you, sir. Does anybody else -- oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead.

COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: I would just like to say, that we are working very hard to make sure that we do the right thing because originally this meeting was for August 11th.
We moved this meeting to August 4th because Mr. Wang was not going to be able to be here on August 11th so all of us changed our plans and wanted to make sure that Mr. Wang would be present.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: I think we have one more speaker before we move it along or two.

ED WORTH: At first I'd like to say I appreciate the due diligence that Supervisor Murray afforded. It's very necessary that everybody's opinion be heard and you've honored that and I thank you for that.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you. Can you identify yourself, please?

ED WORTH: Yes, my name is Ed Worth. I'm a life long resident in Merrick. Everyone today is concerned with our local and national economy and the potential for jobs and economic revitalization that this project represents. My parents came to America from Manhattan in 1932 to escape the congestion and urban atmosphere of New York City.
Nassau County is a place of homes on tree-shaded streets and villages and local shops where families can enjoy a suburban life style. There was and is a significant difference between a suburban and an urban environment. I support the concept of the Lighthouse Project for its positive impact on the economy, however, I have one reservation.

I think the high rise buildings are still too high for Nassau County. They set a precedent for high rise development that eventually will create an urban landscape with two high buildings that are not that in keeping with the suburban landscape that attracted us away from the city -- many of us, away from the city.

Keep the project going forward, but please pause to consider reducing the height of the high rise buildings in this project somewhat so that they are more in scale with the beautiful suburban Long Island that we all enjoy.

Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you,
sir. The last gentlemen.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi. I came from Patchogue and I live in Westchester. I'm a long time Islanders fan. I -- excuse me, sorry. I've never lived on Long Island. I would love to live on Long Island. I would love to live at the Lighthouse.

Mr. Wang, thank you for everything. Once the place is ready, let me know and I will be there. I wasn't going to speak, was moved to by all this. I thank you, Supervisor Murray, thank you to council. Let's get this done. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Is there anybody --

SHERRY BOUKEROU: Supervisor Murray, right here.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Oh, over there.

SHERRY BOUKEROU: Good afternoon.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good afternoon.

SHERRY BOUKEROU: To Councilwoman Goosby and to Kate Murray and
to the board. My name is Sherry Boukerou and I am president of the Homeowners of Cooper Court. I was moved by a lot of the comments that was made here today and I was just urged to get up here to speak.

I am here in support of the project and because I realize the importance of the project and the jobs that it will bring to the community. 20 years ago, I moved to Long Island with the hope of prosperity, jobs, etcetera.

I see nobody staying in my community and I have to say with the support of many of you out there, that Councilwoman Goosby has been very diligent in terms of supporting and also of the other block associates that have cropped up throughout the years.

I wanted to say that it's important that you keep in mind the quality of life which is very important to a lot in the Uniondale community. The schools, the air, the traffic which is horrendous, horrendous. A lot of my friends -- they might have to find alternate routes to get
around our community to get to other parts of the county and to go into New York City because when we listen to 1010 WINS New York, traffic is so blocked up and I want you to understand that we all know that Mitchell Field was an airfield at one time and um, the dirt, we understand, and the air quality probably has been fixed up, well, years, but because I understand that, you know, what -- with your studies that were done a couple of years ago, 2004-2005, okay. That those studies being redone because things have changed in our air quality as you see it has bolstered up because of the traffic in our community. I just want to say that the board has done a wonderful job and I know you will continue to do a wonderful job on behalf of the residents of Nassau County.

In terms of looking at things like this gentleman said, Mr. Clavin, that he will through back a lot of questions he will and as a result of what the number of people say here today. I would like Mr. Wang and his --
SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Mr. Rechler.

SHERRY BOUKEROU: -- Rechler to please listen to what we say here today. Again, I am in favor of the project. I do have children. Like I said, I am a cheerleader for the community. Someone again mentioned the library which I am a trustee for and we were asking you for a small portion, perhaps a kiosk here at the site which we hope that you are considering because again, our library is growing and somedays you can't get in there and I want to thank you very, very, much. Have a great day.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you. Should anyone else here should be heard? Since this is your second go-around if you could try to be as expeditious as possible. Go ahead You are the last one to speak.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Oh, are you talking to me. I'm sorry. I'm glad you mentioned about Bobby Clark. As a matter of fact in the third I went to the coliseum, they were practicing. Bobby Clark was
terrific. I said, he's a very smart guy and I went and I brought the -- one of my plays that I always write on and I went and I gave it to Marshall, I forgot his first name. I said, can you give it to Mr. Arvil. He said, "yeah, why not?" I said, I've watched the Islanders a long time on cable.

I said, you know what, maybe this play might help out he and what I wrote in one of them was, Bobby Clark is behind that net, he's so good. Can you stop his blocking? The Islanders won that game 4 to 1, stopped Bobby Clark and I wrote to the Islanders the last time when Gretsky was playing for them and I told them, the greatest asset with Gretsky, sue me, is his pass.

I says, you stop his passing never mind his shooting. They stopped his passing. You know how they won. Four games to zero. Gretsky scored zero.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Mr. Wang -- oh, is there another person? Please step forward.

SEAN CRAWFORD: Hi, good
SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Good afternoon, your name and address.

SEAN CRAWFORD: I'm Sean Crawford from East Northport, Suffolk County resident. Had I planned on speaking today, I would have worn a hat. I apologize for that, but I don't want to take it off. You don't want to see this hair, but basically, I've been on this island for almost 23 years, born and raised in Suffolk County.

I've seen Suffolk County grow. I've seen two Tangier outlets go up. I've seen a minor league baseball stadium come in. I've seen Riverhead Raceway be threatened and they still got it going. Um, I'm also an employee for the New York Islanders and I have been for years and I have been for three years.

And in the three years, I've seen what Mr. Wang put into this project and what he's put into this team over the last year or so and he's dedicated to this and he's dedicated to getting this done and he's dedicated
to getting it done right. And I know that a lot of people talk about opening up new jobs and I think that's great, but I look at somebody like myself, not only do I work for the team, but I work for a local radio station.

So, we're always in the expo hall or always at concerts. They bring bands to the Islander games. Anytime there is something going on there, we're there. So, if we lose a team, if we end up losing the building eventually because it's been said that it would be hard to rehabilitate it without the Lighthouse project.

What does that do to somebody like me. Now, I have become one of my many friends who have had to move out. I have friends in Philadelphia. Most of them gone to Florida, North Carolina. I don't want to do that. I want to stay here on Long Island. This is where I live. This is my home. I want to raise my family here.

So I think it goes without saying that I support Mr. Wang. I support the Lighthouse Project and I really hope we
get it done 'cause I think it's a great thing for Long Island.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Mr. Wang.

CHARLES WANG: Thank you, thank you. Thank you everyone. You know, it's been a long day and we have heard from a lot of people with their comments. We've also presented to the Town over 15,000 comment sheets for the record. I think what we like to do is remind everyone that this project, the Lighthouse Project, will not solve all the problems of Long Island.

It was never meant to do that. It is, however, to be looked at as a catalyst to get it started again and growing again and we can do this. You know, the next step is for the Town to issue it's final environmental impact station. The Lighthouse project is a symbol of hope for Long Island -- I'll wait, I'll wait.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Go ahead.

CHARLES WANG: The Lighthouse Project is a symbol of hope for Long Island's future and we believe we can get there and we need to get there as quickly as
possible and we can get there by working together. I know that we can do it and I know that we must do it. So, thank you again, to Supervisor Murray, the whole town board, and thank you all for coming out and supporting the project. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Thank you Mr. Wang. That being said, may I have a motion.

COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Madam Supervisor, I move that this public hearing be closed.

TOWN CLERK: Supervisor Murray.
SUPERVISOR MURRAY: Aye.
TOWN CLERK: Councilman Ambrosino.
COUNCILMAN AMBROSINO: Aye.
TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Collin.
COUNCILWOMAN CULLIN: Aye.
TOWN CLERK: Councilman Darcy.
COUNCILMAN DARCY: Aye.
TOWN CLERK: Councilwoman Goosby.
COUNCILWOMAN GOOSBY: Aye.
TOWN CLERK: Councilman Hudes.

COUNCILMAN HUDES: Aye.

TOWN CLERK: Councilman Santino.

COUNCILMAN SANTINO: Aye.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY: The environmental hearing is closed, but I do want to remind everybody that a period of public comments are still continued through August 17th. Thank you everybody for joining us.