

RESOLUTION NO. -2020, DIRECTING THE SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING TO ANALYZE THE SAINT JAMES – STONY BROOK 25A CORRIDOR

WHEREAS, the 25A Corridor between Saint James and Stony Brook features the largest combined concentration of cultural, agricultural, and historic resources of the four western towns, the last remaining large farms in the Town of Smithtown, and a 200-acre plus assemblage of preserved lands, and a narrow, sharply curved two-lane state designated historic highway that threads its way through an essentially undeveloped rural corridor; and

WHEREAS, in total, the Saint James–Stony Brook Historic Area Corridor (“Corridor”) represents the last remaining example of a rural area in western Suffolk County; and

WHEREAS, the Corridor is home to many historic County assets, such as the St. James Country Store, the oldest continually operating store in the nation, Deepwells County Park, and Mills Pond County Historic Site, all of which are part of the Suffolk County Historic Trust and the National Register of Historic Places, making the need for planning to protect the integrity of the historic character of the district a time-critical priority; and

WHEREAS, the existence of large remaining vacant undeveloped parcels in the Towns of Smithtown and Brookhaven in the Corridor and the presence of 200 plus acres of preserved land such as Avalon and County-preserved farmland makes the need for careful planning to protect those resources a time-critical priority; and

WHEREAS, development of vacant parcels both north and south of State Route 25A may alter the character of the community and impact these resources; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Division of Planning in the Department of Economic Development and Planning is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to undertake an analysis of the Saint James-Stony Brook 25A Corridor to determine the regional impacts associated with proposed and planned development projects in this area; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that, when undertaking the report, the Division shall include the identification of vacant and preserved parcels, existing zoning, possible build out under existing zoning, proposals under consideration for redevelopment, cumulative impacts from readily available information, and recommendations; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that the report shall be submitted in writing to the County Executive, each County Legislator and the Clerk of the Legislature within 180 days of the effective date of this resolution for consideration and referral to the Suffolk County Planning Commission for further study, if necessary; and be it further

4th RESOLVED, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW

YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as routine or continuing administration and management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED:

APPROVED BY:

County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: