



Grant Awarded for Sewer Study near Bellport Transit Hub
Program Supports Equitable, Transit-Oriented Development in Region

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Today, the Tri-State Transportation Campaign (TSTC) and One Region Funders' Group awarded a grant of \$44,500 to the Town of Brookhaven to support efforts to promote equitable, sustainable development around the Bellport Long Island Railroad station.

The grant will support a study of potential sites and financing options for sewage treatment facilities near the station. Sewer infrastructure would support private redevelopment proposals aimed at revitalizing Bellport through construction of residential units, commercial and office space, and a community center.

"The One Region Funders' Group is thrilled to support an innovative, forward-thinking project that will promote transit use, spur investment in Bellport, and implement the community's vision for redevelopment," said John McNally, environment program director of the Rauch Foundation, a member of the One Region Funders' Group.

"This project takes direct aim at the challenges and opportunities facing the Bellport area, and takes the community a step closer towards its vision of a revitalized, vibrant downtown." said Sol Marie Alfonso-Jones, program officer for the Long Island Community Foundation, also a member of One Region.

"Mixed-use development around existing transit service is good for the economy, environment and quality of life," said Kate Slevin, executive director of the Tri-State Transportation Campaign, a regional transportation policy and advocacy organization. "The Brookhaven project is an ideal opportunity for successful, community-driven, transit-oriented development and can serve as a model for redevelopment statewide."

"I want to thank the Tri-State Transportation Campaign and One Region Funders' Group for supporting our efforts to create a Bellport TOD. The community and Town have a vision for stimulating economic growth in Bellport and this grant will assist with the vital first step of any redevelopment process - determining feasible sewage treatment options for the area," said Supervisor Mark Lesko.

The grant marks the continuation of a community-driven planning process coordinated by the Greater Bellport Coalition, a community organization comprised of business, civic, and faith-based organizations. The Coalition held multiple visioning sessions and developed a sustainable community plan which was accepted by the Town Board in 2009.

"This study is important because it will help us find an economically viable and socially just location for a use that is often perceived as having a negative impact on its surroundings, but is critical to the development and growth of the community," said John Rogers, Chair of the Greater Bellport Coalition.

"Sewage infrastructure will enable the town to move forward a Transit Oriented development (TOD) adjacent to the train station in North Bellport. It is a key investment which will spur growth, and create jobs in an area which has been under served and impacted by blight for many years," said Brookhaven Councilwoman Constance Kepert.

TSTC and the One Region Funders' Group also awarded the following grants:

- \$48,000 to the Norwalk Redevelopment Agency, in Connecticut, for a market study and case study review aimed at stabilizing existing neighborhoods and supporting development around the South Norwalk Metro-North Railroad station.
- \$38,500 to the Village of Mamaroneck, in Westchester County, for a transit-oriented development zoning study to support affordable housing, public space, and mixed-use development around the Mamaroneck Metro-North Railroad station.
- \$14,000 for the Flushing-Willets Point-Corona LDC in Queens, New York, for a market analysis to support proposals for affordable and senior housing near the Flushing Long Island Rail Road station.

The four grantees were chosen from over forty applicants throughout the region. The grant award marks the second year of the transit centered development grant program. In 2009, the program awarded \$25,000 to the

Town of Babylon to support the Wyandanch Rising project and \$25,000 to the Town of Brookhaven to support development around the Ronkonkoma Hub.

The One Region Funders' Group is a partnership of private funders from Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey learning and working together to advance and support transportation planning and reform in the Tri-State region. Foundations participating in the One Region Funders' Group and contributing toward this initiative include Fairfield County Community Foundation, Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, Long Island Community Foundation, New York Community Trust, Rauch Foundation, Surdna Foundation, Westchester Community Foundation, Fund for the Environment & Urban Life, Rockefeller Foundation, and Ford Foundation.

The Tri-State Transportation Campaign (TSTC) is a non-profit organization working towards a more balanced, transit-friendly and equitable transportation system in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

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