

Richard Brummel
PO Box 124
Greenvale NY 11548
rbrummel@att.net
Planet-in-Peril.org
(516) 238-1646

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To the Nassau County Legislature,
and Members thereof:

By Hand and Orally

I have communicated my concerns about and objections to the use of any part of Christopher Morley Park particularly the forest to build a toxics evaporation tower (a/k/a water stripper) for the Roslyn Water District, or for any other entity.

I had received support in this challenge to those plans from the Green Party of Nassau County and the Sierra Club Long Island Group.

I am submitting the statement of the Green Party which opposes loss of natural forest as well as opposing any such action prior to a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a formal vote by the State Legislature.

The Sierra Club LI Group is composing its statement but its executive committee voted last week to oppose the placement of the tower in the park. I will present their statement to the County Legislature when it is done.

I delivered or emailed letters to Legislator Gonsalves and Abrahams outlining my concerns last month. Neither wrote back or communicated with me. Executive Mangano did acknowledge my concerns. I have also been in contact with the office of Legislator MacKenzie who represents my district. And who was a water executive.

One issue that bears emphasis is that since the source and hence extent of contamination of the well at issue is unknown the plan to begin releasing its toxic contents -- which beyond Freon 22 include five other volatile organic compounds, according to the Roslyn engineering report that was released to me, all of which I believe were designated as carcinogenic -- creates an open-ended exposure to the public.

There are other issues as well.

I am taking this opportunity to make a Freedom of Information Law (FOIL)

request (hereby) for all documents you have related to the proposal to site an "air stripper" in Christopher Morley Park to remove contaminants from the Roslyn water supply.

And I am also requesting under State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) the prompt release of SEQRA-related documents related to the same project. As you know, or should now be aware, SEQRA does not permit any of the delays in document release that FOIL does, and mandates that documents should be "readily accessible to the public and made available on request" (6 NYCRR 617.12).

I am also testifying in opposition to your resolution to sell any part of the County property on South Street off Stewart Avenue that is a natural habitat at this time. I observed many Canada geese nesting there, and some wetland type areas that are natural habitat for many other species.

Although it appears to be a former sump as it is about 15 acres below-grade about 10-15 feet, the land is sprouting anew and trees and scrub line its slopes. In the basin there appears to be grass and scrub as well.

This resolution, "Proposed Ordinance No. 41 - 2014", is unlawfully vague in its description of the parts of the property to be sold. Furthermore its alleged finding of a "negative declaration" under SEQRA is unlawfully vague and conclusory as a "determination of significance" under 6 NYCRR 617.17 requires an identification of pertinent issues and a "reasoned elaboration" of the determination.

The assertion that a fuller statement is appended is not in evidence in the publicly available document on the County website.

Inasmuch as the property is in a natural state the impact on natural resources -- animals and flora, as well as aesthetic resources -- will be real and tangible. As such they require some analysis.

Furthermore this proposed transaction would appear to be possibly part of a future course of action of sale that should be fully described and analyzed to avoid the unlawful practice of "segmentation" of the environmental review (6 NYCRR 617.3(g)).

I am presently participating in the environmental review of the Country Pointe development of the old East Nassau County offices in Plainview. This pastoral wooded area is proposed to be massively demolished pursuant to a prior sale of County property. That was a very short-sighted action.

Nassau is heavily over-developed leading to massive over-use of infrastructure like roads, and the degradation of air quality and of natural resources. We need

to preserve open space, habitat, green resources that purify our air and cut CO2 in the atmosphere.

This parcel in East Garden City / Uniondale is a public asset that should be preserved. Going forward Nassau should undertake to preserve all its lands for their ecological value -- that includes non-park properties as well as parks.

In fact previously developed properties should be returned to their natural state to better restore the quality of our environment.

Greed and mismanagement have led to massive overdevelopment throughout Long Island. Aside from downtown redevelopments governments at all levels should be preserving whatever nature is in their power to preserve. For Nassau that would be its parks and its public portfolio of land and properties.

I am sorry that the Legislature agenda does not indicate a public speaking period or the opportunity for the public to speak to the resolutions or hearings thereon. These are to me deficiencies. Further I attempted to review the stream of prior meetings and they seem not to exist. The board of the Town of North Hempstead has recently adopted openness procedures this body could follow.

Thank you,

Richard Brummel
Author, Planet-in-Peril.org
Organizer Keep East Hills Green Civic Association
(516) 238-1646

NOTE -- Additional testimony delivered opposing SEQRA finding re -- excavation of 36 acres of playing fields as part of "emergency" work at sewage complex.