



PRESS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 21, 2013

12TH ANNUAL SMART GROWTH SUMMIT MORE THAN 1,000 LONG ISLAND LEADERS FRIDAY, NOV. 22 AT MELVILLE MARRIOTT

MELVILLE MARRIOTT, 1350 WALT WHITMAN ROAD, MELVILLE, NY
NOVEMBER 22, 2013 – 8 A.M.-4 P.M.

Always a gathering of the region's land use and infrastructure decision-makers, the 12th annual Smart Growth Summit will be the largest ever.

More than 1,000 people are expected to attend this year's event at the Melville Marriott this Friday, Nov. 22, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Twenty workshops featuring 120 speakers are scheduled, along with a Youth Summit.

"The Summit continues to support the activity, benefits and strategic advantages of Long Island's downtowns. The good news is there have been recent successes, including Farmingdale, Westbury, Huntington and Mineola," Vision Long Island Executive Director Eric Alexander said. "And the folks that attend return to the thousands in their communities, creating more positive change at home.

This year's Summit will feature a luncheon headlined by **RXR CEO Scott Rechler**, delivering an economic message for our region. **Congressman Steve Israel** will be reporting on legislation relevant to our downtowns.



"I am proud to participate in the 2013 Smart Growth Summit to discuss some of Long Island's most pressing issues and how we can leverage our many resources to move our local economy forward.

Long Island is a natural, innovative hub that brings together entrepreneurs and our academic assets to create local jobs. We must continue to invest in innovation and in our local small businesses to ensure that they thrive and grow and keep creating good-paying jobs on Long Island," Israel said.

The Smart Growth Summit begins with breakfast and morning plenary session "State of the Towns and Villages." The implementation of Smart Growth on Long Island ultimately comes down to municipal officials, 10 of whom will give local updates through this panel. The 2013 panelists include: **Town of Babylon Supervisor Rich Schaffer, Town of Riverhead Supervisor Sean Walter, Town of Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine, Town of Southampton Supervisor Anna Throne-Holst, Town of North Hempstead Supervisor-elect Judi Bosworth, Town of Hempstead Councilman Ed Ambrosino, Town of Islip Councilman Steve Flotteron, Village of Hempstead Mayor Wayne Hall, Village of Westbury Peter Cavallaro and Village of Farmingdale Mayor Ralph Ekstrand.**

The breakfast session will feature **Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano.**

"Vision Long Island is truly a leader in helping our communities grow in a smart and sustainable way. This Smart Growth Summit truly helps continue our policies of developing transit-oriented housing in our downtowns, building safer roadways and creating a better place for residents to live, work and raise a family," Mangano said.

These officials will join their business and civic counterparts on 20 workshops ranging in topics from Superstorm Sandy to downtowns. Combining such knowledgeable individuals at one table frequently results in progress and solutions. The 2013 workshop schedule includes: State of the Town and Villages; Rebuilding and Resilience; Brownfields Boom or Bust?; Complete Streets; Emerging Businesses; Transit-Oriented Development; Youth Vision for Long Island's Future; Education's Role in Rebuilding our Downtowns; Future of Energy on Long Island; Tourism and Downtowns; Transit Opportunities; Water and Wastewater; Bringing Tech Companies Downtown; New Town Centers; Smart Growth and New Urbanism 101; Financing Smart Growth; Arts and Destinations; Housing Opportunities; Sustainability, Planning and Implementation; and Post Sandy: Disaster Planning and Recovery.

Vision staff will be releasing notes and quotes in a future Smart Talk newsletter. For schedule and event details before the Summit, visit www.visionlongisland.org. Pictures of participating speakers are available prior to the event upon request.

Workshop Summaries:

State of the Towns and Villages

Traditionally, we welcome a panel of town supervisors and village mayors who are supportive of downtown redevelopment and infrastructure investments in their communities. Last year's panel was completely focused on Superstorm Sandy, although this year's agenda will go back to Main Street redevelopment. That could include downtown revitalization, wastewater and transportation infrastructure, as well as some Sandy recovery discussion.

Rebuilding and Resilience

This workshop covers the NYS Community Reconstruction Program, local approaches to prioritizing infrastructure projects and other case examples of resilience techniques used in waterfront communities.

Brownfields Boom or Bust?

Long Island has many contaminated properties in need of remediation and numerous planning efforts underway to attempt to address them. Concerning the NYS-sponsored Brownfields Opportunity Areas program and Brownfield Tax Credit program, what can be improved to more adequately advance redevelopment of Brownfields? What other county or municipal resources are in place to facilitate Brownfields redevelopment?

Complete Streets

Long Island has some of the deadliest roadways in New York State. With a declining number of automobile users and an increased number of residents walking, biking and using transit, our roadways need improvements to accommodate all modes of travel. More than a dozen Long Island municipalities have passed Complete Streets legislation to lay the groundwork for pedestrian-safety oriented projects. This panel will address the best practices and status of Complete Streets improvements for the island's roads.

Emerging Businesses

Long Island is becoming an increasingly diverse region. In many cases our downtowns are being shaped by independent businesses that cater to this growing diversity. Are many Long Islanders aware of the large market these businesses obtain and take advantage of the growing population? What is the role of minority owned businesses in the building community? How do we strengthen this emerging economic development sector?

Transit-Oriented Development

More than 7,600 units of transit-oriented development has been approved on Long Island over the last seven years in over 50 projects with more in the planning stages. What are some of the best practices that are working on and off Long Island? How can we overcome barriers to advance this needed form of downtown redevelopment?

Youth Vision for Long Island's Future

There are many conversations that talk about the "Brain Drain" and the prospect of youth leaving Long Island. Very few planning efforts actually involve and have young people speak for themselves what future they want to see here on Long Island. This panel will focus on the vision of five teenagers/twenty-somethings that play different roles in creating the types of communities that will attract and retain the next generation of workers and residents. The panel will also involve the voices from the Long Island Youth Summit that is organized every year out of Dowling College.

Education's Role in Opportunities

Strong neighborhood's need effective school districts. One of the key attractions to living or running a business in a community is a healthy school system, as they are traditionally hubs of community activity. This panel will discuss the health of our school districts and their role in supporting the redevelopment of downtown areas.

Future of Energy on Long Island

Long Island's energy landscape has changed in the last year. The reformatted LIPA provides an opportunity to improve efficiencies while continuing the ongoing commitment to very effective clean energy and renewable programs. The panel will involve the relevant power suppliers, operators and renewable energy companies and advocates to discuss the future energy direction for Long Island.

Tourism and Downtowns

With the recent recession and slow economic recovery Long Islanders have opted to spend their money locally in the form of "staycations." This has provided many opportunities for investment in downtown areas, events, new businesses, restaurants, bars, nightlife and other attractions. While our downtowns are seeing more life, we haven't taken full advantage of marketing Long Island differently as we continue to focus exclusively on traditional attractions like parks and beaches. The panel will discuss varying successful strategies to market Long Island's downtown to tourists on and off Long Island.

Transit Opportunities

Transit investments for Long Island are continuing with East Side Access, Double Track to Ronkonkoma, East End Scoot Service and a major upgrade to the Hicksville train station coming online. Strengthening bus service in Nassau and expanding service in Suffolk are also underway. These projects and their impact on the mobility of our region will be explored on this panel.

Water and Wastewater

Infrastructure investment for our region's key projects are well underway. Due to the Smart Growth Infrastructure Act and the Regional Councils some of these resources are directed to our downtown areas. The most promising development is the \$455 million investment in Bay Park Sewage Treatment Plant to upgrade the failing facility that services hundreds of thousands of Nassau residents, possibly the largest single infrastructure grant to Long Island. Regardless of this progress, more needs to be done to protect our groundwater, advance new sewage treatment technologies and secure State and Federal resources to grow our downtowns. This panel has a mix of engineers, sewer developers, water resource regulators, sewer financiers and advocates.

Bringing Tech Companies Downtown

Emerging high-tech companies are looking to situate downtown. Launchpad Long Island in Mineola and tech incubators in Hicksville and Huntington demonstrate that trend. This panel will tackle new strategies to create the best environment to bring these businesses into local communities.

New Town Centers

While Long Island has been slowly revitalizing its many existing downtowns there have been very few new town centers planned and approved. This workshop will focus on the status of two of the most advanced new town centers, Heartland in Brentwood and Garvies Point in Glen Cove. Updates in two downtowns, Hempstead and Huntington Station planned by the community and a Master Developer will also be explored.

Smart Growth and New Urbanism 101

The principles of Smart Growth and New Urbanism are more than 20 years old and the underlying values and designs chart back to the dawn of early settlement patterns. The Smart Growth movement on Long Island has grown, but some misconceptions of the types of walkable communities sought after

remain. This panel will tackle some of the basic tenants of placemaking and the built environment from design experts in the field.

Financing Smart Growth

After the most recent recession financing Smart Growth projects has been viable but at times challenging in specific areas like the condo markets and independent mixed use developments. The increased amount of infrastructure, public benefits and amenities that are needed to invest in quality redevelopment often needs public matching funds to create the economic development and placemaking impact the downtowns need. Thankfully IDA's, select local banks and a cadre of developers have stepped forward with strategies and deals that have created real projects on Long Island. This panel will tackle a series of approaches and resources available to finance Smart Growth in a difficult market.

Arts and Destinations

Westbury's newest project opened its doors, "The Space at Westbury," providing a music venue in downtown that is helping the retail and restaurants in the area. This adds to the tremendous value arts have added to local business districts. Theatres and music venues in Riverhead, Patchogue, Bay Shore and Huntington among others point to these successes. This panel tackles the role art, music, cultural events and other creative amenities have in strengthening downtown areas.

Housing Opportunities

Long Island has for many years provided housing stock of small- and large-lot single family homes and illegal apartments. Recent demographic changes have pushed the market demand for a range of housing types well beyond the inventory of older apartments and creatively-designed housing in Long Island's older downtowns. The necessary housing includes apartments over stores, live work units, loft apartments, townhouses, multifamily rentals and other smaller units adjacent to downtowns and transit. This panel will speak to this emerging market, the needs of working Long Islanders to have real housing opportunities and discuss real examples of success underway on Long Island and throughout the region.

Sustainability, Planning and Implementation

More than 250 community and regional plans based on the tenants of long term sustainability have been underway for years shaping many local projects with broad based public input. Beyond an academic exercise, the past two years has produced a number of plans that are tied to policy and regulatory changes along with potential grant funding from Federal and State resources. Officials from NYSERDA, NYMTC and the Federal Sustainability Partnership will discuss these varying regional planning efforts towards bringing resources directly to Long Island's communities and municipalities in order to implement the many community plans already in motion.

Post Sandy: Disaster Planning and Recovery

One of the biggest challenges post-Sandy has been the ability to marshal resources directly to local residents, businesses and local community infrastructure and resiliency projects. A number of local service groups, churches, small businesses and municipalities have stepped forward to assist in filling the many gaps and unmet needs. This panel will address the strategies that have worked and lessons learned from the past year of Sandy recovery initiatives. Speakers include a plethora of community

rebuilding and relief organizations who have been working round the clock to assist Long Islanders in need.

Quotes from speakers and special guests about the 2013 Summit:

New York State Office of Storm Recovery Director Jamie Rubin

“As we work towards building a stronger, more resilient New York, it is encouraging to see the commitment from so many of Long Island's leaders. The Green Summit is a great opportunity for industry and community leaders, who will be essential in the rebuilding process, to come together and discuss how we can all work as a team to achieve our goals.”

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone

“I continue to applaud the advocacy efforts of Vision Long Island in promoting environmentally sustainable development. Economic development is at the core of moving Suffolk County forward and must be done with innovative planning and effective implementation which embodies the use of smart growth principles.”

Babylon Supervisor Rich Schaffer

“Vision Long Island continues to be the leader in promoting Smart Growth principles, and every year this Summit provides a vital opportunity for Long Island’s leaders to address our most challenging regional and local issues. I look forward to discussing exciting developments in downtown revitalization in the Town of Babylon, as well as our long-term rebuilding efforts following Superstorm Sandy.”

Riverhead Supervisor Sean Walter

“As Town Supervisor, it’s great to hear business owners share their success stories and describe their excitement about the opportunities in our downtown. We’re seeing how proactive efforts have positioned us for growth and success in Riverhead.”

Southampton Supervisor Anna Throne-Holst

“Long Island is a unique and remarkably diverse region in terms of its development landscape and infrastructure. The opportunity to get together each year at the Smart Growth Summit is a terrific opportunity to learn from the experiences of other municipalities and planning experts and to support the concept of strategic regional planning for the challenges ahead.”

Suffolk Legislator DuWayne Gregory

“Every community says they want smart growth, but the trick is how to make that vision real and repeatable. By coming together to share best practices and learn from previous efforts, true smart growth not only becomes the achievable standard, but the process of accomplishing it is also better defined. That’s the real value of this summit. And that’s the reason why I wanted to be a part of it.”

Farmingdale Mayor Ralph Ekstrand

“The most important thing to villages to keep their economic growth continuing is transit-oriented development and walkability to downtowns is going to be the future of Long Island.”

Hempstead Village Mayor Wayne Hall

“Smart growth building is the way of the future. My administration is committed to progressive urban planning initiatives that will improve the economic vitality of Hempstead Village by creating greater shopping, dining and business opportunities for residents and non-residents alike. The Downtown Revitalization Plan serves as a clear indication that this administration is committed to building a sustainable economy for businesses, residents and visitors to thrive in this community.”

Citizens Campaign Advisory for the Environment Executive Director Adrienne Esposito

“Wastewater infrastructure is not a luxury item. Out of sight should not mean out of mind. At present, Suffolk County has three hundred and fifty thousand failing septic systems and cesspools sitting above our only drinking water source. In Nassau County, the Bay Park Sewage Treatment Plant remains on life support. Upgrading existing sewage infrastructure in addition to new sewage infrastructure is critical for our water quality and our quality of life. Civilizations have lived and died on how they treated sewage. Long Island’s ability to embrace smart growth is inextricably linked to our willingness to address the problem of our failing wastewater infrastructure.”

Neighbors Supporting Neighbors founder Kim Skillen

“Neighbors Supporting Neighbors Babylon is honored to be included in the conversation of rebuilding and resiliency with the caliber of speakers assembled by Vision Long Island.”

Tri-State Transportation Campaign Executive Director Veronica Vanterpool

“Current street design on Long Island is an impediment to mobility, safety and economic development. Long Island needs more Complete Streets with low-cost safety treatments like bike lanes, better crosswalks, and pedestrian islands. A minimal investment yields huge dividends as property values increase and towns bustle with new activity. Not implementing these measures is an economic loss to Long Island. Now that both counties have enacted Complete Streets policies, it’s time to apply the policy to the streets.”

AARP Associate Director for Livable Communities William Stoner

“Vision Long Island's Smart Growth summit is always the place to be to mingle and share ideas with community leaders who are working so hard at the local level to make our communities more livable for a lifetime. I come away from these events with at least three or four new ideas for incorporation into our work at AARP each time I attend.”

EmPower Solar Marketing Manager Tara Bono

“The future of Long Island depends on innovative thinking and perusing economic, social and environmental responsible development. Many millennials share Vision Long Island's goal to foster responsible growth on Long Island and understand that as the key to being able to stay and raise families where they grew up.”

EmPower Solar CEO David Schieren

“Vision LI has been an absolutely fantastic partner to help advance solar energy in our region. The audience at the Smart Growth conference is exceptionally high quality and we are always excited to engage them on the latest in solar energy for businesses and homeowners, and how to promote mass adoption of clean energy.”

Engel Burman Group founding partner Steven Krieger

“It is tough as it has ever been [to invest in Smart Growth], but there are financing opportunities for seasoned developers who are willing to invest substantial equity.”

Greenman-Pedersen Director of Town Planning William Tuyn

“All Long Islanders have a stake in their communities, and the Vision Long Island Smart Growth Summit is the place stakeholders need to be to get up to speed on what’s happening on Long Island and the latest developments in smarter place making.”

Long Island Federation of Labor President John Durso

“Vision Long Island continues to be in the forefront of Smart Growth, the Summit being held today is another example how Vision Long Island brings out the very best and brightest on Long Island regardless of your political affiliation. This meeting of over a thousand people transcends the political divide to help move Long Island forward into the 21st Century.”

THE 12TH ANNUAL SMART GROWTH SUMMIT

Friday, November 22nd, 8:00am-4:00pm, Melville Marriott

Featured speakers to include:

Joining us for our annual State of the Towns and Villages panel:



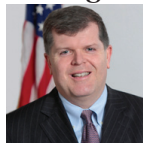
Keynote Speaker:
 Scott Rechler
 RXR Realty



Hon. Steve Israel
 U.S. House of Representatives



Hon. Ed Mangano
 Nassau County Executive



Hon. Rich Schaffer
 Babylon Town Supervisor



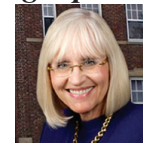
Hon. Sean Walter
 Riverhead Town Supervisor



Hon. Ed Romaine
 Brookhaven Town Supervisor



Hon. Anna Throne-Holst
 Southampton Town Supervisor



Hon. Judi Bosworth
 North Hempstead Town
 Supervisor-Elect



Hon. Wayne Hall
 Village of Hempstead Mayor



Hon. Peter Cavallaro
 Village of Westbury Mayor



Hon. Ralph Eckstrand
 Village of Farmingdale Mayor



Joye Brown
 Newsday, Moderator

BREAKFAST PLENARY SESSION: 8:15 - 9:45 AM

FEATURED BREAKFAST SPEAKERS:

Hon. Ed Mangano, Nassau County Executive
Kenneth Daly, National Grid

STATE OF THE TOWNS & VILLAGES

Hon. Rich Schaffer, Babylon Town Supervisor
 Hon. Sean Walter, Riverhead Town Supervisor
 Hon. Ed Romaine, Brookhaven Town Supervisor
 Hon. Anna Throne-Holst, Southampton Town Supervisor
 Hon. Judi Bosworth, N. Hempstead Town Supervisor-Elect
 Hon. Ed Ambrosino, Hempstead Town Councilman
 Hon. Steve Flotteron, Islip Town Councilman
 Hon. Wayne Hall, Village of Hempstead Mayor
 Hon. Peter Cavallaro, Village of Westbury Mayor
 Hon. Ralph Eckstrand, Village of Farmingdale Mayor
 Joye Brown, Newsday, Moderator

Workshops I: 9:55 - 11:05 AM

Post Sandy: Rebuilding & Resilience

Jamie Rubin, Director, NYS Office of Storm Recovery
 Rob Welltner, Operation Splash
 Ron Beattie, Oakdale Chamber of Commerce
 David Berg, Cameron Engineering
 Andrew Zucaro, Zucaro Construction
 Paul Beyer, Director of Smart Growth, NYS DOS
 John O'Connell, Herald Publications, Moderator

Brownfields Boom or Bust?

Peter Scully, NYS DEC
 Gary Rozmus, GEI Consultants
 Hon. DuWayne Gregory, Suffolk County Legislature
 Mitch Pally, LI Builders Institute
 Keith Samaroo, PS&S, Moderator

Complete Streets

Will Stoner, AARP
 Hon. Connie Kepert, Town of Brookhaven
 Jim McLaughlin, Wendel Companies
 David Sabatino, Envision Valley Stream
 Ryan Russo, NYC Department of Transportation
 Ryan Lynch, Tri-State Transp. Campaign, Moderator

Emerging Businesses

Kamlesh Mehta, South Asian Times
 Hon. Jorge Martinez, LI Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Yvette Richardson, SRW Engineers
 Lionel Chitty, Hicksville Chamber of Commerce, Moderator

Transit Oriented Development

Bob Paley, MTA
 Anthony Bartone, Bartone Properties
 James Stover, Mill Creek Residential
 Sal Coco, BHC Architects
 Tom Jost, Parsons Brinkerhoff
 Larry Rosenbloom, Zyscovich Architects, Moderator

Education's Role in Rebuilding our Downtowns

Maria Rianna, Glen Cove S.D. Superintendent
 Mike Hynes, Shelter Island S.D. Superintendent
 Kathy Mooney, Port Washington S.D. Superintendent
 Ken Bossert, Port Jefferson S.D. Superintendent
 Kimberley Reiser, Nassau Community College
 John Lombardo, Suffolk Community College
 Dr. Elana Zolfo, Dowling College, Moderator

Youth Vision for LI's Future

Tara Bono, Lincus Young Professionals
 Jeff Guillott, Suburban Millennial Institute
 Josh Lafazan, Syosset Board of Education
 Danielle Cirimello, Dowling College
 Kendra Armstead, Stony Brook University
 Dr. Nathalia Rogers, Dowling College, Moderator

Workshops II: 11:10 AM - 12:20 PM

Future of Energy on Long Island

John Keating, National Grid
 David Schieren, Empower Solar
 Ross Ain, Caithness Energy
 Mike Voltz, PSEG
 Richard Kessel
 Neal Lewis, Sustainability Institute at Molloy, Moderator

Tourism & Downtowns

Dr. Gail Lamberta, St. Josephs College
 Lois Howes, Freeport Chamber of Commerce
 Artie Burke, Northport Village Merchants Association
 Karen Harding, THEM Media
 Jim Kelly, The Long Islander
 Jaci Clement, Fair Media Council, Moderator

Smart Growth/New Urbanism 101

Bill Tuyn, Greenman-Pedersen Inc
 Paddy Steinschneider, Gotham Design
 Marc Wouters, CNU, New York
 Alex Latham, ADLIII Architecture, Moderator

New Town Centers

David Walkoff, Heartland Town Square
 Tom Graham, RXR/Glen Isle
 Don Monti, Renaissance Downtowns
 David Winzelberg, LI Business News, Moderator

Transit Opportunities

Elisa Picca, LIRR
 Pat Bowden, Transit Workers Union
 Michael Schoolman, Seven Bus
 John Durso, LI Federation of Labor
 William Henderson, PCAC
 Denise Carter, Greenman-Pedersen Inc, Moderator

Water & Wastewater

Michael Posillico, Posillico
 Frank Russo, H2M
 Rick Cisterna, Natural Systems Utilities
 Hon. William Spencer, Suffolk County Legislature
 Tim Burns, NYS Environmental Facilities Corp.
 Adrienne Esposito, Citizens Campaign, Moderator

Bringing Tech Companies Downtown

Rich Foster, Launchpad LI
 Andrew Hazen, Launchpad LI
 Jon Rudes, CRESA
 Julie Marchesella, Nassau Council of Chambers
 Peter Goldsmith, LISTnet, Moderator

LUNCH: 12:30 - 2:00 PM

FEATURED LUNCH SPEAKERS:

Hon. Steve Israel, US House of Representatives
Keynote Speaker - Scott Rechler, RXR

Workshops III: 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Post Sandy: Disaster Planning & Recovery

Theresa Regnante, United Way of Long Island
 Rich Cantwell, Friends of Freeport
 Amy Castiglia, Lindy Manpower
 Kim Skillen, Neighbors Supporting Neighbors Babylon
 John McNally, Long Beach resident
 Ron Benenati, FEMA
 Jon Siebert, Friends of Long Island
 Randi Dresner, Island Harvest
 Carl Corry, Newsday, Moderator

Financing Smart Growth

Anthony Manetta, Suffolk County IDA
 Bill Mannix, Town of Islip IDA
 Larry Jones, Bethpage Federal Credit Union
 Steve Krieger, Engel Burman
 Dr. Norman Smith, Dowling College
 John Kominicki, Digital Motion, Moderator

Arts, Music & Destinations

Michelle Stark, Suffolk Co. Office of Film & Cult. Affairs
 Bruce Michael, The Space at Westbury
 Pat Snyder, East End Arts Council, Moderator

Sustainability Planning & Implementation

Lindsay Robbins, NYSERDA
 Fran Reid, Town of North Hempstead
 Gerry Bogacz, NYMTC
 Representative, Federal Transit Administration
 Elissa Kyle, Vision Long Island, Moderator

Housing Opportunities

Sol Marie Jones, LI Community Foundation
 Anthony Atkinson, LI Board of Realtors
 Peter Fiore, D&F Development
 Ralph Fasano, Concern for Independent Living
 Richard Koubek, Huntington Township Housing Coalition
 Pam Robinson, Patch, Moderator



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