

LICA'S Latest

BIWEEKLY E-GRAM THAT CONTAINS
THE LATEST NEWS AND INFORMATION
VITAL TO LICA'S MEMBERS

MARCH 3, 2009

LICA Welcomes Senator Gillibrand on Her Inaugural Long Island Visit



A cold and blustery February afternoon did not prevent U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand from finding a warm and genuine welcome from the Long Island Contractors' Association as she arrived on Long Island for the first time in her new job.

As part of her regional "listening tour," where she asked key Long Island opinion makers to meet with her to discuss crucial issues, the Senator heard first-hand what impact federal stimulus dollars would have on the region if properly distributed.

With a LICA sponsored payloader in the background, the Senator met LICA Chairman Jim Pratt along with LICA rank and file as she arrived in Glen Cove for her meeting. Stopping to engage each of the 30 unemployed men who should be hard at work on the region's infrastructure system, she thanked them for their hospitality and their message of support.

Jim Pratt noted, "The Senator has done her job by supporting the economic stimulus package. This is now all about the State allocation of those dollars, how we can fast track project approval, and how soon we can

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*The Voice of Long Island's
Highway & Infrastructure Professionals*

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When reading the
LICA e-Gram with Adobe
Reader, you can zoom in and
out of the pages by holding ctrl
(or apple) and pressing + (to
zoom in) and - (to zoom out)?

have these trucks, payloaders and cranes on the job, creating a real economic rate of return.”

Some of those who braved the weather included employees from LICA members who also proudly represented their union locals, such as Laborers Local 1298, Operating Engineers Local 138 and Teamsters Local 282. The payloader was brought to the event courtesy of Rason Asphalt's Glen Cove plant.

LICA Executive Director Marc Herbst participated in the subsequent meeting with the Senator and found her, “focused, informed and prepared to be part of the team that puts Long Island's economy back on track.”

Register Now for LICA's Annual Meeting/Dinner to be held Thursday, March 12th

WNBC's Cergol to Emcee and Robert Moses Is Back

LICA's Annual Meeting and Dinner will be held next Thursday, March 12th, at the Stonebridge Golf Links and Country Club, 2000 Raynors Way (off of Veterans Highway next to Blydenburgh Park), Smithtown. Cocktails will be served beginning at 6:00 pm, with the program and buffet dinner beginning about 7:15 pm. All members are encouraged to attend. The cost of the event is included in the members' annual dues. We encourage you to R.S.V.P. this week so that we may make the necessary arrangements. Please [click here](#) for more information.

This year's program will be hosted by WNBC-TV's Long Island Correspondent Greg Cergol. Following the ratification of LICA's board of directors, Pete Ruane, President and Chief Executive of LICA's national organization, the American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA), will provide our membership with his perspective on anticipated federal dollars for infrastructure projects.

The program will then follow with Cergol conducting what may prove to be the most important interview of his career. He will question the man who created post-war Long Island, the late Robert Moses. LICA members will be privy to hear the Master Builder's own words to chide, challenge and convince the region that it still has within its means the ability to confront the most stinging recession in three generations. His experiences, recollections and words are chillingly relevant as the region and the state seek to define its future.

The evening's program will conclude with LICA's presentation of awards expressing our appreciation to the champions who have led the battle in securing federal stimulus dollars for transportation projects in the Nassau-Suffolk region. The 2009 LICA Leadership Award will be presented to Congressman Tim Bishop. In addition, the 2009 LICA Partnership Award will be presented to the Long Island Regional Planning Council.

Stimulus Strings Attached

We may not know how much the federal stimulus program may bring to Long Island in actual construction projects, but one thing is certain: more reporting requirements. Last week LICA received a notice from the New York State Department of Transportation asking us to advise our members that the State expects to insert a special note in contracts asking prime contractors to supply additional information. Since the legislation is allegedly a job creation endeavor, the state will need to report frequently on the employment of projects, including prime and subcontractors, suppliers and spinoff jobs.

DOT also reminds us that with the new anticipated projects, the department expects compliance with all the requirements of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), Minority and Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE), Equal Employment Opportunity and On-the-Job Training programs.

Nassau Governments Unveil Capital Plans

Nassau County elected officials reported to LICA their plans for infrastructure projects at an insightful briefing breakfast which allowed the construction industry to discuss their issues with key representatives of local governments.

The presenters for the County of Nassau included: Comptroller Howard Weitzman, Legislator David Mejias and Public Works Commissioner Raymond Ribeiro. Weitzman spoke of the overall economic conditions facing the County and, in a move designed to help the hard pressed construction industry, asked that LICA members contact him directly whenever they may face payment processing issues with County contracts.

Legislator Mejias reported that the County passed the 2009 \$124 million capital program at its first legislative meeting. He also detailed his own efforts to cut red tape through the "New Deal for Nassau" plan. Commissioner Ribeiro outlined specifics regarding the County's capital plan. The early passage of the County's program, Ribeiro stated, favorably allowed the County to be ahead of the curve in seeking the State to designate additional projects through federal stimulus dollars.

Hempstead Town Supervisor Kate Murray provided an "exclusive" for LICA members, announcing that the Hempstead Town Board would be approving the scoping document for the Lighthouse project (subsequently reported in the media). This will be the largest development project on Long Island. She also noted that other developments, such as the Avis Hotel project and the Courtesy Hotel project are proceeding as well. She stated that Hempstead's highway funding program will remain unchanged in spite of the economic downturn.

Oyster Bay Town Councilman Anthony Macagnone announced that his township is increasing its capital spending from \$80 million up to \$100 million. The Town is now reviewing two different design proposals for the reconstruction of the Town of Oyster Bay Municipal Parking Garage in Hicksville adjacent to the LIRR. In addition, the Town has acquired an additional 18 acres of the former Liberty site in Farmingdale which will be added to the adjacent Allen Park.

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The Town of North Hempstead, according to Supervisor Jon Kaiman, will be increasing funding for the Prospect Avenue project from its originally scheduled \$4 million price tag to up to \$14 million, thanks to the federal stimulus money. He also noted that an \$18 million pool project has been pulled back, but is expected to be rebid in the near future. This will follow the recent \$12 million spent on the Tully Park Pool.



Infrastructure dollars to jump start the Long Island economy and put construction industry back to work were the focus of the recent Long Island Contractor's Association's (LICA) Infrastructure Summit. Pictured from left to right, Peter Scalamandre, LICA board member and President of Peter Scalamandre & Sons, Inc., Timothy J. Gilchrist, the Governor's Deputy Secretary for Economic Development and Infrastructure, and Congressman Tim Bishop discuss the need to coordinate all infrastructure projects from Long Island counties, towns and villages to secure the stimulus dollars the region deserves and needs, and to make sure NYS funds highway and transit projects. To tell the Governor and NYS officials to get LI on the road to economic recovery, visit www.fixthisLIroad.com

Glen Cove Mayor Ralph Suozzi spoke favorably about the proposed public-private development of the City's waterfront property and expects approval of the Environmental Impact Statement sometime in March. This \$1 billion project will provide about 860 housing units. He also said that he expects the ferry site improvements to move forward, boosting employment opportunities within the City. Suozzi also claimed his \$4 million highway budget will be maintained.

Warren Tackenberg, Executive Director of the Nassau County Village Association, shared a perspective for the local villages. He discussed the difficulties tight budgets present for long-term planning and infrastructure improvements. The villages are hopeful that the federal money will assist them in maintaining their structures and facilities.

A similar breakfast will be held for Suffolk governments on Thursday, April 2nd at the New York Institute of Technology's Culinary Institute in Central Islip. Please [click here](#) for more information on the Suffolk breakfast.

Negotiations with Local 138 to Begin

LICA is set to start negotiations with Operating Engineers Local No. 138 for the renewal of the labor agreement that expires in May. If LICA members have any pertinent issues or views that need to be brought to the negotiation table, you are urged to please communicate directly with LICA Executive Director Marc Herbst at 631-231-LICA or any board member of the LICA.

Additionally, if you have not already done so, we are asking our members to complete the required signatory forms as soon as possible. Please [click here](#) for copies of the signatory application form.

Changing the Pilot

Caroline Kennedy certainly can empathize and now offer a former President's famous line, "I feel your pain," to Bay Shore's **Bill Cunningham**. In attempting to bring additional focus to his administration, Governor David Paterson has sought to change staff.

Following the resignation of the Governor's Secretary Charles O'Byrne, over tax woes, William Cunningham was given that slot. Now this Long Islander has resigned and in his place is **Larry Schwartz**, a former aide to one-time Suffolk County Executive Pat Halpin. A long-time Westchester Deputy County Executive, Schwartz knows the role infrastructure plays in stitching together the economy and protecting our collective quality of life.

In the meantime, Cunningham, Suozzi's former Chief Deputy County Executive in Nassau County, remains respected by those political professionals who know how difficult this arena is. LICA wishes this respected Long Island public servant much success and happiness wherever his new endeavors take him.

Another important move involving a Long Island native is warmly welcomed. Port Jefferson's **Diane Lombardi**, the long-time top aide to Long Island's "favorite son," State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, has decided to take on a new challenge at the New York State Department of Transportation. Lombardi will head up the Department's intergovernmental relations. DOT can only benefit by having a seasoned veteran skilled at navigating bureaucratic policies and practices through the political realities at the various levels of government.

While they may have changed the pilot in Albany, it appears stability is the name of the game at Long Island's federal offices. Former Senator Hillary Clinton's Long Island Regional Director **Kristen Walsh** won't have to unpack her desk. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand has appointed Walsh to continue on to serve as her Long Island eyes and ears. Walsh has been very accessible and helpful to LICA and we look forward to continue working with her on our issues.

Golf Outing

Tired of the snow? Then it is time to take out your golf clubs and get ready to hit the links. LICA's annual golf outing will be one of the first held this year. The venue once again will be the Nassau Country Club in Glen Cove and the Meadow Brook Club in Jericho. Mark your calendars for Monday, April 20th.

LICA, a non-profit organization, depends heavily on the financial success of this event. This is the only fundraiser that LICA holds each year to help offset our operating costs. Your support through sponsorships and participation, will help LICA in its mission to provide better services to you, our members. Golf applications have recently been placed in the mail. We are counting on your generous support.

Bid Results

Bid Date	Project Name	Owner	Contractor	Bid Amount		
2/19/09	Painting var. bridges on Long Island Expy.	NYSDOT	Kiska Construction	\$ 26,870,000		
			Alpha Painting	\$ 28,867,909		
			Tully Constuction	\$ 28,867,909		
			Ahearn Painting	\$ 32,650,896		
2/19/09	Guiderail rehab & replacement @ var locations	NYSDOT	HASA Construction	\$ 10,525,005		
			Galvin Brothers	\$ 11,081,825		
			Intercounty Paving	\$ 11,399,000		
			United Fence & Guard	\$ 14,489,155		
2/19/09	Asphalt concrete reconstruction NY Rt. 111	NYSDOT	Intercounty Paving	\$ 4,177,777		
			Newborn Construction	\$ 4,476,000		
			Kings Park Industries	\$ 4,648,454		
			ALAC Contracting	\$ 4,944,944		
			Bi County Construction	\$ 5,193,633		
			Pratt Brothers	\$ 5,313,131		
2/19/09	Durable pavement marking contract 2009	NYSDOT		\$5-10 million		
2/26/09	Deal rd/ Suffolk rd resurfacing project	Village of Island Park	Stasi Brothers Asphalt	\$ 267,914		
			Suffolk Paving	\$ 279,041		
			Pioneer Asphalt	\$ 281,780		
			Intercounty Paving	\$ 295,361		
			Frank Robustello	\$ 296,786		
			Valente Contracting	\$ 317,632		
			Alternate			
			Suffolk Paving	\$ 38,786		
			Stasi Brothers Asphalt	\$ 43,343		
			Pioneer Asphalt	\$ 51,282		
Valente Contracting	\$ 55,659					
Frank Robustello	\$ 58,583					
Intercounty Paving	\$ 67,302					



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MEMBERS' PHOTOS
IN OUR GALLERIES.**

