



Legislative Report

Comprising the 11th Legislative District:

Port Washington and The Villages of Baxter Estates, Flower Hill, Manorhaven, Port Washington North,
Sands Point • Glen Cove • Glenwood Landing • Roslyn • Roslyn Harbor • Sea Cliff

www.NassauCountyNY.gov

dderiggiwhitton@nassaucountyny.gov

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A Message From

Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

Dear Neighbors,



I hope you are doing well and enjoying all the wonderful things that the summer months have to offer. The warm weather and beautiful days are a welcome respite from the challenges we are so often confronted with in the world around us.

In this newsletter, I would like to take a moment to share with you some important updates regarding key issues impacting the residents of the 11th Legislative District.

This spring, the Legislature approved a settlement that will cut by nearly half the taxes that the Long Island Power Authority pays on the E. F. Barrett generation station in Island Park and the Glenwood Landing generation station in Sea Cliff. I voted against the settlement because I am entirely unconvinced that it

was the best possible deal for Nassau County residents - especially those who will be impacted by the reassessment of the Glenwood Landing station. I am especially concerned by how it lets LIPA off the hook for any environmental damage they may leave behind at these sites.

However, there is good news to share with regards to other utilities in our region. As we continue to embark upon the long-awaited transition to public water, the North Shore Water Authority has been established and its first members - James Greenberg of Glen Cove, George Pombar of Oyster Bay, and James Versocki of Sea Cliff - have been appointed. I thank these individuals and all who will follow for their dedication to an entity with the mission of ensuring affordable access to safe, pure drinking water for ratepayers. I will continue to monitor this crucial issue closely and bring you updates on the Authority's progress.

I'm also glad to report that progress continues at Crescent Beach, which has been closed to swimmers for more than a decade. For as long as I have been a Legislator, I have worked to secure the necessary funding to implement a comprehensive plan for reopening the beach. This spring, Helix water filtration systems were installed and activated. Already, we are thrilled to hear from the Department of Health that bacteria levels are starting to decline. If this positive trend continues, I am hopeful that we will at long last be able to reopen this waterfront gem in Glen Cove.

As we continue to roll up our sleeves to meet our challenges head-on, I remain confident and optimistic that we can do amazing things by working collaboratively - and your feedback is key to that success. Please feel free to contact my office to discuss these issues or any other concerns or comments you may have.

Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

New Tools in Fight Against Opioid Drugs



In June, Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton stood with her colleagues and local recovery advocates to push for new tools in the fight to address the opioid drug crisis. Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton is among the sponsors of a proposal that would require the inclusion of fentanyl testing strips in Narcan kits distributed by Nassau County agencies.

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid which experts at the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) have determined is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine. The consumption of fentanyl-laced drugs - often unbeknownst to the user - has resulted in a tragic increase in the number of overdose deaths amidst the ongoing opioid drug crisis in Nassau County and across America.

Including fentanyl testing strips with Narcan kits would serve as a low-cost way of potentially identifying tainted drugs and preventing accidental overdoses.

Honoring Suffolk Police Commissioner Rodney Harrison

Suffolk County's first African-American Police Commissioner Rodney Harrison was honored during the Nassau County Legislature's Black History Month celebration. Commissioner Harrison most recently served with the New York City Police Department as Chief of Department.

After graduating from the New York City Police Department Academy in 1993, Commissioner Harrison worked for the Department first as a patrol officer in Queens. He was promoted to Detective in 1995 and had many more promotions throughout his career, including CEO for Staten Island and Chief of Patrol. When he was named Chief of Detectives, he became the first Black person in the NYPD's 200-year history to have been named to that title.



Message Trailer for Police

Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton is pleased to have been able to secure funding for a message and speed trailer which will be used by the Port Washington Police District. These trailers will notify drivers if they are speeding and remind residents of upcoming events that will impact local traffic. The trailers are also very useful in gathering data to conduct traffic studies based on complaints from residents about speeding and unsafe driving.

HELIX Filters Bring Down Crescent Beach Bacteria Levels

Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton recently received some very welcome news - following the installation and activation of water filtration systems at Crescent Beach, bacteria levels are on the decline.

Throughout her tenure, Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton has pushed to remedy the contamination problem at Crescent Beach that has kept the beach closed for more than a decade. After extensive analysis by multiple organizations determined the source was animal feces, the New York State Department of Conservation (DEC) approved a remediation plan with the installation of two Helix filter systems as the centerpiece.

Final steps in the remediation project feature the installation of a new culvert and replenishment of sand. A basin slope will also be created and pipes will be installed to channel the estuary water into a bioswale (sloped retention area) towards the plantings that will purify the water before it flows to Crescent Beach and Hempstead Harbor.

Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton is excited that the plan appears to be working as intended and looks forward to updating Glen Cove residents with more good news about the future of Crescent Beach.

First Female Captain Appointed by Fire Department



While it's a happy coincidence that Emma Nadel was appointed Flower Hill Hose Company No. 1's first female captain during Women's History Month, the timing shines a bright light upon how far women's roles have advanced in so many walks of life. Captain Emma Nadel's swearing-in ceremony took place in March at the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club in Port Washington during the Department's 117th Annual Inspection Dinner Dance.

Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton greatly admires the women and men who risk their lives as volunteer firefighters and is particularly impressed by Emma's outstanding record that has earned her the distinguished title of Captain.

The Flower Hill Hose Company No. 1 is one of three local fire companies that were organized years before the Port Washington Fire Department was formed in 1907. Visit pwfd.org to learn about the Department's history and other information.

First Electric NICE Buses on the Way

As part of ongoing efforts to reduce its carbon footprint, Nassau County recently took important steps toward adding zero-emission electric buses to the NICE bus fleet.

This spring, Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton joined her colleagues in unanimously approving a \$7.54 million investment in six electric buses and the necessary infrastructure to run them. Eighty percent of the cost will be covered through a grant program administered by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). These federal grants require a 10 percent match from both New York State and Nassau County (\$754,000 each).

Not only is this decision better for the health of the County's residents and the environment, it's good for the County's bottom line - it's estimated that each vehicle will save over \$500,000 in maintenance and fuel costs during their 12-year lifespans.

The vehicles are expected to arrive this fall. When they do, they will become the first electric public buses in service on Long Island.

Garvies Point Museum Receives Funding

The County recently entered into a 10-year funding agreement with Friends of Garvies Point Museum and Preserve. Funds will be dedicated toward supporting ongoing programming, events and other activities at the Museum and Preserve.

Garvies Point is a beautiful place to enjoy a walk in the woods, learn about local history, participate in an array of programs, and so much more. Visit garviespointmuseum.com to learn about all of their offerings.

Honoring Trailblazer Keechant Sewell

Appointed by New York City Mayor Eric Adams, Keechant Sewell is New York City's first female Police Commissioner. She was honored by the Nassau County Legislature as a Trailblazer during Women's History Month in March for her outstanding career in law enforcement.

Commissioner Sewell is a graduate of the 235th Session of the FBI National Academy and is an FBI-trained hostage negotiator. She joined the Nassau County Police Department in 1997 after graduating from the police academy as the Class Speaker. Her rapid ascension through the ranks of the department culminated in 2020 with her historic promotion to Chief of Detectives.

Commissioner Sewell is a federal Joint Terrorism Task Force executive board member, a Counterterrorism Zone 1 co-chairperson and a New York State certified police instructor. She is also the recipient of the Meritorious Police Award, numerous community awards, town and county citations and was selected as the 2021 Person of the Year for the Nassau County Detectives Association.

Nassau County's loss is certainly New York City's gain!



