



LONG ISLAND
BUILDERS INSTITUTE

Advocating Responsible Building & Remodeling

The Long Island Builders Institute would like to express its strong support for Resolution #1870's proposed amendments to the Sanitary Code before you today. These amendments will provide necessary and long overdue changes, that will address a good portion of our concerns, as the county moves closer to requiring Innovative and Alternative On-Site wastewater treatment systems.

Regarding the first proposed amendment, LIBI firmly believes that requiring permits for replacements of cesspools and septic systems should be the county's first step towards regulating what is currently being put in the ground. Doing this will make the process of replacing failing septic systems and cesspools with "IAs" much more manageable.

Ever since 1981, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services has interpreted the grandfathering provision as entitling the property owner to a specific amount of flow, whether or not the project type was changed in a major way. Naturally this has had unintended consequences, such as projects being built without the proper waste water treatment system to support it. We agree that this amendment will provide a better policy interpretation such as the commercial grandfathering exemption will only apply to buildings approved by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services Office of Wastewater Management. These buildings must also be in continuous use with no change to previously approved flow, with no significant changes to the structure.

The Long Island Builders Institute fully supports these proposed amendments and urges you to approve them.