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PRESENTATION OF THE LONG ISLAND BUILDERS INSTITUTE REGARDING THE PROPOSED ZONING CHANGES TO ALLOW  
MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING WITHIN THE LONG ISLAND INNOVATION PARK

THE LONG ISLAND BUILDERS INSTITUTE, THE LARGEST RESIDENTIAL HOME BUILDING TRADE ASSOCIATION IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK, WITH THOUSANDS OF EMPLOYEES WHO LIVE IN THE TOWN OF SMITHTOWN, WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE ZONING CHANGES BEING REQUESTED TO ALLOW FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING WITHIN THE LONG ISLAND INNOVATION PARK IN HAUPPAUGE.

THE RECENT REPORT BY THE SUFFOLK COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND THE REGIONAL PLAN ASSOCIATION CALLS FOR A SERIES OF INITIATIVES TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE FORMER HAUPPAUGE INDUSTRIAL PARK, TO ALLOW THE PARK AND ALL OF ITS COMPANIES TO PROVIDE THE EMPLOYMENT AND TAX REVENUES NECESSARY TO SUPPORT ALL OF OUR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WORK AND MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF LOCAL TAX REVENUES ARE PROVIDED BY THE PARK AND IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE PARK TO BE ABLE TO COMPETE WITH OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTRY TO BE ABLE TO ATTRACT THE COMPANIES WHICH WILL WANT TO WORK IN THE PARK. TO BE ABLE TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE PARK, IT IS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE INITIATIVES TO MODERNIZE THE PARK AND ITS EMPLOYEES.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT INITIATIVES RECOMMENDED BY THE REPORT IS THE ABILITY TO TRANSFORM THE PARK FROM A SEGREGATED COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PARK TO A MULTI-FACETED PARK WHICH INCLUDES A VARIETY OF USES. ONE OF THESE NEW USES IS THE ABILITY TO PROVIDE A NEW PLACE TO LIVE FOR THE NEW EMPLOYEES WHO WANT TO WORK IN THE PARK. OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WANT TO LIVE AS CLOSE TO THEIR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT AS POSSIBLE SO AS TO REDUCE THE NEED TO USE THE AUTOMOBILE AND TO ENGAGE IN A DIFFERENT LIFESTYLE. A TRANSFORMATION OF THE USES OF THE PARK CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THIS NEW ZONING CHANGE, ALLOWING PEOPLE TO BOTH LIVE AND WORK IN THE PARK, WHICH REDUCES TRANSPORTATION COSTS AND THE EFFECT ON OUR ROADWAYS, PROVIDES NEW EMPLOYEES FOR THE COMPANIES IN THE PARK AND WILL PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT NEW REVENUES FOR OUR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

INSTEAD OF BEING SCARED BY THESE NEW RESIDENTIAL OPTIONS FOR OUR COMMUNITY, THE TOWN OF SMITHTOWN SHOULD BE WELCOMING THIS NEW OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE A SERIES OF MEANINGFUL ZONING CHANGES TO TRANSFORM THE PARK. NEW YOUNG EMPLOYEES WILL ALLOW OUR BUSINESSES TO SUCCEED, PROVIDE NEW SPENDING IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO PROVIDE NEW LOCAL REVENUES FOR OUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT. IT IS TIME TO BRING OUR LOCAL ZONING FOR THE PARK INTO THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY AND THIS ZONING CHANGE IS THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. WE URGE ITS PASSAGE BY THE SMITHTOWN TOWN BOARD.