



TOWN OF RIVERHEAD NEWS

Office of the Supervisor

SEAN M. WALTER

200 Howell Avenue

Riverhead, NY 11901

(631)727-3200

www.townofriverheadny.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Joseph Maiorana, CDA Asst. Project Supervisor, 631-727-3200 Ext. 236

SUFFOLK COUNTY, TOWN OF RIVERHEAD & RIVERHEAD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTNER TO IMPROVE SIDEWALKS

Riverhead, NY - Supervisor Sean Walter will celebrate the completion of the joint county-town-school sidewalk project on ***Tuesday, September 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., at the Pulaski Street School located at 300 Pulaski Street, Riverhead, NY 11901.***

According to Community Development Agency Director, Christine Kempner, the Town of Riverhead used \$50,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, which are administered by Suffolk County, to offset the \$56,800 total project cost. The balance of the project cost was borne by the Riverhead Central School District.

"This is a wonderful example of the kind of partnership school districts can have with towns," school Superintendent Nancy Carney said. "I am so pleased that we were able to work together to get this project done because it has drastically improved the look and feel of the road in front of one of Riverhead's finest looking structures."

The project involved a total of 970 linear feet of six foot wide sidewalk, including 540 linear feet on Pulaski Street and 430 linear feet on Osborne Avenue.

"Anyone who has ever walked a child to school knows how important sidewalks are to the safety of our school children. This project is a model for the kind of partnership we want to encourage across Suffolk County to help ensure safe traverse to school and revitalize downtown districts," said County Executive Steven Bellone.

Suffolk County Legislator Edward Romaine said, "I am pleased the county was able to join with the town and school district to secure funding for this important project. The safety of our students is paramount and these new and improved sidewalks will help ensure they have a safe way to get to school."

Supervisor Sean Walter expressed his pleasure with the cooperation between the county, the town and the school district. "By working together and pulling resources, the Town of Riverhead and Riverhead Central School District improved our community and made conditions safer for our children," he said. "We are, after all, one community and we should strive to work together to make things better for all residents." Walter also praised Suffolk County for providing CDBG funds for the project.



Likewise, Kempner said, "Suffolk County's willingness to transfer \$50,000 in CDBG funds was the 'impetus' to getting the sidewalk project off the ground. This is a terrific example of different levels of government - county, town and school, partnering together to make Riverhead a better place."

Carney credited the Riverhead community with coming together last October and for "making a strong statement that they support the idea of renovating, modernizing and maintaining our infrastructure." She said, "While the sidewalks in front of Pulaski Street School are funded from other sources, I believe that this project is a natural extension of that direction from the community; to modernize and maintain our infrastructure. I congratulate the town on their efforts with this project and I look forward to working together in the future."

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