



TOWN OF RIVERHEAD NEWS

Office of the Supervisor
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 20, 2013

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TOWN OF RIVERHEAD ANNOUNCES CONSTRUCTION START FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION PATH

Riverhead, NY – Construction began this week on the massive federally funded Alternative Transportation Path in the Town of Riverhead. Mobilization commenced Monday on Pier Avenue in Jamesport.

The project, funded under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, provides \$3.158 million in Federal Highway Administration grant funds to design and construct a town-wide Alternative Transportation Path that will enhance pedestrian and bicycle access throughout the Town of Riverhead. Specifically, the path will extend from Calverton Enterprise Park to Jamesport and connect a number of activity centers and attractions such as businesses, schools, libraries, shopping areas, recreation attractions, as well as existing bike and pedestrian routes.

The New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) is administering the construction portion of the project bid awarded to New York Paving, Inc. from Old Bethpage, Long Island, New York, in the amount of \$2,118,969.69. Dunn Engineering Associates, P.C., of Westhampton Beach provided design services. Over the next few weeks work will include survey work, installation of construction signs and silt fences, asphalt saw-cutting, as well as other work, according to the DOT. Paving will follow. Project completion is anticipated by Fall 2013. The DOT will distribute information to residents along River Road and Pier Road with properties near the construction activity as it progresses to provide advance notification.

“Bringing federal resources to the table to help solve local problems is a top priority for me, so I am proud to have secured federal funding for this state-of-the-art alternative transportation network in Riverhead Town,” said Congressman Tim Bishop. “This visionary project will expand opportunities for exercise and convenient, energy-efficient transportation for residents and visitors alike, and marks an important milestone in Riverhead’s remarkable renaissance.”

NYS DOT Commissioner Joan McDonald Said, “This alternative path will improve the quality of life for residents in the Town of Riverhead by offering a green transportation alternative that can help reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality and encourage healthy lifestyles. Governor Cuomo has been a leader in showing how transportation infrastructure in all modes can enhance the economy and make communities more sustainable. This new path will spur local economic activity by making it easier for people to get around town and travel between restaurants, stores, schools and attractions.”

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Supervisor Sean M. Walter said that the Riverhead Town Board continually strives to improve the quality of life for Riverhead residents. “We acknowledge that the residents of Riverhead are facing rapidly rising energy costs and therefore, are searching for alternative, less costly and more environmentally friendly means of transportation including bicycling, walking and use of mass transportation,” he said. “This 100% federally-funded project will decrease reliance on motorized vehicles and provide residents and tourists alike a wide-ranging network to access the many attractions the Town of Riverhead has to offer.”

Councilwoman Jodi Giglio, who heads the Town of Riverhead’s Alternative Transportation Committee, said, “The Riverhead Alternative Transportation Path provides green transportation alternatives. Biking has become a fun and sustainable way to travel and explore Riverhead. We are very appreciative of the federal funding and the New York State DOT administrative expertise that will allow completion of this project in an expeditious manner for the benefit of Riverhead and the entire Long Island region.” Giglio added that the project will benefit the traveling public by increasing transportation choices and access to attractions and activities. “It will increase our appreciation of the natural environment and provide a sense of place.”

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