



TOWN OF RIVERHEAD

Yvette Aguiar, Town Supervisor

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Press Release:

Town of Riverhead Announces Release of RFP to Foster Redevelopment of Riverhead Train Station

**Press Conference at Riverhead Railroad Station on March 26, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.
*In the event of severely inclement weather may be relocated to Riverhead Town Hall***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 24, 2021

Contact: Devon Higgins, Deputy Supervisor, Town of Riverhead-- 631-727-3200 Ext. 252

Supervisor Yvette Aguiar said the revitalization of downtown Riverhead is taking another significant step forward with the promotion of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to foster the development of a Transportation Oriented Development (TOD) project.

“The creation of a Transportation Oriented Development at the Riverhead Railroad station will vastly increase public transportation options to live, work and play in downtown Riverhead and beyond,” Supervisor Aguiar said.

Riverhead was awarded New York State grant funding several years ago to create the plan, adopt new zoning and issue an RFQ for a developer for the project. “The plan, in part, involves the Town leveraging the train station surface parking lot for a new mixed use TOD development that we are confident will transform this long blighted area,” Community Development Director Dawn Thomas said.

Aguiar praised the entire Town Board for once again advancing downtown revitalization forward despite the 2020 pandemic. “Riverhead’s government has been united in its intent to move redevelopment goals forward,” she said. “Combined with the Town Square, the TOD will transform the downtown business district into a thriving regional hub that offers an attractive venue for people to live, work and play here in Riverhead.”

Supervisor Aguiar expressed her appreciation to New York State and Suffolk County for being enthusiastic financial supporters of the revitalization of Downtown Riverhead. “The Town of Riverhead is entering a period of unprecedented economic renaissance,” she said. “We have not seen this level of positive interest from the private sector, the community, as well as support from all levels of government in at least 20 years. In closing, I want to thank the entire Town Board for working cooperatively towards our mutual goal of seeing a fully revitalized

Downtown Riverhead. I am confident that if we continue to work as a team, Riverhead's economic resurgence will be quicker and stronger than ever.”

Expected attendees and speakers at the Friday press event include:

- * Mark Woolley, District Director for Congressman Lee Zeldin
- * NYS Senator Anthony Palumbo
- * Assemblywoman Jodi Giglio
- * Suffolk County Legislator Al Krupski
- * Kevin Law, Long Island Association (LIA) President / Long Island Regional Economic Development Council Co-Chair
- * Eric Alexander, Vision Long Island Director
- * Steven Shauger, BIDMA President / Hyatt Place Long Island, General Manager
- * Bob Kern, Riverhead Chamber of Commerce President
- * Bryan DeLuca, Long Island Aquarium Executive Director
- * Cailin Kaller, Long Island Science Museum Director
- * Councilman Frank Beyrodt
- * Councilman Tim Hubbard
- * Councilwoman Catherine Kent
- * Councilman Ken Rothwell

Acknowledgement of Other Guests (not speaking)

- * NYS Empire State Development—Brian Scripture and Jenna DiMarco
- * Diane Burke, East End Arts Council Executive Director