

Marine Industry Revitalization Advisory Council

2018 Annual Progress Report

Mission & Goals

The Marine Industry is one of the pillars of Suffolk County's economy and according to the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration in 2015 the marine industry and ocean related jobs accounted for 33,000 jobs and \$983 million in wages in Suffolk County alone. Suffolk County has over 980 miles of shoreline and over 300 bodies of water, which ensures a deep economic and historic connection between Suffolk County and the Marine Industry. Given our location on Long Island and the clear benefits of the industry on Suffolk County's economy, the marine industry should be supported by government in order to improve market conditions and growth opportunities in our region. Local industry leaders have the knowledge and capabilities necessary to help Suffolk County become a more attractive location for marine businesses and activities, and together with government officials can meet these goals.

In order to meet these goals, Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory introduced Resolution No. 341-2018 "Establishing a Suffolk County Marine Industry Revitalization Advisory Council" (MIRAC) earlier this year, with co-sponsors Legislators Sarah Anker, Al Krupski, and William Lindsay III. The resolution was unanimously approved by the Legislature. The Marine Industry Revitalization Advisory Committee held its first meeting this August bringing industry, education, and government leaders together to help protect, promote and grow Suffolk County's ocean economy.

Given the scope of this industry on Long Island, this Advisory Council has and will continue to take a comprehensive look at the best way to nurture Long Island's diverse marine industry. This committee will help shape policy that will create the next generation of marine workers, support much needed dredging projects, protect our fisheries from deadly algal blooms and ensure that Suffolk County beaches remain a popular destination for years to come.

Membership of the Marine Industry Revitalization Advisory Council

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Designee</i>
Presiding Officer, Suffolk County Legislature	Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory
Presiding Officer's Designee	Legislator Susan A. Berland
Legislator, 1st Legislative District	Legislator Al Krupski
Legislator, 2nd Legislative District	Legislator Bridget Fleming
Suffolk County Dept. Of Economic Dev. & Planning	August Ruckdeschel
Suffolk County Dept. of Labor	Diane LaChapelle
Commercial Fishing Industry	Northport Village Deputy Mayor Tom Kehoe
Discover Long Island (Tourism Industry)	President/CEO Kristen Jarnigan
Association of Marine Industries #1	President Eric Kreuter
Association of Marine Industries #2	Vice President Vinny Pesce
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation #1	Kim Lamirout, Regional Permit Analyst.
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation #2	Danielle Stango-Torre, Environmental Analyst
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County	Chris Pickerell
Suffolk County Community College	Dr. Shaun McKay, President
Suffolk County Community College	Assistant Dean for Workforce Development, Lisa Calla
Western Suffolk BOCES	School Principal Debra Montaruli
Eastern Suffolk BOCES	District Superintendent David Wicks
Suffolk County Supervisors Association	Vincent Biondo
Suffolk County Dept. of Public Works	Bill Hillman
Suffolk County Department of Health Services	Michael Jensen

The Marine Industry Revitalization Advisory Council held its most recent meeting on Tuesday, December 11, 2018.

Adopted at the General Meeting on November 20, 2018, Resolution No. 1081-2018 amended the membership of the Advisory Council, granting membership to the Commissioner of the Suffolk County Department of Public Health or his/her designee, and the Suffolk County Legislator for both the 1st and 2nd Legislative Districts.

Sub-Committee Information

Sub-Committee	Environmental	Education & Workforce Development	Aquaculture & Commercial Fishing	Economic Development
Areas of Interest	Dredging, Science, Water Quality, Coastal Resiliency, Marine Ecosystem	Education, Marine Tech & Repair, Environmental Testing, Dredging Technology, Aquaculture.	NYS Permitting Process, Water Quality/Nitrogen, Aquaculture, Wind Farm Impact, Shellfish Cultivation	Tourism, Jobs, Beaches, Promotion & Marketing, Environmental Planning.
Chair	Vinny Pesce (AMI)	David Wicks (E.S. BOCES)	Tom Kehoe (Com. Fishing)	Kristen Jarnigan (Tourism)
Members	Legislator Susan A. Berland	Legislator Susan A. Berland	Legislator Susan A. Berland	Legislator Susan A. Berland
	Legislator Al Krupski	Eric Kreuter (AMI)	Legislator Bridget Fleming	Legislator Bridget Fleming
	Vincent Biondo (SCSA)	Diane LaChapelle (D. of Labor)	Eric Kreuter (AMI)	Tom Kehoe (Com. Fishing)
	Kim Lamiroult (NYSDEC)	Dr. Shaun McKay (SCCC)	Kim Lamiroult (NYSDEC)	Vinny Pesce (AMI)
	Danielle Stango-Torre (NYSDEC)	Debra Montaruli (W.S. BOCES)	Danielle Stango-Torre (NYSDEC)	August Ruckdeschel (D. of Planning)
	Chris Pickerell (Cornell)	Lisa Calla (SCCC)	Chris Pickerell (Cornell)	Lisa Calla (SCCC)
	Bill Hillman (Dept. of Public Works)		August Ruckdeschel (D. of Planning)	<i>Irene Rios (SCCC)</i>
	Michael Jensen (Dept. of Health)		<i>Ted Koukonas (SCCC)</i>	
Staff Assistant	Bob Fonti	Nancy Jacobsen	Derek Stein	Christina DeLisi

Each Sub-Committee held their first meeting during December 2018:

The Environmental Sub-Committee met on December 5, 2018.

The Education & Workforce Development Sub-Committee met on December 10, 2018.

The Aquaculture & Commercial Fishing Sub-Committee met on December 11, 2018.

The Economic Development Sub-Committee met December 14, 2018.

Sub-Committee Initiatives and Focuses for 2019.

Environmental Sub-Committee

Look into the feasibility of Suffolk County establishing a program where dredged material could be reused in coastal wetland replenishment, as currently done in Rhode Island and Maine, removing the cost of shipping or disposing of dredged spoils.

Make a proposal to establish a funding mechanism for testing of dredged material beyond existing grant programs, potentially through a voluntary fee on boaters, which would go directly to dredging.

Identify through research if Suffolk County currently possesses a site where dredged material could be stored as it dewatered.

Work to promote the new General Permit for dredging from New York State, which allows dredged material to be reused on site for bulkheads.

Education & Workforce Development Sub-Committee

Create additional mechanisms to inform stakeholders about employment opportunities to be used as resources which will provide training for potential employees.

Continue work with industry representatives to assess the needs of the industry.

Access how training organizations (BOCES and/or SCCC) educate their stakeholders (adult students, guidance counselors, high school students, and parents) about the needs and opportunities in a particular industry.

Hold a meeting between Suffolk County officials in each Department and the Sub-Committee to discuss development of more internship programs in Suffolk County Government for students enrolled in Suffolk County Community College, BOCES, or local High Schools.

Continue development of curriculums that meet certificate requirements for jobs in marine industries, such as boat repair and service.

Aquaculture & Commercial Fishing Sub-Committee

Look to build off of the success and progress made by the Choose Long Island program by the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning towards promoting local fish markets and fisheries.

Move forward and discuss the potential for a centralized non-profit trade organization of commercial fishermen in the model of Discover Long Island or the Long Island Wine Council, as the lack of unity in the industry has been noted as a severe impediment to progress towards it.

Propose a funding mechanism for this non-profit Trade Association which will be used to promote and support Long Island commercial fishermen and baymen.

Determine if funding in support of the commercial fishing industry could be provided from the developers of the New York State Offshore Wind Farm as part of reparations for increased costs.

Economic Development Sub-Committee

Encourage promotion of existing, but little known programs, such as the Long Island Railroad offering a Round-Trip ticket for visitors to Captree Fishing Boats.

Promote and encourage restaurants and consumers to purchase more locally caught fish.

Work to promote and develop more programs for recreational fishermen and if a wider array of activities could be promoted.

Meet with towns and local authorities to discuss possible zoning changes which would make waterfront and marina access easier, while promoting business in these marine districts.

Coordinate with local colleges and BOCES to encourage public relations programs and internships with marine businesses.

Report on waterside revitalization projects across Long Island, such as comparing waterside communities such as Northport, Port Jefferson, and Riverhead in order to have a better idea of what is successful on Long Island.

Discuss possibilities of looking into receiving an REDC grant for Marine related programs next year.

Suffolk County Department of Public Works:

Dredging Projects Completed in 2018:

1) Nissequogue River, Smithtown	12) Mudd Creek, Southold
2) Halls Creek, Southold	13) James Creek, Southold
3) Wickham Creek, Southold	14) Deephole Creek, Southold
4) East Creek, Riverhead	15) Brushes Creek, Southold
5) Miamogue Lagoon, Riverhead	16) Little Creek, Southold
6) North Sea Harbor, Southampton	17) Richmond Creek, Southold
7) Hawks Creek, Riverhead	18) Three Mile Harbor, East Hampton
8) Gull Pond, Southold	19) Coecles Harbor, Shelter Island
9) Cold Spring Pond, Southampton	20) Meschutt County Park Beach Restoration Project, Southampton
10) Sebonac Creek, Southampton	21) Center Bay Canal, West Islip
11) Fresh Pond, Southampton	

List compiled by Scott Hilary, Principal Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Public Works.

Inclusion of the report on dredging projects completed by the Department of Public Works is required as part of Resolution No. 341-2018.

Next Steps

The next meeting of the Marine Industry Revitalization Advisory Council will be held Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

The Advisory Council will host two Public Hearings in February 2019, one in Riverhead and one in Hauppauge with the goal of hearing from stakeholders (Marine Industry owners and operators, commercial fishermen, baymen, recreational fishermen, and residents of areas in need of dredging) and to learn which projects are most important to the general public.

Sub-Committees will continue to meet monthly, with the Economic Development Sub-Committee looking to bring in a representative of the Farmingdale State College Sea Grant program in order to discuss their report on the size and scope of Long Island's marine and ocean-based industries.

The Advisory Council will create an end of year report which will be presented to the Legislature on the sum of its findings, which will include recommendations made by each of the Sub-Committees.

Public Hearings

Public Hearings of the Marine Industry Revitalization Council are currently scheduled for:

Thursday February 7, 2019, 5:00 p.m., Maxine Postal Auditorium, Riverhead / Riverside County Complex.

Wednesday, February 13, 2019, 5:00 p.m., Rose Caracappa Auditorium, William H. Rogers Building, William J. Lindsay County Complex, Hauppauge.

The Public Hearings are open to the general public although an effort will be made to promote the Public Hearings to local fishermen and other stakeholders.