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November 13, 2018

Mayor Sandra Schroeder
& Members of the Board of Trustees
Village of Sag Harbor
55 Main Street
P.O. Box 660
Sag Harbor, New York 11963

RE: Sag Harbor Impound Yard - Request for Reconsideration

Dear Mayor Schroeder and Honorable Village Trustees:

Thank you for taking a moment to consider my comments on behalf of Group for the East End, regarding the above-referenced project.

As you may be aware, Group for the East End is one of the organizations along with the Friends of the Long Pond Greenbelt, the Nature Conservancy and many other committed individuals that has endeavored over the course of four decades to create and safeguard the precious natural resources that comprise the Long Pond Greenbelt. Today, the Greenbelt represents one of Southampton's oldest conservation priorities and thanks to efforts of many, it remains one of the most successful.

Over the past several months, we have been engaged in the planning process before the Southampton Town Planning Board related to its review of the proposed impound yard. During the Planning Board review, we consistently expressed our hope that the Village and Town could work together to find an alternative location for the proposed impound yard.

We arrived at our position because we are concerned that the proposed facility, in addition to its own encroaching development impacts, will also alter the long-term direction of additional development potential on the Village's remaining and sizable holdings within the Greenbelt. In our experience, it is often the incremental, pernicious (and often disregarded) loss of open land that can have the most transformative negative impact on natural areas, and that is what we hope to avoid within the Greenbelt.

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GroupfortheEastEnd.org

Protecting the nature of the place you love

Because the Town Planning Board process did not lead to a viable alternative, today, we must appeal directly to you, and ask that before moving ahead, you reconsider your options for this project and take some additional time to evaluate what may be possible.

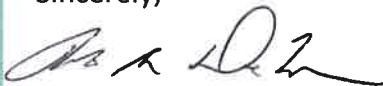
I realize the frustration this request may initially induce, but I can also tell you that for years, many of our region's most significant planning and conservation successes have come from taking a path less traveled and finding more creative solutions to our many land use challenges.

In closing, I want to make clear that we respect the Village's expressed need to find a preferred location for its impound yard, and our hope is to find a solution that can address both the Village's desired outcome and the best possible opportunity for conservation within the Long Pond Greenbelt .

In considering our comments, I ask that the Village Board take into serious consideration the past 40 years of community conservation efforts to preserve the Greenbelt, and the millions of dollars in public and private investment that this longstanding effort has achieved by working together. I believe a reasonable alternative could still be within reach as many of those involved have a strong record of success in meeting the objectives of government, the general public and our precious environment.

I greatly appreciate your consideration of our comments and remain available to lend the assistance of our organization in further evaluating this proposal. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,



Robert S. DeLuca
President