

from the community,” D’Esposito said. “We designed the zoning district in a way that allows for reasonable and environmentally sound development at the Woodmere Club, and addresses a host of factors that are pivotal for a positive future for both the property and the surrounding communities.”

Key elements of the of the Coastal Conservation District include:

- Better alignment of the Town of Hempstead’s zoning with existing state and federal environmental regulations and principles.
- Recognition of the unique environmental conditions that affect the Woodmere Club.
- Reduction and mitigation of potentially significant traffic and environmental impacts, and the preservation of open space.
- Coordination with the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh.
- Sustainable development that is far more responsive to environmental, ecological, cultural and physical conditions.

"I am happy that we are able to work out the coastal conservation district with our other two partners, the Village of Woodsburgh and the Town of Hempstead," Lawrence Village Mayor Alex Edelman said. "This will preserve our communities as a safe haven for the future of our residence within these communities. It will also reduce traffic burden, water drainage, overburdening of our sewer system and on and on. At last, open spaces, fresh air and trees for our communities."

“The conservation district is located in an environmentally sensitive and vulnerable, low lying congested coastal area,” Woodsburgh Village Mayor Lee Israel said. “We have all seen firsthand the damage to our communities caused by flooding, storm impacts and on-going sea level rise. It is clearly evident that we can no longer ignore these realities and have taken long range action that will significantly mitigate these effects along with the list of many other concerns involved in this decision. I am very proud that our three municipalities have looked at the big picture and have unanimously cooperated as partners for the greater societal good. The creation of the Coastal Conservation District – Woodmere Club; regulates development in a manner that protects the safety, health and welfare of our community and preserves the valuable natural and historic resources which we hold so dear.”

The 5 Towns Civic Association released the following statement: “We appreciate the steps taken by our forward thinking elected officials who created a comprehensive, substantive, fact based plan that protects and supports long term sustainability of our community.”

Highlights of the sustainability aspects of the Coastal Conservation District include permeable pavement structures, green infrastructure (such as rain gardens) and irrigation-smart controller technology. The new district addresses the tidal wetlands, storm surge and flooding, climate change/sea level rise, ecology, cultural resources, and traffic.

“Thank you to Councilman Bruce Blakeman and Councilman Anthony D’Esposito for their leadership in crafting this bold and innovative zoning district for the communities that they serve,” Clavin said. “I congratulate them, along with the Villages of Lawrence and Woodsburgh, for establishing the Coastal Conservation District.”

For more information on the Coastal Conservation District, visit hempsteadny.gov.