Message

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Sent: 6/5/2018 6:20:40 PM
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Subject: Summary of Navy/Grumman Roundtable - May 4, 2018
Attachments: ATT00001.txt; 2017 Action Items - Navy Grumman Plume Roundtable.pdf; 2018 Action Items - Navy Grumman Plume Roundtable.pdf

Congressman Suozzi asked me to forward the following summary of the Navy/Grumman Plume Roundtable to you. Please let me know if there are any corrections or clarifications.

Thank you
Cindy Rogers

My thanks to everyone for attending the Navy/Grumman roundtable in May and a special thanks Supervisor Saladino for hosting our meeting.

The past year has brought renewed attention and commitment to the plume – the Navy has reprioritized the Navy/Grumman plume from close to the bottom of its priority list to one of its top 5 priorities (number one priority with respect to groundwater cleanup) and Governor Cuomo has committed $150 million toward remediation. Yet, we still have a lot of work ahead of us.

Mike Boufis and the Bethpage Water District commissioners deserve special thanks for the extraordinary work they do on a daily basis to assure that Bethpage water is safe to drink. Let's work together to get the Water District out of the plume business.

I think everyone left the meeting with a sense of urgency. While primary responsibility for the cleanup lies with the DEC, Navy and Northrop Grumman, we must continue to work together to think of new and innovative ways to cut red tape, accelerate clean up and stop the plume from spreading to neighboring areas.

Some of the recommendations/updates/future action items that came out of our meeting were:

- This summer, the DEC hopes to complete its work to take a more in-depth look at how to contain and remediate the plume.

- If the DEC study recommends that a different remedy should be pursued (e.g.: full containment), it will have to amend its Record of Decision (ROD).

- We need to help the Navy with their land acquisition issues. This seems to be a major impediment to their moving forward.

    1. Joe Saladino, Teri Black and I are willing to bring the Navy around to look at feasible sites within the plume area. (Let's schedule a date to do that in June. Does the afternoon of June 29 work?)

    2. We should form a real estate committee to identify potential sites for the Navy. The committee would consist of Tom Suozzi; Joe Saladino; Matt Rozea (TOB); Brian Murray, Richard Mach, David Brayack and Jeanine Womble from the Navy; Mike Boufis and Teri Black from Bethpage Water District; and Stan Carey from Massapequa Water District. (Let's set a date for our first meeting in June. How about on June 29, following the tour?)

    3. Chris Lyon of EPA offered to see if there is some way EPA can complete the land acquisition for Navy. EPA has fewer restrictions when purchasing property for remediation purposes. Martin Brand said DEC is willing to enter into partnerships to move things forward. (Chris, please call with an update on your May 31 meeting.)

    4. Subsequent to our round table meeting, I proposed that the Navy purchase the Bethpage Water District wells and I am exploring that idea and others in the Secretary of the Navy's office.

       On Thursday, June 7, I will be meeting with the Assistant Secretary of the Navy Phyllis Bayer to discuss the purchase of the Bethpage Water District's three wells and any other ideas to accelerate the process. Please call me on my cell at 516-404-9672 ahead of time if you have any ideas you would like to me discuss with her.

There are many details that need to be addressed from our meeting; however, it seems that we need to highlight the RE108 Hotspot. I have attached a list of action items from our meeting, with a focus on the RE108 hot spot and the many options we are pursuing.

Again, thank you for participating in the roundtable. As I have said before, remediation of the Navy/Grumman plume is one of my top District priorities. I am willing to do whatever is necessary to help move the process along.

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