CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide us with the following information:

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PERSONAL INITIATIVES

 1. My accomplishments and experiences as a ten term Westchester County Legislator include helping draft and pass the County’s Open Space Policy; purchasing over 1000 acres in coordination with groups such as the Westchester Land Trust including Eagle River in Somers as well as Hilltop Hanover and Shadow Lake in Yorktown; creating a County Capital Budget line for Purchase of Development Rights; establishing with the previous County Executive the Legacy program for environmental and recreational investments; establishing Agricultural & Farmland protection Board and the County’s first Agricultural District as well as serving as a founding member of the Agricultural Board; renewing the Agricultural District in 2011 and 2017; passing Pesticide Notification and Pesticide Reduction Laws; fighting for the most environmentally sound, and politically possible, sewage treatment options throughout Northern Westchester; passing Healthy Air Bills including bus-idling and low sulfur diesel bills; generating support of wetlands and other environmental bills in Albany via education of colleagues and demonstrating overwhelming and timely bi-partisan show of support from County Legislature; participating as one of a few key legislators in drafting and passing Westchester County’s indoor smoking law; establishing Citizen Task Forces on environmental issues such as the County Airport under my leadership as Environment Committee Chair; and drafting and passing responsible resolutions regarding Indian Point and the replacement of that power with more environmentally sensitive options such as renewable fuels and demand-side conservation. Additionally, more recently besides renewing the Agricultural District and annually adding more parcels, I have led the Board of Legislators in reinstating the Waiver of County Sales Tax for Solar Installations and mandating the County only purchase Hybrid or environmentally friendly motor vehicles. Also, after a ten year legislative fight, I was successful in establishing a County Office of Energy and Sustainability with an energy coordinator to both reduce our energy costs and minimize environmental impacts. This office will coordinate with NYPA and others and should also help other governments, businesses and individuals save their energy costs and reduce their carbon footprint. Finally, supported and voted for legislation that bans #4 and #6 Home Heating Oil.

#2. Commitment High. See Westchester 2025 and our planning department smart-growth concepts minimizing sprawl and encouraging building of units in historic town centers and mass transportation options. However, concerned that our county attrition budgeting is threatening integrity of Planning department. That is why BOL fought hard to avoid layoffs of our planners.

#3. Interest High. Commitment Unclear. Not sure County has the standing and personnel to handle this. Would think more State DEC or NGO?

#4. Commitment High. See recent outlawing of Home Heating Oil 4 & 6. Certainly open to what else County can do in this area.

#5. Commitment High. We are actively discussing how we can create EV stations legislation for parking garages in county.

#6. Commitment High. See our new Energy and Sustainability Director for County.

We have high hopes that with such office finally established, a well-focused Director could make real inroads in efficiency for both the County and non-County entities.

#7. Commitment High. I support Smart Streets initiatives as well as county busses facilitating bicycles usage.

#8. Commitment High. See our affordable housing initiatives which support just such livability and sustainability opportunities.

#9. Commitment High. See County’s Open Space Policy and its subsequent actions in preserving smart Open Space. See Agricultural District and use of PDR’s. Also, we have created smaller “pocket parks” in our urban cities such as the one acre Library Green in New Rochelle.

#10. Commitment VERY HIGH. Much of my 20 years as a County Legislator has squarely been in furtherance of protecting our Natural Environment in Westchester, whether it be by air, land or water. See Drinking water protection. See Hudson River and Long Island Sound protections, particularly from our Sewage Treatment Plants. See air protection through vehicle idling limitations and purchase of hybrid vehicles and outlawing #4 and #6 home heating oil.

#11. Commitment High. See work with NYPA to introduce green roofs and solar installations where practical for county facilities. We have supported universal design through our affordable housing efforts and educated consumers and pushed for laws requiring smart electric meters and energy conservation.

#12. Commitment High. See support for Agricultural District.