

	<p><b>Ed Romaine (R)</b>          Brookhaven Town Supervisor          Incumbent (Elected in 2012)          Endorsed in 2017</p> <p><u>Professional Background/Education:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former history teacher in the Hauppauge School District, where he taught for ten years.</li> <li>• In 1980, entered public service as the Town of Brookhaven's first Commissioner of Housing and Community Development and was later appointed Director of Economic Development.</li> <li>• Member of the Suffolk County Legislature serving from 1986 through 1989</li> <li>• In 1989, elected Suffolk County Clerk and served for 16 years</li> <li>• In 2005, elected to the County Legislature, representing the First Legislative District and re-elected in 2007, 2009, and 2011</li> <li>• Earned a B.A. in History from Adelphi University and a Masters in History from Long Island University.</li> </ul>
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### Personal and Professional Initiatives:

- In response to Question 1, which asks the candidate to share their *accomplishments* or *experiences* that indicate their commitment to advancing a pro-environment agenda, candidate responded:
  - o “From limiting development to creating more TODs, we can protect more open space and create additional green spaces. The Town has made significant investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy to promote better air quality; converted the town’s fleet of vehicles to hybrid and/or electric and installing charging stations throughout the town and at public parking areas; committed to planting 10,000 trees by 2020 by distributing and planting 2,000 trees each year; Upgraded to energy efficient, cost-saving lighting at many Town facilities with more upgrades to come in the future; Replaced thousands of inefficient street lights, parks and ballfield lights with energy efficient LED lights, lowering energy costs and reducing our carbon footprint; Instituted wind, solar, and geothermal codes; all new homes constructed in Brookhaven are solar ready; Revised our solar code to prevent the clear cutting of trees for so called “solar farms,” encouraging appropriate siting for solar energy production facilities and providing standards for solar energy facilities on previously cleared lands and/or disturbed properties.”
  - o “Several years ago, I implemented an Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Initiative to better prepare the Town for future challenges relating to climate change. This call to action consists of a 5-year Capital Plan for making smart and practical changes to help us address future challenges, and Brookhaven has already met its goal of achieving a 50% reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- by 2020, three years early.
- o “Two years ago, the Town Board adopted my legislation to create a Nitrogen Protection Zone. More stringent standards are now a requirement for sanitary systems installed with new construction located within 500 feet of a body of water, requiring sanitary systems that discharge no more than 8 milligrams of nitrogen per liter of effluent.”
- o “By working with members of our state delegation, we were successful in expanding the Long Island Central Pine Barrens Core Preservation Area, increasing the area by an additional 1,100 acres of forested property in Shoreham and Mastic. Expanding the core will assure that these forested areas that are critical to our ecosystem are preserved as open space and remain accessible to all residents.”

### **Questionnaire Highlights:**

Supports all of the initiatives of the NYLCV, with the following additions:

- In response to Question 2, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Sustainable & Transit-Oriented Development***, the candidate responded:
  - o “Walkable and transit-oriented communities have been initiated in the Town of Brookhaven at Wincoram, a positive impact for Coram and the region as a whole. Wincoram, the Arboretum and the Meadows are all sustainable, mixed-use, walkable projects in Brookhaven which provide housing options for our young people and empty nesters.”
  - o “I continue to support smart growth zoning and land use policies, steering new residential and commercial development to existing communities within close proximity to transit facilities. As Supervisor, I am encouraging more projects similar to these for all of Long Island, and adaptive reuse of empty/abandoned strip shopping malls for mixed use and housing and retail development.”
  - o “I strongly support an expansion of the bus system that would tie into our train system, placed near our downtowns and TODs. People take cars because they have no other choice, however, if transportation options were available to them that were affordable, we could have a “less vehicle” society, creating a network of transportation.”
  - o “What’s more, I have been a long-time proponent of electrification of the Long Island Railroad in Brookhaven Town and he noted in his address that “we cannot compete in the 21st century economy with a 19th century rail system” The three LIRR lines that run through Brookhaven Town: the Port Jefferson branch on the north shore; the Main Line through the center of the town; and the Montauk branch on the south shore are not electrified.”
    - My advocacy continues for electrification of the system and to encourage the MTA and LIRR leadership to control costs and avoid fare hikes. He has also been a long-time advocate of relocating the LIRR Yaphank station to a location adjacent to William Floyd Parkway, just south of the Long Island Expressway, which will make train travel more accessible to commuters and provide crucial support to nearby Brookhaven National Lab (3,000

employees), as well as businesses in the area, including those in the Brookhaven Technology Center (2500 employees), the sustainable mixed-use development “The Meadows at Yaphank,” currently under construction. The station would also service Brookhaven Calabro Airport, and the former Dowling campus that has tremendous potential for private investment.”

- In response to Question 3, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to **Public Health**, the candidate responded:
  - “Restoration of floodplains through the purchase of properties located in flood areas, such as the former Nesenger Chevrolet site in Patchogue. This investment has resulted in a beautiful park with features that reduce stormwater impacts to the Swan River.”
  - “Actively working with the Peconic Estuary Program, the South Shore Estuary Reserve, the Long Island Sound Futures Fund, the Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan and other programs to monitor and improve habitat and water quality in Brookhaven”
  - “Brought NYSEDA’s ‘Solarize’ program to the Town, which allows residents to take advantage of low cost reliable solar panels. This program resulted in over 50 homes adding solar panels reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the community”
  - “Implemented a project to replace turf at Town Hall in Farmingville with native plants in order to reduce the need for fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide use from Town operations and to increase habitat for important pollinators such as bees”
  - “Successfully instituted the Carmans River Protection Plan ensuring that future generations will be able to experience and enjoy Long Island’s largest river.”
  - “Lead efforts to have the State enact legislation to protect rare forest in Shoreham and add further protections to the Carmans River watershed by expanding the Central Pine Barrens boundaries.”
  - “Under my leadership, Brookhaven has expanded the Cedar Beach Shellfish Culture facility. At this facility Brookhaven grows over 2 million oysters each year, and also grow millions of hard clams and hundreds of thousands of scallops. Oysters filter 50 gallons of water a day helping to clean Town waters.”
- In response to Question 4, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to **Open Space Preservation**, the candidate responded:
  - “As Suffolk County Legislator, more acres of open space were preserved in my Legislative District than the 17 other Legislative Districts combined.”
  - “Successfully instituted the Carmans River Protection Plan ensuring that future generations will be able to experience and enjoy Long Island’s largest river.”
  - “Maintained a vibrant and active Open Space acquisition program in the Town of Brookhaven through an economic downturn.”
  - “After Hurricane Sandy, led a successful effort in partnership with The Nature Conservancy to buy properties vulnerable to flooding in order to reduce impacts from sanitary systems in low lying areas, preserve wetland buffers that offer important protection from storm surge, to restore the floodplain as a natural flood barrier and to move residents out of harm’s way.”
  - “Instituted land use policies so that increased development density results in funding

- for Open Space Preservation.”
  - o “In 2019, the Town Increased fines for illegal dumping; increased enforcement and legal action by the Law Department against a host of environmental violations including illegal clearing, dumping, illegal sand mining, and disturbance of wetlands.”
  - o “Heightened cooperation between the Town’s Open Space Division, Law Department and the NYSDEC to catch and prosecute illegal dumpers.”
- In response to Question 5, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Energy***, the candidate responded:
  - o “Led efforts to site solar panel installation on Town properties to supply LIPA/PSEG-LI with renewable energy without the need for large scale tree clearing; these efforts include the completion of solar installations at the Manorville Compost Facility (1.3 MWs), our Holtsville Ecology Center (1.8 MWs), and most recently a 3.4 MW installation of solar panels at Town Hall with further installations planned at the Brookhaven Amphitheater (2.3 MWs) and Calabro Airport (3.5 MWs).”
  - o “Working with LIPA/PSE&GLI to bring to fruition the “Energy Park” at the Brookhaven Solid Waste Management Complex with a Fuel Cell that will provide 7.4 MWs of electricity and 10 MWs worth of solar installations atop capped portions of the Landfill and incorporating battery storage into the energy park.”
  - o “Received a grant for engineering of a microgrid at Brookhaven Town Hall to add resiliency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions” “Brought NYSERDA’s “Solarize” program to Brookhaven to allow Brookhaven residents to take advantage of low cost reliable solar panels. This program resulted in over 70 homes adding solar panels reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the community. We have upgraded our land use and building codes to protect our forests, and to ensure that new homes and businesses are energy efficient.”
  - o “Conversions to efficient LED fixtures at Town Hall, which includes 2,166 fluorescent troffer lights.”
  - o “Approximately \$188,000 in PSEG rebates received.”
  - o “Converted all parking lot lighting and outside floodlights.”
  - o “Solar on roof to be installed Fall 2019.”
  - o “Estimated that lighting in building will be 95% LED by the end of 2019.”
  - o “Electric water heaters have been replaced with gas-fired heaters.”
  - o “The Town converted from Styrofoam to biodegradable paper products in our Senior Nutrition program and Town Hall cafeteria”
  - o “Installed public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Centereach, Moriches and Mt. Sinai that are accessible 24/7 for electric vehicle owners.”
  - o “Added two additional fully electric vehicles to the Town’s fleet in 2019.”
- In response to Question 6, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Sustainable Public Asset Management***, the candidate responded:
  - o “We have completed energy audits of Town facilities that have resulted in energy upgrades, including LED interior lighting throughout Town Hall, at the Mastic Pool and at Calabro Airport. Brookhaven Town is also working to procure green power for

Town facilities.”

- o “In addition, the Town is beginning the replacement of interior lighting with exterior LEDs at our ballfields and at Town Hall. We have initiated a major capital project to replace all of our older streetlights, over 30,000 of them, with more efficient LED fixtures over the next two years.”
- o “Among my green initiatives, the Town has:”
  - “Adopted an anti-idling policy and minimum MPG standard (33mpg) were implemented in 2017 Hybrid Ford Fusions are utilized in the fleet.”
  - “First all-electric vehicle purchased in early 2017.”
  - “Two additional all electric vehicles are to be delivered by May 2019.”
  - “Gasoline consumption from Town fleet has decreased by 29.2% from 2005-2018”
  - “As part of the new garbage collection contract, the Town required the replacement of residential refuse/recycling trucks with new Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueled vehicles, further reducing The Town’s carbon footprint.”
  - “Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at Town facilities in Mt. Sinai, Centereach and Center Moriches and one to be installed at Town Hall, making it convenient to use plug-in hybrids and all-electric vehicles, which reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.”
  - “Worked to ensure that Dark Skies standards that are protective of nocturnal wildlife and nighttime views of stars are followed and enforced.”
- In response to Question 7, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to *Waste*, the candidate responded:
  - o “Under my leadership, Brookhaven provides weekly paper recycling pick up days for all town residents, where our carters will pick up clean paper and cardboard, as well as weekly plastic and metal recycling pick up days for residents to recycle aluminum, tin and steel cans as well as plastic bottles and jugs. Glass bottles and jars are can be dropped off, free of charge, at one of our many satellite locations. The E-Waste, Paper Shredding and Drug Take Back events are for residents to safely dispose of unused electronic devices, have their old paper documents securely shredded and to safely dispose of old prescription drugs.”
  - o “In Brookhaven we also host a free Residential Waste Disposal Week, held twice a year in the months of April and October. This event provides the opportunity for Brookhaven Town residents and/or property owners to dispose of household items free of charge at the Landfill Drop-off facility.”
  - o “Each year the Town holds “The Great Brookhaven Clean Up” during the month of May at various locations throughout the Town.”
  - o Additional initiatives under my leadership:
    - *Brew to Moo* – Started in August 2017. By end of 2018, over 200 tons of brewery grains have been diverted from the waste stream and used as food for animals. An additional 19 tons of coffee grounds and brewery grains have been diverted to compost.
    - “An additional 37,500 lbs. of grain and coffee have been used as a compost

supplement.”

- “*Shell Recycling* – Partnered with Seatuck Environmental Association on their “Half Shells for Habitat” program to remove shells from the solid waste stream and use it to restore oyster populations and reduce coastal acidification; 25 restaurants participating across the region.”
- In response to Question 8, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Water Quality and Aquifer Protection***, the candidate responded:
  - “In 2018, more than 70 acres of open space acquisitions were completed for a total of 81.6 acres preserved. This program helps protect drinking water supplies, surface water quality and protects habitat for a myriad of species.”
  - “In order to promote sustainable development on Long Island, a plan should be developed to protect our natural water resources. I support the creation of a Long Island Water Resources Management Board to promote this effort, as well as the development of a regional energy strategy and energy conservation programs to promote an affordable, reliable low-carbon energy supply. As part of a regional strategy, an Island-wide zero waste plan should be implemented to protect our beaches and marine industry.”
  - “Under my leadership, Brookhaven has expanded the Cedar Beach Shellfish Culture facility. At this facility Brookhaven grows over 2 million oysters each year, and also grow millions of hard clams and hundreds of thousands of scallops. Oysters filter 50 gallons of water a day helping to clean Town waters.”
  - “More recently, I lobbied with members of our state delegation for legislation to expand the Long Island Central Pine Barrens Core Preservation Area, increasing the area by an additional 1,100 acres of forested property in Shoreham and Mastic.”
  - “Lead the effort for the Town of Brookhaven to become a Tree City USA community.”
  - “Introduced successful legislation to reduce the harvesting of Horseshoe Crabs, a keystone species that is emblematic of our waters, from Brookhaven Town Beaches.”
  - “Worked with state elected officials to require updated regulations and surveys for Horseshoe Crabs to ensure the long-term future of the Horseshoe Crab population.”
  - “Maintained a vibrant and active Open Space acquisition program.”
  - “After Hurricane Sandy, led a successful effort in partnership with The Nature Conservancy to buy properties vulnerable to flooding in order to reduce impacts from sanitary systems in low lying areas, preserve wetland buffers that offer important protection from storm surge, and keep Town residents out of harm's way.”
  - “Worked with state and local officials to force the US Army Corps of Engineers to revise plans to dump 52 million cubic yards of dredge spoil into the Long Island Sound.”
  - “Continues to encourage that homes being raised with FEMA funding for flood protection also have sanitary systems raised in order to reduce impacts of sanitary waste on human health and the environment.”
  - “Implemented a project to replace turf at Town Hall in Farmingville with native plants in order to reduce the need for fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide use from Town operations and to increase habitat for important pollinators such as bees.”

- o “Continue to work with federal, state and county government, and nonprofits to address and resolve water quality issues in the Forge River in Moriches. The Town has completed and filed a Total Maximum Daily Load calculation for the Forge River with the NYSDEC. Actions include groundwater modeling and in winter 2016-17 the installation of the first Permeable Reactive Barrier on Long Island. This pilot project will produce data on the removal of nitrogen from groundwater.”
  - o “Funded an effort to remove nutrient rich sediment and invasive species from Willow Lake (aka Upper Yaphank Lake), a first of its kind project that has restored recreational uses and aesthetics to the lake.”
  - o “Overseen increased enforcement and legal action by the Town’s Law Department against a host of environmental violations including illegal clearing, dumping, illegal sand mining, and disturbance of wetlands.”
  - o “Leading an effort to Increase fines for illegal dumping.”
  - o “Heightened cooperation between the Town’s Open Space Division, Law Department and the NYSDEC to catch and prosecute illegal dumpers.”
  - o “Increased awareness of the sensitivity of the aquifers that supply our drinking water and our surface waters. This has included review of large development projects to treat and recharge the aquifers rather than pumping valuable freshwater to ocean outfalls.”
- In response to Question 9, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Natural Resource Protection***, the candidate responded:
    - o “The Town Environmental Protection staff has worked diligently to restore eelgrass in Bellport and Moriches Bays and introduce scallops and oysters into various areas of the Great South Bay to improve the quality of our local waters.”
    - o “Efforts to protect the Carmans River and improve Lake Ronkonkoma.”
    - o “The Town is working to expand shellfish production and restoration efforts in Mt. Sinai, Bellport and Moriches Bay.”
    - o “Expanding the use of innovative technology to protect our groundwater by reducing the nitrogen loading by examining areas for which I/A systems are appropriate.”
    - o “Working with Suffolk County to finally bring sewers to the Shirley-Mastic area along Montauk Highway, to allow for smart growth and lessen the impacts of nitrogen pollution on the Forge River.”
    - o “Forever protected over 1,100 acres of open space.”
    - o “The Town continues to provide free tree seedlings to all residents.”
  - In response to Question 10, which asks the candidate to indicate their level of commitment to ***Farms and Local Food***, the candidate responded:
    - o “When I was elected Town Supervisor in 2012, one of my first initiatives was to re-institute the Town’s Agriculture Advisory Board. Under my leadership, this board has been meeting monthly since early 2013 to discuss the farming needs within the Town. The Ag Board provides insight and recommendations to the Town Board on a host of Ag-related issues, such as the PDR program, farming sustainability, creation of a mariculture program in the Town, all from a farmer’s perspective.”
    - o “By working with the Town’s Agriculture Advisory Board and the Long Island Farm

Bureau, I've initiated an outdoor Farmers Market that is held weekly at Town Hall every year from May through October. This weekly NYS Agriculture & Markets sanctioned Farmers Market was established in 2018 to encourage residents to buy Long Island fruits and vegetables and bring attention to the Town's many farms and the produce grown right in the consumer's backyard. In addition to selling fresh produce, the market promotes wine, flowers, seafood and other Long Island products and encourages residents to visit farms and support their local growers."