

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAND USE ISSUES IN BROOME COUNTY SUBJECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

Environmental groups and individuals are invited to attend a forum on ADDRESSING LAND USE ISSUES FOR THE BROOME COUNTY PLAN FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT on **Tuesday, March 26**, beginning at 7:00 pm, at the United Way Building Board Room, on the corner of Jensen Road and the Vestal Parkway East in Vestal.

Broome County Government hired consultants AngelouEconomics and Allee, King, Rosen & Fleming, with funding from the New York State Quality Communities Demonstration Program, to develop a plan for Sustainable Economic Development in Broome County. The goal of the initiative is to develop a dynamic and sustainable economic development plan that is responsive to local conditions, resources and needs.

The Environmental Management Council (EMC) is identified as a stakeholder in this project to help the consultants develop future land use strategies for Broome County by identifying past and current problems and successes with land use and land availability.

The plan will identify short, intermediate and long-term objectives that are based on a shared community vision and that are measurable against established performance standards. All elements of the plan will be outlined within the context of existing and desired land use patterns, local zoning and land use regulations, infrastructure capacities, and municipal comprehensive planning efforts. The consultants will develop a clearly defined action plan that will provide economic diversification, generate wealth, foster sustainable development, and maintain a high quality of life for Broome County residents.

The EMC and its Natural Resources Committee are sponsoring the forum as part of their ongoing effort to educate and involve the public in land use planning decisions. Peter Liebowitz, who is Vice President of Allee, King, Rosen & Fleming, the environmental and planning consultants for this project, will be in attendance for forum discussions.

For additional information on the environmental forum, contact the Environmental Management Council (EMC) office at 607-778-2116. For more information about the Broome County Plan for Sustainable Economic Development, please visit the web at www.thebcplan.com.

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