



**Southampton Town Board**

116 Hampton Road  
Southampton, NY 11968

Meeting: 03/14/23 01:00 PM  
Department: Town Attorney  
Category: Miscellaneous  
Prepared By: Kathleen Murray  
Initiator: James Burke  
Sponsors: Councilwoman Cynthia McNamara  
DOC ID: 42720

**ADOPTED**

**TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION 2023-418**

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## **Memorializing Resolution Supporting Affordable Housing While Still Preserving Local Authority within the Town of Southampton**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Southampton recognizes that having affordable places to live is essential for a community to thrive; and

WHEREAS, indeed, the rising cost of living and the scarcity of available housing has created an affordable housing issue in many areas of New York State, including within the Town of Southampton; and

WHEREAS, recognizing this issue, the Town Board continues to work towards addressing this need, evidenced most recently through its support - and adoption - of an amendment to Town Code Chapter 140, establishing a half-percent tax to fund the Peconic Bay Region Community Preservation Fund, which will allow for the creation of more affordable housing opportunities within the Town; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the Town's efforts, proposed legislation included within the Governor's 2022-2023 Executive Budget, as well as legislation introduced in the New York State Assembly and Senate, would preempt local governments' zoning authority in an effort to expand affordable housing throughout municipalities; and

WHEREAS, while the State's goal may be laudable, regulating residential housing falls squarely under the purview of municipal home rule; and

WHEREAS, many towns - including the Town of Southampton - have provisions within their local codes supporting affordable housing options and development in ways that make sense for their communities; and

WHEREAS, instead, the state can support and expand affordable housing opportunities by working with local governments to recognize their needs, which may include, for example, funding local water and sewer infrastructure, providing further training and education for local land use officials, and/or creating affordable housing incentives; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Southampton finds this to be a preferred, more productive, and more successful approach to tackling the affordable housing issues within the Town; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Southampton hereby calls on the Governor and the State Legislature to collaborate with local municipalities on any state initiatives addressing affordable housing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby calls on the Governor and the State Legislature to uphold local zoning authority, as granted by Municipal Home Rule Law, in any legislation and/or state programs created to address affordable housing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby directs the Town Clerk's Office to forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, Assemblyman Fred W. Thiele, Jr., and Senator Anthony H. Palumbo.

**Financial Impact**

None; see resolution text.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Cynthia McNamara, Councilwoman
<b>SECONDER:</b>	John Bouvier, Councilman
<b>AYES:</b>	Schneiderman, McNamara, Martel, Bouvier, Schiavoni