

# **HARRISON, NY FUNDING APPROVED**

## **MAYOR RICHARD DIONISIO RECIEVES \$2.6 MILLION GRANT FROM NYS FOR FLOOD MITIGATION**

This grant will fund the Brentwood Flood Restoration Project. For more information please check the town's website.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FIRST-TERM HARRISON SUPERVISOR/MAYOR RICHARD DIONISIO ANNOUNCES HARRISON RECEIVES  
\$2.6 MILLION STATE GRANT TO INITIATE FLOOD RESTORATION PROJECTS**

[Town/Village of Harrison, New York] – [Town/Village of Harrison by the initiative of Supervisor/Mayor Richard Dionisio is awarded \$2.6 million grant from the New York State (NYS) Green Innovative Grant Program (GIGP) to launch Town-Wide Flood Restoration Projects.]

First-term Supervisor/Mayor Richard Dionisio announced today the Town/Village of Harrison was awarded a \$2.6 million grant for flood plain restoration projects to protect hundreds of Harrison's residential and commercial properties, the nearby thoroughfare and public schools, as well as the Long Island Sound.

Following the devastating aftermath of both Hurricane Ida and Hurricane Henri in 2021, Supervisor/Mayor Dionisio made it a priority to engage in town wide flood studies, making environmental protection and green infrastructure a cornerstone of his first term as Mayor of Harrison. Harrison Mayor Rich Dionisio, Harrison Central School District Superintendent Lou Wool, NYS Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblymember Chris Burdick, and Westchester County Legislators Nancy Barr and Catherine Parker all worked closely with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation on the grant application, also garnering support from Assemblyman Steve Otis, whose district abuts Harrison.

The Green Innovation Grant Program supports projects across New York State that utilize unique EPA-designated green stormwater infrastructure design and create cutting-edge green technologies. Competitive grants are awarded annually to projects that improve water quality and mitigate the effects of climate change. \$15.8 Million was awarded to 8 different projects across the state, and Harrison's grant is one of two awarded to the Mid-Hudson region. Eligible applicants can apply for the grants via the Governor's Consolidated Funding Application.

Supervisor/Mayor Dionisio said, "Today is an exciting day for the Town of Harrison. The \$2.6 million dollars we received in Green Innovation Grant Program funding is a great first step toward prioritizing equitable flood mitigation investments, to the people of Harrison and surrounding municipalities, in areas with the greatest needs. I will continue to work with our state and local partners and advocate for our residents to bring additional investments to our town's infrastructure to ensure the safety and well-being of all.

Senator Shelley Mayer said, "I am so pleased that the Town/Village of Harrison will receive essential funding for floodplain restoration to address persistent flooding. So many Harrison residents have seen their homes and possessions destroyed by increasingly powerful and frequent storms and reached out for our help. This investment is an important step in addressing the regional problem we are experiencing. I thank Mayor Dionisio for his leadership on this application, my local and legislative colleagues for their partnership as we continue to work to increase our communities' resiliency, and identify solutions to flooding."

Harrison Central School District Superintendent of Schools Lou Wool said, "I am proud that the ongoing close collaboration between District and town leaders resulted in this substantial grant; it is a significant step toward addressing the persistent challenges of flooding and offers a meaningful mitigation plan for our community and our schools."

Assemblymember Chris Burdick said, "It is notable that only 8 of these grants were allocated statewide, which makes the \$2.6 million awarded to Harrison so remarkable. We are grateful to Mayor Dionisio for his partnership in working on the grant process with Senator Mayer and me and our other partners in government. This marks the beginning of a robust effort to address the life and property threatening floods that are hitting Harrison and neighboring towns with increasing frequency. After visiting so many of the residents who experienced catastrophic damage after Hurricane Ida, I'm hopeful that this funding will make a huge difference moving forward."

Assemblyman Steve Otis said, "Congratulations to the Town of Harrison on this important Green Infrastructure Grant which will allow a needed floodplain project to move forward. The plan will benefit Harrison and downstream communities I represent. My work with Harrison goes back to the Beaver Swamp Brook restoration in the 1990's and I supported this application that benefits multiple communities. Congratulations to the Town Board for their efforts."

A special thank you to the following for their unwavering support: NYS Senator Shelley B. Mayer; NYS Assemblymember Chris Burdick; NYS Assemblymember Steve Otis; Harrison Central School District Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Louis N. Wool, Ed. D.; Westchester County Legislator, Nancy E. Barr; Westchester County Legislator, Catherine Parker; Westchester County Legislator, Benjamin Boykin II; Westchester County Executive, George Latimer; Town of Mamaroneck Supervisor, Jane Elkind Eney;

Congressman, Mondaire Jones; Town of Bedford Supervisor, Ellen Z. Calves; Town of Somers Supervisor, Robert Scorrano; and Town of Eastchester Supervisor, Anthony Colavita.

