



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

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BISHOP SECURES FEDERAL FUNDS TO CLEAN MUD CREEK

First Funding for Corps Environmental Restoration Project on Long Island

Washington, DC—Congressman Tim Bishop today announced \$100,000 in new Federal funds to clean Mud Creek in East Patchogue. Bishop has been a fierce advocate for this funding and worked with local officials to identify the needs of the community. In addition, this is the first environmental restoration project the Army Corps of Engineers has undertaken on Long Island.

“Our area’s past and future are bound together by the water that runs through our community and the land that sustains us,” Bishop said. “Cleaning Mud Creek plays a vital role in restoring our local environment.”

“The fact that this is the Corps of Engineers’ first environmental restoration project on Long Island shows just how special Mud Creek is,” Bishop added.

The funding secured by Bishop builds on local efforts to restore the area. Legislator Brian X. Foley, has spearheaded the local effort to preserve the headwaters of Mud Creek. In June, Foley’s leadership led Suffolk County to purchase the area under the Drinking Water Protection Program

Foley commended Bishop for securing the federal funds to initiate the restoration of fresh water wetlands in the headwaters area.

"This federal funding is crucial to the overall effort to preserve and restore environmentally sensitive land within the Mud Creek Headwater Corridor," Foley said. "Those of us who have been working to preserve these properties commend Congressman Bishop for his efforts."

Mud Creek, located on the north side of Montauk Highway approximately ¼ mile east of County Road 101, is a mix of dense undeveloped woodlands, surface water streams and freshwater wetlands. The parcel also contains a cranberry bog and the former Gallo Duck Farm.

The duck farm caused negative environmental impacts, such as surface water quality degradation, loss of woodland, streambed alteration and damage resulting from the discharge of duck waste into the stream. The goal of this project is to cleanup the site, which could result in other environmental benefits, such as improving prospects for Brook Trout, which are native to the stream running through the area.

The funding was secured in the Energy and Water Appropriations Conference Report, which has passed both houses of Congress by a wide margin. The bill now awaits the President’s signature to be enacted into law.

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