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A MESSAGE FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE EDWARD P. MANGANO

Nassau County has emerged from a national economic crisis and weather-related events such as Superstorm Sandy to become stronger, more resilient and ready to take on any and all new challenges that may face us. Getting through those challenges was not easy, but my administration, along with the support of our residents, stands ready to embrace and create a new Nassau County that does not compromise all of our good qualities and makes this County an even better place to live, work and raise a family.

My vision for our *new* Nassau County is focused on preserving our suburban quality of life while simultaneously creating opportunities for economic development following a smart-growth approach. This will allow us to expand our tax base, create new jobs, address the challenges of increasing traffic congestion and add more affordable housing so our young people can raise their own families in the community they were raised in.

The cornerstone of my program is the redevelopment of the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum property in the Nassau Hub into a year-round destination for residents and tourists alike. A key element for making this initiative successful will be the implementation of the recommendations detailed in this report to introduce a new modern streetcar rapid transit service in the heart of our County.

This report also discusses how a modern streetcar can be woven into our existing transportation network to provide advanced travel options while maintaining a vibrant and sustainable landscape that will ultimately benefit thousands of residents, employees, students and others who live, work or visit this area.

The Nassau Hub Study was developed using an open and transparent process with the assistance and guidance of professional consultants, our residents, civic and political leaders, and regional planning and transportation agencies.

Working together as a team I believe we now have a blueprint for a transportation vision that can better help Nassau achieve the goals I previously noted.

I am grateful for all who participated in the process and am excited by the prospect of moving the recommendations from the planning to the environmental review process. Once again, it will take a team effort to bring this vision to reality, but I am confident that we are up for the challenge. Please remain involved and I welcome your comments and questions.

Best regards,

Edward P. Mangano
County Executive