



TOWN OF RIVERHEAD

Yvette Aguiar, Town Supervisor

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Press Release:

Riverhead Town Square Advances As Town to Close on Three Parcels Tomorrow

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Supervisor Yvette Aguiar announced that the Town of Riverhead will officially close on the purchase of three East Main Street parcels that will be transformed into the Riverhead Town Square tomorrow in Town Hall at 2 pm. on May 18, 2021.

“This is the next significant step to creating our new Town Square,” Supervisor Yvette Aguiar said. I am excited to continue the progress that the Town Board has made in the last year, despite the pandemic, by signing the documents necessary to close,” “Riverhead Town Square will positively transform out downtown into a thriving regional destination that offer an attractive venue for people to live, work and play here in Riverhead. The primary goal of creating Riverhead Town Square is to reorient the pedestrian focus from the traditional Main Street to the Peconic Riverwalk.”

Aguiar continued, “I want to thank Riverhead Enterprises for being a cooperative seller of these three parcels. I also want to express my appreciation to the entire Town Board for working cooperatively, as a team, to work so diligently in a bipartisan manner to get this deal to the finish line and serve our mutual constituents in the best manner possible.”

“Riverhead Enterprises is pleased to close on the sale of three East Main St properties to the Town of Riverhead,” Riverhead Enterprises President Sheldon Gordon said. We are very excited to see how the Town Square develops and very happy to be part of the process.”

The preliminary design was unveiled two weeks ago, following extensive public participation that included meetings with key stakeholders and three virtual public meetings. The public can view the plans and continue to provide feedback as the project progresses at: <https://www.engagetheteam.com/riverheadtownsquare> The website features interactive maps and allows participants to leave feedback, attach photos of suggestions or ideas and take part in a digital community survey. It was developed by the Town of Riverhead’s consultant Urban Design Associates.

After being awarded an \$800,000 grant from Empire State Development, the Town of Riverhead leveraged \$612,000 in Suffolk County water quality funding and \$400,000 in Suffolk County Jump Start funding to enter into contract to acquire three parcels that will result in the Town Square. The buildings at 117 and 121 East Main Street will be demolished, while 127 East Main Street may remain in place, although it will be extensively renovated, if it is not replaced.

Supervisor Aguiar expressed her appreciation to New York State and Suffolk County for being enthusiastic financial supporters of the revitalization of Downtown Riverhead and the Town Square project. She said the town, along with the Community Development Department, the Riverhead Industrial Development Agency and the Town Attorney's Office, looks forward to continuing this collaborative effort with New York State Economic Development and Suffolk County.