

County Legislator Ben Boykin
State of the County
Discussion with Scarsdale Forum

January 26, 2017



Agenda

- 2017 Budgets
- Federal & State Issues in 2017 Operating Budget
- Water District 1 Update
- Housing Settlement Update
- Minimum Wage Changes
- 2017 Items
 - Gun Shows on County Owned Property
 - Gun Show Bill Sponsored by Republicans
 - Airport Privatization
 - North 60 Lease
 - Drone Legislation
 - 2017 Legislative Package
- Q & A

2017 Budgets

- Operating, Capital and Special Districts Budgets to be discussed by panel later this evening
- Operating Budget, \$1.81 billion; approved by vote of 10 to 7
- Capital and Special Districts Budgets approved by same margin
- I voted against all the 2017 Budgets

Federal & State Issues in 2017

Operating Budget

- Federal Aid - \$249.6 million
- State Aid - \$183.8 million
- Federal and State Aid used for:
 - Social Services - \$267.8
 - For Other Departments and Accounts - \$165.6

Federal & State Issues in 2017

Operating Budget

- With Trump Administration, Federal Aid could be at risk
- Medicaid relief in the form of reduced “weekly shares” payments from changes to the Affordable Care Act could negatively affect the Operating Budget by up to \$13.47 million (based on calculations by O’Connor Davies)
- Changes to other federal programs could impact the Operating Budget

Federal & State Issues in 2017

Operating Budget

- NY State Budget for FY 2017/2018 to be completed in March 2017
- Impact on County Budget by decisions to be made by State Legislative Body and Governor are not known at this time
- County Board of Legislators to provide Legislative Package to State Legislators in February 2017

Water District 1 Update

- Consent decree signed in May 2015
- All benchmarks required by the consent decree are being achieved
- \$1.1 million of fines have been paid to EPA and Dept. of Justice as result of the consent decree
- Orchard Street pumping station ultraviolet treatment equipment to get into test in January 2017; full implementation scheduled for April 2017

Water District 1 Update (con't)

- Central Avenue pumping station treatment facility expected to be completed in late 2017
- Water is tested weekly
- Municipalities required to provide letter to residents each quarter regarding water quality

Housing Settlement Update

- Required by year end 2016:

	<u>In Place</u>	
	<u>Financing</u>	<u>Building Permits</u>
Units Required	750	750
Completed	799	790
Needed	0*	0*

*Goal achieved

- Analysis of Impediments (AI) needs to be completed and accepted by Department of Housing

Minimum Wage Changes

- Effective December 31, 2016
 - New York City - \$11.00 per hour; \$10.90 per hour if less than 10 employees
 - Nassau, Westchester, Suffolk Counties - \$10.00 per hour
 - Other Counties - \$9.70 per hour

2017 Items

- Ban on gun shows on County owned property
- Airport Privatization (RFP and due diligence)
- North 60 Lease
- Drone Legislation (in PSSS and Legislation Committees)
- 2017 Legislative Package
- Work with Scarsdale on Village/County Issues

Ban on Gun Shows on County Owned Property

- Discussed and voted out of PSSS, Legislation & LPPH Committees and sent to full Board of Legislators
- Passed by full Board by a 9 to 8 vote on January 9
- Vetoed by County Executive Astorino on January 19
- Gun show was held on Jan. 21 and 22 at County Center

Gun Show Bill Sponsored By Republicans

- Would apply to all gun shows at all locations in Westchester County
- Requires that any gun show follow the recommendations of the NY State Attorney General's office from its "Model New York Gun Show Procedures"
- "Model New York Gun Show Procedures" entail nine areas that must be adhered to
- Public Hearing held on January 24 in Little Theatre at the County Center

Airport Privatization

- Board of Legislators rejected County Executive proposal which was done without a competitive bid process for 2017 Budget
- I serve on Board Committee to get Request for Proposal (RFP) in 2017
- No assurances that any transaction will be completed and approved by Board of Legislators
- Transaction must be in best interest for Westchester taxpayers
- Any transaction will also require approval by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- Only two FAA Privatization Pilot Programs (which allow for airport funds to be used for Operating Budgets) have ever been approved and executed since this program was put in place in 1996

North 60 Lease

- \$1.2 billion biotech facility proposed adjacent to Westchester Medical Center
- Proposed by Fareri Associates of Greenwich
- 99 year lease of 60 acres of County owned property
- Will require amendment to County Charter
- Will also be built of 20 acres owned by Fareri next to North 60
- Will require approvals by Town of Mt. Pleasant
- Lease expected to be voted on in Feb/March 2017

Drone Legislation

- Prohibit drone use within 1,000 feet of the Westchester County Correctional Facility
- Can be used by law enforcement, fire or emergency service agencies
- Vote expected in first quarter 2017
- Penalty for violation
 - Civil penalty for first offense of \$1,000
 - Misdemeanor for each additional offense

2017 Legislative Package

- Currently in process
- Worked on jointly between County Executive and Board of Legislators
- Board of Legislators to meet with NY Senate and NY Assembly representatives in February to advocate for County Legislative Package

Questions and Answers

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