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December 13, 2021

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Mayor Elena Villafane and Members of the Board of Trustees
Village of Sea Cliff
PO Box 340
Sea Cliff, New York 11579

Re: Bill VSC 2104B, a local law to enact a temporary moratorium on the subdivision of property in the Village of Sea Cliff

Dear Mayor Villafane and Members of the Board of Trustees:

We are writing to express our full support for the Village of Sea Cliff's proposed moratorium on the subdivision of property.

As you are aware, the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor has worked diligently over the last 35 years to improve conditions in the local environment. We have worked with many partners to attain significant improvements to water quality in Hempstead Harbor, thereby improving the quality of life for residents in harborside communities. However, as conditions in Hempstead Harbor have improved, development pressure has increased, particularly along or in proximity to the harbor's shoreline. Currently there are a dozen projects that are recently developed, already approved, or being considered around the harbor.

This increase in development has the potential to reverse previous successes and is occurring at the same time that it is widely acknowledged that shoreline resiliency is critical. We need strong shorelines and a healthy ecosystem to withstand the effects of climate change and sea-level rise. Recent storm events have caused unprecedented local flooding, landslides/washouts, and runoff. It is anticipated that such storm events will become more frequent.

Visit www.coalitiontosavehempsteadharbor.org for information about our programs.

It is crucial for Sea Cliff and neighboring municipalities to carefully plan for any future development that will have an impact on Hempstead Harbor and that may compromise water supply and other resources. We believe that a moratorium will provide time for careful planning that will prevent further degradation of the shoreline, prevent adverse impacts to Hempstead Harbor's water quality, protect drinking water and other resources, fill the gaps in local clean-water infrastructure needs, and ensure a healthy quality of life for village residents and neighboring communities.

Sincerely,



Kay Bromberg
Vice President



Michelle Lapinel McAllister
Environmental Monitor

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