



# Assemblyman Kenneth P. Zebrowski

## North Rockland Update 2015

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### Palisades Parkway Repairs

For years, Assemblyman Zebrowski has advocated that long overdue repairs be made to the deteriorating Palisades Interstate Parkway (PIP). Recently, the Department of Transportation (DOT) approved a repaving project for the north section of the parkway. Phase one of the project began in October to repair from the Book Store to the Bear Mountain traffic circle; this construction is set to end by the winter. The second phase will begin in Spring 2016 and will shift to Haverstraw starting at Exit 13 by Thiells Mt. Ivy Road.

Although this paving project is a good start, Ken believes that the Parkway is in need of more extensive work, and he has continued to push for the DOT to include the full rehabilitation project (Phase 2 & 3) similar to the work that was done south of exit 10 in the early 2000's. The PIP has become a main commuter thoroughfare and this rehabilitation has been delayed too long. Assemblyman Zebrowski was able to get the DOT to identify and develop a full rehabilitation between Exit 10 and 13; however the cost of this project is estimated to be \$45 million.



Securing that significant amount of funding is a difficult second step, but Ken is committed to working with the DOT, the Governor and his colleagues in the Assembly to ensure that this project is prioritized in the upcoming session.

### Securing Grants to Improve Haverstraw

In Albany, Assemblyman Zebrowski works to secure funding to improve Rockland municipalities. Most recently, Ken was able to:

- Allocate a \$150,000 grant for the Town of Haverstraw to construct a dog park on Beach Road in West Haverstraw. The park will include separate areas for large and small breeds with tunnels, ramps, and toys, as well as picnic tables for residents; a fun, designated place for dogs and their owners to enjoy.
- Assemblyman Zebrowski has also worked with various elected officials to enhance recreational opportunities at Bowline Park. He recently secured a \$125,000 grant for the construction of a fishing pier at the park for residents.
- Ken and his colleagues were able secure the vacant lot near Helen Hayes Hospital, as well as funding for the Town to begin construction of the long-awaited Haverstraw ball-fields. Transforming this area will be a great addition for the kids and the community.

### Rejecting Ill-Advised Projects

Although Assemblyman Zebrowski supports initiatives that will bring economic development to Rockland, he believes it should never be done at the expense of residents. After hearing from North Rockland homeowners and their concerns regarding the Legoland proposal in Thiells, Ken supported the Supervisor and Town Board's decision not to pursue the project. Maintaining the charac-

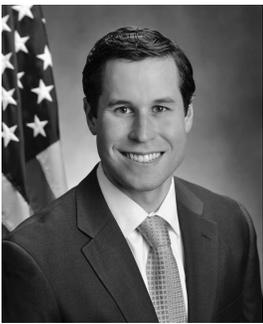
ter of our communities and preserving quality of life are top priorities for Assemblyman Zebrowski. He has also remained critical of the proposed gasification plant in Stony Point, less than half a mile from Haverstraw. Ken fought to ensure the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) would be the lead agency to conduct an independent environmental review, rather than accepting the facility's own data, to determine what effects the plant could have on air, water, and noise pollution. Assemblyman Zebrowski is also concerned with the volume of truck traffic this gasification plant could bring and has called for a broader review detailing how North Rockland communities would be affected.

### Push for Full Day Kindergarten

Assemblyman Zebrowski is committed to assisting our school districts in transitioning to full day kindergarten. The benefits of early childhood education is critical in the development of a child which is why he is introducing legislation to provide enhanced kindergarten transition aid to districts who currently have half day programs. This proposal will ease the financial burden of transitioning to full day kindergarten and provide students with additional educational opportunities.

## The Assembly Speaker Visits North Rockland

Assemblyman Zebrowski recently welcomed the Speaker of the Assembly, Carl Heastie, to his district as a part of his tour around the State. While in North Rockland, Assemblyman Zebrowski and Speaker Heastie met with Supervisor Howard Phillips and Village of West Haverstraw Mayor Robert D'Amelio to tour Bowline Park and the waterfront. They discussed the tax increases caused by the power plant's repeated assessment challenges which have burdened the residents of North Rockland for years. The town and village also expressed their appreciation of Assemblyman Zebrowski's work to ensure Haverstraw is eligible for a new \$19 million grant program to help communities with power plant tax issues.



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### Dear Neighbor:

In this newsletter you'll find an update detailing some of the many successes we've had in North Rockland recently. As your state representative in Albany, I am always working to ensure that North Rockland continues to be a great place to live by securing grants that improve infrastructure, investing in our schools, and rejecting projects that could negatively impact the community.

Please be assured that as we begin another legislative session in Albany, I will continue to fight and address the issues that are most important to you. As always, feel free to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ken Zebrowski