



Town Hall • 100 Main Street
Huntington, NY 11743-6991

Phone: (631) 351-3030
Fax: (631) 424-7856
CLupinacci@huntingtonny.gov

CHAD A. LUPINACCI
Supervisor

April 10, 2020

Honorable Steven Bellone
Suffolk County Executive
H. Lee Dennison Building
100 Veterans Memorial Highway
Hauppauge, NY 11788

Dear Mr. County Executive,

Recently, I joined with a number of other Suffolk County town supervisors in a letter requesting an Executive Order from your office. The order would permit residents to pay the second half of their property taxes as late as August 1, 2020 without any penalties. I believe that this is absolutely necessary to the financial wellbeing of many residents, especially those who have lost their jobs or have significantly lower incomes due to COVID-19.

Many of my constituents have been reaching out to me at Town Hall and to the offices of my colleagues on the Town Board, begging for such an extension. As you are well aware, these are unprecedented times, but I believe meaningful measures to temporarily relieve some of the financial burdens will allow our communities to recover a little faster and resume the normalcy we so crave and deserve.

The temporary effect that this constructive extension may have on our municipalities may be a little challenging for a variety of reasons, but it will be somewhat offset by homeowners with mortgages. To wit, although we are asking for the ability to pay as late as August 1st, the banks will still pay the appropriate amount of taxes by means of funds already in escrow.

Unfortunately, it is not feasible for the Town of Huntington to take this matter into its own hands by Town Board Resolution or an application of emergency powers, as the tax collection system is too complex. There are too many other taxing authorities embedded in the Town for us to act in a meaningful and pragmatic manner. We need you to step in.



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With all of the above being stated, I am humbly asking you on behalf of myself and my colleagues, below, to seriously consider issuing an Executive Order immediately to ease the minds and pocketbooks of struggling residents. We can get through all of this together, and I look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Chad A. Lupinacci
Supervisor

Mark Cuthbertson
Councilman

Joan Cergol
Councilwoman

Edmund J.M. Smyth
Councilman

J.G.
Jillian Guthman
Receiver of Taxes

Andrew P. Raia
Town Clerk

Cc:

Legislator Susan A. Berland, Esq.
16th Legislative District
6080 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 307
Commack, NY 11725

Legislator Tom Donnelly
17th Legislative District
130 W. Jericho Turnpike
Huntington Station, NY 11746

Legislator William Spencer
18th Legislative District
224 Wall Street, Suite 303
Huntington, NY 11743

Theresa Santoro
Office of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo
Perry B. Duryea State Office Building
250 Veterans Memorial Highway, 2A-1
Hauppauge, NY 11788