Statement to the Sag Harbor Village Mayor and Board of Trustees
Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Hello. I’m Dai Dayton, President of Friends of the Long Pond Greenbelt, and I and many of our board and members are here tonight to ask you to reconsider building a vehicle impound yard in the Long Pond Greenbelt. We know that Sag Harbor has received site plan approval for the project, but that does not change the fact that this project poses a threat to the fragile groundwater systems of the Greenbelt. We urge you to look for another more appropriate site.

To give you some of the background and reasoning for our conviction that this is the wrong location for the project, we are providing each of you with letters from local environmental and conservation organizations that spell out so powerfully why it is harmful to proceed with this project. You will be familiar with these organizations and individuals: Group for the East End, the Nature Conservancy, Assemblyman Fred Thiele and the Town Conservation Board among them. We urge you to read this information to understand why opposition to using this site as a vehicle impound yard is so strong.

And as complicated as finding an alternative location might be, we would like to believe there exists among the elected officials of Sag Harbor enough concern for our environment to find another location and to protect the Greenbelt by preserving this parcel. We call upon you, the leaders of the Village, to find somewhere else for an impound yard and to have the PSEG trucks, treated poles and equipment removed from this site.

Joining us are the over 500 people who have signed petitions in person or online, in just the past week. Every signature is a plea directed to you to do the right thing.

And that right thing is to protect our aquifer and this rare and unique chain of coastal plains ponds and wetlands, the Long Pond Greenbelt.

Thank you.