

TOWN OF SMITHTOWN

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JOANNE GRAY
TOWN COUNCILWOMAN

Honorable Eliot Spitzer
The State Capitol, Executive Chamber
Albany, New York 12224

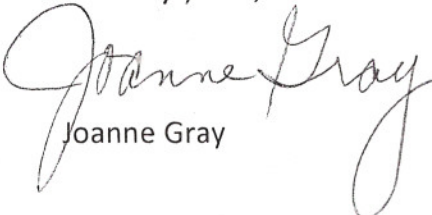
August 23, 2007

Dear Governor Spitzer:

I write to you on behalf of residents of Smithtown to request your assistance in an urgent matter affecting those citizens' health, safety and welfare. Their homes are experiencing constant flooding in varying degrees of severity due to high groundwater conditions. The number of homes involved is anywhere from a few hundred to as many as one thousand. The Town of Smithtown has been able to mitigate the problem to a very limited degree but a final solution has yet to be found, especially since two other townships are involved and their residents have a similar problem. As I believe you may understand, long term remediation, realistically speaking, is beyond the fiscal resources of Smithtown and its neighboring towns.

I would appreciate it if you would consider the use of discretionary funds through the Governor's office for short-term amelioration of this serious environmental problem such that residents will not be forced to leave their homes or the health of their families endangered. At the local level, frankly speaking, there has been too much talk and not enough action. Whatever the long-term solution may be, it is clear that help from the State is needed now. Would you please forward this request to the appropriate member of your staff for further action. I am available to discuss the matter in depth. I may be reached at the address and phone number listed above. Attached is an article from *Newsday*.

Sincerely yours,


Joanne Gray