

November 29, 2007 - Slaughter Joins Kenmore in Celebrating Completion of Delaware Streetscape

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, November 29, 2007

Rep. Slaughter Joins Village of Kenmore in Celebrating Completion of the Delaware Ave. Streetscape
Funds Secured by Rep. Slaughter Allow Village of Kenmore to Complete Revitalization Project

KENMORE, NY - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, today held a press conference in Kenmore with outgoing Mayor John Beaumont and Mayor-Elect Patrick Mang, along with Trustee's Sam Muscarella and Tim McCarthy to celebrate the completion of the Delaware Avenue Streetscape Project. The renovation of the Village's main street and heart of its business district was completed recently in large part due to the \$600,000 secured by Rep. Slaughter in the FY 2004 Transportation Appropriations bill.

"It has been four years since the Village of Kenmore embarked on the final phase of this worthy project and today we're here to celebrate the amazing transformation of Delaware Avenue," said Rep. Slaughter. "I commend the Village of Kenmore for having the foresight for this renovation, but also having the perseverance to see this project all the way through."

"With its completion, the Delaware Avenue Business District will be safer and more economically stable, meaning additional jobs and a healthier economy for Western New York," added Slaughter.

Mayor John Beaumont stated, "Congresswoman Slaughter's efforts were instrumental to the completion of this important project. Not only has Delaware Avenue been made safer through new sidewalks, it's improved general appearance has helped to draw people and businesses into this Walkable community." Mayor-Elect Patrick Mang added, "Thanks to her efforts Kenmore's Business District can stay competitive."

Congresswoman Slaughter secured the \$600,000 for the Delaware Avenue Streetscape project in the Fiscal Year 2004 Transportation Appropriations bill. The funds were used to finish the remaining five blocks of Delaware Avenue.

The Village of Kenmore was incorporated in 1899 from part of the Town of Tonawanda. The Village's main street and the heart of its business district is Delaware Avenue. Over the past twenty years, the business district has suffered from the overall adverse effects of the Western New York economy. In addition, the age of the buildings, unsafe sidewalks, and poor lighting have augmented the adverse impact on the Village business district. Consequently, there had been a significant increase in vacant properties and many of the existing businesses were struggling to compete. The poor condition of this well-traveled road and lack of curb appeal were cited by area businesses as to why businesses were failing in Kenmore. The Village relies heavily upon the tax base of the Business District for revenue and therefore had a keen interest in its economic revival.

The goal of the Delaware Avenue Streetscape Program is to assist in the recruitment and retention of businesses to Kenmore and to provide safe sidewalks for pedestrian traffic.

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