

Legislator Debra Mulé

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County Committees

Ranking:

Veterans, Senior Affairs & Aircraft Noise
Abatement

Member:

Public Safety, Minority Affairs,
Economic & Community Development, and
Towns, Villages & Cities

July 3, 2023

Hon. Bruce A. Blakeman
Nassau County Executive
1550 Franklin Avenue, Second Floor
Mineola, N.Y. 11501

RE: Next steps following Grand Avenue sewer main failure (Baldwin, N.Y.)

Dear County Executive Blakeman:

In the interest of following up on our conversations during the last week, I write today to call for a renewed focus in the forthcoming 2024 capital plan on accelerating our investments in updating and repairing Nassau County's aging infrastructure. This urgent need has been made painfully evident by last week's critical sewer main failure along Grand Avenue in Baldwin, which you advised will be closed through at least July 15 to facilitate emergency repairs.

Since being discovered on June 27, you and I have discussed how the negative environmental, public safety, and quality of life impacts stemming from this sewer main failure and sinkhole have only grown more severe for Baldwin residents with the passage of time. It is especially jarring to consider that this is the second time in less than a month that a sinkhole has severely damaged a major Nassau County roadway, as was experienced on Lido Boulevard on May 31.

Taken together, these incidents must serve as an urgent wake-up call for leaders at every level of government who are in service to the residents of Nassau County. Per our previous conversations, I have reached out directly to our federal representatives and implored them to expedite the delivery of federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funds earmarked for New York State and Nassau County.

No part of our County is immune from infrastructure failures like the ones we have witnessed during the last month, and this looming threat behooves us to act now to protect our environmental assets and secure the health and safety of all Nassau County residents. I look forward to working with your administration and my Legislative colleagues to make investments in our critical road, sewer, and drinking water infrastructure, prioritized based upon age, number of residents served, and current risk of failure, the top focus of Nassau's 2024 Capital Plan.

Sincerely,

Debra Mulé
Nassau County Legislator
Fifth Legislative District

Nassau County's 5th Legislative District includes:

Baldwin, Baldwin Harbor, Freeport, South Hempstead and parts of Merrick, Oceanside, and Rockville Centre