# **Huntington Station** A Review of Economic Development/Revitalization Initiatives 2003-2012 as of June 2012







# How does Huntington Station's Economic Development and Revitalization Program Work?

• Leverage governmental, community and business infrastructure to create economic development projects and foster revitalization and private investment

- Capital Investments in Huntington Station
  - Public
  - Private
  - Public/Private Partnerships

#### **TOH Economic Development Corporation**

Not for Profit Economic Development Corporation Formed by the Huntington Town Board in 2003

#### What the EDC is empowered to do:

- Acquire, construct, rehabilitate, operate and maintain commercial and recreational facilities
- Obtain and provide municipal improvements
- Provide managerial, technical and administrative advice to assist in the development of businesses
- Disseminate information, furnish advice and provide technical assistance to federal, state and local authorities
- Secure private and public funding for public purpose projects
- Develop and enter into public/private partnerships to foster economic development

#### **TOH Economic Development Corporation**

What we started with:

11 Board Members, an Executive Director and Legal Counsel from Huntington with professional backgrounds in:

- Architecture and Planning
- Engineering
- Real Estate, Sales, Leasing & Development
- Not for profit community services
- Accounting
- Banking
- General Business
- Municipal, Real Estate, Corporate, Land Use, Economic Dev. Law

Resources: A volunteer Board, which is benefited by its members' collective professional experience with support from the Town

Town of Huntington Economic Development Board of Directors and Officers as of June 18, 2012

**Officers/Directors:** 

Rob Ripp President & Chairman

David Pennetta Vice President & Vice Chairman

Jennifer Casey Secretary

Peggy Karayianakis Treasurer

**Additional Directors:** 

**Doug Aloise** 

Ken Christensen

Jim Kaden

Johanna Stewart-Suchow

**Dolores Thompson** 

Executive Director: Joan Cergol

Legal Counsel: Thomas D. Glascock

Summer 2012 Intern: Justin M. Sherlock

## Huntington Station Revitalization Partnership

| Zoning & Planning, Code<br>Enforcement<br>Building & Permitting<br>Financing/Bonding<br>Town Supervisor and<br>Board Committed to HS<br>Revitalization | Town of<br>Huntington              | Community                          | Huntington School District<br>South Huntington School District<br>Greater Huntington Civic Group<br>Huntington Station Action<br>NOW Coalition<br>Huntington NAACP<br>Huntington Hispanic Task Force<br>Huntington Station Latin Quarter<br>Porter-Trejo Action Network<br>Others |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Renaissance Downtowns,<br>LLC, Master Developer for<br>Huntington Station as of<br>April 2012<br>Land and Buildings<br>Private Equity & Financin       | Developers<br>Businesses<br>HS BID | TOH EDC,<br>CDA, New<br>York State | Public Infrastructure<br>Improvements<br>Public Land<br>Project Pre-Development<br>Work /Entitlements   |
| Market supported business<br>models<br>Risk /Return Tolerance  | 5                                  |                                    | Public Private Partnerships<br>Access to Federal, State<br>and Local Grant Programs   |

#### Timeline

#### **Initial Planning Activities 2003-2004**

- Completed economic and demographic analysis
- Conducted commuter parking survey of surface lots
- Conducted Shoppers' Survey to over 19,000 households
- Analyzed the Town's proposed Huntington Station Business Overlay District; made recommendations and suggested guidelines that would support downtown redevelopment objectives

#### Timeline

#### Planning Activities 2003-2004, continued

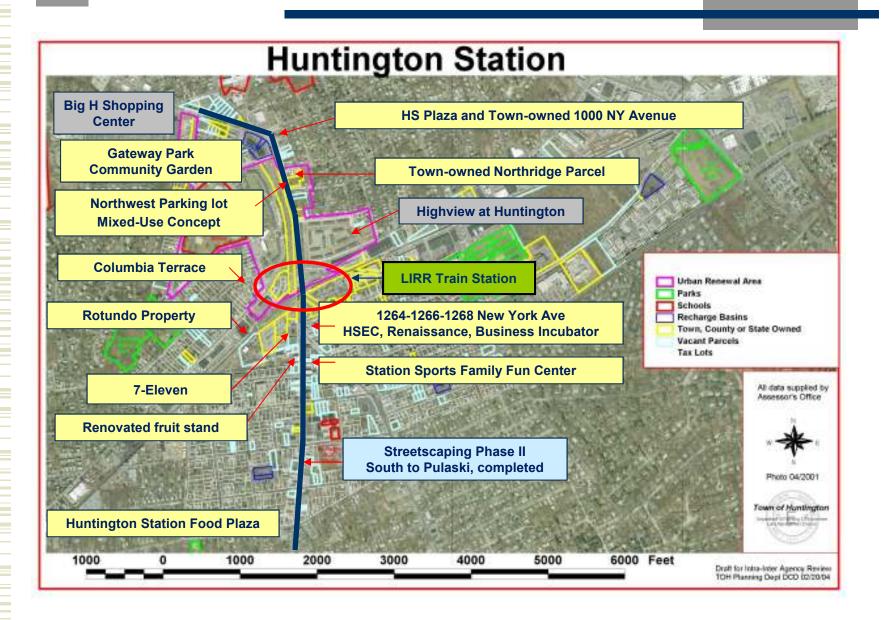
- Identified project-based development opportunities with community input
  - Northridge Street mixed-use development project
  - New York Avenue Streetscaping & Pedestrian Plaza
  - Gateway Park
  - Grocery Store and Retail development
  - Train Station Enhancements & Redevelopment
- Town Board adopted EDC Economic Development Initiatives Report outlining above projects
- Town Board created Huntington Station Business Improvement District
- Secured first project funding (for New York Avenue Streetscaping) via a \$500,000 federal appropriation from Congressman Steve Israel

\$500,000 toward New York Avenue Streetscaping Project Budget

\$2.5 million to go....



March 2003



#### Financial Investment in Huntington Station since inception

| Private Investment             | Approx.<br>Expenditure | Public Investment          | Approx.<br>Expenditure |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 7-Eleven Redevelopment         |                        | Streetscaping Phase I & II | \$1,450,000.00         |
| Plum Crazy Renovation          | \$300,000.00           | Take Back the Blocks       | \$3,500,000.00         |
| New Grocery Store (Bravo)      | \$250,000.00           | 1264-1268 NY Ave           | \$1,300,000.00         |
| D'Jan's Meats                  | \$75,000.00            | Gateway Park               | \$1,415,000.00         |
| El Picacho Catracho Grill      | \$200,000.00           | Manor Field Park           | \$1,700,000.00         |
| Botticelli Portrait Studio     | \$125,000.00           | Train Station Garage       | \$100,000.00           |
| Palacios Law Offices           | \$150,000.00           | Train Station Car Charger  | \$138,500.00           |
| Dunkin' Donuts (by Big H)      | \$1,500,000.00         | Façade Improvements        | \$50,000.00            |
| Assembly of God<br>Gymnatorium | \$2,100,000.00         | Columbia Street Park       | \$75,000.00            |
| Station Sports                 | \$1,600,000.00         | Gateway Ret. Wall/Fence    | \$330,000.00           |
| Total:                         | \$7,800,000.00         | Pedestrian Plaza           | \$975,000.00           |
|                                |                        | Pedestrian Plaza Art       | \$65,000.00            |
|                                |                        | Total:                     | \$11,098,500.00        |

#### Huntington Station Grant Awards since 2004:

\$50,000 Suffolk County Downtown Beautification & Renewal Grant (Train Sta.) \$150,000 HUD Special EDI grant (planning) Federal Government via Congressman Steve Israel (NY Ave \$500,000 sidewalks) Town of Huntington Capital Fund (Broadway signalization) \$125,000 \$1,050,000 Town of Huntington, Neighborhood Enhancements bond (Phase I) \$50,000 Suffolk County Downtown Revitalization Round 5 (Hunt. Stat. Plaza) NYS Empire State Dev. Corp. Restore II Grant (Columbia Terrace) \$1,560,000 \$777,000 Suffolk County and Town Affordable Housing Trust Funds (50/50) Suffolk Co. Dept. of Economic Development (Infrastructure, Columbia) \$100,000 \$50,000 Suffolk County Downtown Revitalization Round 6 (Hunt. Station Pedestrian Plaza Art) \$1,215,000 Town of Huntington Neighborhood Enhancements bond (Phase II) \$35,000 Suffolk County Downtown Revitalization Round 7 (East Second St.) \$13,500 Suffolk County Downtown Revitalization Round 8 (May Street Lot) \$150,000 Suffolk Co. Dept. of Economic Dev. (Business Incubator construction) Federal Stimulus Package/CDBG (Business Incubator construction) \$198,000

CONTINUED.....

#### Grant funding received since 2004 (cont.):

\$1,170,000 NYS Empire State Dev. Corp. Restore III Grant (1000 NY Ave) \$41,000 Town of Huntington Open Space Bond (1000 NY Avenue) \$45,000 Town of Huntington, Green Energy Bond (Rainwater harvesting garden) \$125,000 Town of Huntington Open Space Bond (Gateway Park) \$120,000 Town of Huntington Open Space Bond (Gateway Park) \$350,000 Town of Huntington Open Space Bond (Gateway Park retaining wall) New York Main Street Grant (1264 New York Avenue) \$200,000 \$100,000 New York Main Street Grant (1268 New York Avenue) HUD Special EDI grant (to make 1268 NY Ave LEED Certified) \$200,000 \$100,000 New York State Brownfields Opportunity Area Grant (HS Planning) \$240,000 New York State Brownfields Opportunity Area Grant (HS Planning) New York State Energy Research & Development Authority Grant \$138,500 (Huntington Station Electric Car Charging Station)

TOTAL GRANT MONEY EARNED SINCE 2004: **\$8,853,000.000** 

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#### Planning Activities 2004-2005

□Presented project-based development plan to elected officials: federal, state, county and town

- □ Identified funding and resource requirements
- Secured planning dollars (for engineers, architects, surveys & studies)
- Property Acquisitions: funding, conveyance, condemnation
  - Gateway parcels by acquisitions (via EOSPA)
  - Northridge by conveyance
  - Rotundo by condemnation
  - Streetscaping and Plaza by Use & Occupancy Agreement
  - Funding secured for design, engineering and construction
- Required support of Town Board & all Town Departments

#### **Activities 2005-2006**

Designated May street commuter lot as a general municipal lot to support retail development

- Enacted Huntington Station Business Overlay District
- □ Town conveyed Northridge property to EDC for redevelopment
- Conducted developer meetings

□ Hired architect and engaged engineers to plan a mixed-use development at Northridge Street; secured planning dollars from Town

✓ Architect and Engineers design 15,000 square foot retail and cultural use building

EDC secured all zoning and entitlements, including IDA inducement

EDC issued RFP and selected developer

✓ EDC entered into Ground Lease with developer and Developer's Agreement at year-end in 2006





#### 15,000 sq ft Northridge Street Building

Town-owned land from Urban Renewal vacant for 40 years

EDC completed all pre-development work:

•Site Planning and Engineering

•Zoning Variance Approvals

- •Planning Board Approval
- •Design Development
- •Building Permits secured

#### Activities 2005-2006, continued

Secured \$1.050 million in EOSPA (Town) funds for Streetscaping and Plaza

Commenced and completed Phase I Streetscaping west side of New York Avenue (approximately \$700,000) from Academy to Railroad

Purchased 1264-1268 New York Avenue (Enrichment Center)

□Town acquired first three Gateway Park parcels for \$875,000

Assisted/expedited redevelopment of private properties

□ Submitted New York State Brownfield Opportunity Area Grant Application to secure \$100,000 in planning monies for Huntington Station revitalization projects and to secure technical assistance from the New York State Department of State

#### Phase I Construction - East Side of New York Avenue



Removed existing sidewalk and portion of parking lot

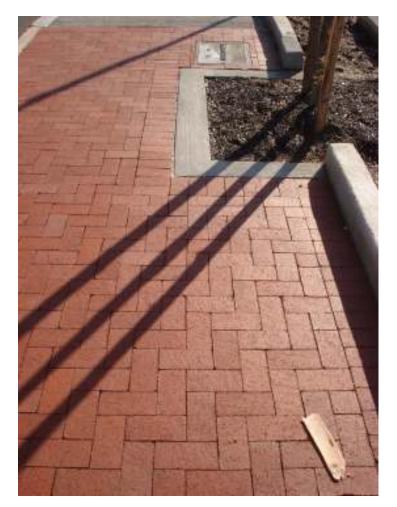


**Completed installation** 

#### **Phase I Construction**



Removed existing sidewalk and portion of parking lot

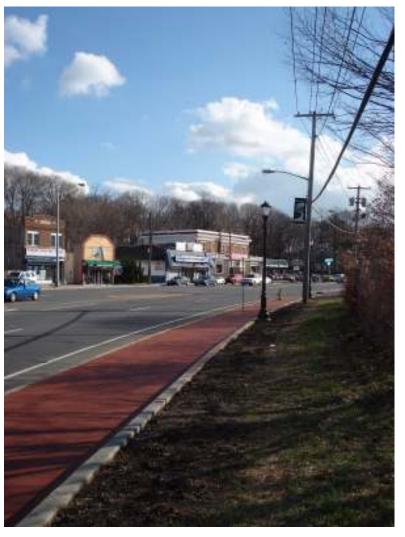


Street tree shadows return

#### **Phase I Construction**

#### Looking south from Academy Place





#### **Phase I Construction**



Trenching for electrical cabling



**Completed installation** 

#### Phase I Construction – Pedestrian scale is re-established



Looking northeast from parking lot with Yankee Peddler across the street



Looking south from former location of Huntington Station Firehouse

Phase I Construction – Trees and neighborhood enhancements start to dominate versus a highway and parking lots



Looking north to the site of the future Huntington Station Plaza



#### Activities 2007

- Secured balance of funds for Streetscaping and Plaza of \$1.465 million
  - EOSPA (Town) \$1.215 million
  - Suffolk County \$100 thousand
  - HUD Grant (federal) \$148 thousand

#### • Fully-funded for streetscaping and Plaza: \$3.015 million

- Hired architect and engineers to design and engineer Pedestrian Plaza
- Negotiated changes in the design of the Plaza to accommodate Starbucks
- Assisted owner of vacant Jiffy Lube for property's redevelopment
- Rehabilitated1264-1268 New York Avenue for \$600,000

Jiffy Lube property demolished and redeveloped as new 7-Eleven downtown village prototype built to the sidewalk line, with sidewalk entrance and attractive awnings; Town approves pedestrian and vehicular access to commuter lot directly behind store as a convenience to commuters

Acquired fourth Gateway parcel from Suffolk County for \$7,000





Current View. Note: 1000 NY Ave white building since demolished





Plaza Development at New York Avenue and Olive Street Transformation of 17,000 sq ft NYS right of way into a pedestrian friendly, aesthetically pleasing pedestrian plaza with public art installation (limestone sculptural benches). Plaza construction fully funded

Status: Construction to begin August 2012

**Current View** 



#### **Phase II Streetscaping**

New sidewalks, street trees and decorative street lighting on the east and west sides of New York Avenue from Olive Street south to Pulaski Road

#### Status:

Construction commenced March 28, 2011 and was completed by the end of the summer 2011





Approximately 1.3 acres of land at the corner of New York Avenue & Lowndes Avenue have been been purchased by the Town under its Open Space Program for the development of a future park. Interim use of land is as a community garden under a license agreement with Long Island Community Agriculture Network (LICAN). A parcel owned by New York State will be transferred to the Town in 2012. Additional parcels are expected in 2012 to complete the park.

#### Park Development: Gateway Community Garden



Gateway Park Community Garden first opened to the public during the summer of 2010. The park property is shown here as of June 2012.

#### Huntington Station Enrichment Center, Renaissance Huntington Station Office & Future Business Incubator



| Acquisition Cost                                  | \$100,000 |
|---|-----------|
| First Phase Rehabilitation (Enrichment Center)    | \$600,000 |
| Second Phase Rehabilitation (Business Incubator)* | \$666,485 |
| Total Investment: \$1,366,485                     |           |

\* \$18,315 from CDBG Funds, \$150,000 from Suffolk County, \$100,000 from New York Main Street Grant; \$200,000 from federal through Congressman Israel (for materials for LEED certification and solar panels) & \$198,170 CDBG Stimulus Funds

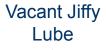
#### Activities 2008

- Private investment and redevelopment along New York Avenue are realized
  - Jiffy Lube property demolished and redeveloped as new 7-Eleven downtown village prototype built to the sidewalk line, sidewalk entrance and attractive awnings, Opens Dec 2008
  - Dunkin Donuts, site of former tire shop, redeveloped
  - Law Offices of Palacios and Associates
  - Botticelli Portrait studio established
  - Landscaping improvements made to Huntington Station Public Library (\$50,000 from 7-Eleven redevelopment)

**Private Investment in Huntington Station** 

# New 7-Eleven Opened 2009

Site of former abandoned Jiffy Lube





#### **Private Investment in Huntington Station**



Xavier Palacios Law Offices

1399 New York Avenue

#### **Private Investment in Huntington Station**



Botticelli Portrait Studio

1904 New York Avenue

**Private Investment in Huntington Station** 

Assembly of God "Gymnatorium" 1700 New York Avenue



#### **Private Investment in Huntington Station**



1335 NY Avenue Huntington Public Library, Station Branch (landscaping improvements completed with donation from Huntington Station 7-Eleven)

### Activities 2008 continued

>Amended HS Overlay district to allow Starbucks a drive-though window

New York Community Bank Committed to finance Northridge Project

- Commissioned architect to develop preliminary program for mixed-use development project at northwest parking lot
- Spring 2008 Economy falters at the start of the sub-prime mortgage market collapse
  - Bear Stearns collapses March 2008
  - Lehman Brothers declares bankruptcy Sept 2008
  - Commercial lending and real estate development cease

EDC and Developer renegotiate design and finishes for Northridge to reduce estimated \$3 million construction costs

Considered concessions proposed by developer to keep Northridge project viable

- Finalized Public Art component for plaza
- Developed scope for first New York State BOA planning grant of \$100,000
- Gannet Fleming selected as BOA consultant

Rendering showing conceptual northwest parking lot redevelopment, Shovel-ready Northridge building and pedestrian plaza



Conceptual Northwest Parking Lot/Mixed Use Center



#### Conceptual Redevelopment Northwest Parking Lot Mixed Use Residential/Retail



PROPOSED SITE ARAL VEW





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CARD FILE PARTY

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SECOND FLOOR PLAN manager Barris Barre

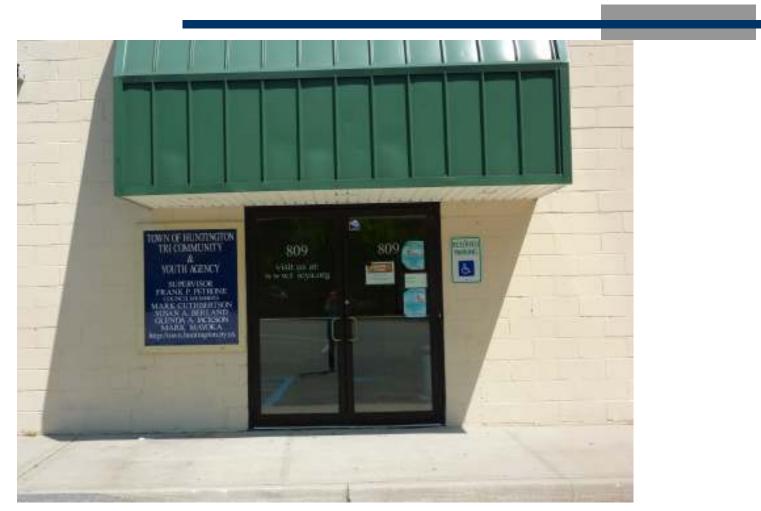
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# Improvements Along NY Avenue South of Train Station



Huntington Station revitalization began in 1999 with a \$30 million redevelopment of Big H Shopping Center with National Tenant Roster, including a 9,000 sq. ft.
Town of Huntington Community Center. This shopping center was once mostly vacant and commercially obsolete. Big H property Currently owned by Vornado Realty Trust

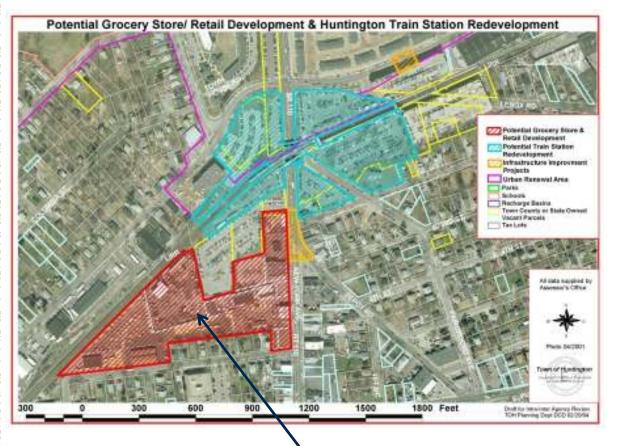


Huntington Big H Community Center Managed by TRI-Community & Youth Agency, funded by Town of Huntington



Redeveloped Big H Shopping Center with National Tenant Roster

### BOA (Brownfield Opportunity Area)



Potential Redevelopment opportunities of Rotundo, Town parking and surrounding lots to be solicited from community through BOA process and Renaissance Downtowns, LLC NYS Grant of \$100K for Market Development Analysis: Townowned Rotundo Site and Mixed Use Site

Additional \$240K Received for Development Advisory. BOA Steering Committee recomprised; Step 2 kick off meeting held March 27, 2012, small group meetings underway

#### Rotundo Site and Potential Commuter Parking Redevelopment - Current Views



Deli Food Market looking towards NY Ave

Sailmaker site looking toward Rotundo entrance in extreme background



Rotundo site behind Deli Food Market



#### Activities 2009 - 2010

EDC/NYCB and Developer jointly work to overcome impediments to development of Northridge Project, September 2009

EDC serves Northridge developer with notice of default and of intention to dissolve the Developers Agreements and associated Ground Lease, November 2009

EDC commissions economic and market feasibility update for project, December 2009

- > EDC hosts developer roundtables on project to get market insight, January 2010
- ► Gateway Park Community Garden opens, June 2010

➤ The EDC researches and initiates Shot Spotter technology for Huntington Station. Meeting with company and Suffolk County Police arranged, July 27, 2010.

≻Town closes on Doxey property at Gateway Park, August 4, 2010

#### Activities 2010 - 2011

>Huntington Station Code Enforcement/SCPD Annex opens, August 20, 2010

EDC testifies out in Riverhead to support Legislator Cooper's bill to enable SCPD to perform a ShotSpotter assessment, October 12, 2010

Town acquires 1000 New York Avenue, Huntington Station via eminent domain, October 15, 2010

≻Town closes on Marcinka property at Gateway Park, November 5, 2010

>Dentist Office at 1266 New York Avenue opens, November 2010

Cooper's funding resolution for Shot Spotter approved, December 21, 2010.

EDC holds special board meeting to introduce Station Family Fun Center development to community, January 25, 2011

#### Activities 2011

- Environmental Abatement completed at 1000 New York Avenue, February 2011
- 1000 New York Avenue demolished, March 11, 2011
- RFP for redevelopment of 1000 New York Avenue released, March 11, 2011
- Phase II Streetscaping commences March 28, 2011.
- Huntington Food Plaza, 2035 NY Ave, opens April 8, 2011
- Huntington Station Business Incubator renovation substantially completed, April 12, 2011
- Request for Qualifications for a Master Developer for Huntington Station released, April 20, 2011



## 1000 New York Avenue Redevelopment



Building demolition commenced March 11, 2011. Site is now cleared and ready for redevelopment Property under study by Renaissance Downtowns, LLC

The Town acquired the blighted property at 1000 New York Avenue in October 2010 to facilitate its redevelopment by the private sector. A \$1 million grant has been secured from Empire State **Development Corporation** to develop a new twostory 10,800 sq. ft. mixed use building to be known as the Plaza Retail Center (basement, first floor, second floor to be 3,600 sq. ft each).

An RFP was released on March 11, 2011 to invite various redevelopment scenarios. No qualified responses were received.

#### Activities 2011

- > Appraisal of Northridge property completed, April 12, 2011
- Station Sports Family Fun Center site plan approved, April 27, 2011
- Rezone of Columbia Terrace development properties, May 3, 2011
- Construction begins on Paramount Theater, Huntington Village, May 2011 (EDC Chair Rob Ripp and Vice Chairman David Pennetta served as the Co-Chairs of the Performing Arts Task Force to secure a performing arts tenant at former IMAC Theater site)
- Broadway/New York Avenue retaining wall at Huntington Train Station replaced, May 2011
- Construction begins on Station Sports Family Fun Center, May 2011

#### Activities 2011

- Two proposals received in response to Request for Proposals (RFP) for the redevelopment of 1000 New York Avenue on May 25, 2011.
- Two proposals received in response to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a Master Developer for Huntington Station on June 1, 2011.
- Gateway Park Retaining Wall Replacement project funded by Huntington Town Board on June 6, 2011.
- RFP & RFQ responses evaluated by reviewing Committee, June 14, 2011

#### Activities 2011

Phase II Streetscaping completed in October 2011



Left: Before streetscaping and façade renovations at 1266 New York Ave, looking north. Right: After Before streetscaping and façade renovations at 1266 New York Ave, looking south.

#### Activities 2011

#### Huntington Station Pedestrian Plaza

>EDI Special Projects grant funding used by Town to finance a portion of the limestone sculptural benches in the Plaza. Approved November 1, 2011.

≻Construction will begin in August 2012.



#### Activities 2011

▶1000 New York Ave and Northridge Property are now under study by Master Developer

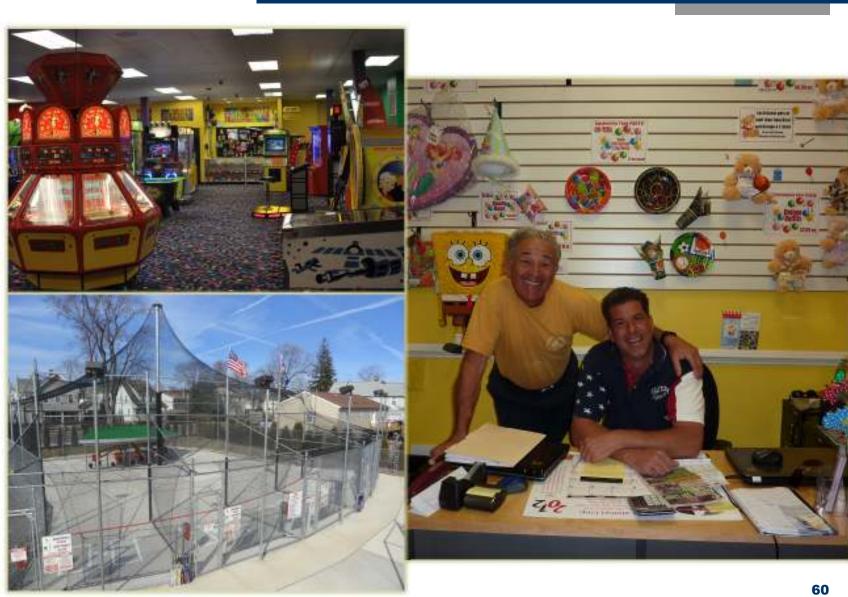


#### Activities 2012

Station Sports opens January, 2012. Has been successful thus far at attracting customers from Huntington and all over the island, with a busy weekend schedule of kids' birthday parties.







#### Activities 2012

▶12 Academy Place (Merksamer Property): Town Board approved acquisition June 19, 2012 under Open Space Program. Town to apply for CFA Round 2 grant funds to renovate the farmhouse.



#### Activities 2012

Gateway Park RetainingWall installed April 2012.

Clockwise: Before the retaining wall installation, after the retaining wall installation, and before park's existence (sidewalk view looking south along Route 110).





#### Activities 2012

➢ Renaissance, Town and EDC sign agreement in April 2012. Renaissance to occupy 1266 New York Ave by end of June 2012.



#### Activities 2012

► Town anticipates state transfer of former NYS Armory in 2012 to the Town of Huntington for use as a community center.





