

KATHLEEN M. RICE  
4TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK



COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
RANKING MEMBER, COUNTERTERRORISM  
AND INTELLIGENCE  
OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
1508 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5516

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-3204

COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS  
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
229 7TH STREET, SUITE 300  
GARDEN CITY, NY 11530  
(516) 739-3008

WWW.KATHLEENRICE.HOUSE.GOV

April 9, 2018

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

One positive result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 is the establishment of Opportunity Zones, which will incentivize the long-term investment of private capital into low-income communities. I urge you to designate the eligible tracts in New York's 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and help accelerate the efforts of local communities to revitalize for the future.

There are a number of eligible areas of the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District that would greatly benefit from being designated. The area that could most benefit is Hempstead, which has "severe economic distress" census tracts. The Hempstead area is ready for increased investment in the people who live and work there.

Designating the other eligible tracts in NY-4 would also help Long Island as a whole prosper. Freeport has made transit-oriented development and downtown revitalization a priority in order to help retain both younger and older residents. As Long Beach continues to recover from Superstorm Sandy, it is looking at how it can use the land in the eligible tract more deliberately and efficiently—that is, more resilient to flooding and also adding resources the community needs, such as parks, child care, and employers. New Cassel, which you designated in 2015 as a Brownfield Opportunity Area, is actively working to improve quality of life and increase economic opportunity.

Revitalized communities nationwide rely on a mix of varied investments: housing of all types, commercial, entertainment, retail, and tourism. Whenever I speak to constituents, lower taxes and broadening the tax base is a primary concern. I also hear from parents who are concerned that their schools may close, young adults who want to afford to live and work in the Nassau County they call home, and from small business owners who want a vibrant local economy. I urge you to invest in the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and designate our eligible tracts as Opportunity Zones.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress

cc: President/CEO of Empire State Development Howard Zensky  
Long Island Regional Economic Development Council Co-Chair Stuart Rabinowitz  
Long Island Regional Economic Development Council Co-Chair Kevin Law

