



TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN
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**Brookhaven IDA Helps Bellport-Based Long Island Precast
Expand Manufacturing Business and Create More Jobs**

New \$2.9 million manufacturing facility will be completed in Spring 2012

Farmingville, NY – Supervisor Mark Lesko and Brookhaven Industrial Development Agency (IDA) Chairman Fred Braun have announced that Bellport-based, Long Island Precast has started construction on a new, 25,000 sq. ft. building which will allow them to expand their business and create more than 10 new jobs. The new building will cost \$2.9 million and construction is expected to take 12 months to complete. The company, which has been in business since 1985, manufactures precast concrete products including drainage and utility structures, catch basins, manholes and industrial shielding. Private financing for the project was secured through Suffolk Federal Credit Union with the assistance of the Brookhaven IDA.

The new facility will be used to manufacture a number of products that are currently produced by out of state companies and shipped to worksites on Long Island. According to company president Mike Verruto, Sr., the new products that Long Island Precast will produce include wall panels, utility buildings and retaining walls. The new building will also house a state-of-the-art, New York State Department of Transportation approved product testing facility. Supporting local manufacturers is consistent with Suffolk County Legislator Wayne Horsley's Long Island First Initiative, which encourages people to buy goods made on Long Island.

"Without the help of Supervisor Lesko and the Brookhaven IDA, this expansion would still be on the drawing board," said Mr. Verruto. "We had it on the back burner for a while, but the Supervisor heard about it and called me. We met in his office and he encouraged me to get it done." He added, "After that, the IDA staff helped make the process seamless, and painless too."

"There is a common misconception that manufacturing is dying on Long Island, but the expansion of Long Island Precast shows that the industry is still growing," said Supervisor Lesko, "In this uncertain economic climate, companies need more help to grow their business and it is important that local government takes a leading role in that effort."

Councilman Tim Mazzei, who serves as Town Board liaison to the IDA said, "Creating new construction and manufacturing jobs is essential to the economy of Brookhaven Town and this new project for Long Island Precast provides both in a big way. Today, many companies are reluctant to expand their business, but they need to know that the IDA can help."

“Long Island Precast has been such an integral part of the local economy for over 25 years,” said Councilwoman Connie Keper. “Their decision to expand and create more jobs is a good sign that the future of manufacturing in Brookhaven is bright and I commend the IDA for helping them move ahead with their plans.” Long Island Precast will be expanding in Councilwoman Keper’s district.

Brookhaven IDA Chairman Fred Braun said, “Since being established over 30 years ago, the Town of Brookhaven's Industrial Development Agency's mission has been to encourage businesses to locate or expand in the Town.” He continued, “Long Island Precast took advantage of the benefits that the IDA offers which are granted based on the creation of new jobs, and with the economy beginning to improve, its great to see their decision to expand their business. We also welcome the Suffolk County Federal Union as a financing partner in the transaction.”

Long Island Precast currently employs 25 people in their Bellport manufacturing facility. Their clients include a number of local municipalities and private companies on Long Island as well as Brookhaven National Laboratory and Stony Brook University.

The Brookhaven Industrial Development Agency provides incentives to facilitate the acquisition, construction, reconstruction and equipping of commercial and industrial projects in the Town of Brookhaven to create jobs. Projects may be eligible for financing and tax incentives. The Brookhaven Industrial Development Agency has been pro-active in not just attracting and retaining businesses, but also focusing the private sector on redevelopment. For more information about the Brookhaven IDA, please call Lisa Mulligan at 631-451-6563.

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