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NEWS RELEASE

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GREEN GROUP ANNOUNCES ENDORSEMENTS

LI. Environmental Voters Forum Makes Candidate Picks

For Immediate Release

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The Long Island Environmental Voters Forum has announced its endorsements for this fall's elections. They are intended to aid voters for whom the environment is a priority. The group endorsed Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi, seven Town Supervisors, 21 County Legislators, 12 Town Council members and two Town Trustees.

The Environmental Voters Forum narrowly endorsed Suozzi "because of Ed Mangano's long-time support for environmental causes," said Voters Forum Chairman Richard Amper, "but the Board thought Suozzi had earned another term for his environmental work."

The environmentalists endorsed challenger Anna Throne-Holst for Supervisor of Southampton — a priority endorsement — as well as incumbents Jon Kaiman, Kate Murray and John Venditto in Nassau and Steve Bellone, Frank Petrone, and James Dougherty in Suffolk.

The Environmental Voters Forum supported the re-election of Nassau County Legislators Dianne Yatauro, Peter Schmitt, Norma Gonsalves, Denise Ford, Judi Bosworth, and Wayne Wink, as well as challengers, Rosemarie Walker, Joseph Belesi and Fred Jones. In Suffolk, LIEVF backed incumbents Ed Romaine, Kate Browning Jack Eddington, John Kennedy, Lynne Nowick, Dan Losquadro, Brian Beedenbender, Wayne Horsely, Steven Stern, Louis D'Amaro and Jon Cooper. The environmental group chose Thomas Cilmi in the open seat formerly held by term-limited Cameron Alden.

In Town Council races, the green group made the re-election of Brookhaven Town Councilwoman Jane Bonner, a priority. The environmentalists also endorsed incumbents Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld in Brookhaven, Stuart Beson and Mark Culberthson in Huntington, Dorothy Goosby in Hempstead and Sally Pope in Southampton. They endorsed challengers Bridget Fleming in Southampton, James Morgo in Islip, Erin Reilly, Chris Choschignano and Matthew Meng in Oyster Bay. Meng is a LIEVF Board member taking a leave of absence from the group. The LIEVF Board also endorsed Tom Schiliro in the Democratic Primary for Town Council in Brookhaven's Sixth Council District and two insurgent candidates for Southampton Town Trustee, Bill Pell and Chris Garvey.

"The candidates the Long Island Environmental Voters Forum endorsed represent the best promise that the environment will be a priority in county and town government in the new legislative terms," Amper said. "Most Long Islanders consider themselves environmentalists but their leaders have not always followed suit. These candidates are most likely to be environmental leaders in the years to come." The Environmental Voters Forum put off endorsements in the Towns of East Hampton and Riverhead because of what the group called "the environmental turmoil there" and are considering decisions in races they called "very problematic."

The Long Island Environmental Voters Forum is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots organization created to identify, recruit, endorse, support, train and actively campaign for pro-environment candidates for public office.