



**STATEMENT BY RYAN STANTON, LONG ISLAND FEDERATION OF LABOR, AFL-CIO  
TO THE SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE:**

**WE SUPPORT SUFFOLK COUNTY ENTERING INTO AN MOA WITH JONES LANG  
LASALLE AS THE MASTER DEVELOPER OF THE "RONKONKOMA SOUTH" PROPERTY**

**Hauppauge – June 5, 2018**

I stand before you today on behalf of the Long Island Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO to speak in support of resolution number 1480 approval of the memorandum of agreement (MOA) designating Jones Lang LaSalle the master developer of the "*Ronkonkoma South Project*." Specifically, we support giving an eight month exclusive due diligence period to the master developer to fund and conduct assessments on community impact, traffic studies, zoning, and necessary infrastructure improvements as well as all other activities to support site development.

We support the Ronkonkoma Visioning Implementation Committee in their efforts to move this community planning vision forward. In the event the developer produces satisfactory answers through the due diligence process it is our hope that quality jobs can be counted among them. History has shown that good union jobs provide a path to the middle class, and are at the core of stronger and more vibrant communities.

We believe by making this designation you are giving the community, working families, economic development officials, and you, our elected leaders, an opportunity to review a detailed proposal rather than conceptual plans. This project could mean jobs and income for the members of our labor movement. For the community, it could mean opportunities and careers, first class entertainment, and an obvious next step for redevelopment of an area already undergoing economic growth to the north. Let's make Ronkonkoma south a part of that growth.

We urge adoption of resolution number 1480 so that JLL has an opportunity to make a detailed proposal. It puts us on track for local improvement on both the north and south sides of the Ronkonkoma Hub.



**STATEMENT BY RYAN STANTON, POLITICAL DIRECTOR  
LONG ISLAND FEDERATION OF LABOR, AFL-CIO  
TO THE GOVERNOR, MTA, LIRR AND NYS DOT  
HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK**

**January 18, 2017**

I want to thank Governor Cuomo, the MTA, the Long Island Rail Road and New York State Department of Transportation for addressing the Long Island Railroad enhancement project. The Long Island labor movement sees this as a top priority. I am here to testify on behalf of the Long Island Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, representing over 250,000 union members and their families in Suffolk and Nassau Counties, all of whom live in a region that stands to benefit economically in a significant way should this project move forward. I would also add that I am also here as a young professional that has decided to work, live and play here on Long Island.

The importance of this project has been well documented for many years. The issues it would alleviate are just as well documented. Service delays, air and noise pollution, traffic and congestion have all become part of our daily lives and only grown more severe as the infrastructure of the Long Island Railroad has continued to age. The proposed project provides substantial benefits: improves service on the mainline, which moves 40 percent of the LIRR's daily ridership; eliminates seven grade crossings, which directly eliminates a significant number of the 3,000 horn blasts that occur daily at the grade level crossings along this corridor; installs sound attenuation walls along the railroads right-of-way; upgrades and modernizes track infrastructure such as switches, signals, and power equipment.

Our position remains grounded in the concept that those most closely impacted need to be engaged throughout this process. Many of the improvements and changes about the proposed project such as building out within the existing right of way, the grade crossing eliminations and improvements on noise pollution are a direct result of quality and constructive discussion between the community and the project team.

This project is significant for our labor movement and the entire Long Island economy. Our workforce stands to gain 14,000 jobs over a ten year period. These jobs represent a \$3 billion increase in personal income within our region. These numbers do not include the one-time benefit accrued over a five year period of \$910 million in increased personal income and the 2,250 construction jobs that would fund those incomes.