

July 29, 2013

I am writing on behalf of North Atlantic Canoe and Kayak (NACK) in support of the proposal to extend the South Shore Blueway throughout the South Shore Estuary Reserve being submitted by Going Coastal, Inc.

Going Coastal, Inc. is taking a leadership role to apply for support and funding for the inventory, mapping, planning and community outreach for the development of a new network of water access in the eastern reach of the South Shore Estuary Reserve to connect trails across Long Island's south shore for people in nonmotorized boats to enjoy the scenic and environmental richness of the south shore. We serve on the Blueway Advisory Committee for trail development currently ending at the Nassau/Suffolk county-line. We support extending the water trail on the south shore of Suffolk County.

North Atlantic Canoe and Kayak (NACK) serves paddling interests throughout the Northeastern United States. Our role in this project is to provide local knowledge to determine where facilities are needed, to attend public meetings, and lend a hand at volunteer events on and off the water.

There is a need for a comprehensive plan, and that we should be able to tell people about legal ways to enter the water—improving both public access and water safety. In this effort, we were pleased to partner with Going Coastal, Inc. as they seek support and funding for the continuance of south Shore Blueway Trail development on the south shore.

See you on the water,

<u>Steve McDonald</u> Director