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TOWN OF IRONDEQUOIT DEDICATES NEW DPW FACILITY

Today, Irondequoit Supervisor Dave Seeley joined members of the area's State and Federal legislative delegation, Town and County officials, and others to dedicate the Town of Irondequoit's new Department of Public Works (DPW) facility. Seeley announced that the project has been completed on-time and under budget.

This dedication comes nearly 34 months after a devastating Christmas Eve 2016 fire destroyed roughly half of the Town's former DPW facility and 17 Town vehicles, including a major portion of the Town's Sanitation Fleet. In the aftermath of the fire, with no permanent facility, the Town's DPW was confronted with both the March 2017 wind storm and subsequent flooding of Lake Ontario – which, throughout both events, it went above and beyond serving the Town's residents.

"As the old cliché goes: 'It's not how you fall; it's how you get up.' The Town of Irondequoit, as an organization, experienced a near disastrous event in late 2016," said Supervisor Seeley. "Not even three years removed from the fire, I am so proud of the way we have looked adversity in the eye and emerged an even stronger organization that now has the finest DPW facility in the region. This new building will immediately make our organization more effective in serving the Irondequoit public."

Within hours of the fire, on Christmas Day 2016, Seeley and DPW Commissioner Bob Kiley were already exploring the possibility of a land-swap with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), utilizing space adjacent to NYS-590, which has long been used as a staging area for woody-debris disposal during large storm event. The Town and NYSDOT worked diligently to execute the land transfer by the end of 2017, allowing the Town to break ground in the Spring of 2018.

The 74,000 square-foot facility is double the size of the previous DPW operations center and will provide for proper storage and maintenance of the Town's several dozen heavyduty vehicles and pieces of equipment. Included is vastly upgraded technology to provide for much more efficient delivery of services, as well as adequate emergency operations space. Furthermore, the Town worked to install solar panels atop the roof that will significantly lower the operating costs of the facility.

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"The completion of Irondequoit's new DPW is a testament to the resiliency and unwavering commitment of Supervisor Seeley and his team at Town Hall," said Congressman Joe Morelle. "It is further proof of the progress we are making as a community to move Irondequoit forward. I am grateful to the Town of Irondequoit, the Department of Transportation, and the many partners who came together after unprecedented challenges to recover, rebuild, and restore stability to our community."

The \$17 million project – the largest the Town of Irondequoit has ever undertaken - was funded, in part through \$2.125 million in legislative grants secured by former-Assembly Majority Leader Morelle and Senator Rich Funke. The balance of the project was funded through municipal bonds, a NYS Clean Energy Communities grant, capital reserves and proceeds of the insurance claim from the 2016 fire.

"The completion of this state of the art DPW facility is a great example of what public officials at all levels can accomplish when they work together toward a common goal," said Senator Rich Funke (R-C-I, Fairport). "I congratulate Supervisor Seeley on the completion of this project which will lead to a more efficient delivery of services to residents and serve as a point of pride for us all."

"This transformative project demonstrates the power of State and Local co-operation to improve people's lives," said Assemblywoman Jamie Romeo. "This state of the art facility not only offers high quality services for residents, but goes above and beyond by incorporating solar power to reduce costs while establishing a positive environmental footprint. I'm incredibly proud to stand alongside our Town and State officials as we celebrate the opening of this impressive facility on time and under budget."

NYSDOT Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez said, "We are pleased to see the Town of Irondequoit open its new Department of Public Works campus in a strategic location which will improve overall highway maintenance operations. The New York Department of Transportation looks forward to continued collaboration with the town on shared services and emergency response efforts that benefit the entire community."

The Town is happy to announce a DPW Open house on Saturday, October 26th from 10AM to 2PM to allow residents to visit the new facility.