



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

WHO: Concerned Citizens of Montauk  
WHAT: ED40: A Major Step Forward in Coastal Protection  
CONTACT: Jeremy Samuelson / JSamuelson@preservemontauk.org

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With strong community support, CCOM and a coalition of environmental groups have secured a major victory for sensible coastal planning in Ditch Plains. At last night's East Hampton Town Board meeting, the four-acre ED40 property, site of the former East Deck Motel, was rezoned from resort to residential. This major victory - made possible by 18 months of hard work and community organizing - includes significant protections that guarantee public access to the beach and the establishment of conservation and scenic easements that will prohibit development near the shore or dunes. Most importantly, the Town's approval of the rezoning reduces the number of units on the property from 28 to 4, dramatically reducing traffic, impacts to water quality from septic systems and permanently eliminates the possibility of a restaurant or private club as was proposed in 2014.

"CCOM is grateful to our partners at Surfrider and Ditch Plains Association, the East Hampton Town Board and the property owners for working with the community to ensure we are pulling back from the shore line and realigning our infrastructure while preserving both ecological and economic value," said Jeremy Samuelson, CCOM President. "This is truly a win-win outcome."

Stay tuned in the coming months as the property owners work with CCOM, our environmental partners and the Town to complete their project design and ensure we lock in all the environmental protections necessary to protect Ditch Plains.

"There is work yet to do," said Samuelson. "From here the project moves to the Town Planning Board where CCOM and our partners will be working to ensure that 'sand only' solutions are used to replenish the dunes and no hard structures are allowed to be installed."

Thank you to all of our members and the community for your support of our work on this important project.