

August 21, 2011

**Town Board Resolution
In Support of Public Access to Beaches**

Submitted by Citizens for Access Rights

Whereas public access to the beaches in the Town of East Hampton is one of the most important and fundamental rights of residents,

Whereas the pursuit of recreational activities on our beaches is a core economic value and is at the heart of the most basic reason East Hampton is a highly desirable place to live,

Whereas efforts to privatize East Hampton's beaches is an outrageous assault on traditional values and rights of the people of East Hampton, threatening a way of life and the basic economic well being of the community,

The East Hampton Town Board hereby resolves as follows:

1. To aggressively defend the present lawsuits pending against the Town of East Hampton, and any other legal attempts to wrest ownership or control of the beaches from the public.
2. The Town Board pledges its full support for the position of the Town Trustees to vigorously defend legal challenges to the traditional right of the public to vehicular and non-vehicular access to, and use of, our beaches.
3. The Town Board authorizes the use of funds to support the Town Trustees legal expenses current and legal challenges to beach access and ownership,
4. The Town Board is prepared to take whatever steps are necessary to insure that one of our greatest natural resources, the beaches are, publicly owned and managed for the benefit of all town residents, including use of the power of eminent domain as was used by the State of New York in acquiring Napeague State Park and as has been used by the Town of East Hampton as the basis of urban renewal program since 1976.

5. The Town Board supports all legal means necessary to insure that the traditional right of all members of the public to continue to access(vehicular and non-vehicular),and use the beaches for fishing, bathing, and other recreational purposes will no longer be threatened by efforts to privatize the beach.