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## **Nassau County Invests in the Long Island Life Sciences Community**

**February 20, 2003 (Mineola, NY)** – The Nassau County Department of Economic Development, led by Deputy County Executive Peter Sylver, demonstrated its dedication to the long-term growth of the regional life sciences industry today by allocating \$20,000 to the Long Island Life Sciences Initiative (LILSI), supporting efforts to attract, retain and develop life sciences firms to Long Island. This commitment comes in response to a strategic plan put forth recently by Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi, which outlines several key mechanisms to boost Nassau County’s economy, including the creation and retention of high-technology jobs.

In particular, the life sciences industry has been recognized as a leading economic driver for the future, and Long Island already benefits from a vibrant life sciences community that includes almost 300 companies, as well as major academic research institutions such as Brookhaven National Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Research Institute and Stony Brook University. The investment by Nassau County will further enhance grass root efforts to address central issues for industry success in the region.

“The funds provided by Nassau County will be utilized to advance several LILSI programs, such as a life sciences space needs assessment and the global marketing of Long Island as an epicenter for the life sciences,” said Joseph Scaduto, Executive Director of LILSI. “It is strategic alliances like this that will help position Long Island as home to a thriving life sciences community,” he added.

Deputy County Executive Peter Sylver also articulated his commitment to growing the life sciences industry in Nassau County by stating, “Nassau County is very excited about growing the life sciences on Long Island, and we feel that Nassau County residents will see real impact of this government support for the industry.” Sylver also added, “LILSI is an important vehicle for addressing issues that are critical for the long-term success of the life sciences industry, and Nassau County views this partnership very positively.”

LILSI is a regional trade association focused on the attraction, retention and development of life sciences firms to Long Island, and aims to address issues of strategic importance to the growth of the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, and life systems technology (nutriceutical, cosmeceutical) sectors. Additional information can be found on the LILSI website ([www.lils.org](http://www.lils.org)), or by calling 631-632-1080.