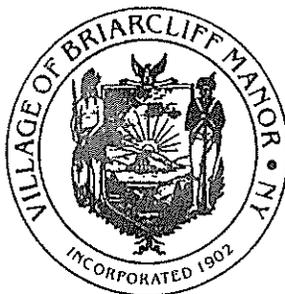


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# Press Release

**For Immediate Release**

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## **BRIARCLIFF AWARDED MORE THAN 18 MILLION DOLLARS IN STIMULUS FUNDS FOR WATER PROJECT**

**September 1, 2009, Briarcliff Manor, NY** -- The Village of Briarcliff Manor will receive \$18.8 million through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act ("ARRA"), one of the largest amounts awarded to a municipality, which was announced by Governor David A. Patterson on August 31, 2009. This grant recognizes the importance of the clean water project that Briarcliff Manor is in the process of completing for its residents. Known as the Full Water Supply Project, it is slated to be completed in May 2010 and will finally bring to Briarcliff its own source of cost efficient and reliable potable water. The stimulus funds will be used directly to offset the costs of the estimated \$20 million project which has been bid and numerous contracts awarded. Mayor Vescio stated, "This project has been a long time in coming and is an essential part of New York State Department of Health's mandate to upgrade Briarcliff Manor's water system." He added, "This also represents that working together on an inter-municipal basis produces results."

This project is a collaborative effort among the Villages of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow together with Briarcliff Manor and various other agencies including NYS Department of Health and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. The construction consists of approximately 19,000 feet of 16 inch water main, a new pump station and a new Catskill Aqueduct connection.

“We are very pleased to receive the grant, but are fully cognizant of the mandate and responsibility we have to meet the Department of Health stipulation of our Full Water Supply Project”, commented Village Trustee Bob Mayer. “This project was over 16 years in the making and addressed many issues needed to provide a reliable source of clean water including design considerations, numerous permits and inter-municipal cooperation with Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow.”

The entire Board of Trustees is especially grateful to its new Village Manger, Phil Zegarelli, who was hired and tasked to spearhead the final aspects of project approvals, and, specifically to seek out stimulus funding in a focused lobbying effort.

Based on earlier calculations, the full water supply project was estimated to cost \$26 million and was projected to have a debt service cost of \$1.3 million per year over the 25 year bond facility. Mayor Vescio explained, “The current economy brought us highly competitive bids enabling us to reduce overall costs saving significant taxpayer dollars. With the receipt of the stimulus funds, we believe the \$18.8 million will virtually meet all the costs of design, construction and bridge financing. For Briarcliff these funds will significantly help minimize the project expense to our taxpayers and water consumers during difficult economic times. The Village Board of Trustees and staff will continue to oversee the construction in a fiscally responsible manner.” This critical project will finally resolve Briarcliff’s need for a reliable clean water supply for generations to come.

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