

**BREAKING NEWS:  
MEDIA ALERT \* MEDIA ALERT \* MEDIA ALERT**

**HUNDREDS OF CONCERNED CITIZENS JOIN TOGETHER TO PROTEST  
PROPOSED 2% TRANSFER TAX ON HOME SALES IN BROOKHAVEN  
Town of Brookhaven places unfair burden on working class and discourages home ownership**

When: Tuesday, September 4, 2007, 11:00am

Where: Brookhaven Town Hall, One Independence Hill, Farmingville, NY 11738

Why: Concerned citizens are vehemently opposed to the Town of Brookhaven's proposed law which imposes a 2% transfer tax on ALL home sales in the town. This tax places an unreasonable burden and unnecessary barrier for buyers and sellers and impedes home ownership.

See: Hundreds of concerned individuals will join together as the "Brookhaven Citizens for Unfair Taxes" and voice their opposition to this legislation in front of Town Hall. Among the group are Brookhaven residents, homeowners, builders, civic associations and many more. They will assemble at Town Hall to express the view that Long Islanders already pay high property taxes, that an additional transfer tax just adds to the already high cost of owning a home, and that this tax will discourage home ownership and will encourage people to leave the area for more economic housing options. In addition, the group feels that the Town of Brookhaven is not being honest with its residents for the following reasons:

**What The Town Is Not Saying And What The Public Is Not Aware Of:**

- The proposed 2% transfer tax is just that - A TAX!
- It is not a community preservation fund. There are no guidelines as to what land parcels this money will be used to purchase.
- Taxes collected will be used for administration purposes. Every person in the town will in fact be providing a 2% ownership of their home to the town.

**What The Truth Is:**

- TRANSFER TAXES make home buying more costly and takes away from working families and individuals, the many benefits of homeownership.
- TRANSFER TAXES (aka Community Preservation Funds ) are an inequitable funding source for the Town. The Community Preservation Fund involves imposing a transfer tax to pay for open-space programs.
- TRANSFER TAXES place unnecessary barriers and impede home ownership.
- For buyers – transfer taxes are harmful because it adds to the biggest obstacle of homeownership – the strain to accumulate the down payment and closing costs. Now the burden is significantly increased with no reasonable foreseeable return.
- For sellers – properties are less desirable to the buyers because it will cost less to purchase a home in surrounding townships.
- The full burden is borne by a few who support expenditures that benefit the entire community.
- Transfer Taxes just add to the price of owning a home. Long Islanders already have to pay high property taxes.

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**Excellent TV, radio, photo opportunities.**

**Interview opportunities with residents, builders and others who will be impacted by this law.**