



Monroe County Legislator
VINCENT ESPOSITO
16th District * Irondequoit



December 31, 2008

Year End Newsletter

2008 proved to be an historic year, particularly in the political and economic landscape of our nation. As it winds to a close today, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on my first year in office.

2008 Year In Review

Serving you in the Monroe County Legislature is an honor. Since being sworn-in a year ago, I have learned and participated in many things that I hope will help make our community a better place to live. Below are a few highlights. (You can also [click this link to view more details at the bottom of my county website.](#))

Economic Development. As a freshman legislator, I was named the ranking member on the Planning & Economic Development Committee, as well as our caucus representative to the Monroe County Planning Board. Creating and sustaining quality jobs for our region will remain my top priority for as long as I serve, and it is even more imperative as we collectively work to recover from our current economic crisis.

Government Reform. The county legislature has become increasingly bogged down by partisan gridlock in recent years. Bringing a fresh perspective to the body, I proposed several measures that would shine a light and add accountability to the legislative process. Improving our government so it can be more responsive and effective is another priority that I will continue in the coming years.

Budget Deficits. Like many levels of government, Monroe County is facing a fiscal crisis. Unlike other governments, ours is not directly attributable to the economic meltdown. Rather years of poor financial decisions have created a massive structural budget deficit. Last month I voted no on my first county budget because it continues the irresponsible practice of borrowing from the future to avoid the difficult decisions. We must do a better job to limit government spending so that we do not have to raise taxes, especially property taxes, since we are already over-taxed at every turn.

Local Projects. Everyday I work closely with Assemblyman Joe Morelle, Supervisor Mary Ellen Heyman, and other officials in Irondequoit on a variety of issues impacting our town. And I'd like to say a special thank you to all the residents that have made me aware of various issues so they can be addressed by the proper officials.

Looking Forward to 2009

With the coming of each new year a new opportunity comes as well. It is with great optimism that I enter 2009, especially with the inauguration of the new Obama administration and the swearing-in of Dan Maffei, who will be the new Congressman for many of us. I intend to continue to work hard for you. Here are a few of the projects that I will be working on:

City and County officials are addressing the water quality issues at Durand Eastman Park to improve both the beach and golf course conditions. I will continue to monitor their progress and work closely with them.

I will continue to push to modify the schedule of the Bay Outlet Swing Bridge so that it is more accessible to vehicle traffic, while at the same time working for a year-round solution to accommodate both drivers and boaters.

This year will see many large-scale construction projects in Irondequoit: 590's transformation into Sea Breeze Drive will near completion, the reconstruction of East Ridge Road is scheduled to begin, and the redevelopment of Medley Centre promises to bring the most exciting project in our entire region. These projects and many others will require the collaboration of all officials and residents in Irondequoit.

Happy Holidays

On a personal note, 2008 was a special year for me as I was married in July to my wife, Jennifer. Included to the right is a fun picture from our big day with our dog, Bo.

From our family to yours, I hope you are enjoying a wonderful holiday season and our best wishes for a happy and healthy new year.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me anytime I can be of service.

