

# Foye debates issues with LIREG.

Publication: [Real Estate Weekly](#)

Date: [Wednesday, February 20 2008](#)

[ILLUSTRATION OMITTED]

Patrick Foye, downstate chair of the Empire State Development Corp., discussed issues facing Nassau and [Suffolk](#) Counties at a meeting of the Long Island Real Estate Group.

Foye told 125 LIREG members gathered at the Old Westbury Country Club for a breakfast meeting that ESDC helped to bring approximately \$180 million in private capital to Long Island in the past year.

Attendees included developers, brokers, attorneys, lenders and executives in other real estate allied businesses.

The downstate economic development chief said that Long Island has tradition ally outperformed other areas around the state, but that its job growth and income levels have flattened out recently.

Foye cited the lack of affordable housing as the "single largest impediment to development on Long Island."

He also told the group that there are positive signs in the outlook, including such proposed projects as a tunnel to Rye, the Lighthouse Group's redevelopment of the Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, and large industrial and [resort](#) projects in Calverton.

The meeting was sponsored by Engel Burman Group and First Development Corp.