

TOWN OF STANFORD
RESOLUTION NO. 4F OF 2026
TO INTRODUCE PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 2 FOR THE YEAR 2026
AMENDING CHAPTER 14 OF THE TOWN CODE
TO MODIFY THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY
COMMISSION

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Stanford (“Town Board”), held at the Town of Stanford Town Hall on the 9th day of April, 2026, at 7:00 PM, Town Supervisor Julia Descoteaux called the meeting to order, and she, seconded by Councilperson _____, moved the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, the Town of Stanford has established a Conservation Advisory Commission (the “CAC”) to, among its other powers and duties, advise the Town Board on matters affecting the preservation, development, and use of the Town’s natural features and conditions; and

WHEREAS, the current Town Code provides for a fixed number of seven (7) members on the CAC; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that providing flexibility in the size of the CAC will enhance the Commission’s ability to recruit qualified volunteers, broaden expertise, and ensure continuity of operations; and

WHEREAS, increasing the permissible size of the CAC to a maximum of nine (9) members will allow the Town to better respond to workload demands and participation levels; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that this amendment is in the best interests of the Town and its residents and will facilitate broader community participation and enhance the Commission’s effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, Town Supervisor Julia Descoteaux advised the Town Board that, pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York, it was necessary to hold a public hearing upon this proposed local law; and

WHEREAS, increasing the permissible size of the CAC to a maximum of nine (9) members constitutes routine or continuing agency administration and management under Section 617.5 of the SEQRR Regulations in 6 NYCRR Part 617;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following proposed Local Law is hereby introduced, to be known as Proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2026, entitled “A Local Law Amending Chapter 14 of the Town Code to Modify the Number of Members of the Conservation Advisory Commission” to read as follows:

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Stanford as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent. Chapter 14 of the Town of Stanford Town Code entitled “Conservation Commission” contains the Town Code provisions with respect to the Conservation Advisory Commission (CAC). The Town Board has determined that it is in the best interest of Town to modify the number of members of the CAC from seven (7) members to a range of seven (7) to nine (9) members. The Town Board now wishes to update Chapter 14 of the Town Code accordingly.

Section 2. Number of members. Paragraph A of §14-3 shall be amended to read as follows (additions in underline, deletions in brackets):

“The Commission shall consist of up to nine voting members, with a minimum of seven voting members, all of which shall be appointed by the Town Board and shall serve at the pleasure of the Town Board. A quorum of the Conservation Commission shall be a simple majority of the Board members then appointed by the Town Board, excluding any vacancies. The affirmative vote of the majority of the Commission present at any meeting shall constitute the act of the Conservation Commission. Any person residing within the Town of Stanford who is interested in the improvement and preservation of environmental quality shall be eligible for appointment as a member of the Commission. Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment, except that a vacancy occurring other than by the expiration of term of office shall be filled only for the remainder of the unexpired term.”

Section 3. Member terms. Paragraph C of §14-3 shall be amended to read as follows (additions in underline, deletions in brackets):

“The terms of the members of the Commission shall be staggered: the first four members appointed shall hold office for a term of one year, the second three members shall hold office for

a term of two years, and the successors of the initial appointees, and additional members not serving as successors, shall be appointed to a full term of two years, unless the appointment is to fill a vacancy or unexpired term, which in such case the term shall be the unexpired term.”

Section 4. Numbering for Codification. It is the intention of the Town of Stanford Town Board and it is hereby enacted that the provisions of this Local Law shall be included in the Code of the Town of Stanford; that the sections and subsections of this Local Law may be re-numbered or re-lettered by the Codifier to accomplish such intention; that the Codifier shall make no substantive changes to this Local Law; that the word “Local Law” shall be changed to “Chapter,” “Section” or other appropriate word as required for codification; and that any such rearranging of the numbering and editing shall not affect the validity of this Local Law or the provisions of the Code affected thereby.

Section 5. Severability. The invalidity of any word, section, clause, paragraph, sentence, part or provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity of any other part of this Local Law, which can be given effect without such part or parts.

Section 6. Precedence. This Local Law and its provisions are in addition to all other applicable laws, rules and regulations.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Local Law shall take effect as of the date of filing with the New York Secretary of State.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, pursuant to the applicable standards of the SEQRA regulations contained in 6 NYCRR Part 617, the Town Board hereby declares the enactment of this proposed local law increasing the permissible size of the CAC to a maximum of nine (9) members is a Type II Action pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) and is therefore exempt from environmental review under SEQR; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held in relation to the proposed local law as set forth in the form of notice, hereinafter provided, at which hearing parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard, to be held at the Town Hall on May 14, 2026, at 7 o’clock P.M., and that notice of said meeting shall be published in the official newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Stanford by the Town Clerk, at least five (5) days before such hearing and that such notice shall be in the following form:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Stanford will hold a public hearing at the Town Hall, 26 Town Hall Road, Stanfordville, New York 12581, on May 14, 2026, at 7 o’clock p.m., Prevaling Time on Proposed Local Law No. ___ of 2026, entitled “A Local Law Amending Chapter 14 of the Town Code to Modify the Number of Members of the Conservation Advisory Commission.”

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law will be available for examination at the Town of Stanford Town Hall, 26 Town Hall Road, Stanfordville, New York, during normal business hours on all business days between the date of this notice and the date of the public hearing.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that all persons interested and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposal at the time and place aforesaid.

DATED: Stanfordville, New York
 April 9, 2026

RITAMARY BELL, TOWN CLERK

The foregoing resolution was voted upon with all Board members voting as follows:

Julia Descoteaux, Supervisor _____

Charles Cunningham, Councilperson _____

Eric Haims, Councilperson _____

Nathan Lavertue, Councilperson _____

Theodore Secor, Councilperson _____

Dated: April 9, 2026
 Stanfordville, New York

RITAMARY BELL, TOWN CLERK