

## Rothman Secures More Than \$ 2.4 Million for Meadowlands Environmental Park Study and Cleanup

For Immediate Release

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REP. ROTHMAN SECURES MORE THAN \$2.4 MILLION  
FOR MEADOWLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL PARK  
STUDY AND CLEANUP

--House Appropriations Committee Passes Energy & Water and Interior Bills; Legislation Will Continue Progress Toward Meadowlands Environmental Park--

(Washington, DC) Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) today announced that he had secured more than \$2.4 million in federal funding for the continued Meadowlands Environmental Park study and the cleanup of the 8,400 undeveloped acres in the Meadowlands. Today's announcement reaffirms the Congressman's strong commitment to cleaning up the Hackensack Meadowlands and turning the site into an environmental park. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, Rothman was able to bring home federal funds to New Jersey for this important environmental project. The Committee allocated \$800,000 for the Army Corps of Engineers to carry on an ongoing restoration study and \$1.5 million to continue remediation of polluted sites in the area. The Committee also allocated \$180,000 for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to continue its joint studies with the Army Corps on how best to remediate those 8,400 acres and turn them into an environmental park.

"Congress has affirmed once again that the Meadowlands Environmental Park study and remediation project is critical to the future of this region," Representative Rothman said. "I am proud that I was able to secure federal funding to continue the vital work of the Army Corps of Engineers and the New Jersey field office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service towards that goal," he said.

Last year, Congressman Rothman secured \$350,000 for the Army Corps of Engineers and \$180,000 for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to study and improve conditions in the undeveloped acreage of the Meadowlands. In total, Representative Rothman has now secured almost \$9.5 million in federal funds to make his dream of an environmental park in the Meadowlands a reality. This \$2.4 million in federal funds was included in the Fiscal Year 2006 Energy and Water and Interior Appropriations bills, which have passed the House and are currently pending before the Senate.

Congressman Rothman, a lifelong resident of Bergen County, has made undeveloped open space preservation of the 8,400 undeveloped acres of the Hackensack Meadowlands one of his top priorities. This lies less than half a mile from

the Continental Arena/Giants Stadium property and is ten times the size of New York City's Central Park. Congressman Rothman has led the effort to spare the presently undeveloped wetlands, landfills, and toxic sites from development, instead offering a vision for the future that includes a massive clean-up, revitalization, and transformation of the site into an environmental park offering opportunities for canoe trips, nature walks, bird watching, eco-tourism, other recreational activities, and an environmental education center for students.