

ORCHARD PARK

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

S 4295 South Buffalo Street | Orchard Park, New York 14127-2609



CHAIRMAN:

John Murray jmurray@insyteconsulting.com

<u>MEMBERS:</u> Molly Barniak mollybarniak@gmail.com

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Donald Lorentz don@orchardparkchamber. org

Joseph Wales Joseph.wales@verizon.net

Admin Kathleen Creagan athleencreagan@yahoo.com March 4, 2019 Supervisor Patrick Keem Town of Orchard Park 4295 South Buffalo Street Orchard Park, NY 14127

Dear Pat:

Per your request, the Economic Development Committee has investigated the merits of the proposed ECRT project from an economic development perspective. As part of this process, we interviewed both proponents and opponents of this project during two recent meetings. Based on their respective inputs, the committee voted 4-0 with one abstention to preliminarily support this proposal. There was also discussion that this is a private initiative that is consistent with federal and state programs to convert abandoned railway tracks to walking/ recreational trails. However, despite apparent limited authority regarding this project, we still recommend that the town continue to monitor the progress of this proposal, particularly in regard to privacy and safety (especially police and fire). In addition, all types of motorized vehicles should be prohibited. Finally, as stated in our previous correspondence, no tax-payer funding should be provided by either the town or village governments.

Sincerely,

John Murray- OPEDC Chairman

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cc: Town Board Members
Remy Orffeo- Town Clerk