

[LETTERHEAD]

[Date]

Mark Kruk, P.E.
Program Delivery & Priority Project Supervisor
New York State Department of Transportation
4 Burnett Boulevard
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603
Via email

McCrea Burnham
Catskills Coordinator
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233
Via email

Re: Unauthorized Communications from Woodstock Tree Committee Members

Dear Messrs. Kruk and Burnham:

I write on behalf of the Woodstock Town Board to address comments to you by members of the Woodstock Tree Committee relating to the proposed mixed-use trail along Route 212 from Woodstock village to Bearsville. While these individuals have the right to communicate with you in their private capacity as residents and citizens, their comments do not represent the position of the Town of Woodstock and were not authorized by the Town Board or the Supervisor.

The Woodstock Tree Committee is one of several volunteer committees the Town utilizes to advise it on planning, environmental and land use issues, including the proposed bike path. The Town is grateful for their service and disagreements may arise relating to Town policies from time to time. Nevertheless, and despite the rights of all of our volunteers and residents to communicate with state agencies in their private capacity, the Town Board remains the arbiter of Town policy, except to the extent it designates a constituent or organization to work with you on that policy. No such designation has occurred on this project.

The comments also require this response because of the unfortunate personal accusations and sniping they contain. The Town specifically disavows those statements, and regrets that their lack of probity and responsibility may interfere with your consideration of Town interests. We are grateful for your willingness to cooperate with the Town to improve the plans for the bike path, as well as other issues that affect the Town and its residents, as part of your public engagement.

Should you have any questions about the issues raised in these communications, feel free to contact me. To clarify and reiterate: the Town supports the grant application and the public engagement process currently underway. Project details, including questions about potential tree

impacts, remain under active review as part of that process, and the Town looks forward to working through those details in the appropriate forum.

Respectfully,

Anula Courtis
Supervisor, Town of Woodstock

cc: Woodstock Town Board
Town Clerk
Town Attorney
Tree Committee
Complete Streets Committee