

To: Tom Ellis, Chair, Town of Lansing Planning Board

October 19, 2017

CC: Ed Lavigne, Supervisor, Town of Lansing

From: Ruth Hopkins,

First let me thank you for your efforts and the many hours you have spent to update the proposed Comprehensive Plan update for 2017.

At the Comprehensive Plan open public meeting in August we were instructed to submit our questions about the plan directly to Town representatives rather than ask our questions publicly at the meeting. Therefore, I am sending my questions to you. It is my hope that you will be able to respond prior to the public hearing scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup> so that I can better prepare my comments for that hearing.

1. The draft Plan contains many statements regarding the desirability for creating connecting bicycle and pedestrian multiuse trails. In addition, the Comprehensive Plan survey indicated an overwhelming majority of Lansing citizens desire a trail system. So, why is there not a goal to establish a Greenway Task Force that is tasked to design a long-term plan for a system of walking and cycling paths, paths that provide for essential connectivity within the Town of Lansing, with the schools, and connections with the Village of Lansing Greenway Plan?

Having a plan for future trail development is particularly important for the southern portion of Lansing. Development is most likely to occur there, where alternative transportation to destinations such as the YMCA and Town fields, are desired. The schools have been advocating for safer routes to school and trails for recreation. Priority goals for south Lansing Trails could be included in the objectives for a Greenway Task Force.

The recently updated Village Comprehensive Plan has set a goal for such a Greenway Task Force to work with the Town. It seems important for the Town to work with the Village, where 1/3 of our residents live and pay taxes.

The draft Plan currently states the goal pertaining to trails as "Consider planning for multi-use trails..." This does not reflect stated resident desires for trails and multi-use transportation routes in the Comprehensive Plan Citizen Survey or recommendations made in the Transportation Study done by Design Connect. I suggest that this goal be replaced by something like "Establish a plan for short- and long-term development of Greenway Trail System and establish a task force with objectives to accomplish these goals."

2. Please state which Plan goals support the assignment of a 'future desired commercial area" on two parcels on N. Tripphammer Rd, across from Michaelleen's, parcels that are currently zoned R1.

3. Please state which Plan goals support the assignment on the Future Proposed Land Use Map of commercial areas across from the schools on Ridge Rd, and commercial areas extending south along E. Shore Drive to the current Rink along the NYS Cayuga Lake Scenic byway.

4. Please explain why the goal for establishing a "Conservation Advisory Committee" was deleted from the plan drafted by the Citizen Comprehensive Update Committee.

The Comprehensive Plan Citizen Survey indicated strong interest among citizens for protecting our natural areas, open spaces, and scenic areas. The establishment of such a Committee to provide advisory recommendations would seem essential to carrying out the expressed desire of our citizens.

5. Please provide a legal assurance from our Town lawyer that the draft plan, in its current state will support a decision by the Town Board to ban Natural Gas and Petroleum Exploration and Extraction Activities, the Underground Storage of Natural Gas, and the Disposal of Natural Gas or Petroleum Extraction, Exploration, and Production Wastes.”

Lansing citizen surveys have demonstrated that 2/3's of Town of Lansing citizens support such a ban.

6. The Future Proposed Land Use Map includes a proposed area titled Residential Mixed Use, an area that overlaps substantially with the current R2 zones. The description of the proposed new area is primarily a description of current uses, not future desired uses except for the statement that Village Solars should be used as the model for these proposed areas. Please provide the goals in the draft plan that would support using Village Solars as the model for these very large land areas in South Lansing.

7. The new proposed land use area Residential Mixed Use/Moderate Density is a single proposed use area, yet it has two descriptions. Which one applies?

8. Why is the lakeshore land, commonly referred to as "Bell Station" proposed to be Lakeshore low density?

This area is described in the plan as highly desirable for future recreation land. Hence, the future proposed land use should reflect this desired use. Please explain why the proposed use of this land changed from recreational use in the 2016 draft Future Proposed Land Uses map as seen by the Comp Plan Update Committee to Lakeshore Low Density in the 2017 draft map.

One explanation given for the reversal of the proposed use of this area, from recreation on the 2016 map, to L1 on the 2017 map is that it is not for sale. This explanation is inconsistent with many of the other changed proposed uses of lands that are also NOT for sale.