

TOWN OF ORANGETOWN TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday March 07, 2023

This Town Board Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **♣** 59th ANNUAL ROCKLAND COUNTY ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE IN PEARL RIVER, NY / SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023 AT 1:30 P.M. / RAIN OR SHINE
- ◆ 2023 MILITARY TRIBUTE BANNER PROGRAM / Please email: supervisor@orangetown.com for more details / The deadline to order or renew your banner will be Friday, April 14, 2023
- ORANGETOWN SHREDDING EVENT- Saturday, April 15, 2023 / 8:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. Hosted by Orangetown Town Clerk Rosanna Sfraga, Rockland Green and People to People

PRESENTATIONS:

- ♦ Presentation of Certificate of Recognition Eagle Scout Jack C. Gannon
- ◆ Presentations for 2023 National Sisters Week and Women's History Month / Week of March 8 - 14, 2023, Honoring:
 - ★ Sister Mary Collins and Sister Mary Flood of the Sisters of Saint Dominic of Blauvelt
 - ★ Sister Grace Hogan and Sister Aileen Donovan of the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill
- Presentations for 2023 Irish Cultural Heritage Month Honoring:
 - Laurence "Larry" DeGennaro", Hibernian of the Year
 - Breda Lyons and Catherine Levins, Hibernian Business People of the Year
 - Sheriff Louis Falco, Parade Commander
 - ♣ Thomas "Tom" Leavey, Parade Grand Marshal
 - Dennis Toal, Aide to the Grand Marshal, NYC

DISCUSSION:

♦ WORKSHOP OF AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

RESOLVED, that the public portion is hereby opened.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS:

2. CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

RESOLVED, that the public portion is hereby closed.

AGENDA ITEMS:

TOWN BOARD

3. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING / MARCH 07, 2023 AT 7:05 P.M. / REQUEST FOR DEMAPPING OF SECOND STREET, PEARL RIVER, NY

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing regarding a Request for Demapping of Second Street, Pearl River, NY is hereby opened.

PRESENTATION of Affidavit of Public Hearing posting and publication.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS:

4. CLOSE OR CONTINUE PUBLIC HEARING / REQUEST FOR DEMAPPING OF SECOND STREET, PEARL RIVER, NY

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing regarding the Request for Demapping of Second Street, Pearl River, NY is hereby closed or continued

5. AUTHORIZE REMOVAL OF SECOND STREET FROM TOWN TAX MAP/WEST CARROLL STREET / WEST CROOKED HILL ROAD, PEARL RIVER, NY

WHEREAS, a Notice of Petition and Petition have been filed with the Town Clerk on behalf of the following property owners: Kenny and Lisa Smellegar, residing at 44 West Crooked Hill Road, Pearl River, NY, Tax Lot 68.12/1/28; Mary and Robert Gabalski, residing at 54 West Crooked Hill Road, Pearl River, NY, Tax Lot 68.12/1/27; Caitlin and William Lennox, residing at 47 West Carroll Street, Pearl River, NY, Tax Lot 68.12/1/38; and Sarah and Charles McGillick, residing at 53 West Carroll Street, Pearl River, NY, Tax Lot 68.12/1/39 (the "applicants") pursuant to New York Town Law §273 for the removal and/or demapping of "Second Street" which is a certain

piece of property that is more fully described below, from the official tax map of the Town of Orangetown `and;

WHEREAS, The Town of Orangetown has never accepted a deed to the premises, nor accepted same for dedication, nor improved or maintained same in any manner, and;

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Highways, James J. Dean has advised in a letter dated June 14, 2022 that his department has no intention of utilizing said property for Town Road purposes and has no interest in accepting or exercising any rights over same and:

WHEREAS, the Town of Orangetown Planning Board, in correspondence to the Town Board dated February 8, 2023, has expressed that it has no objection to the proposed demapping of the portion of Second Street that is under consideration herein, and;

WHEREAS, the applicants have agreed and will be required to file a covenant against further subdivision of the premises and agree to pay the costs of the recording of same with the Rockland County Clerk's Office, and;

WHEREAS, Jane Slavin, Director of the Office of Building, Zoning, Planning and Enforcement has prepared a Short Form EAF for the purposes of compliance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), and has advised that the proposed action by the Town Board herein is an "unlisted" action for purposes of SEQRA, and;

WHEREAS, the proposed action by the Town Board does not involve approval of any disturbance of land, or change of zone, or change of use of said property and;

WHEREAS, it is understood that the applicants have agreed to Quitclaim any rights the other might have to each other over the portion to be demapped;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that in accordance with §273 of the New York Town Law, upon the evidence presented herein and upon the advice and recommendation of the Superintendent of Highways, and the Town Attorney's Office as follows:

- 1. This is an unlisted action subject to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act. The Town of Orangetown Town Board appoints itself as Lead Agency for the uncoordinated review of this action. There are no other involved agencies. There will be no significant adverse impact on the environment as a result of this action. The basis for this determination is that the action involves the demaping of a portion of a "paper street" and will involve no disturbance to the land involved. Such demapping will have no impact on the site and will not disturb any environmentally sensitive sites and will not cause any adverse environmental impact upon the air quality, vegetation, ground water, or Town goals and objectives.
- 2. This proposed resolution was heard at properly noticed Public Hearing before the Town Board.
- 3. The Town Board hereby authorizes the demapping of the entirety of "Second Street which is a certain piece of property described as follows:

- a. 100' in length and 25' wide immediately adjacent to the Smellegar property located at 44 West Crooked Hill Road, Pearl River;
- b. 100' in length and 25' wide immediately adjacent to the Gabalski property located at 54 West Crooked Hill Road, Pearl River;
- c. 69' in length and 25' wide immediately adjacent to the Lennox property located at 47 West Carroll Street, Pearl River;
- d. 50' in length and 25' wide immediately adjacent to the McGillick property located at 53 West Carroll Street, Pearl River.
- 4. As a condition of this demapping, any rights to such lands as claimed by the applicants may not be used to subdivide their respective properties, and the applicants shall be required to execute and file a Restrictive Covenant Against Further Subdivision subject to review and approval of same by the Town Attorney's Office, with the understanding that the properties may seek subdivision for the purpose of extending their existing lots, but may not create a new lot or lots from the portion of Second Street to be demapped. Said Covenant shall be filed and recorded in the Rockland County Clerk's Office at the expense of the applicant.
- 5. The Town Supervisor or her designee is authorized to execute on behalf of the Town, all documents necessary to effectuate the demapping of said street and all documents that may be necessary to record the Restrictive Covenant Against Further Subdivision.
- 6. This action shall not affect the right, title or interests, if any, of any parties with respect to the portion of the lands demapped herein.
- 6. CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING FROM JANUARY 24, 2023 / 7:10 P.M. / ACCEPT DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN / CONSIDER ADOPTING THE ORANGETOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing regarding accepting the Draft Comprehensive Plan and considering adopting the Orangetown Comprehensive Plan, is hereby resumed.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS:

7. CLOSE OR CONTINUE PUBLIC HEARING / ACCEPT DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN / CONSIDER ADOPTING THE ORANGETOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

RESOLVED, that the public hearing reg	garding the Orangetown Draft Comprehensive
Plan is hereby closed or continued to _	

8. DECLARE LEAD AGENCY AND ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION / ORANGETOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown is considering the adoption of the Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is the only agency that has the authority to adopt the Town's Comprehensive Plan, therefore, no other agencies are considered potential Involved Agencies;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to §617.6(b)(1) of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown, hereby declares itself Lead Agency for purposes of SEQRA for this Type I Action.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Orangetown Town Board as Lead Agency has determined that the proposed action, for the reasons set forth in the Expanded Environmental Assessment Form dated December 5, 2022, and the appended SEQRA Notice of Determination of Significance, the adoption of the Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan will not have a significant environmental impact and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

9. OVERRIDE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROCKLAND COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT REGARDING THE TOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown is updating its Comprehensive Plan for the first time since 2003 to establish a guiding framework for future sustainable development, economic growth, and natural resource preservation in the Town; and,

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2022 the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown referred the Comprehensive Plan to the Rockland County Planning Department in accordance with NYS Town Law §272-a and GML 239-l and -m, which recommended modifications on October 24, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board considered the 39 recommendations of the Rockland County Planning Department:

WHEREAS, the draft Comprehensive Plan was updated to include following recommendations:

Comment 1:	The adoption of a municipality's land use plan, the adoption by any agency of a comprehensive resource management plan or the initial adoption of a municipality's comprehensive zoning regulations are considered Type I Actions under Section 617.4(b)(1) of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). As such, they are more likely to require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The GML referral did not include any SEORA documents. The EIS or Environmental Assessment Form must be submitted for our review.
Response 1:	The full EAF was referred to the Rockland County Planning Department on December 5, 2023.
Comment 2:	The goals and objectives are not clearly and consistently identified within each chapter. For instance, Chapter 3 (Community Character and Historic Resources) vaguely states the intended goal on Page 95, but does not identify objectives; however, it does list implementation strategies starting on Page 96. By contrast, Chapter 2 (Current and Future Land Use. Zoning, and Design) identifies the goal on Page 62,

	but lists the objectives as bullet points on Page 25, after the introduction. "The Vision, Goals, and Objectives" Section of each chapter must clearly state the general goal or goals of the chapter and list all objectives that relate to the implementation strategies established.
Response 2:	The goals and objectives are consistent between chapters. The objectives in Chapter 2 are listed in the context of the public engagement process.
Comment 6:	In Goal 3, Objective 11 on Page 19, Rockland County Public Transportation should be listed as a local transit provider.
Response 6:	Rockland County Department of Public Transportation has been added to the list of local transit providers on page 19.
Comment 7:	Goal 4 on Page 19 is to "Promote sustainable development and plan for climate resiliency." Page 222 in the Sustainability and Climate Resiliency Chapter includes the action of "continuing to enforce the recently adopted NYStretch Code." It is recommended that the use of the NYStretch Energy Code be incorporated as an objective for Goal 4.
Response 7:	Use of the NYStretch Energy Code has been added as Objective 11 under Goal 4 on page 20.
Comment 8	The Village of South Nyack was dissolved on March 31, 2022. as indicated on Page 26. The last sentence of the last paragraph mentions that land use and zoning regulations related to the Village have become the responsibility of the town. The Comprehensive Plan must clarify if the Town intends on continuing to enforce regulations of the South Nyack Zoning Code or if provisions for South Nyack will be incorporated into the Orangetown Zoning Code.
Response 8:	Chapter 2, under the Existing Land Use Conditions (page 26) has been updated to clarify that the regulations of South Nyack were adopted by the Town of Orangetown on September 13, 2022.
Comment 9:	The third paragraph on Page 38 indicates that there is a continued concern for the development of manufacturing, warehouse, and distribution centers along the Route 303 Corridor, despite the adoption of the Route 303 Overlay District. Our department continues to receive proposals to permit the construction of the aforementioned uses within the Overlay District. Several of our concerns that align with the study have been overridden by the local land use boards. The level of success with the adoption of the Overlay District and Town's efforts to enforce its regulations should be further discussed in this section of the plan.
Response 9:	Comment noted. The Comprehensive Plan recommends clarifying the Route 303 Overlay District provisions. This additional clarification could minimize the necessity for future overrides.
Comment 10:	Figure 2-3, Existing Zoning Map, on Page 44, as well as Figure 2-5, Proposed Zoning Map, on Page 65 include labels for the Villages of Nyack, South Nyack, Grand View on Hudson, and Piermont. These municipalities are subject to different zoning regulations from the Orangetown Zoning Code and thus their boundaries must be more clearly distinguished from Orangetown's zoning districts on the map. Since South Nyack is under the purview of Orangetown, it is recommended that its zoning districts be identified in Figures 2-3 and 2-5.
Response 10:	Comment noted. Labels and boundaries for the Villages of Nyack, Grand View-on-Hudson, and Piermont are included on Figures 2-3 and 2-5.

Comment 11:	Table 2-5 on Pages 48 and 49 lists uses indicated as currently "being permitted as of right," not permitted, "special permit uses," or "conditional uses." A description for special permit uses is included on Page 50, following performance standards A description should be added for conditional uses since they are also included on
	the Table.
Response 11:	A description of conditional uses has been added to the paragraph on special permit uses on page 50. The paragraph also references Zoning Code Chapter 43, Sections 7.1-6, which describe the procedure for a conditional use permit.
Comment 12:	The paragraph on the bottom of Page 56 lists "the top land use areas indicated as important to future development," according to a survey. In parenthesis, the paragraph notes "see Appendix A"; however, the same graph in the appendix is also on Page 57. This similarly occurs in the paragraph on the bottom of Page 57, continuing to the top of Page 58, regarding "the top residential land uses encouraged by respondents." Appendix A is once again referenced, but the same graph in the Appendix is on Page 58. These two paragraphs should reference subsequent graphs instead of Appendix A, as they will be easier for a reader to find.
Response 12:	Appendix A is referenced because it contains supplementary information in addition to the graphs.
Comment 13:	The definition for Garden townhome on Page 68 must clarify if a townhome unit exists on its own lot, as it could otherwise be confused with multi-unit residential classifications.
Response 13:	The description for Garden Townhome on page 68 has been revised to note that a townhome exists on its own lot.
Comment 14:	We appreciate that the Town is considering revising their code to better address data centers, which have different needs from standard warehouses. The proposed definition for data centers on Page 69 is informative and mirrors our department's concerns regarding their energy and water usage. Data centers are currently only permitted within the RPC-OC (Rockland Psychiatric Center Office Park) zoning district. In spite of this, our department has recently reviewed applications required for permitting a data center within the LIO (Light Industrial-Office District), where data centers are not listed as a permitted land use, making approval difficult. According to Page 71, Table 2-6 of the Comprehensive Plan, data centers may eventually be allowed within the LIO district as a conditional use (as well as other districts). We find such changes to the zoning code to be necessary, as the demand for data centers has increased in recent years. The special considerations related to data centers must be adequately discussed in the Zoning Code.
Response 14:	The Comprehensive Plan provides a description of data centers along with general considerations. Special considerations for data centers will be addressed when the zoning is advanced.
Comment 18:	Page 116 includes a subsection titled "Parking," referring to downtown and other busy areas where parking is limited, and how to address parking demands. While the parking shortage is apparent in many of Orangetown's commercial centers, this section of the Plan should also include information about areas where the supply of parking spaces is highly abundant compared to the actual demand. Though the excess of parking and pavement is primarily addressed in Chapter 7 (Sustainability and Climate Resiliency) of the Comprehensive Plan, it is also a transportation related issue and should be discussed further in this section of Chapter 4. Parking standards should be evaluated in light of recent trends such as remote working, online shopping,

	etc. Reduced parking standards will lead to reduced impervious surface area, as referenced on Page 205.
Response 18:	The parking subsection on page 116 has been revised to indicate that the Town is conducting a parking study for South Nyack, and to recommend that parking studies be conducted to determine parking demand.
Comment 20:	On Page 122, Rockland County Department of Public Transportation should be added to the list of collaborators in the effort to study, improve, and expand existing public transportation service, including bus stops, routing, frequency, and reliability.
Response 20:	Rockland County Department of Public Transportation has been added to the list of collaborators on page 122.
Comment 21:	Census tracts in Orangetown that are Disadvantaged Communities, as part of the State's Climate Act Initiative, should be identified in either the demographics subsection on Page 128 and/or in Chapter 7. These Disadvantaged Communities can be found on the New York State's website:
	https://climate.ny.gov/Our-Climate-Act/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria/Disadvantaged-Communities-Map
Response 21:	The demographics subsection on page 129 has been updated to note the Census tracts in Orangetown that have been identified as Disadvantaged Communities under the State's Climate Act Initiative.
Comment 22:	On Page 176, it is stated that "the Office of Parks and Recreation, in collaboration with the Orangetown Environmental Committee should consider instituting a local park and environmental stewardship program for youths and students." We suggest adding the Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources and Youth Bureau to the partners for this potential initiative and any other efforts to improve access to open space and parks.
Response 22:	The Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources and Youth Bureau have been added as partners on page 178.
Comment 23:	Throughout Chapter 6 (Open Space and Recreation) there are several different references to plantings as "climate-resilient species," "suitable species," and "sustainable species." With several different descriptors, it is unclear what the Plan is trying to achieve. This department recommends using trees and plants that are native to New York. Native plants are better adapted to the local climate and soils and are therefore easier to care for. This results in the need for less fertilizer, pesticides, and use of water. This helps to prevent erosion and increased runoff into local waterbodies. Native plants also help to preserve and promote biodiversity. A pdf titled "Native Plants for Gardening and Landscaping Fact Sheets" that lists native species and the environments in which they can grow can be found on the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's website: https://www.dec.ny.gov/public/44290.html.
Response 23:	A reference to native plants listed by DEC has been added to page 179. Also, references to "species" have been updated to refer to "native species" where applicable.
Comment 24:	In addition to viewshed protection discussed in Chapter 6, Open Space and Recreation, we urge the Town to consider a watershed protection approach not only within the Town but through inter-municipal cooperation with adjoining

	municipalities and local watershed groups to protect water resources and water quality throughout the region.
Response 24:	A strategy has been added on page 177 to recommend that the Town also consider watershed protection through inter-municipal cooperation with adjoining municipalities and local watershed groups to protect water resources and water quality throughout the region.
Comment 25:	Chapter 7 is titled "Sustainability and Climate Resiliency. We suggest that this chapter either be given a different title or separated into two different chapters, one on natural resources and one on sustainability and climate. Addressing climate and emissions reduction through land use planning is in and of itself deserving of being addressed in a separate chapter. Separating natural resource protection and climate action goals will make the Plan overall more reader friendly. While many of the sustainability elements are addressed at one level or another throughout the Plan, we suggest the Town consolidate and tighten up its goals and objectives regarding sustainability and climate resilience.
	A climate action/resiliency related chapter can incorporate sustainability elements already in the draft such as the Town's CCA program, encouragement of electric vehicle charging stations, and renewable energy goals. The Plan discusses the use of 'green building technologies' for both new development and retrofits. It is suggested that the Plan define what is meant by green building technology and elaborate on the use of such technologies in development and redevelopment. This chapter should also address the promotion of carbon neutral development in the town and how local laws may be used to further development that does not result in additional greenhouse gas emissions. Energy efficiency in development and redevelopment can be addressed. Other elements to consider include promoting the development of local food systems and minimizing solid waste.
Response 25:	Sustainability and Climate Resiliency are discussed in the same chapter because they are interdependent and include the same topics. Green building strategies for new buildings and retrofits have been added to page 222.
Comment 27:	We recommend that the Town consider developing a Townwide Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). The NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program offers tools and resources to assist municipalities in developing an NRI.
Response 27:	A strategy has been added on page 222 to recommend that the Town develop a National Resources Inventory.
Comment 28:	In developing sustainability goals in the Comprehensive Plan, we suggest the Town review the Pledge Elements (PE) of New York's States Climate Smart Communities Program, particularly PE6 Action: Comprehensive Plan with Sustainability Elements. Making sure all these elements, such as smart growth principles, are addressed will help the Town in pursuing higher certification in both the Climate Smart Community Program and the Clean Energy Community Program.
Response 28:	Page 212 has been updated to include that the Town should review the Pledge Elements (PE) of New York's States Climate Smart Communities program.
Comment 29:	As is referenced in the plan, transportation is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. Reduction of transportation related GHGs should be addressed in a chapter on Sustainability and Climate including goals to reduce vehicle miles travelled.

Response 29:	Chapter 7, Sustainability and Climate Resilience, has been amended to include reduction of transportation related GHGs, on page 212.
Comment 30:	There are several references to the 2018 County Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, including Pages 202 and 203, particularly in reference to flooding in the community. Please note that Rockland County Fire and Emergency Services is preparing to update the 2018 Plan- The County will want to add current hazard mitigation related concerns and projects in the Town of Orangetown to this update. We encourage the Town's participation in this effort.
Response 30:	Flood mitigation strategies have been updated to include that the Town participate in the County's effort to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan, on page 223.
Comment 32:	On Page 219, we concur with the last strategy listed, which considers setting limits to impervious surfaces on any lot. The town should consider doing an impervious surface analysis to further verify the need for reduced impervious surface area. In addition, we highly recommend that Orangetown adopt maximum development coverage regulations within its zoning code. Many other municipalities within Rockland County, such as Ramapo and Clarkstown, have included this requirement in their bulk regulations. Orangetown could particularly benefit from this requirement, given the magnitude of development coverage of some of the recent development proposals submitted to the town and the flooding issues noted in Chapter 7.
Response 32:	Chapter 7 has been amended to recommend that zoning regulations be updated to set limits on impervious surfaces on page 219.
Comment 33:	In exploring local educational programs on MS4s through partnerships with the Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County, Orangetown Department of Environmental Management and Engineering, Orangetown Environmental Committee, Office of Parks and Recreation, local schools and school districts, and community organizations as outlined on Page 220, we would also suggest collaboration with the Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources.
Response 33:	Collaboration with the Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources has been added to page 220.
Comment 34:	Green building strategies outlined on Page 222 reference performance code certifications such as Energy Star and/or LEED for new construction. It is suggested that The Town also consider encouraging the use of the Living Building Challenge https://living-future.org/lbc/
Response 34:	The performance code certification list was changed to include the Living Building Challenge on page 222.
Comment 36:	The consideration of consolidating the R-22 and R-15 zoning districts into a single medium density residential district should be added as an action item to the table on Page 230 for the strategy of "updating the zoning code and streamlining provisions." This was listed as a potential action item in the Land Use and Zoning chapter of the Plan, on Page 66, but not added to the table.
Response 36:	In response to public comments, this recommendation was removed. Page 66 and 230 were updated for consistency.
Comment 39:	Listed below are typographical, punctuation, format, and update errors that we observed while reviewing the document.
Response 39:	All items noted in Comment 39 have been corrected in the Comprehensive Plan.

WHEREAS, the Town Board intends to over-ride the following recommendations for the reasons noted:

Comment 3:	On Pages 10 and 11, Table 1-1, "2003 Comprehensive Plan Recommendations and Outcomes," lists several recommendations where it indicates that the outcome was unclear or the recommendation was never implemented. The status for each of these recommendations must be determined. For recommendations not implemented, the reason(s) should be specified on the table. The table must also indicate which of these recommendations are being reconsidered and incorporated into the 2022 Comprehensive Plan.
Response 3:	The information on the outcomes of the 2003 Comprehensive Plan recommendations is not readily available.
Comment 4:	Objective 2, of Goal 1 on Page 17 proposes an update and modernization of the Zoning Code. In its review and up-date to the zoning code, the Town may want to consider alternative zoning models such as form-based codes.
Response 4:	Comment noted. This will be considered at such time that the Town Board pursues updating the zoning code.
Comment 5:	On Page 18, Goal 3, Objective 4 is to create pedestrian-friendly, walkable streets in hamlet centers by "limiting traffic during certain times on low-traffic roadways." It is unclear how the plan hopes to achieve limiting traffic. This goal must be clearly addressed in Chapter 4 (Transportation, Mobility, and Parking).
Response 5:	The specific measures to limit traffic in the hamlets will be addressed by the Town at the time of implementation.
Comment 15:	The last paragraph on Page 73, continuing to the top of Page 74, discusses confusion about warehouses and distribution centers permitted within the Route 303 Overlay District This paragraph references Section 13.10.B.5 of the zoning code, which prohibits "retail warehouse uses, including mini-storage uses and distribution centers," in excess of 65,000 square feet in the Overlay District. We agree that statement is ambiguous for an otherwise crucial development standard for a significant corridor. We recommend that the uses that the town intends to distinguish under this standard be clarified in this section of the Comprehensive Plan.
Response 15:	The Comprehensive Plan recommends that "the text of the Overlay District should be amended to clearly differentiate between different types of warehouses and distribution centers, specify which types are permitted, and establish performance standards to address residents' concerns." The specific uses and their descriptions will be advanced when the Town Board proceeds with implementing the zoning.
Comment 16:	We recommend that the Town also consider limiting the size of warehouses and similar facilities outside of the Route 303 Overlay District. While the Town has FAR requirements for warehouse facilities, which is effective for reducing building size on smaller parcels, FAR requirements alone are not enough to prevent excessively sized warehouses on larger parcels, which can potentially consume large swaths of open space. Possible provisions could include maximum building coverage, maximum development coverage, and/or maximum square footprint for new warehouses.
Response 16:	This comment is more appropriate to implement when the zoning updates are advanced. As such, it has not been included in the Comprehensive Plan.

Comment 17:	Page 77 includes three implementation strategies, including "Review Special Permit and Conditional Use Permit Standards and update as necessary to address
	current uses and concerns. In particular, clarify and update the standards for warehouse and distribution centers," "Develop a steep slopes and ridgeline protection · ordinance," and "develop design guidelines for facades, signage, and streetscapes to preserve, protect, and enhance the unique characteristics of each hamlet." Unlike the other implementation strategies, these three strategies do not include bullet points or descriptions. Additional details must be provided for these strategies, such as why they are necessary, current deficiencies, examples of actions, regulations, policies, etc.
Response 17:	These items are discussed in detail in Chapter 7. As such, additional detail was not added to Chapter 2.
Comment 19:	Page 118 lists the implementation strategy of "expanding active transportation infrastructure network by connecting existing trails and converting abandoned rail lines into multiuse paths," but does not include further details. This section should list existing trails and abandoned rail lines that would be ideal for implementation, aside from those trails listed under the strategy of "connecting existing multiuse path network from Orangetown south to New Jersey. Alternatively, the two implementation strategies can be combined and expanded upon as appropriate.
Response 19:	Further details on the existing trails are provided in Chapters 4 and 6. Information on abandoned rail lines would be obtained as this strategy is advanced. As such, it has not been included in the edits.
Comment 26:	Chapter 7 in large part addresses the natural resources of the town. While there is clear connection between protection of natural resources and climate resiliency, we would suggest that the Plan would be better laid out and be more readable if natural resource protection and climate related actions be addressed separately in the Plan. A natural resources protection chapter can address the issues of protection of steep slopes, critical environmental areas, waterbodies and wetlands, floodplains and water quality protection and stormwater management.
Response 26:	Chapter 7 on Sustainability and Climate Resiliency addresses natural resources, as they are interdependent. As such, this comment has not been included in the edits.
Comment 31:	On Page 215-216, it is recommended that "the Town in collaboration with Rockland County, consider mapping stormwater conveyance, drainage areas, outfalls, and discharge points for all its municipalities. Developing a GIS-based stormwater network geodatabase would allow for improved stormwater analysis and data-driven management strategies. This geodatabase could be updated when new infrastructure is built and when inaccuracies in existing data require correction." We suggest the Plan clarify what collaboration is being sought with the County on such a mapping effort and if it is the intent of the Plan that the County conduct such mapping for all municipalities. It is our understanding that such a mapping effort is currently being coordinated by the Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County. We encourage Orangetown to continue to work with the Consortium and Cornell Cooperative Extension, Rockland County on this effort.
Response 31:	This comment will be addressed as the Town advances the strategy. As such, it has not been included in the edits.
Comment 35:	Chapter 8 includes a table of strategies that were identified throughout the other chapters of the Comprehensive Plan. The Town should designate different levels of prioritization for the Action Items listed on the table and consider developing a

	measurable timeframe (number of years or a deadline) for completing high priority actions.
Response 35:	Chapter 8 establishes Short, Medium, and Long-Term time frames for implementation. Specific prioritization and implementation will be based on available funding, staffing, and similar constraints that are unknown at this time. As such, this has not been included in the edits.
Comment 37:	While the Town opted out of allowing the establishment of retail cannabis dispensaries and on-site cannabis consumption sites it is suggested that the potential future land uses allowed under the Marihuana Regulation and Taxation Act be addressed.
Response 37:	Because the Town has chosen to opt out, these potential future land uses are not discussed in the Plan.
Comment 38:	It is suggested that Plan identify contaminated sites in the community, such as those in the states Brownfield Cleanup Program, and identify priority sites for redevelopment in place of development of "green" fields.
Response 38:	The NYSDEC maintains an Environmental Site Remediation Database that is updated daily. This database offers the most up to date resource for identifying sites that require cleanup. Currently, there are three sites in the BCP program: Rockland Psychiatric Center, the Rockland Psychiatric Center - Core Area, and Orangeburg (Orangetown) Shopping Center. The Comprehensive Plan already addresses the Rockland Psychiatric Center, and the Orangeburg Shopping Center is developed and substantially occupied. As such, a map has not been added.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown hereby overrides Rockland County Planning Department Comments 3, 4, 5, 15, 16, 17, 19, 26, 31, 35, 37, and 38 from their letter dated October 24, 2022, for the reasons specified herein.

10. ADOPT LOCAL LAW / ORANGETOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown is updating its Comprehensive Plan for the first time since 2003 to establish a guiding framework for future sustainable development, economic growth, and natural resource preservation in the Town; and,

WHEREAS, Town Law section 272-a authorizes the Town Board to direct a special board to prepare a proposed comprehensive plan amendment for consideration by the Town Board; and,

WHEREAS, the Town Board tasked the Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan Committee with the preparation of the Comprehensive Plan for the consideration of adoption by the Town Board; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan was drafted by AKRF, Inc. and MUD Workshop based on its own investigations, discussions with the Comprehensive Plan Committee, Town Staff, Town land use board members, and members of the public; and,

WHEREAS, public participation has been included in the preparation of this Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan through an on-line survey; a series of public workshops on October 2021, December 2021, and April 2022; and regularly scheduled public meetings wherein members of the public were given the opportunity to speak and provide comments; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with New York State Town Law Town Law §272-a(6), a duly noticed public hearing was held on August 2, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, comments submitted by interested agencies and members of the public have been considered by the Comprehensive Plan Committee and incorporated where the board deemed appropriate; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with New York State Town Law §272 -a(4) on September 13, 2022, the Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan Committee recommended the Comprehensive Plan for adoption by the Town Board; and,

WHEREAS, the in accordance with New York State Town Law §272-a, the Town Board held its own duly noticed public hearings on October 25, 2022, December 13, 2022, January 24, 2023, and March 7, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2022 the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown referred the Comprehensive Plan to the Rockland County Planning Department in accordance with NYS Town Law §272-a and GML 239-I and -m, which recommended modifications on October 24, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board considered the recommendations of the Rockland County Planning Department, implemented those they agreed with, and issued a resolution to override certain recommendations by a super majority vote on March 7, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2021, the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown: (1) classified the proposed action as a Type I SEQRA action, and determined that the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown would be the lead agency because there are no other involved agencies that will make a discretionary decision to fund, approve or undertake the Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.6(b)(1); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has thoroughly and carefully considered: (1) the proposed Comprehensive Plan; (2) the EAF; (3) the written and verbal comments of the Town Board's professional consultants; (4) the written report of the Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan Committee; and (5) the verbal and written comments of members of the public regarding the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, after taking the requisite "hard look" at the potential environmental impacts of the Action, the Town Board has today made its determination of significance and issued a negative declaration pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.7(a), based upon its determination that the Action will not have any significant adverse environmental impacts, as more fully described in the "State Environmental Quality Review Negative Declaration Notice of Determination of Non-Significance" annexed to and incorporated by reference in a separate resolution adopted today by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board concludes that the proposed Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan promotes the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the Town of Orangetown; and.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Orangetown hereby adopts the "Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan" pursuant to NYS Town Law section 272-a(7);

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the adopted Town of Orangetown Comprehensive Plan shall be filed with the Town Clerk of the Town of Orangetown, and the Rockland County Planning Department, pursuant to Town Law section 272-a(12).

11. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING / MARCH 07, 2023 AT 7:15 P.M. / ENERGY SYSTEM EXEMPTION OPT-OUT

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing regarding the Energy System Exemption Opt-Out is hereby opened.

PRESENTATION of Affidavit of Public Hearing posting and publication.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS:

12.	CLOSE OR CONTINUE PUBLIC HEARING / ENERGY SYSTEM EXEMPTION OPT-OUT

RESOLVED	, that the P	ublic Hearing	regarding	the Energy	System	Exemption	Opt-
Out is hereby	y closed or	continued to					

13. ADOPT LOCAL LAW #___ 2023/ AMENDING CHAPTER 34 TOWN CODE / ADD ARTICLE IX / ENERGY SYSTEM EXEMPTION OPT OUT

WHEREAS, the New York Real Property Tax Law Section 487 provides for the exemption from taxation of certain energy systems, but, pursuant to Section 487(8) authorizes local municipalities to not apply such exemption, upon adoption of a local law, under certain circumstances as set forth more fully therein, and

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2023 the Town Board adopted a resolution which scheduled a public hearing for local law to amend Chapter 34 of the Town Code regarding Taxation, and upon notice duly published and posted a public hearing that was held on March 7, 2023, and

WHEREAS, public discussion was heard at such hearing concerning the merits and environmental significance of said introductory local law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby declares itself to be Lead Agency under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, and finds that the adoption of the Local Law to amend Chapter 34 of the Code of the Town of Orangetown entitled "Taxation", specifically related to a new Article IX "Energy System Exemption Opt-Out" as more fully set forth therein, is a SEQR Type II action and is hereby determined not to have a significant adverse effect on the environment

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby adopts Local Law #_____ of 2023 amending Chapter 34, of the Town Code of the Town of Orangetown entitled "Taxation", by adding a new article, identified as Article IX and entitled "Energy System Exemption Opt-Out" providing for exceptions to certain tax exemptions authorized by Section 487 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law, as authorized by state law, and set forth more fully therein.

A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND Chapter 34, Code of the Town of Orangetown entitled "TAXATION"

LOCAL LAW NO.____OF 2023 OF THE INCORPORATED TOWN OF ORANGETOWN, NEW YORK TOWN BOARD FOR AMENDING CHAPTER 34 OF THE TOWN CODE ENTITLED "TAXATION"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF ORANGETOWN AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1.</u> Chapter 34 of the Town Code of the Town of Orangetown is hereby amended by adding a new article, to be identified as Article IX, and entitled "Energy System Exemption Opt-Out" as follows:

§ 34-39 Legislative Intent and purpose; opt-out.

Pursuant to Subsection 8 of the said § 487 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law, the Town of Orangetown by this article provides that no exemption under § 487 of the Real Property Tax Law shall be applicable to real property in the Town, including and with respect to solar or wind energy systems constructed subsequent to the effective date of this article, nor for any microhydroelectric energy system, fuel cell electric generating system, microcombined heat and power generating equipment system, electric energy storage equipment or electric energy storage system, or fuel-flexible linear generator electric generating system constructed subsequent to the effective date of this article.

§34-40 Authority.

This article is enacted pursuant to § 487 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law, as most recently amended by Chapter 59 of the Session Laws of 2021.

§ 34-31 When effective; applicability.

This article shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State and shall be applicable to all assessment rolls prepared pursuant to the first taxable status date occurring on or after the effective date of this article.

Section 2. Severability Clause

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 that can be given effect without such invalid parts.

Section 3. Effective Date.

This Local Law shall become effective immediately upon being filed with the Secretary of State.

14. APPROVE / AGREEMENT / EVCONNECT / PEARL RIVER TRAIN STATION CHARGING STATIONS / 5 YEARS

WHEREAS, in 2018, the New York Power Authority ("NYPA") contracted on the Town of Orangetown's behalf with EVConnect to purchase a software subscription for the electric vehicle charging stations at the Pearl River Train Station for 4 years; and,

WHEREAS, the contract with NYPA and EVConnect will end on March 30, 2023 for the Pearl River Train Station charging stations; and,

WHEREAS, EVConnect has a contract with Sourcewell for electric vehicle charging station software and the Town may, pursuant to Chapter 1A of the Town Code and New York General Municipal Law §103(16), enter into a contract with EVConnect as part of the Sourcewell Contract #042221-EVC; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Supervisor's Office, the Town Board hereby approves to enter into a 5-year contract with EVConnect for the Operate software subscription, not to exceed \$3,500, to be paid from the following budget line item SP 3320.457; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign the agreement with EVConnect, subject to review and approval of the Town Attorney.

15. APPOINT MEMBERS / ORANGETOWN PARKS AND RECREATION DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE / 2023 / 1-YEAR TERM

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints the following as Members of the Orangetown Parks and Recreation Development Advisory Committee, for a 1-year term, commencing on January 01, 2023 and expiring on December 31, 2023:

- ♦ Michele Galle-Looram
- ♦ James K. Willcox

16. APPOINT / STEPHEN CIOFFI / MEMBER / BOARD OF ETHICS - 2023 / 5-YEAR TERM

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints Stephen Cioffi as Member of the Board of Ethics Committee for a 5-year term, commencing March 07, 2023, and expires on December 31, 2027.

17. ACCEPT RESIGNATION / EMPLOYEE 2709

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town hereby accepts the resignation of Employee No. 2709, effective March7, 2023, and such employee shall be entitled to receive payment for 16 accrued vacation days, upon execution by the employee of a general release.

18. TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM FY24 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING / IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE MIDDLETOWN ROAD CORRIDOR PROJECT / SIDEWALKS

WHEREAS, the Town of Orangetown, after due consideration, has determined that it is desirable and in the public interest to undertake the necessary activities for the submittal of a grant application under the FY24 Community Project Funding for the Improved Pedestrian Infrastructure for the Middletown Road Corridor project; and

WHEREAS, the Town is seeking up to \$550,000 in funding for a sidewalk project for the North Middletown Road corridor between Brightwood Avenue and Pearce Parkway in Pearl River; and,

WHEREAS, the North Middletown Road corridor is home to many shops and restaurants, multifamily housing, schools, a church as well as the entrance to the downtown business district in Pearl River which includes four commuter bus lines, one local bus line and a rail line; and:

WHEREAS, FY24 Community Project Funding assistance will enable the Town to improve pedestrian facilities allowing students, the elderly, consumers and commuters to walk to their destinations instead of using vehicles, thus contributing to lower greenhouse gas emissions, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Orangetown is hereby committed to using municipal funds to provide a local cash match and in-kind support of the grant request; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor to submit an application to the FY24 Community Project Funding program for the "Improved Pedestrian Infrastructure for the Middletown Road Corridor" and to execute all documents necessary for the implementation of this work relating to the financial and/or administrative processes of the grant program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to the extent all or any actions hereby authorized have been executed and/or performed by the Supervisor all are hereby ratified and confirmed and this Resolution take effect immediately.

TOWN BOARD / IT

19. APPOINT BRENDAN CARTON / COMPUTER OPERATOR / INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT / PROVISIONAL / EFFECTIVE MARCH 8, 2023

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Human Resources Coordinator, appoint Brendan Carton to the position of Computer Operator, Provisional, Grade 9, Step 2 no change in salary, effective March 8, 2023.

TOWN ATTORNEY

20. APPROVAL OF 2023 CERTIFICATE OF SEWER REGISTRATIONS

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Town Attorney and the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Management and Engineering, a Certificate of Registration for 2023 Sewer Work is approved to:

- Cioffi 1, Inc., 201 North Rte 9W, Congers, NY 10920
- Dutra Excavating & Sewer, 10 Stone Hollow Road, Montvale, NJ 07645
- Victor P. Zugibe, Inc., 66 W Railroad Avenue, Garnerville, N Y 10923

21. ACCEPT / RECEIVE / FILE DRAINAGE EASEMENT AND ACCESS EASEMENT AGREEMENT / TAPPAN FIRE DISTRICT SITE PLAN

RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Department of Environmental Management and Engineering (DEME) and the Town Attorney's Office, the drainage easement and access easement agreement from the Volunteer Fire Association of Tappan, Inc., for the Tappan Fire District Site Plan, Planning Board Decision No. 22-55; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor or her designee is hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to enter into the access easement agreement and to effectuate the acceptance and filing of the drainage easement and access easement agreement with the Rockland County Clerk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon filing with the Rockland County Clerk's office, the original document be filed and maintained in the Town Clerk's office.

22. AUTHORIZE / CANDLE AGREEMENT / 2023

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor, or her designated representative, to sign an Agreement between the TOWN and Community Awareness Network for a Drug-Free Life and Environment, Inc. ("CANDLE"), at a cost to the TOWN of THIRTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$30,000.00) DOLLARS pursuant to which CANDLE shall provide programs and services to promote the prevention of substance abuse and violence amongst the youth of the Town of Orangetown during and throughout calendar year 2023.

PARKS AND RECREATION

23. AWARD BID / HVAC SERVICE / LOMBARDO PLUMBING & HEATING

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Parks, Recreation & Building Maintenance, award the bid for Heating & Air Conditioning service to Lombardo Plumbing & Heating of Suffern, NY in the amount of \$17,000.00 annually, the lowest qualified bidder.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY BOARD

24. APPROVE / INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHT / HOBART STREET BETWEEN E. LEWIS AVENUE AND E. CARROLL STREET IN PEARL RIVER

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Traffic Advisory Board, the installation of a street light on Hobart Street between E. Lewis Avenue and E. Carroll Street in Pearl River (Utility Pole# 58670/38925) is hereby approved to be paid from the following budget line item B.5182.452.17.

LEND ASSISTANCE

25. COMBINE / APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS #26 TO 27

RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby combines and approves agenda items #26 to 27

26. APPROVE / LEND ASSISTANCE / ROCKLAND GAA/ MEMORIAL 5K RUN / SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023

RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Highways and Chief of Police have forwarded for approval by the Town Board, use of cones and recycling kiosks from the Highway Department and Auxiliary Police Detail from OPD by the Rockland Gaelic Athletic Association for the Rockland GAA Memorial 5K Run on Saturday, March 25, 2023 from 8am-1pm.

27. APPROVE / LEND ASSISTANCE / ROCKLAND COUNTY ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE / SHOWMOBILE & PORTO-JONS / MARCH 19, 2023

RESOLVED, that upon the completion of the necessary paperwork, the Superintendent of Parks, Recreation & Building Maintenance has forwarded for approval to the Town Board, use of the showmobile at a cost of \$500.00 and providing twenty-two porto-jons for the Rockland County, Ancient Order of Hibernians St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 19, 2023 with the organization providing a certificate of insurance naming the Town of Orangetown as additionally insured.

AUDIT

28. PAY VOUCHERS

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Director of Finance, Jeffrey Bencik, the Finance Office is hereby authorized to pay vouchers for a total amount of four (4) warrants (attached) for a total of \$1,518,099.70.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

29. ENTER EXECU	TIVE SESSION
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RESOLVED, at _____ pm, the Town Board entered Executive Session to discuss matters relating to employment.

ADJOURNMENTS

30. RE-ENTER RTBM / ADJOURNED / MEMORY

RESOLVED, at _____ pm, the Town Board re-entered the Regular Town Board Meeting and adjourned in memory of:

* Thomas F. Muthig, Resident of Pearl River