

TOWN OF
Caroline



2670 Slaterville Road ■ P.O. Box 136
Slaterville Springs, NY 14881

June 6, 2016

Dear Neighbor to proposed South Hill Recreation Way Trail Extension [5 properties]

I am writing to inform you of a proposed intermunicipal project to extend the South Hill Recreationway in the towns of Ithaca, Danby, Dryden and Caroline. Your property adjoins the proposed trail extension, so I want to make you aware of the project and also offer to answer any questions that you may have.

Tompkins County has received permission from NYSEG to pursue a license agreement that would allow use of the NYSEG property encompassing the former railroad bed for this purpose. The County would, in turn, enter into an agreement with the four towns to develop and maintain the trail. The proposed project would run from Burns Road to Middaugh Road and consists of two phases. Phase One extends from Burns Road to Banks Road and, with minor improvements, we expect that all or part of this section could be opened to trail use within the next two years. The stretch from Banks Road to Middaugh Road would require more extensive work. This would only be open for public use after engineering plans and accurate cost estimates were developed, and funding sources identified.

I have met with the other town supervisors and we all believe this trail extension would be a benefit to the residents of our communities. The trail would be used only for non-motorized recreation. We will carefully consider any potential impacts on adjoining landowners and take reasonable mitigation measures as needed. The Town of Ithaca's experience with management of the existing South Hill Recreation Way has shown that problems have been minimal and, where they exist, can be addressed through such measures.

This proposal will be discussed at the Caroline Town Board Business meeting on June 15th. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this project. We look forward to working with you to make this trail an asset to our community.

Sincerely,

Mark Witmer
Town Supervisor
607 539-3395