

April Notes from the Supervisor

The revised Subdivision and Site Plan Laws were provided to town board members on March 27 and formally introduced at our April 3 Agenda Meeting. We have now established **Public Hearings for these new local laws beginning at 7 pm on May 9**, prior to the Business Meeting. Each Local Law, its associated Design Guidelines, and Summaries of Proposed Changes are posted at the town website (“Local Law Revision” under “Current Topics”). I have also provided my presentation from the February 14 Information Session as a pdf document. The Design Guidelines, formerly attached as appendices of each law, are now separate and will be proposed as resolutions. This change was to clarify that the Design Guidelines are not part of the law, but aid in facilitating the discussion between the Review Board and developers.

The revisions focus on clarifying opportunities for developers to take advantage of measures to minimize greenhouse gas emissions and water use, and thereby reduce operating costs. A few highlights for the changes to the Subdivision Law are: for Review Criteria we added consideration Public Transportation Services under Public Services, consideration of Broadband under Utility Services, attention to Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions under SEQRA and Tompkins County 239 Review, and seven new Design Guidelines. Similarly, for the Site Plan Review Law we added under Review Criteria attention to impacts of siting, design, and operation of buildings on energy use and greenhouse gas emissions and compatibility of the development for renewable energy systems. Twelve new Design Guidelines were added for Site Plan Review to help developers address the expectations under this law, SEQRA, and Tompkins County 239 Review. Most other changes to these two laws were editorial or administrative. We strove to make the laws consistent with each other, provide reference to other applicable laws, and provide clarity about process and expectations to developers.

Please note that the **Caroline 2018 Board of Assessment Review Day is Monday, May 7, 3-6 pm at the Town Hall**. Tompkins County Assessment staff, County Legislator Klein, Alan Karasin, and Len Pogorzala will be there to answer questions about property tax assessments.

Phones at the town hall are on the blink and we are working to remedy the situation as quickly as possible. If you have trouble reaching us, please try again later. It comes and goes!