

Clerk of the Board
Saratoga County Board of Supervisors
40 McMaster Street
Ballston Spa, New York, 12020

To the Board:

In these troubled times, when County residents and businesses, both large and small, are struggling to survive financially, it is critical that they have all the support possible to avail themselves of the services and opportunities offered by the Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership. I am writing to strongly encourage you to fund the Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership at the requested level of \$450,000 for the 2021 budget year.

I relocated my business to the Village of Ballston Spa some 14 years ago, and have invested here, and made the Village my home. I have watched it grow, and also suffer from the same troubles that impact all our small towns and Villages; specifically the lack of the financial ability to address aging infrastructure, and the lack of knowledge needed to attract new businesses, and funding sources. During my years here in the Village, I have heard many promises from many well intended groups to help us grow and prosper.

The Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership has, and is, delivering on their promises to assist our Village. The recently completed Next Wave Communities Economic Development Plan was a year long effort driven by Shelby Schneider and Jennifer Kelley in cooperation with the Mayor, Trustees, and Village residents yielding a document that lays out a bright future for the County Seat, and our residents.

As the Chair of the Village Planning Board, and the Steering Committee that worked on the Plan, I can assure you all that without the SCPP efforts, knowledge, experience and guidance, we would not be looking at the future as brightly as we now see it. They continue to bring us contacts, programs, advisors and the methods to utilize these sources for the betterment of the Village business community and its' tax paying residents.

The Village of Ballston Spa is small, landlocked, and has little room for growth and expansion to attract businesses, jobs and tax revenues critical to all of us. I encourage you to read the SCPP Plan on the Village website, and pay particular attention to the addendum outlining the goals and timetable for the Village to utilize as we redo our Master Plan and Zoning. None of this would have been possible without the SCPP. The funding requested for their efforts is money invested in all of our future success in Saratoga County, and I humbly request you continue to support them in every way possible.

Sincerely,



Rory O'Connor
Chair, Planning Board
Ballston Spa, NY 12020